VIII. CONCLUSIONS

1. A new larval mutant, white thorax, has been found, isolated and established in different strains of *Aedes aegypti*. It is different from yellow, brown and melanotic larval mutants described earlier. The normal or wild type colour of the larvae is dark greyish and is caused by the deposition of uric acid granules in the cells of the fat body. Yellow larva is due to complete absence of these granules while the albinism of white thorax results by the absence of uric acid granules from the thoracic region only.

2. Like the yellow larval mutant, the white thorax larva is also controlled by an autosomal recessive gene situated on linkage group II. The two genes, however, have different loci and are nonallelic.

3. Different strains of *Aedes aegypti* show different gene frequencies for the white thorax larva, ranging from 0.2 to 0.65.

4. The variation in larval colour is due to a mutation from \( \text{wt}^+ \) to \( \text{wt} \). Apparently there is little or no mutation in the reverse direction.

5. Selective forces favouring the two phenotypes were sought. The wild type has an adaptive advantage under stress and most of the laboratory conditions.