

MINNESOTA APPRECIATES THE AIRCRAFT BULLETIN

LETTER TO THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Mulhern: You have probably noted that within the last two or three weeks you have had considerable correspondence from Minnesota, North and South Dakota residents, requesting copies of your excellent publication, "Use of Aircraft in the Control of Mosquitoes." In working in very close cooperation with aircraft spray and dust operators in Minnesota, pointing out to them sources of information for mosquito control, as well as other pest control operations, your publication is the best that I know of, so I have been recommending it for purchase by those people concerned.

Our Legislature still has not passed an enabling act for the formation of mosquito abatement districts in Minnesota, however, many municipalities and communities are appropriating funds for mosquito control work. I believe that there

is a gradual awakening to the fact that mosquitoes can be controlled, or at least the numbers reduced, and that a great upsurge in abatement will result. I am also recommending membership in the Association to many of these operators who intend to get into the work. Of course, most of our operators are primarily interested in the application of weedicides and sprays for corn borer control but are awakening to the possibilities of application of insecticides for mosquito control.

Again I wish to congratulate you and the editorial staff on the publication of so fine a bulletin.

Very truly yours

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A TAX LEVY IS REDUCED *

When we put a "good news" heading on the story about the 1949 tax rate of the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District, we did it believing that our readers, generally, would agree that the story was really an item of good news.

The mosquito tax has been 30 cents per \$100 of valuation this year because, with the approval of the board of supervisors, the mosquito district levied tax for two years of operation in one taxation year so as to get the program going on sound financial footing. That tax rate was set for only one year with the understanding that the district would drop back to its legal maximum of 15 cents per \$100 for the fiscal year starting next July 1.

The board of trustees of the district, however, have done better than their promise and have shaved three cents from the maximum levy, setting up a rate of

12 cents per \$100 of valuation. That's the best part of the story, the fact that the board could find ways of getting down below the maximum tax levy permitted by state law. There is hope that as the program develops the tax rate may go even lower, but the management of the district has made no definite promise, realizing that the future is too uncertain for that.

To the management of the Consolidated Mosquito District, and to the board of trustees who supervise the affairs of the organization, therefore, we offer a well deserved expression of appreciation on behalf of the taxpayers of the district. The board and the management have handled the affairs of the district well, have practiced economy in operation, and now can come to the people with a refreshing announcement that in these days of rising costs of everything else, our mosquito abatement program next year is going to cost us less than we expected.

* Copied from the REEDLEY EXPONENT (Reedley, California) for Thursday, June 3, 1948.