

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

THE MEETINGS WERE A GREAT SUCCESS (OF COURSE) AND WE DIDN'T LOSE A NICKEL, THOUGH WE HAD TO TRAIPISE THROUGH THE CASINO FREQUENTLY EN ROUTE TO VARIOUS MEETINGS AND OUR ROOMS (IT WAS BRIGHT BUT CO-O-LD OUTSIDE). It was bright inside, too, for casinos like to keep things well lighted. (Science has recently discovered this lifts the spirits of the depressed.) Then, too, there were a lot of "klieg" lights, for they were shooting a movie in and around a good deal of the lobbies and the playing fields. In fact, they decided that one of our more erudite but not stuffy members. . . . BOB WASHINO . . . was EXACTLY what they wanted for a bit part of a "high roller" at a baccarat table with an alarmed *croupier* shoving out the winnings. Bob was not entirely amused but the rest of us surely were.

ONE REASON, THOUGH, THAT WE DIDN'T LOSE ANY MONEY WAS THAT THE PAPERS HAD US GLUED TO OUR CHAIR. There wasn't much of the usual clumping in the halls, in fact, though the advertisers' displays were deservedly well attended and it wasn't just to get the coffee. An unusual number of papers were read into the microphone by authors who adjusted the mike to fit their height and didn't turn away and talk to the screen. And most of the slides were visible from the back, though we regretted we hadn't remembered our resolve from previous years to bring binoculars for some of them. The meeting rooms were comfortable as they always were in the old days at the Haddon Hall (the Chalfont's been torn down) and the New Jersey bunch made it all work.

REGISTRATION NEARED 700, WITH 82 COMPANIONS, AND THERE WERE FIFTEEN PAST PRESIDENTS. TOMMY MULHERN, who had to retire as our Executive Director on his doctor's advice, was much missed. He is now our Emeritus E. D. and MICHAEL CHAMBERS' beautifully and thoroughly researched historical perspective *AMCA's First 50 Years (1935-1985)*, which was distributed at the meeting was fittingly dedicated to Tommy. Two who were in on the founding of AMCA, JIM HART and ROLLIE DORER, were present and it was remembered that JESSE LESLIE was not only present *then* but at the first New Jersey convocation 75 years ago! Tommy's paper was read by DON SUTHERLAND, who showed slides of the early work (especially interesting to those of us to whom it seems only in the recent past) and he spoke of T. J. HEADLEE who inspired and guided not only that work but the fledgling AMCA.

GIL CHALLET, in his Presidential Address, suggested that AMCA's scope is now for all intents and purposes AMVCA and that with our ties to WHO and PAHO, we are now truly international and not just North American. JOHN KUSCHKE, in his NJMCA Presidential Address continued this thought of the worldwide aspects and the impact of one section of the world on every other, in mosquito control and research.

NORM GRATZ, speaking from the standpoint of

WHO's worldwide concerns, and in connection with the 90 to 100,000 new cases of malaria a year and the million children involved in Africa alone, brought up something we hadn't really thought of. . . . the developing nations and their frantic efforts to improve their lot economically by increased irrigation. Which, of course, means increased mosquito breeding potentials and increased need for funds to combat them and so on and on. He pointed out that paternalism is NOT the answer but aid in training people to address their problems, in helping them to work out feasible solutions within their capabilities and means and in helping them educate the general public in sanitation and mosquito prevention is.

DR. BILL HORSFALL's Memorial Lecture, honoring T. J. HEADLEE, you'll read elsewhere, of course, so we'll only say it was his usual tightly-thought-out exegesis that made people sit eagerly at his feet whenever he talked about The Subject. We did, when we first knew him (as Colonel, not Dr.) and became instantly aware that here was someone Who Knew What He Was Talking About. Needless to say, there were the usual ten or so "Horsfall Mafia" present . . . a term we shouldn't perhaps have said so loudly in a Casino. One of them was JIMMY OLSON, who introduced Bill with well-deserved encomiums.

The Photo Salon turned out some very nice pictures indeed, though we think more of you modest types ought to submit your slides of mosquitoes. We're willing to bet you have some nice ones in your year's take. One of the nice ones in *this* year's take was MARIO VARGAS' beautifully back-lighted shot of a palmate hair, which won the AMCA Plaque for best slide from an AMCA entry.

AT MEET-THE-EDITORS IT WAS AGAIN BROUGHT OUT THAT IF AUTHORS WILL READ THE INSIDE OF THE BACK COVER OF MOS—THE JOURNAL (HEY, WE SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SAY THIS), the heartbreak of authorship will be considerably lessened.

IRATE AUTHORS should know, too, that if a Ms receives mixed reviews from the reviewers, it goes to the Editorial Board and if THEY have mixed feelings, changes are suggested and may even be beneficial. Various reasons: to conform to *Journal* style and brevity standards and all that, of course, and SOMETIMES to improve clarity. You're all familiar with the freeway signs that only a daily commuter can decipher in time; sometimes one's crystal-clear thought *isn't* clear to an unenlightened reader. And then, too, the page charges you save may be your own.

THE NEWSLETTER IS TO BE UPGRADED in style and content and to be more all-round informative. And, like US, JOHN COMBS needs folks to send in info. But don't stop sending it to us! The two things are different.

AND GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS ON THE OPERATIONAL PAPER FRONT. The good news: Operational

papers are henceforth to be in the same clear, readable type as the rest of the papers. The bad: people aren't sending in many operational papers. If you like to read 'em (and all of us do, even if the mud on our boots is pretty dry) send 'em in now and then. Those gadgets, those bright idea add-ons, are interesting. The dry ULV was a much-derided gadget once, as we have reason to know.

FINALLY . . . the reason the March issue was Vol. 1, number 1, as if there had never been a *Mosquito News*, is that librarians wanted it that way. (They were asked.) When a new name comes along, they don't like loose ends. See?

LORELEI (MRS. STAN) CARPENTER ACCEPTED THE JOHN BELKIN MEMORIAL AWARD and the Honorary Membership which had been awarded to Stan before his tragic death. An Honorary Membership was also extended to MARGARET SLATER, our long-time Assistant to the Editor, whose service started, we believe, way back in 1949 when *Mosquito News* began its association with the Boyd Printing Co.

JIM CATON, WHO IS NOW OUR COURAGEOUS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Pro-Tem, is also Prexy Elect of the California MCA so that, together with his own MAD, he certainly has his work cut out. TOMMY MULHERN was much missed . . . and not just because his health had forced his first cancellation of attendance at an AMCA meeting EVER, but because of our having to do without his usual well-oiled agendas.

AS FOR THE PAPERS, we think that if everything there is to know about *Bti* hasn't been discovered, it surely isn't for any lack of trying. Between this subject and computers, there was hardly room for old-fashioned things like Vapona; Arosurf managed to surface a few times. Some newcomers were glimpsed briefly, like marigold oil, *Lambornella clarki*, *Metarhizium*, *Lagenidium* and *Romanomermis*, which is not really new but seems to be a steady growth item. There were a couple of papers on cloning *Bti* (one, to *E. coli*!) which we didn't really understand but they were thought-provoking.

THE LONG HERALDED BULLETIN NO. 6 (BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES) was released at the Annual Meeting. Bulletin Editor HAROLD CHAPMAN is to be commended for a job well done—even though he had no part in the advertisements that appeared in this bulletin. Copies are available at AMCA HQ.

DON JOHNSON GENEROUSLY PASSED OUT COPIES OF THE ANNUAL MOSQUITO ISSUE OF *PEST CONTROL MAGAZINE* which we have come to look forward to over the years. Besides its usual kind words for us, PC had a mighty good article by GIL CHALLET. (March).

OTHER NEWS ON THE PUBLICATIONS FRONT IS THE APPEARANCE OF A BOOK, not on Our Subject, but by our very own BILL RAPP. It's entitled "The Industrial Archaeology of Nebraska," and doesn't that sound intriguing?

BOYD PRINTING COMPANY, one of the largest and oldest printing companies in Albany, New York, and

the font of our learned Journal, has recently appointed Jane Quellmalz Carey to be the third generation of her family to preside over it, according to the *Knickerbocker News* of Albany. They print many things, including law journals, and we hope they don't find this colym any more obscure than THOSE!

NEW ORLEANS MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL REPORT, of especial interest in that they'll be our hosts at next year's meeting, has on its cover a light trap called the New Orleans Vector Collector, and subtitled, "Sampling mosquitoes with disease transmission potential using a Fay-Prince trap modified with a UV-light," which seems to say it all. Inside is a discussion of the Fair of this past year, which had as its theme, "Fresh Water, the Source of Life." It wasn't easy but they kept it controlled, though the theme inherently resulted in innumerable mighty fine sources of *mosquito* life.

Miasma Philatelist, the Quarterly Journal of Malaria Philatelists International, Vol 5, No. 1, for January-March 1985, reports on the XI International Congress for Tropical Medicine and Malaria, held last September in Calgary, Alberta. Also in the handsomely revived journal are photo-reproductions of stamps and cancellations of interest to all philatelist-malariologists, as well as mere stamp collectors, like us, who like to nab onto a nice entomologically related item.

AND WE WELCOME BACK RUSSELL WRIGHT WHO DECIDED THAT *MOSQUITO NEWS* WAS OF MORE VALUE THAN OTHER PUBLICATIONS on such subjects and was kind enough to say so!

AND FINALLY, NOT FOR A PUBLICATION BUT FOR BEING PUBLISHED ABOUT, we have Dr. GENE GERBERG who was the subject of a lengthy article in the *Washington Post* (complete with a COLOR picture) and was also the subject of TWO articles in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. All about his remarkable laboratory in Maryland, where he and his staff churn out assorted insects, endogenous and exotic, disease-bearing and merely obnoxious, for the benefit of laboratories all over, which need large quantities of a species for control, repellent and attractant experimentation.

OF COURSE THE *CHRONICLE* WILL PRINT ALMOST ANYTHING. A big headline lately, which also made the 6 o'clock news thereby, was on how TV has reduced encephalitis in all probability because it has kept people indoors watching the sports and things like "A.D." and "Jewel in the Crown" instead of sitting outdoors around a barbecue drinking beer and getting mosquito-bitten. The faint likelihood that the recent freedom from encephalitis might be connected with the mosquito abatement districts' efforts was not mentioned.

We understand Tommy wasn't much amused but we thought it was sort of funny. Until we heard from Australia. . . it had made the 6 o'clock news there, too.

AND THEN THERE WAS SAM BREELAND and his delightful "Bugs, Folks & Fun" that our Editor Emeritus, and now Editor Associate, BILL BICKLEY

reviewed in last September's issue. Surrounded as we were by the theme of AMCA's history and the Greats who have guided us over the years, Sam's anecdotes brought back memorable incidents and evoked warm images and memories as nothing else has in a long time. It was as if our old friends and mentors were there with us once again. (As, of course, some of them WERE!)

SOMEONE FOUND A COPY OF A WEE PUBLICATION, THE FIRST COPY OF WHICH APPEARED ON 26 FEBRUARY 1899 IN PERTH AMBOY, NJ. The masthead is embellished with two unidentifiable mosquitoes (wholly black body and legs; unspotted wings); its name is simply, "The Mosquito" and it proclaimed that it was to be a journal of opinion but not a newspaper. It was to come out twice a month and the annual subscription was fifty cents. We'd love to know if it survived. While it avers that few mosquitoes are to be seen in New Jersey in February, it vows that "we stake our journalistic honor upon its being true, when we make the statement that a fine large specimen of the creature under whose outlines this is printed was caught in the Mosquito office on the evening of Monday, January 30, last." Perth Amboy in that day had a "Central railroad depot with waiting rooms for men, women and smokers . . ." With this we leave New Jersey.

SOME OF THE NEWS PUBLISHED IN AUSTRALIA ABOUT MOSQUITO CONTROL WAS UPBEAT. *The Medical Journal of Australia*, for instance, reprinted last October the article that appeared in the *New York Times* earlier and which you probably saw. It's the one that quoted GEORGE CRAIG, DON WEIDHAAS and GIL CHALLET. And the MJA also came right out and boldly stated that personal protective measures are more important to travellers than drugs. Now THAT's a Med Journal!

DICK DARSIE RESPONDED TO INQUIRIES ABOUT CERTAIN MOSQUITO LARVA PREDATORS, particularly *Corethra cinctipes*, as follows (Dick is leaving Ft. Collins for WEDGE, incidentally, and will be there by the time you read this): "I have before me a publication entitled, 'The Nearctic Chaobarinae (Diptera: Culicidae)' by E. F. Cook, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Experiment Station Technical Bulletin 218, 102 pp, 1956. It lists *Mochlonyx cinctipes* (Coquillett). He states that this species is widely distributed over the northern part of the continent and is found always in temporary pools. I have found it common in spring snow pools in New York and Montana. Cook does review the changes in nomenclature."

OTHER CHANGES AROUND: VICTOR BARBIERO is now Public Health Advisor of the Communicable Diseases Division of AID. And CLIFFORD LOFGREN announced in December that GARY MOUNT is the new Director of the Gainesville laboratory, to succeed DON WEIDHAAS after his retirement. WALLY STEFFAN has left the Bishop Museum for the Idaho Museum of Natural History in Pocatello and we hope the big game hunting and the magnificent fishing will make up for the loss of that gorgeous year-round beach at Kailua. DAN STRICKMAN has transferred from Air Force to Army and is now working with BRUCE HARRISON at the Smithsonian, where he replaced Captain RALPH HAR-

BACH who is now attending the advanced course at Ft. Sam Houston, Taixus.

BILL BURGOYNE WASN'T ABLE TO COME TO THE MEETINGS BUT SENT ALONG A FINE PAPER WITH LOVELY SLIDES. Bill, as you may remember has a pilot's license (as does his wife Bonnie) and their own plane, which they fly around Alaska, in Bill's continuing quest for practicable means to protect the Native American population from the truly horrendous snow-melt time mosquito populations. (His plane has skis in winter to replace his summer wheels!) Bill's pamphlet "Modern Mosquito Control for Alaskans" is highly reported and, we understand, contains a reprint of the Handbook 182, "The Mosquitoes of Alaska" by AMCA'ers of old, C. M. GJULLIN, REECE SAILER, ALAN STONE and BARNEY TRAVIS. Bill said to shed a tear for "us poor Arabs" since every drop in the OPEC price also drops our own proud state's income. Those Arabs! Every knock a boost.

IF YOU SAW THE RECENT NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIAL ON RAIN FORESTS, YOU HAVE SOME IDEA OF THE HEIGHT OF THE LADDERS that ANNALISA MARCHI and LEN MUNSTERMANN had to construct to reach the canopy is their six weeks' study of forest mosquitoes, conducted with JACK PETERSON of the Gorgas Laboratory in Panama. If you missed it, there's a good picture in the GML Newsletter for January, showing Drs. Marchi, Munstermann and Peterson WAY up there, building as they go. Their studies took them from the Bocas del Toro Lagoon (how many *bocas* does a *toro* have in Panama?) to the Continental Divide (1200 m.) and centered mainly on *Haemagogus* and *Sabethes* species, one of which is also pictured FULL of blood. IT should have been in the salon.

IN CASE YOU DON'T GET THE BULLETIN OF THE ENT SOC OF AMERICA OR DON'T READ IT AS CAREFULLY AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO, we are indebted to it for a handful of items about AMCA members, to wit: LINN HARAMIS wrote a letter pointing out the importance of vector-borne diseases and the important contribution of entomological studies in their control. WALLY STEFFAN in addition to moving to Idaho, had an important role in an episode in *Magnum P.I.* before he left. He was off-camera consultant for a barroom scene in which house flies were important bit players (and, darn, we forgot to ask him about this at Atlantic City!). DICK GORHAM is now a governing council member for the Eastern Branch of ESA and FRED KNAPP is a presidential appointee to the ARPE governing council. (As an early crusader for Registered Entomologists as a profession, though the point is now moot for us, we want to put in a plug for joining, to any of you who hain't done so yet.) CRAIG SANDOWSKI, a student member of AMCA, received a W. J. Baerg Award for outstanding research accomplishments.

SOMETIMES WE AREN'T SURE IF FOLKS REALLY TAKE US SERIOUSLY. Anyway, we receive all sorts of odd publications like *Worm Runners Digest* and the *Journal of Irreproducible Results* and like that. One of our most esteemed members sent us recently a reprint, from the *Indian Veterinary Journal*, of an article on some research done under a grant from Bethesda. Its title:

"Abdominal Circumference at the Hump as an Index of Body Weight in Dromedary Camels." Seems loss (or gain?) of body weight is a factor in a camel's health profile and they don't get to see a doctor very often.

AND CARROLL SMITH'S LOVELY INVENTED WORD CROPPED UP TO HAUNT US at A.C. "Ecdysone Titer in Larval *Toxorhynchites*." It's a good, useful word but it reminds us of Gypsy Rose Lee, just the same.

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