

## NEWS AND NOTES

**MOSQUITO NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.**—The following six interesting and significant notes are extracts from a letter from H. F. Gray, which came too late for the March number of *MOSQUITO NEWS*.—Editor.

1. CALIFORNIA PROPOSES REVISION OF LAWS TO EXPEDITE THE ORGANIZATION AND EXTENSION OF MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICTS. Several bills relating to mosquito control have been introduced into the 1945 Legislature. Three of them have to do with simplified procedures by which organization of, or annexation to, mosquito abatement districts can be expedited.

H. F. Gray.

2. CALIFORNIA PROPOSES TO SPEND \$1,000,000 FOR INTENSIVE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES TRANSMITTING EPIDEMIC VIRUS ENCEPHALITIS. Senate Bill No. 611 proposes an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the 1945-47 biennium, to be expended by the State Department of Public Health for intensification of mosquito control, principally against mosquito-transmitted epidemic virus encephalitis. This disease complex has since 1935 become far more important than malaria as a public health problem in California. The following distribution of expenditures under this fund is proposed:

First Year    Second Year

Training Program .....	\$12,000	.....
Administration .....	50,000	\$50,000
Equipment for Mobile Units .....	8,000	1,600
Field Personnel .....	15,000	15,000
Materials and Supplies.....	2,000	2,000
Transportation .....	2,000	2,000
Travel Expense .....	8,000	8,000
Contingencies .....	3,000	3,000
Subventions to Local Agencies .....	400,000	418,400
Totals .....	\$500,000	\$500,000

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3. CONCERN ON PACIFIC COAST OVER POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF HIGHLY FATAL JAPANESE B. ENCEPHALITIS. Appreciable concern is being felt over the possible introduction into the Pacific Coast area of the virus of Japanese B. encephalitis, a highly fatal (60 per cent case-fatality rate) disease which has appeared in epidemic form in Japan and elsewhere. The imminence of military operations in Japan, Formosa and China brings this problem sharply into focus in 1945.

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4. HOOPER FOUNDATION TO TEST RESIDUAL DDT SPRAYING OF CHICKEN HOUSES, BARNs AND OTHER ANIMAL SHELTERS AS EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT FOR CONTROL OF VIRUS ENCEPHALITIS. Several comparative and controlled experimental areas for

the use of DDT as a residue spray on chicken houses, barns and other animal shelters are being set up by the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, as a control project for virus encephalitis. The principal experiment is to start in April in Kern County, with a supplemental experiment later near Marysville in Yuba County.

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5. MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICTS IN CALIFORNIA. A new mosquito abatement district was organized in the Lodi area in San Joaquin County in January, 1945. Procedures for the formation of a large district in Yuba and Sutter Counties are well advanced. A large annexation to the Dr. Morris district in Kern County was affected in January. There are now 27 organized mosquito abatement districts in California (of which one is not operating), plus two pest abatement districts organized for mosquito abatement.

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6. ADVANCED SEASON FAVORED EARLY FIRST BROOD OF SALT MARSH MOSQUITOES IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA. Due to a relatively mild and rainless last half of February, the first brood of salt marsh mosquitoes is well advanced this year. Pupae were appearing at the end of the month, and flights from uncontrolled marshes about San Francisco Bay are expected about mid-March. This early brood is principally *Aedes aquamiger*.

H. F. Gray.

A PUBLIC HEALTH COURSE ON CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES, which was recently completed, was given jointly by Rutgers University and the New Jersey State Department of Health, with classes held each Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., February 24th through April 28th, 1945.

This course was designed to supplement the course in Diagnosis of Malaria and Tropical Diseases given in 1944, and to provide public health personnel, mosquito control officials and their employees, teachers, officers of institution, and governmental agencies responsible for the suppression of mosquitoes with up-to-date knowledge of facts and approved methods relating to the effective control of both disease carrying and pest mosquitoes.

The enrollment fee was \$5.00, payable to the University.

The course included:

Classification of Mosquitoes, 10 hours (2 lectures, 4 laboratory periods)—J. B. Schmitt, Ph.D., Research Associate, Department of Entomology.

Mosquito Biology, including biological control, 5 hours (3 lectures, 1 laboratory period)—E. J. Hansens, Ph.D., Assistant Entomologist.

Chemical Control, 6 hours (2 lectures, 2 laboratory periods)—J. S. Ginsburg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Entomology.

Mechanical (Engineering) Control, 6 hours (2