

We claim no priority for these observations, as the autoclave at  $105^{\circ}$  C. seems to have been employed for some years in several French laboratories for sterilizing gelatin,<sup>1</sup> though this fact does not appear to have become as generally known as it might be. In the laboratory of the Board of Health of the Province of Quebec attention was first attracted by the fact that some gelatin, sterilized in the autoclave through a mistake, retained its power of setting. In our experience a temperature of  $105^{\circ}$  C. has not always been sufficient to insure perfect sterilization.

With reference to the temperature we employ, it may be well to mention that the test-tubes and small bottles which we use are made of very thick glass, so that the heat penetrates slowly. In working with thinner ones a lower pressure or a shorter time may be found to give the best result. We have employed gelatin giving a firm jelly, as considerable difference exists between the different brands in respect to their melting-points.