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## THE RELATION OF THORACIC TYPE TO LUNG CAPACITY.

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The continual repetition in daily conversation of such terms as "broad-chested," "deep-chested" and their opposites, "narrow, flat or hollow-chested," brings forcibly to mind the importance of the shape and carriage of the thorax in our estimate of the human figure.

While the muscular development has something to do with the outward appearance of the chest wall, it is upon the configuration of the ribs and sternum, and the curvature of the spinal column, that the real type of the thorax must be based. There are infinite varieties and individual peculiarities to be found in the course of a large number of examinations; still, for the purpose of this paper I would direct attention to two well marked types (1) the broad and flat thorax, that, looked upon amongst athletes as characteristic of the vaulter, jumper and hurdler; and (2) the round, barrel shaped thorax that is found in the wrestler, swimmer and fighter.

These two kinds of thorax insensibly merge, and one finds in a large number of individuals many who occupy a sort of middle ground, but the great difference that is commonly found can be well shown diagrammatically in two typical cases, taking the breadth and depth as sides of a rectangular figure.

In one case the depth exceeds the average by 1.1 inches, and the breadth falls below the average by .5. In the other, the depth falls 1.4 below the average, and the breadth exceeds it by 1.1. These two examples may be taken as fair representatives of the two types under discussion, and the capacities 260 and 265 cubic inches are about the same.