

## NEWS AND NOTES

ARTHUR H. GEIB has been appointed Superintendent of the Dr. Morris Mosquito Abatement District at Bakersfield, California, succeeding Fred L. Hayes, who died on October 16, 1945.

H. F. GRAY

THE SUTTER-YUBA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT was formally organized on January 18, 1946. This district comprises the larger part of Sutter County, and the valley portion of Yuba County, in the central part of the Sacramento Valley. Headquarters probably will be at Marysville, California. The area is largely under irrigation for diversified farming.

H. F. GRAY

G. EDWIN WASHBURN of the U. S. Public Health Service (MCWA) has been appointed Superintendent of the new Turlock Mosquito Abatement District, and will begin work about March 15, 1946. Headquarters will be at Turlock, California. The area of this district is about 360 square miles in the southern part of Stanislaus County east of the San Joaquin River.

H. F. GRAY

LT. RICHARD PETERS, after a tour of duty with the Sanitary Corps of the Army, most of it spent on mosquito control work in the South Pacific, has returned to the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, State Department of Public Health, and is again taking over the supervision of mosquito control measures in California.

H. F. GRAY

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION. The program for the annual meeting of the California Mosquito Control Association, to be held at the University of California February 25-26, 1946, has been completed. A fine attendance from the Pacific Coast states is expected.

H. F. GRAY

PROPOSED NEW MOSQUITO CONTROL LEGISLATION. Several bills relating to mosquito control have been introduced into the special session of the California State Legislature and so far have received very favorable consideration. One appropriates \$600,000 to the State Department of Public Health, of which \$400,000 must be matched by local districts in the malaria and encephalitis endemic areas, for more intensive mosquito control work in these areas.

H. F. GRAY

MAJOR T. H. D. AITKEN, after distinguished service in the Army Sanitary Corps in Central America and Europe (where he directed malaria control operations on Corsica), returned to Berkeley on terminal leave for a short visit. He joins the staff at the Rockefeller Foundation, and will go to Italy with Dr. F. L. Soper and Dr. D. Bruce Wilson for malaria control work in Sardinia.

H. F. GRAY

MR. C. EDWARD ANDERSON of Morris Plains, N. J., and a member of the Association, was released by the Army in December. Mr. Anderson served as a sergeant in the 94th Malaria Control Detachment in New Guinea and the Philippines.

JAMES T. HART

LT. COL. JOHN T. MORRISON, M.C., has returned from the E. T. O. where he was Surgeon of the 1st Civil Affairs Regiment and Commanding Officer of the 1st Medical Detachment in Public Health Operations operating in France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg. He also served as Public Health Officer of the Greater Hessen district of the U. S. Occupational Zone. Dr. Morrison is a member of the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission and is associated with the Commonwealth Fund, New York City.

JAMES T. HART

ROBERT L. VANNOTE, past president of the Association, has withdrawn from the position of Superintendent of the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission and in addition to supervising the inter-county program in the Passaic Valley will operate the firm of Robert L. Vannotte, Inc., specialists in insect control.

JAMES T. HART

CAPTAIN JAMES T. HART, JR., has returned to the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission after serving in the Pacific area with the 105th Malaria Control Detachment. On March 1 he assumes the position of Superintendent of the Morris County Commission.

R. L. VANNOTE

ZOOLOGICAL BARRIERS FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN THE U.S.S.R. Shortly before the war the Central Institute for the Study of Malaria and a number of anti-malaria institutions under its control completed an experiment which had lasted many years, in the "zoo-prophylaxis" of malaria. By means of special cowsheds and stables on stock-breeding farms, a zoological barrier was formed between settlements and mosquito breeding places. According to a report by P. Sergeev in the American Review of Soviet Medicine (Vol. 3, No. 2, December, 1945; p. 124), all or almost all of the mosquitoes flying from the swamps were attracted to the animals and did not reach human habitations. There was a correlated decrease in the number of mosquitoes discovered with human blood in their stomachs. The first year this zoological "line of defense" was erected the number of malaria cases dropped to 25 per cent of that of the preceding year, whereas in another area used as a control, with no animal barriers, no decline occurred. In another instance this method was considered successful in reducing the incidence of malaria in settlements on the banks of a new reservoir.

D. L. COLLINS

NEW ANOPHELINES REPORTED FROM SOUTH PACIFIC. Collections of insects by trained entomologists in the armed forces during the second world war have resulted in the finding of many new species as well as in the accumulation of significant new distributional and biological data. Thus, a new species of *Anopheles* (*A. nataliae*) has recently been described from Guadalcanal by Captain John N. Belkin (Belkin, J. N.: *Anopheles nataliae*, a New Species from Guadalcanal. Journ. Parasitol. 31, No. 5, pp. 315-318, Oct. 1945).

Belkin and others had previously reviewed the Anophelines of the Solomon Islands and New Hebrides (Belkin, J. N., Knight, K. L., and Rozeboom, L. E.: Journ. Parasitol. 31, No. 4, pp. 241-265, Aug. 1945) and concluded that there were at least 6 species in those areas, an addition of at least 4 species to the previously recognized list. In addition, these writers have assembled valuable biological and ecological information on the several species, including new species such as *A. koliensis* Owen, the original description of which is found in the same journal, pp. 236-240, in a paper by Captain W. B. Owen. Studies of *A. koliensis* led to the conclusion that it is of primary importance in disease transmission.

D. L. COLLINS

ANOPHELES PUNCTIMACULA, DYAR & KNAB, was incriminated as a vector of malaria in a letter to the editor by Carl B. Huffaker, as quoted in the NEWS for March 1945 (Vol. V, No. 1, p. 19). In that letter it was stated that a more detailed account would "appear probably in the Amer. Journ. Trop. Med. in the near future." It is appropriate, therefore, to note here that a paper entitled "*Anopheles punctimacula*, D. & K., as the Vector of Malaria in Medellin, Colombia, South America," by Hernando Rey, Hernando Soto and Carl B. Huffaker appeared in the November 1945 issue of the American Journal of Tropical Medicine (Vol. 25, No. 6, pp. 501-505).

This paper presents the evidence for the "conviction," based on malarial surveys of school children, and of persons in their homes; and on biological and histological studies of the four species of *Anopheles* found in the region around Medellin. *Anopheles punctimacula* was the only species which frequented human habitations, and also the only one found to be naturally infected. Of special interest to students of mosquito biology as well as to those planning control measures, is the fact that this species, usually described as breeding in "well shaded waters" or in "shaded ground pools," was found in breeding places far removed from wooded land, in urban water holes fully exposed to the sun. It is pointed out that these exposed breeding places were at a moderately high altitude (about 5,000 feet). This fact poses the question as to whether or not its limitation to well shaded places in hot areas may not be due to a simple difference in temperature. The authors consider that this question deserves experimental study.

D. L. COLLINS

MR. RAY H. SAMMIS, Superintendent of the Nassau County, New York, Mosquito Extermination Commission, is now sojourning in St. Petersburg, Fla., for an extended vacation. Meanwhile Duncan E. Longworth, who has recently returned after completing several years' service with the Army as a Major, engaged in malaria control work, is Acting Superintendent for the Nassau County Commission, 75 Lee Avenue, Rockville Centre, N. Y.

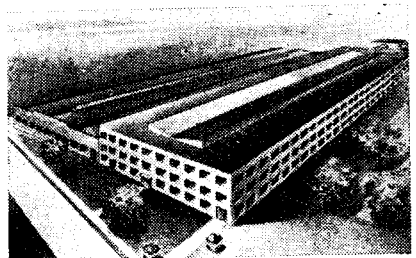
T. D. MULHERN

ANABASINE SULFATE AS A MOSQUITO REPELLENT. The American Review of Soviet Medicine, in the same article cited with reference to zoological barriers in malaria control, mentions (p. 123) that although none of the many substances tried as mosquito repellents were completely successful, during 1942 and 1943 anabesine sulfate, an alkaloid derived from the central Asiatic desert plant *Anabasis aphylla* was found promising. Although the solution of the sulfate smeared on the skin did not keep the mosquitoes away entirely, the number of bites on smeared surfaces was considerably less than on unsmeared surfaces. Anti-malaria organizations have begun making practical use of anabesine sulfate as a mosquito repellent. A more complete account of the preliminary experiments is given in a paper by V. A. Nalokov, entitled "Anabesine Sulfate: A Protective Agent Against Bites of Malarial Mosquitoes" in the same journal, Vol. II, No. 5, June 1945, pp. 449-452. Here it is stated that a 5 per cent aqueous solution prevented biting by means of its action on the taste organs of the mosquitoes.

D. L. COLLINS

DR. THOMAS J. HEADLEE, formerly Entomologist with the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and one of the founders of this Association, is spending the winter at his cottage at 210 Malverne Road, West Palm Beach, Fla.

T. D. MULHERN



JOHN BEAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY HAS NEW HOME. "Another of the Nation's 'swords' is being 'beaten into a plowshare' with the purchase of a Lansing, Michigan, war plant by John Bean Mfg. Co., pioneer manufacturer of orchard and row-crop sprayers and other types of agricultural machinery. One year ago, the new home of the John Bean Mfg. Co. was part of the largest airplane propeller factory in the world."

From a press release.