

information being contained in the text. Here there is little to quarrel with but the author is surely in error when he states that the left hand is intravaginal in a bi-manual examination. This is queried here because he gives minute instructions for the performance of each item of examination. In a detailed description of pain in the hand and arm there is no mention of the carpal tunnel syndrome and he omits the valuable sign of shoulder pain in basal pulmonary embolus. Inches and centimetres both appear as units of measurement. The last chapter which deals with the use of the laboratory in diagnosis is balanced and sensible.

Some of the author's aphorisms are worth recording. "The most important sound in medicine you will ever hear is the voice of your patient". "Concern yourself less with the kind of stethoscope and more with the development of the receiver of the sound from the stethoscope". "Do not close your eyes to observations contrary to preconceived ideas".

As a bedside book for the practising doctor this volume, by a keen and sympathetic observer is most valuable and so written as to be entertaining.

**Review of Clinical Phonocardiography.** D. C. DEUCHAR, M.D., M.R.C.P.  
London. The English Universities Press Ltd. 1964. Pp. xiv + 130.  
Price 25s.

The stated intention of the author is to introduce the reader to the potentialities and current usage of the phonocardiograph. A short description of the instruments and techniques is followed by an account of present day views on the mechanism of sound production in the heart and great vessels in health and disease. The time relationship of these sounds within the cardiac cycle is clearly described and illustrated. There are eight photographic reproductions of phonocardiograms showing simultaneous tracings of respiration, carotid pulse and electrocardiogram, but otherwise the illustrations are line drawings of good quality.

The index is good, and whenever there are several references the page number of the main one is given in heavy print. The book, which is one of the Modern Medicine Series, is well produced, has a stiff back, and is the same size as the *College Journal*.

The whole problem of auscultation of the heart and the interpretation of sounds heard in diseases and abnormalities of the heart is clarified by reading this book. This is specially important to doctors who received their training and qualified before the recent advances in cardiology and cardiac surgery. In fact, the book might be more widely read if "and auscultation of the heart" were added to the title.

**Electrocardiography.** R. W. D. TURNER, O.B.E., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.,  
F.R.C.P.E. Second edition. Edinburgh and London. E. and S.  
Livingstone Ltd. 1964. Pp. xviii + 155. Price 21s.

The material in this book should have a familiar look to many general practitioners because it is based on a series of articles on "Clinical Electrocardiography in General Practice" published in *The Practitioner* in 1962. These articles were so well received that the decision was taken to republish them in book form and the first edition appeared in 1963.