To the Alumni in the armed and Related Services:

Dear Alumnus:

The first newsletter from the department appeared to have general approval by the number of replies we have received from you men in the services.

Numerous changes have taken place in the six weeks since the first newsletter went out. Since we have a number of letters on hand we think they should be sent on to you before they get too cold. All of the members of the staff wish to express their appreciation for the fine letters that you have written us individually and we hope that you will forgive us if every one is not answered personally.

All of us join in sending you our greetings and best wishes. We hope that you will continue to keep the letters coming and that you will also feel free to call upon us at anytime when you think we can be of help.

Sincerely yours,
News Items

Ensign Gerhard Kretzschmar spent a furlough of ten days in Minneapolis July 3 to 10 and visited at the Lab. We were all proud of him and glad to see him.

Dr. C. B. Philip of Hamilton, Montana was commissioned a Major in the army on July 1 and is now on a six weeks airplane reconnaissance trip taking him, we do not know where.

Ensign Richard Daggy cabled his parents on July 14 that he had arrived safely at his destination but no one knows where that destination is.

Dr. E. R. Tinkham entered the army on July 16 and was to report at San Pedro, California.

Nothing further has been heard regarding Frank Fisk or Bill Jellison.

Harold Elishewitz left Minneapolis on July 12 to take a position with the Public Health Service in Illinois.

Franklin Wallace, assistant professor of parasitology has been commissioned First Lieutenant in the army and is to report to a Louisiana hospital within a week or ten days.

The last news from Pritchard was that he had returned to New Smyrna Beach, being unable to get transportation to Puerto Rico.

Private John D. Hitchcock has been assigned to 216th General Hospital, Camp Forrest, Tennessee. His duties there will probably be as a laboratory technician. John's serial number is 37154437.

Philip Harden was at New Smyrna Beach on temporary assignment on July 7. He expected to be assigned a permanent post but did not know where at that writing.

No letter has arrived from Al. Buzicky. (Let's hear from you Al.). The last word was that he was still in training at Camp Barkeley, Texas.

While in Fort Dix, New Jersey Donald Denning ran across Walter Connell who is now First Lieutenant at Tilden Hospital, Fort Dix, New Jersey.
Harold T. Peters, June 11, 1942 - Monroe Co. Health Department, Key West, Florida.

"On Tuesday we all expected to get our orders as to our regular assignments. At noon two letters arrived, one for Denning and one for me. Denning was to have the territory of Pennsylvania and New York and was to report in Atlanta where he would be given further instructions. My letter directed me to come down to this frayed out end of this corner of the continent. It seems, that as frequently happens, the Malaria Control in War Areas, has had to take on another project which is really not malaria control, but has to do with Aedes aegypti. Mr. Bradley directed me to report here to Mr. Gross who is in immediate charge of the project and is just getting it organized. I am to learn all I can about it and he said that after approximately two weeks I would likely be sent to an assignment in Texas. I proceeded down the rest of the length of the flattest state in the union and took a bus from Miami on to Key West.

"Mr. Gross is a very nice man to work for and certainly has a big job on his hands. He is directly in charge of getting the aegypti program under way here and is swamped. Materials and labor are hard to get. This is a boom town and with all the naval activity here it is hard to get some one to work and harder yet to get some one who is reliable. Many of the men come from Miami.

"This type of program is entirely different than the malaria work. The backbone of it is the house to house inspections and cleanup and although I haven't been out on that yet (I go with them tomorrow), I have seen enough larvae brought in to know that they are certainly here in numbers. As you probably know, this town has no water system. All drinking water comes from cisterns and you mustn't let the fire hydrants or the taps in the hotels fool you, they are all salt water! These cisterns furnish excellent breeding places for aegypti and I guess they don't miss a single one that is accessible. And the problem is complicated by the large number of negroes and Cubans who are very careless about their cisterns and the leaving of tin cans, bottles, tires and other water collecting articles about the premises. Any vacant lot or unused portion of the back yards very quickly becomes overgrown with tall weeds and the lazy human beings seem to feel that as long as refuse, including tin can and the like, is out of sight that is sufficient. Thus you can imagine the care necessary to efficiently inspect a place and see that all possible breeding places are disposed of. The rain gutters become clogged or sag here and there making breeding places and inspections have to be made inside the houses to see that there is no breeding in the flower vases, ice box pans, etc. After reading all about such control it is quite stimulating to be able to actually see the program in operation. One crew is designated the larvicide crew and goes about spraying where it is necessary and another places Gambusia where that is the best control, another gathers the tin cans and other receptacles which might breed the pests and they have others with various duties besides the inspection crews. These inspectors try to make calls once a week to be sure that the place is kept clean and I guess it is largely a case of the service doing much of it themselves in the poorer sections where the people are uncooperative."

Herbert Barnett, June 13, 1942 - Department of Parasitology, Army Medical School, Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C.

"A great deal has happened since I last wrote to you. I was scheduled to fly to Africa on April 16 but due to illness I was in Walter Reed Hospital and my orders were delayed pending the disposition of my case at the hospital. From April 11 until June 2 I was attached to the Air Corps Ferrying Command, but now I have been reordered back to my former post."
"My stomach had been troubling me since last December and I was finally sent to the hospital on April 3rd for observation to determine whether or not I had ulcers. The X-rays failed to show ulcers and my case has been diagnosed as duodenitis. I am now on a special diet and while I feel greatly improved, I am still having occasional distress. Incidentally, I was placed back on active duty the latter part of May.

"I regret very much missing the opportunity of going overseas, especially since I have been receiving letters from my friend who was formerly stationed here and who is now doing mosquito and malaria work in Lagos, Nigeria. He was working with Dr. Coggeshall of the Rockefeller Foundation and his opportunities have me quite envious. My destination probably would have been Khartoum, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and the work would have been of a similar nature. If I feel well this fall, I am going to try to go overseas on a similar project.

"Our work in the department here has not changed much from the routine of the past several months. In addition to the laboratory and teaching duties, I now have the opportunity to do some collecting, although I regret being in so poor a collecting locality. There is a remarkable absence of marshes and swamps in the vicinity of Washington, and the lack of suitable transportation facilities makes collecting all the more difficult. I have been assigned to make a monthly mosquito survey of Fort Belvoir, Va., and will probably enjoy it quite a lot.

"Please convey my best regards to the rest of the department."

Donald G. Denning, C/o Delaware Co. Mosquito Commission, Court House, Media, Pa.

"At last, after driving some 2,500 miles, I have a temporary address. At least for the time being we are located in Media, Pa., the county seat of Delaware Co., really a suburb of Philadelphia. You may have heard of the Delaware Co. Mosquito Control Commission which is located here with offices in the Court House. They have generously given us abundant space - both office and laboratory - in the 3rd floor of the Court House. Slowly we are getting settled, tho we haven't actually started on any field work. Monday we may start on some preliminary survey work.

"In order that this story be more coherent I should start with our trip to Atlanta. There was very little traffic and on the whole our trip was quite uneventful. Somewhere in Kentucky we met the Nicholsons along the highway, from then on we traveled together.

"Our stay in Atlanta was short, barely long enough to fill out dozens of forms and take part in conferences with Dr. Williams or Mr. Bradley. We were ordered to New Smyrna Beach for a weeks training under Mr. Shields. The Atlanta Office expected us to use our private cars, and as far as I know, have made no attempt to secure government cars. We have received 'X' gas ration cards and an assurance that we may receive new tires. However, now days it is worth more than 4 cents a mile to drive a car.

"In New Smyrna Beach we devoted each morning to becoming acquainted with adult and larval mosquitoes, and each afternoon we went on a field trip. Our trip there was exceedingly interesting and worthwhile and I shall never forget some of the things I saw or experienced."
"A week ago Wednesday we received orders to return to Atlanta. There we were given our assignments to various areas. Dodge will be stationed in Geo. with headquarters at Macon. Nicholson will be in Norfolk, Vir., and Peters will be in Key West for two weeks. I was assigned to District 1, which includes the New England states.

"Monday I spent in Dr. Headlee's office and in the District New York Office. Tuesday we were in conference with the Trenton Public Health Officials, and as a result I may have to make a survey around Fort Dix and Cape May. Wednesday we met with Navy representatives and City Public Health Officials of Philadelphia. Today we were with the Delaware Co. mosquito control men. Tomorrow I shall be in Philadelphia in another meeting.

"Next week we'll begin mapping the area and setting up six light traps. It appears that about 90% of the trouble comes from pipiens and vexans. The possibility of a malaria outbreak is not remote as plenty of Anopheles are present and there has already been two cases at Fort Dix.

"Major Gies and Captain Chapman are two very fine men to be working with, and in that respect I am very fortunate."

"I am sending, via airmail, a vial with 'in situ' specimens of engorged chigoes and some specimens of Anopheles (Nyssorhynchus and Stethomyia). Because our supply of insect pins is running low I shall not be able to mount the mosquitoes much as I would prefer to send them that way.

"I had collected a batch of Mutillids for Dr. Mickel but unfortunately while I was away some one was showing my material to visitors and left the box slightly open - they were attacked by molds which ruined about thirty specimens.

"I was very much interested in all you had to tell me about the students who were at Minnesota when I was there. They almost "cover the globe" like Sherwyn Williams paint, don't they? Have you heard how Hovey likes Maine and Milliron likes Purdue, or anything further from Bill Jellison way out on the Burma Road?

"Since I last wrote to you censorship restrictions have become more stringent. We have a new address and may no longer mention our location. This makes the labelling of specimens to be shipped out a bit awkward."

"I read with great interest your recent letter and. I especially enjoyed the copy of the collective letters from the other members. I found the letters interesting and, in addition, found this kind of group letter helping to keep the members of our entomological group in closer contact even though we are scattered throughout the world.

"Army life has become a bit more interesting, or should I say pleasing, perhaps because I have made some new acquaintances. The past few weekends I have spent fishing on the nearby lakes.

"My work in battalion headquarters has become easier due to the help that I am getting from my two assistant clerks. I expected to get more free time now that I had so much aid, but it seems in the Army that as soon as one begins to
have an easy life, there is always something that spoils this kind of living. I now attend Non-Commissioned Officers' School three evenings each week, and in addition, I am giving instructions in typing to Battalion and Company clerks. Since I have entered the service, I have taught every subject from carpentry to tying of Engineer knots, but as yet I have to get into my field of Entomology. In this company, there aren't enough trained water supply engineers, with the result that I am being called back as an instructor in water purification.

"I will be looking forward for the next copy of the collective letters."

A. Earl Pritchard, June 26, 1942 - Tampa, Florida.

"Dr. Williams and Mr. Bradley are certainly two grand men to work under. It was taken for granted that I would be assigned to Puerto Rico and Washington was wired immediately to get priorities for me on a plane from Miami. I have been sitting in New Smyrna waiting for such.

"I was just informed that small fry cannot rate a priority. After some wires and phone calls I came over here this afternoon to take a boat. It just got in this morning and will leave in the next day or two as soon as the cargo is loaded."

Additional information regarding Pritchard. - Mrs. Pritchard was in the office shortly after this letter was received. She was leaving that night to join Earl and informed us that the sailing of all boats was canceled so that he was to be at New Smyrna Beach until further notice. We hope to have more information to report regarding Earl in our next newsletter.

H. Rodney Dodge, June 27, 1942 - 6 Hardeman Building, Macon, Georgia

"Gee, I haven't been so Minnesota-minded for the longest time! It was a sort of reunion at New Smyrna, with four of us in the group of six, and I was unexpectedly and pleasantly surprised to find Pritch at Atlanta when I returned. Then this past week I got my copy of the Minn. "Skeeter Sheet", which was very well received.

"It hardly seems possible that I've been in Macon two weeks already. I feel lucky in being assigned to Georgia, for the Malaria control program in this state is already pretty well organized and I've stepped into a smoothly running outfit. I like the town, the job, my fellow workers, and I ain't got no kick coming -- except that it could be a trifle cooler and I wouldn't object. S'funny how a coleopterist can look upon a skeeter as a thing of beauty. But I still slap just as hard as the next guy when they start biting.

"My regards to all, and thanx for the news letter."


"The work here at Norfolk becomes more interesting as I get deeper into it. Because of the ship yards, defense industries, and the numerous military and naval establishments in this immediate vicinity there is more work to be done here than one entomologist can handle, so I was sent to work with Dr. W. E. Bickley who has been here since February. I was fortunate in being assigned to a place where the set-up is already organized and working. My duties and Dr. Bickley's are to check on the efficiency of the control work, to serve in an advisory capacity to the engineers, to identify larval and adult mosquitoes which are sent in daily, to train a number of state inspectors in methods of surveying for mosquitoes, and to summarize and interpret their daily reports.
We have seven inspectors working now and are running fifteen light traps. Of course we can't keep some of this work from piling up on us so we take the light trap collections of two nights weekly, identify the anophelines, and store the remainder as well as the collections from the rest of the week to be identified this winter when the work becomes lighter.

"The housing problem here is very serious. We were unable to find a place to live the first four days we were here, but finally rented a two-car, sheet metal garage, fixed up to live in but unfinished on the inside, and ten miles from the office, for $55 a month. We had a chance to rent a house trailer way out in the country, but even for that the price was $60.00 a month.

"Food prices in general are not so out of proportion as rent. We have difficulty in getting fresh meat and some fresh vegetables that are of good quality, and the milk is quite old when it reaches us. We understand that some of the milk comes from as far away as New Jersey and Kentucky."

Ensign G. Kretzschmar, U. S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. - June 28, 1942.

"I, for one, am heartily in favor of this group letter. I wish to extend my thanks to the originator and to the executors of the idea. It's surely nice to hear what is happening among our particular group.

"I feel a little like an outsider among the group. It seems as if I am the only one who digressed from contact with the Entomological world. I feel I am unfortunate in that respect. I do like the position I have as well as I feel I could any in the military service.

"I have finished my preliminary training course here in New London and have been commissioned as an Ensign in the Coast Guard Reserve. At the present, I am following up this course with another supposedly fitting me for anti-submarine patrol. I expect to be getting a ten-day leave in the middle of July sometime and am more than looking forward to dropping in on the 3rd floor (as we say here - deck). After the completion of my training here, I have been assigned to the command of one of the ships on anti-submarine patrol. This should prove quite an interesting job and one which probably won't be too boring. I feel that I am most fortunate to have received the position of responsibility that I have and I am sure that this training in handling men and making decisions will prove invaluable in the future.

"I just finished, two weeks ago, a cruise on a sailing ship. This was a novel experience and one which few people today can experience. We were out almost a month and the entire group (130) felt like old salts by the time we disembarked.

"Greetings to every one and I hope to extend my personal one soon to those who happen to be at Minnesota."

Allan G. Peterson, Coahoma County Health Dept., Clarksdale, Mississippi, July 2, 1942

"I have been stationed at Clarksdale for an indefinite period to take charge of the malaria control activities around the Clarksdale Primary Air Base. The most prolific breeding areas are a large shallow drainage ditch on two sides of the air port [airport] and a lake across the road from the
airport. The lake is bordered with marsh and such a rank growth of shrubs that one has to don hip boots to get a look at the lake. In a short time I will have about 30 laborers for clearing ditches and oiling operations.

"Pritchard and I were together for a week at New Smyrna Beach. Culicoides bites and a swim in the brine were highlights of our stay in Florida. Since arriving here, I floundered into a chigger air raid shelter so I am using one finger to type and nine to scratch.

"I was certainly pleased to receive the news letter from Minnesota concerning the boys in the service. The letters were very interesting. The next issue will probably carry an account of the party which Pritchard slung the night before he left New Smyrna."

Lt. Ashley B. Gurney, Post Surgeon's Office, Station Hospital, Camp Crowder, Mo. July 4, 1942.

"It is very easy to be drafted, but there are several advantages of being commissioned. It seems to be difficult for enlisted men to become officers in the Sanitary Corps. One of the principal opportunities for enlisted men assigned to the Medical Department is the Medical Administrative Corps. A few each month from most of the corps areas are permitted to go to officers' school, such as Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania. Those completing the course successfully are commissioned as second lieutenants at the end of three months. These officers do not ordinarily do scientific work at all, but do office work instead, so that most entomologists would not care for it. I escaped being drafted only by the skin of my teeth, as reclassification in the I-A. category was made in early February.

"I am wondering if John Hitchcock will have an opportunity to do culture work along bacteriological lines; there is a laboratory at the hospital here in which quite a number of enlisted men, several Japs from the west coast, work on cultures and blood smears and similar tests. I feel very fortunate to have the chance of doing entomological work, as there are many interesting contacts as well as opportunities for excellent experience. There is apparently a demand for entomologists in the Sanitary Corps.

"It is interesting to know from Miss Knigin's letter that a lot of the little fleas, Tunga, were present in Guiana. We have recently been giving some lectures on various health problems to a group of Signal Corps officers and men, probably intended for foreign service. The insects, intestinal parasites and poisonous snakes were assigned to me for discussion in six lectures, and it is coincidental that this note in Miss Knigin's letter came about the time we were discussing fleas.

"The work at Camp Crowder is rather varied and interesting. The most important assignment is in connection with the mosquito control program. An excellently trained sanitary engineer cooperates with me on matters of control. The C.C.C. has been doing most of the control work by applying oil with hand sprayers, but the W. P. A. may take over the work soon. It is difficult to get the authorities very interested in control work of a permanent nature. The mosquito survey is taking most of my time now, though the talks previously mentioned took a good deal of time a short while ago; these lectures may or may not be repeated to other groups. We have two mosquito light traps of the New Jersey type, and 4 others are expected.

"There has been considerable interest in ticks, on account of the men picking up many in the field. The Lone Star tick is more common on people than the
dog tick. One death here was diagnosed as Rocky Mt. spotted fever, but it may possibly have been something else, as definite blood tests of the patient were not made.

"It is very pleasant, spending the summer on the outskirts of the Ozarks [Ozarks]. There is very pretty country a little south of this region. We are now living in Joplin, which is 20 miles north of Neosho, near which Camp Crowder is located. If I am still here by fall, however, we expect to live in Neosho. Family quarters are not provided at Camp. Plans which the winter may contain are naturally unknown to any of us; some men are naturally moving elsewhere continually."

L. E. Tjernlund, Platoon 394, R. D. M. C. B., San Diego, California - July 1, 1942

"It has been about a year since I was your advisee at University Farm. In the meantime, I have been employed at the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co. of St. Paul up to May 7, 1942. At that time I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

"After two months basic training I am in line for possible assignment to officers' training school at Quantico, Virginia. I have enjoyed good fortune in the various phases by which a "boot" is evaluated and have been interviewed for officers' training. I obtained expert ratings in bayonet and pistol and sharpshooter in rifle."

A. A. Bertagnolli, Camp Grant, Camp Grant, Illinois, Co. C., 26 M.T., Bn. T. 221.

"As you will note by the letterhead I am now in the army. I am starting my 13 weeks of basic training in the medical corps. I am going to try to get into the Sanitary Corps as soon as I finish this training."

Lt. (j.g.) Horace O. Lund, Marine Barracks, Munford Point, New River, N. C.

"For just a little over a month I've been a dry-land sailor fighting mosquitoes in the N.C. swamps. I think am labelled for "malaria control", but actually quads. so far have been scarce and few of the areas even look promising for quad. breeding. The only mosquitoes we're not trying to control I guess are the salt-marsh migrators. I'm not worrying though because I have no doubt that this is a temporary assignment, more in the nature of a "training course" or proving-grounds than anything else.

"Jeanette has been working on her thesis this summer. Hopes to get her M.S. in Home Economics this fall. She is coming to visit me for a week in a little while. I'll have a hard time finding a place to stay here and pay seven prices for it then, but whatever it coats it will be well worth it.

"Call-to-quarters is sounding - which means I have only fifteen minutes for a shower.

"It seems little short of tragic that I should have to leave Georgia just when Minnesota was moving in."