

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

MO HIRST HAS DUG UP FROM HIS VOLUMINOUS ARCHIVES A LITTLE POEM ABOUT FLIES which was published in the Port Huron (Mich.) *Times Herald* in 1914, and which starts off:

"Oh listen, I pray,
To the scientist's tune.
A fly swatted now
Saves 1,675,483
In June."

Those of us who were schoolboys in 1914 can well remember being lined up in school and exhorted to swat flies and shown posters put out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture under the impetus of Dr. L. O. Howard's "Swat the Fly" campaign. Some of us even had flyswatters handed to us and we were marched about the school, swatting as we went. (Those were the days when school children were taught Right Thinking and Moral Precepts and we were expected to follow it up with Right Conduct.)

Anyway, thinking about this matter of fundamental training and continuing education reminds us to mention a very good article entitled "In-service Training as Conducted by the San Joaquin Mosquito Abatement District," by LES BRUMBAUGH and HOWARD DUNPHY, which was published in California *Vector Views* for July. Les points out the value of this training not only to increase the individual's work responsibility and service capacity but also to increase his work satisfaction and his ability to further the understanding of the program by the community. For those not already on the *Vector Views* mailing list, it may be secured for the asking.

ROLLIE DORER REPORTS IN THE VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S "SKEETER" that they, too, have been working along these lines. On June 13 at the State Department of Health offices, a course was held for school boys who worked as summertime backyard inspectors. "This will be new work for most of these young men," "Skeeter" pointed out, "and they will represent the mosquito control organization in their contacts with the public." "Skeeter" also notes the formation of three new mosquito control districts in the Old Dominion, and a rising tide of interest in another.

THE MILITARY SERVICES HELD THE FIRST OF WHAT MAY BECOME AN ANNUAL COURSE IN MILITARY ENTOMOLOGY AT THE NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER, BETHESDA, MD., during two weeks in July, and of the twenty-six who attended, either as conferees or instructors, or both, fourteen were

members of AMCA! The course, which counted as active duty training for the reservists and temporary additional duty for the regular officers, was enthusiastically voted as having been successful in its maiden attempt to bring to active and potential military entomologists information on what is happening in the specialties other than their own. Included were such problems as, "What do we do in a military emergency where mosquito control is essential to success and we have resistance established in the area by prior civil operations?"

SAM HILL ARRIVED IN TOWN DURING THE COURSE, FRESHLY RETIRED FROM HIS MILITARY JOB AT FT. SAM HOUSTON, to take on the task of organizing and directing the office at the National Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland, which will deal with research problems needing intensified or priority study throughout the country. Good luck, Mister!

ALTHOUGH IT MAY SEEM EARLY IT'S REALLY NOT A BIT TOO SOON TO BEGIN WORKING ON IT AND THAT'S JUST EXACTLY WHAT ARCHIE HESS IS DOING. Working on the program for the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association and the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the AMCA to be held April 12 through April 15 at Salt Lake City, we mean. It already looks like a real humdinger of a program and it isn't a bit too early for you to start planning to attend. The last day is as good as the first, too, so don't figure on dashing off the middle of the third day and missing the Grand Finale.

ARCHIE HESS HAS A NEW ADDRESS by the way . . . and here it is:

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Chief, Encephalitis Section
U.S.P.H.S., P.O. Box 625
Greeley, Colorado

Archie says: "This spring we consolidated the mosquito and encephalitis research activities which had been carried out at Logan and Greeley into one new Encephalitis Section. We will retain the Bakersfield, California, Field Station which is a cooperative endeavor with Bill Reeves. We will move the Chinook, Montana unit to Wenatchee in the Columbia Basin which will enable us to give more attention to the irrigation, mosquito and encephalitis problems which are developing there. We will also have a small field station at Taunton, Massachusetts, doing research on eastern equine encephalitis." Archie *didn't* say who else was going where but as soon as Virg Miles and the others get around to letting us know their new whereabouts, we'll pass it on to you. Any other

changes of address or interesting new activities, among our readers? News and Notes is always anxious to tell your friends . . . so tell us all about it!

FROM I.C.A. AND TWIN BROTHER ART COMES WORD THAT ED SMITH IS INDEED EN ROUTE HOME FROM HIS TWO YEARS IN INDONESIA. After attending the three-month training course held in Jamaica, and spending a week or so each in El Salvador, Colombia, Mexico and the District of Columbia, Ed expects to arrive with his wife and their three sons at their home in San Jose by early September. Around the end of the month they'll be heading back for another stint in Indonesia, according to present plans. Ed wrote that the Jamaica course, conducted jointly by I.C.A., U.S.P.H.S. and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, was both enjoyable and useful and adds that the return to Indonesia is particularly challenging because they have 15 different malaria-carrying anophelines there, with widely different habits and the requirement for different modes of attack. Although the malaria rate in Djakarta eight years ago was 18 percent, the disease has now been wiped out there and in 1957 over 17 million people in Indonesia were protected against it. Transportation is difficult and distances in the archipelago are immense, but Ed feels confident that victory is certain and may even be relatively near.

ANOTHER I.C.A.-ER WE KEEP GETTING INTERESTING NOTES FROM IS GEORGE BURTON who writes this time from Kuantan, Malaya, where he was collecting notes, and perhaps his breath, after a whirlwind tour which included Tulane University, the University of Texas, the pilot filariasis project in the Philippines, the Institute for Medical Research in Kuala Lumpur and way points. George is switching from malaria to filariasis and when he wrote, he expected to take off at the end of July for the Malaria Institute (Filariasis Project) in New Delhi, India. He said he was looking forward to the comparative quiet of New Delhi after discovering that rock and roll had reached Kuantan and specifically had reached his thin-walled Chinese Hotel, full blast. His office will be in New Delhi but his field headquarters will be 1800 miles south at Ernakulam. India apparently has things in common with Texas, all right!

WE SAW CAPT. WESLEY R. NOWELL OF THE U. S. AIR FORCE with his pretty wife and their stairsteps of four charming, tow-headed children at the Nut Tree Inn (California) en route from Germany to McDill Field, Florida. This is McDill Air Force Base to you airmen. We kept wondering why this civilian guy looked so much like an Air Force Captain we knew to be in Germany and then belatedly realized it wasn't our bifocals . . . it was the Air Force Captain. The reason they

were going to Florida from Germany by way of California is, of course, that Palo Alto is home base for the Nowells. Wes takes his new assignment with the enthusiasm one would expect from a Californian and a Hawaiian, but he feels all life is a worthwhile experience. Seriously, he is mighty happy to have a chance now to work with the Florida AMCA experts and looks forward to the chance to get to the new Research Lab. at Vero Beach . . . as don't we all?

RALPH BARR SENDS US THE REQUEST OF DR. IRWIN M. NEWELL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA WHO IS INVESTIGATING MITE LARVAE PARASITIC ON MOSQUITOES. Dr. Newell, who is Associate Professor of Zoology at the Riverside campus, would greatly appreciate receiving specimens of any such mites which mosquito control workers may run across during their survey operations. Dr. Newell writes, "My interest in larvae parasitic on mosquitoes is in conjunction with a research project I am carrying out under the auspices of the National Science Foundation. I am working generally on the problem of mites which have larvae parasitic on insects and other arthropods. Any material you could provide will be greatly appreciated." He adds, "Preservation of the host and all larvae in 70 percent alcohol is the best possible method. The standard information on site of capture, date and collector should be provided as well as the name of the host, if known. Of course, if the host is rare or needed for other purposes, the mites alone would be satisfactory as long as name of host could be provided. Attached mite larvae can usually be removed by means of a sharp needle."

THE DADE COUNTY ANTI-MOSQUITO DISTRICT HAS ISSUED A FINE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1957, the cover of which is decorated with an action photo of an employee of theirs, John Winters, who has retired "after twenty years in the marshes." The photo shows him sharpening a brush-cutter in the midst of a clearing job and is an apt reminder of the real fundamental of mosquito control . . . source reduction. This is not lost sight of in the report which covers the very extensive source reduction work of the District, as well as other basic activities, such as larviciding and airplane spraying. This latter was severely hampered by CAA's sudden ruling against the use of single engine aircraft to spray in the vicinities of congested areas. However, they were able to make out with a Beechcraft at a cost of about 10 cents per acre, plus an equivalent amount for materials. House to house inspections covered about one third of the premises in the county, particularly older sections where the percent of premises with mosquito breeding had been found to be the highest. In addition to eliminating the mosquitoes originating in these places, it was felt that

the educational value of the contact by the inspector with the householder was of inestimable value. An incidental finding of interest was that these households yielded some 20,500 old tires in 50 percent of which mosquito breeding was found to be occurring.

ALAMEDA (CALIFORNIA) COUNTY'S TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT, for 1957, also emphasizes source reduction and training sessions for control personnel, as well as giving brief descriptions of the methods used to combat tree-hole breeding mosquitoes, breeding in catch-basins, and weeds on ditch banks and in small ornamental bodies of water, such as are used in golf courses. In the monthly report for July, CHET ROBINSON again mentions the tree-hole breeders and the control program against them, to the excellence of which he gives credit for the pleasant fact that service calls dropped from 96 the previous year to 53 this year despite the heavier than usual rainfall and higher temperatures. Good going, Chet.

LES BRUMBAUGH reports from the San Joaquin (California) Mosquito Abatement District that he practices what he preached in the article we were mentioning a while ago. Even during the busy months of June and July they found time to work in some 20 to 30 hours of training and instruction. Les reported that despite high temperatures and increased breeding potentialities, their light trap collections showed a 47 percent decrease in mosquitoes during July.

AND GEORGE THOMPSON REPORTS FROM THE JEFFERSON COUNTY (TEXAS) MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT that scattered showers in mid-season caused increases in larvae and adults. Coming largely from salt marsh and fallow rice fields, the adults invaded particularly the cities of Beaumont and Port Arthur. As a control the entire area was dusted twice. *Psorophora* and *Mansonia*, two devils to control, constituted the major portion of George's non-*Culex* species, making a quick rise from obscurity. A particularly interesting observation was made in April, when *Culex salinarius* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* were taken from the same pool.

AND THAT BRINGS US TO WHO'S WHO AND WHOM DO YOU THINK WE HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT YET? TED RALEY, THAT'S WHOM. THE ORIGINATOR OF WHO'S WHO! Well, here's Ted. He was born in San Francisco a year and ten months and six days too late for the great Fire (and earthquake, for you non-San Franciscans). He went to school there or someplace, he doesn't say, until time for college when he went to the University of Redlands, California, and Arizona State College at Tempe. During the great Depression he rose from clerk to owner in a grocery (no small testimony in itself to his inherent ability . . . them was tough days). After a short hitch with the City of Riverside, California, he was with Malaria Control in War Areas of the

U.S.P.H.S. until the War was over, when he shifted to civilian control with Sutter-Yuba MAD and then with Consolidated, which he still heads. His office and home are both in Selma, California, near Fresno. He is married and has two daughters and is one of the activist men we ever saw, though he says his hobby is television. He must mean acting in Westerns. He says, too, that he's been a member for ten years but we think he ran out of fingers, because we joined ourselves in 1944 and it seems to us that he was doing some of the Association's leg work, even then.

JOHN BRAWLEY AND BRUCE BROCKWAY APPEARED IN THIS SPACE LAST MONTH BUT WHO'S WHO DIDN'T KNOW THE WHOLE STORY ON EITHER OF THEM SO HERE'S A LITTLE MITE MORE: JOHN has been doing a bang-up job of surveying the mosquito potential for the Navy around the site of one of its largest jet bascs, now being built in John's district. Well, John didn't have enough troubles nibbling away at his excellent program, such as increasing irrigation and expanding pasturelands, when the prospect of a sudden doubling of the population with the Navy moving in loomed over him and in the midst of it all he found himself having the distinction of being the first to have parathion resistance show up in his *Aedes nigromaculis*. John tried several combinations of older and less potent insecticides and the combinations worked better than their individual components ever had but they tended to run out quickly so the issue is still in doubt. Maybe John will tell us about it after the season is over and he's had more chance to size things up.

BRUCE modestly didn't tell us the full story on his being "first in the south Pacific in 1942," as mentioned in our little note of last issue. The way he made it sound, he was just in there with the others, and it was the first place he went. But Capt. Ken Knight gave a different version in his history of military entomology, delivered to the Armed Forces course at Bethesda, mentioned earlier. According to Ken, Bruce was THE first mosquito man to get to Guadalcanal and was conducting a major survey well before the arrival of the formally organized malaria control units. The Island was far from secured and the job Bruce did was both important and hazardous. We think this part of mosquito control and military history is valuable and interesting, Bruce, and it ought to be written down before the memory grows faint (could it ever?) and while those who lived the history are vigorously around to tell about it. How about it?

For AMCA members and other readers, we should add that Bruce has recently taken over the chairmanship of the Membership Committee, which Don Johnson felt he had to lay down because of his widespread travels. Pat Nakagawa is co-chairman, and with him Bruce is already starting a big campaign which we know will be a fitting continuation of Don's excellent work.

DICK GERHARDT (DR. RICHARD W., TO HIS FRIENDS) IS OFF GALLIVANTING IN WYOMING so we may well be leaving out the most fascinating parts of his life story but here's what we know about him: He was born in Hillsboro, Illinois, and though he continues year after year to look about 23, this event took place way back in July of 1925. He was with the U. S. Army Infantry in the South Pacific from 1943 to 1946 and then came back to get his B.S. at the University of Wyoming in 1949, his M.S. in 1951 and his Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis in 1957. In between he did graduate work at Minnesota, was an instructor at the University of Wyoming, taught in the public schools and then served as Assistant Project Leader for the cooperative CMCA—Calif. Bureau of Vector Control Rice Field Project. In 1954 he became Project Leader and in 1958 he was made Area Representative for the California B.V.C., with headquarters in Sacramento. He is married, has two children, and has a brother, Charles E., in the U.S.P.H.S., stationed at Charlottesville, Va. He is a member of Sigma Xi, the Entomological Society of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and, of course, AMCA and CMCA. He listed his hobby as taxonomy some years ago, but he has also let it be whispered around in moments of fun that he is an old ranch hand from the (upper) Rio Grande and we don't know for sure but think he may be in Wyoming getting ready to ride in the Cheyenne Roundup. Hiyo, Richard!

WESLEY NOWELL, whom we mentioned earlier, was born in 1924 in Oakland, California, and moved to Honolulu when he was two, remaining there until he was seventeen, when he returned to California to enter Stanford University. He spent from 1943 to 1946 in the U.S.A.A.F. (that extra A is for Army . . . remember?), ending as a B-29 pilot with the 20th Air Force in the Marianas. He returned to Stanford to finish his B.S. in 1947, his Master's in 1948 and his Ph.D. in 1951. In 1951 he was recalled by the Air Force and transferred to the Medical Service Corps and spent the year with 5th A.F. in Korea and as consultant in Medical Entomology for FFAF in Tokyo. In 1952 he went to Baltimore as Chief of the Medical Entomology Branch of the Office of the Surgeon, Headquarters Air Research and Development Command. From there he went to Germany and is now, as we said before, en route to Florida. His hobby is stamp collecting, so he's had a pretty good chance to do it at first hand. He is a member of Sigma Xi, the E.S.A., the Hawaiian Entomological Society and us.

JAY GRAHAM WAS BORN IN 1922 and if it wasn't in Salt Lake City or County, it jolly well should have been, because he's been mighty closely identified with the place ever since. Although he attended the Universities of Illinois and Purdue, he received both his B.S. and his M.S. from the University of Utah. After two years of high school

teaching, he entered mosquito control as an inspector for the Salt Lake City district, became a field supervisor a year later and another year later became Manager of the Salt Lake County Mosquito Abatement District. He has been President of the highly active and enthusiastic Utah Mosquito Control Association, whose meetings are always enjoyable and profitable. And if any of you haven't experienced them, Jay says it's high time you did and there'll never be a better time than this very next year when AMCA meets there with Utah. Jay didn't say what his hobbies are, though we have heard him talk mighty competently about Outdoor Sports of the kind that usually involve a lot of back country walking. We guess that, like most of the rest of the Utah bunch his vocation is hard work and his hobby is good public relations, because he's very good at both.

HARRY STAGE SENDS A GOOD, LONG, INFORMATIVE NOTE, which arrived after our deadline, so we'll have to summarize it briefly. After considerable ground work on his part and that of others, Governor Rosellini of the State of Washington requested the Columbia Basin Inter-Agency Committee to create a sub-committee on mosquito control. This committee is a State-Federal group covering all phases of water development in the seven states drained by the Columbia River. The committee was authorized in March and an organizational meeting was held on 17 June. Roger James, engineer of the Washington State Health Department, was elected chairman, and the committee included LOUIS J. OGDEN (now of Greeley, Colorado?) and entomologists from Montana and Oregon, though none from Washington. Interested spectators were HARRY and WILLIAM E. CLARK, who, as manager of the Adams County Mosquito Abatement District may be considered a member, we guess, since his District is. In a policy statement, the Committee avowed its interest in mosquito control and asserted the existence of severe problems in the Columbia Basin and their mutual obligations to solve them by proper attention to mosquito control in design, operation and maintenance of all water development projects. AMCA members will be happy to see this additional impetus being given toward wider recognition of the importance of the problem which, to us, is so highly important.

DR. JOSEPH M. GINSBURG has returned to the States after a two-years' leave of absence and has resumed his duties at Rutgers University and New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station as Research Specialist in Entomology, Insecticides.

He has completed an assignment to Israel (1956-1958) on the Point A program, as advisor to the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture in toxicology and plant protection problems. He was appointed to this assignment by the Research Foundation of the State University of New York, under the auspices of the United States Operations Mission (USOM), sponsored by the International Cooperation Administration (ICA).