

is reached and the requirements of the constitution are chiefly for food to supply energy, heat and vital stimulus. At this period in life a small amount of meat or other albuminous food will suffice, especially in torpid systems or persons of sedentary habits. The symptoms caused by an excess of uric acid depend upon the degree of saturation and whether these morbid products are circulating in the blood or are precipitated in the tissues or joints. The susceptibility of the various organs and the constitution of the individual also help to determine the symptoms; one person may have asthma, another an irritable bladder, and another sick headache or rheumatism. In the treatment diet is highly important. Meat once a day is often enough. Fresh fruit, especially apples, should be eaten in abundance. Tomatoes are excellent, so is asparagus. Baked bananas and well-done rice are excellent substitutes for meat. Pure honey is always allowable. In uncomplicated cases lithiated hydrangea will be the only remedy needed in addition to dietetic reform and plenty of water.—*Ex.*

Miscellaneous.

DON'T ANSWER IMPERTINENT QUESTIONS.—Impertinent questions are to be met with firm and dignified politeness. Any question about another's personal affairs, about the price of one's clothing, the amount of one's earnings, the reasons one has for entirely private conduct, is impertinent. Would I answer such questions? Not at all. Usually, by a little tact, one can settle such questioners. If there is no other way, I counsel a plain but courteous sincerity—a simple refusal to answer. One may just say: "Pardon me, I prefer not to give any information whatever on this matter."—MARGARET E. SANGSTER in the *April Ladies' Home Journal*.

L'HOMME A LA FOURCHETTE.—Lausseur, the man whose name has been immortalized in connection with the fact that he was the patient from whose stomach Labbé, the great French surgeon, first performed gastrotomy for the removal of a fork, has just died, twenty-five years after the operation. *L'homme a la fourchette* created an immense sensation at the time, as it was the first occasion on which a foreign body had been removed from the stomach by a surgical procedure. Inasmuch as the operation really consisted in cutting down on an abscess in the region of the umbilicus, and the removal of the fork, which was projecting into the wound, it was not strictly speaking, gastrotomy.—*Medical Press and Circular*.