

The legs and attachments are easily removable and are shown in the figure.

Conversion can be carried out in forward areas and the material required is readily available. The details are as follows :—

Conversion of standard stretcher :—

- (1) 13/32 hole drilled into each runner.
- (2) Shallow hole drilled into wood above.
- (3) Two pieces of $\frac{3}{8}$ in. iron rod each 4 ft. $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length are bent into two slightly closed U's. The vertical arms of each are 1 ft. 2 in. in length and are passed through the drilled holes into the wood above.
- (4) The U legs so formed support the stretcher. These legs can be readily detached so preserving the convenience of the stretcher for mobile use.
- (5) Two tinplate brackets are nailed to the stretcher for the side table.

Attachments.—Stretcher kit sling. This consists of a canvas sling between the two upper stretcher handles.

Side-Table.—This is about 1 square foot in area, and is attached near the left head end of the stretcher.

Private De Coene, R.A.M.C., was partially responsible for its design.

THE USE OF D.D.T. FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

BY

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THE discovery and perfection of D.D.T. for use during the war has undoubtedly proved its worth, but there is yet much to learn of the actual powers of D.D.T.

On arrival in Singapore just after the re-occupation, the duties of my Field Hygiene Section were confined to the Hygiene of all R.A.P.W.I. camps on the Island.

The usual mosquito, fly and other insect pests were dealt with by various forms of D.D.T. emulsion, spray and powder, with the success to which we have become accustomed.

During the course of my duties, when I later took over the Hygiene of military units on the Island, there was the ever constant menace of ants and cockroaches in bungalows and offices, the former appearing very rapidly when scraps of food, chocolate or sugar were left on tables, window ledges and floors. Even used empty beer and mineral water glasses attracted these little pests in very short time.

Nothing short of constant spraying or use of powder could prevent them, and this was not practicable, possible or economical. I therefore carried out the following experiments :—

Four pounds of an ordinary, popular brand of floor polish were obtained. Two pounds of this polish were mixed very thoroughly with sufficient D.D.T. powder to give a 5 per cent concentrate. The other two pounds of polish were unadulterated.

Selected rooms, tables and window ledges were then taken, where ants were prevalent, and a controlled system of polishing was adopted. Half a floor space, table or window ledge was polished with the impregnated polish, and the other half with ordinary polish. On each floor or article, a small amount of chocolate and sugar was left around.

In other cases, scraps of food and used beer and mineral water glasses were also left about, being changed daily to ensure perfect attraction to ants.

The results, after fourteen days' trial were, I think, conclusive. The impregnated polished surfaces remained free from insects of all kind, and the chocolate, sugar, food and glasses untouched for this period without repolishing.

The ordinary polished surfaces were as usual infested with ants in a very short while.

It is assumed that the normal housewife adds polish on the average every ten days and, under these circumstances, I feel the incorporation of 5 per cent D.D.T. to any domestic floor polish will prove a great boon to housewives generally; particularly those living in tropical countries, where these pests are more prevalent. At home I feel it may also prove of great value, in prevention of pest trouble, plus, I am sure, the preservation of woodwork against woodlice, etc.

Review.

A POCKET MEDICAL DICTIONARY. Seventh edition. Compiled by Lois Oakes, S.R.N., D.N. (London and Leeds), assisted by Thos. B. Davie, B.A., M.D. (Liverpool), F.R.C.P. (Lond.). Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd. 1946. Pp. xx + 451. Price 4s. net.

The Preface to this book begins with the remark (with which we agree) that "The demand for a Seventh Edition of this dictionary is proof of its continued popularity and usefulness."

In our copy a few of the leaves have become intermixed, which is somewhat of a blemish in a dictionary but this is probably due to an error in binding and may not occur in other copies. "Pruritis" is wrongly spelt.

ERRATUM.

In the article "The Work of a Corps Psychiatrist in the Italian Campaign," Vol. lxxxvi, No. 3, March, 1946, page 130, *for* "It is part of the job of the Army Psychiatrist, to interpret for him *his* attitudes and trends of thought which may affect the morale and fighting efficiency of his men," *read* "It is part of the job of the Army Psychiatrist to interpret for him *those* attitudes and trends of thought which may affect the morale and fighting efficiency of his men."