

FIGHTING THE FLY PERIL.

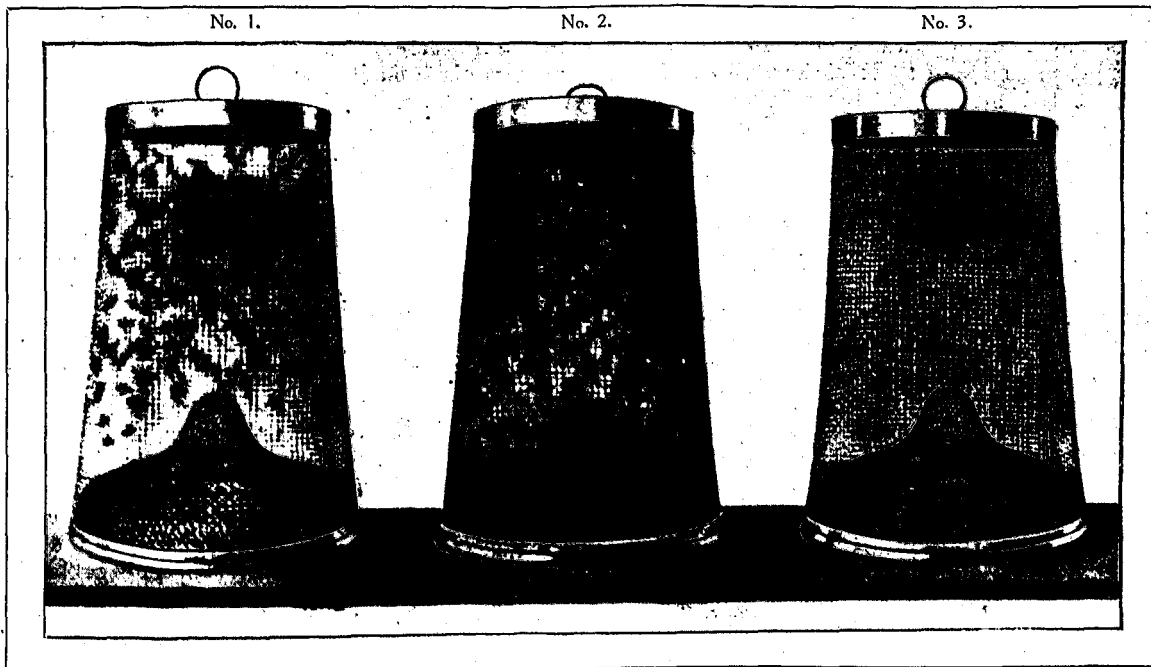
A BRITISH EXPERIMENT.

We drew attention last week to an interesting experiment made by a British investigator, Mr. W. F. Dearden, M.R.C.S., D.P.H., J.P., in regard to the efficacy of borax and calcined colemanite as larvicides, described in "Fighting the Fly Peril," of which book Mr. Dearden is joint author with Mr. C. F. Plowman. By the courtesy of the publisher, Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, we are able to publish the accompanying illustration of the result of the experiment, which was conducted in the following way.

"Three tea chests were obtained and each

"A wire gauze fly trap of flower-pot shape was then arranged for this particular purpose. The tin socket and bait receptacle at the bottom were detached and fixed over the hole in the cross board, the latter to act as a lid when the trap was not in position. The chests were marked A, B, and C.

"The manure was filled into two boxes, by two equal instalments, a like quantity of larvicide being sprinkled on to each, calcined colemanite (an American product) being used in chest 'A' and borax in chest 'B,' while chest 'C' was left untreated. The quantity of larvicide used was in the proportion recommended by the United States Commission, viz., .75 lb. of calcined colemanite and .62 lb. of



RESULT OF AN EXPERIMENT BY MR. W. F. DEARDEN, M.R.C.S.

No. 1. Shows at the end of the tenth day a fly-trap placed over 3 cubic feet of untreated manure; 186 flies were counted.

No. 2. Shows the same trap at the end of the eleventh day; 932 flies were taken out after chloroforming.

No. 3. Shows after eleven days a fly-trap placed over manure treated with borax, or calcined colemanite; one "very sluggish" fly appeared.

adapted as follows: Holes were bored in the bottom for drainage, these being covered inside by two inches of cinders with a view to assist this and to discourage the exit of maggots. Over the cinders were placed three cubic feet of fresh horse manure. A framework lid was made, and across the centre was placed a five-inch wide board, in the centre again of which was cut a round hole, about one and a half inches in diameter; the rest of the cover consisted of a very fine mesh wire gauze.

borax per 10 cubic feet of manure. Three gallons of water were poured on to each of the three lots of manure by means of a watering can, and the box lids, with the little tin hole stoppers in position, were placed over the boxes."

On the eighth day the wire gauze on the lids was covered over with thick brown paper to exclude the light, the stoppers removed, and the fly traps placed in position. On the ninth day, flies began to enter the trap placed over

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