

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 $1\frac{1}{2}$ 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