

NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL, JR.

NEITHER RAIN NOR SNOW NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT (BUT THERE WASN'T ANY GLOOM OF NIGHT, OF COURSE) HINDERED ABOUT 500 REGISTRANTS FROM MAKING THEIR APPOINTED ROUND TO TORONTO ALONG WITH 27 LOYAL EXHIBITORS. ACTUALLY, THE WEATHER WASN'T AT ALL BAD and we had brilliant sunshine on the wee piles of snow and the ebbing and flowing harbor ice. Not that we had any time to be out in it, though some of the ladies, professional biologists and otherwise, and the RAICHES went to see Niagara Falls and they reported it is still lovely and breathtaking.

The rest of us were jumping about the very convenient spread of meeting rooms to hear the 119 papers on a host of subjects but heavy on *Bti*, monomolecular surface films, IGRs and parasites. Along with concern for non-target organisms, there was one paper that especially intrigued us, on the effect of *Aedes aegypti* on the susceptibility of *Tox-orhynchites ambotnensis* to *Bti*. Now THERE'S something we'd never have thought of.

THE MEMORIAL LECTURE WAS DELIVERED BY DR. GEORGE CRAIG AND HONORED DR. LOUIS WILLIAMS, WHO WAS ADMIRERED, RESPECTED AND LOVED BY SO MANY MALARIA FIGHTERS AROUND THE WORLD. Although all of us have wrestled with the problem of controlling breeding in old tires, and know vaguely that they are a major source of mosquitoes, especially aedine, we were somewhat stunned to learn from Dr. Craig that there are some TWO HUNDRED MILLION of them piled up around the world yearly . . . and the market for zori, sandals and doormats doesn't even make a dent. If you've seen them standing upright in mudflats (and who hasn't?) you know THAT'S not the disposal method of choice. And we dassn't burn them.

George quoted BILL HORSEFALL as suggesting that the old-style tires, made of real rubber, having more sulfur content, put out fewer mosquitoes than the new synthetics do, so there's an added factor to worry about. While we're worrying, there is also a report of *Aedes albopictus* showing up in Memphis, a VERY exotic location. Tires??

AT THE AWARDS MEETING AFTER LUNCH, the Presidential Citation was presented to RAY TREICHLER by GLENN STOKES, the Medal of Honor was handed to GEORGE CARMICHAEL by BOB WASHING and the Meritorious Service Award went this year to two deserving people . . . to SAM BREELAND, presented by PAUL HUNT, and D. J. SUTHERLAND, our new V.P., by CLAUDE SCHMIDT. (We hoped Claude would hand it to Don with a graceful word or two in French, we being in bilingual Canada, but he stuck to plain old English.) The Belkin Award was presented by LEW NIELSEN to DR. TOM ZAVORTINK. A most respectful and awed silence, followed by applause greeted the announcement that Mr. CHARLES SHEEL, long President of the Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District, with 53 years of service on the Board, and one-time President of the Illinois MCA, has just retired at the age of NINETY-THREE!!!

LAMAR MEEK SHOWED A SELECTION OF THE PHOTO SALON WINNERS AND ANNOUNCED THAT CARL PEARSON HAD WON THE award for Best Slide by an AMCA member, and also Best Mosquito Slide, while JOE TIMMER had Best of Show. One hundred ten people participated, 78 from the U.S. and 32 from outside the U.S. There were 24 states represented (12 entries from Michigan!) and 13 foreign countries, including our host, Canada. Actually, Canada's PART of AMCA, so we don't really think of them as *foreign!*

DR. CRAIG ALSO MADE A STRONG APPEAL DURING THE BUSINESS MEETING FOR SUPPORT OF A PROPOSAL ALREADY ENDORSED BY THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS AND THE ESA, URGING A.I.D. TO SET ASIDE MORE FUNDS for people and programs for faculty development in educational institutions, as part of program development through NIH's 5-year planning. He pointed out that there is little, or at least nowhere near enough, effort being put into attracting young and talented entomologists into becoming the teachers of the future. And we're going to need them; yes, indeed.

TOMMY MULHERN WAS PROUDLY SHOWING AROUND THE FIRST PAGE OF MARSHALL LAIRD'S NEW CHAPTER 23 OF BULLETIN #6, *Biological Control of Mosquitoes*, which he had printed out from his computer in mighty neat fashion and in an easily-read type-face. It contained the following provocative sentences, which makes us fidgety to get our hands on the whole thing: "While it is essential that every care be taken to apply both chemical and biocontrol agents with the least possible risk to the health of humans and other vertebrates, and the safety of non-target organisms, we must maintain a due sense of proportion. Total freedom from man-induced hazards could only mean total cessation of mosquito control, which in the cases of pest and especially vector problems, would mean tolerating "natural" situations decidedly antagonistic to health."

ANOTHER NO-SHOW FROM FAR PLACES WAS TONY BROWN, WHO REALLY HATED THE SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WHICH KEPT HIM FROM COMING BACK TO TORONTO and both he and Marshall were missed by many and were mentioned in many a conversation.

MARY GALLOWAY (MARY CHANCE, AS WAS) HANDED OUT SOME BEAUTIFUL AND BILINGUAL . . . wonderful for us élèves de la belle langue . . . BROCHURES ON THE CANADA BITING FLY CENTRE (CENTRE CANADIAN SUR LES INSECTES PIQUEURS). Pictures you can't bear to throw away. And a most interesting text; we look forward eagerly to future reports on the work coming out of this wonderful laboratory.

AND, AS ALWAYS, THERE WAS THE MOSQUITO ISSUE OF PEST CONTROL READY FOR THE TAKING WITH ALSO FINE PHOTOGRAPHS AND TEXTS, one by Immediate Past

Prexy, JIM OLSON (good photo of him, too) on the availability of mosquito control work for the "right" PCOs, an availability borne out in another article about a Mark Ivey of Houston, Texas, who has found a niche controlling the pest mosquitoes the Abatement District is proscribed from touching. ANOTHER article is by our Present Prexy GIL CHALLET and his PR man, FRED BEAMS, describing mosquito control in a booming urban-rural and half-and-half area of Greater Los Angeles, namely, Orange County. There's also a good discussion of sonic, or rather, ultrasonic devices for pest control and their *regulation* by Canada. We know our own opinion of such things as applied both to rats and mosquitoes, and we've done some shotgun tests and seen reports on others, some a bit more than shot-gun, but we'd really like to see some Canadian-type tests on the things sold so widely by the ubiquitous gadget-houses whose catalogues stuff everyone's mailbox. And one on the "magic pellets" GUARANTEED to rid your patio of mosquitoes for a whole evening, too. Anyone for lawsuits?

DON JOHNSON, WHO DELIVERED JALIL KARAM'S INVITATIONAL PAPER ON A.I.D.'S WORLD WIDE PROGRAM pointed out that for some years we have worried about 2 or 3 million cases of malaria in Africa and India and places like that in times past, but the figure now is some 10,000,000 in Africa alone and some 1,000,000 deaths. We're not winning.

Don also had a page of *Pest Control* entitled, "Close Up" and dealing with mosquito breeding habits and habitats of the sort George Craig was emphasizing.

GENE GERBERG'S LATEST EDITION OF THE WORLD VECTOR CONTROL WORKERS was emphasized among praiseworthy AMCA publications, in Tommy Mulhern's report. If you aren't in it, *you didn't send in your name*. (How do you think folks will FIND you?) Tommy also announced, as you will read elsewhere, a new fund in the name of MARCO GIGLIOLI, whose passing cast a pall over the proceedings; the fund is to be in support of the World Wide Committee, on which Gene reported, and the AMCA effort to make available the publications and facilities of AMCA for those in areas where dollars are not a common currency.

OUR REMARK ABOUT THE LACK OF GLOOM OF NIGHT AMONG THE "HAZARDS" OF TORONTO WAS NOT MADE LIGHTLY. THE BANQUET WAS ENOUGH TO DISPEL GLOOM FOR THE WHOLE WEEK. We ordinarily approach "Ye Olde Medieval Banquets" with a wary eye, having suffered through a number of them here at home as well as the more elaborate ones in Bunratty Castle and Edinburgh. THIS King Henry VIII Banquet was DIFFERENT. Wholly. Or should we say "Holy . . .!"? Wow. The food was delicious and overcame our reluctance to eat salad with our fingers. Of course, fried chicken and ribs are ALWAYS eaten with fingers where we come from and this fricassed chicken was tender enough to lick your fingers over. (They relaxed enough to give us spoons for the mousse.)

JIM OLSON paraded in, looking uncomfortable but game, as VIII. Various "culprits" were dragged up

before him and sentenced to elaborate punishments. LAMAR MEEK, knowing only that his time was going to come, was handed a banana and ad libbed par excellence on the "Scientific Eating" of same; we thought he'd memorized a prepared and howlingly funny "ad lib" in the manner of most stand-up comics, but no . . . he did it cold. Wow, what a s.u. comic was lost to the world when Lamar took up with mosquitoes!

MID-WAY IN THE DINNER, a bunch of "rebels" dragged po' Jim from his throne and enthroned the new King . . . GIL CHALLET, who wasn't expecting it either, but bore up bravely. GORD SURGEONER who'd planned all this, but got hit anyway, and BRIAN SMITH and TOMMY MULHERN and several ladies whom we couldn't identify for sure because their costumes were too good, all got spoofed and silver "crowns" were handed out . . . numismatic treasures struck to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's visit in 1977.

WELL, LORDY, LORDY! HERE WE'VE GONE ON FOR HALF A COLUMN . . . YOU CAN TELL WE HAD A GOOD TIME . . . AND WE HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT THE BEST YET. This was a lady of uncertain age, as we used delicately to say, but unbounded energy and a voice that would have shattered a wine-glass at 500 paces, yet was not at all strident. She was a sort of female Bob Hope, only her jokes were better on the whole and perhaps a bit cleaner even at worst; she was *funny!* And sing! She knew every one of the old belt-'em-out songs and led us in a bunch of the really singable oldies from ages past and, well, we just can't *tell* you how the audience ate her up. She was like Sophie Tucker and Ethyl Merman and Barbara Streisand and Fannie Brice by turns, but mostly Sophie. And we kept her about a half hour overtime . . . wonder what Equity said about *that?* . . . until management began to blink the lights. No, no gloom of night there.

WAYNE MILLER BROUGHT AN INVITATION FROM FLORIDA TO COME BACK THERE IN 1993, saying ten years was about how long it took a place to get over having us (well, he didn't put it *quite* like that) but The Whirl in Toronto made us sort of wonder if po're GORD and FRANK MANGAN and their merry men . . . and women . . . weren't kind of glad twice, once when we came and once when we went. And yet it all, paper sessions, exhibits, social events, seemed so effortless!

WELL, NEW JERSEY IS GIRDING UP ALREADY. That'll be the FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY meeting, you recall. (How can we be that old?) We feel like the Papa in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Sunrise, sunset.

TOMMY IS SUGGESTING A GET-TOGETHER OF THE FIVE REMAINING CHARTER MEMBERS OF EAMCW/AMCA. His suggestion drew a response from RALPH VAN DERWERKER, who said he wouldn't "bother Morrill" with a note on his "dull" affairs. Fortunately, we have little birds all over. Ralph retired in 1970 and is living in Ocean County, New Jersey, in an area once uninhabitable but now very much INhabitable, due in no small part to Ralph's own efforts. That's really looking ahead, isn't it? His family of 3 children and 9 grandchildren love it in the summer since they are three houses from the ocean.

ALAN STONE RESPONDED TO THE NOTE WE HAD FROM LUIS VARGAS ABOUT MOSQUITOES FEEDING ON FISH with a memoir about a comment in *Hunters of the Silences*, by Canadian author, Charles G. D. Roberts dealing with the life history of the Atlantic salmon. Alan quotes him as saying, "... those who went too close inshore ... were pounced upon, as they lay close to the surface, by ravenous and unerring mosquitoes, which managed to pierce them even through a film of water a sixteenth of an inch or more in thickness." "Roberts was not a scientist but I think a pretty good observer of nature. It would be interesting to know what mosquitoes were involved. Of course, *Culex apicalis* feeds on frogs ..." Alan added.

THE ESA BULLETIN RECENTLY CARRIED A NOTICE OF ITS ISSUANCE OF MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION No. 57, *Notes on Neotropical Tabanidae (Diptera) XIX. The Tabanus lineola complex*, by Dr. Graham Fairchild, whose footprints in the Sands of Time even the most peripatetic and "pioneering" of us have found ourselves following now and again. If tabanids aren't considered disease vectors, they should be and this book should be of use to many control types.

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN, ON TV, FILMS OF ULTRA-LIGHT PLANES LATELY SKIMMING ABOUT LIKE GIANT DRAGONFLIES. EVAN PLEISS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY (Pa.) figures they're a good way to get over a lot of ground. Insubstantial as they seem and powered as they are by what amounts to a lawn-mower engine, they are nevertheless attracting a lot of enthusiasts to their really quite good flight characteristics. Evan is using them, not to bomb the area with pesticides but to carry techs with pencil, paper and graphs to chart out snow pools and storm water run-off pools and the like for his maps of Likely Breeding Places to Survey. All he'll need will be the eventual development of a VTL capability.

MARSHALL LAIRD AND HIS WIFE, PLEASED TO BE BACK IN THEIR LOVELY HOMETLAND, have bought an old farmhouse with four acres of land and, we're sure, room for Marshall's typewriter, bookshelves and desk. His address is: Whangaripo Valley Road, Rural Delivery 2, Wellsford, Northland, New Zealand. Marshall's new book which he edited just before leaving Newfoundland, is now out, entitled, "Commerce and the Spread of Pests and Disease Vectors."

OUR SURMISE THAT DR. GEORGE CRAIG, JR., WAS THE FIRST AMCAI ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TURNED OUT TO BE QUITE WRONG, as we should have remembered. Drs. EDWARD F. KNIPLING and ROBERT L. METCALF preceded him in 1966 and 1967, respectively, and congratulations are in order to all of them and a happy glow to AMCA. Bob is still heavily engaged in *The Subject* and holding down two chairs: Professor of Biology, Entomology and Environmental Studies in the Institute for Environmental Studies and Professor at the Center for Advanced Study, all at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE BUT BEARING A NOTICE NOT TO PUBLICIZE IT BEYOND 1 JULY, is a

public service announcement from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services, (breathe) Rockville, Maryland 20867. Apparently, you'll have to hurry and we're sorry, but if you want to apply for a WHO Fellowship for Travel/Study Abroad, here's what they say: "The World Health Organization (WHO) will make available in 1985 a limited number of short-term fellowships for travel/study abroad related to the improvement and strengthening of health services in the United States. This support is limited to United States citizens engaged in operational or educational aspects of health, allied health, environmental health and engineering activities employed by state or local governments or educational agencies. Federal employees are not eligible to apply. *** "Applications will not be considered for such as basic research, attendance at international meetings nor from undergraduate or graduate students. Medical interns and residents are considered to be in graduate training."

"The fellowship award will include per diem and transportation. Employers of successful applicants are expected to endorse the application and continue the applicant's salary through the fellowship period ... except in unusual circumstances limited to short-term programs of one to two months. Deadline for submission of applications is 30 September 1984. Information and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, WHO Fellowships Selection Committee, HR&S Adm., Room 16A-17, Rockville, Md., 20857."

LOU RUTLEDGE AND HIS COHORT CAPT. ZIA MEHR AT THE LETTERMAN ARMY INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH in the Presidio of San Francisco have been, as we reported last year, carrying on further studies on the repellency of various dilutions of DEET compounds on different people and at different times. They're studying the amounts of repellent present in vapor in air passing over treated skin, the length of time such vapors endure after application and their continuance as repellents and much more, with the aid of machinery too complicated to describe but having sensitivities you wouldn't have believed a few years ago. In order to do this, they've colonized fleas, soft and hard bodied ticks, four species of mosquitoes, exotic and local, and even KISSING BUGS. It warn't easy but they've done it.

MEANWHILE IN ONE OF THE EASTERN DIVISIONS at Fort Detrick in Frederick, Maryland (U.S. Army Institute of Infectious Diseases), they've issued a research report which suggests, "The difference in attractiveness to mosquitoes between infected and uninfected animals needs to be considered in any model of the natural history of an arbovirus. Animals infected with a virus often exhibit both increased body temperature and CO₂ release. Because both these factors attract host-seeking mosquitoes, it is possible that a viremic animal may be more attractive to potential mosquito vectors than an uninfected animal."

THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS IS HOLDING ITS MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UTAH MOSQUITO

CONTROL ASSOCIATION on 1, 2 and 3 October in Salt Lake City Utah. Our Board is going to be interim-meeting then and there, too. You may have seen on TV that the Great Salt Lake is Great again, what with the winter floods. Even Saltaire, the famed one-time resort, long far from the water, is now not only *on* it but surrounded by it. Swim, anyone? JAY GRAHAM is Prexy this year and local arrangements are in the hands, among others, of GLEN COLLETT, GIL CHALLET, DON WOMELDORF, STEVE ROMNEY and KENNETH MINSON. LEW NIELSEN is Chm. of the Resolutions Committee and we're RESOLVED to go.

WE REALLY OUGHTN'T TO CLOSE WITHOUT BRINGING

YOU ONE THOUGHT that we picked up during a discussion in Toronto on ways and means of attracting support for mosquito control from the general public. It was suggested that we could make a very good pitch in these days of a new health scare every night at 6, by assuring the public that *if they will support mosquito control* they can eliminate once and for all any fear of mosquito-borne *herpes*.

AND THE RED CROSS MADE A PITCH OF THEIR OWN AT TORONTO THAT WE LIKED: a bumper sticker that said, in blood-red letters, "STARVE MOSQUITOES GIVE BLOOD TO PEOPLE"