EDITOR'S NOTE

THOMAS W. TEAL

Editor-in-Chief, *Drug Information Journal*

The publication of a tribute to Sol Levine, PhD, coincident with the abstracts from the DIA's Fourth Annual Symposium on Quality of Life, is most fitting. Dr. Levine helped originate the modern application of quality of life assessments to the evaluation of medicines, and his interests spanned many areas in medical sociology. His publication record stretches nearly 50 years; he was extraordinarily influential in the development of the field of medical sociology. His influence was recognized by his election to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in 1975, his receipt of the Leo G. Reeder Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Medical Sociology in 1986, and by his listing in *Who's Who*.

He was a gifted teacher as well, and helped shape departments in his field at Har-

vard, Johns Hopkins, and Boston Universities. He trained not only sociologists, but also introduced many physicians to the sociological critique of medicine. Furthermore, he had a lasting influence on many of his colleagues who were themselves influential researchers or important educators. Many remember him for his personal qualities of warmth, humor, attentiveness, and creativity perhaps even more than for his scholarly achievements.

This tribute to Sol Levine was written to acquaint those interested in quality of life research or medical sociology with the career of a pioneer of those fields, to encourage those with a scholarly interest in outcomes research to read or reread his work to better appreciate the historical context of their own work, and to inspire all by the example of his personal qualities.