



# Cardiovascular

## Surgery

*Studies in Physiology,  
Diagnosis and Techniques*

*Proceedings of the Symposium held at*

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*Edited by* CONRAD R. LAM, M.D.

SURGEON-IN-CHARGE, DIVISION OF THORACIC SURGERY,  
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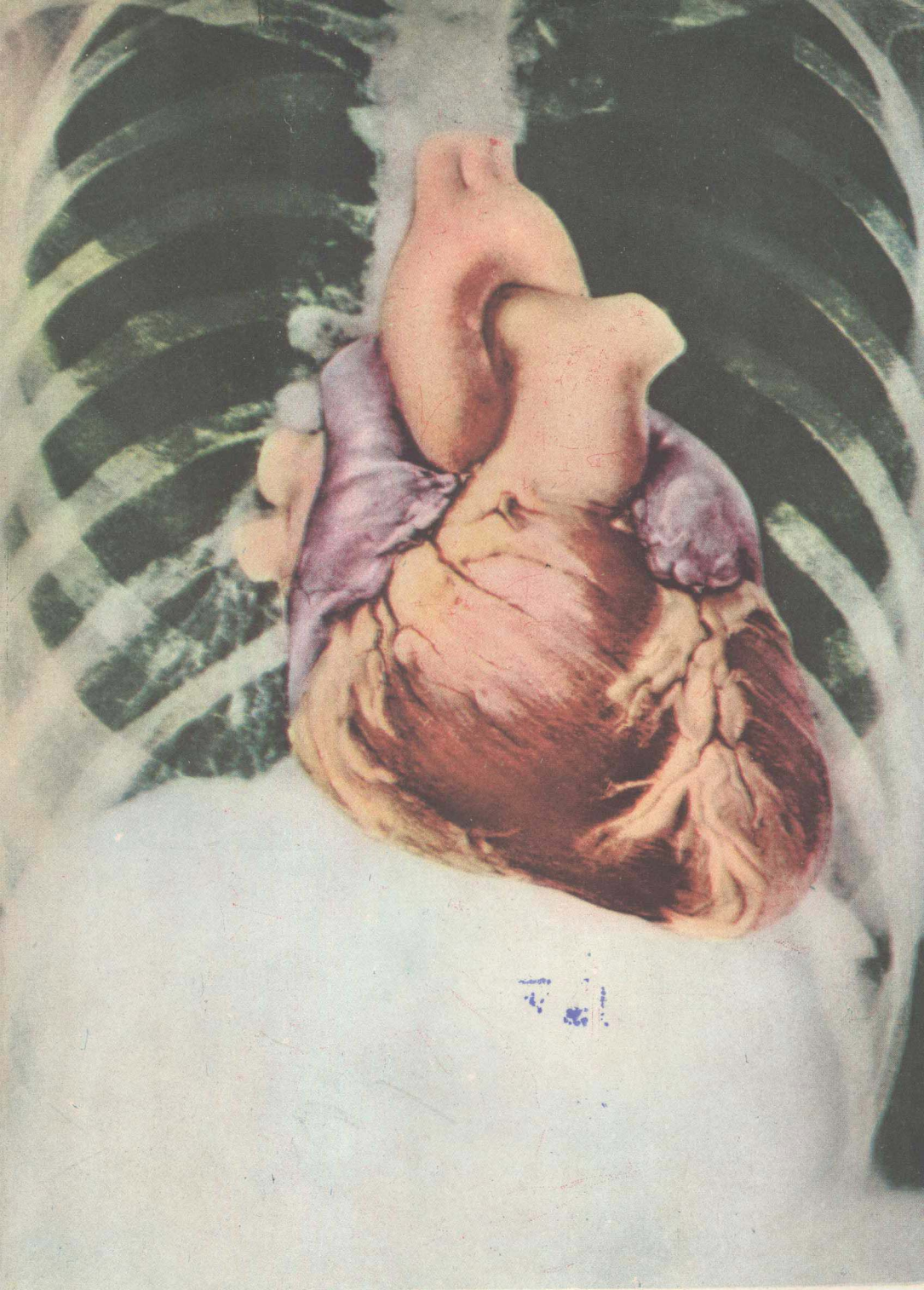
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*The Heart of Mitral Stenosis*

Drawing by E. E. Hoff

HENRY FORD HOSPITAL

*International Symposium on*

Cardiovascular  
Surgery

HENRY FORD HOSPITAL

*International Symposium on*

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## PREFACE

During the summer of 1954, the staff of the Henry Ford Hospital, with the encouragement of the executive director, Dr. Robin C. Buerki, decided to sponsor an international symposium on the subject of surgery of the heart and great vessels. With realization of the importance of applied physiology and diagnostic methods, the following title was chosen for a symposium to be held on March 17, 18 and 19, 1955: Cardiovascular Surgery: Recent Studies in Physiology, Diagnosis and Techniques. The local program committee sought and obtained the assistance of four eminent authorities from outside the staff of the hospital. Grateful acknowledgment is made for the valuable advice of Dr. Richard J. Bing of Birmingham, Alabama, representing the field of applied cardiac physiology, Dr. Stanley Gibson of Chicago, pediatric cardiologist, Dr. Emile Holman of San Francisco, and Dr. Michael DeBakey of Houston, Texas, surgeons who have had particular interest in cardiovascular disease.

The program committee met in Detroit and carefully considered the material which appeared to be essential for discussion. It was thoroughly understood that the symposium was not to be a postgraduate course in which subject matter well known to certain specialists would be reviewed, but rather it would be an opportunity for the presentation of really new and perhaps controversial work. It was decided to spend one day on the problems of congenital heart disease, another on acquired heart disease, and a half day on surgery of the aorta and other arteries.

Invitations to participate in the symposium were sent to sixty workers in the field, many of whom resided in countries other than the United States. The response on the part of the invitees was nearly 100 per cent in the affirmative. The tentative program was changed from time to time to incorporate certain late suggestions from the participants and others. Two months before the meeting, the final program was sent to a selected list of teachers and workers to whom the symposium material would presumably have special interest and value. Several weeks before the date of the symposium, there were more applications than there were seats in the Clinic Building Auditorium. Thereafter, the local committee was obliged to send letters of regret. The final registration list contained the names of 478 doctors, from 35 states and the following other countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Holland, India, Italy, Jordan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Puerto Rico, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

This volume contains the material which was presented during the two and one-half days of the symposium. The participants responsible for the prin-

cipal papers have cooperated by furnishing manuscripts which are amply illustrated. The editor acknowledges the excellent work of Mrs. Charlotte Emmons of the Master Reporting Company who accurately steno-typed the discussions, many of which were given in the delightful accents of the foreign participants.

The editor is grateful for the cooperation and assistance so freely provided by the staff of the W. B. Saunders Company.

A final word of appreciation on behalf of the program committee should be given to those whose work is reported in this volume—the participants, who left their important teaching work and busy practices to form this symposium.

CONRAD R. LAM

*Detroit, Michigan*



## FOREWORD\*

By SIR RUSSELL BROCK

I must first thank you for the great honor you have done me in asking me to be your guest speaker at the dinner tonight marking the occasion of this great international symposium. I little knew what I was letting myself in for when Conrad Lam spoke to me about this meeting in September last at the International Cardiac Congress in Washington. He told me that it would be "just a small friendly crowd of people interested in cardiovascular surgery chatting together round a table." Now I find myself addressing a crowd of between 400 and 500 of you, and as I survey this large throng my pride in being asked to speak to you is modified by the difficulty of the occasion. While I stand before you on this lonely pinnacle I am reminded of the story of Sir Edmund Hillary's reply when he was asked his emotions as he stood on the top of Everest. Hillary said he experienced three emotions: the first was relief at having reached the summit, the second was pleasure at having achieved the goal so long sought, and the third and most powerful emotion was an intense desire to get down again as quickly as possible.

I am especially grateful to you for asking me to address you as I realize that, being a foreigner, the honor is so much the greater. At the same time I am very happy to be able to speak to you as this is far from being my first visit to the United States; not only have I many, many friends here, but I have looked upon it as my second surgical home ever since I was privileged to work with Professor Evarts Graham in St. Louis nearly twenty-five years ago. The impressions and inspiration I gained then as a young surgeon visiting Barnes Hospital and numerous other great surgical centers in your country were such a powerful influence that they had a permanent effect on my surgical thoughts and career. I am particularly proud of the certificate I hold that proclaims I am a visiting surgeon to Barnes Hospital. I am equally proud of a similar certificate giving to me the rank of honorary surgical consultant to the Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1949 after I had spent a wonderful and happy month there as visiting professor.

If I had not known beforehand how important and successful this symposium was to be I should have begun to guess as soon as I got on the 'plane to cross the Atlantic. As fellow passengers I found several friends and surgical acquaintances from Great Britain and from other European countries. I think one of the most significant testimonies to the success of the symposium is exemplified in the way so many men have come such long distances from

\* Text of an address delivered at the dinner meeting of the Henry Ford Hospital International Symposium on Cardiovascular Surgery, March 18, 1955.