

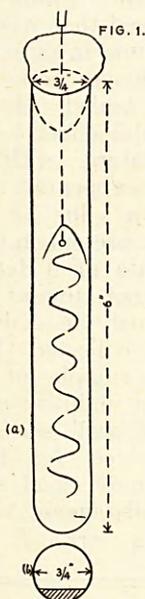
SUGGESTION FOR A NEW TYPE OF TUBE FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL CULTURES

By T. V. SWAMY, M.B., B.S.

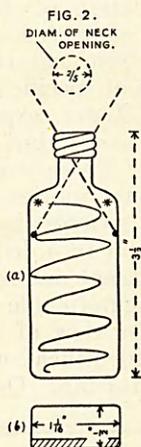
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THE ordinary test-tubes as holders for solid culture media in bacteriological work have been in use fairly successfully now for a long time. McCartney suggested, as late as 1933, the ordinary screw-capped medical 'flat' as a more efficient substitute for the test-tube.

For the last two years, we have been using these 'flats' for cultural work both in this department and in the General Hospital



(a) Test-tube showing slope inoculation.
(b) Cross section of same.



(a) One ounce capacity medical 'flat'. Medium at the shoulder of the bottle cannot be sown at*.
(b) Cross section of the same.

bacteriological laboratory and from this short experience, I consider there is scope for a further improvement in this type of container.

The usual 'flat' is made up of an oblong body and a narrow neck with the threads for fitting the metal cap. The disadvantages in this form of 'flat', to my mind, are that the neck is a little too narrow for utilizing the whole of the culturable surface when a loop spreader is used. This means a waste of a part of the medium. I believe, a larger bore of the neck would overcome this defect. Again, the corners of the oblong medical 'flat' being as they are abruptly angular prevent a good visibility of certain parts of the culture. This can be got over possibly by converting the angularities into two gradual curvatures on opposite sides of the main flat surfaces. This idea occurred to me

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THE USE OF THE DOMESTIC FOWL FOR THE PREPARATION OF DIAGNOSTIC ANTISERA

By C. L. PASRICHA

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and

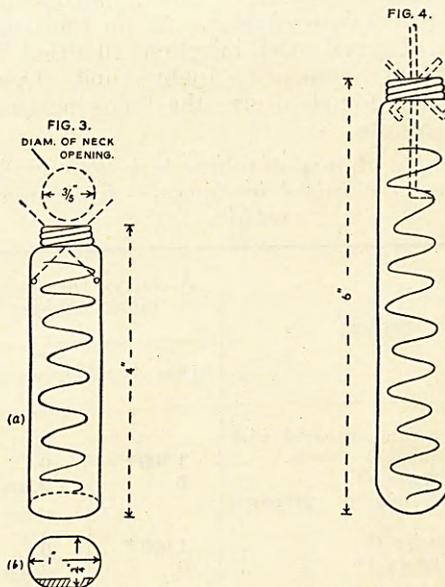
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THE domestic fowl is frequently used as a laboratory animal, but as far as we are aware it has not been used for the preparation of diagnostic sera. Owing to the difficulty in both

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after seeing a glass holder of a common make of tooth brush.



(a) Suggested type of culture tube showing how the whole sloped surface can be used.
(b) Cross section of same showing both sides flat.

To show how the suggested type of tube can be used in place of Petri dish.

This container, if provided with a screw-cap end of a sufficient diameter, would make an ideal media holder. Indeed, a container of this kind could very well be used instead of the Petri dish which has some obvious disadvantages. Owing to the larger width of the mouth suggested, it would be possible to introduce through it the usual angular glass spreader for inoculation just as in a Petri dish.

The above diagrams with the explanatory foot-notes will clarify the advantages of the suggested modifications.

REFERENCE

McCartney, J. E. (1933). *Lancet*, ii, p. 433.