

## OBITUARIES

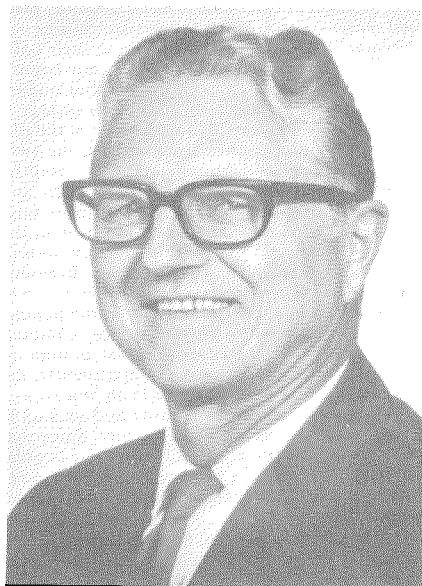
ALBERT W. BUZICKY

April 29, 1915—January 12, 1974

Early in January, Al Buzicky suffered a massive heart attack at his home in St. Paul, Minnesota, and on January 12, 1974, one of the most respected and competent mosquito control specialists of this country died—at the age of 58 years. Al was honored by his colleagues on many occasions, but no honor was more cherished by him than his election to the presidency of the American Mosquito Control Association, an office he held for the 1970-71 term.

Al was born, raised, and educated in St. Paul. He received the degrees of Bachelor of Science (1937) and Master of Science (1941) at the University of Minnesota, majoring in Entomology. During World War II he served in the United States Army. His active duty included 2 years in India and Central China as Malaria Survey and Control Officer. He was released from active duty in 1946, but he remained in the Active Army Reserve, eventually attaining the rank of Colonel. Upon his return to Minnesota after World War II, Al became Associate State Entomologist in the State Department of Agriculture. He remained in the Office of State Entomologist until 1958.

An energetic, modest man, with a rare combination of a great sense of humor and a never-relenting feeling of responsibility to his professional duties, Al Buzicky was a highly respected, outstanding entomologist, administrator and leader of men. At the time of his death, he was Director of the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District in St. Paul, a position created for him in



1958 when he was called upon to develop a mosquito control program where no program existed before. The District, comprised of six counties, includes the Twin Cities as well as extensive rural areas, making it one of the largest abatement districts in the world.

Al's entomological background and love of nature gave him a broad insight into wildlife management problems closely affecting mosquito control. He carefully developed a close working relationship with organizations responsible for agriculture, public health, industry, tourism, and wildlife in Minnesota. A superb understanding and mutually

beneficial symbiosis quickly developed between these organizations and his District. His thorough planning and strict adherence to sound methods paid off handsomely in excellent mosquito control in the Twin Cities area.

Many papers were written by Al Buzicky on the subject of mosquitoes, and he was active in several societies. His Presidential address at the 27th Annual Meeting of AMCA, "Our Vanishing Weapons" (*Mosquito News* 31:141-144, 1971) is a pragmatic but scholarly presentation of problems obstructing the control of mosquitoes. In addition to his participation in AMCA, Al was also a member of the Entomological Society of America, American Association for

the Advancement of Science, and several other professional organizations. He was an active member of the Edgumbe Presbyterian Church.

Al is survived by his wife of 33 years, Georgiana, who lives at 1709 Rome Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55116; three daughters, his mother, and a sister and brother.

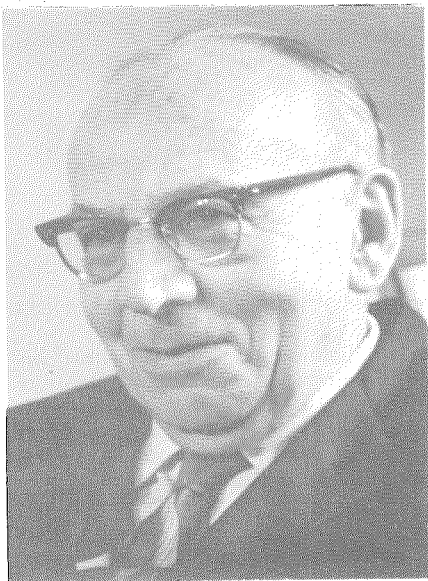
The death of Al Buzicky is a tragic loss to the members of his family to whom he was deeply devoted, and to his countless friends everywhere, including the entire membership of AMCA--the Association which Al served with pride and distinction for many years.

Donald R. Johnson

#### DOCTOR OTTO HECHT THALMESSINGER (1900-1973)

Doctor Otto Hecht Thalmessinger died in Mexico City on November 17, 1973. Born in southern Germany on April 26, 1900, he studied at the University of Munich where he was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1923. There followed 10 years of entomological investigation, principally at the Institute of Tropical Diseases in Hamburg. In 1933 Dr. Hecht went to Palestine where he carried out entomological studies until emigrating in 1940 to Caracas, Venezuela. There he worked for 5 years in the Division of Yellow Fever and Bubonic Plague of the Ministry of Health.

In 1945 he established residence in Mexico as a consultant in medical and veterinary entomology. From 1956 to 1960 he was chief of the Entomology Section of the National Campaign for



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