

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

IT'S FAR TOO LATE NOW TO BRING YOU ANY "HOT" NEWS ABOUT THE MEETINGS IN BOSTON BUT THEY WERE MIGHTY FINE ONES, AS SOME 600 AMCA'ERS AND THEIR LADIES CAN TESTIFY, HAVING BEEN THERE. (We didn't see any lady ACMA'ers with their "Gents" but if there were some, we don't mean to slight *them* in the above statement!) 530 were registered and 114 ladies went on the Historical Tour of Historic Boston, accompanied by a number of lady and gentlemen mosquito controllers who should have been attending to business in the paper-reading sessions. Boston favored us with perfect weather and the flowers and trees, encouraged, came out to greet us.

On the Association News side, Dr. JOHNNY MULRENNAN was elected to Honorary Membership with unanimous enthusiasm and richly-deserved praise. And IRS has agreed to recognize us! Despite our outspoken adherence to scientific fact, which they had previously regarded as somehow political and exerting an improper influence on Government. *Mosquito News* published 150 more pages in 1975 than in 1974, despite the fact that some papers were published elsewhere, but Ye Ed said some of the increase was the Membership List, some 40 pages, published in December.

FRANK CREADON's last gift to AMCA was a record \$9,000 brought in from advertisers in *Mosquito News* and new Prexy BRUCE FRANCY expressed the hope that AMCA will continue in the path DON REES marked out so well, of increased cooperation with Wildlife Agencies and Regulatory Agencies of all sorts. Even EPA. He also expressed the hope that we would continue to develop a broader base for AMCA in the ever-widening field of vector control, including the promotion of integrated control in the Worldwide vector control effort.

And GEORGE CARMICHAEL issued a warm "y'all come" to the New Orleans meetings next year in the Marriot Hotel, when there will be a dinner on the River (in a *boat*, not on the Levee, you paddle-wheel types). We're shore all for that, G'awge! Yes, SUH!

WE MUST CRY "MEA CULPA" TO THE CHARGE OF NOT SUFFERING THE EPA GLADLY, as much as anyone except Dr. BILL HAZELTINE, perhaps, and we do applaud the concept of trying to get along with folks rather than fight 'em (*pace*, Bill!). BILL doesn't, entirely, from the transcript of his testimony before the House Sub-Committee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. He thinks it would be a serious oversight if the Sub-Com-

mittee failed to investigate the continuing misinformation and ban on DDT. While most of us are heartily sick of the very sound of this by now, it does seem to be a good idea to remember that DDT has done a good deal of GOOD in mosquito control. And it may not be irrelevant to note the big news item in the Washington, D.C. papers, at about the time of our meetings, which reported that India expects more than 4,000,000 cases of malaria this year, after malaria had been all but wiped out by DDT in 1965. Remembering that in 1947, with only 75,000,000 cases, there were 800,000 deaths.

ALONG THIS LINE, WHILE THE USDA WAS DRAWING ANGRY REMARKS FROM THE FARMERS FOR SPENDING MONEY TO PRINT A CIRCULAR TELLING THEM NOT TO STICK THEIR HANDS IN A BINDER, the University of California was putting out a good example of helpful information for farmers faced with the need to have both mosquito control and proper water management. This Leaflet 2850, prepared by C. J. MITCHELL and DICK BOHART with, according to them, assistance from what looks like every entomologist and MAD manager in California, and *also* the USDA and CDC, may be obtained either from the Extension Division of the U of C, Davis, or from CDC, Ft. Collins, Colo.

SOMETIMES WE'RE A LITTLE TOO HOT WITH THE LATEST NEWS. WE'RE GLAD TO REPORT WE WERE WRONG about Sir Rickard Christophers, who celebrated his 103rd birthday in lively fashion about the time we were rushing into print with what was happily a false report of opposite case. Sir Rickard seems to be one with the fabled Uzebeckians who live on a diet of yogurt and are still hard at it at 120, as we hope he will be.

MARGARET SLATER, WHOM WE WERE GLAD TO SEE AT THE BOSTON MEETINGS, TOOK OFF RIGHT AFTERWARD FOR ENGLAND from whence she reported glowingly on the springtime hawthorn blossoms and the pink blooms of the horse-chestnut trees. England, like the Western U.S., was having a drought, which meant lovely weather for touring and Margaret sent us a picture of a 7th century church still in use (after some lapses), built of the beautiful pink-tan stone of the Cotswolds. So glad for you, M.!

MARGARET ALSO SENT A CLIPPING FROM THE ALBANY, (N.Y.) TIMES-UNION DATED 11 OCTOBER, 1959, which queried, "What magazine published in Albany has a circulation of fewer than 1,500 copies, but is read with interest in all 50 states and in 98 foreign countries?" The article then

cites average page per issue figures and costs of subscription which, like the circulation figure above, are somewhat *low* (ah, the dear dead days! But also, ah, what progress we've made!) and describes our contents and bibliography in tones of praise. It also says, "For such an audience, naturally, Mosquito News goes heavy on scientific accuracy and practical articles on field control, and has yet to publish a picture of Marilyn Monroe." It does however, quote a poem by ROLFE PETERSON which was printed in this column:

The mosquito is a funnybird,
It breeds in watery places.
Then when it hits maturity
For human flesh it races.
To golfers, gardeners, fishermen,
This bug will give their due . . .
Then, when you slap and kill it,
It bleeds YOUR blood on you.

TO THIS JACK NICHOLSON COUNTERS:

I Like Mosquitoes
In a tense life, there
aren't too many other
things I can just reach
out and KILL without
getting in trouble.

AND WHILE WE'RE ON NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS WE WISH ONE OF OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE PHILIPPINES WOULD TAKE PEN IN HAND TO CLARIFY (OR ANYWAY EXPAND) a small item which appeared in the Ukiah (Calif.) *Daily Journal* on 4 June, 1976. It reads, "A Filipino experimenter found that humans who ate bananas appealed to mosquitoes. The insects apparently crave two chemicals found in the fruit as well as in blood, and are equipped with sensitive detectors that enable them to sniff out faint banana odors in sweat." End of item. Well, PACO DY? C.Y.CHOW?

CLAUDE H. SCHMIDT NOTES THAT AMCA'S PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE IS VIGOROUSLY AT WORK ON THE URGENT COMPILATION OF A BROCHURE ON MODERN MOSQUITO CONTROL and for this it needs YOUR help. "It would be most appreciated if you would send a copy of all presently available public relations items," he wrote in our October 1975 *News Letter*, "and what success you have had with them . . ." Did you respond? How about doing it NOW, as you take your well-deserved rest after a busy season? Send your reply to:

Dr. Claude H. Schmidt
Public Relations Committee
P.O. Box 5033
State University Station
Fargo, North Dakota 58102

WITH THAILAND GIVING THE OLD HEAVE-HO TO OUR LADS, YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED ABOUT AID, SEATO, WHO, AND ALL THAT. A letter from

DOUG GOULD, received in mid-June, is so full of info, we'll quote it in full:

"This is just a note to let you know that the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory is still in business and will be for some years yet, despite the current headlines over the withdrawal of U.S. armed forces from Thailand. Presently assigned to the Department of Medical Entomology (besides myself) are Major Steve Hembree and Captain Rich Andre. Steve has been conducting an exhaustive search for pathogens of *Aedes aegypti* and *Culex fatigans* in the major cities of Thailand. He has isolated some promising agents, including a bacterium, a fungus and several types of microsporidia that are lethal, to varying degrees, for their mosquito hosts. Rich is involved in studies of the ecology of *Anopheles balbacensis*, the principal vector of malaria in forested areas, and on sporontocidal effects of some of the new antimalarial drugs being developed to replace chloroquine. We are continuing to support the Medical Entomology Project of the Smithsonian Institution with collections of mosquitoes from this area, and with Ken Knight's help, we are trying to pin down the identification of the species of the *Aedes niveus* complex involved in the transmission of subperiodic bancroftian filariasis in Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand. Incidentally, to reach the filariasis study site we travel by 'long-tailed' boat 100 miles up the River Kwai to the vicinity of the fabled Three Pagodas Pass. This is the area where the events described in the novel, concerning the notorious 'death railway,' occurred."

Those of you who have watched the "long-tailed" boats tear at breakneck speed up and down the Chao Phya River in Bangkok, while you sat luxuriously on the terrace of the Oriental Hotel sipping your gin and bitters (or were terrorized by them as you rocked perilously along in your boat on a tourist trip to the Floating Markets), will not need to be told what these unique boats are. If you haven't seen one, though, imagine a long canoe with an outboard motor at the stern, its propeller at the end of a six-foot shaft tipped backward to froth up the water behind and shoot a needle-like prow more through the air than the water, like an SST hydroplane about to take off. Of course, they CAN go slower and we suppose Doug's did! Still, a hundred miles!

AND SPEAKING OF RESEARCH, WE SUPPOSE YOU'VE ALL SEEN THE TV AD BEING BROUGHT TO US BY CUTTER LABS. They've kept sort of a low profile since the polio vaccine business but suddenly we're getting it all-out, complete with a "culicine" mosquito which by a quirk of the camera manages to look like an *Aedes aegypti*. What we really noticed, though, was that the diethyl toluamide repellent they're advertising was the result of years of Cutter Labs' research. For which we shore do thank them.

ROY ELLIS SENDS US A NOTE ON RESEARCH ON AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT LEVEL. "Dr. MARSHALL LAIRD, Director of Memorial University of Newfoundland's Research Unit on Vector Pathology," Roy writes, "Has been awarded a three-year \$150,000 research grant by the W. R. Hewlett Foundation of Palo Alto, California, to pursue studies into the biological control of blackflies specifically, with juvenile hormones. Marshall, as everyone knows, is an active fund raiser. To his credit, the Research Unit has been awarded nearly \$600,000 over the first four years (1972-1976) of its existence." Wow! Thanks for the item, Roy.

RICHARD LEE BERRY, TO WHOM OUR DEEPEST APOLOGIES, SENT US A NOTE IN APRIL ABOUT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE OHIO MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION. Unfortunately, it arrived after we had left for the Boston meetings and so we didn't see it until late in May . . . much too late to try even to slip it in before the galleys. So we hope you get this in time to attend on 21-22 September at the Holiday Inn across from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. "Interest in mosquito control has increased greatly in recent years because of increased awareness of vector borne diseases occurring in Ohio," Richard Lee wrote, adding, "We expect a large attendance at this year's meeting," for which best wishes! Current officers of the OMCA are Dr. Berry, who is President, Mr. Earl Paulus, the President-elect and Mrs. Jean Schroeder, Secretary-Treasurer.

DR. JORGE L. BENACH ALSO WROTE JUST TOO LATE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE TO TELL US OF THE SERIOUS ILLNESS OF DR. THOMAS F. BAST and we should like to have wished him, in it, the speedy recovery which we trust has now taken place. Tom is justifiably proud of the accomplishments, which are so largely his, of mosquito control in New York state, of which 1976 is the tenth anniversary and, as he said at the New Jersey meetings, "the end of the beginning." Dr. Bast's program was commenced in those 60's of which none of us really need to be reminded . . . a period of vigorously under-informed anti-pesticide and, indeed, anti-mosquito-control agitation by instant "ecologists" and a period when alarm over vector-borne disease had not yet, if indeed it has yet, aroused the states to putting much money into the control effort. Some states which had supported mosquito control, in fact, such as California, were actively reducing that support. Nevertheless, from zero, New York State went to 21 counties which organized control programs, or some 6,000,000 people under some type of protection; from no funds in 1966 to \$5,000,000 in 1976; from Dr. Bast, alone, to a staff of five regional Senior Medical Entomologists: Dr. BENACH in White Plains, Dr. CHARLIE MORRIS in Syracuse, Dr. JACQUES BERLIN in Buffalo, Dr. JOHN HOWARD, in Rochester, and Dr. ED BOSLER in Albany. Best of all, there has been zero in-

volvement of the human population with the arboviruses. That's no mean track record.

HEY SKEETER! HEY, LOOKIE! OVER HERE! I'M OVER HERE, SKEETER! AT 2701 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California 94109! I moved! I'm not in Hawaii any more. (sob) Well, half a sob. Anyway, I do enjoy getting you *Skeeter*, courtesy of my old pal TOM LAURET who still IS in Hawaii. And to show you I enjoy you, I'm going to quote you: at the recent meeting of the Tidewater Mosquito and Vector Control Council, BOB LUCAS spoke on Zoecon's pupicidal IGR (insect growth regulator "Altosid" (adv.) Hey! How about an ad from Zoecon in *Mosquito News*, Bob? IGR's, as we didn't know without being told, are ingested or absorbed otherwise by the larvae and subsequently cause lethal growth abnormalities. As these are essentially harmless to non-arthropods . . . or even to most of them . . . IGR's are looking like ideal bullets for shooting Culicidae. DAVE ROPER and BUDDY SIMS were the two other speakers at this meeting and we'd like to hear more out of them, and not just via *Skeeter*, friends. *Skeeter* also reported on last year's record encephalitis outbreaks in 28 states and the District of Columbia and also reported that an 83-year-old woman in California had died of malaria-complicated causes, after receiving a *Plasmodium malariae*-laden blood transfusion from a donor who apparently was a carrier from early childhood without, naturally, knowing it.

DALE MARTINEZ, ONCE OF CALIFORNIA AND THE NAVY'S MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM, AND NOW MANAGER OF THE COLUMBIA DRAINAGE AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT (Oregon) has a rotary blower, which he'll tell you how to make into a swamp glider or mist blower, and an electric truck hoist for insecticide drums. Bargains, if you live near Oregon. Just going to Oregon is a bargain this Bi-centennial Year in which we're all trying to remember it "the way it was." Oregon still is. Dale's number is (503) 397-2898, but no (800) number, sorry. Incidentally, if you're Oregon-bound and want to see California ALMOST the way it was, well, the way it was quite a while ago, anyway, come visit US at Brooktrails, near Willits (Calif.) in the mountains 2800 ft., 35 mile view to the coast of Mendocino, good road, big trees and NO PHONE. 4901 Blue Lakes Drive, we are, or PO Box 1342. Drop us a line, first; it's just a cottage.

DR. C. D. STEELMAN OF LSU AND OUR REGIONAL DIRECTORS HELPED ESA COMPILE A LIST OF THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT MOSQUITOES COUNTRY-WIDE in terms of control costs and disease transmission and we're indebted to Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association's *Vector News* for bringing it to our attention, because we didn't spot it in either *MN* or the *ESA Bulletin* (maybe we don't read thoroughly enough, any more?) Here's the list:

1. *Aedes vexans*
2. *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*
3. *Culex tarsalis*
4. *Aedes taeniorhynchus*
5. *Psorophora columbica*
6. *Aedes triseriatus*
7. *Aedes sollicitans*
8. *Aedes aegypti*
9. *Culex pipiens quinquefasciatus*
10. *Culex salinarius*

WE'D LIKE TO WELCOME RUFUS L. TINDOL III TO AMCA ESPECIALLY BECAUSE HIS DADDY WAS A COLLEAGUE OF OURS IN MOSQUITO CONTROL FOR THE ARMY WAY BACK IN WW II (and went on to be a power in Orkin). We haven't listed new members for a long time, now, and we'd like them to know that we DO welcome them just the same. It's just that AMCA is GROWING so and we're so EFFICIENT these days that all the card file changes have us sort of overwhelmed. (It used to be just a homey sort of smudged blue gelatin-copy list.) Years ago we had a file of slips called "Who's Who in AMCA" filled out by newcomers and we sort of wish we had THAT again, too. Anyway, you new members, DO WRITE to us and tell us what you do and about yourselves and don't think nobody is interested to know because AMCA'ers ARE.

ALAMEDA MAD (Calif.) SCORED ANOTHER TRIUMPH LAST SPRING WHEN THEY WERE CALLED INTO THE ACT BY THE BAY AREA CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION which has authority over filling and draining of the edges of the already one-third diminished San Francisco Bay. B.C.D.C. made approval of a levee repair project contingent on MAD approval and this is a significant breakthrough, particularly in the recognition by conservation-minded people that mosquito control and water management and environmental concern are not mutually exclusive projects. FRED ROBERTS was justifiably proud and as taxpayers and environmentalists ourselves, we were elated. Meanwhile, GIL CHALLET was also being asked in on the deliberations of the U.S. Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach, concerning the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, one of the refuges established on unused but essential border lands around many Naval installations. As these have frequently been slanted toward appeasing rabid "environmentalists," politically, rather than toward balanced wildlife-mosquito control management, this is also a breakthrough.

LEST ANYONE TAKE ALARM OVER THE STATE OF RESEARCH INTO REPELLENTS MENTIONED EARLIER, OUR PEERLESS ARMED FORCES PEST CONTROL BOARD, ever modest about mentioning these things until the last dog is hung, IS still making progress through the USDA laboratories at Gainesville (Fla.) and Beltsville (Md.). That isn't ALL those projects are doing, but in the repellent studies, under DON WEIDHAAS and CARL SCHRECK,

they've zeroed in on a number of materials every bit as good as their previous DEET (di-ethyl toluamide) against a number of biting insects. At Beltsville, they're studying some substitutes for Freon as an aerosol propellant, since fluorocarbons have been questioned in relation to the ozone up there above us. However, we hate to say this, but the knee-jerk environmentalists have already convicted aerosols *as such*, despite some evidence that the original alarm was to say the least prematurely raised, and they won't be appeased anyway by an innocuous substitute. How do you KNOW it won't prove to have been harmful after a hundred years? What about the Tri-Centennial?

GEORGE CARMICHAEL MADE A MIGHTY PRETTY INVITATION SPEECH FOR Y'ALL TO COME TO N'AWLEUNS FOR THE AMCA MEETING NEXT YEAR BUT HE MODESTLY DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HIS ORLEANS PARISH except that they'd show us a real old New Orleans welcome. But you ought to know that his staff has now grown to 29, twenty-seven of whom were pictured smiling happily on the cover of his Annual Report. They've been emphasizing program-evaluation of late and finding areas both for self-congratulation and improvement. Surveillance has also given them new insights into the ebb and flow of various mosquito populations and the importance of various parts of their control program. They had no human encephalitis in New Orleans in 1975 but did help, under contract, the neighboring (225 miles away) city of Monroe during its time of trouble, where there were 6 cases. Surveillance also revealed disheartening news about both *Aedes aegypti* and *Culex salinarius* (see listing above), while providing information needed to effect their control, and the more heartening confirmation of the good control of the one-time Number One problem, *Aedes sollicitans*.

LOUISIANA MOSQUITO CONTROL TOOK ANOTHER FORWARD LEAP LAST SPRING WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF BRUCE CRAVEN as Director of the Calcasieu Parish MAD. Bruce was Director of the MAD #1 in Cameron Parish, previously. His new District comprises 1,080 square miles of salt marsh, swamp, alluvial flood plains and rolling piney hills and has a population of 150,000. Calcasieu Parish is *Lake Charles* and his Committee includes DR. CHAPPIE CHAPMAN.

JUST IN CASE THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA WERE SO ENTRANCED WITH THE INFO ON THE HAWAII MEETINGS THAT YOU DIDN'T READ THE OP ED PAGE, we want to mention a very important event. BILL WYMER is the new manager of the American Registry of Professional Entomologists and a most distinguished selection indeed from a group of distinguished candidates. As you all know, Bill has been with the Working Group of the President's Council on environmental quality

(we are shortening things here a bit) and before that was a long-time expert for the Navy in a variety of places. Besides being an AMCA'er, Bill is a member of AAAS, AIBS, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, the Society of Vector Ecologists and, of course, the ESA. (He's also a Scoutmaster and Assistant District Commissioner for BSA and with FIVE youngsters, he's apt to stay with THAT quite a while, too.)

ABOUT THE HAWAII MEETINGS OF ESA . . . well, as one who ought to know and who would LIKE to be going! . . . we can tell you that if you can at all, you shore oughta. It's going to be STUpenduous! WALLY MURDOCH, who's ESA's energetic and capable Executive Sec personally researched the whole bit and the meeting facilities are commodious, convenient and pleasant. All the hotels are within a step or two of each other (you don't WALK in Hawaii . . . except maybe to *stroll* along the strand). Don't miss the corny but VERY authentic Kodak Hula Show and if you possibly can spare the time take one of Creative Associate's tours to a Neighbor Island. (WE'D take Kauai.) And don't fail to leave time enough to go visit PAT NAKAGAWA and JIMMY IKEDA and their beautifully set-up and highly efficient Vector Control Branch. Aloha, Brah! (An' Sistah!) (P.S. The Kailua Madrigal Singers, who're going to provide the banquet entertainment are worth the trip just by themselves. The kids are fantabulous and we don't say that just because Kailua was Our Home Town. They've sung and danced their way to the applause of millions around the world.)

WE'D LIKE TO NOTE, TOO, THAT DRs. E. F.

KNIPLING, ART LINDQUIST AND CARROLL SMITH are all Honorary Members of the ESA.

AND NOW A SAD SONG AT TWILIGHT

Among the things I'd like to know is why
 God made the mosqui-toe
 If He just wanted food for fishes, why did He
 make ME so delicious?

WELL, WE HATE TO DO THIS BUT WE'LL HAVE TO ADMIT THREE TIMES IN ONE ISSUE THAT WE MADE A BOO-BOO AND JOHN EDMAN CAUGHT US UP. We were only trying to be LIGHT but it didn't come out that way, we see on re-reading it and Dr. Edman is quite right in wanting us to right the Great Wrong we did the cause of finding a proper name for *Mosquito News*. Sometimes we write TOO fast and this time we just sort of thought, gosh, here we go again! and we thought of the trouble it is to librarians and indexers when names of publications get changed. But, wow . . . we shouldn't have prejudged the Committee and JOHN was quite right to get a mite up-tight (in a nice but firm way) over our choice of words. So don't go back and re-read what we said (a little like a judge telling a jury to FORGET what they just heard) but read what we're saying NOW. When a Committee like GENE GERBERG, RON WARD, DON SUTHERLAND, BILL ROGOFF, JIM PETERSEN, JACK SEAWRIGHT, MEL BOREHAM, DICK DARSIE and, of course, JOHN, have something to say, we shore ought to LISTEN! Right? So 'scuse us all to pieces John, and we'll listen mighty humble. (We're using our Southern Accent . . . because it's in style right now and it makes us sound *humbler*, somehow, and we surely do feel that way.) And on that humble note, we'll *end*. Until December.