

EDITORIAL SECTION

IT IS NOW TIME TO TAKE STOCK AND TO FORMULATE A WELL THOUGHT OUT "FIVE YEAR PLAN"

By the time we assemble for the annual meetings in March, the American Mosquito Control Association will have successfully completed the first four years of its existence as a national society. During these four years the Association has made a truly remarkable growth; until it is now well established as a national organization, and its official journal, *Mosquito News*, is widely sought by contributors as a desirable medium for the publication of scientific and technical articles appropriate to its special field.

The Association has had its share of growing pains, not the least of which has been the rapidly mounting cost of printing, and the resulting problem of keeping *Mosquito News* and the Association itself financially on an even keel.

The increasing cost of printing has fortunately been offset by the increased income from dues paid by a rapidly increasing membership; but this mounting cost of printing has held back a hoped for increase in the number of pages printed in *Mosquito News*, so that a larger *Mosquito News* must await a still further substantial increase in membership or a subsidence in current inflationary trends.

With expansion in geographic scope and in types of interest and activities represented among its membership, has come increasing and more diverse member interest with suggestions for new and wider services and responsibilities that might be assumed by the Association.

Notable among these suggested services and responsibilities are:

1. The preparation and publication by the Association of special bulletins relating to new procedures in mosquito control and related work.
2. The acceptance, organization and administration of industrial research fellow-

ships for the investigation of special problems concerning mosquito control and related work, to be financed by commercial concerns with a profit interest in their solution.

The urgency with which some of these suggestions are advanced, and the opportunities and responsibilities they represent, make it highly desirable at the coming annual meeting that the Association pause to take stock of their implications, and of the organizational and financial adjustments their adoption would require.

MOST IMPORTANT AMONG THESE REQUIRED ADJUSTMENTS WOULD BE INCORPORATION OF THE ASSOCIATION, so that, as a body corporate, it could "sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with," and carry on its business in a business-like manner.

BOTH OF THE TWO SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES CITED ABOVE, namely the publication of special bulletins and the conduct of industrial research investigations, **WOULD REQUIRE THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAVE ADEQUATE RESERVE FUNDS, AND BOTH WOULD REQUIRE A MORE FORMAL AND MORE CLOSELY KNIT ORGANIZATION THAN THE ASSOCIATION NOW HAS.**

An analysis of the implications of, and requirements for engaging in the two suggested activities is especially in order at this time:

1. THE PUBLICATION OF SPECIAL BULLETINS

would require one of two things:

- a. That the Association be prepared financially to allot from \$1500 to \$2000 or more, for the publication of each such bulletin, and to wait for repayment until such amounts are returned from sales.
- b. That funds fully sufficient to cover

the cost of printing any such bulletin (\$1500 or \$2000) be provided in advance, either in a lump sum from a commercial sponsor, or through the sale of advertising space, or otherwise, WITHOUT SUCH PUBLICATION BECOMING IN ANY MANNER WHATEVER, A CHARGE AGAINST THE RESOURCES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Printing costs must be paid at once; returns from bulletin sales are likely to be slow; and mounting costs of printing MOSQUITO NEWS have left the Association insufficient reserve to permit any adventure into the field of special publications, EXCEPT BY WAY OF THE SECOND ALTERNATIVE.

ANY USE OF ASSOCIATION CREDIT FOR SUCH A PURPOSE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE UNSOUND FINANCIAL POLICY.

2. ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGING LARGE FELLOWSHIP FUNDS

in the administration of industrial research investigations, would require a radical reorganization of the Association which might better assure definite continuity of established policy; continuous experienced administration of its affairs through longer tenure and resulting greater experience for its officers; and, especially, greater provision for training new officer material through geographically more widely representative, and numerically larger groups of junior officers,

kept actively employed with Association business.

But whether any such suggested activities are adopted or not, a reorganization of the Association along lines more appropriate to the discharge of such responsibilities would be sound policy with reference to the conduct of its present routine affairs.

IN ANY CASE, SUCH REORGANIZATION WILL BE ESPECIALLY NEEDED IF, AS MANY SEEM TO THINK, WE ARE LIKELY SOON TO BE CONFRONTED BY A PERIOD OF FINANCIAL STRINGENCY.

As this editorial is being written, it is hoped that such a reorganization may be effected at the annual meeting of the Association in March.

Present suggestions before the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws would provide, because of its prestige, for incorporation through a Charter granted by Act of Congress; no constitution other than this charter; and government of the Association otherwise, provided through by-laws, the amendment of which should not be too difficult.

The first step would be adoption of an initial set of by-laws patterned to conform with the specified requirements for a charter granted by act of Congress.

The next step would be to authorize the officers of the Association to proceed as promptly as possible with the incorporation proceedings.