

OPERATIONAL NOTES

P. BRUCE BROCKWAY, JR.

In a letter received from Bob Spencer of Bristol County Mosquito Control Project, it is quite apparent that Bob is also following through on the use of the "Ten Commandments of Mosquito Control" as a means of acquainting the public with the fact that they too have a responsibility in our common effort. He has been distributing these through banks, post offices, and various public centers and it is his thought that the "Ten Commandments" could be passed on through the public schools. This may be an idea for some of the rest of us to investigate.

Some public schools allow their children to take home such public information; however, others seem to frown upon this for one reason or another. The theory of teaching them young is well tried and the mosquito control districts in the East certainly have many examples of the success of this type of program. Each mosquito control district should make efforts along this line.

Bob also mentions that they have an educational exhibit in the County Fair. These annual outings of the general public have changed considerably during the past 25 or 30 years. A quarter century ago County Fairs were mainly attended by farmers or, at least those living in rural districts. However, since that time the city slicker seems to be taking more interest in cows, chickens, and other such items that would be found at County Fairs, not to mention the farmer's daughter.

The success or failure of an educational exhibit at a County Fair quite often depends on the type of exhibits that are in the same building or at least surrounding the exhibit. The use of a device that is eye-catching for the general public is especially helpful.

Evidently Bristol County has the opportunity to tell their mosquito story before church and fraternal organizations, as well as political groups. There is no substitute for this type of public information except, perhaps, television, if a mosquito control district has such a cooperative agency within its district.

Color slides, movies, or descriptive models certainly enhance what could be a rather dry talk. This is not a new topic to any mosquito control agency, but cultivation of good public relations, and dissemination of information are often neglected by public agencies.

Bob also mentioned that he purchased a form or mold for the manufacture of concrete pipe. This will help solve the problem of what to do with idle hands during inclement weather. If my memory serves me correctly, Rolly Dorer of the great state of Virginia used a similar system and found it of advantage.

Your writer is wondering what has happened

to the interest that used to be so alive concerning operational field trips. Those of us who attended the Ottawa meeting in 1952 learned a great deal from our good neighbors to the north and the Toledo Area Sanitary District enjoyed being host to the Toledo Seminar in 1954. Is there an interest in having another such Seminar?

If so, perhaps we could ask our President of AMCA for 1962 to appoint a committee to get another operational field trip or seminar planned for the coming year. Of course, it should be at a central location that is accessible to quick travel because normally these programs are held during mosquito breeding seasons. What about St. Louis, Missouri? Who in the AMCA knows anything about their mosquito control program? Maybe we could meet for a two day program there. We all know they had an encephalitis problem there a few years ago.

Let's keep this thought in mind while talking and corresponding with each other with a view to starting something.

A SIMPLE INEXPENSIVE AIR PRESSURE SPRAYER
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For the past 12 years, the Kern Mosquito Abatement District has used a conventional type air compressor for spraying gutters and storm drains in urban larviciding. Each month during the season, about 1200 miles are traveled while spraying from several Jeep units, using some 3000 gallons of toxicant for this purpose.

While the type of sprayer mentioned proved satisfactory in almost all respects, it does have two pronounced shortcomings. First, a power-take-off unit must necessarily be installed for its convenient use, and second, pressure in the tank is not constant, as it varies from 80 to 30 psi unless the unit is manually engaged at short intervals. With pressure variance, application rates are also inconsistent.

In an effort to overcome these adversities, a pump was sought which could be used without installation of a PTO unit, and one which would automatically keep a constant pressure in the tank.

Such a pump was found and placed in operation in one Jeep for a season's use. The unit is a Bendix-Westinghouse *Tu-flo 100* compressor No. 400005, designed for operation in the high speed, high pressure range. Bracket-mounted on the Jeep engine, and belt-driven by power supplied from the crankshaft pulley, it is in constant