

## THE OPERATIONAL EQUIPMENT CLINIC

P. BRUCE BROCKWAY, *Chairman*

During early 1963 at the Illinois Mosquito Control Association's planning session for the 1964 combined meetings of the Illinois and the American Mosquito Control Associations, it was suggested to the program committee that they consider having an "operational clinic." The Illinois Association suggested that we send out questionnaires concerning this to all the mosquito control associations. This was done within 10 days after this first meeting. The replies to the questionnaires showed that there was a great deal of interest, especially in the Central States, and that there would be enough participants to make it worthwhile. The questionnaire also indicated that there was interest in such equipment as engines and their maintenance, fog machines and mist machines and their maintenance, and also indicated the companies or equipment suppliers that should be invited to participate in the program.

At the next meeting of the program committee it was decided that the clinic would have a two-day session, allowing each of the equipment suppliers about an hour and 15 minutes to describe his equipment and answer questions. One problem concerned how to avoid "complaint sessions," which could have consumed much time. It was decided that a question box would give ample opportunity for questions; further, if questions were merely complaints the equipment people would have the opportunity to rate them at their true value and frame a suitable reply. The questionnaires were sent to all those districts who answered the previous questionnaire, this being considered an indication that this group was actively interested in the program. The intention was to have the questions put into the question box available March 1 at the Chicago meeting. However, comparatively few questions were inserted in the box.

In order to give variety and spread responsibility, persons from various parts of the country were asked to act as moderators. This also served to give the chairman the opportunity to coordinate activities that would be on the program later in the day.

The clinic gives the equipment supplier the opportunity to explain his wares and it gives him representation and participation in the actual meetings. Those attending the clinic have the opportunity of learning about equipment that they may not have within their District, but at a later date may desire to have. The minimum number attending any one part of the clinic at Chicago was 30 and the maximum totaled more than 100 at a session. All indications are that it was a successful undertaking, and I firmly feel that such a clinic is worthwhile to the Association as a whole, and most of all, to those participating. It should be considered in future meetings, with content of the material to be discussed, and changed each year as conditions and interests indicate. There are many areas in field activities in mosquito control that would be worthwhile to include in such an operational clinic, such as chemicals used, water management, and heavy equipment. Bulldozers, backhoes, dragline equipment and dredges are all a challenge; maintenance and upkeep as well as proper use could constitute a very interesting clinic. The clinic should be kept unrehearsed and as free of formality as possible. Controversial subjects should not necessarily be avoided but they should not monopolize the time. The subjects should not be "managerial," i.e., of the type generally discussed and covered in trustees' meeting, nor of a technical nature that belong on the entomological portion of the AMCA program.

The clinic is one way of recognizing the contribution of commercial exhibitors,

advertisers and sustaining members, and gives them time and opportunity to explain their products. Most of all, it helps the field men and their Commissions to do better the work that they are doing which requires a knowledge of different types of equipment and how they may be operated most effectively.

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To the readers and members who did not have the opportunity to attend the Operational Equipment Clinic the notes below will give some idea of how informative it was.

Those who acted as moderators were Glen Collett of Salt Lake City, Captain John M. Hirst of the U. S. Navy, Tom Mulhern of the California State Department of Public Health, and Bob Vannote of Morris County, New Jersey. Each one of these moderators introduced and coordinated the clinic for one morning or one afternoon session.

As equipment instructor Dan Boyd represented the Danco Products Company and demonstrated operation and maintenance of the various fog machines made by his company. He had various parts available and explained their function and their maintenance. His engineer, Mr. D. W. Waldron, Jr. assisted him.

Mr. Dave Lewis represented the H. D. Hudson Manufacturing Company. He explained the fabrication of each of the six back-pack spray units manufactured by the Hudson Company, and described its special uses in mosquito control. He also demonstrated how simple it was to take apart and repair or replace the various wearing parts of each of these sprayers.

Al Lafferty was the instructor for Todd Products. He gave a clear and concise explanation of the fogging units made by Todd. This, of course, included the standard fog machine (TIFA) made by Todd for a number of years, and the See-Fog as well as the small hand unit.

The John Bean Division of F M C Corporation was represented by Frank Komisarck and Tom Jenkins. Most of the

instruction regarding the John Bean equipment was in reference to the well-known pump as used by this company. There were also discussions of pressure and particle size as well as general maintenance on misting and spraying equipment.

The second day's session was opened with instruction by the Kaiser Jeep Corporation. Mr. Earl Studer, the Fleet Sales Manager, introduced Lee Goldfelty and Harry Crist.

The Curtis Dyna-Products Corporation was represented by Ernie Hostettler who has for many years been a friend to those of us working in mosquito control. Ernie had three of his Dyna-Fog units at the stage and he explained in detail the functional parts of each of the units as well as the basic principles in the operation of each of the units. Ernie, by having many of the parts of the units on hand, was able to refer to them in his explanation as well as when he was answering questions.

Bob Knowles, representing Buffalo Turbine Agricultural Equipment Company, like so many of the other instructors is well known to many in field activities and actual operational mosquito control.

The last session of the clinic was a panel discussion. Participating were John Clarke, Jr. of the Clarke Outdoor Spraying Company and a user of a large number of fog machines and other equipment generally used in mosquito control activities. Don Horne came up from Lee County, Florida and explained various problems of the many types of equipment that he has under his responsibility in Lee County. Harold Struckman of Bergen County, New Jersey, gave many helpful hints as he explained maintenance and upkeep of fog machines in his area.

Everyone on the panel and all of the instructors emphasized the fact that the maintenance man as well as the field man should constantly refer to and use the maintenance manual as it is provided by each of the equipment suppliers. Several of the equipment suppliers indicated that they would be very happy to supply new

manuals for their equipment to owners who had lost their manuals.

Many individual owners as well as district owners of various pieces of equipment had their own forms for the recording of maintenance programs. Another subject that came in for discussion was the mishandling or misusing of equipment, referring mainly to the temporary help that some districts have to employ during the normal mosquito breeding season.

A number of well-informed users of equipment were present, including E. E. Lynch of Maryland, Wayne Miller of Lee County, and Mickey Cochran of New Jersey who all stimulated the interest from the audience by their questions and comments concerning matters related to equipment and their experiences.

Ed Rohloff and Bob Suhrbier are to be

thanked for their assistance as "Sergeants-at-Arms," to assist in co-ordinating the program.

If you have suggestions concerning the clinic and the future planning on clinics, please keep us informed.

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It has been suggested that a common subject of interest to all operational mosquito control people should be included in *Operational Notes*. Your suggestions on various topics would be appreciated. The first topic that we will have comments on will be "Hose and the Various Types Used in Mosquito Control." If you have information concerning this topic that would be of general interest, please pass it on to Bruce Brockway, or to some member of the committee.

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### ROY W. McLEESE

Mr. Roy W. McLeese, City Engineer of Salt Lake City and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District for the past fourteen years, died in a Salt Lake Hospital on October 12, 1963, at the age of 58.

Mr. McLeese was well known to mosquito control workers. He was a member of the AMCA and attended many of the association meetings. He was active in promoting and participating in the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association. At the joint meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association and Utah Mosquito Abatement Association held in Salt Lake

City in 1952, Mr. McLeese was chairman of the entertainment committee.

Mr. McLeese was a strong supporter of the very successful cooperative drainage program participated in by Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, and the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District. Over the past several years this committee worked harmoniously together for the benefit of the citizens of Salt Lake County.

Mr. McLeese will be remembered for his influential and strong support of mosquito control both locally and throughout the nation. (Submitted by Glen C. Collett.)

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