

## An Appreciation

In the Orient a deep core of respect for the teacher is traditionally ingrained in culture and woven into the fabric of the scholar and the community. A teacher who reaches the honorable time of retirement carries an aura of achievement and wisdom derived from long experience, study and service. Hence there arises a disbelief in any actual retirement of such valued persons, for though the teacher might relinquish administrative and other duties he did not leave the community but remained as a source of knowledge and good judgment.

Similar practice is not currently so broadly evident in the West, but sometimes is strongly reflected in the lives of individuals such as Dr. Esmond R. Long, retiring editor. His long and truly contributive career in medicine need not now be reviewed, for it is a matter of record in the editorial prepared by Dr. H. W. Wade, first editor of *THE JOURNAL* (32 (1964) 71-72). It suffices to note that, since at that time he had relinquished administrative and other duties, the community of those concerned with the problems of leprosy turned to him for aid and good judgment.

Dr. Long's in depth studies of mycobacterial disease, particularly tuberculosis, provided him with a profound background of knowledge and experience as a basis for discriminative judgment. Thus, when, in 1964, he took over the editorship of this *JOURNAL* he remained within his chosen community of interest while at the same time broadening its perimeters. His prodigious efforts, meticulous concern, evident scholarship and sense of style are written into every issue of *THE JOURNAL* which he has put together. Those who have written in Spanish appreciate his use of this language and many authors from disparate parts of the world owe him a deep sense of gratitude and friendship for his logic and style in helping to bring manuscripts into a form that would best communicate their work and thought.

Though Dr. Long now relinquishes the administrative tasks of editorship his many old and new friends will insist that he not leave the community but continue his influence therein. As a Chinese saying has it, "He who is for one day my teacher, is my father for life."

—OLAF K. SKINSNES  
*Editor Elect*