

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

YOU MAY BE THINKING ABOUT THE AMCA MEETINGS FOR *THIS* YEAR (AND WE HOPE YOU ARE) but the California Mosquito Control Association is thinking about them way ahead to 1967, when the two associations will meet jointly on the edge of the Westward Tilt. According to CHET ROBINSON, the location has been chosen as the Thunderbird Inn, in Burlingame (which is just south of San Francisco), from which vantage point there will be five mosquito abatement districts within easy travel distance, including the San Mateo MAD of DON GRANT'S, right next door, and, of course, Chet's own.

SPEAKING OF TRAVEL, BILL BICKLEY, WHOSE SIX-MONTH SABBATICAL IS NEARING ITS END, sent us a lovely postcard from England, where he attended the XIIth International Congress of Entomology. Except for the brief sight-seeing trip, Bill's sabbatical has been spent working on his review of mosquito behavior. Those of you who take the *Bulletin* of the Entomological Society of America may have noticed the picture of the folks who took the charter flight to the Congress, including AMCA'ers OWEN GRAHAM, HUGO JAMNBACK, DON MICKS, ALAN STONE, as well as Bill, himself. Bill also gives us the incidental intelligence that the cable address of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in London, is *Anopheles!*

WE SAW HELEN LOUISE TREMBLEY DURKEE AT NEW YEAR'S BEGINNING, LOOKING MIGHTY PRETTY and as vivacious as ever. She brought us word that UNCLE HARRY STAGE said the floods washed out all the roads not wide enough for ocean-going vehicles but that he suffered not at all and he expects to be up and at 'em the same as ever when the mosquitoes bloom this spring.

HARRY PRATT GOT A WELL DESERVED BIT OF RECOGNITION not long ago according to a press release which states, "Harry D. Pratt, Chief, Training and Communications Section, *Aedes aegypti* Eradication Branch, Communicable Disease Center (USPHS) was awarded the Gorgas Medal at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons, in Washington, D.C. The award, made by Dr. George E. Farrar, Jr., of Wyeth Laboratories, consists of a silver medal with the likeness of Surgeon General William C. Gorgas, a \$500 honorarium, and a citation, which reads, 'Dr. Pratt has achieved world-wide recognition for his research in preventive medicine and for the production of teaching literature and training aids on the control of vector-borne diseases. Of special impor-

tance were the pictorial keys he contributed to help workers identify insects precisely and easily.' This is the first time the award has been made to an entomologist."(!) Harry says he suddenly realized that there was more to it than walking up and accepting, so out came the old Captain's uniform to be updated for braid and tried on for size. (He made it.)

AND SINCE *Aedes aegypti* ERADICATION IS VERY BIG THIS YEAR, and AMCA'ers are VERY BIG in the Program, let's talk some more about it. DON JOHNSON, for instance, writes that he is finding the new assignment exciting and very pleasant. He is Chief, Field Services Unit of the Operations Section, and finds himself among other AMCA'ers and AID'ers, including, GEORGE BEVIER, DAVE BONNET, RUSS FONTAINE, GEORGE KENT, JOHN McDOWELL, A. E. NAJJAR, PAUL RICE and DONALD WOOD.

MEANWHILE, OTHER PROGRAMS ARE GROWING TOO. For instance, GARDNER MCFARLAND'S Southwest Mosquito Abatement District in South Gate (Los Angeles) California. Mac's District has just merely been doubled by the annexation of San Fernando Valley, San Pedro and Wilmington sections. Those who have been to Los Angeles will know that these places are nowhere near each other (no place in Los Angeles is) so they will not be astonished to learn that Mac will be serving 900,000 people and at an assessed valuation of \$3,300,000,000,000. . . . oh, no, 'scuse us . . . it's only 3,300,000,000. (Alameda and Dade counties, move over!)

OUR LITTLE DIATRIBE AGAINST TITLES WE CAN'T INDEX brought forth the information from JACK WALKER that we might try shipping copies of a small brochure by John D. Stevens of Washington State University, entitled, "Writing Better Titles and Abstracts." It was brought out by the Washington State Institute of Technology, Bul. 254, in 1961, and would probably be a good thing for all of us to peruse. Although what WE need, we guess, is not how to avoid non-stop titles but how to let go of non-stop sentences.

SPEAKING OF FINE WRITING, WE HATE TO KEEP PRAISING OUR ESTEEMED CONTEMPORARY, *Pest Control Magazine*, but have you SEEN the new series on safety and training operators in alertness? (Of course you have!) It should be on every MAD bulletin board.

And we read recently a news release about a MAD which boasted that its first spraying had killed 85 to 90 percent of the mosquito population

while the second had resulted in their complete "decimation." Nothing like making a retreat sound like a victory, we think. Sort of like the beer companies which have brought us up from pint cans to a big half quart at only a few cents increase in price. Or maybe the newspaper, through adding that ten per cent decimation, made the 90 percent a complete *eradication*.

TED RALEY HAS A SORT OF REVERSE DECIMATION OF HIS OWN . . . ONLY ABOUT TEN PERCENT OF you Constant Readers have come through with your ZIP addresses. Ted handles a big and complex MAD superbly, does a superlative job for the AMCA and will see you get your *Mosquito News* and things at super speed, if you'll cooperate. Come on, guys . . . ZIP! (And thanks.)

ERNIE MEYERS WROTE TED A LETTER FROM INDONESIA where he has been since 1959, and enclosed a summary of the malaria control work there which is an impressive record of achievement. Since 1951, when the program began with Don Johnson, the US has granted assistance totaling \$44,572,000. In addition to the extensive training program, assistance has been given in the repeated spraying of some 14,300,000 houses housing about 70,000,000 people. In 1951, malaria was a major problem in Java, Bali, Madura and South Sumatra. There were over 1 million cases and nearly 100,000 deaths. Today these areas are virtually rid of the scourge of the tropics. The summary says AID is proud of the achievements in Indonesia and of the fine coordination of effort between AID, WHO and the Indonesian Ministry of Health, and we think ERNIE and ED WASHBURN ought to be very proud, too. ERNIE'S new ZIP number, by the way, is: Ernest G. Meyers, USAID, San Francisco, Calif. 96356.

MERRILL WOOD, WHO LEFT HOWARD GREENFIELD'S SALINAS (California) MAD for Thailand, has been home in Salinas for a three-months' leave with his wife and nine-year old daughter, Wendy. Merrill returns to Khon Kaen in March to carry on with his program, now about at half-way mark. The last half will be harder than the first, of course, but already the achievements are impressive. Malaria, which showed 2 million cases in 1951, was down to 200,000 in 1961 and is still going down; The annual fatality rate has shrunk from 50,000 to 4,000 . . . in a population of 6.3 million.

BILL CHILDRESS, COMING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION has been on home leave in Texas after four years in Shiraz, Iran. Before Bill left Iran, he received an award for his design and development of a time-saving and effective apparatus for washing microscope slides used in the malaria eradication program. (Operational Note, Bill??) Mrs. Childress, while they were there, founded the Shiraz Community School and served as its principal during her entire stay. In four years the

school's enrollment increased from 16 to 43. Their next assignment is slated to be Indonesia.

VMCA'S *SKEETER* REPORTS THE HORRENDOUS CIRCUMSTANCES EXPERIENCED IN the Tidewater areas following Hurricane Cleo and her unlady-like cohorts. September was the wettest since 1871 and the Back Bay Wildlife Refuge recorded 14.09 inches from 1100 on 31 August to 1100 on 1 September, a new 24-hour record. Several others came close, however, and the two month total was 25.22 inches, which was coupled with an average daily temperature of 78° in September. Work was put on a round-the-clock, seven-days-a-week schedule with back-hoes and pumps, in at least one major district, the Kempsville-Bayside Mosquito Control Commission, and things were soon back to normal, under control.

EVEN NOVEMBER DIDN'T SIGNAL THE END OF MOSQUITOES IN CALIFORNIA, which also had heavy rains, leading up to the floods in December of which you may have read. DON MURRAY found that although temperatures reached the lowest on record, with an average minimum of 40 and a high of only 72, the rainfall reached nearly twice the normal level and pasture mosquitoes caused complaints, the latest ever recorded. We seem to be threatened by *real* monsters in this pasture species. First they develop the ability to do without water and now cold weather doesn't stop them!

MEL GRIFFITH IS BACK IN THESE UNITED STATES WE GUESS, at least his address is now AID, Malaria Eradication Branch, Washington, D.C. 20523, and we hear he's taking over in Don Johnson's old job. Also back is CLAUDE SCHMIDT, who left beautiful Vienna for Fargo, North Dakota, 58102; WHILE NOT "back" EXACTLY, DR. FRED BISHOPP is back in Virginia, from whence he fled. Alexandria, the River Tower Apartments, for pilgrims in that neighborhood. (We were asked about this in Washington last summer, as one who "knew everything" . . . and we just this moment learned!) We hope to hear from Dr. Fred himself soon and we know he'd enjoy hearing from one and all of us.

THE TEXAS MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION HAD ITS ANNUAL MEETING ON THE 10TH AND 11TH OF DECEMBER, 1964, and one-upped every other MCA in the whole US by getting the news to us immejitly and *before our deadline!* TMCA is justifiably proud that in so short a time they have grown enough to hold a full two-day meeting, to have an attendance of 47 registrants and a number of occasional visitors and that the press coverage was extensive and respectful. Also accurate. The meetings were held in the Texas State Department of Health auditorium in Austin. Newly elected officers include DR. JIM D. LONG, President, DR. JOHN S. WISEMAN, President-Elect, BOB DAVIS, and JIM LAMPSON as 1st and 2nd Vice-preses, and BILL MOON as Secretary-Treasurer.

DR. ED HATHAWAY HAS BROUGHT OUT A SORT OF NEWSLETTER ON MOSQUITO CONTROL which ought to be incorporated in the revision of Bul. 4 as an annex. Every mosquito control agency ought to have a copy of it, at any rate, and no doubt many or most of you do. But if you don't . . . hurry, hurry, HURRY. It's entitled "A Long Range Plan for Mosquito Control in Louisiana," but the geographical restriction is unduly modest.

RALPH BRAM, ONE OF OUR NEWEST MEMBERS, HAS ACTUALLY BEEN IN MOSQUITO CONTROL FOR MANY A YEAR in a many a kind of place. So now, as he disappears into the shadowy realms of the inner sanctums of the Smithsonian inhabited by Alan Stone and his eagle-eyed cohorts, we thought you might like to know his background. Ralph was born in Washington, D.C. and received his BS from the University of Maryland in 1956, having spent his summertime in entomological work with the Sarasota County Mosquito Control. That same year he entered military entomology as assistant Testing and Development Officer at the U. S. Navy Disease Vector Control Center, Jacksonville, Florida. In 1957 he undertook the billet with Preventive Medicine Unit No. 5, in San Diego, from which he was called in 1959 by CAPT. DICK HOLWAY to be his Assistant Officer in Charge at the counterpart DVCC Dick was establishing in Alameda, California. After a year of this, LT Jg Bram spurned the chance to go back to school on Uncle and became instead a graduate assistant at his old Alma Mammy, working under BILL BICKLEY and receiving his MS and PhD in jigtime, the latter with a thesis entitled, "The Classification of the *Culex* subgenus *Culex* in the New World." (How's *that* for an obscure and limited field for a thesis?) He became Assistant Professor at Purdue University, another favored spot for entomologists, but the lure of the old home town proved too strong and anyway, how could he resist that chance to work on the mosquitoes of Southeast Asia with ALAN STONE, JOHN SCANLON, and their crew. He feels it will be a very challenging opportunity and we do too, and we're sure Alan and John are happy he's coming. Best wishes!

AMONG OUR RESTLESS MEMBERSHIP we mentioned last time that Lt. Col. BOB STAPP had left St. Louis for, we thought, Atlanta, but we hope you didn't send any mail there because his letter should be addressed to 2722 University Blvd. West, Jacksonville, Fla., 32217. Col. MILTON FLEMINGS is now DR Milton S. Flemings and teaching, we trust happily, at C. W. Post College of Long Island University, in Greenvale (which sounds vaguely like something run by the American Legion) and we trust too that they know how lucky they are to get Milt. And Capt. E. G. Thompson, having covered himself with education at Oklahoma State, is now (back) at the Dept. of Preventive Medicine of the Army Medical Field Service School, Ft. Sam Houston, 78234.

A good many others have jumped halfway around the world. Like DR. STEVE HU, who has jumped from APO 271, New York to APO 298, San Francisco, and that ain't just across the country. Dr. J. D. GILLET has forsaken Uganda for the *quieter* lanes of Brunel College, London W.3, while DR. W. H. R. LUMSDEN, also forsaking Uganda, has got to The University, Edinburgh. Taking shorter jumps (but not much) have been JIM HAWKINS, who left Coco Solo for Weslaco, Texas; DR. AYLWARD E. R. DOWNE, who has departed from Kansas for the University of Saskatchewan, Regina, Saskatchewan; DICK BAGLEY, going from California to Massapequa Park, N. Y., 11762; DR. HAL ELLIS, who leapt from Encino, Calif., to Miami Beach, Florida, 33140; and DR. IVAN RICCIARDI, now with the Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana, Guatemala C.A., Guatemala.

More restrained moves were made by BILL HODGES, going from Houston to Dallas, Texas, 75234 (and if you think that isn't a fur piece, you didn't drive to the Galveston meetings); KENT LITTEG, who is back in Atlanta, Ga., 30329, from Arkansas; and ART MORRIS, whose move took him from Baltimore to Miami Springs, Florida, 33166.

NEW MEMBERS WHOM WE WELCOME FROM AFAR are DR. HIPOLITO BARREIRO, of Buenos Aires, MARIO HOEVERTSZ of Georgetown, British Guiana, and ANNE HUDSON of Ottawa. Florida sends us the most new members this time, with JAMES A. DOYLE, of Maitland; GARY A. MOUNT, of Gainesville; JAMES F. JACKSON, of Cocoa; WILLIAM PETTAS, of Winter Garden; E. A. PHILEN, of Jacksonville; and PHIL YODER, of Tavares. Oregon is next, with three: DARRELL V. IRVIN, of Portland, 97218; CLARK AMEN of Corvallis and JESSUP JOHNSEN, of St. Helena. Washington, Maryland and California are a stand-off, with two each: LESTER F. GEORGE, of College Park, and DR. SUSHIL K. GIOLTRA of Johns Hopkins, in Baltimore; FRED REYNOLDS of Kennewick and KEITH KUECHMANN, of Yakima, Washington; and LT. HARRY FALLERS of DVCC NAS Alameda, and G. P. GEORGHIOUS, of Riverside, California. From North Carolina, comes H. ELDON SCOTT, of the State College at Raleigh, 27607; from Lake Jackson, Texas, 77566, is PAUL LUDWIG, and WILMER SHULTE joins us from New Orleans. Also, we must tell you, we now go to *Shell Chemie of Rue de la Botie*, Paris 80, France, which with our lousy accent sounds *very* exotic.

AN AIRMAIL LETTER FROM ART LINDQUIST IN BURMA proves once again that "retirement" is merely a euphemism for pulling up stakes and working all over the globe instead of at your accustomed desk. We should be so lucky. We had been about to tell you how Art and Nita went fishing for salmon (and *caught* some, what's more) in their camper, as related in their newsy Christmas letter, when *lo* and *behold!* They've been in Burma on a three months consultantship with

WHO, ending about the second week of March, when we hope you are reading this. Then, says Art, off for a week in Geneva, a week in Vienna has been tracking *C. fatigans*, marked with P₂₂ and and then back to the camper and the fishing. Art released in an extremely populous area (of some 40,000 persons in two square miles) and collected in houses at measured distances from the release center. The results have been excellent, the Burmese are a wonderful people, Art and Nita are living in an old British Club of faded elegance and except that they've had no time to sightsee, are utterly delighted with their whole project. So are we . . . and we hope to hear much more.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION VIRUS LABORATORIES MOVED IN DECEMBER, 1964, FROM NEW

YORK TO NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, where the Foundation's virus research program will be associated with the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health of Yale University as the Yale Arbovirus Research Unit. Dr. Wilbur G. Downs, director of the Foundation's virus program, and Dr. Max Theiler, former director of the Laboratories, have been appointed professors in the Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Loring Whitman, acting director of the Laboratories, Dr. Sonja M. Buckley, Dr. Jordi Casals-Ariet, Dr. Delphine H. Clarke, and Dr. Robert W. Speir, of the staff of the Laboratories, will also have faculty affiliation. In New Haven the Laboratories will be located in a new building recently completed for the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, at 60 College Street.

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