

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT WE CAN REMEMBER THAT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO RUSH OUT AND BORROW A WORD PROCESSOR AND A LASER JET AND SEND THE OVERDUE PAGES 1 AND 2 POSTHASTE TO AN IMPATIENT PRINTER. But lo! This year the Annual Meetings, just past as we write on April 20, are a whole month ahead of the deadline for the next (September) issue.

Well, they're past but they will remain a wonderful memory. We seem to have a faculty for ever more wonderful meetings. This year was nothing like last year's extravaganza (nothing could be) and didn't try to be. It was just plain, pure southern California as she was once and never will be again. Thanks, GIL CHALLET, et al.

The setting was a garden motel-sort of hotel, with swimming pools or hot tubs or the like in every lanai, it seemed, good restaurants and cafes, and the receptions were served Hawaii-style with finger food that wouldn't quit and in every cuisine known to ethnic-diverse San Diego. A "trolley" stopped at the door to take you to Old Town, downtown, harbor lights, Navy Yard, the Barrio, the museums of Balboa Park, the magnificent and world famous Zoo,

There were 900 registrants, many students, some from across the Border (with tee shirts printed with a drawing of *albopictus*), many companions, 886 of whom showed up for the banquet and the entertainment of good conversation and a Hawaiian combo.

The Memorial Lecture, given by MIR MULLA, was in memory of Dr. STAN FREEBORN, whom we remember as our first professor of Ent. 1, at Berkeley, coming bounding into class with a jaunty bow tie and seeming not much older than we (he was thirty-six) and full of an infective enthusiasm for entomology, and later in Atlanta during the war as a Colonel in MCWA and seeming not much older than before. His cohorts, GEORGE BRADLEY and TRAVIS (Tom) MCNEAL, together with JOHNNY MULRENNAN (SR.), taught us all we knew about mosquitoes and kept us on the solid track at a time when we had to learn mighty fast. The Special Recognition Address, given by BILL REEVES, was on the life and work of Dr. W. B. HERMS (whom we never called "Bil-ly" though HAROLD GRAY did to his face and our horror, sometimes). Dr. Herms was loved but not familiar and it wasn't really until later that we realized how much he had taught us about the FUTURE, with his groundwork for phero-

mones, light attractants, IPM, and other as-yet unworked approaches to malaria control. He sent us looking for copepods in a slough at the foot of University Avenue, now a park. And we studied fungus diseases of flies with an eye to use. It was all mighty good to hear about and we hoped the Younger Set found it as inspiring to hear as we did to remember.

PREXY JOHNNY MULRENNAN'S (JR.) ADDRESS WAS INSPIRATIONAL FOR OUR TIMES, for he evoked the metaphor of a train in the station, ready to go, and on the right track, but still puffing and getting up steam. He said we better get on board. With us or without us, the train is GOING. (He feels we're well set to get on board.)

THE MEDAL OF HONOR WENT TO YE ED RON WARD, AS WAS FITTING, AND THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD TO SALLY WAGNER ALSO WELL DESERVED. And we should mention CMVCA awards presented by Dr. Reeves, to MERRY HOLLIDAY-HANSON, who studied MALE *Anopheles freeborni* and WAKOLI WEKESA who studied females. Ex-ED BILL BICKLEY was awarded (finally) for his more than 40 years of editorial and other service to AMCA, and BILL HAZELTINE is now officially our Legislative Rep and the terror of Capitol Hill. The Belkin Award went to DR. T. H. G. AITKEN, but we've got a lot more on him so he gets a separate paragraph later.

DR. EMILE VAN HANDEL GOT A HEARTY ROUND OF APPLAUSE, as he should have each year, for his classical "piano bar" background music for all the coffee breaks and many other odd times along the way.

AND, YES, WE SAW THE ZOO. Wow.

BOB SJOGREN, HAVING RETIRED FROM HIS MAD IN MINNESOTA, IS NOW WORKING ON A PURELY PREVENTIVE IDEA. His company will franchise manufacture of materials by a slow-release methodology that can have attractants incorporated, thus making the insect come to the poison, using less and spreading it less widely into the environment. Neat. He promises more details later. RAY PARSONS, who retired from Sarasota County (FL) to found ECO-LOGIC, a "least toxic" pest management company, and Bob may want to get together.

TWO OTHER IDEAS THAT INTERESTED US were presented by DON ELIASON, FRED BEAMS, CHRIS COSTA and STAN HUSTED, in a collaboration of

Orange, San Mateo, and Sacramento MADs, on the related subjects of public education and media events as part of mosquito control. Wave of the future is already here.

THE NEWS ABOUT DR. AITKEN (CALLED BY HIS INTIMATES BUT NOT BY US, TOMMY) is that he also received the American Committee on Medical Entomology (Harry) Hoogstraal Award and had a building named after him at the Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory, where he was the first parasitologist-entomologist and served for 13 years. It was written up in a big spread in the Trinidad and Tobago *Newsday*, sent to us by DR. ANDREW MAIN. Dr. Aitken, who hailed originally from California and named *Anopheles freeborni*, said of the building, modestly, "It's only a small building, but of course, it's not every day one has a building named after him." (It's not a very small building.)

HERB SCHOOF, who was a shining light with the USPHS for many years, died last October in Savannah, Georgia. We retain a memory of him as a young commissioned officer in MCWA, in Atlanta, when his fresh and up-beat spirit enlivened many an otherwise routine trip around the Army (and Army Air Corps) installations in Georgia and North Carolina. He was also, we are told by HARRY PRATT, who sent us the obit., a key player in producing the "Public Health Pesticides Report" which appeared in and edified the readers of *Pest Control Magazine* for many years.

Another sad passing is that of ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL FAIRCHILD, who was the last surviving grandchild of the famed telephone inventor, but also famed in his own right as an entomologist and teacher. He was honored by the ESA and by the University of Panama and widely admired for his work in Brazil with the Rockefeller Foundation and in Panama with the Gorgas Laboratory, as well as at the University of Florida where he had taught and was research associate.

YE ED, KNOWING OUR LOVE FOR MILITARY ACRONYMS, has sent us the latest one: USAM-RDALC, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development, Acquisition and Logistics Command. Couldn't that be lengthened a little? Are they *sure* they've included everything?

Ye Ed commends to our attention a thoughtful article that appeared in 1984 in the CBE *Views* and that we, in turn, think you might like to have excerpted. (We heard recently of a two-page paper with *eleven authors* and our granddaughter,

who is a marine biologist, went to a meeting where a paper's title had only HALF as many words as the list of its authors.) The CBE paper is authored by Dr. D. H. Michael Bowen and lists some authorship problems:

"The large number of authors on some papers strains the credulity of editors and readers who find it difficult to believe that all could have been intimately involved in the work.

"The names of author's editors appear on some papers, when their contributions are confined to editing and rewriting.

"Some listed coauthors have contacted editors with requests or demands that their names not be included as coauthors.

"In a small but troublesome number of instances, scientists claim that they should have been listed as authors. [We know *their* feeling.]

"Circulation of a copyright assignment form . . . has revealed that in some instances coauthors had no prior knowledge that the paper had been written and/or that they were to be listed as coauthors.

"Dr. Hurth [the Chairman] then asked for suggestions for criteria against which the appropriateness of authorship could be gauged.

1) Creative involvement in the conceptual design of the study.

2) Involvement in the generation of data and results.

3) Involvement in analysis and interpretation of the results."

Gosh, if we may say so, that DO seem elementary.

SOMEONE PASSED ON TO US A XEROX OF AN ARTICLE BY SOMEONE NOT SHOWN IN A PUBLICATION NOT IDENTIFIED SO we excerpt it unattributed: "It is malaria that is most responsible for the disease wall that threatens to separate Africa and other parts of the Third World from more-developed regions of the planet in the twenty-first century. Carried by mosquitoes, malaria, unlike AIDS, is easy to catch. 'The great gift of malaria is utter apathy,' wrote Sir Richard Burton, accurately portraying the situation in much of the Third World today. Visitors to malaria-afflicted parts of the planet are protected by a new drug, mefloquine, a side effect of which is vivid, even violent dreams. [Too bad we didn't have *that* to recommend atabrine and chloroquin to the GIs in Vietnam.] But a strain of cerebral malaria resistant to mefloquine is now on the offensive. Consequently, defending oneself against malaria in Africa is becoming more and more like defending oneself against violent crime. You engage in 'behavior modification.'" In view of events in South Africa, Rwanda, Somalia, and Liberia, utter apathy may not be too descriptive

of all Africa, but anyone who has been in India or other equatorial countries with malaria will get the point.

An item in the San Francisco *Examiner* last May from Bangladesh got it. Quoting a Dr. Sha-fiqur Rahman, civil surgeon of Sunamganj, it reported that at least 500 people died from mosquito bites (presumably from *falciparum*?) within three days of being bitten. (The mosquitoes were described as swarming from the hills and forests of India.) People they bit died within 24 hours of high temperatures and even brain hemorrhage, according to the doctor, who claimed that the mosquitoes responsible were "larger than the ones normally found in Bangladesh." Equally high mortalities were reported in other districts. Another report claimed that nationwide over 115,000 people were afflicted with malaria in 1993, over three times the previous yearly total and that 500 of them had died, as compared to 67 the year before. Understandably, perhaps, mayoral candidates were reported to be running on platforms promising "vote for me and I will guarantee you a mosquito-free city."

MEANWHILE, TO THE RESCUE . . . The USDA laboratory at Gainesville, FL, is conducting research on *Edhazardia aedis*, according to the Gainesville *Sun*, which said the organism operates by "hitching a ride on mosquito eggs, then killing the larvae." And the *Washington Post*, with a diagram of the cycle of the malaria parasite, and charts of the rise of pediatric mortality from malaria in Africa and of the spread of chloroquin resistance, headlined "An Ancient Killer Makes a Comeback," pairs it with a story claiming "Search for Malaria Vaccine Makes Good: General Use Seen Possible in Four Years."

ON ANOTHER ENTOMOLOGICAL FRONT, KILLER BEES HAVE BEEN MUCH IN THE EYE OF THE PRESS. A headline in the Florida papers, guaranteed to catch the attention of any citizen of that state, declared that killer bees could hurt both tourism and agriculture if steps aren't taken. In Texas the End was said to be Near as bees were sighted in Brownsville. And in California, Santa Clara County is preparing to fight the entry of bees by means of the *Fire Department's foam apparatus*, usually used to combat electrical fires. Fire resistant clothing is also thought to be good protection against bee stings. [Have they ever had a bee loose inside their clothing?] May was declared "Africanized Bee Month" in the public schools. The bees are expected next year. Or the next.

YE ED RETIRED on June 30, though fortunately not as Ye Ed of JAMCA. From the Department of the Army. C. W. Bennett, Chair of the Armed Forces Pest Management Board wrote him, "Your thirty-six years of service to the federal government has included much significant service to the Armed Forces Pest Management Board. Your contributions to the AFPMB have been numerous, including agency representation for the Walter Reed Institute of Research, Committee memberships, Chair of the Medical Entomology Committee on two occasions and your expert consultation on medical entomology issues for numerous AFPMB projects and publications." We imagine he's not retiring entirely from THAT, either.

GOING FROM THE DIGNIFIED TO THE HILARIOUS, the papers have been full of other entomological notes, as well as those on bees and mosquitoes, and we were most intrigued by some on flies. F'instance, did you know, as our friend, E. M. Boyd says, that all flies are born fully grown? Probably mosquitoes too, maybe.

The *Recording Schemes Bulletin* (No. 37) reported that the "Piltdown fly" has joined the Piltdown Man in being discredited. It comments, "Lo, the fame of *Fannia scalaris* as the oldest 'muscid' has been dashed. Far from having remained unchanged for millions of years, it was glued into a piece of Baltic Amber in Victorian times. . . . Any attempt to pass off a new fly with the head of a horsefly, wings of a hoverfly and abdomen of a tachinid will definitely not get past any of the recording scheme organizers." And another long article by one Edward Grimsley claimed in the *Washington Times*, a Moon paper, that one could now be sent to the penitentiary for killing flies . . . at least that's what he foresaw in the placement of the Delhi sands fly on the Endangered Species list: the eventual proliferation, uncontrolled, of house flies, sarcophagids and all others, and, ignoring genes, brought out the one about jobs (lost).

The International Plant Protection Congress is announced for the period July 2-7, 1995, in The Hague, The Netherlands. The secretariat address is: XIII International Plant Protection Congress, c/o Holland Organizing Center, Parkstraat 29, 2534 JD The Hague, The Netherlands.

WE SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU UP AHEAD THAT ANDY MAIN and family have left East Haven, CT, for Egypt, for the American University in Cairo, specifically, and their new address is: Professor Andrew J. Main, Biology Unit, Science Department, College of Science and Engineering, the American University in Cairo, 113 Sharia

Kasr el Aini, Cairo, EGYPT. Andy points out that this is NOT an APO but an Egyptian address, which takes foreign postage, like 50¢ a half-ounce.

CHRISTINE MUSA, reminding us that AMCA isn't the only one having meetings, sent the program of their very successful one in March. It featured a symposium on wetland management (with a slight knock on FEMA), a good deal about EEE, and a nice long session of discussions of spreadsheets, word processing techniques, integrated graphics, and other modern necessities.

HAVE YOU CAUGHT the ad on TV where the ruggedly handsome You-know-what-brand-cigarette-type man is grilling a luscious-looking inch-thick steak over an open fire with a gorgeous desert sunset behind him, and he slaps his neck

and starts to give you some us-folks talk and then at the end he slaps his neck again (at a mosquito?) and says, "It'll be a long night." That's all we heard him say because we turn off the noise on the ads and only turned it back on to see WHAT he was selling. Could it be repellent? (No.) How-come they *don't* advertise repellent that way? Those desert mosquitoes are fierce. Even for a () Man.

AND YOU REMEMBER THE OLD JOKE ABOUT THE TWO OLD MEN sitting on the porch and they'd heard each other's jokes so many times, they didn't bother to *tell* them, they'd just say "No. 5" and they'd both laugh, or they'd say "No. 8" and laugh. Well, we always like to end on an upbeat so we'll tell a joke like that. We'll just say, "Page 20."