

EDITORIAL SECTION

PORTLAND TO PORTLAND

Or we might have written Salem to Salem—the intent being to announce that almost simultaneously two new mosquito control organizations, one in the far Northeast and one in the far Northwest, have come into being.

On December 15, 1954 a group of interested persons met in Portland, Oregon to discuss the mosquito problems of Oregon and to plan for the formation of a Mosquito Control Association in that State. A committee was appointed “. . . to plan for the next meeting at which time a definite set of recommendations will be presented to indicate the title, purpose, and objectives of said association.” Mr. Milton H. Buehler was selected to be chairman of the committee, and also to act as a representative from this group at the meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association which was held at Los Angeles on January 24–27, 1955. At that time he presented a report on the Oregon organization and described mosquito control activities in that State.

On February 2 and 3, 1955 a group of persons interested in forming a New England Mosquito Control Association met at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. This group went even farther than the Oregon group for, in the words of Bob Armstrong, they (1) “promptly revised the territory to include New York State and adopted the name *Northeastern* Mosquito Control Association”; and (2) “they hammered out a Constitution and Bylaws and elected a slate of officers.”

The AMCA, through *Mosquito News*, extends its best wishes to the two new Associations, and expresses the hope and expectation not only that through them mosquito control will be improved and extended in the territories which they cover, but also that the AMCA will be strengthened correspondingly and that through them its influence will become more widely felt.

It seems not inappropriate at this point to mention Texas. The fact that Beaumont, Texas is almost exactly the same distance from Portland, Oregon and Portland, Maine, may be incidental, but it is significant; for Beaumont, which is to the scene of the 1956 annual meeting of the AMCA, in being equidistant from the farthest reaches of organized mosquito control in this country, should certainly appeal to all members as being strategically located for a national meeting. Texas now in the throes of “organizing” a Beaumont, in the Jefferson County Mosquito Control District, is the hub of the activity. With an area of 900 square miles and an appropriation of \$125,000 in 1954 for mosquito control, the interest in this District is manifest. With such a District as a nucleus, the AMCA looks forward to the formation of an association in that State similar to those just formed in the Northeast and Northwest. Then, with the Illinois association in the Central States, and the older associations in New Jersey, California, Florida, Virginia and Utah, nearly every section of the country will have some local organization with which its Mosquito Control Districts can affiliate.

What may be even more important, many states which do not have integrated or centrally organized mosquito control programs or districts, small groups or otherwise isolated or neglected mosquito control programs will have a chance to become better informed, hence more effective; eventually to become parts of the nearest local Association, and through their influence, become members of and receive the benefits of the National Association.

To further these ends, the Regional Directors of the American Mosquito Control Association can be extremely helpful by keeping in touch with the local programs and encouraging contacts with the national Association.