

Biography Botha DeMeillon

- 1902 Born in Prieska, Cape Colony. Educated at home and in farm schools until the age of 14.
- 1916-21 Attended Boys High School, Pretoria, from where matriculated.
- 1921-26 University Witwatersrand. Completed courses for BSc with honours in 1925 and a Masters degree in 1926.
- 1926-60 Employed at South African Institute for Medical Research as assistant in departments of Parasitology and Entomology.
- 1929 In 1929 attended courses at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and in Rome at the Stazione Sperimentale per la lotta
- 1930 Antimalarica. In 1930 took charge of the Dept. of Entomology at SAIMR. At various times during this period acted as officer in charge of the Dept. of Entomology at SAIMR. At various times during this period acted as officer in charge of parasitology ending up as research parasitologist and Honorary Director of Bilharzia Research for Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.
- 1931 Established, on behalf of the South African Institute for Medical Research, the Malaria Research Station at Tzaneen. This subsequently became the Siegfried Anneck Institute. Spent 3 years working on transmitters and transmission of malaria parasites. Taxonomic and biological studies led to development of the indoor insecticide spraying method of control which all but eradicated malaria in S. Africa. Started work on the Simuliidae, Siphonaptera and Ceratopogonidae of Southern Africa which with mosquito studies culminated in standard works on the fauna of Africa South of the Sahara.
- 1934 DSc., University Witwatersrand.
- 1950 PhD., University of South Africa.
- 1952 Honorary membership of the Medical Association of South Africa. "By virtue of valuable contributions to the advancement of Medical Science."
- 1955 "South Africa Medal" of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. "For scientific research in S. Africa"
- 1940-60 Visited many countries in Africa, Central and South America and Iraq as consultant on vectors of arbo pathogens.

- 1960-65 Retired from SAIMR and joined World Health Organization as adviser on entomology to Director of the Africa Office promoted to Acting Chief, Parasitic Diseases Section, WHO Headquarters, Geneva and finally Project Leader, WHO Filariasis Research Unit, Rangoon. Burma.
- 1965-73 Resigned from WHO to take up an invitation to lead the US Army Mosquito Unit at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA.
- 1973 Reappointed to WHO Expert Panel on Parasitic Diseases. WHO Scientific Advisory Panel. Returned to South Africa and joined Siegfried Anneck Institute on part-time basis.
- 1973 United States Army Certificate of Achievement for "Selfless Dedication and Professional Competence"
- 1975 Honorary M.D. University Witwatersrand.
- 1976 Returned to USA

In recent years received the Belkin Award of AMCA. "In recognition for his accomplishments in Mosquito Systematics and Biology and his numerous contributions to our understanding of the epidemiology of vector-borne diseases."

PUBLICATIONS

Over 150 papers in Scientific journals on systematics, physiology, ecology and control of vectors of human pathogens. Author and part author of several standard works on medically important insects of Africa.

- Davis, D.H.S. [Editor], B. DeMeillon, J. S. Harlington and M. Kalk [Associate Editors]. 1964. Ecological studies in Southern Africa. The Hague, Junk, 415pp.
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- DeMeillon, B. 1931. A new species of *Forcipomyia* [Diptera, Ceratopogonidae] from the Transvaal, with a description of its early stages. Trans. ent. Soc. Lond. 79: 335-340.
- DeMeillon, B. 1931. An illustrated and descriptive key to the full-grown larvae of South African anopheline mosquitoes. Publs. S.A.I.M.R. No. 27: 6-53.
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- DeMeillon, B. 1933. On *Anopheles funestus* and its allies in the Transvaal. Ann. trop. Med. Parasit. 27: 83-97.
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- DeMeillon, B. and A. M. Evans. 1935. Two new anophelines from South Africa. Ann. Trop. Med. Parasit. 29: 91-94.
- DeMeillon, B. and H. S. Osburn. 1935. A case of internal myiasis caused by the Larvae of *Chrysomya chloropyga* Wied. [Diptera, Calliphoridae]. S. Afr. med. J. 9: 654-655.
- DeMeillon, B. 1936. *Anopheles funestus* Giles and *Anopheles lesoni* Evans in human habitations and outdoor haunts. Ann. trop. Med. Parasit. 30: 1-2.

- DeMeillon, B. 1936. Entomological studies. Studies on insects of medical importance in South Africa. [Part III]. Publs S.A.I.M.R. No. 38: 125-215.
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