NEWS AND NOTES

AUSTIN W. MORRILL JR.

Meetings, meetings, all we do is go to meetings to paraphrase a famous opening chorus and any of you all that get tired of hearing any more about it, as they say, just skip along until we get onto another subject. But right now we want to tell you about an absolutely magnificent meeting which CDC put on for military reservists. As usual, the roster of professors and pupils reads like a section of AMCA and inasmuch as many of you chased mosquitoes in Sicily and the South Pacific and other places with some of these guys, we thought you might be interested in who all was there, like: Major Clyde Barzhart, Captain Ernest Boland, Col. Al Buzycki, L.CDR Art Crow, CDR Engel Gilbert, Lt. Col. Owen (Hugh) Graham, CDR Jim Krause, Major John Lofgren, Major Arthur Morris, Capt. David Reed, Lt. Col. Frank Sonaci, Major Carl Spitzer and Major Frank Young.

Paul Rich was course director and kept everything running on well-oiled wheels despite the creaking and groanings of some of us whose epidemiology was, shall we say, rusty and hardly able to follow down the track at such a clip. An unexpected additional delight was the seminar presented on the occasion of the visit to CDC of Dr. M. F. Ermakov, Asst. Director General of WHO, and Dr. M. K. Afridi, WHO Consultant on Malaria, whose discourse was most thought-provoking. Among the military men who addressed us, in addition to the Hard Core Washingtonians, Bob Altman, Sam Dews, Jack Geary, Mo First, Bill Hill, George Hutton and Bill McElhiney, were CDR Joe McWilliams, Major Tom Curtin, Capt. Claude Adams, Capt. Dale Parish, Major Bill Pearson (who also did the military leg work) CDR Les Teller and Major L. W. Trager.

Of course we pumped everyone in sight about Aedes aegypti eradication and especially Harry Pratt, who gave us his usual masterly summation and let us know (quite privately) that an easy way to go crazy is to try to work out programs for ESA and AMCA that will satisfy everyone, get everything in and not run over three days. Incidentally, he already has things well in hand, we might add, for what looks like magnificent arrangements for the Atlanta meetings, and we devoutly hope you can attend.

Of course, too, you all know that Ken Quartermann is Deputy Chief and that Harry is heading up the training and that Don Johnson and Russ Fontaine are very big. But did you know (we didn’t) that Art Kidwell and Kent Lyttle had come in to join their ranks? And that Milt Flemings had left the ivory halls and ivy towers to journey into the Caribbean this summer for The Cause? Boy, we really felt Left Out. But it was nice to hear about.

George Carmichael has written us a real news letter about the anti-mosquito luncheon in New Orleans recently which was mainly for the purpose of honoring Dr. Edward S. Hathaway . . . and who among AMCA’s more worthy of being honored or what better way to honor him than by a meeting which so successfully promoted mosquito control? Attended by (and spoken to by) the Governor of the State, the Hon. John McKeithen, and by the Presidents of Jefferson and Plaquemines Parishes, the Mayor of the City and other notables, like George himself and Glenn Stokes and Charlie Anderson, with some fifty other citizens, all joined in celebrating Dr. Hathaway’s fine work in Louisiana and its fruition, (but not completion) in the establishment of mosquito control organizations in all four metropolitan New Orleans parishes. With a million dollar budget to spur them on, the four plan to be shining lights to forward mosquito control throughout the State.

Meanwhile Jack Rosenthal is leaving Nevada left behind him an embryonic mosquito abatement district which has now hatched into a larval office of mosquito control in the Churchill County Health Department. A Director has been chosen, an active Board of Trustees is toiling at plans to raise interest, appropriations and levels of control, a survey of sites to be marked for source reduction has been well advanced, with considerable help from Tommy Mulhein and CDR Don Murray, who spent most of his recent two weeks tour of active military duty at and around the Naval Air Station. As a climax of this, incidentally, in conjunction with Tommy and his loyal cohorts, Larry Lawlun and Bill Wilder, who flew in test insects from Fresno, George Stains’ baby the HIsdi (see June about that) was given a pretty good workout and proved itself a promising breeder. The weather, unfortunately, did not entirely cooperate (who ever heard of torrential thunderstorms and flash floods in August? In Nevada?) But a good time
was had by all. Al Therrien and Bill Hull came for the show, as did many thousands of *Aedes nigromaculis*. Durned if we didn't forget our insecticidum, too.

DON MURRAY also passed on the information that the Colorado State Department of Health is looking for an entomologist, to direct vector control activities in that state, promoting mosquito control, abatement districts and sanitation in refuse disposal, a job envisioned as being both technical and promotional. Details from: Mr. O. J. Wicmann, Chief, Milk, Food and Drug Section; State of Colorado Department of Health, 4210 East 11th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80220.

CHIEF ROBINSON as chairman of the planning committee of the California Mosquito Control Association is planning a Management Seminar for the afternoon of 28 October and the morning of the 29th, one of a series of special seminars which the Association, whose President is, of course, BILL RUSCONI, has put on in 1965. This Seminar, following intensive consideration of entomological problems and equipment use, was arranged to delve into such vital aspects of mosquito abatement as occupational injury and disease, first-aid and emergency medical care, dermatitis among mosquito control workers, safe handling of pesticides, carbon monoxide and other fumes and their hazard during indoor repair of equipment, traffic and aircraft accidents, legal requirements, preparing for emergencies during handling of pesticides, systems of management, budgeting, administration of programs and methods of analysis of control programs to pinpoint obscure difficulties, and other such topics of universal interest. At the Thunderbird Lodge, 233 Broadway, Oakland.

WE KNOW YOU WILL BE GLAD, as we were, to hear that Rufus Vincent has recovered pretty nicely from a rather serious coronary accident and is feeling better every day, he says, though still not running around the block. George Stains, too, is receiving congratulations and surviving with his usual dynamism an extremely painful and serious malady which defied diagnosis but from which, still seriously weakened, George made happily a spontaneous recovery. Like everything else George does, his trouble was unique. Also deserving congratulations, though we're glad to say not for having been ill, is First Lieutenant Louis Rutledge, whose promotion we failed to note way back in March?

WE LEARN FROM YMCA'S Skeeter that with the aid of CDC the North Carolina State Board of Health held a mosquito control course in May at Atlantic Beach, which was addressed by Rollie Dorer with such effect that at the close of his talk they passed a motion creating a North Carolina Mosquito Control Association, passed the hat for funds to operate, appointed a committee to draw up a constitution and bylaws and elected Charles McCotter President. Congratulations and welcome!

As you will have realized from our discussion of the CDC course, Major Bill Pearson is now at the 3rd US Army Medical Lab, at Fort McPherson, Georgia, vice Lt. Col. Han Schenker, who has returned to the gemäldeh. scenes of the 10th Medical Laboratory and APO New York, 09186. Replacing Bill at the Department of Preventive Medicine of the Medical Field Service School, Fort Sam Houston (78234), is Capt. Bruce Eldridge. Capt. Mohied Moussa, meanwhile, leaves Walter Reed for the US Army SEATO Medical Research Lab, whose APO is San Francisco, 96546, and Capt. Dean Garrett has brushed the academic dust from his uniform and taken off for TUSLOG Det 36 and APO New York, 09224. Completing our military moves, Billy Gillespie is now the entomologist (Code 63A; for the Northwest Division, Bureau of Yards and Docks, of the Navy, in Seattle, Washington, 98119.

But the military are far from the major movers these days. Dr. Solon de Camargo has left Jamaica to go to Brazil, where his address is now Rue Carlos Goes 327, Apt. 602, Rio de Janeiro. Amalia Pugat has left the great open spaces for the Department of Entomatology at McDonald College, Quebec, and Dr. Brooke Worth has left Port of Spain for the Department of Microbiology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, while J. McIntosh has restored Saskatchewan's entomological balance by going to the Research Station at the University, in Saskatoon. From Sacramento (California), John Shipp has joined the aegypti eradication efforts in Fort Worth, Texas, and W. A. McDonald has also left California for 1111 N. Rolling Road, Baltimore, 21228.

Somewhat shorter jumps have been made by Bill Simpson, who went from San Antonio to 4117 N. 30th St., Waco, still in Texas, though not really close, of course, and Ted Ziegler, who traded Tampa for 516 Sandy Park Apartments, Daytona Beach, 32017. E. E. Bennington took the plunge and left Texas, going to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, P.O. Box 907, and Jack Keller moved from XIX 041 in Vienna, where he is with the International Atomic Energy Agency, on Kernstern 11-14. This sounds like some sort of promotion, going up to 1st place like that (and had we ever told you that Jack was in Vienna?).

Richard Saker has gone from the University of Illinois to the Institute of International Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, of which we've previously had some notes (but no NEWS!), in Baltimore, 21201. George Kent is now at 3324 Ashwood Dunwoody, N.E., Atlanta, 30319, while Burton Evans has left
New Orleans for CDC’s Aedes aegypti station at 1100 W. 45th St., Austin, Texas, 78756. Jay Linnam is now at the South Carolina State College Biology Dept., Pueblo, Colo., 81001; Paul T. Sandridge has left Georgia for Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, in Milford, Iowa; Fred Harden and James Hawkins have left Post Office boxes for 316 Country Club Blvd., Slidell, Louisiana, and 559 Ciecro St., San Antonio, Texas, which both sound better somehow. But Dr. W. G. Phillips gave up an address on Maiden Choice Lane for a sedate 1497 W. 10th St., in Frederick, Maryland, 21701. And Fred Stutz, coming up in the world, has moved from Miami to Coral Gables, at 1235 Lisbon St. Better fishing, Fred?

If Ted Raley wasn’t fooling some of the Big Names who hadn’t paid up didn’t get the last Mosquito News and so will miss our mild but heart-felt exhortations to pay up, Guys! However, for those who did and are now back in the Fold, WELCOME! We know you didn’t mean to let it drag on so long. Fortunately, quite a lot of new members Did It Now and so we would like to welcome them in and tell them we’d like to hear about them, who they are, what they’re doing.

We welcome, for instance, with open arms, Jacques Hamon, of Upper Volta, West Africa, and Blecho We Nai of Monrovia, Liberia (and are you a person or an incorporation, Mr. or Miss Blecho or Nah, and pardon us for asking, but we are ignorant and you sound interesting.) And welcome, Dr. C. D. Steelman of Louisiana State University, in Baton Rouge, and Chad M. Mornes of Nevada Southern University, in Las Vegas.

And we more or less alphabetically welcome Fred M. Burns of Radcliff, Kentucky, Dr. Edward Crippen, of Mobile, Alabama, Arthur Day, of Miami, Fla., Michel Guion, of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Herbert Griffin, of Corvallis, Oregon, Nana Hagan, of Evanston, Michigan, Donald Hall, of Purdue, Ralph Johnson, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Dr. Richard Johnson, of Ft. Collins, Colorado, Waldemar Klaseen of the Metabolism and Radiation Research Lab., Fargo, North Dakota, Jimmy Kitchens, of Williamsburg, Virginia, James Lindegren of Clovis, California, Howard Nelson, of Glascow, Montana, Helen Nyland of The Bridge Has Whispered, Inc. (about spray-on repellent?), of Menomonia, Michigan, a place name we have always loved, Theodore Smith, of Fresno, California, and L. Grindon of Des Moines.

Not to forget Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board of East Melbourne, Australia, and Zeitungsvertriebsamt, Satzabteilung, Berlin NW7, Germany.

Bob Hebben’s South Cook County M.A.D. replaced the snowy picture of their very fine build-
ing and grounds (which you may remember we once commented upon) with a nice mosqui-
to-season summer one on the 1964 annual report and in addition had some interesting photos inside. Like their new helicopter in action spraying (it is also used for mapping and pre-hatch treatments). Their dragline is shown with their D-7 or D-8, dragging out some of the several thousand yards of earth they moved on drainage projects. On a somewhat smaller scale, some eight hundred fifty three soil samples were collected and examined for eggs in the flood water mosquito program. Good AMCA’s for lo these many years are Jim Les-
parre, Clarence Bosse, Henry Dybas, Ralph Haag and George Cullen, who in addition to their outside duties in science and industry run the “business” and Bruce Johns, who does the engineering.

We bet you didn’t realize that Otto Mc-
Feely, Charles Schell, Bill Goebelmeyer, Frank Readon, John Callahan, Tate Martin and Joe Gurney had any other business than AMCA and Frank Wray’s monumental Des Plaines Valley M.A.D., but they do, they do! Which should make us all the more grateful. Not the most important but among the least understood portions of mosquito control in a highly urban area is the sort of thing they had to face in Flag Creek, which like the Mississippi’s legendary floodtime, is too thin to plow and too thick to float a boat in. And the Illinois-Michigan Canal, on which they’d like, we’re sure, to see the canal boats return, even if only as a museum of old time life, non-Culicin. The District’s many light traps caught a fascinating variety of mosquito species, but the numbers showed that the source-reduction program is paying off.

Paul Hunt’s East Volusia Mosquito Control District down in Daytona Beach, Florida, has in Pilot Wn. Durkee, not only an accomplished fixed-wing pilot but a man capable of assembling a Bell helicopter, with which many of the projects are carried out as those in South Cook County. One of the District’s problems is a direct result of their previous good work... the elimination of the overwhelming mosquito problem has brought in burgeoning communities, particularly around NASA projects and such. And this, in turn, makes it essential to get even better control and embark on some major source reduction in previously fringe areas. Sound familiar? The Curse of the Sixties. Anyone with a sure-fire anti-curse remedy?

Dr. Bill Murray has been named assistant executive secretary of the new Federal Committee on Pest Control recently established by Dr. Donald Hornig, President’s Science Advisor and Director of the Office of Science and Technology. The Executive Secretary is Dr. Win. M. Upholt and merging of the two Dr. Bills already-distinguished careers in this endeavor should prove a great source of strength to Dr. R. J. Anderson,
Chairman. This assignment followed hard on the heels of Bill (Murray’s) seven month stint with the House Appropriations Committee, as consultant, which led to the publication of the acclaimed report on pesticides that recently put things back into perspective. The Navy, Bill’s ex-Boss, also received a very nice letter of commendation from the Hon. George H. Mahon, Chairman of the House Committee. We think all of us who use pesticides and are concerned with not only their safe use but their effective use will be glad to have this distinguished and scientifically oriented Committee acting on a subject which is so vital to us all.

WHY “MOSQUITO”?

Our word “mosquito” may have had its origin in ancient India. Some 3500 years ago, around 1500 B.C., the “Atharva Veda” used the word “makka” for mosquito. This eventually evolved to the word “masaka” of classical Sanskrit.

The Romans used the word “musca” for “fly,” which in Spanish now is “mosca.” Phillips in 1583, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, referred to an annoying “… kind of fly, the Spaniards call musketas.” The word later became “mosquito” in English. The ending “ito” indicates the diminutive form; hence, “little fly.” Before 1900 the word “mosquito” was a somewhat ambiguous term because it frequently was used in England for a variety of small Diptera, with the words “Culex” or “gnat” designating the mosquito of today.

The word also is associated with Aedes aegypti. J. B. Robineau-Desvoidy in 1827 described a mosquito in Cuba and gave it the scientific name, “Culex mosquito” (which later was shown to be a synonym of Ae. aegypti).

The word “mosquito” became standardized in English around 1900 or 1901 after Ronald Ross in India, working with malaria, and Walter Reed in Cuba, working with yellow fever, both used the word and focused attention on mosquitoes by proving conclusively that they transmit these diseases. Now, of course, the term is used for all species of the family Culicidae.

(Edward R. Johnson, Aedes aegypti Eradication Branch, Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Georgia, 30333.)

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