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 disinfector, 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.
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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
of only the doors of hospitals and barracks; yet this was being carried out as recently as 1926, just prior to my coming home.

At the station in which I was serving, the provision of mosquito proof doors was sanctioned for the B.M. Hospital. I pointed out to the officer commanding the hospital that the work was not likely to be of the slightest benefit to anyone, except perhaps the contractor, but was told that the local Colonel Commandant was very keen on the matter, that he had been asking for funds for this work for a considerable time, and having obtained the money had directed that the work should be carried out forthwith.

Not being a recognized specialist in the matter, having given my opinion I could do no more. There is not the least doubt that, following on the excellent results at Lahore, as funds become available, all hospitals and barracks will eventually have the buildings mosquito-proofed.

Would it not have been better to have applied the money so expended to some central fund, to be disposed of at a later date, when the complete mosquito-proofing of the buildings is being carried out?

One has much to contend with in the tropics, when dealing with buildings, especially where woodwork is concerned. Unless the best seasoned wood is used, the extreme ranges of temperature and the dampness during the monsoon, lead to warping. One has also to deal with the human element. The most important idea in the minds of "other ranks," both British and Indian, though contrary to all orders on the subject, seems to be the evolving of some method for keeping mosquito proofed doors open. These methods vary, but usually consist of the insertion of shoes, stones or pieces of wood in the hinged portion, the result being that, as soon as anyone in authority is seen approaching, frantic efforts are made by the guilty persons concerned to close the doors, the obstructing matter being overlooked in the excitement.

As a result the hinges are sprung, the doors cannot be properly closed, and mosquitoes can thus enter the rooms. This state of affairs is pathetic, the room having become a potential mosquito trap.

In the building under consideration, even before the final door had been fixed in one of the wards, there were signs of cracks and badly fitting joints in the doors already fixed. Any idea of peaceful security to the inmates was discounted by the fact that, though the doors had been dealt with, no effort had been made to cover the fanlights immediately over the doors.

I mentioned this obvious oversight to the S.D.O. in charge of the work and he replied that the fanlights were not mentioned in the work he had been told to carry out. He made a note of the matter, but I left the station before I heard the result of his report. Perhaps "no funds were available."

If it was forbidden by A.H.Q. for any such improvements (?) to be carried out without reference to Simla, a uniform and valuable system of anti-malarial work for the whole of India could be evolved and the lesser and inefficient efforts could be killed in their infancy.