

NEWS AND NOTES

FROM SOUTH AMERICA. A letter from Dr. L. W. Hackett, Director for the Rio de la Plata and Andean Regions, The Rockefeller Foundation, International Health Division, Buenos Aires, Argentina, contains the following interesting paragraphs:

"I appreciate your desire for entomological news from this region, and I will be glad to help you to get it; but I have personally abandoned the field of malaria and am engaged in administrative work in general public health . . .

"The Rockefeller Foundation is aiding Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador in mosquito control projects, and perhaps I can get our staff members in those countries to send you a short account of the interesting work they are doing.

"In Bolivia the principal agricultural region is in the foothills of the Andes, and Dr. Henry Carr has accomplished the complete elimination of malaria in a typical area, entirely through the installation of automatic siphons in the streams which are greatly reduced during the dry season. In this area *A. pseudopunctipennis* is the only vector and this species breeds almost entirely in the beds and along the margins of streams.

"In Peru the coastal zone, west of the Andes, is principally desert, crossed by about 50 rivers arising in the snow capped mountains. These river valleys are separated from one another sufficiently to prevent mosquitoes flying from one to the other. This turns each valley into a biological island in which living things, with the exception of birds, cannot leave or enter without the aid of man. We are attempting the total eradication of anopheline species from one of these valleys just south of Lima. Breeding of *A. pseudopunctipennis* takes place from the sea up to an altitude of almost 8000 ft., which covers a stretch of about 50 miles of river. The application of paris green and a certain amount of small open drainage has now reduced our adult anophelines practically to zero, although we found one small larval focus in the lower valley in December. We are optimistic about the possibilities of anopheline eradication in such valleys."

R.D.G.

Anopheles punctimacula Dyar and Knab, CONVICED AS A VECTOR OF MALARIA. "It is reported by the Departamento de Malariologia of the Servicio Cooperativo Inter-americano de Salud Publica in Colombia, that they have succeeded in positively incriminating *Anopheles punctimacula* as a vector of malaria in Medellin. Epidemiological evidence based upon house and Magoon trap catches of *Anopheles*, reveal that only this species in that locality is appreciably attracted to either burros in traps or humans in their dwellings. Also, a total of six wild-caught

infected specimens have been found, only two having been previously reported for the world. This work places upon a much more firm basis the incriminating evidence against this species. The detailed results are to appear probably in Amer. Journ. Trop. Med. in the near future."

Carl B. Huffaker.

FROM SENEGAL, WEST AFRICA. An air-mail letter from T/Sgt. Claude R. Strickland, 29th Medical Composite Unit (Malaria Control), APO 622, c/o P.M., Miami, Florida, (now in Senegal, West Africa) contains the following paragraphs of general interest:

"Relative to insects of this area, I have had the privilege of association with three young fellows who belong to a Malaria Survey Unit. One has made an extensive collection of ticks here, but so far he has not found the *Ornithodoros monbata*" (the carrier of African relapsing fever). "All three are engaged during their spare-time in the collection of a variety of insects. The tsetse fly (probably *Glossina palpalis*) is common here although sleeping sickness is not found this far north. The filaria worm, *Wuchereria bancrofti* is common here and was found in abundance in the stomach of *Anopheles funestus* and *A. gambiae*. The disease" (elephantiasis) "is also apparent in local natives.

"Other than malaria control, our unit does little else. Of course, in the routine of native village spraying, we wipe out the flea, bedbug and lice populations. This you may say is purely accidental — they just happen to get in the way of the DDT.

"Certainly, mosquito control and allied fields must be brought together in a common undertaking for public good. Heretofore there have been too many agencies, diversities of opinion and of other factors too numerous to mention that have hindered progress and actually blocked the efforts of all concerned. The public cause of mosquito control can be best served by an integrated organization. I . . . believe the A.M.C.A. will be the norm for such integration."

R.D.G.

NOTES ON MOSQUITOES IN RHODE ISLAND. For the past two years there has been very little work done in Rhode Island toward the actual elimination of mosquito breeding places. Some few towns and cities were induced this spring to make appropriations and clean up their ditches, at least in part, and the City of Providence did a fine job of oiling its sewer basins; but a majority of the towns and cities were indifferent to the February campaign urging them to assume their maintenance obligations.

The reason was labor shortage.

The Division of Entomology and Plant Industry, which in Rhode Island is charged with the ad-