

Sidney P. Colowick and Nathan O. Kaplan

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Volume 119

Interferons

Part C

Edited by

Sidney Pestka

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Sidney Pestka

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*To Harry Pestka and Bernice Pestka,
who have provided a wealth of aspirations from birth's light*

*To John D. Sparacin and Lillian Sparacin,
who have brought imagination and perfection to great height*

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Preface

In an area of research that is evolving dynamically, a volume on the methods used in the field is extremely useful, yet has the potential to be outdated quickly. Since the chapters represent basic methodology on a variety of topics, it is not likely they will be supplanted by entirely new methodology, but by modifications. Thus, these volumes on interferons should serve as a resource for years to come. The most likely way in which these volumes will become dated is not by the aging of the contributions, but by the omission of methods that should have been included and the inability to keep pace with newly published procedures relevant to interferon research.

I thank the numerous contributors who have made this volume possible by their detailed texts and insights into subtleties not obviously evident. It is these insights that often determine whether a procedure "flies" or "fails." The inclusion of such critical yet almost trivial detail is a feature that distinguishes contributions in *Methods in Enzymology* from the methods sections of reports published in most journals. With pressure on limiting publishing space, experimental procedures have often been relegated to miniprint and curtailed. Thus, texts devoted to making the methodology of research flow smoothly will find great use. One additional advantage of a methods book devoted to one subject is the presence of a variety of procedures in a single volume. Thus, it is easier to compare methods before adopting a specific one.

This volume is published after the death of the founders of this series, Drs. Sidney P. Colowick and Nathan O. Kaplan. They contributed to each of these volumes by their critical appraisal of good scientific research. Both of them made many contributions to the organization of these volumes. I am grateful to have been the recipient of Sidney Colowick's generous advice; and I am grateful to have had Nathan Kaplan's wealthy scientific repertoire and experience at my disposal. Their efforts have improved these volumes immeasurably.

During the preparation of this volume, as during the preparation of the preceding two, my family has continually provided the sustenance to foster its birth. Special thanks are given to them, to the staff of Academic Press, and to my many colleagues who have contributed to it. I am particularly grateful to Robert K. Pestka, Joseph V. Campellone, and Sharon D. Pestka who were instrumental in the preparation of the subject index for this volume.

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- II. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes
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- IV. Special Techniques for the Enzymologist
- V. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes
- VI. Preparation and Assay of Enzymes (*Continued*)
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