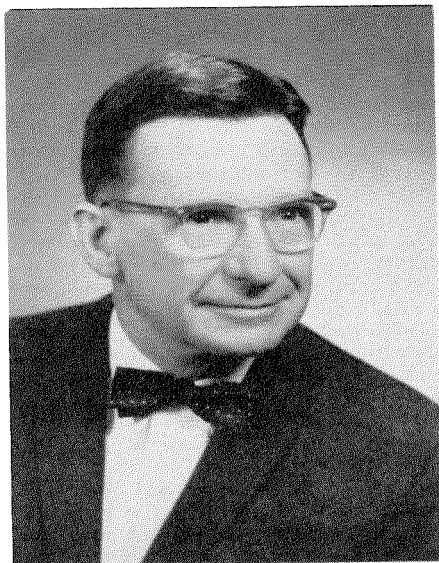


OBITUARIES

RICHARD PHELPS DOW
1907-1979

On December 2, 1979, Dr. Richard P. Dow passed away suddenly in his home in Vero Beach, Florida. He is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 34 years, a daughter Mrs. Jane Tunley of Orlando, Florida, a son Robert Phelps Dow of Vero Beach, and two grandsons, Herbert Tunley Jr. and Anthony James Dow. Memorial services were held December 8 at the Community Church in Vero Beach. Burial was in the family plot in Reading, Massachusetts, where Dick was born May 14, 1907.

Dick completed all his formal education at Harvard and received his A.B. *cum laude* in 1928, his S.M. in 1929 and his Ph.D. in 1935. From 1935 to 1941 he was Curator of Insects and Editor of *Natural History* magazine at the Boston Society of Natural History. He enlisted May 1942, serving in the U.S. Army as a medical

entomologist in a malaria survey unit in Algeria, Italy and the Pacific. After the war he accepted a commission in the U.S. Public Health Service and had assignments in California, Texas, Georgia, Utah and Colorado between 1946 and 1962. Dick then took a 20-year retirement from the federal government to do more research at the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory in Vero Beach until his retirement in 1972.

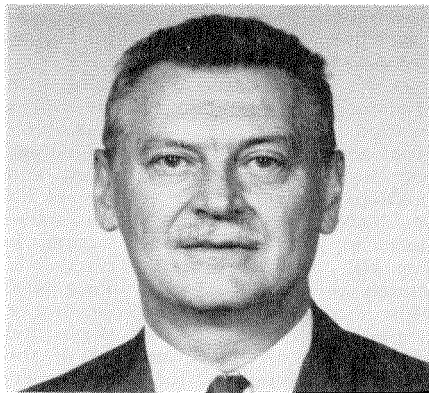
Dick's pre-war career dealt mainly with Hymenoptera taxonomy and host-prey relationships, periodical cicadas, book reviews and popularized articles on biology for the *New England Naturalist* and popular magazines. Dick always said his real career began when he was introduced to medical entomology during the war. His post-war work emphasized field studies on eye gnats and mosquitoes. Most of his studies involved collecting or trapping, much of the latter as planned experiments on the evaluation of the trapping technique or for insect dispersion studies. After retirement, and until his death, Dick continued analyzing and publishing on a lifetime backlog of research data, reviewing manuscripts for scientific journals and consulting informally with younger scientists who sought his help. In the last few years he also took great pleasure in the cultivation of bromeliads and revived an earlier enthusiasm for water-color painting.

Dick's world-wide career and broad entomological experience brought him in contact with many outstanding scientists, and he co-authored papers with such notables as W. M. Wheeler, Curtis W. Sabrosky, Joseph L. Melnick, W. C. Reeves, R. E. Bellamy, M. W. Provost and J. D. Edman. His education, experience and innate drive for thoroughness in planning, carrying-out and analyzing experiments made Dick a valuable member of any research team.

Mary and Dick had nine residences in six states during their 34 years, their chil-

dren shared the last four. Dick once wrote "This kind of nomadic living makes it possible to be eternally homesick, because there is always some place you wish to return to, or some person you wish to see again." Those of us who knew him well will be eternally homesick for the friendship, love and guidance of Richard Phelps Dow. C. D. Morris

JOHN N. BELKIN



Dr. John Nicholas Belkin, Professor Emeritus of Entomology of the University of California, Los Angeles, died April 25, 1980, at the age of 66 at his home in Los Angeles.

John was born in Petrograd, Russia. In the turmoil that followed World War I, his family managed to emigrate to France and eventually to the United States. John went to school in New York and worked part-time at the American Museum of Natural History. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University in 1938, and became Dr. Robert Matheson's assistant, upon graduation. In 1942, he went to the Tennessee Valley Authority as an entomologist and shortly afterwards was commissioned in the Sanitary Corps of the U.S. Army. He was the Commanding Officer of the 420th Malaria Survey Detachment and served for 21 months in the Solomon Islands (1943-1945). His exten-

sive surveys and collections later served as a basis for his monumental work "Mosquitoes of the South Pacific," a work which goes far beyond the region covered in that it serves as the basis for a glossary of mosquito terminology. John was pulled out of the South Pacific area to serve on Gen. MacArthur's staff as a liaison officer with the Russian military mission. He was one of the first officers to enter Tokyo, and served as an interpreter to the Russians at the Japanese surrender aboard the U.S.S. Missouri. After WW II, he returned to Cornell to finish his Ph.D. (1946). He then worked at Rutgers University and the Associated Colleges of Upper N.Y. In 1949, he became an assistant Professor of Entomology at the University of California, and in 1959, became a full Professor.

John helped organize the Biological Research Institute of America, a non-profit research foundation, where he served as Vice-President.

John's meticulous studies on the Mosquitoes of Middle America resulted in numerous publications of untold value. He was an avid field collector and developed many of the collecting, rearing and recording techniques that are now used by most workers in mosquito biology and systematics. John was a perfectionist and his works are proof of his zeal. His many graduate students were fortunate to have the opportunity to imbibe of his knowledge and experience. Recently, the mosquito genus *Johnbelkinia*, was named for him by one of his students.

John was awarded the AMCA Medal of Honor at the Salt Lake City meeting, for his outstanding contributions to mosquito systematics.

The Dr. John N. Belkin Memorial Fund has been established at the American Mosquito Control Association, 5545 Shields Ave., Fresno, CA 93727 to further mosquito systematics. Tax deductible donations may be made to AMCA for this fund.

We all will miss this wonderful human being, a giant of a man who contributed so much of himself to the benefit of mankind. Eugene J. Gerberg