NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, IR.

THE USUALLY FISCALLY-MINDED WALL STREET JOURNAL BENT AN ABSTRACTED EYE ON PUBLIC HEALTH THIS SUMMER when about the first news out of Saigon after the "Fall" was that an epidemic of hemorrhagic fever was raging there, while in Mississippi an outbreak of St. Louis strain encephalitis had authorities worried. 10 September, they went all-out with a quite considerable coverage of the SLE as it spread to Chicago, and WEE broke out in North Dakota and Minnesota, while cases of SLE began to pop up in Texas, Tennessee, North Dakota, Indiana, Alabama, Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Jersey, Georgia and even Michigan. The article quoted Don Eliason that the number of cases was above that of any previous years except 1956, 1964 and 1966, and Don warned that it would not be over until mosquito-breeding was. While fingers were pointed at "poor sanitary conditions" in the South, it was evident even to tyros that sanitation to a mosquito-control type doesn't end with garbage disposal. JIM PAULY pointed out to them that, to us, the water held in urns filled with old flowers in the many cemeteries was a health measure, too. Especially, with an avian population at an all-time high (despite DDT!).

We are glad to note, both in the quotes of the Wall Street Journal and in clippings we received from various places, that newspapers were laying the blame right where it belonged . . on miserly funding of mosquito-control agencies. As Don Newson pointed out, in Michigan, despite repeated attempts, there is still no enabling legislation for mosquito control, but "This may be the year!"

IN FAIRNESS TO THE WSJ, WE SHOULD STATE THAT THEY HAD RUN A NICE ARTICLE A FEW DAYS BEFORE, ON 19 AUGUST to be exact, about the mosquito control research program being conducted by Bruce Taylor and David Larson and their assistants taking landing and biting counts. They've had the usual corollaries of a control program, in people wanting it all done by a quick pass with a sprayer or fogger (preferably by airplane) and complaining thereafter if they get ONE bite. We were happy that the WSI gave that the full treatment.

INASMUCH AS MOST NEWSPAPERS EXCEPT WSJ NEVER DATE ANYTHING ANYMORE, we don't know WHEN it happened but the San Francisco Chronicle gave a page 2 box to the airplane spraying of Clevcland, whose "entire 48,951 acres" were "blanketed with the insecticide Melathion" shortly after 2 pm, applying about 3 ounces per acre. We guess we all have mixed reactions to news accounts like that. We wondered how it all came out.

And SEVERAL people who commented to us on the news accounts added that, "Gosh, they'd thought GENE GEREERG was the only mosquito man who could make the Wall Street Journal. Of course, he IS the only financier among us. (Whaddaya say, Gene? Howdy.)

DON NEWSON REPORTED THAT THE OHIO MOS-QUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S TENTH ANNUAL MEETING was a very fine one and as usual very timely and informative. The event was saddened by the sudden death by a massive heart attack of its long-time stalwart and and Secretary-Treasurer Dick Schroeder on August 29. His wife, JEAN SCHROEDER took over his duties in the heroic tradition and plans to continue working to assure that his ambitious plans for the Ohio group do not sag. She was formally, and gratefully, elected to the position for the coming year, along with DICK BERRY and EARL PAULUS, as Prex and Vice-President, respectively. In addition to the program, there was a field trip to the Toledo District and field demonstrations of ULV equipment and formulations, about which there were a number of good papers. Don says Peg Parsons and Dick BERRY were unable to attend because of their activities in beefing up the mosquito control vs. SLE. Far from confined to the afore-mentioned aerial spraying, needless to say, they were doing what Don aptly describes as "old-fashioned shoe leather epidemiology.'

He goes on to say that in Michigan, the Commissioners of Bay, Saginaw and Midland Counties have formed a Tri-County Mosquito Control Commission that is working toward the establishment of a three-county mosquito control district. Don feels the widespread concern over the outbreak has done a lot to reinforce the public support for mosquito control activities and he thinks this eleventh-hour support, together with the activities of the new Commissioner may put the thing over. Heartless in a way, but we always used to say on Okinawa that there was nothing like an epidemic to get us support for encephalitis control. We remember some Generals whom we went to see in early Spring....

Ah, well. Plus ça change plus c'est la même chose as we Fractured French students say.

MEANWHILE AT THE 21ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, THERE WAS A GOOD DEAL OF DISCUSSION OF ST. LOUIS ENCEPHALITIS, too, along with such control techniques as ULV and aerial application, but not forgetting Gambusia and water management. One paper, though, intrigued us. It was on the Killer Bee that was a 3-day wonder on the 6 o'clock news some time back. Tell us, you guys who were there, was this Bee going to kill off the

mosquities or keep folks INDOORS where they couldn't get bitten by mosquitoes?

SOMEONE UNIDENTIFIED HAS SENT US IN A MOMENT OF LEVITY A SMALL PLEA WHICH WE FIND BOTH PATHETIC AND AMUSING, SO WE THOUGHT WE'D SHARE IT. It is addressed to the Faculty and Staff and is "Re: Payroll." It goes:

"Please notify your hourly labor and student employee's to submit time sheets by wednesday in order to process and meet deadlines that are laid

out by the University.

"This will alleviate the problems that seem to occur by late submission of time and results in pay checks either being with-held until next pay period, or walking through after the pay date, which in turn results in a 90% pay received.

"In most cases, patricularly with the student, the 10% with-held is for income tax which they are not obligated to pay. This causes many misunder-

standings. . . ."

One is forced in this ever more exasperatingly complex world to sympathize with the poor lady who penned this. Obviously, she has a real problem, not only with the pay-roll department but with the sentence structure and spelling of the English language. As one who has similar problems (not with pay-roll!), we can but hope that MOST of the recipients of her communique knew what she was driving at. We never processed a deadline ourself and we certainly devoutly hope we never have to watch a pay check walking through anything, before or after a pay date. As for the unfairly taxed students ! gosh.

BACK TO BUSINESS. THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S ENTOMOLOGY SEMINAR at South Lake Tahoe and you know where THAT is, don't you? covered land use planning, solid waste disposal, application of Culex tarsalis population data to descriptive and statistical models of encephalitis viral activity (that would be BILL REEVES, natch), filariasis in California, and leishmaniasis in the New World. Inasmuch as the Gov just signed a bill allowing certain favored few in the wealthier areas of the lake to dump their sewage RAW into the water supply that drains eventually lakeward, that solid waste problem discussion may well have included a little chit-chat about liquid wastes as well. We hope that the Culex tarsalis and C. pipiens, once nonexistent in the area, do not now exceed the Ae. sierrensis population. Oh, we forgot to say, the program didn't even MENTION Keno, roulette, faro, 21, or even one-arm bandits! Odd.

IN ADDITION TO EXPOSURE IN WSJ DETAILED ABOVE, MOSQUITO CONTROL BROKE INTO YANKEE, that inimitable magazine beloved of all who have sojourned even briefly in Yankeeland, (east of the Hudson River). Oscar Doane and BILL Wall and their work against greenheads rated a page of text and a pageful of color photographs in the July issue of that fascinating little mag.

Greenhead flies, as all hunters know, are the

deer fly Tabanus nigrovittatus, and along with ice-cold water to swim in, they constitute the ONLY drawbacks to enjoyment of the pristine New England summer. In case you don't know, that's July and August, as opposed to Winter, which is the rest of the year save Indian Summer, God's gift to the Indian (to make up for the White Problem He was soon to send him), and Indian Summer comes with breath-taking color in October. Greenheads make swimming miserabler because the only escape is to stay in the water, turning blue. But Bill and Oscar solved that by a "simple" box trap, with plywood sides, a screen top and two screens underneath slanting up to a narrow slit. They cost only about \$20 each, which appeals to any true Yankee, and requires no lure of any kind. "Before we set out the boxes in 1970," Oscar is quoted as saying, "we sprayed the areas of heaviest fly concentration. We averaged 200 phone calls per season either complaints about the flies or the spraying. The first year with the traps, we got two. Both people wanted plans to build boxes for themselves." The boxes are about two feet long, we judge from the pix, and maybe 18 inches wide and deep, and they stand on four legs another 18 inches or so off the ground. Bill says one fellow over at Woods Hole thinks maybe the flies think the boxes are some sort of large animal and try to fly underneath them to bite where it's tender and the blood is near. Whatever, the boxes work and environmentalists are pleased not only to be unbitten but to have the delicate marsh environment undisturbed . . . or at least no more than removal of so many flies accomplishes unavoidably. Some 300 boxes have caught over 2.5 million flies in a season, 99% of them females (and thus biters). No chauvinism intended, ladies; that's just how it is.

WE TOLD YOU ABOUT THE MID-ATLANTIC MOS-QUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION FORMED BY VIRGINIA, NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA. Well, their First Annual meeting will be 3–5 March 1976 at the DeSoto Hilton . . . not, alas, the lovely old De Soto but nevertheless in lovely old Savannah and, we should guess, right in azalea season. Oscar Fultz and the Georgia Mosquito Control Association are preparing the program. See Spring in Savannah and then trundle right up to Cape Cod and see it all over again in Boston! ROILIE DORER (of Virginia!) and L. A. WIL-LIAMS, JR., (of South Carolina . . . who said Virginia and South Carolina didn't speak?) are President and Vice-President, by the way.

CAPTAIN JOE McWILLIAMS OF THE ARMED FORCES PEST CONTROL BOARD SENDS US A NICE BATCH OF NEWS ABOUT OUR MILITARY TYPES. Among them, he notes that COLONEL BILL PEARSON is now Chief of Radiation and Environmental Sciences at the Army Environmental Health Activity, changing with COLONEL BILL YOUNG who is now Entomology Services Chief in the Office of the Surgeon General. Major John Reinart

has left Walter Reed Army Institute of Research to become Chief, Entomology Research Branch in the HQ of the Army R&D Command in Washington, Colonel Paul Foley has joined the Retired Entomologists and Lt. Col. Ernie Irons has taken his place as Chief of the Entomology Branch of the Academy of Health Sciences at Ft. Sam. (All these new names for things are MI-I-I-TY impressive! But these guys are really working there, behind all that facade.) HAROLD RUSSELL also joined us Retired Reserves, but it doesn't count because by golly, he's working with BoB ALTMAN . . . and working with Bob ain't anything like being retired, bub! Lt. Col. WES Nowell has gone out to renew acquaintance with the Philippines at the Headquarters of the First Medical Service Wing, based at Clark Field, and Commander Sheldon White left Honolulu to be replaced there by LCDR LARRY LEWIS; and ED TRIVETTE, BILL HULL and HARRY FALLERS retired, Bill to Rockville, Maryland (home), Harry staying in San Diego, and we don't know where Ed went. (Ed?)

And from another source, we add that John Einmo tore himself loose from Guam but couldn't give up the tropics so he's headed back to the Caribbean and, we hear, is going to work there with Glenn Stokes. Glenn, are you going to BE there, too? Or just OWN the outfit? We can't allow you to go off too far from AMCA, Glenn!

WE CAN'T LEAVE THE RETIREMENT SUBJECT WITHOUT TELLING YOU ABOUT BOB ELBEL. Seems Bob "retired" and moved over to Lewis Nielsen's laboratory, where Lew had generously provided him with lab and desk space and Bob set happily to work on some of his notes and got out a paper on a new species of Oriental bird lice and then lo! Uncle Sugar decided to un-retire him while he un-fouled some of the mountainous piles of needless paper which accompany a Federal retirement and usually get fouled up to some extent. This time it was serious. But, luckily, All's Well that Ends Well, as Shakespeare reminded us. After Bob and George Crane had spent some five months analysing mosquito-arbovirus data and nearly finished three more manuscripts, Uncle let him retire again, though no one at Dugway is likely to believe THAT. But Bob says it's GREAT! And he's back with Lew. He also disclosed an unsuspected (by us) talent when he wrote on two lovely postcards of his own fabrication, consisting of color photographs of the most beautiful sort of two beautifully exotic insects. Wish you could all see them!

PREXY "CHAPPIE" CHAPMAN WROTE US QUITE A TIME BACK, WE'RE ASHAMED TO ADMIT, TO TELL US ABOUT DAN JOBBINS, WHO SUFFERED A STROKE EARLY IN JULY AND HAS BEEN HOSPITALIZED. We know he'd like a letter. He's been having a rough go but was making progress the last we heard and we surely hope he's made a lot more since. Chappie said he'd seen CARROLL SMITH in

Fort Myers recently and he was fit and enjoying retirement as was Gaines Eddy, who's in Corvallis (Oregon), of course.

LES BRAUMBAUGH WAS ALSO VICTIM OF A RATHER SERIOUS STROKE IN SEPTEMBER and we're glad to be able to report he's making a recovery but is far from being out of the woods. He won't be up to answering but we know he'd surely appreciate a letter or two.

HENRY RUPP, WHO ALSO WROTE ABOUT MANLEY, SAID NEW JERSEY WAS HAVING ITS PROBLEMS LATELY IN MOSQUITO CONTROL. Not in controlling mosquitoes. People. As if the current know-nothing politicians weren't enough of a curse, they've had a nuisance suit from an "environmentalist" who objected to stream-clearing. Sound familiar? Sadly, all too, isn't it? If these kooks really knew anything ABOUT the environment, we wouldn't object. We've noted with interest, however, some wee signs of spring in the daily papers and even on TV, where a few faint voices are beginning to pipe up about maybe we shouldn't let EPA rush into banning things after all, without taking into account expert opinion . . . some of it, as we know, in their own offices. One recent editoral on food as a weapon vis-a-vis OPEC, even went so far as to say right out that food and disease might still be more important problems world-wide than theoretics.

BILL BURGOYNE IS NOW THE NORTHERNMOST PESTICIDE MAN IN THE U.S., FOR HE IS NOW WITH THE ALASKA CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT REGU-LATING PESTICIDES AND TRAINING USERS. Clutching a shiny, new PhD degree from Lew NIELSEN and trailing clouds of still brightly-remembered experience with Norm Akesson, working on ULV at Davis (California), BILL is now located on Lake Lucille, 45 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska and only 800 miles from the pole (NORTH). As a hell-for-leather skiier, it won't be long before he's sour-dough flying a ski-plane, opines TOMMY MULHERN. Bill's house is about 50 feet from the lakeshore, looking over 4 miles of water to the Chugach Mts. and the Knik Glacier. His wife, Bonnie, is thrilled to be there too, what with flowers in summer bloom, the view eastward over the lake, the friendliness of the neighbors and their arriving by scaplane. His new address is P.O. Box 821, Wasilla, Alaska 99687. We'd sure like to visit him (wouldn't you?) but we've BEEN to the arctic in winter so we'll make it in late July! Lots of mosquitoes then, eh? Good hunting, Bill!

Another Bill . . . Dr. Bill Rogoff has on hand a supply of copies of the recently reprinted usda tech. Bul. 1447, "Mosquitoes of the Northwestern United States" by Gaines Eddy and C. M. Gjullin, we mentioned. As long as they last, Bill can supply them and he's making enquiries to the Supt. of Public Documents, who apparently isn't caught up on what's available in

his vast stores. Bill doesn't want to EMBARRASS the Supt. but it IS there, somewhere.

OF COURSE WE MAY HAVE MAD'S RAISING MOSQUITOES FOR FISH FOOD ONE OF THESE DAYS! Those of you who belong to ESA and have had time to read your bulletin, may have read with interest a very thoughty article in the September issue by our own GENE DEFOLLART, entitled, "Insects as a Source of Protein." Gene discounts the likelihood we'll take to eating grubs, as the Indians did . . . and found tasty . . . but points out that insects make good initial food for some animals we DO eat and can even be used as fertilizer. No foolin'. We didn't know that.

And not all of that huge lot of money going to opec is going to pay for capillacs and gambling in Las Vegas, you'll be glad to know. Some of it is going to MOSQUITO CONTROL. That's the word from N. H. Lin who's in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia. They've eliminated all the large swamps, initiated controlled irrigation (vs. haphazard flooding), interrupted the chains of malarial transmission in the large oases and have had nothing but imported cases (and few of them) since 1973. And their program, since 1971, has not had to be interrupted for lack of funds right at the height of the transmission season. So that's a big plus and we're glad to learn of it and wish them bonne chance.

BOTHA DE MEILLON REMINDS US THAT "FELIX QUI POTUIT VERUM CONOSCERE CAUSAS" AND WRITES FROM TZANEEN IN THE TRANSVAAL OF SOUTH AFRICA in answer to Tommy MULHERN's question about what good are mosquitoes to anyone. "Nobel prizes, knighthoods, gold and silver medals and numerous other honours and distinctions," he points out, "have resulted from the study of mosquitoes. These beasties have given me a full and rewarding life; I have seen and lived in countries not ordinarily accessible, I have educated two daughters and have never lacked for the common requirements of a full and fruitful life. In my old age, while contemporaries are moaning about the trials and tribulations of life, I am having a happy and interesting time pursuing with vigour-maybe slightly diminishedmy interest in mosquitoes. There are many like myself in this world and you ask if mosquitoes have some useful and beneficial purpose!" Amen.

ED CHENG PUTS IN A STRONG PITCH FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS AS A MEANS OF INCREASING TOTAL AMGA MEMBERSHIP AND AT THE SAME TIME BUILDING STRONGER PARTICIPATION FOR THE FUTURE. We ourself have never thought it was necessarily true that an 18-year old who is "old enough to fight is old enough to vote" . . . though we DID think so at 18. So we aren't much for student memberships with voting privileges as some Societies have done. But we do think his idea has merit. He says, "How about a GRADUATE

student??" And we'll buy that, all right. Better think about it, it may come up at Boston. You'll be there, of course.

IT DARKENED OUR DAY AS WE KNOW IT DID YOURS TO LEARN OF BOB VANNOTE'S DEATH. BOB WAS MR. AMCA FOR SO MANY YEARS. It was a title he shared with others quite gladly: ROLLIE DORER, MANLEY JOBBINS, TOMMY MULHERN, HARRY STAGE. But just the same, so often he was THE Mr. AMCA. The role of National Adviser was sort of created just for him, we always thought, and the benefits of that relationship will go on being with us. As will the memory of his good humor when, once or twice, the discussions in Business Meetings got a little bit brisk.

THE ESA BULLETIN HAD A MOST INFORMATIVE PAPER ON THE HIGHLIGHTS IN MEDICAL ENTOMOL-OGY IN 1974 WHICH SHOULD HAVE APPEARED IN OUR TOURNAL WE EXPECT EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT IT WAS READ AT THE ESA MEETINGS IN MIN-NEAPOLIS. Anyway, in it DICK DARSIE and HARRY PRATT wrapped up a lot of valuable mosquito control data and brought together some very heartening news of good progress. Among the most interesting might be the work by AMCA'ers Breeland, Lofgren, Dame, Weidhaas, et als., et als., on chemosterilized male Anopheles albimanus, the success of which may lead to larger projects in Central America. Not every aspect of Uncle Sugar is imperialist in Panama and her neighbors, seems as if! One part of the report, on onchocerciasis control via blackfly control in the Volta River Basin, incidentally, hit the 6 o'clock TV news and we began getting calls inquiring about it before we'd had a chance to find out what Harry and Dick SAID!

OTHER NEWS: RAYMOND C. "BUSH" BUSHLAND received the Distinguished Service Award in agriculture from Kansas State University, George Crate has been named Clark Professor of Biology at Notre Dame, Don Weidhaas and Bob Metcale were among those invited by the (People's) Republic of China to visit Peking (Peiping), Shanghai, Shensi, Szechwan and other places, and ex-Prex Bob Altman received a scroll from the State of Maryland to commend him for having been OUR President.

ROGER STASIAK, WHO LEFT A PROMISING NAVY CARLER TO PURSUE FURTHER STUDIES AND IS NOW DOCTOR STASIAK, has returned to California and is now teaching at the California State University in Northridge, which Los Angeles shoves up against the Tehatchepais. He'll be teaching vector control, says once you're into mosquito control you can't leave it alone. Habit-forming. After he left the University of Arizona, Roger was at the University of North Carolina, working on Nacyleria fowleri, the agent of primary amoebic meningoencephalitis. But is that mosquito-borne, Roger? Welcome home!

TOMMY MULHERN'S TRIP TOOK IN MOSTLY PLACES HE'S BEEN A LOT BEFORE, MANILA, SINGA-PORE, KUALA LUMPUR, PENANG, BANGKOK, KARACHI, ISLAMBAD, LAHORE, GENEVA, WASHING-TON. Poor Tommy. Must have been a bore! But, of course, Tommy's NEVER bored. In London, he saw Drs. B. R. Laurence, D. S. Bertram and George Davidson and, for about five minutes, McWilson Warren, He talked with Dr. F.I.C. Apted, Editor of the famed "Tropical Diseases Bulletin." In Frankfort, Germany, he saw Hannes Laven. Tommy even enjoyed his Russian ship, the Mikhail Lermontov, even if he did freeze "half the time." He visted HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL'S new bibliographic quarters with 40-count 'cm-40 file cabinets (not drawers, CABINETS) and she told him SHE had a great trip, too. When he got home, he found his staff had done some bibliographic work, themselves, and he now has two giant Rolexes with an alphabetical and author index of ALL the papers published in M.N. So you won't need US any more! Just phone. (200) 227-6676. Y'r welcome.

MOSQUITO NEWS HAS A NEW SISTER PUBLICATION IN THE BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS and Welcome Aboard! Volume 1 had articles by AMCA'ers E. F. LEGNER, ERIC WORKMAN, HARVEY MAGY, GAIL GROTHAUS, and GIL CHALLET, covering Gambusia, Tilapia, and the (to us) interesting and threatening house fly relative, Musca sorbens, the one that breeds in animal droppings (including dog and human) and CLINGS to your face, neck and any exposed skin until you think you'll go crazy. The Australians call it the Bush Fly and say, "You'll get used to it, myte." Ha.

BUT WHAT WE MEANT TO NOTE IS that this nifty little volume is beautifully set in print by John Shanafelt. Shanny, as most of you know, has left mosquito control (but not his interest in it) for his passionate hobby of printing, at which he is even MORE expert.

THE NORTHWEST MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CON-

TROL Association is also putting out a nice little news letter called, *Vector News*, which we may have mentioned before, this being the second volume. Number 2 brought news of their 15th Annual Meeting at the Tyee Motor Inn in Olympia (Washington), on 7, 8 and 9 October. And also news of the new manager of Adams County MCD, at Othello, a Mr. Frank Cowell, who will carry on for Fred Bliss. Fred, the District's first manager, was there for 13 years, and a hard act to follow.

GIL CHALLET'S ORANGE COUNTY MAD REPORT ALWAYS HAS SUCH A WEALTH OF STATISTICAL MA-TERIAL ON BIOLOGICS, ECONOMICS, LOGISTICS AND ALL THAT that we wondered how on earth he could do that and mosquito control, too. cept that our spies told us he did . . . and, of course, we all saw it for ourselves a year or so ago. Then we noted a long table of wage scales ... one of which ran up to a pay grade 104 ... 5.600 a MONTH! That explains it. He's got a statistician on his staff. (Oh, was that a decimal place) Anyway, he's also got STUART Long who, among other things has been running down where all the flies come from. With the "environmentalists" suing to challenge even the concept of controlling "valuable species" and thus disturbing the "environment," this is not a frivolous concern. F'rinstance, in his 15 x 30 garden, when he did some snail control with metaldehyde, he got upwards of 250 Phaenicia (the above mentioned sorbens breeds in dead snails, too). Gil's got a right-on school education program, too. With movies.

Meanwhile both Howard Greenfield's Salinas Valley (California) mad and Fred Roberts' Alameda County mad are concerned with the problems inherent in Puddleges, mandare of increasing importance and will be real headaches if the fish-inhibiting algae can't be cleared out. We read recently that one "environmentalist" had even sued . . . in Florida? . . . to prevent release of Gambusia as being "harmful to the ecology of the environment"! On that note we'll close!