

views have been strongly combatted by no less a person than Senator, who believes in the old-fashioned custom of excluding red meat from the diet of patients suffering from chronic kidney disease and gout. Whatever may be the ultimate result of this discussion, we believe that there is one point which is not to be overlooked, namely, that some of these patients at least may be allowed small quantities of red meat sufficiently frequently to prevent them from becoming entirely disgusted with white meat and also in sufficient frequency to prevent them from becoming restive and uncontrollable upon the diet which is ordered.

Finally, it is not to be forgotten that it is by no means necessary to employ skimmed milk as a drink and nutriment for these patients. Unskimmed milk, which contains a larger quantity of fat, is therefore far more nutritious, and is infinitely better for such patients if they can digest it, and most of the patients who can digest skimmed milk can digest ordinary good milk which has not been skimmed.—*Therapeutic Gazette*.

Thyroid Extract in the Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Prof. Edwin Klebs reports in the *Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift* of December 11, 1899, the results of trials and studies made by him on the above subject, as he announced at the meeting of the Tuberculosis Commission at Munich. He used the juice of the thyroid as obtained by pressure and administered it to the subjects of phthisis in an early stage, all of whom were markedly suffering from gastric symptoms (achylia gastrica), while the changes in the lungs were but slight. The drug was not given empirically or in haphazard manner, but in accordance with the results of experiments carefully carried out previously on animals, in which Klebs had found that when the thyroid gland had been removed the same gastric conditions resulted as was the case in the patients alluded to above. It must also be noted that these patients were found to present a noticeable atrophy of the thyroid gland. The gastric juice of dogs experimented on after ablation of half of the thyroid gland and simultaneously subjected to injections of tuberculin was found to be almost entirely devoid of hydrochloric acid and of pepsin, while the intact half of the dog's thyroid was found to be undergoing atrophy with a total disappearance of its colloid substance. It thus appeared as if the action of tuberculin was inimical to the thyroid function, and that as a net result there supervened after a while the gastric conditions referred to above.

Concluding from these experiments that the feeding of tuberculous patients who suffered from severe achylia gastrica with fresh thyroid secretion might have a beneficial effect, the