

BOOK REVIEWS

VENTURES IN WORLD HEALTH, THE MEMOIRS OF FRED LOWE SOPER. John Duffy, ed. 1977. Pan American Health Organization, Washington, D. C. Scient. Publ. 355:1-365.

The accomplishments of Fred L. Soper are well known. In the Foreword Paul Russell states that Fred Soper was the most successful practitioner of preventive medicine and public health in the middle fifty years of this century. He was an organizer who knew how to apply medical knowledge. *Building the Health Bridge*, edited by Austin Kerr, documented many of Soper's achievements and philosophies. In *Ventures in World Health* Soper tells how he reached many of his goals. His persistence in seeking the eradication of several diseases dominated his career.

There are ca. 143 pages devoted to yellow fever in Latin America; 33 pages deal with the eradication of *Anopheles gambiae* from Brazil; 20 pages describe the eradication of *An. gambiae* from Egypt; and 23 pages concern the failure of the U. S. to eradicate *Aedes aegypti*. It is well to have consolidated records of so much work of the Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Soper's papers, books, photographs and memorabilia published and collected during his professional lifetime were bequeathed to the National Library of Medicine. His *Memoirs* were undoubtedly made possible by his extensive diaries. The internationally known medical historian, John Duffy has done a superb editorial job, but a methodical man like Fred Soper might wonder why there is no index.—W. E. Bickley.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AQUATIC INSECTS OF NORTH AMERICA. R. W. Merritt and K. W. Cummins (eds.). Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., Dubuque, Iowa 52001. 441 pp.

Aquatic insects are of increasing interest to those concerned with environmental quality as well as to those concerned with recreation and health. This book was written to serve as a reference on the systematics and biology-ecology of aquatic insects. There are 23 contributing authors, more than one of whom is a member of AMCA. There are 6 introductory chapters which deal with morphology, collect-

ing, rearing, ecology, distribution, and classification. Each of the following 16 chapters is devoted to a taxonomic group, in most cases an order.

H. V. Daly has provided a key to the 13 orders in which there are immature or adult aquatic or semi-aquatic insects. This key, with accompanying explanations and illustrations, should be easy to use even by one who is unfamiliar with insects. Except for small insects, it appears that specimens may be keyed to order by using only a hand lens. There are frequent references to line drawings.

In each chapter devoted to an order there is a rather brief introductory statement, a section entitled "External Morphology" (a phrase abhorred by R. E. Snodgrass because it very literally means external study of form, not external form), a key to the appropriate families, a list of references, and a table summarizing ecological and distributional data. For the Megaloptera and aquatic Neuroptera there are keys to genera.

The order Diptera is treated in 5 chapters. There are keys to families based on larvae and on adults, and there are separate discussions and keys (for larvae and adults) to the genera of Tipulidae, Culicidae, Simuliidae and to the tribes of Chironomidae. There are also keys based on pupae for culicid genera and chironomid tribes. H. D. Newson has done an excellent job in covering the family Culicidae.

There are 3 strong features of this book: 1. The line drawings are superior qualitatively and quantitatively; 2. There is a wealth of information condensed in the tables on ecology and distribution; 3. The bibliography appears to be very complete—1712 listings.

Mosquito control workers will find the book particularly useful for identifying aquatic insects which they may encounter in association with mosquitoes.—W. E. Bickley

MOSQUITOES OF CALIFORNIA THIRD EDITION, by R. M. Bohart and R. K. Washino, University of California, Division of Agricultural Sciences, Berkeley, CA. 94720. Printed Publication Number 4084, 154 pp, March 1978, \$6.00.

The third edition of the *Mosquitoes of California*, written 27 years after the second (Freeborn & Bohart, 1951, Bull. Cal. Insect Sur. 1(2):25-78) reflects the authors' long