

# BUSINESS OF EASTERN ASSOCIATION

## NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

By THOMAS D. MULHERN, Sec.-Treas.

### Historical

The Eastern Association of Mosquito Control Workers came into being in 1935, when the mosquito workers along the eastern seaboard from Massachusetts to Virginia felt the need of some means of exchanging ideas and promoting unity of thought and action within the group. Its operation has afforded its members frequent opportunities to get together to study problems of general concern, and to observe new methods and accomplishments of mosquito control agencies, thereby aiding its members materially in keeping abreast of new and important developments. From the founding of the association, there has been issued reports of the various activities, in order that the benefits accruing to the members might be of the greatest permanent value. Since 1941 "Mosquito News" has served this important function. Previous to that time, the reports were mimeographed and sent only to members.

## Inspections

Each year there has been sponsored one or more inspections and meetings. These have been highly successful, and those who were able to attend have felt well repaid. Several of the field studies have taken the form of extended tours: for example, in 1938 ten days were spent in the Canal Zone, studying the methods and accomplishments of the mosquito control forces. This tour was conducted by Mr. W. H. W. Komp, and Dr. D. P. Curry, whose long experience in the Canal Zone and general acquaintance with the mosquito and health problems of the tropics resulted in a vivid portrayal of the conditions which existed in the early days, coupled with an impressive exhibit of the progress made through the years. This experience gives one an insight into the tremendous problem that must be facing the armed forces in the new tropic bases, and in the unsanitated areas about the older military areas. The Panama tour also provided an opportunity to see briefly some of the work being done in Havana.

Other extensive highlight tours have included a visit to the Savannah area and a detailed inspection of the Florida anti-mosquito work in 1939, and in 1941 an inspection of the work being done by the Tennessee Valley Authority. On this latter trip, the then new laboratory of United States Public Health Service was visited, the mosquito work of the City of Memphis was seen, and the group had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the famous Howard Krauss Society of South Side High School in Memphis.

Altogether, inspections have been as follows:

1936—Delaware and Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

1937—Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

1938—Panama and Havana—New Jersey.

1939—Savannah and Florida—Long Island and New York World's Fair—Northern New Jersey.

1940—Virginia and North Carolina including Dismal Swamp—Connecticut—Delaware—New York World's Fair.

1941—Northern New Jersey—Northern Delaware—Tennessee Valley and Memphis.

1942—Norfolk area of Virginia—Northern New Jersey.

There have been a number of business meetings, called as needed, in addition to the regular annual meetings, and there have been several special paper-reading sessions.

While it may be impracticable to schedule any extended tours in the immediate future because of war conditions, it seems more than ever necessary to hold frequent get-together sessions for the discussion of war-made problems, and it will probably be feasible to work out short inspections. When the Victory is won, however, there will doubtlessly be opportunity for extremely valuable studies of the new work that has had to be done to insure the successful prosecution of war activities,

possibly in Central or South America and the island bases, certainly in the Southern United States.

### Mosquito News

A forward step of high importance was the beginning of publication of "Mosquito News." The first number of this quarterly periodical was issued as a mimeographed news letter, but the membership immediately recognized its potential value as a journal and demanded that it be issued in booklet form for permanence. Now going into its third year, it has been enthusiastically received and there is an increasing demand for it, as well as for membership, by mosquito workers outside the area originally served by the association. The association is now, in fact, a national association, for it has members and subscribers from California, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, Kansas, Illinois, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. "Mosquito News" has attempted to serve the evident need for a journal of mosquito work for mosquito workers, broadening its scope and policy as necessary. The extent of its service to mosquito work, especially during the war, will be limited only by the participation and cooperation of all of us in submitting for the consideration of the publication's committee news items of general interest and mutual benefit. It is gratifying indeed to find the new members as well as the older ones sending in data, for this is an indication that they are at once considering the "News" their own journal.

### March 1943 Meeting

A meeting was held at Absecon, N. J. on March 11, and given over principally to a discussion of the expansion of "Mosquito News" and the association. Fortunately, the publication has been able to completely avoid competing with the other journals of interest to mosquito men, for it fills a field not heretofore covered by any journal. In fact, it is supplementary to the other periodicals, and in it will be found frequent references and abstracts directing attention to the other publications and to other organizations. In this manner "Mosquito News" continues to promote unity among mosquito workers.

A question that has been occupying the attention of the officers, committees, and members of the present Eastern Association is whether the organization should be modified to better fulfill the demand for national service. Several suggestions have been made, the most practicable of which seem to be, first, that the association change its name to indicate its national character, to make the publication of "Mosquito News" its primary objective, and to try to secure as members all of the active mosquito workers in the country, and second, that a subsidiary group be formed, to affiliate with all the mosquito control groups in the country, the sole purpose of such group to be the publication of "Mosquito News." The Eastern Association would then restrict its activities to that of a sectional group.

Financial considerations demand that the publication continue

through 1943 on the present basis. However, it should be possible to put through whatever changes are desirable by the beginning of 1944, and a special committee was appointed to consider all aspects of the question and to draft recommendations including constitutional changes to be referred to the Executive Committee, and subsequently to the general membership after action by the above committee. The members should at this time feel free to express their ideas on the subject so they may be considered previous to the taking of any action.

Other committees have been appointed as follows:

Membership:

Dr. R. Glasgow (N.Y.), Chair.

Dr. T. J. Headlee (N.J.)

Mr. H. Fellton (U.S. Govt.—Ga.)

Meetings and Inspections:

Mr. P. Ruth (Va.), Chair.

Mr. L. Smith (N.J.)

Mr. R. Sammis (N.Y.)

Mosquito News:

Editorial Board:

Mr. J. Hart (N.J.), Chair.

Mr. C. Williamson (N.Y.)

Mr. H. H. Stage (U.S. Govt.—Wash.)

Sectional Representatives:

Mr. H. F. Gray (Calif.)

Mr. J. L. Clarke (Ill.)

Mr. G. Bradley (U.S. Govt.—Ga.)