

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

SOMETIMES WHEN WE DON'T GET ANY LETTERS WITH NEWS OR NOTES IN THEM WE HAVE TENDED TO BLAME THE MAIL "SERVICE" AND GOODNESS KNOWS WHAT WITH UPS TAKING ALL THE EASY WELL-PAYING STUFF, THE POST OFFICE AIN'T WHAT IT WAS BUT WE GUESS IT MUST BE BETTER'N SOME, ANYWAY, OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT BOB SPENCER ALLOWED RECENTLY. He sent us two covers, one a letter to us, which had been returned to him, and one a letter to Saudi Arabia. OURS was mailed 28 April, returned on 8 May and mailed back (we received it in June) but the one to Saudi Arabia, a notice to M. A. ISSA of the April 1976 meetings in Boston, mailed on 17 December 1975, received back in Newark, N. J., in Dec. 1977, was returned to him on 28 April 1978. Wish we could afford to travel around in that leisurely way!

SPEAKING OF LETTERS, WE STILL HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THE CHICAGO MEETINGS EXCEPT THAT A COUPLE OF LETTERS STARTED OUT, "I HOPE SOMEONE HAS GIVEN YOU A RESUME. . . ." We *did* get the word that the meetings were excellent, with thanks to ERNIE FETZER and his committee, and that Chicago gave them both good weather and bad. . . . but mostly nice, just to show that it CAN be nice in Chicago. (Shux, we watched a lovely young lady slip out of her dress and go SWIMMING in the Lake once, in APRIL.)

THE 1979 MEETING IN WASHINGTON D.C. WILL RUN FROM 8 THROUGH 12 APRIL, LONGER THAN USUAL, AT THE CAPITAL HILTON. The first day is the Board of Directors' meeting, which members may attend, though few do and if they did we'd have to rent a larger room. And the last day is only a half day . . . but a very important one! Business meetings aren't fun, exactly, but ours aren't dull, either, and they're a whole whale of a lot better if plenty of good members attend and we can get a real consensus. And Washington in April is LOVELY! 'Course there CAN be a snowstorm, but it doesn't last and you haven't really seen loveliness until you've seen the Tidal Basin reflecting the masses of blossoms of the cherry trees, even with snow on the ground.

TOMMY MULHERN SENDS US SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REITERATE THE INFORMATION IN THE NEWS LETTER: THE ASSOCIATION OFFICES ARE CONSOLIDATED IN FRESNO . . . all 2½ people

of them (a HALF a people??) . . . and they have a new phone number: (209) 292-5329. Tommy's home phone continues to be (209) 227-2665 and he has an office there, too, on account of he doesn't stop working just because he's HOME, as we all know! Even when he's out on the lake in his sailboat, you can reach him, via CB, usually on Channel 20, or even in his car or at home, for that matter, and he monitors 17, which is the truckers' and CHP norm in the lower San Joaquin Valley, though QSO talk is on channels 7, 11, 13, 20 and 23. His "handle" is "American Mosquito" (what else?) or even just "Mosquito" for short. BOB LUCAS of Zoecorn has the handle "Billy Goat" and his beautiful wife is, of course, "Nanny Goat," by the way!

TOMMY ALSO REMINDS YOU OF TWO BOOKS PUBLISHED BY JOHN WILEY & SONS, WITH WHOM WE HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT. *Ecology of Pesticides* by Past-Prexy TONY BROWN and *Mosquito Ecology, Field Sampling Methods*, by M. W. SERVICE may both be ordered through AMCA and we receive the booksellers' discount, so we benefit as well as YOU will by having these good books in your reference library. Dr. Brown's book is \$25.00 + \$1.00 postage etc. and Dr. Service's is \$75.00 + \$1.00. Our Museum Bookshop sells PICTURE books for more than that!

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH EDITOR DENNIS H. SENFT FINALLY GOT THE U.S.D.A. TO TELL US IN MAY THAT MOSQUITO CONTROL DOESN'T HARM BEES. After EPA and every other Government voice has got the knee-jerkers thoroughly convinced that pesticides are BAD BAD BAD, Mr. Senft finally got the word out that mosquitoes can cause a loss of \$25.00 per beef cow whereas the fenthion used in the extensive experiments had "very little long-term effect on sprayed bees when compared to the control." Now they tell us! We have long been concerned, as have many others, with the way preliminary tests and unfounded assertions from *a priori* evidence have become The Word (vide DDT) and later tests showing the first conclusions were hasty or even totally wrong never get the same public distribution. Well, every little bit of retrospective evidence helps, doesn't it?

PREXY-ELECT GLENN STOKES BROKE INTO PRINT WITH A NICE WRITE-UP IN THE ESA BULLETIN FOR MAY, complete with picture. A

very nice picture; we must say that ESA doesn't go in for the newspaper stunt of showing folks with their mouths open or looking cross-eyed at something. For a more serious pose and a better picture of Glenn, though, you should see the Jefferson Parish (Louisiana) Mosquito Control's FULL-COLOR job on heavy, coated stock, entitled, "Mosquitoes and You." The pix of Glenn, Jefferson Parish President DOUGLAS ALLEN and Exec. Asst. JOYCE CHESTER are good ones and give the personal touch, but the real payola is in the vignettes on the back page showing 6 aspects of control and 5 common sources of home-grown mosquitoes, along with catchy captions. Inside is also a short summary of mosquito facts of life, concise and readable. A high mark to aim for, everyone.

Another lil' job we should have mentioned is "Mosquito Control Begins at Home," available from AMCA's Home Office for 50¢ for a sample copy. It's a cartoon coloring book that contains quizzes, a maze, a cross-word puzzle and a follow-the-dots cartoon of "Skeeter" (kids love these), which is readable right up to the adult level (or what used to be presumed to be the adult level) and priced at 30¢ or less in large quantities. This booklet was drawn by KATHERINE MOORE, and you may have already received a mailing on it. It's worth looking into.

LARRY JOHNSTON RETIRED AS CHIEF OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AGENCY WESTERN DIVISION, OF THE U. S. ARMY, AT THE END OF TWENTY-THREE YEARS' SERVICE and moved from Aurora to Fort Collins, where he is Director, Environmental Health Services Division of the Larimer County (Colo.) Health Department. On his retirement, he received the Legion of Merit, which is NOT an automatic part of every retirement, let us tell you.

DAVID GILLET LEAVES BRUNEL UNIVERSITY (MUCH, WE ARE SURE, TO THEIR SORROW) AND AT THE END OF THIS MONTH will become a part of the Department of Entomology at the London School of Tropical Medicine. The address: Keppel Street (Gower Street) . . . don't ask us why THAT; the Briddish can be very inscrutable at times . . . London WC1E 7HT. Good Luck, Dr. G.!

MARCO GIGLIOLI, WHO WROTE MODESTLY TO DISCLAIM GREAT VALUE TO HIS RECENT SURVEILLANCE JOB BUT TO SAY THE BIGGEST VALUE WAS IN THE OVERSEAS COOPERATION BY AMCA'ERS, tells us that FRANCOIS LESIEUR was awarded the M.B.E. (Member of the British Empire) on the 1978 Queen's New Year's Honors List. How-

ever anachronistically-named the Order may sound, it is still among the world's very high honors and, as Dr. Giglioli says, "It is unusual and extremely gratifying for the services of an ag-pilot to be recognized, and to belong to a small "bush" Unit which has had two staff members so honoured." Marco himself received the O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) in the 1971 Honours List. The Job, incidentally, was performed in New Providence, in the Bahamas, which, Tommy suggests, and goodness knows OUR history recall is too weak to either confirm or deny, was one of Columbus' landfalls in 1492.

MINOO MADON, THE EDITOR OF THE *BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS*, is understandably proud of the quality of his small but worthy publication, and we hope you are all, or will be all, familiar with it. Fr instance, DICK HUSBANDS' paper on Mosquito Light Traps. A winner!

SOUTH CAROLINA M.C.A.'s *Landing Rate Count* is another young publication with a consistently high batting average. MIKE LOVING says BOB ZACK found this recently in the *Georgetown Times*:

"What Can You Do About Bites?"

"They mercilessly attack innocent persons, they spare neither the young nor the old with their bloodthirsty raids, they invade and ruin picnics and fishing trips—and there are millions of them.

"These vicious marauders don't come on choppers or in street gangs but arrive in armies or on wings.

"They are man's most pesky nuisance—the all too common *insects!*

"Some people may try to offer some concrete solutions to the problems of summer bugs—but there really aren't any.

"Some halfway solutions follow:

—Spray with insect repellent.

—Avoid placing your picnic cloth on an ant-hill.

—Fix a plate for the flies and serve it on another table; maybe they'll go over there and eat. (This actually works. In the days long before screens or fly control in the South, my Dad used to put a saucer of milk and beer away to one side and draw the flies away; in WWII we found that banana skins & brown sugar added a bit of a lure.—Ed.)

—Avoid looking like a flower to keep hungry bees from sniffing at you.

- Avoid smelling like a flower.
- Spray with insect repellent again.
- Don't picnic in the tall grass.
- Don't let the children crawl through shrubbery and underbrush; ticks like kids as much as dogs.
- When the bugs get too bad, eat in the car with the windows rolled up."

We might add, if you use dry ice to cool the beer, don't leave it fuming around right beside you!

FRED ROBERTS REPORTED SADLY BUT HOPEFULLY IN THE SPRING THAT THE UNUSUALLY HEAVY WINTER RAINS THAT TURNED OUR DROUGHT AROUND IN CALIFORNIA HAD BROUGHT TREE HOLES AND MARSHES BACK INTO THE URBAN PICTURE OF his Alameda County (Calif.) M.A.D. However, by the commencement of summer he had things back to normal, which is to say control. We wish we could say the same for our mountain house in Mendocino County, where *Ae. sierrensis* has started coming out of treeholes just from coastal FOG. (It's pretty drippy.)

GIL CHALLET'S 1977 ANNUAL REPORT FOR HIS ORANGE COUNTY (CALIF.) VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT documents an impressive amount of public education effort, which we hear from outside sources is paying off richly. During that year, 112 presentations were made to 8,964 third through sixth graders in some 90 elementary schools; study kits were supplied to some 80 schools and altogether about 18,436 students were reached. The presentation to the lower grade pupils was by means of a 25-minute chalk talk, a 10-minute color film and color slides. In addition to the elementary schools, presentations were made to consumer workshop groups (BIG in California), corporate safety and staff meetings, service clubs, garden clubs, homeowners' associations and high school and college classes. AND a 20-minute color videotape on fly control was produced with Fullerton College. wow!

YE OLDE PERIPATETIC HARRY STAGE WRITES US FROM THE U.S. VIRGIN IS. (shux . . . no fancy foreign stamp this time) to say that he has now given the orchids of the Eastern U.S. a thorough viewing, had a most enjoyable mosquito control day with HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL in Washington and was now (as he wrote) headed for home in Coos Bay (Oregon) to climb into Ye Olde Rocking Chaire. That won't last long.

LARRY LEWALLEN WROTE IN JUNE TO TELL US THE SAD NEWS THAT THE USDA WESTERN LABORATORY OF INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS HAS CLOSED DOWN AS OF THAT MONTH. This famous laboratory, which has been so productive, was originally in Corvallis, Oregon, most of you will remember, latterly in Fresno, California. Dr. WILLIAM ROGOFF has been transferred to the Forest Insect Laboratory on the East Campus of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (68583) where he will work on face and stable flies. (That's *Forestry*?) GORDON GRETZ has gone to nematode research at the Sugar Beet Laboratory in Salinas (California), while FRED LEWIS has joined the ranks of us Retired types. (Welcome, FRED!). C. M. GJULLIN, who "retired" some time ago, is a volunteer worker with the California Department of Health Services, Vector Biology and Control Section, Technical Development Facility (wow!) at Fresno. Our Gov., Jerry Jarvis, as he is now being called, decided to simplify Government awhile ago by chopping the Public Health Department into three. Every time a politician simplifies things, he drops some workers and adds words to the title. C.M. doesn't draw pay but even if he *did*, they sure got a bargain. Hope *they* (the pols) realize their luck!

LEW NIELSEN WROTE AS HE APPROACHED THE END OF HIS SABBATICAL IN SWEDEN LAST JUNE to describe glowingly his experiences in mosquito research and wonderful mosquito collecting trips in southern Sweden and Norway. He was working with Dr. CHRISTINE DAHL, no mean taxonomist and the leading expert on Scandinavian mosquitoes. One of Lew's collections contained mermithid worm infections . . . the first from Northern Europe, Lew thought. The trip to Norway was extra satisfying to Lew for a reason different from mosquitoes, fascinating as they were. It was sort of a "Roots" excursion, for his grandparents were from there, and so the superb mountains and spectacular fjords held additional beauty for him.

THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN ISSUED OF THE SIXTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY TO BE HELD 3 to 9 August 1980, in Kyoto, Japan, under the sponsorship of the Science Council of Japan, The Entomological Society of Japan, the Japanese Society of Applied Entomology and Zoology and the Japan Plant Protection Association. Kyoto's excellent and ultra-modern International Conference Hall will be the site. The Japan Travel Bureau, that nonpareil arranger of comforta-

ble viewing of scenic wonders, issuer of endless beautiful and informative books and general efficient cicerone for the Japan traveller, is in charge of arrangements for travel. Better plan on some side trips. The second notice will be sent to individuals who have submitted cards bearing surname, first name, middle initial and country in that order, followed by title and affiliation, section of major interest (systematics, morphology, biochemistry, behavior, genetics, forest entomology, apiculture, etc. etc.) and mailing address, all in nice big block capitals and addressed to XVI International Congress of Entomology, % Kyoto International Conference Hall, Takara-ike, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606, JAPAN. You'll want to see a LOT of Kyoto, that lovely temple city. And then there's Osaka, the Japan Sea, Nagasaki (Madam Butterfly, you know), Nikko, Noboribetsu and lots more.

BOTHA DEMEILLON REPORTED TO MOSQUITO SYSTEMATICS RECENTLY that DR. JOHANNA BONNE WEPSTER died in Amsterdam on 4 May of this year, a sad loss to Culicidology, in which her contributions were many.

CDC'S 1978-9 COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN OUR SUBJECT IS AT HAND AND WHILE 1978 IS OVER WHEN YOU READ THIS, YOU MAY WANT TO THINK ABOUT 1979. (Yes, there WILL BE a 1979, reports to the contrary notwithstanding.)

With registration closing 1 December 1978, Part 1 of *Epidemiology and Control of Vectorborne Diseases* will be given from 22 through 26 January in Atlanta; Part 2, with registration closing a bare week later, 8 December 1978, will run from 29 January through 2 February. Remember, Atlanta has a climate rather like Washington, D.C. because of its altitude, so these times can be cold, though usually not FRIGID!

Control of Mosquitoborne Diseases runs from 5 through 9 March, in Savannah, with registration closing 12 January 1979. And *Collecting, Culturing and Classifying Mosquitoes of Public Health Importance* will be given 2 through 13 April, back in Atlanta. Registration for this closes 9 February 1979. For application forms and further information write to CDC, Attention: Vector Biology and Control Division, Bureau of Tropical Diseases, Building 23, Chamblee, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. Gosh, and Chamblee used to be WAY out of town. (If you want to phone, it's (404) 633-3311, Ext. 5213.)

AND, FINALLY, MARY ANN SONIAK OF NIH ANNOUNCES THAT the National Institute of Al-

lergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) is expanding its efforts in international health by assisting research centers in developing countries and by encouraging and strengthening scientific linkages between the U.S. and foreign investigators. These new efforts will consist of two interrelated activities: International Program Projects Grants and International Exploratory/Developmental Research Grants.

The programs will emphasize research related to medical problems important to developing countries. NIAID is interested in research on tropical diseases involving medical protozoology, entomology, helminthology, malacology, mycology, virology, and bacteriology. Special attention will be given to infectious diseases, including those emphasized in the WHO Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases—malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, and leprosy. However, the program does not exclude other disease categories equally important to developing countries.

International Program Projects Grants will be aimed at establishing a program in International Collaboration in Infectious Diseases Research (ICIDR) that will link U.S. institutions to research units at overseas sites. These grants, which will replace the current International Centers for Medical Research (ICMR), focus on infectious diseases and the immunology of these diseases. A major portion of the research must be conducted in a foreign country, and it must be relevant to one or more important health problems of that country.

Through the International Exploratory/Developmental Research Grants, NIAID will be encouraging additional linkages between U.S. and foreign investigators with common research interests in infectious diseases and immunology. Considered under this arrangement will be receipt of individual research proposals from a U.S. investigator involving collaboration with a foreign affiliate at an overseas site. Purpose of the collaboration will be to identify and investigate common areas of interest in infectious diseases and the immunology of these diseases. However, these grants are not intended to provide long-term support but, rather, to encourage the development of program project grants.

Prospective applicants for one or both of the International Programs may submit a letter of intent for program information on or *before November 1, 1978*. However, this letter is not a prerequisite to submitting a grant proposal.

Application kits containing a special format

with accompanying instructions for each of the new programs are available from:

Dr. Earl S. Beck, Special Assistant to the Director

Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Room 749, Westwood Building
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Requests for additional information relating to these grants may be obtained by writing to the above or by telephoning Dr. Beck at (301) 496-7065.

In addition, details of these International Programs are provided in the May 12, 1978 issue of *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*, Vol. 7, No. 7.

Deadline for receipt of proposals has been set for January 15, 1979.

OBITUARY

JOHN D. DE' COURSEY

Retired Navy Captain John D. DeCoursey, 73, medical entomologist in the Medical Service Corps, U. S. Navy for nearly 30 years, died June 13, 1978 at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. His naval career was devoted to mosquito and malaria control, being involved at different times in training, research and field operations. A major contribution was his role in founding the Military Entomology Information Service at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center annex in Forest Glen. He was awarded a Defense Department commendation for this work.

Entering the Navy in 1942, he served World War II tours of duty within the United States at the Navy Yard, Norfolk, VA; Naval Medical School, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD; Naval Air Station, Hitchcock, Texas; Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, CA and the Naval Base, San Bruno, CA. During the war, he also had malaria control assignments in Nicaragua, Trinidad and Okinawa.

Following the war, Captain DeCoursey was stationed at the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C. from 1945 to 1950 and then spent four

years at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N. C. From 1954 to 1956, he conducted mosquito control research at Naval Medical Research Unit 3 in Cairo, Egypt. Following this, he returned to the Washington area for the remainder of his career, retiring in 1970.

Captain DeCoursey was born in Indianapolis, IN. He earned a bachelor's degree at Louisiana State University and master's and doctoral degrees in entomology at the University of Illinois. He worked for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Idaho and at the Agricultural Research Station in Beltsville, MD, before beginning his naval service.

He was a member of the American Mosquito Control Association.

Survivors include his wife, Anna M., in Bethesda; a son Donald W., of Unionville, VA; a daughter, Patricia Ann Woosley of Decorah, IA; a brother, R. M. DeCoursey, of Storrs, CT, and two grandchildren.

Known affectionately as "Don," Captain DeCoursey served a long and fruitful career as entomologist, naval officer and family man. His passing is noted with sorrow.—Kenneth L. Knight, N. C. State University.