

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

HARRY PRATT WROTE US FROM THE MEETINGS "IN PENANCE FOR NOT HAVING YOUR PERMISSION TO RETIRE AFTER THIRTY YEARS' DUTY WITH PHS" and sent us a write-up of the meetings which is so complete we felt as if we had been there after all.

"The Houston meeting of the AMCA," he wrote, "was one of the best in attendance, with about 600 people. The local Committee of the Texas Mosquito Control Association, composed of JIM MCNEILL, DON MICKS, JOHN SCANLON, PAUL LUDWIG, YOSHIO FUJIMOTO, CHRIS VIESER and DICK JONES had made wonderful arrangements and everything worked out splendidly (to no one's surprise, really). President GLEN COLLETT had a very productive business meeting on Sunday and this was the last meeting for TED RALEY as Executive Secretary. But don't panic! He retired on 1 March 1973 from the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District and assumed his new duties as Executive Director of AMCA at the final business meeting. He and his wife VIOLA, will continue working for AMCA from Selma, California, and this will be the first time the Association has had a full-time, paid administrative staff—and it's been an objective of AMCA for a long, long time, as you all know.

"Treasurer DON MURRAY reported that AMCA was in good financial shape, with assets of approximately \$71,000, some \$20,000 in new monies having been added in 1971 and 1972. We all missed Editor DON COLLINS, recuperating in Albany from an illness, but we were delighted to have the opportunity to see his assistant once more, Mrs. MARGARET SLATER, who has worked so productively on *Mosquito News* these many years."

Don retired as State Entomologist of New York on April 19, 1973, and Harry records that "MANY MEMBERS SAID THEY WOULD WRITE HIM LETTERS OF APPRECIATION FOR THE MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED AND ABSOLUTELY STUPENDOUS EDITING HE HAS GIVEN US," as well as thumbs up for the really rough go he's had lately. (See that you do it, hear? Like, how about a card RIGHT NOW, while you're thinking about it?)

AND SPEAKING OF DON, let us fill you in a little with some background WE didn't know, until MARGARET kindly came through with it. Don came to the New York State Education Department in 1945 and when Dr. Glasgow retired in 1949, he served as Acting State Entomologist until he was appointed State Entomologist in 1951. We were overseas during this time and recall that when we came back in early 1952 and met Don and found out he was the heir to the succession of distinguished entomologists who have served

the Empire State, we well remember how *fitting* we thought it was for him to be so. (There have been only five since the office was established in 1854!) On Don's retirement on 18 April, one of the gifts with which he was presented was a gold plaque inscribed with the names, culminating with his. Don's home will be his office, so write to him there: 290 McCormack Road, Slingerlands, N. Y. 12159. Margaret will do her usual job of gallantly carrying on and BILL BICKLEY has agreed to be an Associate Editor and help. (We suppose this means he'll no longer have time for Notes to us, but we will bravely sacrifice to the Cause.) Get well, Don! Soon. (We're using prayers, ESP and anything else that's handy, to help you!)

To continue from Harry's report: "FRANCIS CREADON announced that his advertising office had added about \$9,600 to AMCA coffers during 1972, which'll sure help defray the costs of our association. HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL reported that in addition to her bibliography there will be an Annual Report published in the Proceedings of the New Jersey Association. (The New Jersey Proceedings Supplement is great; we're mighty glad to have it.) Then there'll be a 20-year compilation in installments, comprising a cumulative bibliography, in various issues of *Mosquito News*. The first one, in this issue, includes her entries for the past 20 years dealing with mosquito parasites and predators.

"TED RALEY announced that as a result of balloting, HAROLD CHAPMAN is our new Vice President for 1973. And four of the five Regional Directors who will take office this year were announced as: JOHN KUSCHKE for the North Atlantic, HAROLD NEWSOM for North Central, JIM LONG for South Central and MARV KRAMER for the South Pacific. ROLLIE DOREE presented the budget of about \$60,000 for 1973 and GLENN STOKES announced that AMCA gained 174 new members (net). We now have about 2400, which is a fur piece from 25 or so Eastern Association of Mosquito Control Workers in 1935 and only 125 as the American Association in 1944." H'ray for us!

"DON MICKS announced that his Awards Committee had voted the Medal of Honor to past Presidents DON REES and TOMMY MULHERN [who have done so much more than be Past Presidents] and the Meritorious Service Award to VERNON CONANT, FRANCIS CREADON and [Ye Scribe, who humbly thanks you all and disavows any worthiness to be listed in such company, but isn't going to turn it down for THAT.]

"When GLEN COLLETT presented the Medal of Honor to TOMMY and to DON, he was presenting it to his first teacher of practical mosquito control

and to his college professor, mentor and present District Board member, so it was a dramatic moment.

"Many members were congratulating JOHNNY MULRENNAN (Sr.) for his Doctor of Science award from the University of Florida which he so richly deserves for his outstanding leadership in vector control and not for mosquito control alone, for so many years.

"In addition to President GLEN COLLETT, President-elect KENNETH KNIGHT, and Vice-President ROBERT ALTMAN, thirteen past Presidents of AMCA attended the meeting: BILL BICKLEY, AL BUZICKY, GEORGE CARMICHAEL, ROLLIE DORER, JAY GRAHAM, DAN JOBBINS, DON MICKS, JOHN MULLRENNAN, TOMMY MULHERN, DICK PETERS, HARRY PRATT, DON REES and JACK ROGERS.

"In a tally over tall drinks, we noted the following people from many parts of the world: JOHN STIVERS from Viet Nam, RAY PARSONS from Malaysia, Captains R. N. WILKINSON and C. L. BAILEY from Thailand, Keynote Speaker AL WEST from Canada, DON PLETSCH from Mexico, V. R. JOSEPH and JALIL KARAN from Haiti, D. WILTON from El Salvador, FREDDY GONZALEZ-VALDIVIESO from Venezuela, M. E. C. GIGLIOLI from the Grand Cayman, and SHELDON WHITE and RAY JOYCE from Hawaii. We hope we haven't left out too many other notables!" We don't see how you could have, Harry. And thanks and thanks for your very full, interesting (and already written-up) Notes!

NOW A NOTE ABOUT HARRY HIMSELF. As one might expect, he is *enjoying* his retirement up to the hilt. He's done some family visiting for the first time in many years, he writes, and anyone caught up in the "romantic" routine of official travel, during which one can seldom see the famous sights or stop to visit the family friends, can sympathize with the joy that brings to Harry. He's done some insect collecting with his son, whom we remember as a quiet, industrious teenager, but he's now a medical entomologist, working for his MS at the University of Georgia under HO LUND and AL WEATHERSBY. (You read about the insect collecting in New England in the December issue, remember?) He's done some consulting work, teaching and stuff. Start coasting, Harry, start *coasting!*

SAM DEWS' new address is Apt. 703 Parkway Towers, at 4545 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64111, and he sends us a picture postcard of Country Club Plaza there, all pretty with lights for Christmas in the early evening glow and lo and behold! There in the middle is Sam's apartment tower with (he says) the middle set of lights on the right center of same being *his apartment*. So when you go to see him, just buy a postcard at the corner Drug and . . . you can't miss it!

IN ONE OF THE LONGEST-AWAITED PROMOTIONS IN HISTORY, THE LEAVES FINALLY TURNED TO SIL-

VER for Lt. Colonel MOUFIED A. MOUSSA on 21 March. He had been on the list since August 1971! (And deserved it sooner.) Moufied is Chief of the Entomological Branch of the Army R & D Command . . . or was — they're in one of their periodic "reorganizations" in the Army . . . which monitors entomological studies around the world. He was born in Cairo (Egypt, not Illinois) and graduated from Cairo University, but then earned his MS and his PhD from the University of Illinois (at Urbana, not Cairo). He entered the military in 1962 and has had tours of duty at the SEATO laboratory in Bangkok, with the Advanced Career Course for Army Medical Department officers at the Academy of Health Sciences (then—and still to us older types—known as the Medical Field Service School) at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. He remained on the staff there until 1971.

Colonel Moussa is proficient in Arabic and has written two Arabic textbooks, as well as scores of articles in Arabic and in the English in which he is equally proficient, needless to add. He belongs to the Entomological Society of America, the Society of the Sigma Xi, the AMCA and appears in American Men of Science . . . and we're proud and happy to know you Colonel Moufied, suh!

WELL BIG FLEAS HAVE LITTLE FLEAS. . . . IT SAYS HERE IN THE ALASKA PEST CONTROL NEWSLETTER, which the USPHS's Arctic Health Research Center has been sending us. "But it's hard," they go on, "to work up much sympathy for mosquitoes, and maybe it's some comfort to realize they have their problems, too." Dr. J. R. GORHAM and his staff have turned up several kinds of Alaskan mosquitoes infected with the protozoan *Thelohania* and others are parasitized by nematodes.

Mosquito populations on the north slope of Alaska, as in much of the Arctic, sometimes reach mind-boggling proportions. For instance, counts on a bare forearm have reached 435 in 5 minutes, or 5,220 an hour. Doing a bit of mental arithmetic, one can see that, at 2.57 ml. of blood per mosquito, a man would lose 7.4 ml. a minute or one-fourth of his blood supply in about three hours and be in imminent danger of death. "Of course, this is a hypothetical case . . .," the Newsletter says, soothingly. But, actually, it's NOT. The Alaskan Indians and the Esquimaux, who did not believe in capital punishment exactly, nevertheless staked lawbreakers out on the tundra naked, as punishment and it was fatal all right. In about three hours. Uh!

WE RECENTLY HAD THE FLATTERING PRIVILEGE OF BEING ASKED TO REVIEW A SCIENTIFIC PAPER BEFORE IT WAS SENT TO AN EDITOR AND IT SET US WONDERING. As you all know if you read this colyum regularly (and of course you do; EVERYBODY docs), we are hung up on a lot of fancy words that we *don't* fancy and circumlocutions that circumlocate *us* completely. But there's one

expression we've used ourselves and a lot of people do, too, and by golly in this paper we suddenly didn't know what the guy meant. What he said was, "On a surface area 20 m². . . ." Now, if you say 1 cc/m², it doesn't really matter if you meant 1 square meter or 1 meter square, but gosh, it sure does make a difference if its 20 m². Is it 20 meters square or 20 square meters you mean, we mean? Well, we've run into this sort of thing several times, since then. Shall we start another crusade? (no) But, still. . . .

VMCA's SKEETER for January and February reported that they were going to have their annual meeting jointly with the North Carolina MCA during 11-13 April, 1973, at Williamsburg, Virginia. (Remember the GREAT meeting AMCA had with them there a few years ago?) On account of our delayed mails (first class we do a month late, third class takes a little longer), we don't know if they did have the meetings, but we assume they did. You'll notice, they've expanded the time frame and we bet they had a good time, too.

BI-LINGUAL UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À TROIS-RIVIÈRES hosted a wonderfully stimulating-sounding seminar on mosquito control, which in French comes out *La Démoustication*, to our uneducated delight. It sounds so much more so, that way . . . mosquito control, we mean. Attended by European, American and Canadian specialists (there's that awkward bit again. Canadians ARE Americans!) the Seminar comprised three days in May of intensive discussion and interchange, particularly on integrated measures and environmental aspects.

J. D. GILLET is OUT WITH A NEW BOOK ABOUT *THE MOSQUITO*, subtitled *Its Life, Activities, and Impact on Human Affairs* which rated a very nice review in the 16 March 1973 issue of *Science* (by HOWARD EVANS) and quite possibly may be reviewed in our own MN—we haven't seen the March issue as we go to press in late April. The Reviewer apparently more than shares our feelings about modern art, for he says, "Presumably there are still a few whose sense of beauty has not been thoroughly corroded by contemporary art and music. They will admire the colored plates in this book: for mosquitoes are indeed things of beauty." He also quotes approvingly from Professor GILLET's own words, that man "is not so easily going to dispose of the mosquitoes; it seems he is going to have to share this planet with them and with many other six-legged creatures for a long time to come . . . the mosquitoes will carry on regardless, as indeed they did for the fifty million years or more before man first began to provide a change of diet and extra breeding places for them."

BOB USINGER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY was published recently by the Pacific Coast Entomological Society and also received a very fine review in the March *Bulletin* of the Entomological Society of

America, as many of you no doubt noticed. Although the reviewer felt that Bob's posthumously-published reminiscences would be of more interest to the "inner circle" of close friends and ardent admirers, this circle was by no means a closed one and many who had a right to Bob's sunny smile only because he never forgot a friend could still be counted among the ardent admirers both of him in person and of his remarkable career and scientific output. Recommended reading.

THE XV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY, which will be held from 19-27 August, 1976, in Washington, D.C., is going to have a distinct AMCA flavor, we suspect. Not that these AMCA'ers aren't Internationally Renowned in more things than mosquitoes, but we're proud that they ARE part of our Loyal Crew. Dr. JOHN OSMUN is Secretary Treasurer, and Drs. BILL EDEN, E. F. KNIPLING, BOB METCALF and WALLY MURDOCH are on the Organizing Committee. Y'all come.

THE OTHER LONGEST-AWAITED-AND-MOST-DESERVED PROMOTION CAME IN DECEMBER TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL DALE W. PARRISH, who is Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Armed Forces Pest Control Board. The leaves turned to silver for him on 4 December of last year and, as with Lt. Col. Moufid Moussa, this autumnal change delighted a host of friends. While Dale was in the Philippines, some years back, he was instrumental in getting a research group organized under Messrs Baisas and Santiago, whom he recalled from retirement from the Department of Health, and this group produced definitive counts and identities for the mosquito fauna surrounding Clark AFB and the Naval Station at Subic Bay, a monumental task.

WELL, WE JUST NOW NOTICED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU SOMETHING ABOUT HELEN'S review of world literature on mosquitoes. The Review for 1971 will be published about mid-1973, which will be soon, now, and a modest \$2.50 is being charged by the New Jersey MCA (that's MEA, really, of course—Extermination) via Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Dr. WILSON, Chairman of the Department at Rutgers and Secretary of the Association, reminds us that the Review was started by the legendary Dr. L. O. Howard and continued by our own FRED BISHOPP for over 20 years, before Helen took over and demolished her spare time by doing it. And it must take heaps of time!

FRED ROBERTS OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY (CALIFORNIA) MAD reported some time ago, and it should have been in here in March, that Dr. RICHARD GARCIA of the University of California is investigating the potentialities of Notonectids as mosquito predators, which sounds like both fertile and unexplored terrain. Every little bit helps in this business and even if they show out to be only a LITTLE helpful, it may tip the balance sometimes so that the mosquitos'll just GIVE UP

(Ha!) . . . at least in a limited breeding site. Good luck!

TED RALEY GOT OFF TO A FLYING START ON 1 MARCH AS OUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. Same old mountain of business. What made it flying was that he could do it in DAYLIGHT HOURS and with unwearied hand and eye, as the hymn says. Although he was talking mainly about rather large expenses, too, publications and such, for once he didn't poor-mouth even a little. Just advised prudence. With him guiding the office, we don't really have to worry about THAT.

CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S BEEN HAVING SOME VERY TRENCANT MEETINGS, too, lately. You know, all this anti-intellectualism we're all suffering under isn't entirely bad, if you look at it right. It IS making us lay our plans a bit more systematically, so's the world can see that what we do is economical and worthwhile, as well as just us knowing it inside ourselves. Anyway, the stimulus has certainly set a lot of stuff charging down the pike. One of the things, naturally, is CMCA's plans for the big joint meeting next year. In addition to the superlative arrangements we have come to expect (although we DO wish they'd call it Anaheim instead of DISNEYLAND, which jars our comptroller), they hope to have a good deal of experience to swap in discussions on water management, biological control and employee certification programs.

PAT NAKAGAWA AND HIS STAFF OF THE HAWAII BUREAU OF VECTOR CONTROL are still busily (and far too inconspicuously) going about their mosquito control business so that many newcomers and most tourists don't think Hawaii HAS any real mosquito problem . . . since King Kalakaua built the Moana Hotel and projected draining the swamp back of Waikiki. Well, they're not menehune (the "little men" of Hawaii) but they do slip around unseen, digging a little here, planting a few fish there—some to eat the algae that hide the mosquito larvae and some to eat the larvae—turning over the beer cans and bottles that nestle in every clump of bushes and dooryard. One of the best of the new fish is turning out to be the Panchax or "Kill Fish," *Aplocheilichthys lineatus*, not one of their "instant" fish, but a voracious wiggler

gobbler, according to GEORGE KOMATSU. While busy in Hawaii, BVC also has JIMMY IKEDA in Japan, living it up near Nara in cherry blossom time (po're soul), teaching community mosquito control under the aegis of the famed Tenri Buddhist Center. The community action Dr. MILT FLEMINGS started farther south so long ago is still going on and we're sure JIMMY's will stay in bloom for many a year to come. And that's more good People to People.

EVERYONE WE KNOW HAS SUDDENLY STARTED ASKING US WHEN WE PLAN TO RETIRE and we guess we *should* be thinking about it . . . although we hadn't, really, until they all took an interest. Oh, we've thumbed a bit more slowly through the pages in *H & G* that advertise mobile homes and we joined the Grasshoppers recently. (That's an organization of people who make up charter flights to here and there, like Europe or someplace we haven't been, and then sort of bum around on their own for a month until the plane picks them up again.) But we figured we still had a bit more to do, a year or so, maybe. Then THIS happened. We *threw out* the yellow cards of the Movers-arounders we had piled up so *carefully* on our desk! And all at once, it hit us. We're getting senile! shux. So if all you good people who MOVED recently and we haven't noted it and you're not on the LAM or anything, if you'll just write us . . . a *card* will do . . . saying where you are now and what you're up to. How about it?

So we're going to go lie on the beach and recoup. . . .

ALOHA

WELL, AFTER WE SAID OUR GOODBYES ABOVE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING IN JUNE we discovered that *we are* RETIRING, too, at the end of the FY and what about that? So, we'll be in the market for some of those good expert advising jobs, only, of course (sob) we don't know enough for THAT. And don't take this for meaning you don't need to send in any more Notes. Our travel may be more erratic now for a bit but we'll get the copy out on time (Mrs. Slater!) TOM LAURET is carrying on and will bring us our mail. So . . . once more. . . .

ALOHA!