

of broth—dextrose broth for staphylococcus and lactose broth for coli organisms.

On 144 coli dishes, no organism survived boiling periods of five or more minutes, though coli organisms persisted on two of the eight dishes which were steamed but five minutes. Of 150 staphylococcus dishes, the organism persisted on half of the ninety dishes which were boiled five to ten minutes, or steamed five to fifteen minutes, but did not survive on the remainder.

Disease organisms may, therefore, be transferred by contaminated dishes unless they are boiled for at least fifteen minutes or steamed for at least twenty minutes. Due consideration of the safety factor would demand boiling or steaming for thirty minutes.

The fact that the bacteria used were regained from but one sample of the thirty-three waters which were used in boiling or steaming the dishes indicates that the unexpected persistence of staphylococcus on the dishes must have been due to the protective layers of food which covered the bacteria.

A WORD FOR THE MONTH.

Children and the Empire.

"I want you to remember you belong to the greatest Empire the world has ever known. You are going to be its citizens and will have the responsibilities for its administration in the future. During the time we were at war we lost practically a generation of the flower of British manhood, and when you grow up your responsibilities of service for the Empire will, in consequence, be greater than ever. Before you are apt to get too interested in your local and parochial affairs, I want you to grow up with a real and sincere appreciation of your duties and responsibilities to the Empire."—*Lord Willingdon to School Children at Hastings.*

COMING EVENTS.

March 14th.—Mental Hospital Matrons' Association, Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. 3 p.m.

March 17th.—British College of Nurses. Meeting of Tutorial Group. Subject for Discussion, "The Tannic Acid Treatment of Burns." 39, Portland Place, W.1. 8 p.m.

March 21st.—British College of Nurses. Council Meeting, 39, Portland Place, W.1. 2.15 p.m.

March 26th.—Mr. Alan Todd, B.Sc., F.R.C.S. One Lecture on "Orthopaedics." 5.30 p.m.

March 27th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. 20, Portland Place, W.1. 2.30 p.m.

April 15th.—Mr. Stanford Cade, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. One Lecture on "Radium." 5.30 p.m.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The appointment of Vere Brabazon Ponsonby, ninth Earl of Bessborough, as Governor-General of Canada, will, we imagine, be well approved throughout the great Dominion—not only for his own varied attainments as barrister, soldier and diplomat—he is Chevalier of Legion d'Honneur, holds orders of St. Anne of Russia, Leopold II., Belgium; S.S. Maurice and Lazarus, Italy; and Redeemer, Greece—but because he is married to a French lady of great charm and distinction, née *Roberte de Neufize*, daughter of the late *Baron Jean de Neufize*.

We believe it is the first time that a Frenchwoman will preside as *chatelaine* of Rideau Hall at Ottawa, and that she should do so arouses the imagination, and recalls the romance of the great French pioneers and their martyrdom in the civilisation of Canada. The nursing profession

is especially proud of the magnificent heroism of the most noble "religious" who took a leading part in this wonderful evolution, and the names of the great *Mère Marie de l'Incarnation* and *Jeanne Mance*, those harbingers of mercy—are enshrined for ever in the hearts of Canadian nurses. We feel sure the Countess of Bessborough will soon acquaint herself with nursing conditions in Canada; she will find the National Council of Nurses and the Victorian Order of Nurses wonderfully efficient organisations.

The redecoration of the Royal Mausoleum at Frogmore—where rest the remains of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort—is now completed, and the Royal tomb-house presents a magnificent appearance.

The interior is of surpassing beauty, and the artists' work has been greatly admired by the few who have seen it. A new method of heating the Mausoleum has been installed, and with new means of ventilation it is hoped that the building may now be damp-proof.

It is understood that this splendid Mausoleum—which cost over £200,000 to erect—will, by permission of the King, be open to public view on Whit Monday, May 25th, when a large number of people will no doubt avail themselves of the opportunity so thoughtfully provided by His Majesty.

The Canadian Government has passed an Order-in-Council prohibiting all imports from Russia of coal, woodpulp, pulpwood, lumber, and timber of all kinds, asbestos, and furs, to be effective immediately. This action is taken on the grounds that forced labour is used in the cutting of timber and mining of coal in Russia and that political prisoners are exploited.

It is time our Government followed this excellent example.



THE COUNTESS OF BESSBOROUGH.

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