

## NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

WE RECEIVED OUR JUNE ISSUE JUST AFTER WE HAD MAILED IN OUR COPY FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE . . . AND ALREADY AFTER THE DEADLINE AT THAT; OTHERWISE YOU'D HAVE SEEN TWO SHORT YELPS. One of surprise, like a sleeping dog getting a sudden foot in the ribs. On that, all we can say is, it'll be a long time before we get smart again and make guesses in public! The other yelp would have been surprise and triumph because RAFAEL MIRANDA-FRANCO, bless him, responded to our comment on his move, corrected our mistake about his address and added news about himself. Thank you, Señor Rafael! You are one in a thousand and we thank you. (AND WE WISH OTHER PEOPLE WE MENTION would do as much. And if you don't know what the heck we're talking about you haven't been reading attentively these past issues.) So good luck and buenaventura and let us know how it comes along, Señor!

IT SEEMS AS IF WHEN PEOPLE GET FRUSTRATED IN DOING THE THING THEY WANT TO DO, THEY ALWAYS JUMP ON WHATEVER IS NEAREST AT HAND AND EASIEST TO PICK ON. Like, they can't do anything about the USSR and China so they jump on our military and they can't put a quick stop to the BIG POLLUTERS so they jump on pore ole DDT, that's saved their lives for them. A lot of The Defenders have scuttled and run, but the fight still goes on in some areas, fortunately. DR. DON MUREAY did his bit in California (and may have to do it again and again) to point out the benefits from pesticides, the dangers of throwing the baby out with the bath and the need to differentiate between "scientific" assertions, based on little or no data, from what we truly *know*. For instance, is the "DDT" found in Arctic fish really DDT or a simulacrum? Just how harmful is it? (About this point in the hearing a good "Doctor" testified that DDT is being carried around the world in smog! Wow! Or maybe DDT causes smog?!)

BUT IF IT TURNS OUT WE CAN'T USE INSECTICIDES TO KILL MOSQUITOES WE MAY STILL HAVE SOME HOPE IN WORK MIR MULLA'S DOING. An entomologist in Never-never Land, named R. D. Magor, as reported in *Pest Control Operators News*, sent Mir some "Consan" algicide and reported that at Knott's Berry Farm (Adv.) it had inhibited wing formation in mosquito pupae, which thus became non-flying adults. "Consan" is unidentified except as a "poly-substituted nitrogen compound". . . . would that be one of these n-Alkyl dimethyl ethyl, benzyl and some other things ammonium chlorides and bromides that are commonly used, Mir? Anyhoo . . . clip-

ping their wings may sound like salting their tails but it shore might work. (We've always wanted to see what detergents would do by lowering the water surface tension . . . like the famous sinking duck picture of years ago. You going to do some more on that, too, Mir? Do.)

HANNES LAVEN IS STILL HOTLY IN PURSUIT OF ANOTHER SCIENCE FICTION METHOD as we've mentioned here before. His latest publication, in *Nature*, Vol. 221 (5184):958-959, of last March, entitled "Eradicating Mosquitoes using Translocations," isn't as tough reading for us semi-literate types as it appears at first and his remarks are certainly fascinating. The net results are that chromosomal translocations are so feasible that we may be buying egg-rafts guaranteed to contain semi-sterile males before long, instead of using larvicides! Dr. Laven sent us also a reprint of a translation from *Die Zeit*, in which he discussed mosquito control with the science editor. (Thanks for sending it, Hannes!) Only the *German Tribune*, which did the translation, called them "gnats." Ah, semantics!

GLENN STOKES and WALLY MURDOCH HAVE BEEN "IN COMMUNICATION" ABOUT TIEG, which is the acronym for Teen International Entomology Group, for which co-sponsorship by AMCA and ESA is suggested. No great amount of money is involved but it certainly seems like a worthwhile project for those of us who are entomologists or interested in the continuation of entomology as a science in these days when all the money goes to engineers and all the glory to astronauts. ART LINQUIST writes, "Surely hope you can activate more interest in TIEG. I believe we could get AMCA on the masthead of their publication for a very small sum—say 2-3 hundred dollars. Teen agers can do a great deal in popularizing and promoting." Which may be mercenary in a way but is surely true.

ART ALSO RECOUNTS A FEW OF HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES WHICH SOUND LIKE FUN (?). He wrote an article for National Livestock Producers entitled, "Mosquitoes as Enemies of Livestock," he gave three illustrated lectures before civic groups and one to AAUW in September and . . . *he got the roadside ditch near his house sprayed in time* to cut off the huge swarms of mosquitoes otherwise producible there. Not many entomologists can make such a claim, eh?

MO HIRST, PREXY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION writes us that the next meeting of NCMCA will be 8-10 April 1970 at the famous Blockade Runner Motor Hotel, at

Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. "In addition to formal educational meetings at the hotel, there will be two field trips—one into the area where great progress in permanent mosquito control action is taking place and another which will include the beautiful estates in the Wilmington area and end at the USS *North Carolina*, where a tour has been arranged—just for mosquito controllers."

THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION . . . YOU KNOW, TAHITI, SAMOA, PONAPE, TRUK, LIKE THAT . . . IS PLANNING A "RUMP" SESSION AFTER THE PORTLAND MEETINGS and of course everybody's welcome to come to it. It's going to be in HAWAII (we said "like that") Of course, there's only a few OF us here and so we're planning . . . or rather PAT NAKAGAWA is . . . a luau and a small tour of our mosquito work areas (which are all under control, by the way, so all you'll see is locations, not situations), and we'll say "Aloha" and make reservations for you, if you like, at the Polynesian Cultural Center where the college kids from those other islands put on a show, expensive but fun; and show you pineapple growing and sugarcane, and like that. But if there's too many of you, well, we may have to just say "Gee, brudda, Aloha! .. have you tried the smörgasbord at the Reef?" You'll unnastand, eh?

AND OF COURSE DON'T FORGET TO COME TO THE MAIN MEETINGS at PORTLAND! We have a little note from TED RALEY which says, in part, "The large income from the last two Annual Meetings again is worth noting. It has been hoped that each meeting would provide AMCA with at least \$2,000.00. The New Orleans meeting provided \$3,401.75 and the Virginia meeting \$3,835.38." (eight?) "These funds contribute very appreciably to the support of Mosquito News," he adds. Y'ALL COME!

ART GEIB IS STILL ACTIVELY ACCEPTING NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF POTENTIAL ADVERTISERS for Bulletin 5, by the way. Bring a friend. Make a friend.

CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S OWN ANNUAL MEETING IS SLATED FOR JUST A MONTH BEFORE THE PORTLAND ONES in case you didn't know. They're to be held 25 to 28 January 1970 at the Sacramento Inn, in, of all places, Sacramento (only it's really north toward Fair Oaks). Already they have a formidable . . . or rather, impressive . . . list of guest speakers including AMCA'ers CLAUDE SCHMIDT, BAILEY PEPPER, BOB HEDEEN, A. J. ROGERS, DON REES, JOHN STONER, DON MICKS, GEORGE CARMICHAEL, AL BUZICKY, some equally distinguished outsiders and CMCA'ers so many you can't count 'em . . . all internationally renowned. (But you gotta wear evening clothers for the banquet-dinner dance because the UNION demands a 5-piece band in a hall as big as the Inn's. Wow.)

DR. ARCHIE HESS HAS AMONG HIS MULTITUDINOUS DUTIES A VOICE IN THE COUNCILS OF THE

WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL and points out that vector control is one aspect of our ecology which we all strongly want included in any evaluation of resources projects. He made a pitch to and received data from the CMCA but this is a nationwide concern and responses from you other MCA's are badly needed, too. Like, cost analyses of different control methods in your regions, insecticides mostly used and the methods of their distribution, source reductions preached and practiced and like that. On official letterhead, of course! So, c'mon. Let's not get overlooked!

VMCA's SKEETER, WHICH WE SUPPOSE MOST OF YOU SEE BUT WE KEEP ON QUOTING, points out two factors in mosquito control which, typically, only they would have thought of. One is, grass-cutting. It goes this way . . . the more rain, the more grass; the more grass, the more cutting; the more cutting, the more mosquito bites because the more rain the more mosquitoes. (Stay indoors, friend.)

Wait! There's more . . . .

The less rain, the more outdoors living; the more outdoors living, the more bikinis and shorts; the more bikinis and shorts, the more mosquito bites EXCEPT that the less rain the less mosquitoes. SKEETER says that one of the factors in our favor is air conditioning. Once, people sat on the porch to get any vagrant breeze and sipped lemonade and chatted and fanned themselves with a palm-leaf fan. Now they glue themselves in front of the TV, with a beer in hand and the air conditioner on. No mosquito control commission, says SKEETER, has ever received a complaint from a constituent who sat and watched TV with his air conditioner on. (Except the ones with "swamp coolers" and *Aedes* breeding like mad in them!) But to get back to that guy with the lawnmower. . . . .

SKEETER suggests checking that boat out in the side yard with a leaky tarp over it. That goes for old auto bodies and beer cans in the bushes, too, eh? CHET ROBINSON'S Alameda County MAD has been doing it with newspaper publicity and going out and looking at people's yards and talking to them. (Incidentally, half the calls weren't mosquitoes when he got there. It's amazing how many people get bitten by midges.)

GEORGE THOMPSON REPORTS FROM HIS JEFFERSON COUNTY (TEXAS) MCD that his long dry spell turned into a rainy spell suddenly on St. Swithin's Day and that the Saint, not having read the recent Vatican demotion list, was hard at work for the succeeding 40 days and nights. Nevertheless, George boasts modestly that his larviciding was so effective that at one point he had to go into the next county to collect *quinq-fasciatus* larvae! Explanation for that was that George had had a li'l ditch he thought was hidden where he didn't treat so's to have a good future supply of Kinkys. One day they restocked their insectary and next day all the test mosquitoes

were dead. Their neighbor had noticed they didn't treat the ditch so he did it for them! Sic semper hesperus mundi.

DON JOHNSON SENDS US WORD ABOUT DR. HAROLD SCOTT WHICH HAROLD IS TOO MODEST TO SEND HIMSELF, namely, that he is now Deputy Assistant Administrator for Program Development, Consumer Protection and Environmental Health Service, which will be at USPHS/DHEW's place at 200 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20204. Harold's so far up into the stratosphere on top of all that pyramid that we probably wouldn't ever get to see him again, except that he's a very accessible kind of guy. We guess, "How's the weather up there?" is the traditional greeting, Harold. Best wishes, too.

OTHER NEWS OF DHEW EMBRACES A NUMBER OF FOLKS WELL KNOWN TO US ALL like, Don, himself, is the Research Officer and located in the Research Branch in Atlanta, natch. DR. JOHN BAGBY has retired from NCDC and will be the Professor and Director of the Institute of Rural Health at Colorado State University at Ft. Collins. RUSS FONTAINE. . . 'scuse us, DR. RUSS FONTAINE (Tulane '69) . . . has gone to Kaduna, Nigeria for two years on detail as project leader with the WHO inter-regional Project 0270. DR. DAVE BONNER has returned to Honolulu and the spectacular living-room ocean view he's held onto all these years. DR. GEOFFREY JEFFERY joined the Research Branch in September and will assume duty as Chief of the Central America Research Station in San Salvador, El Salvador, when DR. DON PLETSCHE retires (*Retires?*)

Then there's JOHN KLIEWER, who's going to be Senior Entomologist at the Thailand Malaria Operational Research Unit and since Dr. Kliewer was already in Bangkok we needn't tell him how pretty and how interesting entomologically it is there. (The kids line up along the canals in the early morning dipping out mosquito larvae to sell to the fancy tropical fish stores downtown later in the day. And the canals are filled with lotus in shades of pink and white and it's awfully idyllic if you can forget the rush of traffic at your back.)

Let's see . . . where were we? . . . USPHS's Malaria Eradication Program was represented at the Sixth Annual Malaria Conference, held in Kuala Lumpur in October, by, among others, ED SMITH from India, ED WASHBURN from East Pakistan, MERRILL WOOD from West Pakistan and JOHN STIVERS from Vietnam.

BACK THERE AWAYS WE MENTIONED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND WE SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT DON REES. On account of Don has just published a tome entitled "Insect Pests and Vectors on Waterfowl Marshes in Utah and Non-chemical Abatement," which is a report on a cooperative research project with NCDC and was cooperated in by GLEN COLLETT and JAY

GRAHAM. As might be expected from Dr. R. this report has *everything* . . . and good pictures and graphs, too, . . . and may well stand as a model for anyone thinking of doing a study of this sort for his region.

GLEN COLLETT HIMSELF, SENDS US WORD OF THE UTAH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT ASSOCIATION'S TWENTY SECOND ANNUAL MEETING in October in Brigham City. We wish we could have been there, as GEORGE CARMICHAEL was, for one. Glen adds that Prexy KARL JOSEPHSON did the local arrangements and they were grand. And Glen also sends word about Jay, who is off for a 30-day assignment with WHO in New Delhi. That sounds grand, too. Tell us about it, Jay, now that you're back!

WALT BARRETT, WHO IS NOW THE NEW CHIEF ENTOMOLOGIST FOR THE AIR FORCE WAS UNABLE TO MOVE AF HQ TO HAWAII and is now located in Silver Spring, which he says doesn't have the surf Lanikai has, and Capt. DAVE YOUNG is now MR (Professor? Doctoral candidate? *Nematologist?*) at the Department of Entomology and Nematology of the Univ. of Florida in Gainesville. CHARLES WELLS has gone from Braggadocio (Missouri) to the less assertive Roosevelt, Utah, (except that neither Roosevelt was really very unassertive) and JOE POOLE, who recently enjoyed a leisurely and extended home leave with his family in Hawaii and Mississippi, is still at APO San Francisco 96331, on Okinawa, but should be addressed as D/LOG Facilities Engineering, Deslog being fancier than plain old G-4, HQ USARYS. ARDEN LEA has left Vero Beach for the University of Georgia at Athens and ARTHUR HAMMERLEIN has gone from Rutgers to St. Louis, Missouri, while DICK KREUTZER has left Morrill Hall (how could he do that?) at the University of Illinois and gone to Youngstown State University in Ohio.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER LAWRENCE KRONE who is in Morrill Hall at the University of Illinois (now we feel better), and LT JOHN McDONALD of NAMRU #2 in Taipei (where distance made him appreciate our sterling qualities more, eh, Jack?), and MISS WAN HING KWAN of McDonald College in Quebec, Canada, and PAUL MAWN of Mt. Vernon, N.Y., and MASARU TOMITA up in Hokkaido, Japan. (What does the MZ in Kamikawa-Gun MZ mean, Tomita San?) Also, welcome aboard to L. K. COCHRAN of Mobile, and GEORGE ELDER of Norcross (Georgia) and STANLEY RACHESKY of Chicago (Illinois). And an extra, final Aloha to DAVID MITCHELL, manager of Glenn Co. MAD in Willows, California.

SEEMS AS IF SOME FOLKS HAVE HAD TROUBLE FINDING OUR ADDRESS ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER and have written TED RALEY to complain that *we* complain a lot about never getting any letters and then don't tell where to send them. Well, gee, we're sorry. (We DID give our address a couple of times in the colyum but of course we didn't Index *that!*)

Anyhow, we don't want to miss any mail so here it is again:

PAC DIV (Pacific Division) NAV FAC ENG COM (Naval Facilities Engineering Command) FPO San Francisco 96610. All you have to use is the capitalized abbreviations and the FPO San Fran number.

And ROY ELLIOTT asks us to say that HIS address after 16 November is

Repartiçao Sanitaria PanAmericana

Rua Paissandu 231

Caixa Postal 159—ZC-00

Rio de Janeiro GB

Erazil

From which we hope he can finally give us the true word, is it *Jan-cero* or *Han-cero* . . . or what?

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NORTH-EAST CENTRAL REGION was held in October at the Rolling Meadows Holiday Inn in Toledo, Ohio. There were 45 in attendance. It was an informal type of meeting with open discussion and full participation from all those in attendance. The program was based around two main topics which were *Aedes vexans* and related problems, and the newer steps on control efforts such as slow release chemicals, ULV by air and ground. There were no paper reading sessions as such. Although there were speakers, they announced their topics and then invited participation. At the business meeting, it was agreed that this should be an annual affair and that the region should request consideration by the Board of Directors to ask that this region be considered for the 1976 annual meeting of the AMCA.

ONE LAST THOUGHT TO KEEP YOU AWAKE AT NIGHT. You may remember that we told you that Perez (Pete) Simmons, longtime entomologist of the Dried Fruit Insect Investigations at Fresno, California, told us on a recent visit about a blood sucking Noctuid. Well, as you know, these moths are cutworms and such and we jokingly said that mosquito control types had enough to worry about without worrying about lawn moths. Well, Pete sent us the whole article, which appeared in the *Bulletin of Entomological Research* 58(1): 159-163, in September 1968, and by gosh, it's *fascinating!* The author, a Herr Doktor H. Bänziger, of the Department of Entomology of the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland, not only gives the bloody details but goes on to point out a lot of interesting speculations on the origins of blood-sucking habits in insects such as mosquitoes. For instance, some of the moths in the group are unable to pierce the skin but lap up the blood from small scratches and wounds such as often occur on the bodies of bovines in pasture. Mosquitoes leave such droplets behind, indeed, and may thus be leading the way for their later imitators. Some of these Noctuids apparently get into the blood kick by way of sweat and tears, having started as innocent wine-bibbers from over-ripe fruit. The wound was quite painful to humans and the sawing and oscillating action of the proboscis more violent than with mosquitoes indicating the low order of effective parasitism on the part of the moths, if one takes such painless biters as bed-bugs and some mosquitoes as the top of the scale. But salivation was already part of the drilling process. Himm.

Aloha!