

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

WE DEVOUTLY HOPE THAT BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS WE SHALL HAVE SEEN YOU AT NEW ORLEANS although at the moment the Government's fiscal policy won't allow us to go ANYwhere. We hope your chances are better and that you MADE THE MOST of them! We told you last time that GLEN STOKES and his committee have not only lined up a rip-roaring list of things to do (even during Lent, Bourbon St.'s open!) but they have also lined up a great list of exhibitors to bring you up-to-date on the things industry has been doing for you. WHICH REMINDS US . . . YOU can do a lot for AMCA by telling the company salesmen, when they call on you, how much benefit they are getting out of advertising in *Mosquito News* and exhibiting at the meetings. Tell them you saw their exhibit and mention their ad, sort of casual like. Have you been doing this?

TED RALEY HAS SENT OUT LETTERS TO REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND ALL, IN WHICH HE HAS MENTIONED WHAT THE FELLERS HAVE BEEN DOING . . . like the memos that GARDNER McFARLAND and BILL DOANE sent out to stir up their regions and regional meetings and all. He suggested something else, too, we ought to make more use of. VOTING. Even if you think your vote hardly matters, it DOES. It shows you're INTERESTED.

ANOTHER THING YOU CAN BRING TO NEW ORLEANS is a list of mosquito control jobs available in your area, for the use of WAYNE MILLER's Placement Service Committee. Wayne has been sending out regular listings of jobs available and people available and trying to get them matched up. This seems to us to be a really big service and one that could benefit AMCA'ers all over the place, both job seekers and people seekers alike.

WE AREN'T REALLY SURE WE CAN STAND IT MUCH MORE . . . THE WAY SCIENCE KEEPS MARCHING ON, we mean. Did you all see in the *Journal of Medical Entomology* for November 1967 (Vol. 4, No. 4) how RAY RYCKMAN and Henry Brodie have come up with an absolutely stupefying science-fiction idea of utilizing the potentialities of distinguishing proteins by electrophoresis to distinguish species of indistinguishable insects? Well . . . it seems it's all very simple. If you understand it. Which we don't. Once Kraus had discovered the precipitin reaction back in 1897, the logic of it all was remorselessly inevitable. (You all know the precipitin test, at any rate . . . the one that tells us what a mosquito has been feeding on.) Go on from there to the idea that every

species has minute but detectable differences in its protein makeup; add a good method of detecting it; be as smart as Ray was in seeing the possibilities and . . . *voila!* . . . Drs. Ryckman and Brodie were working with *Triatoma*, but heck, there's an awful lot of mosquitoes that ain't too clearly differentiated for us non-taxonomic types' eyes. We might even find out that *quinquefasciatus* IS *fatigans* after all!

IN THE SAME ISSUE, CLIFF LOFGREN, RALPH TURNER AND ED HAZARD REPORT that hay infusion stimulated *Aedes aegypti* growth over the normal rate in the usual media. This reminds us of Ed Nottingham who raised mosquitoes for the Gainesville lab long, long ago when it was at Orlando. Ed always claimed his phenomenal success was due to a certain infusion of leaves he always used as a "starter." WE always admired his ability, and tried to pick his brains on methods, though we doubted his reasons, and we faithfully followed his advice along with the advice of more erudite mentors like HELEN LOUISE TREMBLEY DURKEE. We thought Ed's method had something to do with oxygen content (BOD and all that) which Helen Louise had shown to be so important. Now it seems the infusion itself may have been important, too. Ain't it a small world?

BILL BICKLEY DRAWS OUR ATTENTION TO AN ARTICLE in *Science* for 22 December, Vol. 158. We're glad he drew it because we seldom get around to reading *Science* any more . . . it just piles up. The article is entitled, "Environmental Pollution: Scientists Go to Court," and it's all about some people in New York who set up a company called, "Environmental Defense Fund, Inc." Their immediate targets were the use of DDT in mosquito control on Long Island and the use of dieldrin in Japanese beetle control in Michigan. Their argument was based in part on the Ninth Amendment to the Constitution which reserves to the people ALL "rights" not specifically otherwise mentioned, by which the EDF'ers claim the Founding Fathers meant an "uncontaminated environment." The Sierra Club, a much sounder conservation group, thinks this is stretching the Constitution pretty far, and so do we. It's sort of like saying the provision against unreasonable arrest covers the "arrest" caused by a traffic light or a New Year's Eve road block, as one of our local preachers did recently. How about our Constitutional Right to freedom from jet noise . . . and teen agers with transistors . . . and flag burners? Well, it would be a little hard on

some of you hard-working control folks, but WE sort of feel it would be a good idea to go ahead and *stop* mosquito control for a while . . . and then see who hollers the most.

TED RALEY HAS A REAL GOOD MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT BUT IF WE DIDN'T KNOW THAT FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION WE'D THINK HE SPENT ALL HIS TIME ON AMCA BUSINESS. Anyway, he spends an awful lot and we're glad he lets us in on some of his findings. For instance, the sale of back issues of *Mosquito News*. It's been brisk and Ted say it's a good source of income. It's also a good source of spreading light and knowledge around the world and making folks mosquito control conscious. We know some of you in Districts get a number of copies, though, and after due time might spare an extra one. How about sending some BACK? What Ted needs, for instance, are Vol. 4, No. 4; Vol. 8, No. 2; Vol. 11, No. 2; Vol. 17, No. 1; Vol. 22, No. 1; Vol. 23, No. 3; Vol. 25, No. 1; and Vol. 26, No. 2. Look in the back closet and see if you've got 'em, will you, guys? An extra one, that is—NOT your only copy, of course!

VMCA'S SKEETER TOLD OF AN AMUSING CON-TRETEMPS LAST FALL WHEN A RADIO STATION . . . WFBM . . . thought it would be a good idea to run a mosquito-catching contest. At a nickel a head. *Skeeter* says the AP release reported that, "It got more than it bargained for in the 13-day contest—exactly 225,481 mosquitoes for a price of \$11,274.05. The champ was Marcia Liphardt of nearby Clayton. She trapped 73,225 and collected \$3,661.25." *Skeeter* wrote for more info but got no answer. We hope the little gal used the money wisely, for education. Just think what the mosquito control district could have done with the extra money! They might even have been able to advertise (and advise the radio station) that one can raise 225,481 mosquitoes in a very few tin cans in 13 days!

ART CAVANAUGH WAS HOST TO A GROUP OF SCIENTIFICALLY-ORIENTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS at his Coachella Valley (Calif.) MAD in early December and it sounded like a real bash. Talks and demonstrations were presented for the kids' intellectual nourishment by various research professors and barbecue steaks were provided for their souls' sake . . . and also for some 30 CMCA'ers and Bureau of Vector Control people. Wish we'd had this sort of thing when WE were a kid.

AND CMCA ITSELF HAD ITS 36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN FRESNO (CALIF.) ON 28 through 31 January, 1968. We bet they missed the rest of us AMCA'ers this year, but it seems as if they had a pretty lively time anyway. One of the big topics was low volume air spray applications, of course, a tremendously exciting breakthrough that TOMMY MULHERN, BILL BURGOYNE, ART GEIB and

others have been working on of late. Combined with high altitudes and wide swaths, it surely leads to Big Dreams for the future. Incidentally, the CMCA annual *Entomology Seminar* will be held at the same place: the Hacienda, in Fresno, on 29 and 30 March and MEL OLDHAM hopes it will be a small consolation to those who can't be in New Orleans with US. If anything could be, it will . . . if past performances are any criterion.

ANOTHER EXCITING PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE IS CYTOPLASMIC INCOMPATIBILITY which sounds so much like science-fiction to most of us. But HANNES LAVEN reported in *Nature*, Vol. 216, No. 5113 (wow!), for 28 October 1967, that the work reported from Burma in *Mosquito News* (Vol. 26, No. 3, N&N) has been carried on to the point where it WORKS. Writing from the Institute für Genetik at Johannes Gutenberg Universität, in Mainz, Germany, he points out that, "Twenty different crossing types are known in the *Culex pipiens* complex, and it is possible to specify at least one, sometimes several, strains of the complex which are incompatible with a certain population of *Culex pipiens* anywhere in the world." Again, (Wow!).

Even more stimulating is the suggestion that in about 3 months or five or six generations a *C. p. fatigans* population was entirely eradicated [ital. ours—Ed.] and the vacuum in ecology could be filled with a species which was not a vector and even one ("could be developed and liberated") with no desire to bite man. This ideal strain should be incompatible with the surrounding populations of presumably still man-hungry strains. OK, you geneticists. You can start here with that strain that won't bite man!

CHET ROBINSON'S ALAMEDA COUNTY (CALIF.) ANNUAL REPORT for FY 1966 (which we just received somehow . . . slow boat) points out that, far from being mainly concerned with tree-holes, as we have sometimes implied, his district has a lot of catch basins; sources to reduce, like both salt and sugar companies; duck clubs; flood control channels and many other things in its areas, now expanded to 815½ square miles. But one of his most interesting comments is on tree-hole breeders nonetheless. Speaking of their *Aedes sierrensis*, Chet says that they made a countdown on one tree-hole and found 1st instar larvae on 31 October, 2nds on 15 November, 3rds from 4 December to 20 January, 4ths to 9 March and pupae on 24 March, a period of *five months despite Alameda's mild climate*. He doesn't say when, or if, the adults came off. Wish we could slow down our *treehole* breeders to that pace. It would sure seem more Hawaiian.

NOW GEORGE THOMPSON AND HIS JEFFERSON COUNTY (TEXAS) DISTRICT HAS A MILD CLIMATE too, but delayed developmental rates aren't one of his problems. HIS district has expanded, too

. . . into the Louisiana swamps, or at least toward them, and he's been having to dust up a storm. Pending the day when metropolitan New Orleans and metropolitan Port Arthur meet.

MISS JOYCE CHESTER, GLENN STOKES' EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN JEFFERSON PARISH (LOUISIANA) thought you all might like to know when you get to New Orleans, that Louisiana is soon to have its fifth mosquito control district. This one will be St. Charles Parish, adjacent to Jefferson on the west. This ambitious parish has vast mosquito breeding areas and, needless to add, insufficient funds for a lot of source reduction (don't we all?) so Glenn has recommended extensive aerial larviciding and adulticiding with source reduction coming along as may be. Jefferson Parish's postage meter, by the way, reads, "Stamp out Skeeters!" Good idea, wot?

WE SHOULD HAVE SAID IN DECEMBER that peripatetic STEVE HU has made another jump since leaving Manila and is now with the Armed Forces Pest Control Board, Military Information Service (MEIS) at Walter Reed. He was at the Tri-Service Conference, in fact, last October, along with some eighty or more military AMCA'ers, and mighty welcome he was, too. It's good to have him back in the U S of A.

JIM PALMER IS BACK ON THE "BIG" ISLAND, TOO, having left the 5th Epidemiological Laboratory in Manila and reported at Eglin AFB, Florida. He expects to remain there as NCOIC of the Preventive Medicine Section until retirement in November and is glad to have an anopheline that breeds in places big enough to fish in, or near them, for a change. He says anyone who wants to survey for mosquitoes and come home with a nice mess of fresh fish, just call him up at 882-1632. Sounds great!

AND NOW A WORD ABOUT THE GOOD NEIGHBOR CLUB . . . WHICH IS DYING BUT WILL NOT DIE UNLESS YOU WISH IT TO . . .

TOMMY AITKEN writes from the Belem Virus Laboratory way down there in Para, Brasil . . . which lab is a joint venture of the Brazilian Department of Public Health and the Rockefeller Foundation, you know . . . "Admittedly I have momentarily grouched every year when the request for aid has been received, but then I have remembered the remarks of gratitude spoken by recipient colleagues in the countries where I have worked. . . . These people have a hard time getting journals of any kind either because of governmental red tape or inertia or else because of the difficulties of finance (most of these small countries are poorer than church mice and the small sums available for health have to be allocated with great care). Organizations or groups which I know would gladly receive help include the Health Departments of the various West Indian islands, the library of the University of Guyana (Georgetown), the Central Laboratorium

voor de Volksgezondheid, Paramaribo, Surinam (I believe these are the ones I have been helping), the Pasteur Institute in Cayenne, French Guiana, etc. (The Pasteur Institute in Saigon, Viet Nam, which is now "on the list," is in this class, too.—Ed.) It goes without saying that I feel the Good Neighbor Club program should continue to receive support." Thanks, Tommy!

TED RALEY ADDS A WORD OF GREAT WISDOM, WE THINK, TO THE GOOD NEIGHBOR CLUB DISCUSSION when he writes, "Getting the members to contribute to the Good Neighbor Club shouldn't be too difficult if someone would come up with a list of recipients that was truly deserving. Tommy Aitken's letter is a good seed. Do you think you could get him and others with similar opportunities to work on a project of this kind? . . . Don't overlook the possibility of enlisting the financial support of the Rockefeller Foundation. . . . (and) make every effort to limit the list to libraries or agencies" (rather than to individuals).

WE MUST, ALAS, BEAT OUR BREST AND CRY MEA CULPA, for our hands have been busy adjusting seat belts on planes from here to Saigon, yet it is no excuse that we have not used them better to write letters to all those who we know could help. We are not less devoted to the GN concept than we profess with such fervor. And we *have* written to our AMCA'er in Rockefeller Foundation (whose name we withhold, in case he has to say an embarrassing "no") and we have written a couple of other fellers. And we here-with plead with every AMCA'er within sight of our brush to look around him in those exotic furrin climes and to cast back in his memory if he's now snug again at home, and SEND US NAMES *Send us dollars, too, if you have 'em.* Don't worry about President Johnson . . . he won't mind; *they'll* stay here. Just the *Mosquito News's* will go abroad.

BY THE WAY, you AMCA'ers who can't get to New Orleans . . . make plans now for NEXT year. And the NEXT. Williamsburg 1969, Portland (Oregon) 1970, Denver 1971, Boston has asked for 1972. 1973 . . . the Moon??

LT. COLONEL BILL PEARSON, LIKE THE OTHER MILITARY, IS COORDINATING WITH AEGYPTERAD in the *Aedes aegypti* eradication program, only HE has to be good. His headquarters is in ATLANTA! Well, his 1967 Progress Report sure shows a lot of good activity, so whether he was running scared or just running hard, his team accomplished a lot. From Eglin Field, Florida, to Fayetteville, North Carolina, they found breeding sites . . . but far fewer than before . . . and they moved to eliminate what they saw. (Of course, some of the military areas are surrounded by city or at least urban areas and all they could do there was trap . . . for oviposition.) Alto-

gether, they surveyed every Army installation in seven southwestern states and collected 470,858 specimens, which on examination proved to consist of eight genera and *thirty-seven* species.

TVA LOST THE ROUND TO USAID and DR. S. G. BREELAND has gone to San Salvador. Also going to USAID are JACK GRAVES, whose APO is San Francisco 96528, and DAVID PITTS, who is now at APO New York 09674. JOHN STIVERS, still with AID, is now addressed through the Department of State (Asuncion) Washington, D. C. 20521. Trading, sort of, are CAPT. R. E. PARSONS, who has left Viet Nam for Santa Fe, New Mexico, and LT.JG. LANCE SHOLDT, who has gone there, to the 1st Marine Div., FPO San Francisco, 96602. And MIKE PETRAKIS, who is already there, in Saigon, is APO San Francisco 96384 instead of 307, as previously. E. L. PEYTON, having come back from SEA to Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, has now moved over to the SEAMP (which is Mosquito Project) at the Smithsonian *Institution* (NOT Institute). A. G. GENTILE has left Maryland for Atlanta, NEWELL GOOD' has gone to the New York State Health Department in White Plains, JOHN DOLL has left Santa Fe for North Syracuse and BILLY JACKSON has gone from Ft. Myers to Miami.

ANOTHER MAJOR MOVE was that of MAJOR E. G. THOMPSON, whose APO address has been changed to the Medical Field School in San Antonio, while DR. GUZMAN GARCIA MARTIN is now with the Pan American Health Organization's Malaria Branch in Washington, D.C. To balance the SEA score, CAPT. BRUCE HARRISON is now with the U.S. Army Medical Research Component in Bangkok, APO San Francisco 96346, and, of course you know that DON SCHLISSMANN has left Atlanta for Vienna (Virginia!). JOHN BUFFINGTON is now at the Environmental Biology Lab at Fort Detrick, from which MAYNARD JOHNSON has recently retired. PETER BELTON, taking Horace Greeley's famous advice has gone west from Alberta to Simon Fraser University in Burnby, British Columbia, ED WASHBURN has moved from APO New York 09319 to 09683 (still USAID but we don't know if it's near or far), and PETER GRAHAM has sort of reversed

Peter Belton's trend by moving from Ontario to Algoma College in Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Poor Alberta. And, of course, ARCHIE HESS has reversed Greeley, by moving to Fort Collins (Colo. 80521)! Other military moves have been ENS PHILLIP KEATHLEY, who is now at the DVCC at the Naval Air Station, Alameda, with CAPT. GEORGE STAINS, LT., L. C. RUTLEDGE who is back from SEATO at Walter Reed (WRAIR), LT.JG. BOB PETERSON who has retired to academe at Stillwater, Oklahoma, CAPT. RALPH CARESTIA who has gone from USAEHA at Edgewood to MPSS at Ft. Sam Houston, and TOM CURTIN, who is now DR. Tom Curtin of Columbus Ohio, and whatcha doin' Tom? And in speaking of AEE, we should have added that ERNEST CALHOUN has gone from Pine Bluff Arkansas to the USPHS TDL at Savannah.

Now let's see all youse guys settle down at your new jobs where you're at and stop this running around all over. And write us a NOTE ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING NEW. (Thanks.)

ED WASHBURN GOT OUR ENQUIRY AS TO WHAT HE IS DOING BY EXTRASENSORY PERCEPTION, SEEMS AS IF and his letter arrived just as we went to press. "I've been recently transferred from the NCDC staff of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to Dacca, East Pakistan and thought perhaps I should send along a note to you.

"As you probably know [We didn't] the malaria eradication scheme in Pakistan, is divided into two separate programs, one for West Pakistan and one for East Pakistan. In East Pakistan we are involved in affording malaria protection to over 56,000,000 people. The program here is progressing very well and if no catastrophe happens, they should attain complete eradication by 1974 in all of East Pakistan. The West Wing won't make it quite that soon for various reasons."

Thanks Ed, for cluing us in. It sounds pretty rapid and another thing, we won't go around assuming these "little" countries are so durned little after reading that 56,000,000 thing. Sounds like a whale of a big project. Tell us more as you go along! (Ed's address is now American Consulate General, APO New York 09683.)