

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

WE IN AMCA WEREN'T READY TO DO WITHOUT FRANK CREADON QUITE YET, IF WE EVER WOULD HAVE BEEN, AND WE SHALL MISS HIM IN MANY WAYS. NOT THE LEAST (YET NOT THE MOST EITHER) WILL BE AS THE MANAGER WHO BUILT UP AND KEPT ACTIVELY INCREASING THE ADVERTISING BASE UPON WHICH SO MUCH OF OUR PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES HAVE DEPENDED. The quiet inflow of money and interested support from our advertising friends, vital in our early years, has contributed in no small measure to the strength of AMCA. Even more will we miss Frank as a friend and as a most active member of our Association. The meeting in April won't seem the same. But it isn't as we saw him at meetings that we always think of Frank. Whenever his memory flashes into mind, we see him as we saw him years ago in his church, singing the Mass with his beloved and famed Paulist Choir. It was after that that we realized that one thing that made Francis special. He carried it with him.

DR. GEORGE GIGLIOLI'S YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS CONTINUE TO BEAR FRUIT, FOR THE GOVERNOR OF THOSE ISLANDS REMEMBERED ABOUT MOSQUITO CONTROL AND HAS SENT TO AMCA'ers for help. Drs. E. J. BIRFLRT, WILLIAM BIDLINGMAYER, MAURICE PROVOST and JACK ROGERS received engraved invitations in October to visit Grand Cayman in November for some 5 days to study the current extent of the mosquito problem and to make recommendations concerning the control measures under way or proposed by the Mosquito Research and Control Unit. We've asked for a report!

THAT'S WHAT WE WROTE IN OCTOBER FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE. UNFORTUNATELY, WE DIDN'T SEND IT TO THE PRINTER SOMEHOW! *Mea culpa*. But JACK ROGERS did send us a report and here it is:

"As most AMCA members know, Dr. Marco Giglioli is the director of mosquito control on the Caymans and together with his charming wife Jean (who is also Marco's chief technician) were the hosts of the visiting entomologists." John, Maurice and Bill . . . who are all at Vero Beach, as of course you know . . . and Jack, who a.o.c.y.k. also is at Panama City (Florida), all deplaned on 10 November at George Town, capital city of Grand Cayman and were met by the Giglioli's and started on five days of well-planned and well-filled discussions and observations and evenings of gracious hospitality.

"It was quickly observed by the visiting team that Marco and his staff have subdued in a few short years a vicious salt-marsh mosquito problem of a magnitude that most mosquito workers never see in their lifetimes. Most of the population of

Grand Cayman, a 6 x 16 mile island, is concentrated at or near George Town, on the Western Peninsula. And, literally, just 'across the street' from the resort beaches along much of the peninsula are the mangrove swamps that comprise the tidal marshes of the large, shallow North Sound, which divides the Western Peninsula from the less populated eastern end of the island.

"Marco is using large backhoes to construct tidal access canals in the limestone-coral substrate of the black mangrove swales with very effective results. Fortunately, the same people whose environment previously was 'polluted' by the hordes of mosquitoes also issue the 'permits' to dig the canals, so there is no problem there. Perhaps what is needed near Washington and some state capitals is some large virgin mangrove swamps." (Alas! Why didn't we leave the "Runs" near Washington when we had them, and the sloughs near Sacramento!—Ed.)

"For those mosquitoes that have not yet felt the blow of the backhoe bucket, a very effective aerial adulticide is applied at dusk, the peak of activity of *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. A few swaths up-wind of the beaches keeps that side of the street comfortable for residents and visitors for the remainder of the night."

Jack says the team was most impressed by the good work of the Mosquito Research and Control Unit, by the beauty of the island and by the friendliness of everyone and by the "Southern" hospitality showered upon them. We envy them what was obviously a very pleasant visit.

ONE OF THE ITEMS WE DID MANAGE TO SEND IN TO THE EDITOR WASN'T WRONG EXACTLY BUT IT WASN'T EXACTLY RIGHT EITHER. Without having seen it, MICHAEL LOVING, who is Public Relations Chairman for the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association and the new coalition Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association, happened to write to us about their meeting early this month at the DeSoto in Savannah and we note that there are SIX of them in the group: Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and South Carolina. We didn't mean to belittle them and we know they're off to a flying start.

UNCLE HARRY STAGE FLEW TO SHREVEPORT FOR CHRISTMAS WITH HIS SON'S FAMILY and there was met by an associate who drove him to Mexico and Guatamala to collect orchids. He expects to be gone until April or May and doesn't say what he expects in the way of highway incidents like flat tires in Yucatan. WE expect he'll surmount them with his usual good humor and hope he finds a careful of plants, all impatient to bloom in Oregon.

THE REPORT OF THE 1974 JOINT FAO/WHO

MEETING HAS RECENTLY BEEN ISSUED AS TECHNICAL REPORT SERIES 574 OF WHO, entitled, "Pesticide Residues in Food," which many of you have no doubt seen. We were glad to see that the Report, which is exceedingly thorough and painstaking, it seems to us, took cognizance of the fact that the amounts of a pesticide which might be found clinically to cause tumors may be widely different from any conceivable amount which could be expected to occur in one's food; and the Report set its acceptable daily intakes (or ADI's) accordingly. This elementary fact seems to have escaped the understanding of the EPA and we hope that the Report becomes required reading for them.

THE NATIONAL PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INCIDENTALLY, WAS KIND ENOUGH TO SEND US INFORMATION ON THE EPA ADMINISTRATOR'S PESTICIDE POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE. While the membership still includes some self-styled "scientists" whose lack of objectivity has been somewhat alarming to us laborers in the vineyard lately, we are glad to see among those named a number of AMCA'ers and others whose scientific balance and emotional control are definitely reassuring. Included, among others, are DAVE PIMENTEL, JOHN OSMUN and LUCILLE STICKEL, as well as PHILIP SPEAR of NPCA itself. Of course, We'd have nominated our own BILL HAZELTINE, who continues to take on the mindless giant.

BILL ALSO SENT US A XEROX OF A PAPER BY HARRY HOOGSTRAAL and MARSHALL LAIRD, which appeared in *Environmental Conservation* 2 (2): 1975, entitled, "Disease Hazards Associated with Bird Importations." In it, Marshall and Harry point out the heedlessness with which animals and particularly birds are jetted from one side of the globe to the other these days, which, among other hazards to health, may result in introducing host pools into areas into which vector species have already by the same means, been introduced. To be thought about.

AND IF YOU THINK THAT'S GOING PRETTY FAR AFIELD TO FIND PROBLEMS FOR MOSQUITO CONTROLLERS, GO WATCH WHAT COMES IN AND OUT OF AN AIRPORT EVERY DAY (SAY HONOLULU'S) but as we've been telling you for years, the ramifications of vector control are getting wider and wider. For instance, CALIFORNIA VECTOR VIEWS had a recent issue on the cost of hauling away abandoned autos found cluttering up the environment. (If you think abandoned autos DON'T clutter the environment, you are more fortunate than most in the make-up of your *Aedes* population!)

JUANITA and ART LINDQUIST in THEIR INDOMITABLE CAMPER SET OUT FOR NEW ORLEANS AND THE ESA MEETINGS, having completed a year of travel which included Jasper National Park (Canada), Edmonton, Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico and double Texas. They left Kansas ahead of a blizzard (quick thinking) and found

it cold as far down as Jackson, Mississippi. In New Orleans, they had a chance to cheer for outgoing Prexy (and AMCA's) KEN KNIGHT and to renew auld lang syne with such as BEV and GEORGE HUTTON and Ye Ed.

ALSO PERIPATETIC WERE SALLY and HAN SCHENKER WHO ARE STILL RETIRED IN NEW ENGLAND but found time to get south for a visit to SAM HILL, JOE POOLE and WALLY MURDOCH. THEY went to Canada, too, tooling around the Gaspé peninsula in a Winnebago (WE went practically in a covered wagon in OUR day, over washboard roads. Such luxury!) and doing Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick as well.

BOB ALTMAN SENDS US A NOTE ABOUT ELWOOD LYNCH WHO RETIRED AT THE END OF DECEMBER. Elwood, long identified with Maryland, was born in Delaware and began his mosquito control career there with the CCC, which later evolved into the Delaware mosquito control program. In January 1951 he started work with the Dade County (Florida) Mosquito Control District, leaving there in 1956 to come to Maryland. A farewell dinner in Elwood's honor was planned, as we write this, for 30 January at the Holiday Inn in Easton, Maryland. Welcome aboard, Elwood!

WOW! WE REALLY GOOFED LAST ISSUE TELLING YOU ABOUT THE TRIPS HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL and TOMMY MULHERN TOOK TO YURROB and PLACES. HELEN had written her note on the ANSWER part of one of those little Lettergram things TOMMY uses and we dumb and happy just typed right along and never NOTICED! It was HELEN who saw all those people in London. . . . Drs. B. R. Laurence, D. S. Bertram, George Davidson, and all . . . and she saw HANNES LAVEN. She even froze on the Russian ship, while enjoying it, and she doesn't think Tommy would notice freezing on any ship, he'd be so busy taking pictures and talking to people and like that, and we think so too. Not that Tommy's been IDLE, what with Kuala Lumpur and all. And sorry about that, though it DID gain us a nice letter from Helen. Maybe you'd better send your notes to Tommy's Newsletter, as we advised in that paragraph, after all. More ACCURATE.

AMONG OTHER DUTIES TOMMY'S ALWAYS BUSY SENDING US NEWSY ITEMS and one of them is about mosquitoes and their lore as garnered by the New Jersey Bell's *Tel-news* and sent to all their subscribers . . . a pretty good ad for New Jersey mosquito controllers! Seems back in Colonial days, the Indians were said to use "oyle of fishes, the fat of eagles and the grease of Rackoons" as repellents and early Swedish settlers along the Delaware gave one place the name "Myggenborg" or Mosquito Castle. Thomas Fairfax of Virginia, crossing the meadows between Newark and Jersey City estimated that his horse lost 30 ounces of blood from 300 mosquitoes biting at any given moment. Folks never dared go near the New

Jersey swamps without wrapping their arms and legs with newspapers and covering their mouths (!) to prevent mosquito entry; Factories were known to close during mosquito invasions and there were so many in the waiting rooms at Newark's Pennsylvania Station one time in 1914 that the walls could barely be seen! (Reminds us of one night in Saigon . . . later a rocket came through the roof and we always wondered if it wasn't really the mosquito control crew rather than the Cong that fired it.) New Jersey Bell goes on to recount the present-day mosquito control measures . . . and praise them . . . and comments that last year when the Legislature chose a State Insect, the mosquito was so little on their minds that they chose the Honeybee!

CARL MITCHELL HAS BROUGHT OUT A LEAFLET ON MOSQUITOES (No. 2259 of the University's Cooperative Extension Division, Davis) WHICH HE MAY BE ABLE TO SEND YOU AND IT'S WELL WORTH HAVING. It's 8 x 11 and on page 3 has a reproduction of CDC's excellent chart by KENT LITIG and CHET STOJANOVICH showing the differences between egg, larvae, pupae and adult of *Anopheles*, *Aedes* and *Culex*. Besides a lucid discussion, in brief, of mosquito control and of mosquitoes in nature, the leaflet provides a good plug for mosquito control in a way interesting to John Q. Public.

CLAUDE SCHMIDT GAVE A TALK ON THE NATIONAL MOSQUITO CONTROL—FISH AND WILDLIFE COORDINATION COMMITTEE before the ESA meetings in 1974 which was published in the Journal of the Washington Academy of Science (65(3): 1975) and if you heard him deliver it . . . or even if you didn't . . . you'll want a copy. It's a fine summary of accomplishment on a high level and surely deserves to be read into the record in this day of continuing environmental concern.

LEE NORLAND AND HIS ASSOCIATE HOWARD LENHOFF HAVE BEEN MAKING SOME INTERESTING STUDIES ON NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FUNDS IN KERN COUNTY RICE FIELDS ON THE POTENTIALITIES OF HYDRA AS MOSQUITO CONTROL AGENTS. Hydra can kill organisms larger than themselves and kill more than they can eat, while having the capability of being kept in dense populations without cannibalising. Inasmuch as rice fields are ideal breeding grounds for *Culex tarsalis* and are also ideal for the hydra, this makes the hydra ideal candidates for mosquito control. Work is thus being done on mass rearing techniques to produce hydra by the bucketful for distribution to rice paddies by helicopter. All this is still tentative but it sure sounds promising and exciting!

MAJOR DICK DUREY HAS GONE FROM FT. SAM OVERSEAS TO LANDSTUHL, IN WEST GERMANY, where he will be Entomology Consultant to the Chief Surgeon USAREUR and 7th Army and Capt. BRUCE EZELL has received not only the South Carolina Wildlife Federation's "Educational Con-

servationist of the Year" award but also a \$60,000 grant from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for research on mosquitoes associated with dredged soil areas. And JOHN ZIMMERMAN, now DOCTOR ZIMMERMAN, has gone to San Diego to the Navy's EPMU #5. Welcome aboard!

BILL EDEN BRINGS HIS LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS TEACHER AND INSPIRATION TO ENTOMOLOGY STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA (as well as Chairman of the Department) to a close, retiring at the end of August last. He will be associated with a "small community college," however, in his native Alabama, our informant says, but didn't say *where*. Word on that, Bill? And good luck and welcome to the Retired Club!

TOMMY MULHERN FOUND AN ARTICLE IN *THE LANCET* FOR LAST JULY, entitled, "Epitaph for Global Malaria Eradication?" which points out that "eradication," so promising in the 40's and 50's waned away before it was everywhere successful and that resurgence of malaria in areas such as Burma, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and even the Philippines and Indonesia, is a matter for very considerable concern to malaria control workers in those areas. In Europe (and even in the U.S.—Ed.) infections are being brought in by travellers in their ever-increasing numbers and short journey times. Failure of human foresight and political fragmentation of the world are pointed up as the obvious reasons for the failure of the whole concept, a concept which came out of phase with its time and for which the technical capabilities for implementation may now never again be available in at least the near future. Sad but true. The world wasn't ready to grasp the reality that freedom from malaria in OUR area depended on continuation of the effort in northern Luzon, whether or not the local governments could afford to continue to pay for it. Can we hold the line until the world IS ready?

YE ED SENDS US A NOTE WHICH HE THINKS *Mosquito Systematics* WILL GIVE PLENTY OF PLAY but those of you who aren't subscribers to *that* surely ought to see it in *this* Journal. The International Register of Computer Projects in Systematics, sponsored by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy and the Society of Systematic Zoology (whew!), wants information on projects, programs and data files, which they hope to computerize and have available by September of this year. You ARE interested if you have data or are working on developing a project . . . someone else may be too. So write to Theodore J. Crowello, Department of Biology, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, 46556.

THE AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE IS HAVING A "SALE" UNTIL THE FIRST OF JUNE on its required-reading *Memoirs* 1 through 23, with substantial savings ranging from \$2.00 to nearly \$6. At the same time, the *Contributions* are also available in individual issues at lower prices, while

after 1 June 1976, they will be available ONLY in bound volumes. This is a good chance to fill out your reference library with papers by such as MERCEDES DELFINADO, RALPH BRAM, SHIVAJI RAMALINGAM, JOHN BELKIN, TOM ZAVORTINK and other world authorities from among our membership. Prices vary but you may obtain a list from the Institute at 5950 Warren Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105. We've unfortunately violated the first rule of reportership, which we NEVER violate, and we can't tell you WHO the Institute is, if you don't know. It'll come to us later, we're sure, and we'll tell you.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT CELEBRATED ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY LAST YEAR? And that the report celebrating this event was put out in a GOLD cover? (Well, it LOOKS like gold.) GLEN COLLETT and DON REES, who prepared it, put in a lot of good reference stuff both operational and historical which many will find of value in making comparative studies. There's also a good picture of the Board of Trustees out looking at a "Water Management Structure," which we guess from the looks is either a dam or a canal, and they don't look as if 50 years had aged them much, though GLEN and WILBUR PARKINSON look a little skeptical as to whether the camera was going to go off.

THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS HAS BEEN BUSY WITH MEETINGS, EACH OF WHICH HAS HAD A MOSQUITO-ORIENTED SESSION. The Southern Regional meeting heard a discussion by MINOO MADON of the State Department of Health, on encephalitis survey techniques, and the Annual Meeting at Monterey (California), had a discussion on water management by WALTER WONG. CAL ROGERS was program chairman. Earlier, the Northern Region's meeting had been addressed by BILL HAZELTINE on current events in the ongoing pesticide controversy. Bill's written a book on this, by the way, discussing the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act as amended 1972 and its varigated history. Up to the present outbreak of roaches on San Francisco busses and mice all over, we assume!

THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, SLATED FOR 25—28 JANUARY, AS WE WRITE THIS, is to be addressed (or will have been, as you read this, *Um Gott Willen*) by AMCA Prexy H. C. CHAPMAN, better known to us as Chappie (Dr.! Chappie) but listed chastely in the program as Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, which these days seems like an oil company public relations activity. BRUCE FRANCY will sum up the epidemic arbovirus activities. The program is so crowded with goodies we can't tell you all of them and they can't listen to them . . . concurrent sessions, you know, like the Boston shindigs. Confidentially we HATE concurrent sessions; they're like

TV programs . . . the things we want to see are always back-to-back. But, then, harassed program chairmen don't like them either, we're sure. Maybe the answer is to meet in some remote inexpensive place for a longer time than three or four days. Fiji, anyone? Nandi, not Suva.

But we have to tell you that GEORGE STAINS is one bra-a-a-ve man! His paper was on "A Performance Evaluation of *Women Gnat Control Operators*." (Our ital.)

We told you last time about the plaintive request on grammar that someone sent us. R. H. DEWITT (or somebody) enclosed with the invitation to the CMCA meetings a wee note on English, "A person's verbal message, even with errors in grammar, may be understood by the listener. A scientific publication, however, cannot receive good support from its readers unless the papers contained therein are well written." So much for, "Well, you UNDERSTOOD what I meant, didn't you?" He lists a few things, such as mixing singulars and plurals (such as media for medium and data for datum, eh?) with singular verbs and using nouns for adjectives, which we've noticed newspapers doing increasingly often lately. "Legislature Committee Meets in Town." And commas; shouldn't be used too often. (*Mea culpa*.) He says, "The comma is overused. It cannot be used to separate the subject from the predicate!"

(DR.) W. DON MURRAY DOESN'T GET MUCH PLAY IN THESE COLYUMS SLAVING AWAY THERE IN THE DARK LABYRINTHS OF OUR FINANCES, SO WHAT WITH THE ANNUAL MEETINGS COMING UP AND ALL WE OUGHT TO TELL YOU HE'S GOT US IN FINE SHAPE. (We hope he has one of those lil pocket electronic gadgets. They shore do help balancing the check book). He points out, first of all, that the remuneration for TOMMY MULHERN's office is NO indication of the services performed since they're too eNORMous to put a figure on, but shex, we knew *that* anyway. DON points out, too, that there was some drop in membership receipts when we upped the dues but that there has been a recovery so that we're about where we were. What apparent downers occurred in receipts were due, he feels, to the differing date of mailing out subscription renewals and membership dues notices. That's where YOU-ALL could help, of course, by being prompt in sending them back. Procrastination not only doesn't really gain one anything but is, in addition, not only a thief of time but of the AMCA funds, 'cause it costs us more when we dawdle. That's a hint on how you can save energy for AMCA . . . make a donation without costing you a single cent. But of course it's not US that are late paying up, is it? It's those OTHER guys!

FRED ROBERTS' ALAMEDA COUNTY (CALIF.) M.A.D. CALMLY REPORTED THAT THEY HAD MANAGED TO MODIFY THE PLANS OF A GRAVEL COMPANY TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING and had also been able to disc acres and acres of tide-

lands to eliminate cracks and thus mosquito breeding in the early spring. What makes their calmness so remarkable is that no mention was made of the fact that environmental kooks in the California tidelands areas have been campaigning to stop *all* land and water management as being inimical to the environment nature provided us with. The sound and fury in the papers has been, at times, deafening but Ole Man MAD jus' kep' rollin' along. Right on, Fred!

GIL CHALLET'S ORANGE COUNTY (CALIF.) M.A.D. PLAYED HOST TO SOME DISTINGUISHED VISITORS FROM PAHO last fall. DR. SILVIO PALACIOS, DR. K. C. LIANG and EFRAIN RIBERIO visited eight M.A.D.'s and are planning tentatively to bring personnel north for exchange training in June.

THE WORLD-WIDE COUNTER-ATTACK BY HEALTH AGENCIES AGAINST MINDLESS RESTRICTIONS WAS POINTED UP AT KUALA LUMPUR AT THE MEETINGS TOMMY ATTENDED AND WHOSE 20-ODD PAGE REPORT HE KINDLY SENT US. The assembly concluded, rightly, that source reduction and biological control methods must be pressed with all fervor. But it also concluded that chemical controls, including ULV applications to whole areas and the use of DDT, would continue to be the primary methods in large parts of the world for quite a time to

come and urged that WHO and others keep pressing publicly the need for low-cost chemical insecticides and keep exploring means for making them inexpensive enough to remain available to needy nations. On the biological control front, they discussed the utilization of many pathogens, predators and inhibitors, some commonly used and some more exotic or limited. These ranged from *Gambusia* and *Poecilia* (did you know guppies were called *that?*), through *Nothobranchius* and *spirogyra* to *Coelomomyces* species, many of which are abundant in some areas and might well be adaptable in others without upsetting other aspects of the ecological balance.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE, MESSIEURS SINEGRE, CHAUVET, RIOUX, ET AL. of the Entente Interdepartmentale pour la Demoustication du Littoral Mediterranean are taking a long look at the same sort of problems. With particular attention to the effect of chemicals on non-target organisms and even on the natural surroundings themselves, materials are being evaluated even before the cycle of effectiveness, wide use and resistance is allowed to proceed. Along with the alternative disease organisms and parasites and predators, genetic incompatibilities are being studied and all in all a hopeful prognosis is made for 1976. Bonne chance!

And the same to you all!