

NEWS AND NOTES

DR. N. G. S. RAGHAVAN, Assistant Director of the Malaria Institute of India, is visiting various laboratories in the United States including those of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and the Public Health Service. He is studying work that is being done in connection with mosquito-borne diseases under auspices of the Point Four program. Dr. Raghavan is especially interested in filariasis.

AT THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CENTER of the Public Health Service, the Vector Control and Investigations Branch and the Technical Development Branch have been combined into a single organizational unit called the Technology Branch. Dr. S. W. Simmons is Chief of the new branch. Dr. George H. Bradley is now Chief Entomologic Consultant, Bureau of States Services, but he will remain in Atlanta. Mr. Chris A. Hansen has been named Assistant Officer in Charge of CDC.

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA as reported in *Mosquito Buzz*:

Dr. Bernard Brookman has left the Encephalitis Laboratory in Bakersfield to join the Water Projects Section of the Public Health Service in Salt Lake City. Dr. R. Edward Bellamy is now in charge of the Bakersfield Encephalitis Laboratory of the Hooper Foundation.

Dr. Richard O. Hayes is now in Bakersfield working on problems connected with the measurement of mosquito populations as a joint project of the Public Health Service and the Hooper Foundation.

The Clear Lake gnat population has increased to the point where another treatment of the lake is planned for 1953, similar to the treatment made in 1949.

CAPT. FRANK G. FAVORITE has left the 3rd Army Medical Laboratory at Fort McPherson, Georgia for an assignment in the Far East.

DR. ARCHIE D. HESS is now in the Philippines where he is Chief Malariologist for the Mutual Security Administration. His address is MSA-STEM, APO 928, San Francisco.

DR. HERBERT A. CRANDELL is now doing malaria control work in Indonesia. His address is U. S. STEM, c/o American Embassy, Djakarta, Indonesia.

INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS ON PUBLIC HEALTH. The First Inter-American Congress on Public Health was held in Havana, Cuba September 27 to October 1, 1952. The Congress marked the 50 anniversary of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. Mr. H. H. Stage and the writer represented the American Mosquito Control Association. About 250 specialists in various branches of public health attended. Dr. Enrique Saladrigas

y Zayas, Minister of Public Health and Welfare of Cuba was elected president of the Congress.

Three main topics were discussed: (1) rural sanitation, (2) organization and integration of public health services, and (3) recent developments in disease prevention and control. Five symposia were held. These dealt with yellow fever, public health education, zoonoses, tuberculosis and maternal and child health. There were also round table discussions of malaria, chagas disease, schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis.

Much emphasis was placed on the control of vectors of malaria and yellow fever and the need for concerted international action against yellow fever by mosquito eradication and immunization.

Several delegates in stirring addresses paid tribute to Dr. Carlos J. Finlay and the important contribution he made to the yellow fever problem.

F. C. BISHOPP

THE SOUTH SALT LAKE COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT has been organized and is prepared to start mosquito abatement work in 1953. This district was created in 1951 and funds were made available in a 1952 tax levy. This is the fifth mosquito abatement district to be organized in Utah. Davis County which will probably be the sixth district, is still not officially organized although this county has been conducting a mosquito abatement program for the past three years on funds provided by the Board of County Commissioners.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UTAH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT ASSOCIATION was held at Brigham City, Utah on February 21st, 1953, with the members of the Box Elder County Mosquito and Fly Abatement District serving as hosts to those attending. A program was prepared in which representatives of all of the abatement districts in Utah participated. Representatives of the State Association of County Officials, State Health Department, Water Projects Section of the Communicable Disease Center, Bureau of Reclamation, State Agricultural College, Weber College and University of Utah were also included on the program. Abstracts of the papers and reports presented will be prepared and distributed. Copies are available from Dr. A. W. Grundmann, Department of Invertebrate Zoology and Entomology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

DON M. REES

DR. LEWIS C. WEEKS, Commissioner of the Cape Cod Mosquito Control Project and member of the American Mosquito Control Association, a pioneer in mosquito control in Massachusetts, by the end of March will have completed his twentieth year of service as executive secretary to the largest mosquito control project in Massachusetts.

Although he retired from business and relinquished numerous other civic responsibilities in 1946, his interest in mosquito control at the same time became more intense, since he wished to see the project through the reorganization period which followed World War II. Needless to say, the State Reclamation Board, under which the project operates, and all other interested parties are very appreciative of Dr. Week's efforts in behalf of an agency which has been such an important factor in the prosperity of Cape Cod over the past twenty years.

B. I. Gerry

"A FEMININE ADVENTURER IN RESEARCH is Miss Helen Louise Trembley," according to a feature article in the WASHINGTON SUNDAY STAR, for Feb. 1, 1953. The occasion for this well-written and complimentary article was the appearance of Miss Trembley on the All-Star News Review, televised last December 7 over station WMAL. Besides giving a popular account of Miss Trembley's work, the article called attention to her connection with MOSQUITO NEWS and the AMCA.

A FACTOR INFLUENCING MALE MOSQUITO AND MIDGE SWARMS. While watching mating swarms of the mosquito, *Aedes punctor* (Kby.) in Southeastern Alaska recently, some observations were made which seem to indicate that the lightness of the surface under the swarm is important. Trampling down the tall grass under a swarm of males making a dark "hole" regularly resulted in a shift of the swarm which was flying several feet above the grass tops. Slipping a white bed sheet under a swarm broke it up at once. Thus mosquito swarms were broken up or shifted, but none was induced *de novo* in a prepared location.

The beautiful little tendipedid midge, *Anatopynia algens* (Coq.), kindly identified by Dr. Willis Wirth of the U. S. National Museum, proved easier to manipulate. Males of this species swarmed during sunset in the area over light-colored, flat objects such as weathered boards, shakes, or old newspapers. It was easy to induce a swarm of a hundred or so almost anywhere by spreading out the white bed sheet during the sunset swarming hours. Upon removal of the sheet the swarm at once broke up. When the sheet was moved up and down a 50 foot walk, it took its swarm along with it. Finally, three large "natural" swarms over less conspicuous light surfaces on the ground in a garden clearing were captured by the sheet. The males of one of these swarms were attracted from about 75 feet away. W. C. Frohne, P.H.S., Anchorage, Alaska.