

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.

MR. HARRY STAGE, who is attending meetings of the Pan-American Conference on Malaria at Maracay, Venezuela, wrote on January 16: "This is a wonderfully perfect climate, every day, and every night like only the very nicest in Washington. Beautiful girls, handsome men, gorgeous flowers, and almost an orchid in every tree. After I leave here, I go to Surinam for three weeks more."

SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICTS have been meeting at various places in the state for informal discussions of their problems. Representatives of the State Department of Public Health attend these meetings also. Recent meetings have been held at Fresno in July, Turlock in August, Marysville in September, Merced in November and Modesto in December.

H. F. GRAY

THE YOLO-SACRAMENTO MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT, recently organized, reports that considerable difficulties have occurred in starting their work. It was officially organized too late in 1946 to be able to obtain any funds from taxes for the 1946-1947 fiscal year, and it looks as if no work can be started until the spring of 1948 unless some financial aid is received from Yolo and Sacramento counties prior to that time. Considerable assistance was anticipated from State subvention funds, but such funds are not available unless local funds are available.

H. F. G.

THERE ARE 36 MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICTS IN CALIFORNIA as of December, 1946, with a number of others under consideration for organization. Some of the mosquito abatement district superintendents in California are suggesting that the California Mosquito Control Association employ a paid Executive Secretary and embark on a program of special services to the districts which can best be handled through a central coordinating office. The annual cost is estimated to be about \$10,000, and it is proposed to raise the necessary funds by contributions from the districts of approximately one per cent of their annual budgets.

H. F. G.

CLUFF HOPLA. (A letter from the Associate Editor.) "One of our newer members, now lives at 360 East, Eight South Street, Springville, Utah, with his wife and young son. I became

acquainted with him during his duty at the Naval Medical School across the road (from the USPHS National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland), when he used to visit our lab and discuss insects. The following information might be of interest for News and Notes. I quote from his letter that portion dealing with his activities.

"As you know, while overseas I was in charge of a Malaria-Control Unit in the southwest Pacific. On being released to inactive duty I resumed graduate studies at the Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, and have plans of receiving my Master's Degree this June. For my thesis I am working on "The Mosquitoes of Utah County, Their Taxonomy, Biology and Distribution." Last summer I made a survey of the mosquito population for the county, with hopes of trying to get a control district set up. In that our work here is more or less of a pest condition than a medical one people are rather slow to accept something new of this nature. However, I still have hopes of getting one control district started here before the summer is over. I am teaching part time at the University which gives quite a heavy load."

H. L. T.

MOSQUITO CONTROL EXHIBIT AT NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR. Under the joint auspices of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association, the New Jersey State Agricultural Experiment Station, and the various (N. J.) County Mosquito Extermination Commissions an educational exhibit relating to mosquitoes and their control was shown at the annual New Jersey State Fair, Trenton, N. J., during the period September 22 to 29, 1946.

Space was made available in the State Building, the arrangements being made by courtesy of Mr. R. W. Taylor, in charge of state exhibits.

The background of the exhibit was a series of photographs and charts, mounted on portable panels, originally exhibited at the 1946 Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association. Subject matter of the seven panels used was as follows:

- 1—Open salt marsh mosquito breeding conditions, and control.
- 2—Enclosed salt marsh mosquito control, dikes and tidesgates.
- 3—Fresh water swamp and pool mosquito control.
- 4—Cooperation of various agencies.
- 5—Malaria in New Jersey.
- 6—Control of local mosquito breeding about homes.
- 7—Machinery in mosquito control.

Table exhibits included DDT, pyrethrum and fuel oil in the various forms as used for mosquito control, live and mounted mosquito larvae

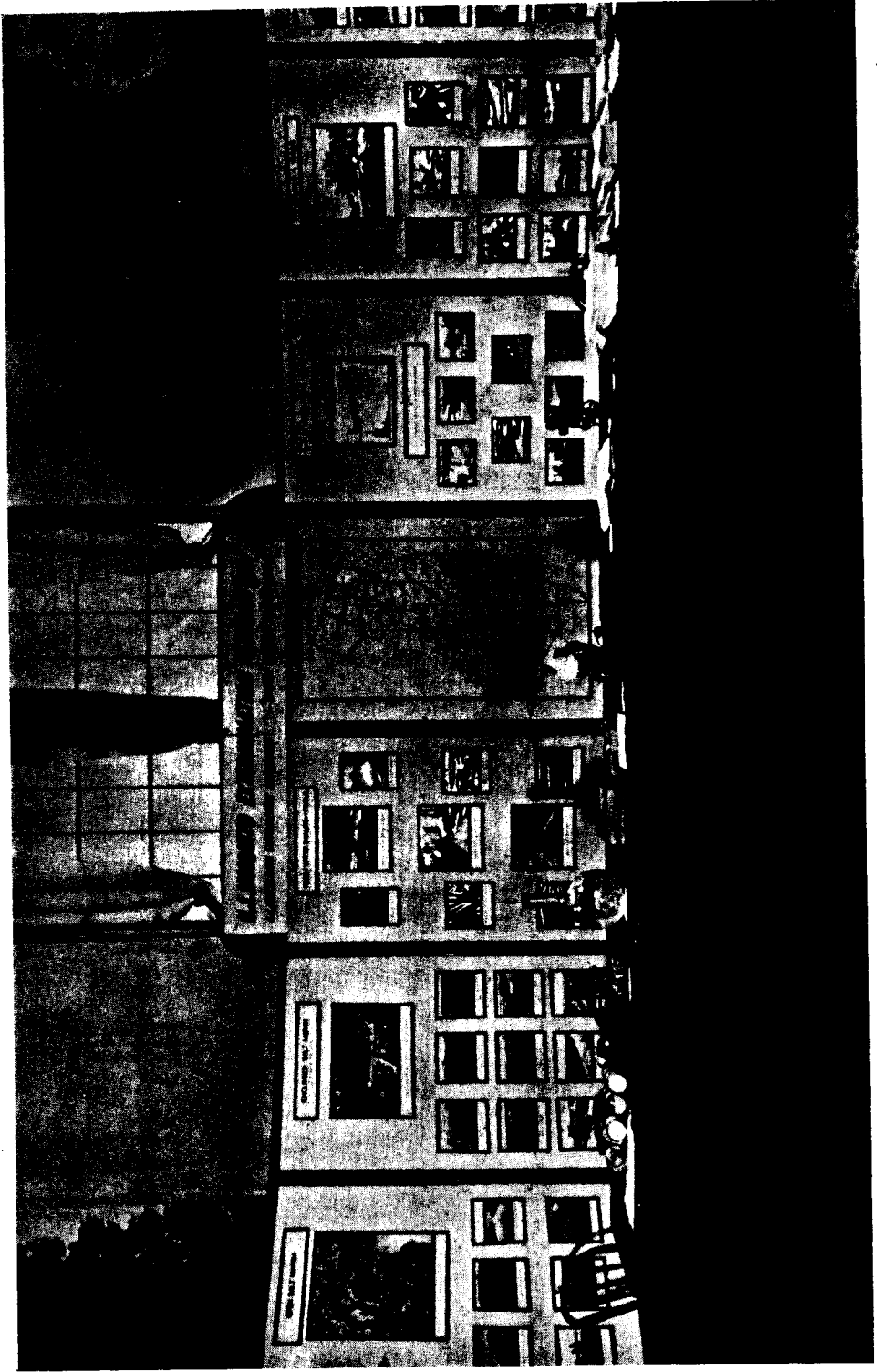


Exhibit shown at 1946 New Jersey State Fair, Trenton.

Photo courtesy of R. W. Taylor

and adults, and literature for distribution. Two microscopes were set up, one showing the differences in the appearance of various species of mosquitoes, and the other comparing normal and malaria infected blood cells. These microscope exhibits attracted a great deal of attention, and were used constantly.

Sample counts were made during the course of the exhibit, and it was determined that 20,000 people stopped at the booth to ask questions, examine the exhibit material, or pick up literature.

The various County Mosquito Extermination Commissions and the Department of Entomology of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station furnished personnel to man the exhibit, on a rotating schedule with usually two or three persons serving together.

The exhibit was in charge of the following committee:

Dr. Alton B. Fell, Trenton, Chairman; Mr. Louis B. Pierce, Mr. Albert Lafferty, Trenton; Mr. Lester W. Smith, Metuchen, and the writer.

Previously much of the same material had been used at an exhibit shown before more than 1,000 members of the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs during their Annual Conference, held on May 14-17 at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City. The committee in charge at that time was Mr. Lester Smith, Metuchen; Mr. George Eager, Newark, and Mr. Marcus Donnelly, Jersey City.

THOMAS D. MULHERN, Sec.
New Jersey Mosquito Exterm. Assn.

THE EAST MIDDLESEX (MASSACHUSETTS) MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT was organized about the first of last year. It includes the towns of Arlington, Belmont, Lexington, and Watertown and the cities of Cambridge and Waltham—all located northwest of greater Boston. There is one Commissioner from each town or city who serves without pay and represents his town in the governing board. The Commission appoints a superintendent for the project.

Funds are received into the State Treasury from appropriations made each year from each town or city in the project. Bills and payrolls are paid out of the State Treasury according to our vouchers submitted through the State Reclamation Board. This State Reclamation Board has the authority to organize mosquito control as provided in Chapter 252 Section 1 to 14 inclusive of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition.

Last season Mr. Richard Hinchey was appointed superintendent. This year I was appointed to that position immediately after leaving the Army.

The Project has operated on a seasonal basis, but in the future it is planned to operate through the winter on a restricted program. From eight to sixteen men have been employed during the active season. In addition there is a part time clerk and a part time inspector. Mosquito control work has been mainly improvement of drain-

age and oil spraying. Next season DDT formulations will be used more extensively in the temporary control program.

No power equipment is owned by the project. Practically all work being done with hand tools and sprayers. The budget is not large enough to take full advantage of mechanized equipment. However, two small trucks were purchased last March and we expect to purchase a "Jeep" next March and equip it for catch-basin and field spraying, or fogging, with apparatus designed to get the best results out of DDT formulations. Any practical suggestions in this line will be most appreciated.

We have been rather cautious in our relations with DDT thus far. We did not have enough information to make it advisable to adopt that material in place of oil and our equipment was not designed for the light applications adaptable to DDT. Next year we will probably use wettable DDT in our power sprayer and use the emulsion in our 3 gallon compressed air sprayers after fitting them with fine nozzles. This ought to carry us along until various other machines now on the market have passed out of the experimental stages.

Very truly yours,
ROBERT L. ARMSTRONG
Superintendent

STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL GROUP IS FOURTH IN U. S. Perry W. Ruth, Officer of City Commission, Named President. The Virginia Mosquito Control Association has been formed here, the fourth such organization in the United States, and Perry W. Ruth, secretary and technical advisor for the newly created Norfolk City Mosquito Commission and former president of the American Mosquito Control Association, unanimously was elected its first president.

This was announced yesterday by R. E. Dorer, director of mosquito control for the Virginia State Department of Public Health, in whose office in the Essex Building the organization meeting was held Friday.

Ruth for about 13 years was superintendent of the city mosquito control bureau, until he was retired at the end of last year. However, Dr. John M. Huff, director of the City Department of Public Health, persuaded the City Council to change the mosquito control organization so Norfolk would be a separate district with a commission empowered to employ Ruth as administrative officer. As a consequence, the commission is allotted \$5,000 a year from the State for mosquito control, which was not available until the district was created. Dr. Huff, Director of Public Works, Henry H. George, 3d, and Dorer are members of the local commission. Dorer is chairman, and also is a member and chairman of all similar commissions in Virginia.

Other officers of the new association were announced as follows:

Stuart Gibson, Elizabeth City county deputy clerk and member of that county's mosquito commission, first vice president; Peyton May, member of the Virginia Beach-Princess Anne County commission, second vice president; J. C. Morris, Warwick County manager, third vice president; R. E. Dorer, director of mosquito control for the Virginia State Department of Public Health, secretary and treasurer. Dorer acted as temporary chairman of the organization meeting.

Dorer said the association is open to membership for anyone interested in mosquitoes and mosquito control work, and that its function will be "to promote more effective mosquito control in Virginia, to maintain public interest so far as possible wherever mosquitoes are being controlled, to keep up with the latest methods of control, to keep the public and officials informed on work being done, and to unite and coordinate all common interests and efforts in the fight against mosquitoes."

Only three other States have such associations—Florida, New Jersey and California.

The organization meeting also elected the following directors:

Dr. L. J. Roper, Virginia State health commissioner; Dr. John M. Huff, Norfolk city health director; Dr. L. H. Denny, Portsmouth city health officer; Sol Ellenson, Newport News director of public works; Henry H. George, 3d, Norfolk director of public works; John Taylor, chairman, Norfolk County board of supervisors; Paul Rogers, Northampton County engineer; Jonathan Gibson, member Warwick County Mosquito Control Commission; George W. Price, assistant director of Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority; V. D. McManus, member Williamsburg city council; Mrs. Joseph C. Nelson, president, Federation of Garden Clubs of Norfolk and Vicinity; Mrs. James S. Barron, London Bridge; Maj. Richard Messer, director of sanitary engineering for Virginia State Health Department; Norfolk Director of Public Welfare H. G. Parker; Dr. Lee Todd, Newport News city health officer; the Rev. G. T. Forrester, member of the Virginia Beach-Princess Anne County Mosquito Commission; Clifford Mitchell, sanitary engineer for the Richmond Health Department; W. S. Harney, manager Norfolk Association of Commerce, the medical officer for the Fifth Naval District and the chief surgeon for the U. S. Army in this area, regardless of the men in these positions at any time, and C. Edward Temple, Hopewell city manager. —From *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, Sunday, January 26, 1947, Norfolk, Virginia.

NEW FIRM TO BUILD TODD INSECTICIDAL FOG MACHINE ABROAD. Todd Shipyards Corporation has joined with the British manufacturing firm of R. A. Lister, Ltd., of Dursley, England, to form a new company, Lister-Todd, Ltd., of London, for the manufacture and sale through-

out the British Empire, and in Europe and Asia, of the Todd Insecticidal Fog Applicator.

A RESUME OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS OF THE 15TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION. The 15th Annual Conference of the California Mosquito Control Association held December 13th and 14th, shared the year 1946 with the 14th Annual Conference which was held February 25th and 26th. The holding of the 15th Conference in 1946 was due to 1947 being a legislative year (the State Legislature meets on a bi-annual basis) and certain vital mosquito control legislation had to be submitted in order that it could be approved by the Association before the beginning of the legislative session. Actually, the war years caused cancellation of the conferences in 1942 and 1943, so the holding of the two conferences in one year brings us within a year of making the numbers of the conferences coincide with the years of such meetings of California mosquito control workers.

In addition to the standbys from the far western states, we are pleased to mention that others in attendance ranged from Washington, D. C., Georgia, Alaska, Hawaii, the Canal Zone, and Argentina. The attendance register bore a total of 125 signatures.

In general the program was divided into the following parts: introductory addresses; Association business; State and Federal mosquito control and related activities; current mosquito control and related literature; recent developments in the studies of the arthropod-borne virus encephalitis; new mosquito control techniques; the use of DDT and its trends; the State subvention program and studies; the place of mosquito control in regard to over-all water use; mosquito control legislation; and, reports of district activities.

The feature address of the dinner meeting was given by Harold F. Gray, who related his recent experiences in the control of mosquito-borne disease in Japan. Dr. L. W. Hackett, who happened to be vacationing in the Bay Region at the time of the Conference, took time off from his vacation to attend and also presented an interesting talk on his activities in Argentina. Dr. Justin M. Andrews outlined the structure and scope of the activities of the newly-created U.S.P.H.S. Communicable Disease Center, which supplied us all with a better appreciation of the broad arthropod-borne disease studies of the Service. H. H. Stage outlined for the audience the place and function of the American Mosquito Control Association in respect to our Association. Bureau associates of his who were also present were: A. R. Roth, A. W. Lindquist, C. M. Gjullin, and C. S. Wilson. Mr. Gjullin presented a paper on DDT pre-hatching treatment of *Aedes* eggs. Dr. Robert L. Metcalf, University of California, related his experiences while employed by the Tennessee

Valley Authority with the use of airplane thermal aerosol in the control of anopheline mosquitoes. Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, State Director of Public Health, indicated the interest of the State Health Department in local California mosquito control practice. Dr. W. McDowell Hammon, and Dr. Wm. C. Reeves of the G. W. Hooper Foundation enlightened the group concerning the encephalitides by touching upon their 1946 studies in California. Dr. L. M. Breslow, California State Health Department, related his epidemiological observations of encephalitis in California during 1946. Dr. James R. Douglas, University of California, supplied many helpful facts on controversial issues to clarify the place of DDT as its use relates to animals and humans. As a result of the discussion that followed this paper, the following resolution was adopted by the Association:

WHEREAS, the experience of various mosquito control districts in California during the past two years has shown that in dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) we possess a material which is extremely useful and valuable as a mosquito larvicide and adulticide, with concurrent value in the control of flies, fleas and other hominioxious arthropods, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we strongly recommend the use of DDT by all mosquito abatement districts and health departments in appropriate situations; that we find that this material enables us to combat these insects with greater certainty and effectiveness than heretofore; that we are confident that its use will result in economies in operation; and that we find that when properly used by trained and experienced persons the material is harmless to man and domestic animals, to crops and to wildlife.

Professor W. B. Herms, Emeritus, supplied the group with notes and references to mosquito control happenings of significance elsewhere in the United States and throughout the world. Frank M. Stead, Chief of the State Division of Environmental Sanitation, delivered a very stimulating address concerning the interrelation of mosquito breeding to the over-all use of the State's water supply viewed in terms of water as a natural resource. A. H. Dahl, Chief of the State Mosquito Control Section, reviewed the internal relations between the State and the various districts in regard to the subvention pro-

gram. A number of interesting papers were presented by district superintendents who had performed specialized control measures in their respective districts. Two of the legislative matters which were approved by the Association for submission to the State Legislature concerned provision for new districts to finance operations upon forming through borrowed monies for the period of a fiscal year immediately previous to that which will net them revenue from taxation, and changing the means for contiguous mosquito abatement districts consolidating by abandoning the need of a special election in favor of a joint resolution of consolidation by respective boards of trustees. Several other amendments pertaining to internal matters were also approved.

Generally, the meeting proved to be very successful with the only common criticism being that insufficient time was allowed to cover all the subject matter.

An Executive Committee was named to act as a medium for screening Association business and planning. The Committee is composed of the officers of the organization, the out-going President, a member of a Board of Trustees, a representative of the State Department of Public Health, and a superintendent at large from the various mosquito abatement districts.

The officers and Executive Committee for the calendar year 1947 are:

President: Arthur F. Geib, Manager, Dr. Morris Mosquito Abatement District, Bakersfield, California.

Vice-President: Theodore G. Raley, Superintendent, Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District, Selma, California.

Secretary-Treasurer: Richard F. Peters, Mosquito Control Specialist, State Health Department, Berkeley, California.

Executive Committee: Arve H. Dahl, Chief, Mosquito Control Section, State Health Department, Berkeley, California; Harold F. Gray, Engineer, Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, Oakland, California; William B. Herms, Trustee, Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, Oakland, California; E. Chester Robinson, Superintendent, Eastside Mosquito Abatement District, Modesto, California.

The Proceedings and Papers of the 15th Annual Conference are expected to be published about March 1, 1947.