

speaker should repeat the question.

QUESTION 7: How can we handle those cases in which *many people* want to discuss an especially interesting paper?

ANSWER: This is a hard problem; but let's not solve it by robbing the subsequent speakers of the time allotted to them. Here is one suggestion: Do not allow the discussion to run much beyond the scheduled time; but show in the program a 15-minute *consultation period* at the end of each session. Ask all speakers to remain available for discussion of their

papers with individuals or small groups while the subject matter is still fresh in everyone's mind.

If we can manage to do these things, my guess is:

- (1) that we shall see decidedly better attendance in our scientific sessions, and
- (2) that the money spent on travel to the conventions will pay better dividends to the individual members and to the Association as a whole.

ON EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE AMERICAN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

At the Board of Directors Meeting of AMCA in San Francisco, California, on February 5, 1967, there was considerable discussion concerning expanding the scope of the American Mosquito Control Association (*Mosquito News*, 27:212, 1967).

Mosquito News is fortunate to have two excellent articles discussing both viewpoints on the expansion: "Keep on the Course" by Robert L. Vannote, President of AMCA in 1944, for maintaining the present status, and "Stand or Expand," by

Richard F. Peters, President of AMCA in 1955, for expanding the scope of AMCA.

The Committee on Expanded Scope of Activities suggests that each member of AMCA read and study these articles carefully in order to become better informed on this important proposal in the event this subject is discussed at State and Regional Meetings, and at an Annual Meeting of the AMCA.—H. D. Pratt President, American Mosquito Control Association, 1967.

KEEP ON THE COURSE

ROBERT L. VANNOTE

Secretary, Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission, Morris Plains, New Jersey

The American Mosquito Control Association was founded in 1942 by Mosquito Control Workers for Mosquito Control Workers. Its prime function has been (and should continue to be) to represent, speak for and provide Association benefits to those actively engaged in mosquito control work. These benefits have been annual meetings, field trips, seminars

and the publication of *Mosquito News* and bulletins.

To date, the AMCA has been an outstanding success. The efforts expended by its officers and committees, who have served without compensation over the past 25 years, are a tribute to their dedication to mosquito control work. The annual meetings have set a high standard

and the ever-increasing attendance has well demonstrated their value. *Mosquito News* has become a recognized scientific journal. Insect vectors, other than mosquitoes, have been recognized in Association activities in proportion to the interests of mosquito control workers.

Four bulletins have been prepared and published by Association committees and three of them are in the process of revision. Machinery exists for the publication of new bulletins as demand necessitates.

Somewhat lacking of late have been Association sponsored field trips and seminars; however, these can be scheduled on demand.

The standing committees and special committees all function as required and have served well to maintain the essential of membership participation in the operation of the Association.

It would, therefore, appear that the Association is performing its dedicated function despite its tendency to become over-technical in programming and publication.

To the mosquito control worker the AMCA, while serving its basic function, is not stagnant nor has it reached its pinnacle of usefulness. Not conceived as a coordinating agency, a world center of control knowledge and reference, nor as a competitor to the well-established State and regional mosquito control associations, its field of service is and has been confined to the time availabilities of its officers, directors and participating members, a factor of unique strength. As mosquito control work has expanded over the country, the membership has expanded and become basically firm, with the exception of those from the fringe interests. The financial structure is sound and reserves have developed to respectable figures. Greater trustee or commissioner interest has been demonstrated with substantial membership increases.

It has now been proposed that our Association expand its scope to include the vector control field. It is intimated that

the AMCA has reached a point of stagnation: that we must assume a broader objective to progress. To those more interested in vector control, other than mosquito, the solid organization of AMCA would make an excellent springboard for this specialized field. But would this better serve mosquito control workers?

Without question many arguments will be presented supporting the expansion of scope. Many will sound attractive and appear well-founded. They will be used to portray the advantages of a world-wide, well-staffed professional association whose majority membership may have only minor interest in mosquito control work.

It would seem that insect vector researchers already have ample outlets for reporting their work. Section D of the Entomological Society of America represents Medical and Veterinary Entomology. The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and the Biennial Public Health Vector Control Conference are two organizations established specifically for this objective. Why then, should AMCA expand into this field and attempt to compete with these organizations?

Without question, the time will arrive when a full-time, paid executive secretary with staff will be required to administer the day-to-day business, sale of publications, direct advertising, provide public relations, coordinate committee activities, etc. When this need is demonstrated and the values become apparent, the organized mosquito control workers will find it to their advantage to finance the additional service.

Now is not the time to talk of expansion of scope; of embracing allied interests; to build a global organization. Now is the time to run full-speed ahead on the COURSE to serve the mosquito control worker where his interests demand. Never have his requirements for association leadership been greater. Now is the time to utilize to the full the solid organization and sound financial structure for its dedicated purpose—MOSQUITO CONTROL.