

Editor's Corner

It is once again time for a new cover for Mosquito Systematics. In keeping with last year's *modus operandi*, we are moving on through the mosquito life cycle and picturing a pupa during 1975. As with the larval figure used in 1974, this is another of Frederick Knab's drawings. It illustrates *Aedes (Finlaya) atropalpus* (Coquillett) and is taken from the original drawing published in 1912 as Plate 150 (712) in Volume 2 of "The Mosquitoes of North and Central America and the West Indies" by Howard, Dyar and Knab. As before I am indebted to Dr. Ronald Ward, Project Manager, Medical Entomology Project, Smithsonian Institution for the loan of this beautiful illustration.

Non-systematists usually find strange the strong affection felt by insect systematists for their "special group." This affection is regarded even more suspiciously when it is directed towards an insect as cordially detested and feared as the lowly mosquito. Yet, mosquitoes also come in for affection, as discovered by L. O. Howard (Proc. 12th Ann. Mtng. N. J. Mosq. Exterm. Assoc., p. 7.1925) who quotes a note from Dyar as follows: "You know, there is nothing I like less than killing mosquitoes. The mosquitoes are the subject of my interest, not their absence, and so I feel that all anti-mosquito work is directly detrimental to my special interest. I love to see the mosquitoes in vast swarms, and if I had my way, all the oil would be poured over the human exterminators." To this Dr. Howard added: "Truly, it takes all kinds of men to make up a world!"

Just received and of considerable interest to all mosquito systematists is the English translation of: Gutsevich, A. V., A. S. Monchadskii, and A. A. Shtakel'berg. 1970 (1974). Fauna of the U. S. S. R. Diptera. Volume III, No. 4 Mosquitoes. Family Culicidae. Keter Press, Jerusalem. 408 p. This volume is available from the U. S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA. 22151. The publication of this translation was supported by the United States--Israel Binational Science Foundation.

Although not dealing specifically with systematics, the following book has much information of interest to us: Horsfall, W. R., H. W. Fowler, Jr., L. J. Moretti and J. R. Larsen. 1974. Bionomics and Embryology of the Inland Floodwater Mosquito *Aedes vexans*. University of Illinois Press, Urbana. 211 p. To quote from the press release "For the first time, information on the habits and life history of the primary pest to our urban and rural areas, the inland floodwater mosquito, is brought together in one volume. The authors present the results of over twenty years of laboratory work on the bionomics and embryology of *Aedes vexans*...."

A bibliography of Francisco E. Baisas was published last year in Mosquito Systematics (vol. 6:74-77. 1974), with a subsequent note later (vol. 6:166.). Now a posthumous volume of his has just come to hand, entitled: The Mosquito Fauna of Subic Bay Naval Reservation. Republic of the Philippines. Technical Report No. 72-2. Headquarters, First Medical Service Wing (PACAF) APO, San Francisco, 96274. 1974. 170 p., 79 figs.