

years of practical field experience. Notable among his publications is his New York State Museum Book No. 7, entitled "Bird Song", which enjoys the distinction of having been reprinted in Braille for the blind, under auspices of the Library of Congress. Saunders has lived for many years close to the North Shore of Long Island Sound, and has an exceptionally intimate knowledge of the plants and animals, and the physical characteristics of Connecticut salt marshes, as well as of upland habitats of Connecticut, of the Adirondack Rockies, and of New York State.

Report on Eastern Association of Mosquito Workers Inspection Trip to Norfolk, Virginia

By Perry W. Ruth
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On the morning of Friday, June 19, it was our pleasure to welcome back to Norfolk a group of the Eastern Association of Mosquito Workers who had accepted our invitation to make another inspection trip in this area. They had been accompanied all the way from New York by a strong contingent of our Naval forces, and while this unexpected war time courtesy was greatly appreciated it did cramp their quarters somewhat and reduced their breakfast rations, but we were able to make up the latter deficiency later on.

We had arranged for ample transportation and were free from out of terminal traffic and at the comparative quiet of our field head-quarters where coats were shed, experiences were exchanged and pressure was generally relieved in preparation for a sight-seeing swing around the various points of interest we had chosen as most typical of our problems in this war construction localities. Each man received a descriptive itinerary with a sketch of the area showing the location of our various camps.

Our morning was taken up with the various problems presented in Boush Creek. This is a large salt marsh basin, formerly heavily infested by *Aedes sollicitans* and *A. Taeniorhynchus* but later ditched and drained under our direction. Now its outlet is practically closed by hydraulic fill and war construction and the impounded water is rapidly becoming so fresh that *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* breeding is increasing at an alarming rate. Our cars gave a breathing space between stops but walking was necessary to reach many of the vantage points and this healthful exercise was appreciated by all later on (I hope).

As the noon hour drew up on us, we passed through the Norfolk Azalia Gardens where a short time before dogwood and azalia blooms had painted a beautiful picture but where now a cool breeze and icy well water were fully as welcome. And then on to Norfolk's well known "General Booth Farm" where a majority of the city's minor offenders spend their days out of doors, not earning their own keep but turning back a profit to City Government from the various productive activities in which they engage. Here we were welcomed by Dr. Henry G. Parker, Director of Public Welfare, under whose Department both the General Booth Farm and the Bureau of Mosquito Control are included, and for an hour the group relaxed and partook of a bountiful luncheon. By way of diversion, apparently a bomb raid was staged too close for comfort for at intervals the dishes danced on the tables and chairs bounced off the floor. Nearby Government road building across a swamp with dynamite furnished the answer but it kept the thought of war with us. After the last dish of ice cream had gone to its appointed place, Dr. Parker gave us a brief address and then introduced our principal speaker, Rev. P. Rowland Wagner, pastor of the Central Baptist Church and one of the best known after dinner speakers in the state. His talk contained both humor and common sense and at its close, both our digestion

Our disposition were improved.

Following lunch, Dr. Parker took us on a tour of section about the farm and his explanations, including a practical demonstration of hog raising, were very interesting to us all.

Our afternoon's itinerary took us to Mason Creek, sea somewhat similar to Boush Creek and disturbed much the same way but where conditions are more serious due to concentration of population close by. Every part of mosquito workers throughout the country is faced with some extra problem this year and I believe members of the party realize that we in Norfolk cannot sleep peacefully on a bed of roses this summer if our plan of prevention is to be carried through.

As the afternoon lengthened, we headed back toward "Farm", passing on the way more acres of temporary living units muchrooming over night for the defense workers and in many cases creating an additional mosquito problem for us to meet. Our arrival precipitated a general raid on the ice water facilities which were strained but held up under the assault and promptly at six o'clock we gathered in the Recreation Hall of the Fair Center to hear a talk by Mrs. Charles C. Day, President of the Federation of Garden Clubs of Norfolk vicinity, who gave us a comprehensive story of the movement here and spoke very flatteringly of mosquito work in general and that in Norfolk in particular.

Following Mrs. Day's address, general conversation in the shade of fine old trees carried us to six o'clock when dinner was served in a way not at all resembling the usual idea of "Prison Fare". The business meeting which followed was called to order by Secretary Mulhern who in the absence of both President and Vice President was appointed Chairman and the various points brought up for discussion were ably handled in his usual cheerfully direct way. Of course, any mosquito meeting without

Dr. Headlee is rather like turkey without cranberry sauce - it may be good but it just lacks a certain flavor. I know we were all keenly disappointed that he could not be with us and we rejoice that his disability was only temporary.

The ride back to the city in the dusk was pleasantly cool and a little before eight o'clock the caravan drew up to the Pennsylvania Railroad Terminal where the boat was waiting to start back to Cape Charles and the train for New York.

And so ended a full day for us all but one which I only hope our visitors enjoyed half as much as I did and may be willing to repeat some time in the future.

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