

NEWS AND NOTES

THE FLORIDA ANTI-MOSQUITO ASSOCIATION will hold its 1947 Annual Meeting in the Suwannee Hotel at St. Petersburg, Florida, April 27, 28, 29, and 30.

THE 34TH ANNUAL MEETING of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association will be held at the Hotel Haddon Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on April 2, 3, 4, 1947.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RALPH J. VAN DERWERKER. On April 19, 1946, Major Ralph J. Van Derwerker was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Public Health Service. He was transferred from the Regional Office in New York City on May 23rd, to Washington, D. C. In Washington, Colonel Van Derwerker is a Sanitary Engineer Consultant to the Federal Public Housing Authority, and is in charge of their various regional districts in the United States. His home address is 2005 Glen Ross Road, Silver Springs, Maryland, and his office address is the Federal Public Housing Department, Longfellow Building, M Street and Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. J. W. SCOTT

DR. NEWELL GOOD, one of our interested members, who gave a talk in Washington at Hayden Farms, November, 1945, during the Association's inspection trip, and subsequently published it in *Mosquito News*, is now on duty as an entomologist for UNRRA in the vicinity of Foo Chow, China. His address is: Major Newell Good, PHS—3135—USF China Theater, USPHS—APO 945, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California. His wife is sailing the first part of December to join him, so Newell will be away for some time; and we are sure he will welcome letters from any of his Association friends.

H. L. T.

LT. COMDR. WILLIAM J. PERRY, author of "The Disk Harrow—A Valuable Addition to Malaria Control Equipment," in the December, 1945, *Mosquito News*, is now studying medicine at Duke University; his present address is 613 Tiona Avenue, Durham, N. C. After his tour of duty in the South Pacific, Commander Perry was attached to the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, where he taught medical entomology.

H. L. T.

SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT has purchased from the Federal Housing Authorities a house and an acre and a half of ground in the center of the most important mosquito producing area in the district. This property is located near the Municipal Airport and was used as a radio station by the Army. The house is modern and has office and storage

facilities. The grounds are inclosed by a heavy net wire fence. The district has established headquarters at this location and has installed a repair shop, storage tanks, Gambusia pond, and is planning the construction of garages, storage sheds and other improvements.

D. M. REES



FIG. 1. Building and part of grounds purchased from the Federal Housing Authority by the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District.

SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT has purchased from the War Assets Administration three trucks and other surplus material and equipment including 10,000 gallons of 5 per cent thanite insecticide. Thanite (isobornyl ester of 3-thiocyanoacetic acid) 5 per cent is mixed with kerosene and was used by military agencies as an insect spray. This material was purchased for 12¢ a gallon and has been used very effectively with DDT and pyrethrins. It has proved especially satisfactory and economical as an agent for destroying adult mosquitoes in a concentration of 2.5 per cent thanite and 0.03 per cent pyrethrins. In this form it has been used to spray out-door premises before public gatherings.

D. M. REES

THE MAGNA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT was organized in July, 1946. This district includes the western part of Salt Lake County adjacent to the area now covered for mosquito control purposes by Salt Lake City. Some mosquito abatement work has been carried on in this area for a number of years by the Utah Copper Company, American Smelting and Refining Company and other associated industries. This work will now be expanded and consolidated into a legally organized district. This is the third district to be organized in the State of Utah.

D. M. REES



LASKER GROUP "OSCAR" AWARDED TO BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE. A Lasker Group Award was presented to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, by the American Public Health Association, at the 1946 convention of public health workers held November 12, in Cleveland, Ohio. Engraved on the award, a silver replica of the famous statue "Winged Victory," are the words, "In recognition of distinguished service in the solution of problems involving the health and comfort of the armed forces, with particular references to insect-borne diseases."

Dr. F. C. Bishopp, Assistant Chief, In Charge of Research, of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, received the Award for the Bureau. Dr. Bishopp is a specialist in the field of medical entomology and he had the over-all direction of the research conducted by the Bureau for the benefit of the armed forces. Three Divisions of the Bureau carried on the research. Entomologists and chemists, working mainly at the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., and at the Bureau's laboratory at Orlando, Fla., were responsible for the success of the research program.

The citation which accompanied the award states "Early in the war, the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, at the request of the United States Army, undertook the discovery and development of methods to control insects responsible for spreading diseases of particular significance during wartime. Outstanding among these was the search for more effective and practical methods of controlling body lice (typhus) and . . . mosquitoes (malaria, yellow fever, dengue, filariasis, encephalitis, etc.). Specialists skilled in the identification of insects assisted the armed forces by the identification of thousands of . . . insects, mites, and ticks suspected of carrying diseases and by training military personnel. This was part of a program which involved the testing of some 10,000 compounds and the ultimate discovery and adoption of several, including the aerosol bomb, which has been of inestimable value in combating malaria (and other insect-borne diseases). . . . The Bureau conducted basic experiments which resulted in the development of dimethyl phthalate and later benzyl benzoate . . . effective in high degree against the mite carriers of scrub typhus . . . undertook studies (on DDT) which were influential in its use in the prevention of epidemic typhus fever among our troops. . . . Equipment was devised by the Bureau for the dispersion of DDT insecticides to meet various field needs. . . . Not the least of the achievements of the Bureau has been . . . its research and control operations against insects of agricultural importance . . . helping to assure an adequate food supply for the armed forces and those behind the lines. The American Public Health Association cites these achievements of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine as a notable contribution to the public health."

President Truman, in a letter dated November 7, 1946, regarding the Lasker Awards, stated, "We try to take care of our people who are ill, but the greater wisdom would be to bend our greater effort to keep them well by spending money to find not only the cure of disease, but its cause and prevention." It is, of course, more logical and more effective to control disease-carrying insects than to try to cure humans after the insects have caused their diseases.

G. J. HAEUSSLER
In Charge Insect Pest Survey
and Information

MR. H. SHERWOOD SHINN has been appointed head of the Sprayer Division of the Lofstrand Company, Silver Spring, Md. With a successful public utility operating and appliance merchandising background, Mr. Shinn leaves (after 4 years) the Research and Development Division, Office Chief of Engineers. While with the Engineers, Mr. Shinn directed the development of the 3-gal. knapsack Stainless Steel Insecticide Sprayer used by the Army throughout the world, during the war. With the coming of Mr. Shinn, the Lofstrand Company, manufacturers of quality glass washers for 16 years, will offer a complete line of high quality sprayers and dusters and will set up a large distributor and dealer organization throughout the world. Mr. Shinn is a graduate Electrical Engineer, holding two degrees from West Virginia University.

P. BRUCE BROCKWAY. As a contribution to MOSQUITO NEWS, the following letter could not be improved by "editing":

National Institute of Health
Bethesda 14, Maryland
September 30, 1946

Dr. Robert Glasgow
Editor MOSQUITO NEWS
Albany 1, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Glasgow:

I am submitting the following information so that you can extract whatever of it you wish for your News and Notes Section.

P. Bruce Brockway, a member of our Association, is the son of P. B. Brockway, M.D., Director of the Toledo Area Sanitary District. Brockway, Jr., was in the Navy where he served in the early years of the war in the Southwest Pacific area. His duties as a corpsman in one of the Malaria Control Units gave him extensive experience in mosquito work. I met him when

he was attached to the staff of the Malariaology lab. at the Naval Medical School. His knowledge of raising mosquitoes and their habits was remarkable—*C. pipiens* that wouldn't even live for me, went right over to his office and oviposited! However, that is by way of introduction. At present, he is an assistant on the Toledo project, and I asked him for some news about their progress so that we could tell the rest of the A.M.C.A. of his whereabouts, etc. I shall quote from his letter of September 25:

"As for the information of our control work in and around Toledo, I regret to say that we haven't done any control whatsoever this year. However, next year we will start on our control program. To give you a rather rapid but running story of what has happened since I last saw you in February, the Toledo Area Sanitary District employed Dr. Herbert A. Crandell as Entomologist and Supervisor of the District. We have worked together very well in coordinating the work to complete our survey of the District, which is approximately 150 square miles. We employed five field men, who were instructed and then placed in the field to gather this survey information. I might say that the survey has included everything from catch basins to large swamp areas.

"We haven't gone into the immediate control because the State Code, under which we are operating states that we can only go into control work after the completion of the survey, and the only way to get a complete survey is to leave control alone. . . . Sometime during the coming month our findings will be placed in the hands of the State Director of Health, Dr. R. E. Heering, and our sanitary engineer. After their approval we will then start the purchase of equipment for control."

Sincerely,

(Signed) HELEN LOUISE TREMBLEY