

father also died from fever contracted among the marshes.

Coming to more modern times, it gives us a shock to find statistics from India show that in one year five million deaths occurred from fever, nearly all malarious and preventable by the extermination of anopheline mosquitoes. The casualties on the battlefields of Europe, which have appeared so appallingly high, are not nearly so great as the deaths normally occurring through the instrumentality of mosquitoes. It is interesting to note that thirty years ago, the life of a Forest officer in Burmah was estimated at seven years. Everyone knows that the cutting of the Panama Canal proved impossible until the relation between the mosquito "*stegomyia calopus*" and the organism causing yellow fever had been established, and mosquito-study had enabled satisfactory control-measures to be carried out.

It is a far cry from the battles of Sapor, King of Persia, to the present war; but we find that the importance of mosquitoes in military tactics has again come to the fore. The quick termination of the campaign against the Germans in East Africa was claimed to be partly due to driving the greater part of the German forces into the valley of the Rufigi river, where malaria rendered the district untenable after the commencement of the October rains, and forced the surrender of the German troops.

Closer home, we find that Howard, head of the United States Department of Entomology, estimated the annual loss to the United States, through mosquitoes, at one hundred million dollars. We have no figures to show the amount of misery and loss caused by malaria in Ontario, but know that it levied a heavy toll during pioneer days. Even now occasional cases occur.

However, mosquitoes are becoming of less and less importance, as drainage removes their breeding places, and sanitary water-systems are installed in the towns; but in the Northern woods and more unsettled portions, mosquitoes are still to be reckoned among the foremost enemies of mankind. In some parts of New Ontario, settlement of the land is practically held up by them and human existence is almost impossible.

From what has been said above, it will be seen that mosquitoes are well worth studying. As soon as their true importance became known, an energetic army of workers of all nationalities turned their attention to the study of this subject, and few families of insects have been submitted to such searching investigation. How much work has been done will be understood when one finds that up to 1910 as many as 929 distinct species had been described from various parts of the world. Since that time, many more have been added. The State of New Jersey holds the record as the district which has had its mosquitoes more thoroughly studied than any other part of the world. Ontario, for some reason, stands at the other extreme, and the study of mosquitoes here remains practically an open field for whoever may become **bitten** by that fascinating line of research. For some time the writer has been suffering from an acute attack of mosquitoitis, and finds that the deeper one penetrates into the realms of mosquito-land, the more alluring the vistas that open up before one.

The most extravagant fairy tales can hardly vie in interest and romance with the almost incredible stories that are unravelled in the life-histories of some of our rarer mosquitoes. Every species has its own peculiar disposition,