

## NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

LINDA ELLESON, A MOSQUITO CONTROL INTERN IN NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS AND THE SOUTH COOK COUNTY MAD HAVE DEVELOPED A PRETTY GOOD ANSWER TO ANY FLAGGING INTEREST IN MOSQUITO CONTROL OR RISING FEARS OF MOSQUITO CONTROL METHODS. Linda wrote an article for *American City and County* that covered all bases in the June issue in a pleasantly informative fashion (are you a journalism major, Linda?). It was sub-headed, we guess by some impressed editor, "This Illinois community of 40,000 has developed a program of mosquito control that keeps its citizens comfortable, its costs in line, the environmental impacts low, and its citizens involved. You can't beat that with a stick!"

South Cook County rated a column by Jack Mabley in the *Tribune* last 23 March, which quoted Dr. KHIAN LIEM at length and got a lot of important points across. Mabley headed *his* column, "Mosquito control tax bite painless" and then went into the nitty-gritty of rising taxes ELSEWHERE and most-for-your-money mosquito control tax. The best defense is a good offense, as the MS & T textbooks remind us.

THE ANNUAL REPORT ON MOSQUITO CONTROL RESEARCH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA is another valiant attempt to educate the Public. The 1980 one, which we should have reported in June, is a real gem. In addition to a scholarly and succinct discussion of all facets of control, environmental, biological, genetic and chemical, it has an absolutely fantastic picture in color, on the cover, of a dragonfly naiad about to engulf a mosquito larva. Good pictures inside, too, but unfortunately the tone is MUCH too erudite for the science editors of the *Chronex* papers. Three and four syllable words, at least.

KATHERINE SOMMERMAN RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HER FRIEND BOBBIE SHERWOOD, WHO WAS IN EVERGLADES NATION PARK last winter, camping. Ms. Sherwood was much impressed by a mosquito control talk given by one of the rangers, feminine type. She wrote, "One of the girl rangers here gives the most marvelous skit on mosquitoes for one of the evening campfire programs. She dressed to give the illusion of

one—she has very long straight legs, wears black tights and a short cute pair of white shorts, her torso in black with long, black sleeves. She has improvised a pair of wings made of clear plastic which look all too real, and wears a proboscis attached to her face. She actually impersonates a mosquito and is so good at it that she creates an illusion from the word go, and she keeps it up for half an hour. She takes the mosquito's point of view—helped by the fact there are small fish in this Park designed to eat only mosquito larvae. She has the cleverest way of challenging the audience into being sympathetic to her (a mosquito), asking them very pointed questions to help them see the ecology of mosquitoes. During her skit, she manages to get across the mosquito life story and the ecological niche which they fill, thus leading people into learning more than they would bother reading about. One man told me that he learned more about mosquitoes in her half hour than in all the rest of his life put together." It sounds great!—but we'd be a LITTLE anxious unless she pointed up that mosquitoes are VECTORS, too, in their little niche, in Florida particularly.

LEW NIELSEN HAS BEEN EXPLORING THE ECOLOGICAL NICHES OF MOSQUITOES IN NEWFOUNDLAND and wrote us in June, "I have been collecting 'skeeters' in Newfoundland and Labrador for the past three weeks. I have found many of the species known to occur here but I have also turned up 4 new records for the island. It has been a great experience, thanks to a grant from the National Geographic Society." (May we expect a NG article in September, Lew?—Ed.) "I am working in MARSHALL LAIRD's vector Pathology Lab at Memorial University in St. John's. I am very grateful to Marshall, Jean Finney, Joe Mokry and Murray Colbo for the excellent facilities, help and cooperation I have had and also to Gordon Bennett, who has put me up at his home. The Newfies are great people. Never have found a more friendly or obliging people anywhere.

"Newfoundland is a beautiful place. A fantastic coastline, with beautiful forests, lakes and rivers. That is, it is when you can see it. Rain

and fog are the usual weather. (Only 3½ sunny days in the last 3 weeks). Oh, well . . . the mosquitoes need the water. On the negative side are the black flies—absolutely horrendous annoyance in the whole province. Much of the research in Marshall's lab concerns these little beasties. Deeply involved in BTI work with both mosquitoes and blackflies here and in Labrador." Lew ended by noting that he was about to go to Marshall's for a lobster and white wine dinner and had been "forced" to eat lobster already FOUR times! "Awful, huh?" he commented. Yeah, AWFUL! But we scientists are forced to put up with a lot of discomfort, Lew.

WHEN WE WERE IN SAN ANTONIO ONE OF OUR UNDONE THINGS WE MEANT TO DO WAS CONGRATULATE DR. HAROLD CHAPMAN. Chappie<sup>7</sup> retired as of 3 April 1981, which makes us feel a thousand and ten because he's always seemed like the Eternal Youth to us, though erudite. He isn't really actually entirely retired, because he's still a volunteer collaborator and advisor. Chappie also sends word that ED HAZARD will soon be leaving Gainesville (has now left) for the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. And sadder news that FRANK GLENN who was field man par excellence for 16 years died of a blood clot following a brain operation for cancer.

CAPT DICK HOLWAY, WHO RETIRED FROM THE NAVY TO A YACHT HARBOR . . . Bar Harbor, Maine, that is. . . runs a marvelous boutique there now, called (what else?) the Captain's Locker, along with Iva, who retired from law and running seminars for scholars at the U of Hawaii. Dr. Holway says they enjoy the coming and the going of the seasons and also the coming and the going of the tourists. A real New Englander. Having clued you in on how to pronounce Noo Orlyuns and Loosiana, we can now tell you via Dick that Bar Harbor's next door Acadia National Park is on Mt. Desert Island, pronounced as in Apple Pie. It ain't no desert.

DR. DONALD PLETSCH, WHOSE COMINGS AND GOINGS ARE SO NUMEROUS AND GO SO FAR THAT WE SUMMARIZE THEM ONLY SEMI-ANNUALLY, sent us a letter from Mexico City (we guess; the lovely stamp didn't get cancelled) with a honey bee on the stamp to advertise Mexico's export of honey. His letter was a note about Malaria Philatelists International, now being organized, principally through the efforts of Mr. James W. Dellinger, Editor of the *Miasma*

*Philatelist*, whose address is 426 W. Fremont Avenue, Elmhurst, Illinois 60126. Members will receive information regarding sources of malaria and mosquito-related stamp issues, predominantly those of the 1962 WHO-promoted series, but also of later and pre-eradication ones as well. The quarterly newsletter-type issues will present much too-little-known data on malaria-related stamps, first day covers, cachets, etc.

DR. JOHN E. SCANLON HAS BEEN ELECTED THE NEW SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE and now is as good a time as any to run a brief biog of the sort we ran a number of years ago but somehow didn't on John. John was an infantry type during WWII (what a waste!) but was graduated from Fordham in 1950 and simultaneously commissioned into the Army Medical Service Corps as a Distinguished Military Graduate. The Army, finally becoming aware of the treasure they had in John, sent him for some flying courses in the redoubtable bastions of epidemiology, CDC, the MFSS and the U.S. National Museum and then sent him in the group which established the Far East Medical Research Unit attached to the 406th Medical General Lab in Tokyo. After all that, John worked for his MS under BARNEY TRAVIS, was at Walter Reed under HERB BARNETT, and took a PhD under BILL BICKLEY. He was at SEATO Lab in Bangkok, shuttled back and forth between WRAIR and the Far East for some time and retired as Chief of the Department of Entomology at WRAIR. John's now an adopted Texan and director of the branch campus of the U of Texas School of Public Health at San Antonio, where many of you no doubt had pleasant chats with him, as we did, and productive ones. His honors, too numerous to list here, include Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, and the Army Legion of Merit. None was automatic with the job.

DR. HAMAYUN R. RATHOR, WHO CAME ALL THE WAY FROM LAHORE TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS IN SAN ANTONIO went home ju-u-st in time. His son was born the day he got home. Congratulations on the son, bravery in being away at such a time and your timing in getting home!! Proud papa says he's a charmer and we're sure that's so. Pictures, next meeting?!

DR. HUGO JAMNBACK, WHO HAS BEEN THE LEADING LIGHT ON OUR MN EDITORIAL STAFF

FOR LO! THESE MANY YEARS is retiring from his position and his job, and will be doing independent consulting work starting in September and in, we assume, New York State. Best o' luck, Hugo, and may your forthcoming years be as rewarding for you as your past ones have been for us.

IT'S TOO LATE TO SUBMIT PAPERS FOR THE NORTHWEST MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS on 6, 7 and 8 October but it's not too late to plan to attend if you're in those parts. They'll be held in Medford, Oregon at the Holiday Inn and the projected program will encompass program administration and training, with emphasis on legal and fiscal matters, vector control technologies, integrated control programs, peripheral "vectors" (of human trauma, that is) such as monkeys... get many calls on *those*, Eric?... dogs, cats, stored food pests, etc., and various related environmental factors in vector control.

Eric is ERIC HAMRIN, program chairman, of the Jackson County Vector Control District in White City, Oregon 97503. If you want to be in good company, better plan to go, for the AMCA EXEC. COMMITTEE will be there, too, and there MAY be a CDC training session on the previous Monday.

MID ATLANTIC MCA'S MEETING LAST FEBRUARY WAS ON JEKYLL ISLAND, ACCORDING TO VMCA'S SKEETER, which says it was lovely. Then-Pexy Dr. BOB WASHINO addressed them, as did Dr. KEITH SYKES, DICK AXTELL, ROLLIE DORER, OSCAR FULTZ and a number of knowledgeable others. Several papers gave glowing reports of *B. thuringiensis israelensis*, a comer. They suggested getting into contact with Dr. Robert Cibulsky of Abbott Laboratories, 2826 Rosegarden Blvd., West Mechanicsburg, Penn. 17055, if you're interested in trying *B.t.i.* and are willing to keep GOOD records.

GIL CHALLET REPORTED IN MAY THAT THE RISING TIDE OF VANDALISM AND "PETTY" THEFT HAD SWEEPED INTO HIS TOOL SHOP removing the Orange County (Calif.) MAD's *entire* hand-tool supply. With a \$1000 deductible insurance policy, the District decided to look into a better security system, even as many Art Museums have had to do lately. Perhaps as an echo of their experience, one of the District employees, Wm. Bobbitt, was alert enough to help apprehend a burglar in a private residence one

early morning shortly after, and thus shined up the corporate image. Another employee, sent out on a rat call, so impressed the homeowner, who just HAPPENED to be the County CSA director, that he was left with a very pleasant feeling toward the whole vector control program. Nice going!

CALIFORNIA IS HEADING INTO ANOTHER DROUGHT THIS YEAR BUT THE RESERVOIRS ARE STILL FULL, TIDES HAVE BEEN HIGH AND FOR A TIME RAINS WERE HEAVY, IF NOT FREQUENT ENOUGH. All this added up to salt marsh mosquito problems and fish pond problems for FRED ROBERTS' Alameda County (Calif.) MAD and DAVE REED'S Fresno Westside MAD, down in the San Joaquin Valley, where there's a lot of rice being raised where the Lord didn't plan for it to be. You'd be *astonished* at the amount of mosquito fish they've planted. We're glad to report that the lack of rain resulted in a 50% reduction in our *Aedes sierrensis* problem up on the mountain in Mendocino County. Only one biting count a minute, easily countered with a smoldering coil of *katorisenko* (pyrethrum to you). The rain *doesn't* fall on the just and the unjust, too.

FAIRFIELD AMERICAN CORPORATION, ONE OF OUR GOOD ADVERTISERS, MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT BECAUSE THEY HAD TO EXPAND both office and laboratory facilities. Ribbon cutting ceremonies and open house were held at the new 5,200 square foot building recently added at their location on Salt Road in Medina, N.Y. You go through there, stop by.

STOP BY CDC, TOO, IF YOU WANT TO TAKE A REFRESHER COURSE OR EXPAND YOUR PRESENT KNOWLEDGE of mosquito-borne diseases, epidemiology, mosquito surveillance and mosquito identification. "Control of Mosquito-borne Diseases" will be given at Savannah, Georgia, 11-15 Sept. with registration until 31 July (too late!), 19-23 April 1982, with registration to 26 February, and 20-24 September, with registration to 30 July. "Epidemiology and Control of Vector-borne Diseases" will be given 25-29 January, 1982, in Atlanta, with registration closing 4 December 1981. "Advanced Epidemiology and Control of Vector-borne Diseases" will also be in Atlanta, on 1-5 March, 1982, registration closing 8 January, 1982, and "Surveillance and Identification of Mosquitoes of Public Health Importance" will be given in

Atlanta, 17-21 May, 1982, with registration closing on 26 March. Tuition fees and other information may be obtained from the Vector Biology and Control Division of CDC, Building 23, Chamblee Atlanta, Georgia 30333, or by phone (404) 452-4055.

AND THAT'S ALL, FOLKS. You want more news, you send us some. How about sending us your monthly report to the Trustees, with anything new or startling, or that you're sort of proud of, underlined in pen or pencil or something?

**CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO and VECTOR CONTROL  
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**50th ANNUAL CONFERENCE, AMCA/CMVCA**

**Holiday Inn Capital Plaza**

**Sacramento, CA**

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**FOR SALE BY ASSOCIATION—CURRENT PRICES**

A Training Manual for California Mosquito Control Agencies—\$12.00

Field Guide to Mosquitoes of California—\$5.00

Field Guide to Domestic Flies of California—\$5.00

Field Guide to Mosquito-Like Gnats of California—\$5.00

Fish In California Mosquito Control—\$15.00

Proceedings of Past Conferences of CMVCA

1980 Yearbook of CMVCA—\$5.00

1980 Proceedings and Papers—Volume 48—\$10.00

1981 Yearbook Available July