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Preface

Let me haue men about me, that are fat
Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep a'nights
*Julius Caesar Act I, Scene II**

Fat people are no longer the preferred stereotype of placidity and health, and sleep is a somewhat overestimated commodity. Fat books, on the other hand, proliferate. A single volume was planned originally to cover recent developments in the biochemistry of lipids. It would have been too obese for comfort, so it was decided to divide the book into two volumes. If only obesity could be controlled so easily in the real world!

Volume 71 deals with enzymes while Volume 72 covers methods useful to the lipid biochemist. Each section starts with a list of related articles previously published in the *Methods in Enzymology* series. In general, the enzymes included have been purified highly. A notable exception are enzymes of lipid metabolism from plants, a number of which are included even though they have only been purified partially. It is hoped that their inclusion will provide a stimulus to their isolation in homogeneous form.

The borderline between fatty acid and sterol metabolism has been set at β -hydroxy- β -methylglutaryl-CoA. The inclusion of some enzymes may strike the reader as odd, but there was in each case good reason. For example, 3-methylcrotonyl-CoA carboxylase is included because of its relation to acetyl-CoA carboxylase and its ability to carboxylate free biotin, a valuable property for understanding acetyl-CoA carboxylase.

I welcome suggestions for future volumes. Please do not hesitate to draw my attention to errors of omission or commission.

JOHN M. LOWENSTEIN

* H. M. Furness, Jr. (ed.). (1913). J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and London, p. 45.

METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY

EDITED BY

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT SAN DIEGO
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- I. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes
- II. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes
- III. Preparation and Assay of Substrates
- IV. Special Techniques for the Enzymologist
- V. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes
- VI. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes (*Continued*)
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