

The most permanent method of control is to eliminate as many collections of water as possible by filling them in or by draining them off into nearby streams or ponds. Rain barrels should be covered with screens; tin cans, buckets and other vessels buried or turned bottom up. Any kind of a water collection can serve as a breeding place for mosquitoes.

### MALARIA IN MASSACHUSETTS

Malaria was quite prevalent periodically in New England in Colonial times. It seems to have almost disappeared between these times of high prevalence. There was a rise in the disease in Massachusetts after both the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, due to soldiers returning from southern areas still infected with the parasites. In recent years the disease has practically disappeared. It has been re-introduced in small areas when laborers have been imported from malarial districts. The disease has promptly died out again in each instance, however.

Each year sees Massachusetts become more unfavorable for the breeding of Anopheline mosquitoes. Our ponds are being kept cleaner of protecting vegetation; the marshy areas around the edges of the ponds are being filled in; each time a new house is built the land is graded and water holes are eliminated. These factors together with excellent screening of houses and the prompt treatment of all cases of malaria will undoubtedly insure that the disease will never become a major problem in this State.

It is to be expected that many of those in the armed forces and civilians taking part in the present war will become infected with malaria while on foreign shores. Some of them will have the disease recur after they return home. A few individuals in their households or among their neighbors may acquire the disease. Physicians will be on the alert to discover such cases and the prompt use of drugs will prevent the disease from being any serious problem. Undoubtedly, there will be an increase in the disease within the next two or three years, but the cases will be numbered in tens or scores and not in hundreds of thousands.