

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

EACH DAY THE TV WEATHERMAN SAID WE MIGHT HAVE SHOWERS, BUT WE DIDN'T; HE SAID WE MIGHT HAVE HIGH WINDS, BUT WE DIDN'T. What we DID have were lovely sunny days . . . only the worth of the papers and the panels could have kept us indoors . . . and a great, big, full moon shining down on the balmy evening fiesta. And flowers and pretty girls along the walks and bridges of the San Antonio River as we drifted (well, actually, it was a small outboard motor running soundlessly on "low") along in a barge, having a lovely lunch in the pleasant sunshine and leafy shadows on the water and listening to the various stringed orchestras and singing groups in the amphitheatres. After Sunday, lunch was in the patio of the Convention Center . . . and who said there's no such thing as a free lunch? Thank you, San Antonio Public Health Equipment and Supply Co.! . . . to say nothing of free beer (local, too, and good) and for those who eschew the delights of a cool beer in the warm sun, there were cokes, sprites, 7-ups and, of course, Dr. Peppers. Where would the South be without Dr. Pepper? (NO, that's not meant to be a free ad. Our Grandmother in Texas gave us CASTOR OIL in them! For ANYthing!)

THERE WERE OVER 700 IN ATTENDANCE, OF WHOM 625 WERE REGISTERED AMCA'ers representing 39 states, 18 countries and from them, representatives of 20 universities, of all the Armed Services including the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, the Center for Disease Control and the PanAmerican Health Organization. Both LEW NIELSEN and RALPH BARR pointed out that we often overlook how truly international AMCA IS, with 650-some "corporate subscribers," including so many from other countries.

CONGRESSMAN TOM LOEFFLER GAVE US A VERY HEARTY AND WELL-INFORMED WELCOMING ADDRESS in which he said that he and the Congress felt sure that effective vector control can be coordinated without damage with the EPA. We hope he's right because the two EPA representatives who spoke unfortunately seemed to think that no quarter was to be asked or expected. Nevertheless, we DO know from the success our own people have been having lately with both Water Management and EPA types that it *can* be done and we were encouraged by the interest the Congressman showed in having this coordination accomplished.

DR. LEONARD JAN BRUCE-CHWATT, OF THE WELLCOME MUSEUM OF MEDICAL SCIENCE IN LONDON, GAVE A MASTERLY MEMORIAL LECTURE IN HONOR OF DR. L. O. HOWARD, WHICH IS PRINTED ELSEWHERE SO WE WON'T SUMMARIZE IT. On his return to London, however, he wrote a charming note of thanks to TOMMY MULHERN which both he and we think we ought to share with you all:

"On our return to London from San Antonio, I wish to express to you personally and to all members of your Association my profound gratitude for the honour you did me in inviting me to be the AMCA Memorial Lecturer and for the warm and most generous welcome that you and your colleagues extended to my wife and myself during that week.

"I was most impressed by the quality and the large numbers of papers presented at the meeting and admired the excellent organization of it. I was overjoyed in seeing and talking to so many old friends and was glad to have made many new ones.

"We stayed for two days with JOHN SCANLON (*our caps*) in San Antonio *** I have been asked to go next week to a meeting in Agadir, Morocco, but because of other commitments here will have to cancel my tentative promise to join this French group. Now, as I grow old, I realize that more and more things that I regarded before as opportunities, I see now as temptations, but I am reconciled with the "scientific fact" that all good things in life produce cancer in mice.

"This might be the right time to end this letter but before I do that, I must tell you how much I admire the activity of your Association and your role in it. AMCA combines in a unique way scientific research with its practical application and does it better than many other societies that I know. May it never cease to be active, even if it may not eliminate the last mosquito from this planet. Dr. Sandved of the Smithsonian in Washington had this vision of a distant future and I quote a passage from his introduction to 'Insect Magic' (Viking Press 1978):

"When the moon shall have faded out from the sky and the red sun shall shine at noon-day a dull cherry-red and the sea shall be frozen over and the ice-caps shall have crept downward to the equator from either pole, and no keels shall cut the waters, nor wheels turn the

mills, when all cities shall have long been dead and crumbled into dust and all life shall be on the very last verge of extinction on this globe; then on a bit of lichen growing on bald rocks beside the eternal snows of Panama, shall be seated a tiny insect, preening its antennae in the glow of the worn-out sun representing the sole survival of animal life on this earth . . . a melancholy bug.'

"But there is still plenty to do for mankind before that day comes," concludes Dr. Bruce-Chwatt.

Dr. Sandved, of course, was paraphrasing in far more poetic elaboration, the remark that Dr. L. O. Howard used to make to student entomology clubs (like ours that met in Dr. BILL HERMS' living room in 1928), though he made the "bug" as we remember it, a "cockroach." Not, at any rate, a mosquito!!!

YOU'LL READ THE INDIVIDUAL CITATIONS FOR THE SEVERAL AWARDS GIVEN OUT AT THE PRESIDENTS' RECEPTION ELSEWHERE IN MN BUT WE THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT WHO GOT THEM RIGHT NOW. STAN CARPENTER and ROLLIE DORER received the Medal of Honor, presented by BOB WASHINO and GLENN STOKES, who were among the nineteen Past President present, if we counted correctly . . . they stretched clear across the stage. Meritorious Service Awards went to ED SMITH, DAN BOYD, GIL CHALLET, and RALPH BARR, presented by DICK PETERS, PAUL HUNT, GENE KAUFFMAN, and HAROLD CHAPMAN. It is both invidious and untrue to say that any one recipient deserved it more than another, but the biggest hand, on our decibel meter, went to DAN, for his long and faithful service in the field of supply rather than research and applied biology.

Presidential Citations went to LINDA SHIELDS RAICHE and MARGARET G. SLATER, Linda's presented to loud applause by TOMMY MULHERN and, because Margaret could not be there, he's both presented and accepted on her behalf by BILL BICKLEY. Part of Linda's applause derived from the fact that she had hornswoiggled her new groom into accepting her hard-working attendance as a partial honeymoon (!). Mr. Raiche being a very agreeable young man, everyone immediately approved of him and wished the handsome couple Long Life and Happiness!

Finally, the JOHN N. BELKIN MEMORIAL AWARD went to BOTHA DE MEILLON and was presented by GENE GERBERG with a warm and

appreciative word about both JOHN and BOTHA. A letter of respect and appreciation was sent to Dr. Howard's daughter and a small plaque went to Dr. Bruce-Chwatt for consenting to come, for preparing and for delivering his fine lecture and BOB WASHINO joined the ranks of the Immortals.

EDGAR SMITH, TALKING ABOUT JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN HIS NOBLE OUTFIT: People interested in being consultants for vector control in foreign lands for the AID Program should get in touch. Some appointments are for as little as two weeks while others are for as much as two years, coming up soon. Besides being specialists (as, of course, all WE are!), applicants must speak Spanish or French conversationally . . . which is to say above the ou-est-que-je-peur-trouver-le-W.C.? or the donde-está-mi-comida-Señorita level, certainly. Some are in Central America, the Caribbean, South America, Africa and Asia, which seems to cover all bases, for the evaluation of programs in progress. Pore Ed has been around the world more than 30 times since he broke from his cell (with a hell of a yell?) in California. Last October, he was in Bangkok, in November, Manila and then to Bogotá, Abidjan, the Ivory Coast and home, where he was allowed to stay not even 24 HOURS before being sent off to Guyana. Remember the WWII joke about your wife demanding to see your ID at the door when you finally did get home?

Well, as consolation, AID gave ED the Superior Honor Award with a citation which starts: . . . "in recognition of his exceptional achievement in promoting development of new methodologies for the prevention and treatment of malaria for use by the peoples of the developing world; his imagination, perseverance, and resourcefulness in developing innovative malaria assistance strategies; and his central role in the development of Agency policy and guidance in all areas of malaria, including research and field operations." It goes on for a *page and a half* but we'll spare Ed's blushes except one more: "Several scientific breakthroughs, including the *in-vitro* cultivation of malaria parasites, have been achieved since Mr. Smith assumed management of the project" . . . hailed as the greatest single advancement in 25 years, gaining international acclaim for AID as well as the interest of the major international health organizations and the military, "who have now begun supporting programs to develop a safe, effective vaccine against human malaria."

OUR NEW PREXY CLAUDE SCHMIDT RECEIVED NO MEAN HONOR LATELY, TOO, WHEN HE WAS ELECTED A FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE. Dr. Schmidt was cited for his application of radioisotopes and radiation to effect change in the physiology of insects affecting man and animals, a project in which he has been interested since his work with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. He's also a Fellow of the Washington Academy of Sciences and an honored member of about Everything . . . including, US, AAAS, American Chemical Society, AIBS, ESA and the American Registry of Professional Entomologists.

SPEAKING OF WHICH, WE WERE GLAD TO SEE DR. (COL.) MILT FLEMING who was treading his native heath not only as a distinguished member of AMCA and professor of culicidology but also as representative for ARPE. We were glad to be able to tell him he is not forgotten in Kobe, Japan, where he started neighborhood fly, mosquito and general sanitation control teams which are still going strong. We felt a peculiar fittingness in his representing ARPE in San Antonio because (as we think we once before said) it was in Texas, well, Houston, in 1944 or so when we were hooted out of the room for arguing for the formation of a Professional Entomologists registry and some standards for professional training. (We had been working with Professional Engineers in the Army and were getting a li-i-i-ttle tired of being condescended to because we had no professional "standing.") Milt was in San Antonio to change all that; we hope that those of you who visited him at his "booth" and AREN'T YET, will get on board!

ACCORDING TO PETER BELTON, IF ANY OF YOU CAN'T QUITE REMEMBER WHAT IT IS THAT'S SO MEMORABLE ABOUT MT. ST. HELENS, HE DISCOVERED A REAL MNEMONIC AID. It had some interesting side effects that weren't so grim as the rest of it. According to Peter, the ash killed the *Aedes* eggs to all appearances but peculiarly did NOT prevent *Culex tarsalis* from coming right back in . . . or making it through the holocaust, perhaps. It killed wasps for 10 miles around and it had the odd effect of making spiders' webs UNSticky as it floated through the air, a sad blow to THEM. Pore lil frantic spiders.

WHEN YE ED GAVE HIS REPORT TO THE GENERAL MEETING AND CONCLUDED WITH HIS BRIEF VALDICTORY, HE RECEIVED A LONG ROUND OF

LOUD APPLAUSE and was also applauded for his graceful and grateful remarks about our self-effacing Asst. Editor, MARGARET SLATER (without whom you certainly wouldn't have been reading THIS column). We sort of felt that if there'd been any roses handy there would have been a few bunches thrown at BICK's feet. As this would probably have caused him to fade away with embarrassment, it's probably just as well they were still outside the doors on the bushes. We hope our tears didn't embarrass him either. Tears really weren't all that appropriate, for in RON WARD good old MN is getting so distinguished and able a new Editor that there will certainly be no visible seam in the fabric. Nevertheless, our life seems to consist of the ends of eras, these days and while we welcome new eras, some of the old ones were mighty comfortable and nice. We couldn't have worked for a nicer and more considerate boss, or one with more impeccable judgment. We do hope his retirement will turn out as rewarding as ours is.

DON WOMELDORF WILL BE THE NEW SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR and he and GILL CHALLET, outgoing rep., were full of info about next year's meetings in Sacramento. This will be the 50th anniversary of the CMVCA's annual meetings. BOB WASHING reported that recently, when folks wrote to him as Prexy, asking where Sacramento WAS, he just told them it's about a couple of hundred miles NW of Las Vegas. The hotel for the meetings is near downtown Sacramento . . . yes, there IS a beautiful, downtown Sacramento; historic, too, and full of flowers . . . but the hotel's NOT a highrise! Just remember that you're visiting the "South Pacific!"

DAVE REED, WHO HAS LABORED MIGHTILY . . . AND WE DO MEAN MIGHTILY, AS WELL AS WITH SPECTACULAR RESULT . . . ON THE NEW CUMULATIVE INDEX FOR MN, reports that the first 20 years will be ready this year, with an average of 5 cross-references per listing.

SOME OF THE PAGES OF THE NEW DARSIE-WARD MOSQUITO ATLAS WERE AVAILABLE FOR PASSING AROUND . . . beautiful! Clear!! Understandable!!! Even to a totally non-systematic type like us.

SOMETHING TOMMY MULHERN DID PRIOR TO THE MEETING SHOULD NOT GO UNREMARKED, WE THINK, AND IT DIDN'T in the casual conversations which are so important a part of the

meetings, but no one, so far as we remember, stood up to say thanks in the business meeting. We're talking about the Meeting Notice which went out well in advance and contained the lead sentence: "This meeting is essential for training and keeping up-to-date in the field of mosquito research and control and public health." As you will remember it went on to point out that recognized experts in the field would present papers and reports on many topics and would be discussing new developments in all. When every inch of travel has to be justified in these tight times, this is the sort of paper which allows sympathetic administrators to justify the approval as nothing else does. A little piece of paper and how important to have!

JOYCE CHESTER, BLESS HER FOR HER GOOD NEWS SENDING, WROTE US A LETTER SAYING HOW HAPPY THEY WERE TO HAVE LEN TRAGER as Assistant Director for the Mosquito Control Division of Jefferson Parish (Louisiana). When we saw Colonel Trager at San Antonio (and how did we miss Joyce?), he allowed as how he was as happy about it as anybody, really feels he's "come home" but we'd forgotten to bring the letter. IT said Len had retired in 1929, a slight typo of one number, which startled us because, you see, 1929 has an extra significance for us. THAT'S when we got our scroll from Cal and were kicked out into the Great Adventure. Len you really don't look your age at all at all.

RALPH BRAM, WHOSE CURRICULUM VITAE FROM USDA UNACCOUNTABLY LEAVES OUT HIS MOSQUITO-GOOD YEARS WITH THE NAVY, HAS BEEN NAMED TO FILL THE POST OF NATIONAL PROGRAM LEADER for Research in Insects Affecting Man and Animals, a part of USDA's Science and Education Admin. Ralph replaces DONALD LINDQUIST, who has joined the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. (Don't all these things tie in nicely?) Ralph, of course, was with the Southeast Asia Mosquito Project at its inception and besides being with FAO in Rome on a short sabbatical into ticks, has been with Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. He got his Doctorate at Maryland under BICK and we're glad to have him back in the orthodox fold once again.

NOW IN ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST . . . LAWRENCE LACEY SAYS HE IS FINALLY GOING TO BE IN ONE PLACE FOR MORE THAN 3 WEEKS, and that place is the USDA's Science and Education Administration Southern Region Laboratory

at Gainesville (Florida) P.O. Box 14566 and ZIP 32604.

WELL, NOW WE'RE IN FLORIDA AND THE PAUL HARVEY NEWS TELLS US A SMALL ANECDOTE ANENT INTERIOR SECRETARY JAMES WATT'S FEELING THAT THERE MAY BE JUST A TAD TOO MUCH PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT. (We think Watt means too much attempt by EPA to keep it "Natural" in too many places. But anyway.)

"It has been just one long lifetime since Congress was considering whether Florida should become a State.

"The Honorable John Randolph of Virginia was opposed. He said, 'Florida is a land of swamps, quagmires, frogs, alligators and mosquitoes; it will never be a fit place to live.'

"Florida's environment a hundred years ago was entirely 'natural'—but it was a hostile environment for people. Life expectancy for Floridians was 33 years." (We're glad we weren't born in the Orlando Lab until EIGHTY years ago; near miss.) "They died of yellow fever, dengue fever, encephalitis. The major killer was malaria, especially along river bottoms and flatlands." In 1936, everyone in Quincy still got up and had a couple of quinine tablets in a cup of hot water before breakfast. But mosquitoes weren't really bad then, in town. "The first malaria control project was undertaken in Perry, Florida, in 1919. The Florida Anti-mosquito Association was founded at Daytona Beach in 1922."

AND IN VERO BEACH IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR, THE PAUL HUNTS, THE JOHN BEIDLERS, THE BILL BIDLINGMAYERS HAD A "FAMILY" DINNER AT THE DRIFTWOOD INN WITH OLLIE PROVOST and presented her with the framed certificate in honor of her husband MAURY PROVOST, honoree of the Memorial Lecture at the 1980 Meeting in Salt Lake City. The Certificate, as such certificates do, compressing a lifetime of achievements into a sentence, says, "For devoted service to the American Mosquito Control Association and for a distinguished life fully given in service to mankind in the fields of Entomological Research and Medical Entomology."

DR. LUIS VARGAS HAS SENT US A THOUGHT OR TWO ON THE CONTINUING VALUE, OR LACK THEREOF, OF DDT RESIDUAL TREATMENTS in areas where the people live on the margins of poverty.

"In large areas of the world, malaria disappeared almost without specific programs of

attack. When living standards were raised by improved socio-economic conditions in the community, the factors operating to effect this disappearance were the improvements in housing, the urban mosquito control activities against larvae of all species and the better use of land as for sporting centers, recreational parks, educational and cultural units, stores and manufacturing concerns. In addition, previously idle lands received agricultural care and irrigation systems and well drained roads and new dams and lakes were carefully built. Communities, now with easy access to public health facilities, did not accept troublesome mosquitoes even in their gardens.

"In other areas, living conditions are difficult; people, extremely poor, live in badly-built huts and malaria and other diseases are abundant. The shacks often lack walls or these walls are not continuous; when DDT is sprayed on available wall surfaces, inasmuch as the house is not an efficient trap to retain the *Anopheles*, these easily escape without being affected by the insecticide. In addition, some walls are made of sorbent materials, mud, adobe or brick, which do not keep the toxin available on the surface. In these conditions, spraying the walls is of no value.

"While antimalaria drugs may in the long term be effective, they, too, are limited by the fact that the discovery of cases, their diagnosis and treatment is difficult. There remains the possibility of enforcing environmental controls but this is of questionable practicability in extensive lands of low value and with scarce population.

"Transmission of malaria may also occur in marginal areas of towns where living conditions are similar to those of rural areas. In these places, a useful attack measure is often overlooked. I refer to the value of mist or fine dust; this can be very effective, even overcoming some level of resistance by way of multiple doses and overcoming exophily and exophagy of *Anopheles* in a short time.

"A disadvantage is that the effectiveness of mist is short and so misting must be repeated on 3 or 4 continuous days and over a period of several weeks in order to interrupt local transmission. Short term environmental contamination in these areas is not very important if it is considered in relation to the other more important health problems which have persisted from long ago or if it is considered in relation to the advantage of eliminating the infected vectors and thus ending transmission, rather than trying to eliminate a whole species of *Anopheles*." Although Mexico has crossed the

threshold of "takeoff" as a developed nation some time since, Luis is closely aware of the practical view necessarily taken by Third World countries among our neighbors and in fact the needs in control of vector borne diseases in poverty areas which neither they nor we have completely succeeded in eliminating.

TWO PAPERS AT THE VMCA ANNUAL MEETING WE MEANT TO ASK ROLLIE DORER ABOUT BUT DOGGED IF WE DIDN'T FORGET TO, we were so glad to see him looking his normal smiling, healthy self. They were *his* paper entitled, "Saving Money" which should have been a sell-out and one entitled "Senior Citizen Surveillance" which made us vaguely uneasy. Could it be that they meant surveillance OF Senior Cits or just surveillance BY? We know us elderly types DO tend to get a mite careless about leaving things around . . . but mosquito-breeding BEER CANS and OLD TIRES? No way. Their meeting was also about M.C. in relation to hazardous waste disposal, bird control, honeybees and wetlands and was held 21 January in Virginia Beach.

NEW JERSEY MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION'S MEETING ON 26, 27 and 28 FEBRUARY AT CHERRY HILL HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE ADDRESSED BY THEN-PREXY BOB WASHINO, TOMMY MULHERN, LAMAR MEEK and JAY GRAHAM, according to a nice long report from HENRY RUPP. The theme of the meeting was "Service," which has always been NJ's motto anyway and PREX BOB DREYER led off with a rousing talk about reorientation and priorities in a time when finances are ever more closely tied to service to the tax paying public. Not to worry but it doesn't hurt to keep it in the FRONT of the mind. BILL ZAWICKI of Chevron, a good advertiser, gave a slide presentation that gave a clearer understanding of drift and why some voices are being raised to place limits on aerial applications. There were more than 180 in attendance and HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL was heard to say it was one of the best all-round programs she'd been at in years! Henry said, modestly, that Helen was being kind to a worry-wart program chairman or maybe was just impressed by the fact that everything ran on time and nobody had to rush. (THAT would impress ANYbody.) The program looked mighty stimulating and fine too.

CALIFORNIA MCA'S PROGRAM IS SET FOR 26-29 April, after our deadline, so we can tell you only that it, too, looks very stimulating and in

several of the newer directions. One panel is on the progress of *Bti* Research (we WISH folks would define their terms the first time round!). Long panel, too, five papers and an hour and a half. Also, *Ceratopogonids*, a panel of five, and *Computer Use in Processing Operational Control Data*. A paper by DON WOMELDORF on comparative effects of aerosols of bendiocarb, chlorpyrifos, malathion and pyrethrins on caged honey bees and mosquitoes. (NO MICE? No thought given to possible *teratogenicity*? It'll never play in San Mateo, let alone Marin, Don.) Some 97 papers in all, covering all you'd ever want to know about chemical and biological control and any number of diseases and concerns for the public health.

JACK WALKER COMFORTABLY ENSCONCED IN RETIREMENT IN THE ENVIRONS OF BEND (Ore) writes that, "Since there are only occasional demands for a consulting medical parasitologist in this area—even though there is no noteworthy competition and my services come cheap (sic) (free)—I have found time for

a wide range of library 'research,' some modest writing efforts and a recently revived passion for oil painting. Betty had done some rewarding piano work through Central Oregon Community College and I continue to be fairly active in various subversive organizations, such as the Sierra Club, Audubon Society, ACLU, etc." Jack goes on to remark that they love it there in the foothills of the beautiful Cascades. "Fortunately," he adds, "our kids like it too—in fact, all four of them, with their betrothed, their skis and our five delightful and bewildering grandchildren . . ." who came from Montana and the San Francisco Bay area for the holidays.

HELP, WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF SPACE! But we want to tell you that the OHIO MCA will hold its 1981 meeting at Salt Fork State Park, near Cambridge (Guernsey County) on 14 and 15 October, too late for a notice in our next issue to help you plan to attend. LEE MITCHELL says please DO.

UTAH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 983, Vernal, Utah 84078

Eighty-five percent of the people in the state of Utah are now living within the boundaries of organized mosquito abatement districts.

Dennis Hunter—President
Utah County MAD

Elmer Kingsford—President Elect
Logan City Mosquito Abatement Program

Robert Brand—Vice President
Tooele Valley MAD

Dr. Steven V. Romney—Secretary/Treasurer
Uintah County MAD

34th Annual Meeting Sept. 28, 29, 30, 1981—Little America, Salt Lake City, Utah

Proceedings of Annual Meeting & Individual Membership can be obtained from Secretary