Dedication

This book is dedicated to S. GILBERT BLOUNT, Jr., MD, truly a gifted teacher and a pioneer in developing a complete and integrated knowledge of Cardiology in both congenital and acquired heart disease in all age groups.

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Introduction

This is the fourth cardiovascular conference to be held in Snowmass-at-Aspen, the purpose of which was to develop a perspective on the results, current status and usefulness of new techniques in the management of congenital and acquired heart disease, including definitive procedures and methods of evaluation. New surgical techniques for total correction of complex cardiac malformations are evaluated and long-range follow-up of valve replacement and coronary revascularization procedures is presented. An attempt is made to characterize the surgical candidate in these various areas. The help and advice of Dr. LESLIE L. KELMINSON and Dr. BRUCE C. PATON in developing this conference is gratefully acknowledged. I am particularly indebted to Miss KYM WESTENBERG for her help in the preparation and arrangements of this conference, as well as in editing the manuscripts, to Mrs. JEAN ROBINSON for assistance in coordinating this conference and to Miss MARY ANNE McINERNY and Dr. WILLIAM LIKOFF of the American College of Cardiology, who helped make this meeting possible. Appreciation is expressed to General Electric Medical Systems Department, Milwaukee, Wise., Surgitool, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Travenol Laboratories, Inc., Morton Grove, Ill., for educational grants which supported, in part, this program.

JOHN H. K. VOGEL, MD