

managers of many schools would be willing to subscribe so trifling a sum if the matter could be brought to their notice.

The Holborn Guardians have lately been much exercised in their minds about the nurses' food, and during a somewhat warm discussion we gather that all the trouble arose "from one sausage." The complaints were that rabbits were served out of season, one sausage was served for dinner, and that the food was badly cooked. The Infirmary Visiting Committee reported that there was no ground for complaint, and that the supply of food was ample. To this Mr. Howes took exception and questioned "If one sausage was served, could it be said that the food was ample?" Then Mr. Bassett explained that "all this arose from one sausage; the sausages were served one at a time, but there were four of them to the pound, and they were ready for the nurses when they required them."

It would now be highly interesting if these gentlemen, who appear to have plenty of time on hand to manage the domestic department of the infirmary, would present a report of how many nurses there are to a sausage—we mean, how many nurses to the pound—no, not quite that, but how many nurses eat one, two, three or four sausages at a sitting; and to make the inquiry of national importance and usefulness what was the result of those sausages upon the nurses when eaten!

This reminds us of the famous "London" case before the Lords in 1891, when it was elicited, amidst a thrill of suppressed indignation, that the night nurses' supper sometimes consisted of "one sardine"! We would rather digest one sardine than four sausages, but tastes differ.

We are glad to note, from a report of a recent meeting of the Board of Management of the Swansea Hospital, "That the Committee consider that in future nurses should be engaged for three complete years' training in the hospital, and that it be optional whether they remain the fourth year as private nurses.

"That the private nursing department be conducted so as to pay its own expenses only.

"That in future no probationer be employed under rule 118 as a private nurse unless she has satisfactorily passed her examinations, and then only under the supervision of a member of the hon. medical staff.

"That the remuneration of private nurses during their first year be two-thirds of their earnings, and during their second year three-fourths of their earnings—a minimum of £35 being guaranteed."

Many of these recommendations are excellent, but probationers under no circumstances whatever

should be sent out private nursing for gain. We are glad to observe, however, that the suggestion of Dr. Brook to utilise the nurses' labour in support of the hospital upkeep is not being acted upon, and also from the following amenities which passed between him and his colleague on the Board—Miss Dillwyn—that no sweating is to be encouraged:—

"Referring to the recommendations with regard to nursing, Dr. Brook said that in a London weekly paper [THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING] Miss Dillwyn's and his name were mentioned as anxious to 'sweat' nurses.

"Miss Dillwyn: Yours, not mine.

"Dr. Brook: Well, mine then. I need scarcely say that nothing is further from my mind. Nowhere in South Wales would nurses be more generously treated than in Swansea."

That's all right.

The Bristol Nurses' Institute and Private Nursing Home has been removed from 24, Richmond Terrace, where the work has gone on increasing for the last forty years, to larger and much more suitable premises at 3 and 4, Chesterfield Place, Clifton. The houses have been entirely redecorated, and fitted with modern sanitary and domestic appliances. The private nurses have a cheerful home, and in the next house there are eight bedrooms and a large, pleasant sitting-room for the reception of both medical and surgical patients.

Miss Neech, the Matron of the Hertford British Hospital in Paris, has been subjected to a somewhat disconcerting experience by the stupidity of the Swiss police. She was staying with a friend, Miss Ritchie, at Bex-les-Bains, near Lausanne. Shortly after their arrival there a watch was picked up in the market-place by a little girl nine years of age, who informed the police that a lady who was passing said: "That watch is mine," and took it from her. Subsequently the girl pointed out Miss Ritchie as the lady who had taken the watch. That lady, however, had never been near the place. Notwithstanding this she and Miss Neech were both arrested by the police on a charge of theft and taken off to the Hotel de Ville.

Here they were treated with the utmost harshness, and it was not until the British Consul at Lausanne interfered in person that the ladies were liberated after being in prison for thirty hours, during which time they were not allowed to communicate with each other or with their friends, and their release was only agreed to on their depositing £20 each as bail.

The girl who informed the police was afterwards examined by the British Consul, and entirely contradicted her first statement, giving a totally different description of the lady who took the watch.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)