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### CORNER FORT AND HOTEL STREETS

#### MALARIA AND MOSQUITOS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

mosquito himself, about which far too little is known.

"And this is not the only thing to our bow of experiment. Even should we come out in health after six months in that wretched place, some people might say that we had shut out some other cause of malaria in guarding against the mosquito. So we will make another test.

"You understand, of course, that not every mosquito carries malaria; that a mosquito to be dangerous in this way must first have bitten a malaria patient and drawn the germ from him, also that this germ goes through a certain evolution in the stomach of the mosquito before it is injected into another human being. That period is usually 30 days.

"Now, we shall get some mosquito eggs and raise insects from them. When they are fully grown 30 or 40 of them will be allowed to bite a malaria patient—one suffering from only a mild form of the disease. Then these insects will be fed on vegetable matter until the germ has been nurtured in their bodies, and they will be sent by mail to England. There is no malaria here.

"The mosquitoes will arrive hungry and will be set free in a room where there will be sleeping several students who have never been out of England. If those students actually show symptoms of the disease—and we believe that they will in 10 days or so—our argument will be proved beyond quibble. The light form of fever that they will exhibit can easily be cured with quinine.

"The Campagna is a low-lying region, stretching between Rome and the sea. From time immemorial it has been famed for its malaria. The very word originated there. The deadly region began several miles from Rome. Down to a few years ago it used to make the city itself deadly to northern people in summer, but that is much improved now. Beneath the Campagna is an impenetrable layer of volcanic matter, and this has held the malaria germs for countless ages. It is filled with stagnant pools that are fed by the neighboring mountains.

"Most of the inhabitants live on the sides of the mountains and come down to sow their crops in spring. When they come back in the autumn for the harvest they are decimated by the fever. Their eyes bulge out, their skin drops off, and they suffer agonies from enlarged liver. Latterly some healthy peasants from other parts of the world have been induced to occupy the highest part of the plain by gifts of land. They have suffered terribly.

"It will be noted in Dr. Sambon's statement that he does not speak of protecting himself thoroughly against the mosquitoes in the daytime. According to the scientists, the insects that bite by day rarely or never communicate the disease. The two doctors will not leave the house until two hours before sunrise and will go in an hour before sunset.

"It has been discovered that there are many kinds of mosquitoes and that all of them do not convey malaria. Dr. Ronald Ross, an English army surgeon, who has been associated with Dr. Manson in studying the pests, devoted himself particularly to the species Culex and Anopheles. After a little study he

found that they could be distinguished by their heads and their limbs. He could even tell the male Culex from the female, finding that the female alone lives on blood, while the male eats nothing but vegetable food. The female is the real enemy of the human race. The small head of the female has a sharp, long sting. What is visible to the naked eye and is generally called the sting is really the sheath of the instrument. This opens and lets the sting protrude between the two lips at the proper time. Around this sting are from four to six little awls, which are used for extending the wound after the puncture is made. In the male Culex the feelers, or palpi, are longer than the proboscis, and are covered with thick, long hairs.

"The mosquito that has sucked the blood from a malaria patient does not by any means immediately and sting some one else, but goes into some corner or quiet place and digests the blood it has gathered. This process takes from eight to 10 days. The mosquito, according to Dr. Ross, catches malaria first before it can transfer it. Two days after the absorption of the malarial blood small, transparent bodies appear on the outside of the mosquito's stomach. These grow larger slowly and in six or seven days crescent-shaped germs are developed within them. Then these balls burst. These same crescent-shaped germs also develop inside of the mosquito's stomach, and after nine or 10 days these germs are to be found in the mosquito's salivary glands in large numbers. If at this stage this mosquito stings anyone the crescent-shaped germs pass from the insect's salivary glands in the poison which it always injects into its victim, and this person is inoculated with the malaria germs.

"It has been ascertained that cows and sheep are subject to malaria, and here, too, is an insect (Rhipicephalus annulatus), but not the mosquito, which introduces and spreads the germs. Dogs and bats are also subject to malaria, though the special form of the parasite which gives it to them has not yet been ascertained.

"In November, 1880, the great Laveran found the first malaria parasites in human beings, but the importance of his discovery was not recognized until attention was called to it by Drs. Marchiafava and Celli. Their study of the germ and its development cleared the way for later investigators. They found the difference between the parasites of various similar fevers and the true malaria.

"After long investigation it has been agreed upon that a malaria patient may safely live with other persons and cannot infect them with his disease unless mosquitoes are present. The mosquito seems to be the real home of the malaria germ, in which it develops most perfectly. The infection of man by the germ is only an accident. The germ was never intended for him, for it does not develop so freely as in the mosquito. It is past all dispute that wherever there is malaria there are mosquitoes in large numbers. Mosquitoes pass through the stages of eggs, larvae, pupae, adult, and in any of these it is possible to fight the pests.

"It is plain that the mosquito is both the source and spreader of malaria, for various reasons. In the first place, the most dangerous hours are in the early morning or at twilight, when the mosquitoes swarm. It has also been noted that when the breeze is strong, and the mosquitoes are unable to work, malaria is less frequent. Professor Celli

calls special attention to the fact that in Africa the same word serves for mosquito and malaria. It is mbu. Nott, an American, as long ago as 1848, stated that yellow fever and malarial fever are carried by mosquitoes. "In fact," says Dr. Celli, the best-known Italian authority on malaria to-day, "the only positive and direct proofs as to the spread of malaria point to the mosquito."

"The door by which malaria enters the human system is the skin. One and the same mosquito may infect a number of persons on the same night.

"How shall malaria be prevented? That quinine is the proper medicine for those suffering from the disease is proved by centuries of experience. But is it not possible to eliminate the disease before it reaches mankind? The point of attack must be the mosquito. The larvae or pupae must be killed, and there will be no more malaria. Infusions of tobacco leaves or petroleum are fatal to them in a short time. Tobacco smoke kills the mosquito in two or three minutes. But to reach the mosquito in its breeding places petroleum should be used freely at any expense, and mosquitoes and malaria will be no more.

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