NOTES ON A CHEAP STEAM STERILIZER FOR DAIRY CANS.

By MAJOR T. O. THOMPSON.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

In the average contractor's type of dairy in an Indian cantonment, arrangements for adequate cleaning and sterilization of milk cans and other receptacles are often bad.

The usual method is with alleged boiling water and soda (the boiling water is sometimes, if not frequently, seen to be quite harmless to the naked hand). This method produces little, if any, real sterilization.

The following simple steaming device has been brought into use in a number of local contractors' dairies in the Meerut district, and appears to
function well, and it is thought that the device may be of use in many other stations where small contractors' dairies are the source of supply. The device consists, as shown in the sketch, of—

1. A small boiler made of a petrol or kerosene four-gallon drum, fitted with two pipes which are screwed into brass collars which are brazed into the drum. The filling pipe is three feet long outside and on the inside reaches to within one and a half inches of the bottom. The steam pipe is not prolonged inside the boiler.

2. Steam pipe with some form of tap or stop cock. This leads through a wooden block or table to a plain jet.

3. The receptacles are inverted over the jet and steam turned on until the whole receptacle is filled with current steam.

4. The fire may be of wood or charcoal, or an oil and water drip feed, such as is used in a mule pack disinfecter, which has recently been brought into use in this district.

5. The cost for the various types which have been installed at present has varied from Rs. 25 to Rs. 55, the latter being provided with a metal fireplace, brass taps, and a brass safety valve. The average cost is about Rs. 35.

Some of these steamers have been working successfully for nearly two years, and it is hoped that this explanatory note may be of interest and assistance to others who are engaged in the supervision of the average station dairy.

ANTI-MALARIAL WORKS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

By Major J. E. M. Boyd, M.C., F.E.S.
Royal Army Medical Corps.

The two recent articles in the Corps Journal, by Colonel N. J. C. Rutherford, D.S.O., A.M.S., and Major A. Campbell Munro, I.M.S., clearly show that a great improvement can be made in the health of troops, when work is properly carried out; it is to be hoped that when additional methods of combating the disease are dealt with in as thorough a manner as the mosquito proofing of buildings at Lahore and Amritsar appears to have been done, even better reports will be forthcoming.

One point which seems to need grave consideration in the carrying out of all these works is the elimination of the possibility of the execution of all schemes and works by local authorities, without reference to higher authority.

Suggestions for such works will undoubtedly be received at Army headquarters with pleasure. It is often not only a waste of money, but also a disadvantage for any such works to be allowed without reference to sanitary experts at Simla.

One almost totally useless work, seen in India, is the mosquito proofing