

SUMMARY¹K. D. QUARTERMAN²

During the past two days we have been privileged to hear such an outstanding group of presentations by experts in their fields that it is well-nigh impossible to summarize them in the true sense of the word. Two of these, by Drs. George H. Bradley and Fred L. Soper, truly giants of our times, are great sagas of past public health accomplishments that serve as an inspiration, guide and challenge to present and future activities in the control and eradication of mosquito-borne diseases.

From the many excellent papers on malaria, encephalitis, yellow fever, dengue, hemorrhagic fever, filariasis and "pest" mosquitoes, the following points might be summarized:

1. Solid advances have been made in our knowledge of mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases, and in the control and eradication of them.
2. All mosquitoes must be regarded as important in the overall picture of public health practice. As our knowledge advances, more and more species, formerly considered only as "pest" mosquitoes, are being incriminated as vectors of

diseases directly to man or as vectors to other hosts essential in the survival of the disease agents.

3. There is no pat answer to the control and eradication of mosquitoes or mosquito-borne diseases. These efforts involve the most complex interrelationships between governments, other agencies, man, mosquitoes, and animals, as well as between pesticides, drugs, biological processes, an array of equipment, and environmental manipulations.
4. Concomitant with the increase in our knowledge of mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, and their control and eradication has been the recognition of the great and urgent need for further research in almost every aspect of these problems.

If we who are presently engaged in the various programs for the control and eradication of mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases fully capitalize upon the accomplishments of the past and match the dedication of our predecessors, then the future with respect to mosquito-borne diseases may best be described by the response of one of the tourist guides in our national Capital to a question from a visitor as to what was the meaning of the motto on one of our great national buildings—"The Past is Prologue to the Future"—when he said, "Oh, that means—you ain't seen nothin' yet!"

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