

NEWS AND NOTES

Leo Jachowski's friends in the AMCA will be happy to learn of the card he sent from Samoa wishing us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was too late to make the December issue (which went to press before November 1); but the news that Leo expects to be "back across the road" (the Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda, Md.) in May, is timely for the March issue. H.L.T.

Remember our good friend and contributor from Brazil, Dr. Fernando Bustamante? He has worked for a long time on mosquito control around Rio de Janeiro; and his address is Pereira Baretto 14, Apt. 201, Rio de Janeiro. We extend his greetings received in December of "Boas Festas Feliz Ano Novo." H.L.T.

Dr. Leonard Jan Chwatt of the Yellow Fever Research Institute at Yaba Lagos, Nigeria, is well known to many AMCA members both personally and through his contributions to "Mosquito News." If you turn to page 56 of the June 1949 issue, you will find his article on *Anopheles gambiae*; and if you look at picture no. 5, page 187 of the December 1948 issue, you will find out what he looks like! Mrs. Chwatt wrote to us on January 8, saying that her husband plans to come to the United States in September, and that she will follow in November. The Chwatts are now proud parents of a small son, Andrew John. The AMCA heartily welcomes this newest mosquito fighter, and looks forward to telling Dr. and Mrs. Chwatt so personally in the near future. H.L.T.

The AMCA has a new Canadian member, William E. Beckel, of the Defense Research Board of Canada. Bill visited the mosquito folks in Washington, Beltsville, and Bethesda, during January; and his itinerary called for trips to Savannah and to Orlando. He was particularly interested in observing techniques and procedures for rearing mosquitoes under laboratory conditions; and he will attempt to make use of this information in investigating Canadian mosquitoes up around the Arctic Circle. He expects to study the ecology, physiology, and oviposition requirements of *Aedes punctator*, *A. communis*, *A. nigripes*, and *A. nearcticus*. His address is: William E. Beckel, Defense Research Northern Laboratories, Fort Churchill, Manitoba, M.P.O. 1015. H.L.T.

Mr. Thomas D. Mulhern has forwarded to us the following interesting letter, dated November 26, 1949, which he received from Dr. Leonard Jan Bruce-Chwatt of the Malaria Service in Nigeria:

"Thank you very much for the two copies of Mosquito News received today and for your kind note.

"You will be interested to hear, I am sure, some recent news from 'darkest Africa' not quite as dark as often imagined.

"The Malaria Service had a long gestation

period but was happily delivered into this world in March 1949 and I was requested to take care of the new-born baby and to nurse it and to bring it up 'for better for worse' as it were.

"We have moved the office and the laboratory from the Medical Headquarters in Lagos to the Yellow Fever Research Institute at Yaba, this being a sort of Bethesda of the capital of Nigeria. We are building another screened wooden hut with concrete floor to serve as a larger laboratory and in the meantime some work has already been done and more of it is planned. We are working on the bionomics of *A. gambiae* group, collecting data with reference to malaria in hyperimmune populations, carrying out a long term survey of a town called Ilaro where a large scale residual spraying program with benzene hexachloride will be put into operation early next year.

"Apart from this we started field chemotherapeutic trials of quinacrine, paludrine and chloroquine. We also run instructional courses for African Sanitary Inspectors.

"As you see our hands are full and we are hoping to have our staff increased from the present two (R. A. Fitzjohn and myself) to four.

"All being well and D. V. I hope to go to the States some time next summer for a few months and shall be delighted to see you again."

William B. Owen, Professor of Zoology, University of Wyoming, reviewed a paper for this month's *News*, and wrote the following to us in an interesting letter.

"I hope that my remarks on *A. punctulatus* reach you in time for the March issue of 'Mosquito News.' Writing an abstract of this report was like renewing contacts with an old friend of former years. Each reading of the paper recalled memories of Guadalcanal and our experience with this species. John Belkin was perhaps the first person to start a colony of *punctulatus*. This was in Guadalcanal during 1944. He used an outdoor screened insectary and the colony was maintained for several months until a pilot missed his course and sprayed the area with DDT. Another colony was started at Malaria H.D.Q. on Guadalcanal early in 1945. I had supervision of this project for a while until we moved to the Philippines. As I remember, some of Schlosser's observations on the development of *W. bancrofti* in the mosquito host were based on our material. Belkin recorded information on his colony, but I have no record of it having been published. Unfortunately, very little of the work we did in the Solomons will ever appear in print.

"I will not be able to attend the meetings this month. Among the reasons for not attending is that I am still recovering from an automobile accident of last December. Perhaps Louis Olivier has told you that I was hit by a truck. The result was a broken clavicle, injured leg and other bruises. I have been on duty since early in January, but going at reduced speed."