



Dedication

ROLF MARTIN HOCHSTER
(1922–1971)

We dedicate this volume of "Metabolic Inhibitors" to the memory of our colleague and coeditor Rolf Hochster, who passed away in Ottawa on September 16, 1971, at the age of 49, following an operation for a renal disorder.

This tragic loss of a scientist in the prime of his life and at the peak of his career has deeply grieved his many friends and colleagues. Professor Quastel has felt Dr. Hochster's loss most deeply, for he was largely responsible for Dr. Hochster's embarkation on a research career and was in close touch with him throughout his scientific life. Dr. Hochster was born in West Germany, where he completed his secondary school education in 1939. He left Germany to spend two years in England in the chemical industry and came to Montreal, Canada in 1942 where he was employed for the next five years as a research chemist with C. E. Frosst & Co. In 1947 he was admitted to the Graduate School of McGill University as a candidate for Ph.D. (Biochemistry) under the supervision of J. H. Quastel, newly established Professor of Biochemistry. Hochster carried out the work for his doctorate with the care and meticulous consideration which characterized all his later scientific work, and in 1950 he was awarded his degree after writing an excellent thesis. He was an associate research officer with the National Research Council in Ottawa during 1951–1956, and in 1956 joined the research branch, Canada Department of Agriculture, as Chief, Biochemistry Section of the Microbiology Research Institute. He was appointed Director of the Institute in 1965, and in 1967 was named Director of the Cell Biology Research Institute. When the new Chemistry and Biology Research Institute was formed early in 1971, Dr. Hochster was appointed its Director.

His scientific interests were concentrated chiefly on the metabolism and enzymology of carbohydrates, nucleic acid chemistry, amino acid metabolism, and biological transport systems. His most recent studies were concerned with metabolic differences between normal and phytopathogenic organisms. His research contributions in these areas were excellent and represented significant advances in knowledge.

"Metabolic Inhibitors" arose from a discussion between R. Hochster and J. H. Quastel during a visit to the latter's laboratory in Montreal in the late 1950's. Hochster felt there should be a publication comprised of the properties of various types of inhibitors used in the study of intermediary metabolism, and from this came the thought that the time was ripe for a volume dealing with metabolic inhibition in its widest sense, namely, effective control of cell function and cell growth. What was intended to be, at the outset, a one-volume treatise compiled by investigators highly experienced in their respective fields turned out to be a two-volume treatise which has now expanded to four volumes. There is little doubt that the subject will grow, for biological control is one of the most important weapons of man in his fight against disease and in his endeavor to improve his way of life.

Dr. Hochster's ability to organize and his extraordinarily careful attention to detail are not only reflected in this treatise but in his other scientific endeavors as well. He bore the brunt of editing the first two volumes of this treatise and was also responsible for much of the arduous preliminary work concerned with the organization of Volumes III and IV.

We, his coeditors, miss him greatly, and if deficiencies are to be found in these volumes, we alone must be held responsible.