

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

GEORGE CRAIG WAS THE SUBJECT OF A THREE PAGE ARTICLE IN THE NOTRE DAME MAGAZINE FOR APRIL, WHICH IS THE ALUMNI ORGAN OF THAT SCHOOL IN INDIANA WHERE HE WORKS. The article included a fine, full-page photograph of Dr. Craig caught in the act of putting the bite on mosquitoes, in his laboratory. HARRY PRATT, whose son-in-law Dr. Neal Garrison was once a worker in the lab with K. S. RAI, sent us the word. As we write this in the third week of July, Harry's itinerary called for him to be in his cottage in Vermont with his two sons celebrating the joys of his sixth year of retirement, which are: enjoying the family, teaching a little and writing a little; enjoyed, we should guess, in that order. Harry's son is a medical entomologist (Capt. George Pratt, USAF) presently engaged not with mosquitoes but *Tribolium confusum* and such, in military stored products in Philadelphia.

GEORGE THOMPSON WAS STIMULATED BY OUR RECOLLECTIONS OF BUILDING THE OFFICERS' CLUB BEACH IN ORLANDO (FLORIDA), WITH MOSQUITO CONTROL FUNDS, to recall that he too was an unwitting accomplice in a military funding scheme, though his was really a bit more legitimate. While George was Malaria Control Officer at Jamaica Base Command (Vernam Field), a visiting pilot asked him to transmit some adult specimens of *Anopheles albimanus* for one of his opposite numbers in Florida. Freshly killed specimens were carefully packed and flown off to Florida. Years later, while on a Missouri River Survey, George got to talking with a City Engineer who commented that he had gotten some *albimanus* from Jamaica during the war and that a bit later *albimanus* had miraculously showed up in his light traps just in time to save his appropriation and his control project! As it was central Florida, George sort of wonders if HIS mosquitoes didn't help along that beach a little, too. Well, it WAS a pretty big beach, George.

YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT A LITTLE WHILE AGO WE TOLD YOU ABOUT ROY FRITZ AND HIS 4-H ENTOMOLOGY CLUB. They have gone on to new glories. Roy writes that THIS year they had a total of 26 entries in the various events (Demonstration Day, Judging Day and The County Fair) and they won 14 blue, 9 red and 3 white ribbons, 3 Grand Prize rosettes for best insect

collections, made by 1st, 2nd and 3rd year members and 2 large Kiwanis trophies. One boy won his (second) trophy, for the best collection at the Fair, and the other trophy was presented by the Fair Officials as a "Special Award for Excellence" to the whole club, based on the 15 collections entered. Roy says he's so proud he's about to bust his buttons, as well he might be. In addition, four of the boys accompanied Roy in giving talks before meetings of near-by Service Clubs, with the boys answering the audience's queries about half a dozen or so insects of local interest.

Roy is participating in a Strategy Study of Asian Malaria Programs with a group which includes Dr. JOHN SCANLON and a number of other eminent public health types. Following the initial meeting in May, Roy, ED SMITH and Al Farwell went to Geneva and then on a review trip to look over field operations, stopping in New Delhi, Kathmandu, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Manila and thence home for a final meeting which should be taking place as we write. We do hope they looked out for those mosquitoes in the Mandarin Hotel Sky Room in Hong Kong! (That's our local correspondent, Pure Envy, speaking.)

COLONEL BILL PEARSON WROTE US ABOUT SOME OF THE CHANGES AMONG MILITARY ENTOMOLOGISTS JUST TOO LATE FOR THE DEADLINE LAST JUNE ISSUE. Two big changes were that Bill himself was retiring on 30 June to join the Georgia Health Department and the other Bill, Colonel BILL YOUNG, retired to Charleston, South Carolina, where he plans to do some light and heavy fishing. COL. BRUCE ELDRIDGE replaced him in the Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army, while Bill P. was replaced by Colonel ERNIE IRONS. (An aunt of ours remarked once, long ago, that she never felt her age until she noticed her daughters were getting *middle aged*. You ought to see what it does to your time perception to have Lieutenants become Majors and then FULL Colonels and then RETIRE while you watch them!)

IN OTHER ASSIGNMENTS, Major RAY PARSONS went to Panama, LTC TOM WHITLAW returning from there to the Environmental Health Agency; Major BERNIE SCHIEFER went to Ft. Detrick and Major (who may be LTC now) RALPH CARESTIA went to AEHA Regional Di-

vision at Ft. Meade, near Washington. Major (also about to be LTC) RON INTERMILL went to Ft. Jackson, S.C., LTC Lynn Savage to Ft. Benning, LTC BOB UPHAM to Ft. Lewis, Major DAVE KIMBELL to Ft. Ord, Capt. CHUCK DAVENPORT to Ft. Sam, as did Capt. PHIL LAWYER, Capt. JAY ABERCROMBIE to the BioMedical Lab at the Army Proving Ground, Md., and Captains JOHN ARNOTT and PHIL PIERCE to Ft. Bragg. The Army has 80 Medical Entomologists, in uniform, or did when Bill wrote in April, and 26 civilian ones, with positions in Brazil, Panama, Japan, Thailand, Korea, Germany, Malaysia, Africa and all around the Continental U.S. Of course, since he wrote, Thailand has said "OUT" and SEATO has folded, so we don't know the status there. We'd like to hear, though.

GENE GERBERG WROTE US ABOUT THE SAME TIME TO TELL US A BIT ABOUT AN INTERESTING TRIP HE'D JUST COMPLETED to Sri Lanka, where he had made an Environmental Assessment on the Malaria Control Program . . . perhaps the first such assessment to be made on M.C. While there, he ran into MERVYN WICKRAMASINGHE and Dr. WILLY SAMARAWICKREMA, who are known to many AMCA'ers and sent greetings; and Dr. JUN AKIWAMA, an alumnus of the Army's famed 406th Medical Lab in Japan, where he worked with BOB TRAUB, HERB BARNETT and WALLY MURDOCH. And welcome to AMCA, Jun Sensei!

FREDDY GONZALEZ-VALDIVIESO WHO TURNED GLOBE TROTTER SOME TIME BACK AND WENT OFF TO BRAZZAVILLE in the Republica del Congo, has accepted another assignment with the People-to-people Health Foundation (Project Hope) and will be Environmental Engineer and Educator in Tunisia, where his address will be B.P. 50, Tunis-Belvedere. From the snapshots our Tunisian nephew and his wife, our niece, sent when they were living there a year ago, it looks as if Freddy has accepted a Riviera tour most people have to pay money for!

WHILE TOMMY MULHERN WAS IN EL SALVADOR ON THAT JUNKET WE TOLD YOU ABOUT LAST ISSUE, he sent us a bit of the report his mission was putting together (the "Mission" being JOHN STIVERS and an advisory group of JERRY BROOKS, DICK DARSIE and RUSS FONTAINE's son BOB). We didn't quite get whether this whole group was "official" or some of them were just advisory over the sundown refreshments, but we're sure you know how us mosquito control types are as well as we do and so we

needn't concern ourselves too much about Officialdom. They talked mosquitoes!

The report referred specific local problems to successfully solved ones in TVA, California's Central Valley and the marsh management programs of Florida and New Jersey. But what stood out was the typo their pretty Salvadorean secretary automatically wrote when she had John talking about the "various TVA darns!"

BACK IN MAY THE *Washington Post*, EVER ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ANOTHER EXCLUSIVE TO TOP WATERGATE, headlined dense swarms of salt marsh mosquitoes which had descended on the little town of Chance, Maryland, on the Del-MarVa Peninsula. Heading the story, "The Stings of Chance," the *Post* quoted everybody they could find and finally granted a word or two to BOB ALTMAN, whose words were apparently lost on the local fathers counting their pennies and bent on wasting them. We haven't heard the denouement but we trust Bob's words of wisdom prevailed. They were getting a landing rate of 100 per minute and, while we've seen higher, that's really enough to convince almost anyone that they ought to do something if they plan on any outdoor barbeques.

STUART MCCAUSLAND RECEIVED HIS MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE RECENTLY FROM VPI, WE LEARN FROM VMCA's *Skeeter*, and our heartiest congratulations to you, Stu, especially since you did it the hard way, much of it at night and while continuing to hold down a fulltime position efficiently. Stuart's thesis topic was on the use of Altosid against *Culex pipiens*.

SKEETER ALSO REPORTED, THIS TIME SADLY, THAT WHILE THE RECORD COLD LAST WINTER RAISED FUEL BILLS CONSIDERABLY, it didn't seem to lower the populations of mosquitoes notably. Virginia, too, had heavy *Aedes sollicitans* activity and extra big bionion populations as well.

AND SPEAKING OF *SKEETER*, IF YOU AREN'T ON THEIR MAILING LIST YOU'D BETTER MAKE OVER-TURES TO GET ON IT . . . OR ANYWAY GET THE ISSUE OF LAST MARCH. THAT ISSUE had resumés of all the fine papers that were given at the VMCA-Mid-Atlantic MCA meeting in Williamsburg (Va.), that we told you about last issue. There were so many meaty reports on insecticides, formulations, equipment and just plain good ideas about novel approaches to many practical problems that we couldn't summarize them here without just reproducing all four pages of *Skeeter*. So write to ROLLIE DORER fast at

Room 209, 401-A Colley Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23507.

THAT OTHER FINE MCA JOURNAL, *VECTOR NEWS*, FROM WHICH WE'VE QUOTED A GOOD BIT, reports that a vector (control) and supervisors' training meeting was held in Portland at the Oregon State Health Division in March. "The course was excellent," *Vector News* comments, "and provided pertinent information that was very up-to-date on the subjects of vector diseases, wildlife, bees, chemicals, budget, other pests and other subjects." On 22 to 24 August, the 1977 International Controlled-Release Pesticide Symposium will be held in Corvallis, Oregon, the local contact being DR. ROBERT GOULDING of the OSU Department of Entomology, whose zip is 97331. NWM&VCA's 1977 meeting, you know, is in Calgary, Alberta, during the second week of October and information may be obtained from BRUCE TAYLOR of the Provincial (?) (Dominion?) Pesticide Branch at 9820 106th St., Edmonton T5K-1B8 . . . that last's a ZIP.

AND WE HEAR BY A ROUNDABOUT MEANS that Utah Mosquito Abatement Association meets 25, 26 and 27 of September. We sure wish we could go.

MARVIN KRAMER RETIRED RECENTLY FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, according to the *Vector Ecology Newsletter* of the Society of Vector Ecologists. Marv was Prexy of SVE in 1973 and long before that a Charter Member and prime mover in getting that Society started. He was with the "old" CDC and then manager of the Tulare (California) MAD and later entomologist for Alameda County MAD during the time of HAROLD GRAY. He and his wife Margaret who is, as many of you know, also an entomologist, have an equipped van and plan to TRAVEL. Happy days, Good Buddy!

SVE'S PRESENT PREXY IS DICK HUSBANDS AND THEIR NEXT ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE 5 AND 6 JANUARY, 1978, so we'll tell you about it now in case the December issue might be held up in the mails. It'll be at Morro Bay, near San Luis Obispo, a renownedly beautiful bit of the California coast, at the Golden Tee Resort Lodge, which is offering fantastically low rates. So even if you DON't want to listen to the discussions. . . .!

YE ED TOLD US NOT TO PUT HIM INTO OUR COLUMN SO MUCH AND WE'VE BEEN DAMN GOOD ABOUT IT, WE THINK, SEEING AS HOW HE IS THE

SOURCE OF SO MANY OF OUR ITEMS but we do think you'd like to know that he and Betty had a lovely trip in June/July with a University of Maryland Alumni tour group, with 3 days in Switzerland, 3 cruising down the Rhine (that is to say UP, but downriver) and 3 in Amsterdam and so on. They had "plenty of alps, lakes, vineyards, castles and windmills and we hate to head for home," wrote BILL.

TOMMY MULHERN, ANOTHER GOOD SOURCE OF MUCH OF OUR NEWS, SENT US FOR THIS ISSUE'S CONTRIBUTION WHAT WE *HOPE* ISN'T A POINTED COMMENT: "Ten Commandments of How to Get Along With People." If you like to pin up mottoes, though, these are pretty good ones, so we'll summarize:

1. Keep tabs on your tongue; always say less than you think. Cultivate a low, persuasive voice. How you say it often counts more than what you say.
2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully no matter what.
3. Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind word about somebody. Praise good work, regardless of who did it.
4. Be interested in others, their pursuits, their work, their homes.
5. Don't burden those around you by dwelling on your aches and pains and disappointments. Everyone's carrying some kind of load.
6. Keep an open mind. Be able to disagree without being disagreeable.
7. Let your virtues, if you have any, speak for themselves. Refuse to talk about another's vices.
8. Be careful of others' feelings. Wit at another person's expense isn't really worth it.
9. Pay no attention to ill-natured remarks about you. Remember, the person who said it may be wrong!
10. Don't be too anxious about credit due you. Do your best and let others "remember" who did it. Praise from *others* is much sweeter.

FRED ROBERTS' ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT REPORTS CONTINUE TO STRESS SOURCE REDUCTION AND, IN THIS YEAR OF THE DROUGHT II, THIS IS NO MEAN PROBLEM. When water is less available, urban runoff tends to be a GREATER problem, as you may know. In California there is also a high proportion of the population which is very environment-conscious, both the few who know what they're talking about and the many, many who don't. So when it becomes necessary to do a small amount

of ditching to open up marshy areas to the flow of water (and fish), the State Lands Commission tended to equate this with something on the scale of the Peripheral Canal, a project favored by the Gov but likely to cause salt water intrusion, imbalance of salinities in San Francisco Bay and various other unpleasant things. (Fred didn't say this, WE did, for the benefit of those of you who may not be familiar with THE Bay.) Anyway, suspicions were mollified and the ditching allowed to continue.

GIL CHALLETT'S ORANGE COUNTY (CALIFORNIA) VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT RECENTLY ENTERED INTO AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH MAY BE A FIRST EVER. At the request of the Orange County Water District, Gil's men will be responsible for surveillance of potential midge-breeding sources operated by the Water District, will answer complaints generated by the midges and will take appropriate action to prevent or control outbreaks. A good example of cooperation by mosquito control people in yet another direction.

TOMMY MULHERN WAS NAMED AS THE FIRST HONORARY MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS, as we should have mentioned a few items back, at their annual meeting this year. This was not alone because of services to that organization (though there had been many) but particularly for Tommy's untiring efforts to promote *professionalism* among vector controllers, for his landmark work in the development of the American Standard Light Trap, by which control work is taken out of the guestimate category and put on a sound professional basis, for his spearheading of the national mosquito control worker certification program, including the editing of the "Training Manual for California Mosquito Control Agencies," which has been used by so many outside that State's borders, and for much more of which we can all testify.

BOB SJOGREN'S LETTER TO HOWARD GREENFIELD WAS FORWARDED TO US BY TOMMY MULHERN (SEE WHAT LENGTHS WE GO TO IN GATHERING THE NEWS FOR YOU) with the blessings to XEROX. Bob says, "... getting directly to the most serious business at hand, yes, the fishing is great. I went on a boundary waters canoe trip about a month ago and caught a 5½ and a 7 lb. lake trout on my fly rod... on a grasshopper pattern trolled at about 20 feet deep. We already caught five other lake trout by the time I hooked onto the big ones, so all the guys talked me into taking pictures of them and then turning them loose, but I'll show you the pictures. . . ."

Bob's letter was really about his EIS, which has "something over 700 references upon which to base information." whew! The study cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000 not including District manpower. Bob feels that it is primarily a time-consuming endeavor to prove to the doubters that mosquito control is complex and has no simple answers, but "it will provide an excellent reference document for the general public to study (copies will be placed in all the public libraries in the six counties) so that they can get an understanding of what the program entails." We hope the good folk of those counties surrounding St. Paul (Minn.) know what a valuable treasure they've got, not only in the opus but in the author of all this.

THE *Landing Rate Count*, SOUTH CAROLINA MCA'S INFORMAL NEWSLETTER, reminds us that their fall meeting is scheduled for 2 and 3 November, in Charleston, convening at 1:00 PM on Wednesday the 2nd and adjourning about the same time the next day. Prexy BRUCE EZELL noted that Charleston's coastal location should provide useful information to the meeting, which will include discussions and possible demonstration of all phases of mosquito biology and control operations, and a guest speaker from Mississippi State University, who will speak on the Brown Recluse spider.