

Introduction

This issue of the MEDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA QUARTERLY is an edited form of the proceedings of the Cardiac Pacing symposium held in Williamsburg, Virginia on April 16 and 17, 1971. The meeting was co-sponsored by the American College of Cardiology and the Department of Continuing Education, Medical College of Virginia, Health Sciences Division, Virginia Commonwealth University. The program emphasized the clinical aspects of cardiac pacing, and the format was structured with formal presentations followed by panel discussions. Manuscripts were not requested from the speakers, and with the exception of Dr. Philip Samet who prefers that the reader review the publications listed on p. 173 rather than rely on the transcriptions of his talks, "Hemodynamics and Electrical Studies in Pacing" and "Indications for Temporary Pacing," bibliographic references are not included. The success of this meeting which approximately three hundred attended must be attributed to the outstanding guest faculty whose contributions in the past are largely responsible for the presently employed techniques. Dr. Onkar Narula was an unscheduled speaker who kindly consented to present his experience with His bundle recordings during the session on temporary pacing. The interest aroused by the program reflects the realization by physicians of the growing impact of engineering in clinical medicine.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. William Nelligan and Miss Mary Anne McInerney and other members of the staff of the American College of Cardiology who assisted in the organization of this meeting. I am grateful for the support provided by Dr. M. Pinson Neal, Jr. and Miss Erma Blanchard of the Department of Continuing Education as well as Mr. Melvin Shaffer and his staff of the Audio-Visual Department. I would like to acknowledge the work required in the preparation of this manuscript by my secretary, Mrs. Barbara Hendrick, and by the editorial staff of the MEDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA QUARTERLY, particularly Mrs. Ronnie Madoff and Miss Mary Parke Johnson.

CHARLES L. BAIRD, JR., M.D.