

ministration of the state mosquito suppression law, was this year granted \$10,000 to carry on its mosquito control activities. Confronted with the same labor shortage as the towns and cities, it employed its energies in making a wriggler survey of fourteen towns in the state and in publicizing measures for the general public to take toward suppressing mosquitoes on private property. Detail plans were drawn up for five post-war projects. The remainder of the appropriation will be spent upon field equipment as it becomes available from the armed forces, and for grants to cooperating towns.

The mosquito survey disclosed some startling facts, especially with regard to the prevalence of anopheline mosquitoes within the state. They were most plentiful adjacent to the Quonset Naval Air Station in North Kingstown, but also were found in small numbers wherever a survey was conducted. The species included *punctipennis*, *crucians*, and *walkeri*, with *quadrimaculatus* predominant. Several thousand adult "quads" were observed last July, clinging to the basement ceiling of an old barn just south of the navy yard fence.

This find aroused considerable concern among ranking officers at the post. Suppressive work on pest mosquitoes within the reservation had been performed earlier by enlisted personnel, following recommendations offered by the state; but these men were not permitted to do control work outside the reservation. Since the state had neither labor nor equipment to undertake it, the U. S. Public Health Service was called to the scene. Acting under easement procured by the state, it dusted with paris green or oiled all anopheline breeding places within a one mile radius of the camp.

Adult mosquitoes discovered in the old barn were found emerging from a weedy, spring-fed pond scarcely 75 by 150 feet in area. Scattered trees overhanging the pond, which was located but 800 feet due south of the air station. There was another pond and fresh water swamp one-quarter mile northwest of the air station which likewise supported an amazingly large "quad" population.

Other localities where "quads" were fairly plentiful this summer include: a pond and cattail swamp covering 40 acres less than three-quarters of a mile southeast of Fort Benjamin Church, Little Compton; a weedy pond and swamp 8 acres in extent on the south side of Slater Memorial Park, Pawtucket; and a medium pond, partly overgrown with weeds, located 300 feet north of Quonochontaug Beach and 1½ miles west of the Naval Air Station in Charlestown. This station is an auxiliary to the Quonset Air Station already mentioned. In Little Compton the *quadrimaculatus* wigglers were most plentiful along the edge of muskrat channels.

A list of pest mosquitoes found in Rhode Island this summer includes: *C. pipiens*, *C. salinarius*, *C. apicalis*, *C. territans*, *A. sollicitans*, *A. vexans*, *A. aurifer*, *A. canadensis*, *A. cantator*, *M. perturbans*, *P. ciliata*, *U. sapphirina*, *C. morsitans*, *A. restuans*, *A. fitchii*, *C. melanura*.

It is hoped that in the coming year of 1945 both labor and equipment will be available to undertake

more work for the control of mosquito breeding in the State of Rhode Island.

William V. Bartosewitz,  
State Mosquito Control Supervisor.

**MALARIA CONTROL ACTIVITIES IN FLORIDA.** A Bureau of Malaria Control was established in the Florida State Board of Health in July 1941. Although the war has curtailed some activities of the Bureau its responsibility in the war effort has greatly increased. In 1942 it was charged with supervising the operation of malaria control in all areas of military importance. In the fall of 1942, at the suggestion of the Surgeon General's Office, U. S. Army, a school of malariology for the instruction of officers was organized by Dr. John E. Elmendorf, Jr., Director. The school functioned in Florida until January 1944, at which time it was transferred to a foreign post in the tropics.

The Bureau has lost all of its personnel with the exception of John A. Mulrennan, Entomologist, and Nina Branch, Medical Technologist, Dr. John E. Elmendorf, Jr., Director; Dr. Edwin Riley and Dr. R. J. Patterson, Assistant Directors; and James Wright, Engineer, have all entered the military service. Dr. J. Harland Paul, Field Staff member of the Rockefeller Foundation, took over direction in March 1944.

At the present time the Bureau is also engaged in *Aedes aegypti* control and in the formulation of plans to extend efforts to the rural areas of malarious counties in Florida.

J. A. Mulrennan.

**FINANCING MALARIA CONTROL WORK IN MEXICO.** Mr. J. L. Robertson, Jr., of the U. S. Public Health Service, who has just returned to the States after a two year tour of duty in Mexico, explained the unique way that the Mexican Government has for financing malaria control work. Each letter that is posted with origin and destination in Mexico requires a special stamp in addition to regular postage. The money obtained from this stamp goes to the Mexican Federal Health Department and is spent for permanent malaria control work. The stamp has the figure of a man standing with outstretched arms with a large over-sized mosquito stretched over his back with its proboscis imbedded in the man's chest.

R. E. Dorer.

**DDT IN PAINT KILLS FLIES.** Two British paint chemists, C. G. Campbell and T. F. West, Nature, London, October 21, 1944, p. 512, may have found a means for making the interior of houses deadly to flies and other insect pests (and presumably also for mosquitoes) perhaps for long periods of time. To an oil bound water paint these investigators added 5 per cent of DDT. When panels coated with this paint (and thoroughly dried) were placed in fly cages, the flies were all killed. Two months later the panels coated with DDT-bearing paint were

still effective. In larger scale tests where small rooms were painted with the same material, but where through an error in mixing, the paint contained only one-half of one percent DDT, the painted walls killed 90 percent of the flies that roosted on them over night. Ordinary oil paints and synthetic varnishes, both of which form a more impervious type of surface film, have not given as good results as the flat interior wall paints. If the results of preliminary tests can be uniformly repeated, DDT may become a regular ingredient of interior paints and wall finishes, as a means of automatically suppressing houseflies and mosquitoes indoors. R.D.G.

JOINT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGISTS AND THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA. These two entomological societies held jointly a series of meetings in New York City on December 13-15, 1944, with headquarters at the Hotel New Yorker. Many members of the A.M.C.A. attended these meetings, several who are members also of one or both of the entomological societies concerned presenting very significant papers. Many of the papers read are of interest to all members of the A.M.C.A.

From the standpoint of mosquito control workers, these meetings were especially notable because of the fact that they were made the occasion for releasing the long suppressed results of much experiment work with DDT for control of mosquitoes.

To personalize the report of these meetings, those who read appropriate papers were asked to prepare author's abstracts for publication in Mosquito News. These authors' abstracts may be found in the Reviews and Abstracts section.

R.D.G.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL MALARIA SOCIETY. The National Malaria Society held its twenty-seventh annual meeting conjointly with the Southern Medical Association in St. Louis, Mo., from November 14 to 16, 1944. The program was presented in three half-day scientific sessions. That of the 14th, held jointly with the Sanitary Engineers and Sanitation Officers Section, Southern Branch, American Public Health Association, comprised eleven papers. On the 15th a joint session was held with the American Society of Tropical Medicine, at which eleven papers were presented. At the session on the 16th twelve papers were presented. A business meeting was held subsequent to the scientific session on this date at which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:

Honorary President—Mr. J. A. Le Prince, Memphis, Tennessee.

President—Mr. H. A. Johnson, Memphis, Tennessee.

President-elect—Dr. Mark F. Boyd, Tallahassee, Florida.

Vice-President—Dr. Clay G. Huff, Chicago, Illinois.

Secretary-Treasurer—Dr. Mark F. Boyd, Tallahassee, Florida. M.F.B.

A copy of the program, also, was kindly provided by Dr. Boyd.

All of the papers read at these meetings are of general interest, and several are of outstanding special interest to members of the A.M.C.A., many of whom attended the meetings, and some of whom participated in the program as members also of one or another of the societies concerned.

Some of the papers read at these meetings are:

"Construction and Operation of a 4-inch Hydraulic Dredge" by G. D. Louva and W. A. Legwen.

"A Discussion on Caribbean Malaria Control" by J. M. Henderson.

"Malaria Control in a Non-endemic Area" by H. L. Fellton, R. C. Barnes and C. A. Wilson.

"Fluctuation of Anopheline Densities" by G. E. Bradley and R. F. Fritz.

"Tests of the Effectiveness of DDT in Anopheline Control" by S. W. Simmons and Staff.

"Educational Activities as Related to the Problem of Returning Malaria Carriers" by W. S. Boyd.

"Seasonal History of *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* in the Tennessee Valley Region" by R. L. Crowell and A. D. Hess.

"Malaria Control in War Areas," presidential address, by G. H. Bradley.

"Anopheline Surveys in the Fourth Service Command" by S. G. Carpenter.

"Malaria in the Fourth Service Command" by W. A. Summers.

"The Development of DDT for the Control of Larval and Adult *Anopheles* and Other Mosquitoes" by W. E. Knippling.

"The Relation of Plants to Malaria Control on Impounded Waters with a Suggested Classification" by A. D. Hess and T. F. Hall, Jr.

"Water Level Relationships of Plants of Importance to Malaria Control in the Tennessee Valley" by T. F. Hall and A. D. Hess.

"Observations on the Use of DDT for the Control of *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*" by R. L. Metcalf, G. E. Smith, G. M. Jeffery and G. W. Ludwig.

"Material Aspects of Malaria Control in the Fourth Service Command" by S. C. Dews and J. H. Morgan.

"Factors Influencing the Uneven Distribution of *Aedes aegypti* in Texas Cities" by A. C. Chandler. Discussion by R. L. Usinger.

Members of the A. M. C. A. will await with interest publication of the papers read in the course of these meetings. R.D.G.