We are very pleased to know that our article written in 1960 has been cited frequently. We wrote this article with the intention of reviewing most of the pertinent literature published up to that time. Interest and research activity in the field of urinary tract infections were becoming markedly accelerated due to the establishment of the validity of quantitative urinary culture as an epidemiological tool. In 1939, Soma Weiss and Frederic Parker, Jr., of the Harvard Medical School, had published their classic contribution, "Pyelo-nephritis: its relationship to vascular lesions and to arterial hypertension." That review presented now widely used histologic criteria for the diagnosis of pyelonephritis, as well as pointed out the clinical variability of this disease and its possible association with hypertension. With the advent of diagnostic quantitative urinary cultures, it was possible to study large segments of the population to determine the occurrence and natural history of this disease. All of us had been interested in urinary tract infections and had conducted research in this area. Kleeman, who is a clinician primarily interested in renal physiology, had studied many of the functional aberrations associated with renal infection. Hewitt was interested in treatment experiences as well as selected clinical aspects of the disease. My laboratory had been conducting experiments dealing with the pathogenesis of pyelonephritis, with particular emphasis on the host-parasite relationship. It was, therefore, natural for the three of us to review this disease, including the literature as well as our own personal clinical and laboratory experiences.

"The resulting publication made available to other investigators and interested scientists a fairly complete update of the information that they might need to build on past observations, thus accounting for its frequent citation. We are pleased that our intentions have been realized and that the manuscript served as a valuable resource upon which other useful studies were conducted."2-4