

Acknowledgments

This book records the myriad events that occurred in my very active life covering more than half a century. Clearly, in this task I needed the advice and assistance of very many individuals, both in the course of writing the various chapters and after the text was written. Space is available for only a modicum of acknowledgments to those to whom I am so much indebted.

It was only after I left the Neurosciences Research Program Center and returned to MIT that, along with the writing of several scientific articles, I gave serious consideration to the question of whether I should write an autobiographical book. Among those who actively participated in discussions and advice on this subject were Katheryn (Kay) Cusick and my daughter, Marion Ellis. Other knowledgeable friends who were very helpful were George Adelman, Sanford (Sandy) Palay, and Barry Smith.

Fred Samson who, from 1965, had been coming every summer to participate in the planning of NRP meetings, continued this practice after I returned to MIT. In the course of such visits he collaborated with me in preparing tentative text for several chapters of this book. Because he was present at all of the NRP-related events described here, his contribution was very valuable.

I am grateful to Judith Swazey for her help in the early planning phases and for bringing into the program Susan Mehrrens. Susan's most important contribution was to obtain oral histories by interviewing some thirty-four professional neuroscientists as narrators of events related to my activities. These interviews were taped, typed, and deposited in my collection in the MIT Archives. Heartiest thanks are also due Dr. Helen Samuels, MIT Archivist and to her staff, for the effective organization and listing of my "papers."

In writing the text I was greatly helped by three individuals very close to me: my daughter, Marion, who brought to bear not only her excellent grammatical skills, but also her first-hand experience of many of the events herein described; Kay Cusick, whose detailed personal knowledge of the affairs of the NRP since she joined that group in 1964 made her critical reading of the manuscript uniquely valuable; and Marie Foley, who has been my secretary since 1981, and who typed the manuscripts of all the chapters in their various versions. With the acquisition in December of 1984 of a computerized word processor she quickly became proficient in its use, thereby greatly accelerating the progress of the

work. As a great team, these three integrated, thus potentiating their efforts. I am deeply grateful to each individually and to them collectively.

Finally, I am greatly indebted to the American Philosophical Society, and in particular to Carole Le Faivre, for her manifest personal interest in my book, for her many editorial contributions, for the development of the manuscript, and for its prompt and effective publication.

Sponsorship and Support

Support for the writing of this book was received from the Neurosciences Research Foundation, for which I am most grateful. Thanks are due to Dr. Judith Swazey and the Acadia Institute for sponsoring the oral history project of Dr. Susan Mehrrens whose expenses were defrayed by grants to the Acadia Institute from the Dreyfus Medical Foundation and the Richard T. Lounsbery Foundation.