Epilogue

On reflection on my half-century of involvement in rolling bearing steel technologies, I have realized that knowing through experience (in Greek termed *metis* or in Chinese *nei heng*) has enabled the creation of the firsthand knowledge compiled in this book. However, time passes. The Swedish special ore-based process, which prevailed for high-carbon steels up to the 1970s, is confined to the history books and, today, quality bearing steels can be produced worldwide. Capabilities have been developed in soft machining, hardening heat treatments, and hard finishing such that commodity components may be sourced for conventional rolling bearing factory assembly wherever demand exists. Half a century ago, heat treatment was an art and not the science of today and, currently, heat-treatment furnaces may be computer menu driven with significant reproducibility. However, demanding applications require rolling bearings produced from special steel qualities using nonconventional manufacture; aerospace precisions being an example of such bearings.

So many developments have taken place and, upon completion of this book *Rolling Bearing Steel: Design, Technology, Testing, and Measurements*, I realize that I am already thinking about how to improve the document. During the preparation of the various chapters this thought has prevailed, but the book needs to be brought to completion. Such a book never will be totally concluded because rolling bearing steel research and development and testing inevitably will continue. Fascinating as the topic is, new observations and related publications will require revisions of the book, and such input, in support of improvements, are welcome.

You embark on your career journey with optimism and, with some luck and a lot of help, you achieve your anticipated destination. You finish with knowledge, pleasant memories, and a desire to share your know-how.

References