Kosis, it had resulted in the development of the "Stabilization Serums." These sera, given in four doses on four consecutive days in Gor, render the recipients virtually immune to the processes of aging and are available free to all Gorean.

We have long contended that research in leprosy is of significance in relation to biological science and other disease but had not anticipated this possibility. Perhaps some bold soul could seek appropriate and elegant funding from a granting body now that science fiction is so widely mooted as having been remarkably prophetic.

The designation Dar-Kosis also presents itself for possible consideration as a term to resolve the current conflict regarding the earthly designation for this ancient affliction. But then we would have to rewrite literature and we might be reviled for alleged association with Gorean philosophy. The path of the leprosy worker is, alas, fraught with problems.

Unfortunately, with respect to these problems we are "on our own." It seems that the Priest-Kings of Gor have the technical ability to bend communication waves or beams, unnoticeably, in such a manner as to avoid the detection of Gor. Should we send a satellite to explore the opposite side of the sun, it is said that they are able to move Gor into the orbit of another sun — perhaps they have already done so.

Alas, it appears that we earthlings are alone with our problem. Possibly some direction to it may result from a synthesis of the disparate concepts put forth in the four recent editorials on this subject which have appeared in these pages. Alternatively we could, of course, devote ourselves to reading science fiction!

— OLAF K. SKINSNES

Manuscripts and This JOURNAL

Reading past editorial pages of this JOURNAL as well as such records as are available indicates that prior editorial experience with the flow of manuscripts to this JOURNAL has essentially followed our experience of the past nine years. This is that the flow tends to rise and fall in unpredictable waves.

During some of the past nine years we inadvertently achieved an excess backlog. This arose primarily from two factors. One was the desire to accommodate as many authors as possible, particularly ILA members. The second reason was inadvertent and beyond our control as best exemplified by the year 1973. That year the Centennial Festschrift, approved by the Board of Directors, was planned as a supplement to one of the regular issues. When this material was well in hand the financial straits of the JOURNAL were such that it was not possible to issue a supplement. Indeed, it became necessary to utilize two regular issues (Nos. 2 & 3) for that effort. That same year the ILA Xth International Leprosy Congress also mandated that we publish its proceedings but made no financial arrangements for the cost of the effort. It became necessary to utilize issue No. 4, also of 1973, for this purpose. Thus in 1973, three of our regular issues became unavailable for the regular flow of manuscripts, to the understandable disgruntlement of some authors whose work was delayed in printing.

When the printing of the JOURNAL was moved to Hawaii in 1974, considerable work was undertaken in collaboration with the printers to attempt to improve the printed quality and arrangement of the JOURNAL. Without changing its general style, it became possible to accommodate approximately ten manuscripts per issue instead of the previous eight to nine and still remain within our general quota of about 500 pages per volume. Thus the manuscript backlog has recently been markedly reduced at a time coincident with a periodic manuscript accession.
slow down.

In the past 15 years there have been many expert investigators attracted to the study of leprosy and many of them tend to submit their papers to their specialty journals. This has been a healthy trend in bringing understanding and interest in leprosy before a broader scientific audience. The trend, however, presents two difficulties. First, it makes it more difficult for many leprosy workers to gain access to much published material except as it is brought to them through editorial comment or the abstract sections of leprosy journals. Second, it reduces the flow of manuscripts to leprosy journals, including this Journal.

The ILA membership is reminded that their yearly dues are ILA dues and not Journal subscriptions. The subscription rate is higher than the dues. In return for their dues they get the Journal, though in effect the Journal becomes part of the collection agency for the dues.

It can be strongly argued that without the Journal there is no ILA since, meeting only once in five years, the ILA basically has two functions. These are the production of this Journal which is its organ and the holding of the quinquennial International Leprosy Congresses. Without the Journal it is doubtful that many members would continue membership dues, and thus membership, for the purpose of attending a congress every five years.

ILA members are therefore reminded that both the continuing quality and the future of the Journal is in considerable measure dependent on their manuscript contribution. It is in no way suggested that the Journal has a claim on a major share of their work, but this notice is intended to call attention to those "facts of life" particularly evident to the editorial office, to remind them that this is their Journal and that the Journal is pleased to receive representative works from time to time.

This Journal is now well enough abstracted and referenced (IJL 45 [1977] 292) to assure contributors of wide attention.

- EDITOR

Appeal to Authors Renewed

In our first issue of 1974 (IJL 42 [1974] 67-68), we appealed to authors working on any aspect of leprosy to put us on their mailing list for reprints of their writings to assist in our coverage by abstracts in our "Current Literature" section. The response has been very helpful, though not comprehensive. As noted in a recent editorial note (IJL 45, #3), this Journal is indexed and abstracted quite well. We utilize CURRENT CONTENTS and SDLINE, as well as regular scanning of about 60 journals, to achieve our coverage. Nevertheless, we are aware that not all significant work in leprosy comes to early attention since our other activities sometimes bring such work to our attention some time later. We regularly receive 11 journals largely concerned with leprosy. Hence we are most concerned with obtaining reprints from other journals and those published in non-English languages. These are more likely to miss.

In the latter case, since translation services are not available, we appreciate the efforts of authors to accompany the reprints with brief English summaries.

We have attempted to acknowledge receipt of these contributions. Should we miss some, or should financial exigencies force us to conserve postage, we trust that contributors will accept the appearance of their contributions in our abstract section as acknowledgment of receipt and appreciation of courtesy given.

Continuation and augmentation of this courtesy by authors will be helpful and appreciated.

- EDITOR