

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

WE DIDN'T GET TO THE ANNUAL MEETINGS THIS YEAR SO ALL YOU LUCKY PEOPLE WHO DID CAN TURN THE PAGE AND READ SOMETHING ELSE BECAUSE YOU KNOW MORE THAN WE DO . . . and shame on you for not telling us, except DICK PETERS, who *did* tell us that it was one of the best meetings ever, with mighty stimulating papers and brisk discussions and the highest attendance of any meetings AMCA has held—over 600! *Twelve* Past Presidents were there and had a ball, we mean a breakfast: BILL BICKLEY, FRED BISHOPP, ROLLIE DORER, MO HIRST, DAN JOBBINS, DICK AND DUKE PETERS, DON REES, LESTER SMITH, HARRY STAGE, FRED STUTZ and BOB VANNOTE. Dr. Fred Bishopp, by the way, is now a Commissioner in his adopted Mosquito Abatement District.

The banquet, at which Dr. Robert J. Anderson, Assistant Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service, was the speaker and a memorable one, was in honored memory of Drs. Riley and Headlee and also honored living mosquito controllers BAILEY PEPPER, RUSS GIES and JESS LESLIE. Dick said the banquet was very fancy indeed and the food enjoyable for itself (in contrast to some banquets) as well as providing a pleasant framework for Dr. Anderson's thought-provoking address on "Mosquito Control and Environmental Health."

DICK PETERS WITH HIS USUAL MODESTLY CASUAL APPROACH TO EXCITING NEWS ABOUT HIMSELF happened to mention that he will spend June in Thailand on a Malaria Eradication Assessment Team, with short periods in Washington, D. C. before and after. Two previous such Teams, to India in 1961 and to Indonesia in 1962, were headed by Dr. HAROLD HINMAN, the first being under WHO-AID sponsorship and the second under AID . . . and all, obviously, *AMCA!*

THE VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, IN ORDER TO GIVE FULLEST SUPPORT TO THE AMCA MEETINGS, self-sacrificingly gave up its meetings this year, but voted to look into the prospects for having a joint AMCA-VMCA meeting at the earliest practicable date. Though the Eastern Seaboard is a much further piece for some of us than it is for others, we think this is a fine idea and would be a fitting recognition of the fine and productive years of VMCA's existence. Like New York City, which encompasses several former Counties, Virginia has two new cities which encompass several Mosquito Abatement Districts; one, Virginia Beach, contains two and the other, Chesapeake, has *four!* Top *that!* In addition to these bits of incidental intelligence, *Skooter* also brings us a *joak*: the name of a new bug bomb. It's a German one, just out, called DISSELSTOPDASLAPEN.

IN DECEMBER, IN WELCOMING DR. BOB TONN INTO OUR MIDSTEST, WE WONDERED WHAT THE INITIALS OF HIS OFFICE STOOD FOR. We wish everyone would respond as promptly and as fully and we think what he had to say will be of interest to all. "I.C.M.R.T. stands for International Center for Medical Research and Training," he says. "The one to which I belong is the ICMRT facility of Louisiana State University School of Medicine. The Center is in Costa Rica and has a number of different sections (Parasitology, Virology, Bacteriology, Pathology and Epidemiology) doing research primarily on gastro-intestinal diseases. We work very closely with the School of Medicine and School of Microbiology of the University of Costa Rica as well as the San Juan de Dios Hospital and the Public Health. Other Centers are as follows: the University of California unit is in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, the Tulane University ICMRT is in Cali, Colombia, the University of Maryland program is in Pakistan and the Johns Hopkins unit is in India.

"I believe the general administration of these programs is through the Office of International Research, Section of International Centers for Medical Research and Training, N.I.H. The different universities apply for general over-all grants to cover the individual programs. The purpose of ICMRT is in general, (1) to increase knowledge of tropical medicine, (2) to increase medical knowledge of US personnel in the field of tropical medicine, (3) to provide bases to strengthen relationships between these countries and the USA and (4) to provide facilities to study anthropological and sociological aspects of tropical medicine which are funded other than the grant. This is a shortened version of our program and I judge that it holds more or less true of all the programs.

"I hope that gives you a little background of the ICMRT. If *Mosquito News* cares for more specific information on the scope of the entire program, I am sure that Dr. Milo D. Leavitt, Head, International Centers for Medical Research and Training Section, Office of International Research, N.I.H., Bethesda 14, Md., can furnish it." Many thanks, Bob, for this fine summary!

BETTINA ROSAY AND HER COHORTS AT THE FRESNO (CALIFORNIA) FIELD STATION OF THE BUREAU OF VECTOR CONTROL, put on a demonstration of age determination techniques for the Entomology Committee Seminar of CMCA, which was a real eye-opener and mighty instructive. One of the most instructive parts of the demonstration was that field types like us, who haven't looked through a microscope in years, could *see*, quite easily, the rotation of the male terminalia and the ovarian changes in the female which are the

basis of this age determination technique. The importance of knowing the age of mosquito adults in a given area is obvious in assessing control measures, but we just hadn't thought it was something WE could do. Bettina made up a fine, clear and thoroughly explanatory syllabus for this demonstration and *maybe*, just maybe, if you're interested, she'll send you one!

THE *FIELD GUIDE TO THE DOMESTIC FLIES OF CALIFORNIA*, latest in CMCA's series, was unveiled at this meeting and is available for \$1.00 from Dr. DON MURRAY of the Delta Mosquito Abatement District, Visalia, California, 1737 W. Houston Avenue. This Guide follows the *Guide to the Common Mosquitoes*, and *Guide to the Common Mosquito-like Gnats*, and like them contains some well-drawn pictorial keys which are easily usable by the field worker and of value to those outside as well as inside the once-Golden State. (Advt.)

BOB HEDEEN, AFTER ECHOING THE LAUDATORY REMARKS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS, wanted us to tell you that the Illinois mosquitoers, along with others in the Midwest (ours and Canada's) are working hard already on next year's AMCA-IMCA meeting in Chicago, so start saving your pennies. He also adds that this year's IMCA meeting, held at Champaign during the period of 28 February to 1 March, was a great success and despite what Bob calls "horrible weather" was attended by some 80 persons. Dr. GILBERT OTTO, President of the Lake Bluff MAD, gave the address at the banquet, which he entitled, "Rachel Carsonites and Heartworms in Dogs," a topic with which he gave all present plenty to think about.

WHICH BRINGS UP THE SUBJECT OF THE NEW PATUXENT WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER LABORATORY, THE OPENING OF WHICH WAS HEADLINED IN THE PRESS AS "SILENT SPRING LAB OPENS." According to the AP dispatch we saw, one would have thought that this laboratory was a sudden response to the alarmed clamor aroused by the famous book. But Dr. BILL BICKLEY, who was there, sends us the info that the facility has been under construction since March of 1961, and of course, we all know that the findings of this laboratory have been used in our evaluation of insecticides for years and years. Bill noted that the expanded facilities are both beautiful and inspiring and that, though there is apparently still a shortage of personnel, we can expect increased quantities of useful knowledge to flow from them.

For those who have not visited the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, near Laurel, Maryland, the name of the new laboratory is the Biochemistry-Wildlife Pathology Laboratory of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. It is located not too far from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Research Center at Beltsville, Maryland, and is some 17 miles from Washington D. C. and some 10 from Bill's University of Maryland. The

Director, Dr. D. H. Janzen, states that the new laboratory will accommodate a growing staff of scientists engaged in studies of pesticide-animal relationships and wildlife diseases. It's a place well worth visiting.

DON JOHNSON SENDS US A LETTER FULL OF NEWS. Don is Acting Chief, AID Malaria Eradication Division, and writes that ROY FRITZ is now "Scientist" for the Malaria Eradication Division of WHO in Geneva, Switzerland. HAL BRYDON has been there in Washington with Don but returns soon to California. BILL GOODWIN is still in Haiti at USAID/Port-au-Prince—%State Department, Washington 25, D. C.—but will be back for domestic assignment Septemberish. GEORGE BURTON and his charming Irish bride (who incidentally is an MD) returned to this country from British Guiana recently. They will be going to Ghana soon for the National Cancer Institute. Don also sends interesting news of a new international Malaria Eradication Training Center which will be opening this coming September in Manila. It will be a cooperative endeavor between AID, WHO and the Philippine Government, for the training of national and international English-speaking malaria eradication technicians. The senior member on the AID staff is Dr. DAVID BONNET, formerly in Indonesia and Tahiti. We hope to hear more about all this.

BEFORE LEAVING GUIANA, GEORGE BURTON WROTE UP A FINAL REPORT ON THE 22-month research project on filariasis. This report has a wealth of information on species and infectivities and establishes that *Wuchereria bancrofti*, the sole pathogenic filarial agent carried to man by mosquitoes, is carried by two vectors in addition to the principal one, *Culex pipiens quinquefasciatus*. The other two are *Anopheles aquasalis*, the malaria vector, and *Mansonia titillans*. Control of the former is difficult because of its habit of leaving the premises at once after a blood meal. However, a once-monthly larviciding of latrines and residual spraying of building walls has lowered the infectivity rate from an occasional high of as much as 54% in some areas in 1961 to as little as 1.6%–3.2% in the same areas now.

HELEN LOUISE TREMBLEY DURKEE is an Air Force MARS (along with husband Ken) having now passed her license test. And you may phone her anytime to congratulate her, you hams, on WA6DOO. Twenty-four hour C.W. and teletype. Boy-y-y! She's also still working on mosquitoes, giving occasional lectures and stuff, too, and sees lots of people, DINNIE JENSEN and HARRY STAGE among recent ones.

LT. COL HAN SCHENKER SENDS US HIS ANNUAL COMPILATION ON MOSQUITO INCIDENCE IN THE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OF THE THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY AREA and, as we have noted on previous occasions, this provides information which is also of value to civil control agencies in the same southeastern states.

ALSO AMONG THE MILITARY, COL. JOE WEBB SENDS US INFO ON SOME PROMOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS. Of these, we told you last time of Lt. Col. FRANK FAVORITE's transfer to the Armed Forces Pest Control Board and Lt. Col. DON NEWSON's move to head the Army Surgeon General's Office Medical Research and Development Command, Entomology Division. New is information that Lt. Col. Bob Altman is currently at the Medical Field Service School at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, but slated to come into the Office of the Surgeon General when Joe retires in June. Major JOHN SCANLON at the Medical Research Unit, Bangkok, was promoted last fall. Lt. Col. GORDON FIELD has returned from the 406th Medical General Laboratory in Japan to head the entomology section at the Army Environmental Health Agency.

Lt. Col. AL THERRIEN has finished his PhD studies at the University of Texas and is now Chief of the Entomology Section at the MFSS. And it is now Major YOUNG at the Medical facility in Okinawa and Major WALLY MURDOCH in Panama.

COL. RALPH BUNN was on the same list as having retired in March to become the Editor for the Entomological Society of America. We heard this, too, from ART and NITA LINDQUIST who came through San Francisco en route all over the West in their new Camper a couple of months ago. They seemed to be having a ball and we surely enjoyed seeing them, all us'ns along the Pacific Coast, and we know they got back home safely, because Nita sent us a postcard to prove it . . . and to prove there really is a Bridgeport, Kansas. (We hadn't really doubted it.) Anyway, to get back to Ralph, he says he's to be the managing editor and modestly refrained from saying anything else, but it sounds like a lot of work and we're glad to know it'll be in the hands of someone with his capability. These things get harder geometrically, as *Mosquito News* is also finding out as it and AMCA grow bigger.

Lt. JIM GENTRY has left the MFSS for Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, and we welcome home Lt. Col. "MIKE" PETRAKIS, who gives up Paris for Ft. Benning. All good things must end sometime, Mike. Among our civil members, ED WASHBURN may now be addressed as USAID/Djakarta, rather than Liberia, though still thru the State Department Mail Room, Washington 25, D. C. BOB ELBEL has traded a USOM assignment in the Pacific for Headquarters, Dugway Proving Ground, Dugway, Utah, and W. BRADY leaves Ghana for the more temperate airs of WHO's offices in Austins, Warner's Hall, Cookham Dean, Berks, England . . . no number? (We hear all addresses, like phone numbers, are soon to be reduced to numbers so that the machines can take it easy by making life difficult for people. What a savory lot of addresses will vanish when England automates!)

AND WE'D LIKE TO WELCOME TO THEIR VERY FIRST ISSUE SOME NEW MEMBERS FROM MANY LANDS. *Yoku irashaimashita to dozo o-raku ni nasai* to HARUMI AOI of Osaka and AKIO KUDAMATSU of Tokyo, who come from the farthest away. And to LAWRENCE M. RHODES of Palmetto, Florida, and JOSEPH P. WHITTLESEY, JR., of Jacksonville Beach. To E. H. EDWARDS of the new city of Chesapeake we mentioned earlier, and Dr. T. I. Smith, of the College of the Ozarks, in Clarksville, Arkansas, and to DON WOMELDORF, who has moved from Fresno, California, to Sacramento, and to CLAYTON BARNUM of Minneapolis, who is returned to the fold, after a statistical error.

BUT THERE ARE TWENTY-FOUR GOOD NEIGHBORS WHOM AMCA IS REGRETFULLY HAVING TO DROP because sponsors have not showed up for them. It does seem as if there must be twenty-four AMCA'ers who'd like to know they were helping to spread the Gospel, many times in countries where fiscal difficulties in exchange and the like make it hard for the GN member to ante up for himself. We hate to say this but a goodly number of staunch mosquito controllers haven't ante-ed up for *themselves* and are being dropped. We don't name names but come on, men, let's get on the ball! AMCA doesn't run *entirely* on hot air!

DR. MAHMOUD HAFEZ, Head of the Department of Entomology at Cairo University, brightens the Good Neighbor picture by sending us a most interesting account of the research work being conducted by his Department and by the Vector Control Institute of the Ministry of Public Health. Dr. Hafez writes, "You may be interested to know that *Aedes aegypti*, which was once very common in Egypt, has entirely disappeared for the last few years. Only few larvae, 12 in 1961 and 3 in 1960, were encountered in fishing boats in the Red Sea near the Saudi Arabia coast and possibly coming from there." Dr. Hafez then outlines the research projects which, because of the importance of Egypt in the U.A.R. and in the Middle East, and because our own laboratories in Egypt have brought many American entomologists to Cairo, just as many Egyptian entomologists have studied in or visited the United States, we reproduce in full.

"A. In the department of Entomology, Faculty of Science, Cairo University, Giza, the following research projects are now being carried out: (1) Studies on the plant feeding habits of male mosquitoes of *Anopheles sergentii* in Siwa Oasis, using radioactive isotopes. The project is sponsored by the W.H.O. and undertaken by Dr. A. Abdel-Malek, assistant professor of insect ecology in this department. The main objective of this research is (a) to survey the plants which serve as feeding media for the male mosquito; (b) to find out which plant, if any, is more preferred by the mosquito; and (c) to consider the possibility of dealing with the plant in one way or the other to deprive the male of its main food and hence

may pave the way for an effective mosquito control. This will be more feasible of course if such plants are of little or no economic importance. (2) Biological and ecological studies on *Anopheles pharoensis*, the chief malaria vector in Egypt, especially in the Nile Delta. This work is carried out by A. Shukri under the supervision of Prof. M. Hafez. (3) Studies on the life history and bionomics of *Culex pipiens* in Egypt with special reference to male feeding habits, by S. Hassan and supervised by Prof. M. Hafez and A. Abdel-Malek.

"B. In the Vector Control Institute, Ministry of Public Health, the following studies are conducted, the results will be published in due course. They are supervised by Dr. A. Shawarby. (4) Host preference of *Anopheles pharoensis* females under laboratory conditions; carried out by S. Mahfouz. (5) Further studies on the susceptibility of *Anopheles pharoensis* to DDT in the Nile Delta; carried out by O. Kamel. (6) Determination of the physiological age of *Anopheles pharoensis* in Egypt and its epidemiological importance; carried out by T. Zaghoul. (7) Assessment of the evaluation techniques in the malaria eradication programme; carried out by Dr. Z. Kamel. (8) Tests on the susceptibility of *Culex pipiens molestus* to insecticides; carried out by Dr. A. M. Gad. (9) a.) Determination of infectivity rate of *Filaria* in *Culex* in Egypt. b.) Seasonal prevalence of *Culex pipiens* in Egypt. (10) A preliminary study on the control of filariasis in a village in the U.A.R.; carried out

by Dr. A. Guindi, S. Samuel, Sh. Kolta, and A. Solait."

THE SOCIETY OF THE SIGMA XI AND ITS ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATION, THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AMERICA (RESA), have announced through the chairman of their grants-in-aid-of-research committee, Dr. Harlow Shapley, an award to JAMES S. HAEGER, Florida State Board of Health, Vero Beach, Florida. This award is to assist in his study of *the effect of an abnormally short photo-period on the normal crepuscular behavior of swarming male mosquitoes due to interruption by a solar eclipse.*

Dr. Shapley, in making this announcement, stated "Sigma XI and RESA each year make a number of grants to the most promising scientists at critical points in their research careers. We recognize that many needs are relatively too small for the large foundations to consider and it is to meet these needs that our research funds are maintained."

Founded in 1885, the Society of the Sigma XI now has 144 chapters and more than 125 clubs in the major colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. Its industrial counterpart, RESA, established in 1947, has 78 branches in major governmental and industrial laboratories. These two organizations with a combined active membership of 90,000 scientists jointly sponsor eight national lectureships, publish the *American Scientist*, and are currently making annual awards in support of research totaling \$75,000.

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