

EDITORIAL.  
MOSQUITOES.

Just lately we have had more to do with mosquitoes than with Japs and as part of the "Know Your Enemy" campaign we thought perhaps there may be a few points about our latest enemy that may have been missed. We admit that this is rather unlikely but still perhaps you may find that getting to understand the mosquito and his habits a little helps to look at him in a kinder light - maybe!

The mosquito is an insect - and a lot of other things too, we know. That means he has six legs, a head, chest and body and a pair of wings like all other insects. He begins life as an egg laid by the female mosquito on the surface of some water. This water may be any size from one single drop to the sea itself. In a few days the egg hatches into a thing called a Larva and which you will see in pools about this place - little fish like things hanging down from the surface of the water and then washing off through the water to hang somewhere else. As the Larva hangs it breathes through an air tube in its tail and if a film of oil is spread over the water the Larva dies because it can't breathe but if this is not done it grows by stages which last a varying time into the adult mosquito. The fully grown adult then flies off looking for you or me and unfortunately for us our own local mosquito, who spent his early life down in the salt marshes, can fly anything up to fifteen miles or so if the climatic conditions are favourable. When he gets to R.M.Q. or 'Mosquito Hollow' or wherever his 'Target for Tonight' may be he shelters for the rest of the day in some dark corner such as a blanket and waits. Then tonight, just after we have squashed the tenth before going to sleep he flies out of that dark fold in the blankets, settles on a toe and begins to tuck in. (Here we must change 'his' sex as it is only the female who sucks our blood! - so that nasty word you used just now wasn't very far out after all.) Our female mosquito begins to feed by digging a sharp, hollow, needlelike thing through the skin, and then, bless her little heart, she spits down it. Her spit, contains a yeast like substance which itches like hell and brings your skin up in big red or white lumps and keeps you awake half the night. This irritating substance causes the blood to gather round the bite which for a 'messie' is a good thing because then the blood can be sucked up with the greatest of ease. Having obtained a tummy full of nice New Zealand blood and escaped your flipping hand she flies off back to her base in the salt marshes and eventually lays more eggs which in their turn grow into more messies and so on.

It is necessary for the female mosquito to get blood of some sort or her eggs don't form and as she is rather keen on having a family she is terribly keen therefore to get a feed of blood. And by the way she isn't interested in your blood group, A. B. or O or any other letters of the alphabet, it's all the same to her.

A SOLDIER IN HYMNS.

6 am	REVEILLE	"Christians Awake"
6.45 am	HOUSE PARADE	"Art thou weary, art thou languid."
7 am	BREAKFAST	"Mockly wait and Mummur Not".
8.45 am	MANOEUVRES.	"Fight the good fight."
9.30 am	COMPANY ORDERS.	"Oft in danger, Oft in wee."
10.30am	KIT INSPECTION	"All things bright and beautiful."
11.45am	SWEDISH DRILL.	"Here we suffer grief and pain."
1. pm	DINNER.	"Come ye thankful people, Come."
2.15pm	LECTURE	"Tell me the old, old Story."
3.45pm	RIFLE DRILL	"Go labour on."
4.30pm	DISMISS.	"Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow."
5 pm	TEA	"What means this eager, anxious throng."
6 pm	Free for the Night.	"Oh Lord, how happy we shall be."
6.30pm	OUT OF BOUNDS	"We do not know, we cannot tell."
7 pm	ROUTE MARCH.	"Onward, Christian Soldiers"
9.45pm	AIR RAID.	"Ye plow the fields and scatter."
0pm	LAST POST.	"All are safely gathered in."
1 pm	LIGHTS OUT.	"Peace, Perfect Peace."
1.30pm	NIGHT MANOEUVRES.	"The Day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended."
1.45pm	GUARD INSPECTION.	"Sleep on, beloved, sleep."