

## Acknowledgements

Help has been received from innumerable sources, always given with great kindness and consideration. My grateful thanks go to those who so generously gave of their time, facilities and expertise.

At what is now the Wellcome Trust for the History of Medicine at UCL, Sir Christopher Booth provided useful insights concerning the early descriptions of angina pectoris. The text was enhanced by inclusion of supplementary topics suggested by Professor W F Bynum. Professor R Porter furnished valuable general information about life in Georgian England, Dr S R Johanssen provided material from her PhD thesis concerning eighteenth-century medicine in general, and Mr Ernest Heberden, biographer of William Heberden, supplied uniquely helpful background information about his distinguished forebear.

Professor Margaret Visser of the University of Toronto and Miss C Mullins, Clinical Dietician, Health Sciences Centre, Winnipeg, gave advice about relevant eighteenth- and twentieth-century dietary matters respectively. Professors R Gold and I McDougall of the Department of Classics at the University of Winnipeg helped with English translations of medical writings from the original Latin. Professor E A Wrigley of the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure furnished demographic data additional to that available in his published works. Professor J Wortley, Department of History, University of Manitoba, reviewed the section on eighteenth-century religious history for its relevance to dietary changes at that time. Dr J Wood of the Division of Food and Animal Science of the University of Bristol directed me to source material dealing with the connections between farming practice and the fat characteristics of animals raised for food. In the latter respect I am also indebted to Professor M Eskins of the Department of Food and Nutrition and to Professors R J Parker and R Ingalls of the Department of Animal Science and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, all of the University of Manitoba. They were initially somewhat nonplussed by requests for information about past research into feeding techniques that were designed to *increase* the fat content and the proportion of saturated fats in animals raised for human consumption. It was the exact opposite of their own and their departments' current endeavours and indeed of their life work. However, once my purpose was clarified, they were extremely helpful in providing information and source material dealing with animal husbandry as practised in the mid-twentieth century, a period that antedated current concerns about fats in general and cholesterol in particular. Professor R A Hegele of the University of Toronto introduced me to genetics as related to ischaemic heart disease.

Considerable help was provided by my colleagues who are members of the Medical Faculty of the University of Manitoba. Dr C Greenberg lent her expertise to the

### *Acknowledgements*

chapter on heredity. Dr P Bolli gave specialist advice with respect to the relationships between dietary fat, lipid biochemistry and their epidemiological significance. Dr I Carr, lecturer in Medical History, read a draft of the completed manuscript. His criticisms were constructive and much appreciated. Mr R Tate, consultant at the Biostatistical Unit, provided assistance with statistical material and presentation of numerical data. The librarians of the Wellcome Library, the British Museum and London Guildhall Libraries, and the Elizabeth Dafoe and Neil John Maclean Libraries of the University of Manitoba gave generous help, notwithstanding a penchant for shelving almost all of the materials that I needed at either floor or ceiling level. They were endlessly patient with provision of source material and provided help when my own computer skills proved less than adequate for some literature searches. The London staff of Messrs Berry and Rudd were most considerate in making available their records of the weights of their eighteenth-century clients. The resources of the Manitoba Clinic, Winnipeg, Canada, were put freely at my disposal, and Mrs April Borgford and Ms Lelia Beaufoy provided unstinting and thoughtful secretarial help from the earliest draft to the final manuscript, coping tirelessly with the necessary revisions. My wife Joan Michaels edited the manuscript, effecting improvements in style and lucidity. I am deeply indebted to everyone concerned and wish to express to them my most sincere thanks.