The Country Homemakers Continued from Page 10

food is prepared daily, bottles, dipper and spoons should not only be washed with soap and water, but should be boil-ed, and the measuring glass and mixing pitcher scalded with boiling hot water. There should be a nipple for each bottle used in the twenty-four hours. These should be thoroughly washed and boiled once each day, and kept in a

boiled once each day, and kept in a covered tumbler ready for use. After the baby has emptied a bottle, both the bottle and nipple must be thoroughly rinsed, the bottle filled with cold water and the end of the nipple placed in the neck of the bottle. This nipple, of course, must not be used again till once more boiled. As the child grows older and uses barley water or cereals, a double boiler and strainer for this use

only should be provided.

Colic is caused by indigestion and may indicate that the food is at fault. A simple remedy is the injection of a half cup of warm water into the rectum. A soda-mint tablet dissolved in a half ounce of warm water fed to the baby

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Never use paregoric or any form of soothing syrups, except when ordered by a doctor. Disregard of this rule may prove very serious—retarding a child's development and otherwise injuring it.

By the fourth week a baby's bowels should be regulated and move twice daily. Before it is a year old it should be trained to use a chair, and its bowels to move at a regular time daily. If there is any trouble in this connection which a small dose of castor oil does not correct, by all means consult a phy-

Head colds in the infant are not serious, and usually only amount to "snuf-fles." For this, squeeze a little white vaseline from a tube into each nostril, and hold the head down so that it will dissolve in the nose.

In the case of a cough which lasts for any length of time, the doctor should be called.

A tiny pink rash coming with heat, can be alleviated by adding baking soda to the bath water. After patting the skin dry, use carbolic talcum powder freely.

A creeping child will often pick up things and swallow them. If this happens, do not get panicky and give medicine to move the bowels. Nature will take care of it, and it will pass off more easily if the intestines are filled with solids rather than if their contents are liquefied by a cathartic.

If a child is choking, pick it up by its heels, let its head hang down and the little trap at the back of the throat should immediately dislodge the foreign

Bowed legs are caused by lack of proper nourishment in food, and consequent weak bones. A child with such ten-dency should be kept off its feet till a doctor can prescribe for the bone treatment and outline a proper diet.

A child who breathes with its mouth open, snores when asleep and looks drawn and pinched, has a third tonsil, or adenoid. This should be removed by a throat specialist as soon as possible.

When a child has a convulsion, its muscles become rigid and twitch-a physician should be sent for at once. In the meantime the child should be placed immediately in a warm—not hot bath, and iced cloths applied to its head. Do not even wait to undress the child.

Before leaving the subject I want to reiterate to mothers not to allow themselves to become over-anxious and fussy. I have seen so many women make themselves very unhappy and more or less ridiculous by exaggerated fears, to say nothing of the discomfort caused to family and friends by the atmosphere of continual apprehension and anxiety.

In one family where I stayed a month the mother seemed to be haunted by the fear that her baby might come upon a germ. The child had but two sadly faded toys, which were boiled each morning and gingerly handed to him; if he dropped one, it was snatched up and boiled again while he sat pensively waiting. A friend who used to be at the house a good deal was fiercely reprimanded when she put in his hand a pretty silver bangle which, bored by the monotony of his two much-hoiled playmonotony of his two much-boiled play-things, the youngster craved. She in-sisted that if the baby ever did happen to get a germ, instead of digesting or otherwise disposing of it calmly and harmlessly he would promptly have a spasm. And when I met her a year later she said: "Whether that baby ever did get a germ or not history does not record, but I have always felt that the reason the poor little fellow has developed crossed eyes is because he has been looking so hard both ways at once trying to avoid them."

Of course the friend may be somewhat extreme in one direction-certainly the mother was in the other.

One of the funniest things I ever saw on this subject was a poem published somewhere. The verses were full of how this was boiled and that was boiled, and each one ended: "But we can't boil his thumb." Be conscientiously clean in the ways mentioned throughout this ar. ticle, and then don't worry about chance germs. We can't possibly avoid them all, and they are by no means all dead-ly. Let common sense be your watchword in rearing the baby!

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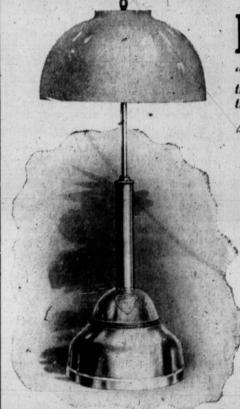
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