

(suspended by the Guardians) and begging that an early date may be fixed for her to resume office, and hoping that the support of the Local Government Board may be extended to the Matron, so that it may be possible for her to perform her duties in the difficult position in which she will be placed (the Guardians having raised objections to her re-instatement). The Nursing Staff are also reported to have informed the Local Government Board that they have been misinformed in regard to a report that the work of the Infirmary is being conducted in a harmonious manner in the absence of the Matron—on the contrary, discipline is suspended.

WE are glad to observe that the Leeds Board of Guardians have adopted the report of the committee which has had under consideration the question of reorganising the Nursing Staff of the Workhouse Infirmary. The committee recommended that pauper Nurses should no longer be employed, and that the Nursing Staff should in future consist of twenty-one Nurses—six of them to be styled "charge Nurses" and the remainder "ward Nurses"—together with nineteen probationers.

At the Annual Meeting of the Kent and Canterbury Nurses' Institute, we are glad to see that in the report presented the general committee recognise the principle of fair dealing with their private Nursing Staff, and do not expect them to pay by their earnings for the philanthropic or district branch of the institution.

"The Committee congratulate the subscribers that the Institute, as far as the private nursing is concerned, is now self-supporting, but the profits derived from this part of the work should be mainly, if not exclusively, devoted to the benefit of the nurses, by means of whose labours they are reaped. The work of the district nursing is on the other hand purely charitable, and cannot, of course, be self-supporting, but must depend upon the subscriptions and donations which are received. It is being extended in many directions, and therefore requires increased support as time goes on."

ON the other hand, the Committee of the Hertford General Infirmary are still so far behind the feeling of the times as to publicly congratulate themselves upon the fact that their system of Nurse-sweating brings "grist to the mill."

"The Weekly Board desire to express their satisfaction at the success and usefulness of what was at first regarded as an experiment, when two years ago they added to the nursing staff in order that (when not required at the Infirmary) the services of the senior Nurses might be available for private patients in the town and neighbourhood. The success and usefulness are evident when it is known that during the past year twenty-two patients have been attended. The private nursing, moreover, is a help to the funds of the Institution, and the fees received during 1894 amount to £77 5s. 6d.,

an increase of £50 12s. 9d. over the fees of 1893. One of the Infirmary Nurses is now qualified as a masseuse."

WE must repeat, for the instruction of the committee of the Hertford General Infirmary, that profit to the institution from the labour of trained Nurses is quite as indefensible as charging the medical staff a percentage on their fees. It is almost impossible for such Nurses from the salaries received to save an adequate sum to provide for sickness and for old age.

THE autocratic little dog of the Ryde County Hospital writes to "protest against a printer's error in the 'Country Letter' in last week's RECORD, which has robbed him of his professional pseudonym and given him the commonplace name of 'Bruno.' He would like the readers of the NURSING RECORD to know that he is a dog with much professional pride, and that his name is 'Bromo'—a name which he considers quite adequately expresses the interest he has always taken in the medical and nursing profession. If the Editor will publish this little correction Bromo will feel, like the gentlemanly little dog he is, that his honour will be quite vindicated."

THE long flowing veils belonging to some hospital and uniform bonnets have been utilised as respirators during the prevailing keen and bitter winds. Many Nurses have been seen recently in London with their gossamers picturesquely and cosily wound, eastern fashion, round their mouths and throats, thus filtering the dusty air and taking the keen edge off the biting wind which would seem from its intensity to have blown straight from the centre of the North Pole.

Talking of these gossamer veils, it is a useful tip and one of which many Nurses are unaware, that if the gossamer be of good quality—and good quality means a good admixture of silk and a charge of about three shillings to three and sixpence a yard—it will wash most beautifully, and when ironed out while damp, looks veritably as good as new.

This is especially worth knowing, for it so often happens that long before the gossamer is legitimately worn out, it is discarded because the veil is dusty-looking and smells strongly of London fog. The washing removes these two objections. If the veil be black, use a weak and warm decoction of tea, both for the washing and the rinsing; no soap should be employed; and the veil, when thoroughly cleansed, should

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)