

II. IMPROVEMENT OF THE JOURNAL AND ABSTRACTS

When so much has been done in establishing these two important journals and bringing them to their present state of excellence, any drastic criticism would be a task of supererogation. I mention this matter, however, because our Secretary, in his circular letter dated October 25, 1921, stated that the Editor must have more space in order that papers offered for publication may appear more promptly. In order to make the JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY a monthly periodical, there must be an increase of membership to 1500, or else other means must be adopted, and several alternate suggestions are set forth.

All of us would like to see the size of the JOURNAL increased, and regular publication guaranteed; these benefits can best be obtained only by an increase of membership. If our publications maintain a high standard of excellence, their worth will ensure more subscriptions from foreign countries.

Each member should be personally interested in the success of these journals, and should see that they attain a wider field of usefulness. Judicious and frequent suggestions to libraries that do not take them, bringing them to the notice of medical men and others interested in cognate subjects would help to advertise and undoubtedly secure subscribers.

III. PROVISION FOR CRITIQUES AND RÉSUMÉS

ABSTRACTS at present is filled with references and short résumés of work done by bacteriologists all over the world.

I suggest that it would be of considerable interest to arrange for critiques or comprehensive résumés on many subjects, to be written by students of particular groups. For example: a comprehensive summary of the literature on the decomposition of cellulose; botulism; the carrier of infection, etc. Such reviews would be of great value to students, save much time in hunting up references, and bring the subject up to date. If written in a judicial spirit, the writer would be able to size up the situation, and give an appreciation of the subject as a whole.

If possible, such contributors should be paid.