the kindly aegis of Professor Harold Orton in the University of Leeds. There he worked for twelve years, taking his Ph.D. Degree in 1952 and rising to Senior Lecturer in 1954. During these years he published *Everyman and Medieval Miracle Plays*, *The Wakefield Pageants in the Townley Cycle*, and an edition of Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, as well as many papers in periodicals devoted to English studies.

Encouraged by the contacts he had made with Australian students in England and desirous of taking a more active part in University affairs, he decided to apply for the Darnell Chair of English in the University of Queensland. Now, with the help of his colleagues, and especially Professor A. K. Thomson, he aims at making the Department of English in the University of Queensland known and well regarded throughout the English-speaking world.

In addition to strengthening certain aspects of the undergraduate courses, he is anxious to build up postgraduate English studies in both language and literature. On the language side, the recently instituted survey of Queensland speech should help to stimulate an interest in the study of the living language; on the literature side, the hoped-for establishment of a Commonwealth Fellowship in Literature would do much to encourage the interest of students in the living literature of their own country. At the same time, the English literary tradition must remain the backbone of a Department of English in Australia, and for this reason an active interchange of staff and students with Departments of English in Britain will always be of vital importance.

Professor Cawley will be reasonably happy when he has a staff big enough to deal with the great mass of first-year students as individual human beings, and when he has a flourishing postgraduate school, a Commonwealth Fellow in Literature, and a Guest Chair of English held by a succession of distinguished scholars from the different countries of the British Commonwealth and from the United States of America.

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**First Inter-Territorial Malaria Conference for the South-West Pacific**

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Arranged by the Department of Public Health, Territory of Papua and New Guinea, this conference was held at Port Moresby, 23-26th October, 1959. Delegates represented T.P.N.O., W.H.O., Netherlands New Guinea, British Solomon Is., Protectorate, South Pacific Commission, R.A.A.M.C., R.A.A.F.M.S., School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Sydney, Queensland Institute of Medical Research, and University of Queensland.

The principal vectors of malaria in all the territories concerned are mosquitoes of the *Anopheles punctulatus* group and in all except Australia malaria is the major health problem. The aims of the conference were to coordinate anti-malarial activities in these epidemiologically similar countries, to disseminate information about technical difficulties encountered and methods found for overcoming them, and to discuss the prospects of achieving malaria eradication.

The concept of world malaria eradication as opposed to control, has been stimulated by W.H.O., which now gives its material support only to campaigns aimed at complete eradication of malaria from a country. This concept dates from about 1951 when it was discovered after control operations in Greece that the vectors developed resistance to insecticide and increased in numbers, but that there was no corresponding recurrence of malaria. Eradication is achieved by complete interruption of the transmission of malaria, usually by the joint attack of destruction of infected mosquitoes and the use of drugs to eliminate human infections. The mosquitoes that must be destroyed are the females that have taken an infective blood meal, and the method of attacking them is based primarily on a study of their behaviour and the spraying of their resting places with residual insecticide. Mosquitoes of the *Anopheles punctulatus* group usually rest for a time on the walls of the room where they have fed.

Advantages of eradication over control are (1) It is a short term project, which requires considerable capital expenditure but avoids high recurrent expenses. (2) Where the efforts of as many countries as possible are coordinated, the chances of reinfection are reduced. (3) It may be achieved before the problems arise of resistance of vectors to insecticides and of resistance of the population to continuous antimalarial measures. Before an eradication campaign is undertaken, surveys and pilot projects are necessary. The purpose of the pilot project is to establish a method which will interrupt transmission in particular conditions and to work out an organisation which will apply the method. Where transmission is not interrupted, it may be because either the method or the manner
of application (including supply, staffing and organisation) is at fault. A full scale eradication campaign must be limited in time, based on a satisfactory method, and planned in time and space from beginning to end.

In New Guinea malaria is widespread below 5000-6000 ft. N.N.G. started residual spraying in 1954 and by the end of 1959 would have sprayed the entire north coast, which is the most thickly populated area containing about 160,000 people and by 1963 hope to be protecting about 275,000 out of a total of 350,000 people living in malarious areas. Transmission was practically stopped in the Schouten and Japen Islands.

In T.P.N.G. intensive studies have been conducted over the last few years at Maprik (Sepik district), Minj (Western Highlands) and D'Entrecasteaux Islands. The whole of the New Ireland district is being protected. All the major island areas should be covered by the end of 1960 with extension to the mainland from the end of 1962. The complete campaign for the whole territory is planned over a period of 14 years, and expected to cost approximately 2/10 per head per year. So far 93,000 have been protected. It is expected that the infant mortality rate will be halved and the expectation of life increased from about 35 to 50. In the British Solomons, an anti-malarial campaign is planned but not yet under way.

In the Northern Territory malaria appears to be mildly endemic in a few small pockets, though the vector has not been identified. Elimination of these foci will probably be through chemotherapy rather than residual insecticides due to the nomadic habit of the Aborigines.

In Queensland no cases of indigenous malaria have occurred on the mainland in the last 10 years. Malaria is endemic only in the Torres Strait islands where residual spraying should be effective but infected mosquitoes or human carriers could be brought by lugger from the New Guinea mainland.

Discussion of special problems encountered showed that ultimate success of the campaign depends on the spraying squad. Status and remuneration and security of employment are important in recruiting field staff. In N.N.G. a high grade of squad leader (Eurasian) is available, but in T.P.N.G. it is difficult to obtain Papuan trainees at a suitable educational level. N.N.G. receives supplies of pumps and insecticides from U.N.I.C.E.F. but T.P.N.G. has had difficulty in obtaining supplies of the specified standard. Supply and cost of transport is a considerable problem. Poor communications and scattered population result in up to one third of all working time being expended in travelling in T.P.N.G. A major problem is the use in many areas of garden houses, which may be isolated and at considerable distances from villages. Though often just a roof on poles, they provide shelter for Anophelines and must be located and sprayed if the campaign is to be successful. Further studies are needed on the application of mass drug administration combined with residual spraying as a means of eradicating malaria in New Guinea, as in areas on the mainland where this has so far been attempted transmission was not completely interrupted. Medicated salt has been used with some success in the malaria eradication campaign in Brazil and a pilot scheme is planned in N.N.G.

A sub-committee drew up recommendations on Chemoprophylaxis for use in all parts of the area.

There is no suggestion as yet of development of insecticide resistance in New Guinea Anophelines. D.D.T. has been used in the campaign in N.N.G. and Dieldrin in T.P.N.G. where a change to D.D.T. is planned.

Regarding inter-territory cooperation, a close liaison exists between N.N.G. and T.P.N.G. which will extend to the synchronisation of spraying operations on both sides of the border (across which there is considerable movement of natives). A T.P.N.G. field unit spraying in Bougainville will extend its operations to some B.S.I.P. islands where it will train B.S.I.P. personnel. Negotiations will be made for a combined effort with Australian authorities in an attempt to eradicate malaria from the Torres Straits area and adjacent parts of T.P.N.G.