

In the past six years there have been several hundred cases of malaria in Bellevue Hospital alone. The medical examiner has autopsied more than one hundred addicts who died from this disease. Obviously the problem is a serious one for the addicts.

What about the rest of us? Fortunately there are not many mosquitoes in New York but that there are suitable A. quadrimaculatus locally is important. Addicts with malaria are more numerous than hospital admissions indicate; they know about the disease and take quinine. This may relieve the symptoms but they still remain carriers capable of infecting mosquitoes. Drug addicts wander a great deal. If they are not now in contact with mosquitoes capable of transmission, they may go to places where there are plenty of such insects.

What can we do about it? Drug addicts, it seems, should be under medico-legal jurisdiction wherever they are confined, whether in a hospital or a prison. We should make sure that they do not have active or inactive malaria and if they do, we must treat them properly until they are free from the disease. Otherwise, we may have a real epidemic of severe malaria in some large northern American city."

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ACTIVITIES IN MEMBER STATES

Because of the national emergency and the intensive national defense efforts resulting therefrom, malaria-mosquito control work is now

being done in a number of midwestern states where no organized control work had been performed previously and has been greatly increased in scope in other states where a limited amount of work had been carried on in former years. In northern Illinois, Mr. J. Lyell Clarke has for the last several years been a potent force in educating the public to the value of mosquito control work, and the national defense work now being performed in such states as Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois should serve the same end. This work, which is being sponsored by the U.S. Public Health Service and the respective State Departments of Health, may result in the establishment of permanent mosquito control agencies or, at the least, should make the authorities and the public more mosquito control conscious.

The writer has had occasion to attend some sessions of the National Malaria Society, meeting in conjunction with the Southern Section of the A.P.H.A. From the general context of some of the reports it appeared that some of the men were not as familiar with pest mosquito control problems and procedures as many eastern workers are and, at the same time, these men undoubtedly possess information and data that would be of value to the eastern workers. It should be of great value to all concerned, then, to arrange a two or three day session get-together of the various organizations and workers in the near future in order to effect this exchange of information and points of view. It might be well also to arrange for some form of publication for the papers and discussions.