Clinical and other Notes

can support a weight of more than 340 lb. The half-stretcher can be rolled into a compact and portable bundle, easy to carry by means of the sling.

The argument in favour of the system is, that as two men are necessary to carry a loaded stretcher, it is reasonable that not only half the weight of the unloaded stretcher, but half the actual stretcher should be carried by one man and any two bearers can form a complete stretcher. It is particularly suitable for mountain warfare, as the bearer is not inconvenienced by the 7 ft. 9 in. length of the full stretcher pole.

The illustrations given in the trade circular from which the description is taken do not show details of construction, and these have to be inferred with the aid of the text. The accompanying diagrams show what is believed to be the nature of these details. The locking device for fixing the traverse and the legs when the stretcher is prepared is not shown in the diagrams, but may easily be imagined.

To prepare the stretcher each bearer opens his half and fixes his traverse, the poles are then hooked together and the half canvases are fastened by hooks and eyes. The pillow flap at one side is stuffed out. There is a strap and buckle to each half to keep it rolled up, and a sling to carry the loaded stretcher or the rolled-up half-stretcher.

ARMY BISCUIT ENQUIRY: SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES.

By J. HARTLEY DURRANT, F.E.S., Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.)

and

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. W. O. BEVERIDGE, D.S.O.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

(Continued from Vol. 20. p. 634.)

For practical purposes it has been necessary to ascertain the exact average dimensions of the ova of *Ephestia kühniella* Z., and Major S. Lyle Cummins, R.A.M.C., has kindly furnished us with the following careful measurements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Breadth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>0.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average | 1.16 | 0.63 |

From these measurements it would appear that if, when screening flour, a mesh of 160 strands to the inch be relied upon to eliminate the ova of *kühniella*, such reliance must rest on the assumption that the ova of this moth always approach the screen broadside-on.
Major J. G. McNaught, R.A.M.C. [Journal of the Royal Army Medical Corps, vol. 21, p. 136 (1913)] quotes from MM. Lemoine, and Decaux, that *Ephestia elutella* Hb., *Plodia interpunctella* Hb., and *Pyralis farinalis* L. "only frequent the cases of biscuits from the end of May to the beginning of September: hence the indication to pack the biscuits only in the intervening period of the year." A similar suggestion was fully discussed during this Enquiry, at Woolwich, in November, 1911. Apart from the possibility of placing contracts at any specified date, or dates, a reference to this Journal, vol. 20, p. 627, will demonstrate that, so far as *Ephestia kühniella* is concerned, such immunity can hardly be hoped for during the winter months, since moths are recorded as emerging in September, October, and November, and they continue to emerge plentifully in December, January, &c.; in fact, the species seems to be normally an autumnal insect.

Lecture.

THE MOBILIZATION AND FORMATION OF MEDICAL UNITS.

By Captain and Quartermaster G. F. Short.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

I propose to put before you the following points:

(1) The system in force by which provision is made during "Peace" for clothing and equipping Reservists of the R.A.M.C. in readiness for mobilization.

(2) Obtaining, storing and preserving, marking, accounting for, inspecting, the turnover and final disposal of the articles so stored.

I select the foregoing headings from my belief that officers of the Corps, with the exception of officers commanding the Headquarters of companies where reservists rejoin, and quartermasters, are less conversant with them than with any other part of mobilization duties. The two officers named become intimately associated with the work during Peace time, in the course of their ordinary routine duty; whereas other officers are simply called upon from time to time to act as members of "Boards" on supplies received, or Stocktaking Boards, and as these duties deal with quantity and quality only, they afford little opportunity of learning anything beyond that.

It may perhaps be considered that an intimate knowledge of these