

PENNSYLVANIA

Mosquito control in Pennsylvania dates back to the days of the first World War, when large industries along the Delaware River in Philadelphia and Delaware County were handicapped by swarms of mosquitoes that seriously retarded war production. The U. S. Shipping Board, which had sponsored the great Hog Island shipyard just south of Philadelphia, one of the largest in the world, with ways to construct 28 oceangoing ships at one time, cooperated with the State Health Department and the other industries, and together a short but effective control program was carried out.

It was not until 1935, however, that a state law was enacted to permit setting up of County mosquito control commissions. Blair County in the west, including the valley where Altoona and other cities are located, and Delaware County promptly took advantage of the law and organized commissions and have carried on continuously since. For the last 10 years local communities in Bucks County just north of Philadelphia have been cooperating in control efforts with good results, culminating last year in the organization of a county-wide program actively supported by the County Commissioners of Bucks County.

In addition many other communities, including the City of Philadelphia, have operated some form of organized control work, so that at the present time at least 3½ million people in communities in more than 20 counties in the State are receiving some measure of protection. At least \$300,000 are being spent annually in this work, which is being generally sponsored by and under the technical advice of the State Health Department.

As serious mosquito trouble in Pennsylvania is rather spotty and localized, there has not been the need for a wide scale control set up for whole regions as has occurred in some other states; there simply has not been the demand for mosquito control work to that extent.

As there are no salt marshes within the State and only very occasional flights of salt-marsh mosquitoes into southeast Pennsylvania from Delaware to the south or New Jersey to the east, the problem has been that of fresh water mosquitoes. These are chiefly *Culex* house mosquitoes, fresh water *Aedes* swamp mosquitoes and some *Mansonia perturbans*. In the north-west and southeast parts of the State some *Anopheles* are found. Altogether about 35 species have been collected in the State.

The results in 1957, were generally very good, with few adult mosquitoes reported. Rather dry weather reduced mosquito breeding in many places normally wet, but many running streams partly dried up and bred, and catch basins were more of a problem than usual, so good inspection and quick follow up in spraying were necessary.

Highlights of the year in Pennsylvania were first the starting of another good county wide program in Bucks County, the continuation of airplane spraying and also extensive hydraulic fills on the marshes of Philadelphia and Delaware Counties, the tying in of the rapidly developing sanitary landfill program in many sections of the state with mosquito control through the filling in of local low and marshy areas, better use of insecticides and the strengthening of public relations and personnel and equipment in all three counties and many local areas to get better results for the money spent.—RUSSELL W. GIES, Executive Director, Mosquito Extermination Commission of Delaware County, Media, Pa.

NEW YORK

In terms of mosquito control, New York State may conveniently be divided into three regions: (1) Long Island, (2) New York City, (3) upstate New York. On Long Island, mosquito control has been a well-organized county activity in Suffolk and Nassau counties for many years, with