

NEWS AND NOTES

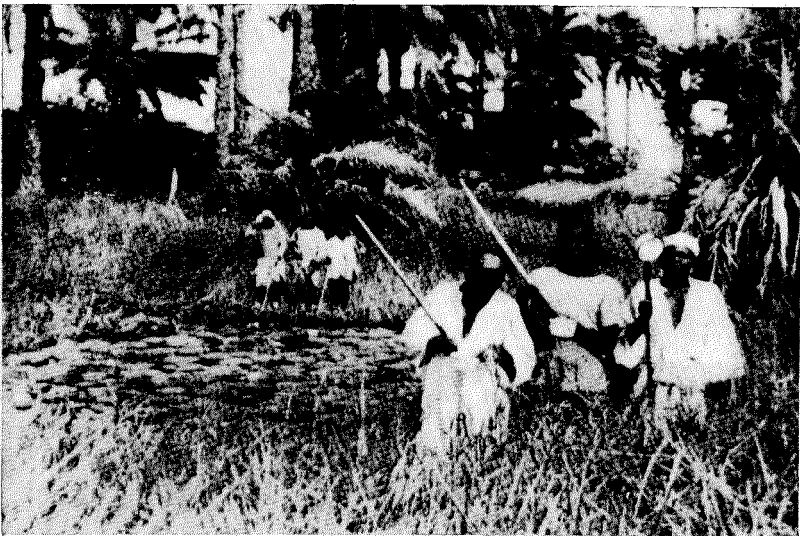
NEW MEMBERS. Applications for membership were approved at a special meeting of the Executive Committee on October 31, 1944, as follows: Carl E. Anderson, New Jersey, Associate; Vernon Conant, New Jersey, Active; Leroy Childs, Oregon, Active; F. R. DuChanois, Texas, Associate; W. G. Jahnes, New Jersey, Active; Philip H. Harden, Louisiana, Associate; Albert A. Weathersbee, Virginia, Active. T.D.M.

A NEW RECRUIT.—*Mosquito News* is happy to announce the arrival of a new mosquito fighter, "Johnny-Cake" Mulhern. His arrival, via the stork, took place on June 3, 1944.

R. L. Vannote.

T/SGT. C. R. STRICKLAND, 29th Malaria Control Unit, has sent four kodachrome snapshots entitled: "A Native Inspection Team" (passed by U. S. Army Censor, one reproduced below) and writes: "Somewhere in Senegal W. Africa—October 24, '44. Given some two weeks training, these natives proved highly efficient when working in pairs. The work seemed to fascinate them and they learned quickly to distinguish Anophelines from Culicines and to differentiate both from other aquatic life." Signed, "Strickland."

T. D. Mulhern.



*A Native Inspection Team—Strickland
Somewhere in Senegal West Africa*

JAMES T. HART of the Morris County (New Jersey) Mosquito Extermination Commission writes that he is now in New Guinea and would like to hear from some of us. His address is Capt. James T. Hart, Jr., 0-519296, 105th Malaria Control Unit, A.P.O. 565, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.
T. D. M.

THE FLORIDA ANTI-MOSQUITO ASSOCIATION. Fred H. Stutz, Director of the Dade County (Florida) Anti-Mosquito district, writes to say that the Florida Anti-Mosquito Association which has been inactive for the past few years will resume active operation possibly some time this spring by holding a meeting which has been tentatively scheduled to be held in Tampa. Best wishes to the Florida Association for a successful meeting.
T. D. M.

THE NEW JERSEY MOSQUITO EXTERMINATION ASSOCIATION will hold its 1945 Annual Meeting, the thirty-second of the series, at Atlantic City in March. Dates have not yet been fixed, but will probably be in the latter half of the month.
T. D. M.

We have the following notes from Harold F. Gray, Engineer and Executive Officer, Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District:

DR. STANLEY B. FREEBORN, Senior Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service, who has been malarialogist for Malaria Control in War Areas at Atlanta, Ga., has been released and has returned to Berkeley as Professor of Entomology and Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of California.
H. F. Gray.

DR. MORRIS A. STEWART, Associate Professor of Parasitology at the University of California, has recently returned from a four months assignment in Bolivia and Brazil. On the way he visited the remarkable Instituto Biologico at Sao Paulo and the Instituto Oswaldo Cruz at Rio de Janeiro.
H. F. Gray.

MAJOR THOMAS H. G. AITKEN, Sanitary Corps, U. S. Army, is reported to have been formerly in Italy and later in Egypt. We understand that he has done considerable work on malaria and mosquito control in these areas. Tommy was formerly a graduate student under Professor W. B. Herms, while working for his Ph.D. degree, and did very valuable work in straightening out the *Anopheles maculipennis* complex in the Western United States.
H. F. Gray.

HARVEY G. LUDWIG, Assistant Sanitary Engineer, U. S. Public Health Service, who was formerly in charge of the *Aedes* Control Unit in New Orleans, is said to have been transferred to Europe under U. N. R. R. A.
H. F. Gray.

(This report is confirmed by Mrs. Harvey Ludwig.—T. D. M.)

WILLIAM T. INGRAM, Sanitary Engineer, U. S. Public Health Service, who was formerly Sanitary Engineer for the San Joaquin Local Health District in California and did some excellent mosquito control work in that County, is reported also to have been transferred to Europe under U. N. R. R. A.
H. F. Gray.

CAPTAIN HOMER W. JORGENSEN, Sanitary Corps, U. S. Army, who was formerly an Assistant Sanitary Engineer in the California State Department of Health, is reported to be in charge of an Army malaria control unit in the South Pacific.
H. F. Gray.

A. H. GEIB, who has been supervising mosquito control work for the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering of the California State Department of Health, has recently resigned and is reported to be engaged in some Army educational work. Mr. Geib was formerly Secretary-Treasurer of the California Mosquito Control Association.
H. F. Gray.

HAROLD F. GRAY, Engineer and Executive Officer, Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, was in Chicago on Nov. 2nd-6th, and while there took advantage of the opportunity to visit J. Lyell Clarke and observe the mosquito control operations and equipment of the Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District.

H. F. Gray.

A SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL WORKERS.—The new School of Public Health at the University of California gave an intensive training course on the control of mosquitoes and mosquito-transmitted diseases on December 4th-16th. Of this Mr. Gray writes: "This is the first course of this type to be given on the Pacific Coast, and it may be the first course of this type to be given anywhere in the United States (excluding, of course, formal University courses for University credit). Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene has given such short courses in England in the past, and short courses in malariology have been given, I think, by the India Branch of this Institute in India."

We have before us a circular describing this course, entitled "Announcement for SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE ON CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES AND MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES," December 4 to December 16, 1944. School of Public Health and Division of Entomology and Parasitology, College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley, California.

A few excerpts from this announcement should be of interest:

"For the past twenty years or more the control of mosquitoes has been recognized as a service function of government, for the protection of individuals, industry and agriculture against disability, death and economic loss. The implications of the present war with its return of possibly infected military personnel from tropical areas now accentuates the need for this service . . . , and has resulted in requests for specific training'

"Heretofore specific training has not been available . . . , except in regular university courses.

Admission

"*Requirements:* Applicants must be actual or immediately prospective employees of state or local health departments, or of an official agency engaged in mosquito abatement, and must be recommended for this training by the head of the department or official agency

"Enrollment will be restricted to 30 students."

Courses Offered

- I. Administration and Management. Mr. Herms, Mr. Gray.
- II. Entomology and Parasitology. Mr. Herms and Assistants.
- III. Mosquito Transmitted Diseases. William W. Reich.
- IV. Techniques of Control. Mr. Gray and Assistants.

Fees and Expenses

The tuition fee of \$50 covers the required laboratory and incidental fees.

Hotel and meals (15 days at \$7.50) estimated at about \$115.00. Two hotels near the campus have arranged to reserve rooms for students in this course. Reservations with deposit to be made 3 weeks in advance.

Books and incidental materials are estimated to cost \$10.00.

Total expenses, including transportation estimated at about \$175.00.

"It is assumed that departments or districts will defray the expenses of officers or employees sent to the course, as well as paying their regular salaries."

This course is an important and a logical development. Recent years have seen a progressive extension of the short course idea, through short courses for farmers, short courses for firemen, short courses for policemen, short courses for town officers, short courses for municipal treasurers and the like, with growing emphasis on such special training courses

designed to keep service workers in government up to the minute with reference to new developments in their respective special fields.

It is to be hoped that qualified institutions may follow California's lead, and offer similar short courses for mosquito control workers in other regional areas.

R. D. G.

NEWS FROM VENEZUELA. ANOTHER SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL WORKERS. We are happy to have the following from Dr. Arturo Luis Berti, Ing. Jefe de Seccion, Division de Malariologia, Ministerio de Sanidad y Asistencia Social, Salubridad Publica, Maracay-Aragua, United States of Venezuela.

"The most important event in connection with mosquito control right now is the course of Malaria Control for doctors and engineers offered by the Division of Malariology and now under way in its new building and laboratories at Maracay, Aragua.

"This course has been divided into two sections: one for medical doctors and the other one for engineers engaged or interested in malaria control. It is a four-month course for each section. The first two months are devoted to study of the following subjects:

Doctors:

- I. Hematology.
- II. Entomology.
- III. Protozoology of Malaria.
- IV. Pathology.
- V. Symptomatology.
- VI. Therapeutics.
- VII. Meteorology.
- VIII. Epidemiology.
- IX. Antimalaria Engineering.
- X. Antimalaria Administration.
- XI. Antimalaria Legislation.

Engineers:

- I. Protozoology, Symptomatology and Therapeutics of Malaria.
- II. Entomology.
- III. Sanitation.
- IV. Meteorology and Hydrology.
- V. Antimalaria Equipment.
- VI. Epidemiology of Malaria.
- VII. Drainage and Irrigation.
- VIII. Mosquito Control.
- IX. Antimalaria Administration.
- X. Antimalaria Legislation.

"The last two months will be spent by the students working as assistants of the doctors and engineers of the Division of Malariology in its routine work.

"Twenty-nine Doctors and Engineers from different countries are attending the course, as follows:

- 1 from U. S.
- 15 from Venezuela.
- 4 from Colombia.
- 3 from Ecuador.
- 2 from Peru.
- 4 from Bolivia.

"The students are working under fellowships provided by the Venezuelan Government, the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Guayaquil City Government, Ecuador."

Dr. A. L. Berti

A FATAL CASE OF FLEA BORNE BUBONIC PLAGUE IN HONOLULU. The Hawaii Health Messenger for August, 1944, Volume IV, No. 2, reports: "One fatal case of bubonic plague with secondary pneumonia was reported during the month from the Kalopa district. The patient, ill for about six days before reporting to the doctor, died the following morning. This man had been working in an area where plague infected rats have been found during the past year."

R. D. G.

TYPHUS FEVER AND PLAGUE IN HAWAII. The Hawaii Health Messenger for August, 1944, Volume IV, No. 2, reports a generally favorable health record and mortality rate for the preceding fiscal year, but adds: "On the other side of the ledger we are forced to admit that we had far too many typhus cases in the past year. One hundred eighty cases with one death was reported, and plague still continues to challenge the best efforts of the Health Department. Seven cases were reported from the Big Island, all of which proved fatal."

NEW JERSEY ACTS TO PREVENT MALARIA OUTBREAKS. In 1935, the most recent malaria epidemic in New Jersey occurred in a county which had no anti-mosquito work. That year there were 155 cases in the state.

The annual number has been usually under 20 and these are mostly infected persons coming into the state from malarious regions.

Since the United States entered the war an increased proportion of the mosquito control effort has been placed on the control of *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*, but it has not been practicable to completely eradicate the species, though only small numbers can be found over most of the protected region.

Anticipating the rise in numbers of malaria cases which has occurred this year, principally in service men back from the war zones, and their probably wide geographic distribution, a cooperative program was adopted by the various county mosquito extermination commissions, local health departments, State Department of Health and the State Agricultural Experiment Station to prevent epidemics by quickly following up with malaria and mosquito control measures the cases which appear in civilian areas.

Malaria has been reportable since 1911, the physicians being required to promptly notify the health authorities when a case comes to their attention.

Under the cooperative control plan, the local health department notifies the State Department of Health and the county mosquito extermination commission immediately of the location of the case. Representatives of the two agencies visit the patient, preferably together, as soon as practicable; the former to get a complete case history and to present instructions in protective measures the patient may take to help prevent epidemics by preventing the infection of mosquitoes; and the latter to inspect the premises for malarial mosquitoes, to subsequently survey the one mile zone about the premises for breeding places, and to take corrective measures as may be needed. This direct notification insures inspection within a minimum length of time. Meanwhile, the State Department of Health notifies the State Experiment Station, which in turn sends a confirming notice to the county mosquito commission. Upon completion of the field procedure, a report on the mosquito conditions is prepared by the mosquito commission and distributed to the other agencies.

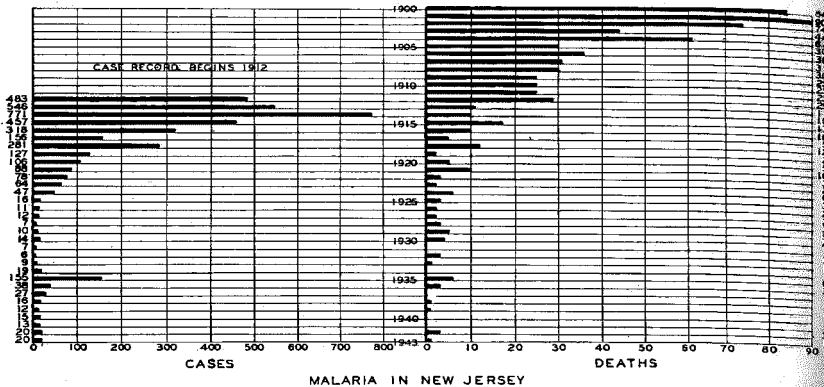
Where this procedure cannot be followed, as where there is no county mosquito commission, or no local board of health, the state agencies complete the routine, taking whatever action is indicated by the circumstances surrounding the individual case.

The State Department of Health has on hand a supply of dimethyl phthalate mosquito repellent which it may furnish in small quantities to the malaria patient when it is deemed advisable as a supplement to the other protective measures recommended.

Through civilian sources, 34 cases were reported in the first 10 months of 1944. Most of these on investigation proved to be service men on leave or discharged who had acquired malaria abroad.

On the military reservations there have been many more cases and these are being given all the protection practicable by the military personnel, while the U. S. Public Health Service is also doing some work adjacent to a few camps where there is a definite population of human malaria carriers and malarial mosquitoes.

It is gratifying that there has been no epidemic any place in the state; yet there is



Malaria in New Jersey has declined steadily during the period in which the mosquito control work has been expanded. However, as recently as 1935 an outbreak occurred in a portion of the state which was without protection from mosquitoes. This epidemic was brought under control through the cooperation of health and mosquito control agencies, through the execution of a mosquito control program.

always the possibility that though all practicable precautions be taken, in any place where any *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* remain, a human malaria carrier not under treatment may escape notice until an infected masquito population is established. The mosquito control work must therefore be advanced as rapidly as possible.

See graph showing malaria cases and deaths in New Jersey from 1900 to 1943.

Thomas D. Mulhern.

SCREEN WIRE DEMANDS INCREASED. On July 21 the W. P. B. reported that 1944-45 total demands for wire screen cloth are estimated to be 24 per cent greater than for this fiscal year, and that present labor forces in the screen industry must be increased if both civilian and military demands are to be met. The Army and Navy requirements are forecast at a 25 per cent increase and civilian needs will go up from 325 to 400 million square feet.

Based on the above W. P. B. estimates, it appears likely that civilian supplies will be short indeed, for even during this year it was very difficult to get screen cloth in some regions, and the estimated rise in military requirements, which must be met, doubtless means that less will be available for civilian use. It appears that wire screen production requires much labor and cannot now be easily increased because of the labor shortage. Wire screen cloth which may now be manufactured is limited by W. P. B. Order L303 to 12 mesh per inch painted wire and 16 mesh painted or galvanized wire. Only 8 widths can be manufactured, ranging from 24 inch to 48 inch. This standardization, with the elimination of many sizes, may aid the industry to turn out a greater total volume. The 12 mesh is, of course, too large to keep out mosquitoes, though house flies and larger insects cannot come through it. Some 14 mesh screen has been sold for mosquito protection, but the smaller mosquitoes can come through it. The increased size of opening over 16 mesh is hardly noticeable by casual observation, though readily determinable by measurement. Some of the complaints we have heard to the effect that "all my doors and windows are screened but mosquitoes still get in the house" are traceable to 14 mesh screen.

Adequate screen protection has been taken for granted for so long that it is difficult to

imagine the profound effect upon our way of life that would result should we be deprived of it. But we can at least readily imagine flies, mosquitoes and other insects spreading disease and interfering seriously with human activity at home and at work, in both urban and suburban regions.

Malaria was sharply reduced in many parts of the country about the time when the use of screening was becoming general, and certainly the present day low level of fly borne disease is due in large part to intelligent use of screening.

All of which indicates the advisability of encouraging to the utmost the preservation of existing screens by careful maintenance.

Thomas D. Mulhern.

TO REGULATE REMOVAL OF TOP SOIL. In an effort to end the practice of unregulated removal of top soil, three municipalities in Union County, N. J., have passed ordinances prohibiting such work without securing a permit from the municipal engineer. The ordinances provide that prior to the issuance of a permit (license), plans for the complete drainage of resulting depressions must be approved by the licensing authority. This is a step in the right direction and it is hoped that similar ordinances may be enacted concerning the removal of trees which, in many cases, result in holes that hold water and breed mosquitoes.

R. L. Vannoy.

Mr. Richard F. Sherry, Chief Inspector, Union County (New Jersey) Mosquito Extirpation Commission, has provided a copy of the ordinance referred to above, which reads as follows:

**"TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD,
COUNTY OF UNION**

**"An Ordinance to Regulate the Removal
of Soil**

"BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of Springfield in the County of Union that the following shall constitute 'AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE REMOVAL OF SOIL':

"Section 1. Any person or owner desiring to make any excavation or to remove soil from premises in the Township of Springfield in the County of Union shall first file with the Clerk of the Township an application for a permit to make such excavation or to remove soil and a map of the premises showing the proposed contour lines and proposed grades resulting from such intended removal in relation to the existing topography of the premises, and the said proposed contour lines and proposed grades shall be subject to approval by the Engineer of the Township of Springfield. No permit for soil removal shall be issued until such map has been filed and until the contour lines and grades have been approved by the Engineer of the Township.

"Section 2. In the removal of soil, the owner, applicant or person in charge shall so conduct operations that there shall be no sharp declivities, pits or depressions and so that the area shall be properly leveled off, cleared of debris, and graded to conform with the contour lines and grades as approved by the Engineer of the Township of Springfield.

"Section 3. The applicant, owner, or person in charge in the removal of soil shall not take away the top layer of arable soil for a depth of four inches, but such top layer of arable soil to a depth of four inches shall be set aside for retention on the premises, and shall be re-spread over the premises when the rest of the soil has been removed, pursuant to levels and contour lines approved by the Engineer of the Township.

"Section 4. In the removal of soil or dirt the owner, applicant, or person in charge shall make use only of such streets for transportation as are designated for that purpose by the Engineer of the Township.

"Section 5. Before any permit for soil removal shall be issued, the applicant or owner shall file with the Township a bond with surety and amount subject to approval of the Township Committee, the amount to be determined after report by the Township Engineer as to necessities and requirements in the undertaking, which bond shall be conditioned that the work of soil removal shall comply with the ordinances and regulations on the subject, and shall be done in proper manner, in accordance with the grades and contour lines approved by the Engineer of the Township, and that the top layer of soil, to a depth of four inches, shall be set aside and retained to be thereafter re-spread over the area when the rest of removal has been completed, and that repairs at the expense of the owner or applicant shall be made to any street or streets used in transportation if the Township shall consider repairs are necessary because of such use of the streets, and that the work shall be properly done without detriment to adjoining properties or detriment to the Township and without leaving any sharp declivities, pits or depressions, and will be leveled off properly and cleared of debris, and that the owner or applicant will pay the costs of inspection and supervision incurred by the Engineer of the Township in examination and inspection during the progress of the soil removal.

"Section 6. No excavation shall be made and no soil shall be removed unless a permit therefor shall have been first obtained as provided herein, and no excavation shall be made and no soil shall be removed except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance.

"Section 7. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this

ordinance shall be subject to a fine not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty (30) days or to both in the discretion of the court.

"Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after publication in the manner provided by law."

"I, Robert D. Treat, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced for first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of

Springfield in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, held on Wednesday evening, July 19, 1944, and that the said Ordinance shall be submitted for consideration and final passage at a regular meeting of the said Township Committee to be held on Wednesday evening, August 9, 1944, in the Springfield Municipal Building at 8 p.m., at which time and place any person or persons interested therein, will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning such Ordinance.

"R. D. TREAT,

"Township Clerk."

39-40

This ordinance is indeed a move in the right direction, since it seeks to correct a prolific source of mosquito breeding; yet, as originally proposed, it seems capable of being construed in ways that might interfere unduly with the legitimate improvement of private property.

R. D. G.

EXCERPT FROM AN INSPECTOR'S REPORT. "In the lower part of Simonelli's roams a crazed bull who nearly gored several farmhands to death and who has a particular dislike to mosquito exterminators. It seems that this bull—Ferdinand as Peterson and I affectionately call him—has broken his nose-ring and they are unable to control him so that he has free reign of the lower portion of Simonelli's, which, however, is fenced in.

"I, not wishing to shirk my duty as a mosquito inspector, ventured into the field where the ferocious beast grazes and proceeded nonchalantly to spray. A cry of warning from Pete told me my mistake and I turned to face a snorting, hoofing, bellowing monster who, after giving me the once over, proceeded in my direction at no mean speed—preparing to play a little football with me. Without waiting for signals from the quarterback, I streaked for the distant fence which I took in one hurdle, leaving my playful friend for some Spanish Toreador to take up where I left off.

"In case you doubt this episode, evidence may be obtained by a future trip to Simonelli's, where you, too, will be welcomed by Ferdinand."

From R. L. Vannoté.