

EDITORIAL SECTION

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Much emphasis has properly been put on mosquito control work from the disease elimination angle. Malaria is the most common disease carried by the mosquito in this country and a great deal has been accomplished toward conquering this plague. It is natural during time of war that the control of malaria should be uppermost in the minds of the Government Health Agencies. It is claimed that during the Spanish American War, malaria claimed more victims than enemy bullets. In this war where much of the fighting is taking place in malaria infected localities, the loss from this disease has been greatly reduced due to the efficient work of the army health officers.

However, at this time we wish to say a word in justification of control work from the pest elimination angle. In all those thickly populated states in the northern half of the United States there is a very small, if any, malaria problem. But there is a very important mosquito problem even in war times. With most of the population engaged in some kind of war work it seems to us that relief from the mosquito pest is of vital importance. The production of food is a prime necessity toward winning the war. There is no question but that if the Agricultural workers have to fight mosquitoes while they work their efficiency is greatly impaired at a time when the maximum effort is required. In addition there is the disease known as "Encephalomyelitis" which is carried by the common pest mosquito to horses which are still a very useful adjunct to the farm.

Long hours and tedious work have made war workers jittery enough without adding mosquito bites to the troubles of these home front soldiers. It is most disconcerting to work in a shop all day and come home to a restless night due to mosquitoes in the bedroom and on the front porch. One case is reported where it was necessary to shut down the entire plant due to mosquito annoyance and there must be many other cases of this pest entering manufacturing establishments.

For these reasons, while admitting that malaria control has first claim on our resources, we do not believe it good policy to neglect the control of mosquitoes from a pest standpoint but that all those northern organizations should be enabled to carry on with even more diligence than in times of peace.

THE EDITOR.

BUSINESS OF EASTERN ASSOCIATION

NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Organization

The Association has continued to expand in gratifying fashion during the past few months and now includes members from all parts of the country, as well as from South America and Australia. Among the members in the armed forces are some in the Pacific war theatre while others are in the European area. The "News" goes to all of these, and it is to be hoped that it may be in some measure at least, helpful to them. Likewise, we may hope that military security regulations may sooner or later be relaxed sufficiently to allow some of these members in far places to give us accounts of their experiences.

Since the Association has become in fact a national group, it is anticipated that the able committee now studying the organization to determine how it can best serve the needs of its membership will have a definite proposal to place before it at the annual meeting which should be held sometime between now and the end of December. Should there be any members who have not had opportunity to express their ideas on this subject and who desire to do so, it is suggested that they write the secretary. In any event, it is believed that the changes to be proposed will provide maximum opportunity for cooperation with all existing organizations of mosquito workers and will aid in developing unity of thought in the advancement of mosquito work wherever it is needed.

Meetings and Inspections

The current season has seen the mosquito control agencies constantly on the firing line, not only combatting mosquitoes, but also shortages of labor, materials, transportation and equipment, while at the same time a number of the technical personnel were leaving to take up new duties with the federal services—all during a period when wartime requirements called for more, not less, mosquito control. With the active agencies striving with all their remaining resources to turn in a creditable performance in spite of these severe handicaps, there has been no doubt that any inspection or meeting during the summer months when mosquito breeding was at its apex would have been poorly attended. Now however, with the summer nearly over, perhaps it will be feasible to arrange to see some of the interesting new developments and accomplishments of the year.

Mosquito News

The hard working publications committee has been depleted by several of its members entering the federal services, thus leaving a tremendous load upon those remaining. To keep up the high standard that has been set for "Mosquito News" it will be necessary that the general membership continue and increase its support of the committee, by writing up and submitting for publication accounts of the newer and better things that are being done. The response to date has been good, but there doubtlessly are many developments that would be of general value if published but which are now serving only a limited field. Do you not have some such item, which you may take more or less for granted, but which would be of distinct service to the rest of us if we knew about it?

Secretary.

WORLD WIDE MOSQUITO CONTROL

By Herman L. Felton

R.A. Sanitary Engineer (R)

U. S. Public Health Service

From Monthly Reports of Malaria Control in War Areas
Atlanta, Georgia

LARVICIDES AND THEIR APPLICATION

Part I —Contact Poisons—In January Report

Part II —Stomach Poisons—In February Report

Part III—Application of Larvicides—In February Report

Part I—CONTACT POISONS

The application of larvicides is the primary method of mosquito control used in the program Malaria Control in War Areas. Although this is somewhat contrary to the usual practice in normal malaria control operations in which main reliance is placed on control by drainage and filling, the emergency nature of this program and the temporary character of the establishments being protected, made it advisable to use larvicides to control mosquito production where effective control can be achieved by such measures.

Control by larvicides is based on the fact that the larval and pupal stages