

EDITORIAL SECTION

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Greetings:

Grateful acknowledgment is made of your confidence in selecting me to serve as President of the American Mosquito Control Association for the coming year. I appreciate the honor and I wish to assure you that energetic steps will be taken to foster the Association's interests.

During the past few years we have seen the Association grow from a sectional group of mosquito control workers to a national organization including members from foreign lands. This expansion of the Association during the war years was aided greatly by the impetus given mosquito control by our military forces. Entomologists and sanitary engineers who had little actual experience in this field found it intriguing and challenging to their profession and their mentality. These men accomplished much; and their efforts in stepping up the efficiency of the military through a reduction of mosquito annoyance and mosquito-borne diseases is well known. Our successful conclusion of the war reflects in part the effective results obtained by the malaria control units throughout the world.

A parting of the ways is at hand, however. There is one pathway leading to an increased interest in mosquito and malaria control in this country and the land adjacent to our air strips around the world. The other pathway may lead to greatly reduced forces in mosquito control activities with an accompanying reduction of personnel.

It seems to me the time is opportune for a greatly increased interest in mosquito control because of the knowledge gained by so many. In other lands doubting Thomases have witnessed effective mosquito control measures in areas presenting more obstacles to the reduction of

the mosquito population than we normally encounter in the United States. The need to wipe out the mosquito pest in many resort and agricultural sections, and particularly to banish malaria from the United States by killing *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* mosquitoes, is urgent.

The advent of DDT and its use in a number of ways, especially from aircraft, gives us added assurance that we no longer need tolerate mosquitoes—that is, unless our lethargy wills otherwise.

The need for concerted action is also urgent. Mosquitoes are no respecters of boundaries. We have heard this too long without doing much about it. Adequate legislation to provide for Federal aid to local, State, and country mosquito abatement districts should be enacted.

These are some of the problems that should be the responsibility of an organization such as the American Mosquito Control Association. To meet this responsibility, however, we must grow in numbers and in strength. And that is where every member can give a hand. Enrollment of a new member or an elevation from associate to active membership is within the reach of each of us.

Our entire membership can also assist in building *Mosquito News* by forwarding to the Editor from time to time reports of their work and descriptions of new techniques and new short cuts to more economical and effective work.

Happy days are here again. May all of those responsible for wiping out the mosquito pest dedicate themselves to the task of keeping their districts happily free of mosquitoes.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) H. H. STAGE,
President.