

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION was held in Fresno on 27, 28 and 29 January and was attended by nearly 300 persons, including quite a number from other states. Among those from Utah attending this 26th annual conference, for instance, were GLEN COLLETT, ARCHIE HESS, JAY GRAHAM, LOUIS OGDEN, HARRY STAGE, GAINES EDDY and C. M. GJULLIN represented, we guess, Oregon, though each of them is such a globe trotter that we hardly know *what* to call *their* home base. C. M. GJULLIN, for instance, enlivened several talk fests with information on how mosquito control is going in Taiwan, from which he recently returned, and where he reviewed the good work of DON PLETSCH, for which Bro. Gjullin had some glowing praise. To get back to the meetings, besides a large number of excellent and informative papers on various control subjects, which will be available in the proceedings, there was a provocative and thoughtful summation of the insecticide resistance problem, by BOB METCALF, accompanied by beautiful slides he had taken on his recent visit to WHO Headquarters in Switzerland; an also stimulating account of a recent trip to review public health in Russia, by Dr. Malcolm Merrill, Director of the California State Department of Public Health; and a lively symposium on the control of mosquitoes when we aggravate the problem by changing their environment, led by DR. STANLEY FREEBORN, Provost of the University of California at Davis, etc. Stan also pitched in at the last moment and doubled for the main speaker at the banquet on a moment's notice, and delivered such an interesting and witty address that he was given a real ovation and everyone was still talking about it the next day. How many banquets can you remember saying *that* about?

BOB PORTMAN was elected President of the C.M.C.A., GORDON SMITH is the new Vice-President and ED WASHBURN, our perennial and hard-working Secretary and Treasurer were reelected to those posts. One way to be reelected permanently, ED, is to be competent, as we keep warning you.

NOBODY, BUT NOBODY EVER TELLS US ANYTHING and if we hadn't been pretty quick on the draw at Fresno and made people stop and back up and amplify things they made passing reference to, we *still* wouldn't know that BARNEY TRAVIS is in Manila on a 2-year leave from Cornell; FRANCISCO DY *does* have a more exalted title now (we brought you this bit of news prematurely some time back and had to correct it because we'd heard the title sort of mixed-up like, but you see we *do* have a nose for news, and we only hope our scoop didn't endanger this

well-merited promotion even for a little); RUSS FONTAINE is going to Ethiopia shortly as Principal Consultant in Malaria in the ICA mission, to stay no more than 2 years under pain of Dick Peters' having a stroke if he does overstay; and MARY KRAMER is leaving the Alameda Mosquito Abatement District (with regrets all round) to return to his earlier field as Water Projects Consultant to the California Bureau of Vector Control, Marv having had this function with the U.S.P.H.S. in the Mississippi River Basin. We've sent an air letter to Dr. Dy and asked him to phone Barney for us, too, and got off a quickie plea to Russ for more news, so if they come through we'll add more to all this later.

SPEAKING OF UTAH, a moment ago, reminds us that the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association meetings were held on March 14 and 15, at Ogden, according to Glen Collett. And reminds us too that one of the highlights of the California meetings was a paper on the feeding habits of *Gambusia affinis* in Utah, by DR. BRYANT E. REES, who is a nephew of DON REES, and a professor at Fresno State College.

MOST OF US READ A GOOD DEAL ABOUT THE CELEBRATION OF THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA, WHAT WITH QUEEN ELIZABETH VISITING IT AND ALL, but probably we were about the only people in America who knew what lay behind the fact that none of the accounts mentioned anybody, let alone the Queen, being eaten up by mosquitoes. V.M.C.A.'s *Skeeter* for November and December reports that the Commissions of Hampton, Warwick and York Counties were responsible for control of a difficult area of many square miles and that in conjunction with this 10-year program of basic environmental control the Williamsburg Commission fogged the spectator area of their famous historical pageant every night.

SKEETER ALSO DESCRIBES IN THE SAME ISSUE, A HOMEMADE GADGET FOR HELPING THE TECHNICIAN AT THE MICROSCOPE TO MANIPULATE THE MOSQUITOES HE'S IDENTIFYING. "It was found," the article says, "that by mounting a 2 inch by 3 inch pocket mirror at the right height and distance in front of the instrument, the eyes could see a reflection of the whole working platform from the same position required to use the microscope. Of course, the image is reversed, but so is the image when one shaves in front of a mirror each morning." (But of course, one doesn't care to see *that* image too clearly, Rollic!)

"Also, covering the glass top of the platform with a white card reduced slip and made handling

easier," the article continues. "And putting a 'V' shaped trough on its front edge with the small end pointed to the field of vision helped to channel insects more readily to the proper spot. Thus the work has been speeded up and headaches avoided at the cost of only a few cents—and no patents involved."

FROM DON REES HIMSELF, IN INDONESIA. COMES A NOTE WHICH WE REPRODUCE BELOW, and word that he is giving two one-hour lectures a week and directing two laboratory periods a week in medical entomology to 158 third-year medical students. Don says his greatest problem is getting arthropod laboratory specimens of the various groups of medical importance and in quantity sufficient for so many students. Don's note:—

"On November 13th, a tour of inspection was made of the new quarters of the Department of Parasitology and General Pathology of the University of Indonesia in Djakarta. The tour was made at the invitation of Professor Lie Kian Joe, Department Head. The building is air conditioned, spacious and much of the interior finished in white tile. In addition to offices, class rooms, laboratory, research and store rooms, it has a museum, animal quarters and a nursery to care for the children of mothers employed in the department. Ample space and facilities have been provided for, teaching and research in medical entomology. Work in this field is required as part of the training of medical students in the University of Indonesia. Following

tour a meeting was held in which representatives of the various departments and agencies interested in arthropod borne diseases decided to meet each month in a seminar. The first seminar was held in the auditorium of this new building on January 13, 1958. A large group attended this meeting, where papers on malaria control, malaria eradication and on filariasis in Indonesia were presented and discussed. The enclosed picture was taken in the medical entomology laboratory by Edgar A. Smith at the November meeting."

AND ONE OF OUR NAVY MOSQUITO CONTROL MEN SENDS IN THE INFORMATION THAT A REQUISITION HE MADE OUT FOR INSECTICIDE WAS IDENTIFIED in his office as being intended for "Larva seeding." Any more ideas, anyone?

SPEAKING OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETINGS IN MEMPHIS, PRESIDENT ART LINDQUIST WRITES, "Every AMCA member should be proud of the fine exhibit. . . . Hundreds of people stopped to view the exhibit for varying lengths of time and were observed to pick up and take along information literature. This exhibit did much to acquaint entomologists of ESA with the aims and accomplishments of the AMCA. We owe a great deal to GEORGE HUTTON, chairman of the committee which prepared the excellent exhibit, and to the committee members, and others who manned the booth, especially Mr. the William M. Cox of Galveston, Texas."

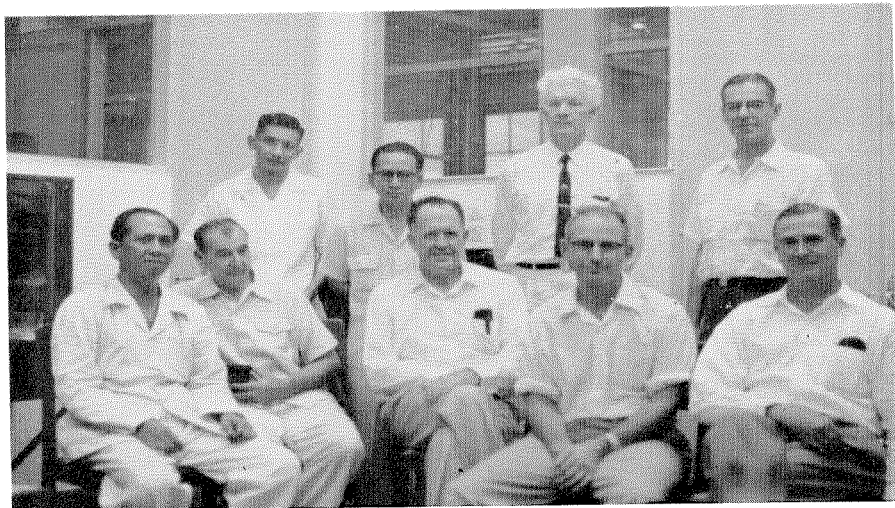


Photo by E. A. Smith

Bottom row, l. to r. H. T. Soeparmo, H. Smetana, D. M. Rees, E. Dresner, L. Hines. Top row, l. to r. K. J. Lie, T. Sutomo, J. M. Edney, R. L. Laird.

HARRY STAGE, A.M.C.A.'s UNOFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE and roving member-at-large, who usually sends us news from Patagonia to Siberia, sends a note on his own State of Washington, which is mighty interesting. The first meeting of a mosquito control district board of trustees in the State of Washington occurred when the Benton County Mosquito Control District board met on December 3, in Pasco, Harry says. DR. ROBERT C. PENDLETON, biologist and a member of AMCA, was elected President. The district is not county wide, as yet, and the first meeting of a county wide mosquito control district in Washington was on December 9, when the Adams County MCD met in Lind. The enabling act permitting these and five other counties in the Columbia Basin, was passed by the State Legislature last March. When our International Rep concentrates all that energy he has onto a sub-National level, things really start flying! In addition, he brought in two new AMCA memberships, one in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Adams County district and one for MR. ROGER JAMES, District Engineer, Washington State Department of Health, in Spokane. Welcome to AMCA!

J. F. SHARP SENDS US FROM OTTAWA AN ARTICLE ON THE RETIREMENT OF OUR EX-PREXY, C. R. TWINN. It is too long to reprint here, but summarizes Dr. Twinn's long and productive career, not overlooking mention of his faithful service to the cause of mosquito control and to A.M.C.A. We wish we'd had half as much info on our man back in 1955, when we ran a brief biography in *News and Notes* (Vol. 15, No. 1). We didn't know, for instance, that he had received the Coronation Medal in 1953 or that the Veterinary and Medical Entomology Unit (formerly Household and Medical Entomology Unit), which he had headed since its formation, has five laboratories stretching across Canada. Dr. and Mrs. Twinn plan to make their home at their woodland residence at Alexander Bay, Quebec, but were slated first to take a long winter vacation in Florida. The article ended, perceptively, "... it is unlikely that Dr. Twinn will remain for long entirely away from his entomological interests." An understatement, and one which we hope will apply to his interest in AMCA as well.

ACCORDING TO *California Vector Views* THE ILLINOIS MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION held its annual meeting on 6 and 7 February at the University of Illinois in Urbana. Any comments? Well, from the same source, we see that the annual meeting of the NEW JERSEY MOSQUITO EXTERMINATION ASSOCIATION was 12, 13 and 14 March, at the Haddon Hall in Atlantic City. Doesn't Florida have a meeting? Maybe these notes ought to go to the Advertising Department, anyway. *What?* We can't quite hear you!

Vector Views ALSO HAS, IN ITS DECEMBER AND JANUARY ISSUES, TWO ARTICLES OF WIDE INTEREST which you may want to get for your own perusal. One is an excellent analysis of the Annual Report, something we all face now and then, and its positive uses as a means of public information and evangelization. The other article, by BEN KEH and MARV KRAMER, reports on an unusual *Chaoborus* infestation which occurred in Alameda County. These gnats, similar in their aquatic origins and bearing some general resemblance to mosquitoes, are causing many people in mosquito control a good bit of trouble because not only of the actual nuisances which they are but also because they stir the citizenry up to think that mosquito control is falling down. Ben and Marv got good control, you bet.

GEORGE BURTON, WHO IS BACK IN THE STATES ON LEAVE FROM NEPAL and is whiling away the idle hours brushing up on a spot of Hindi and Urdu (that's a language), has had a one-man show of his paintings, which featured portraits of tribesmen and general citizens and landscapes of Nepal and Tibet and particularly of the scenery around Katmandu, which some of you may have seen some months ago featured in the National Geographic. George's paintings were exhibited by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for about three weeks and then went on view at the Middle East Institute for another week.

AS A STARTER ON OUR WHO'S WHO FOR 1958 WE HAVE A GENT WHOM MANY OF US THINK OF VAGUELY AS SORT OF A CANADIAN THOUGH HE'S BEEN A U. S. CITIZEN FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS and is a devoted "Westerner" as well. He was born in Scotland but came to America (Canadian North America, that is) before he was twenty. After serving in the Canadian Army during W.W. I, he received his B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Alberta, was a teaching assistant at the University of Montana, received his M.S. from the University of Minnesota and returned to teach at Montana for nearly ten years. He has supervised laboratories in Canada and the United States and is presently with the water projects section of the U. S. Public Health Service laboratory at Logan, Utah, under Archie Hess. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Entomological Society of America, of Sigma Xi and of Gamma Alpha. Though he is known to bicycle madly about town in Bermuda shorts, his real hobby, after fishing, is photography. With two teen-age youngsters, he may be slowing down a bit so as to dig in his heels now and then the way the rest of us have to do, but he doesn't give any indication of it. Who are we talking about? *You* know! ALLEN MAIL.

BESIDES MO, THE NAVY ALSO HAS A NUMBER OF OTHER WELL KNOWN ENTOMOLOGISTS ENGAGED IN MOSQUITO CONTROL AND WE'D LIKE TO BRING

YOU THREE OF THEM NOW. We've already told you about CAPT. KEN KNIGHT, of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D. C. (Vol. 16, No. 1). CDR. R. T. HOLWAY, whom we welcomed to A.M.C.A. and to the Naval Air Station, Alameda, California, in the December issue, came here from Pearl Harbor, T.H., and before that he was in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, where he did much to further the Navy's control program. Before that, he was in Cairo . . . but perhaps we'd better begin at the beginning. Dick was born in 1911 in Boston, Massachusetts, and attended High School in Duxbury, a community south of Boston. Dick got his B.A. at Dartmouth and his M.S. at the University of Massachusetts, studying afterward at Harvard and then returning to U. of M., where he received his doctor's degree in 1937. He didn't have long to enjoy it before Uncle Sam put him into the blue uniform he has distinguished ever since in many places. Beginning with a malaria control unit at Camp Lejeune, he went on to Guadalcanal and other South Pacific islands where for some reason or other a lot of people seemed to be going right then. Afterward he returned to the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was in the Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3 at Cairo, Egypt, entomologist of Preventive Medicine in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, as we said, Preventive Medicine Unit No. 6 and now the Twelfth Naval District. His charming wife is from New Zealand and they have four daughters, which puts them a little behind in the overall Naval entomological picture. Dr. Holway's hobbies were sailing, skin diving and photography but the skin diving in San Francisco Bay probably will fall a little below the standards of Lanikai, Hawaii, we fear.

CAPT. JOHN D. DECOURSEY is another Naval medical entomologist, whom many of us first knew as a research worker in the control field for the old Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, when he was stationed at Beltsville, Md. He left there, though, in 1941 to enter the Navy and do what he modestly cloaks under the inclusive title of malaria and mosquito control. From 1946 to 1950, he too was in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, and then went to the Naval Medical Field Research Laboratory at Camp Lejeune to head the Entomology Department. His next tour was at NAMRU 3 in Cairo and he is now at the Naval Medical School, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md. We forgot to mention John was born in Indianapolis in 1905, took his B.A. at Louisiana State and his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, where he studied under *Mosquito News'* Dr. Robert Glasgow.

ANOTHER DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF OUR NAVAL MOSQUITO CONTROL CLUB IS CDR. BOB DUCHANNOIS, (otherwise Francis R.). Bob is presently the Officer in Charge of Preventive Medicine Unit No. 1 at the Naval Air Station,

Jacksonville, Fla., where quite a bit of the military testing and training of mosquito control equipment and personnel has been done of late. Previously, however, he received his B.Sc. from Colorado A. and M., his M.S. at Iowa State College and completed his Ph.D. requirements at the same institution. Between the first and second degrees, however, he had been with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and had several Naval assignments, including the malariology school at Bethesda, Md., the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi, Texas, the School of Environmental Sanitation, which is in Oakland, California, the USDA lab at Orlando, and P.M.U. No. 6 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Bob has five children and listed them as his hobby, along with insect and stamp collecting and reading but we notice that he left off the reading on the last revision of his form we received, and we have an idea that it will remain a minor engagement with him until the baseball and scouting phases get safely past. Along about the end of high school, Bob, we usually get back to our reading, to keep from biting our nails over whether they're all right in THAT CAR.

WHILE WE'RE ON THE MILITARY, THERE'S ANOTHER ONE WHOSE NAME HAS APPEARED A GOOD BIT IN *Mosquito News* AND WHOM YOU'LL LIKELY SEE AT THE WASHINGTON MEETINGS. He was born in Sandusky, Ohio, in 1918 and received his B.Sc. from Ohio State and then came to Maryland for his Master's. Much of his duty has been in the Orient, in military malaria control in Burma and China and Okinawa, with stops in the Military District of Washington (D. C.) and the Second Army Medical Laboratory in Ft. Meade, Md., to refresh him on his English language. Then he was Chief of Entomology at the Army's 406th Medical General Laboratory in Tokyo for quite a spell and is now at the Environmental Health Laboratory at the Army Chemical Center, Maryland. It's TED BLAKESLEE we're talking about, and he was a Major last we heard, which isn't the last we *will* hear, we're sure.

DR. DY CAME THROUGH WITH AN ANSWER BY RETURN AIRMAIL (we wish everyone would do that!) confirming that he is now Director of Health Services of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, and he adds, "Malaria eradication is a priority programme in our Region as it is in other parts of the world, and we hope to be able to strengthen our malaria eradication unit at the Regional Office to provide more effective and expeditious assistance to governments in the Region." He says, too, that BARNEY TRAVIS is at the College of Agriculture, Los Baños, Laguna, a beautiful campus some thirty miles south of Manila overlooking Laguna de Bay. Among its other attractions, the School of Forestry maintains there an extensive arboretum of tropical plants, among whose orchid-draped groves there nestles a pavilion and picnicking area which is a favorite memory of ours. Wish we could have

an AMCA picnic there with you, Barney! *Mabuhay!*

THE NORTHEASTERN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION held its fourth annual meeting on January 30 and 31, 1958, at the Waltham Field Station, Waltham, Mass. It was attended by about 70 members or other persons interested in mosquito control problems.

The program included panel discussions on recent developments in insecticides and methods of adult mosquito control. Other subjects of papers and discussion were: eastern equine encephalomyelitis in Massachusetts and Connecticut, mosquito control and wildlife, nuisance insects other than mosquitoes, insecticides residues on agricultural products and their relation to mosquito control, and public relations for mosquito control commissions.

The following officers were elected for 1958-59: president, Lewis Wells; vice president, Hugo Jamnback; secretary-treasurer, John Kuschke; and Executive Board member for three years, Robert Heaton.

GUATEMALA CITY, the city of eternal spring in Central America, recently was the meeting

place for a dozen or so AMCA members from various countries. There assembled, to participate in the first English language international course in malaria eradication techniques ever held in the Western Hemisphere, were these members, present either as "visiting professors" or "students." This historic event, consisting of a twelve-week course, was sponsored by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Dr. Firmino de Oliveira Lima was the course director, with assistance from Dr. Louis L. Williams, Dr. Harry Pratt, George Bevier, Larry Hall, Don Pletsch, Don Johnson, and a number of other persons long associated with malaria programs. The student list included old friends, such as Russell Fontaine, Carlton D. Gilkes, Pantelis Milous, T. A. Omardeen, and Dr. M. Sta. Maria.

Rumor has it that the next twelve-week course starts in May, but will be moved to the delightful island of Jamaica under joint sponsorship of PASB and ICA. Sorry fellas, you gotta be sponsored by WHO, PASB, or ICA to get in on this deal. Just so happens that lots of our members are attached to the malaria eradication programs of those organizations.

INFORMATION WANTED

What is the best way to determine the amount of dust actually applied, i.e., that actually comes to rest, per unit area of surface, from aircraft? Cards treated with an indicator dye are in common use for registering liquid (spray) deposits. What about dusts? Coated plates? If so, what to use? Bob Armstrong asks the question; many others also want to know; who has the answer, or a suggestion?