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Preface

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PREFACE

To Dr. Maurits Dekker on His 90th Birthday, March 18, 1989

Dr. Maurits Dekker, Chairman of the Board of Marcel Dekker, Inc., is 90 years old today. He has been a giant and an inspiration in scientific publishing for almost seven decades. Colleagues and friends of Mau Dekker and the editors of Marcel Dekker, Inc. have decided to recognize Mau's achievements in the publication of scientific books and journals by dedicating an issue of one of Marcel Dekker, Inc.'s journals to Maurits Dekker on the occasion of his 90th birthday. The *Journal of Macromolecular Science—Chemistry* was chosen for this tribute, and I was selected to edit this issue.

This commemorative issue honoring Dr. Maurits Dekker has a leadoff biography of Mau Dekker detailing his illustrious 70-year career. His son, Marcel Dekker, President of Marcel Dekker, Inc., describes Mau's career. Professor Herman Mark, who has been a lifelong friend of Mau and with whom Mau cofounded Interscience Publishers in 1941, gives a short account of his relationship with Mau over his many years of cooperation as an editor. Professor Ray Seymour highlights the international scientific developments which took place during these years, and mentions some of the people who helped provide and enrich the atmosphere in which Mau flourished.

The next part of this issue consists of original papers from friends of Mau Dekker, which are representative accounts of their most recent work. These include works by Hans Wynberg, Mau's son-in-law, who describes an aspect of organic chemistry of interest to polymer chemists, and by Carel J. Van Oss. The Van Oss' have been friends of the Dekkers since Mau's "Dutch Period" of the 1920s and 1930s. The editor of this commemorative issue, Otto Vogl, presents some of his latest work.

We have also included papers from other distinguished colleagues: Alan J. Bard, George B. Butler, Nicholas P. Cheremisinoff, Constantine J. Falliers, Norman G. Gaylord, George B. Guilbault, Joseph P. Kennedy, Kenneth F. O'Driscoll, Garth L. Wilkes, and Teiji Tsuruta.

With this issue, all contributors join me in wishing Dr. Maurits Dekker the very best on his 90th birthday and in the future.

Otto Vogl