warning, an attack on our ranks from the rear, from what we might have supposed are the "Home Defences." Why is this?

When a war breaks out the King is pleased to accept the services of Irish nurses to attend the troops. When the tuberculosis plague of Ireland has to be combatted, who so ready as the Irish Executive to ask for volunteers from our ranks? When a fever epidemic breaks out in some island off the West Coast of Ireland the Local Government Board will gladly send Irish nurses, at the risk of their lives, to stem the scourge. And is this the compensation; to relegate them permanently to an inferior position, in comparison with the nurses of Great Britain, with no outlook for the future but the Poor Law Service? The time is past when we will submit to such a position. We feel we have a right to be heard concerning legislation, which affects us so vitally. We must, therefore, be on the alert, and on guard at all four points of the compass.

All the Resolutions were carried unanimously with the greatest enthusiasm.

No Surrender.

It was a great and memorable meeting, the speeches eloquent and resolute, and the feeling of the meeting was unmistakably "No Surrender.'

THE IRISH PRESS ON THE SITUATION.

It is evident that the Irish Nurses' Association has the support of the Press in its demand for the re-instatement of Ireland in the Nurses' Registration Bill. We quote a few of

the opinions expressed:-

"The members of the Irish Nurses' Association have taken a very proper course in raising their voices in protest against the attitude of the Government towards the nursing profession in this country. . . The Government has not made out a case for excluding Ireland from the Nurses' Registration Bill. It is possible that it does not appreciate the irretrievable injury it must do to the Irish trained nurse in the exercise of her profession. But after the action taken upon her behalf the authorities cannot shelter themselves behind the plea that they acted in ignorance of the facts of the situation."—The Irish Times.

"This Act shall not extend to Ireland," etc. "Earl Crewe little knew the storm of indignation the insertion of these words in the Bill entitled 'The Nurses' Registration Bill' now before Parliament would create."—The

Freeman's Journal.

"The proposal to exclude Ireland from the operation of the State Registration of Nurses' Bill called forth a strong protest from the Irish Nurses' Association."-The Irish Independent.

"There can be little doubt that the Irish nurses will have public opinion on their side the vigorous protest they are making against the arbitrary action of the Irish Local Government Board in connection with the Nurses' Registration Bill."—Dublin Evening Mail.

"It is of the highest importance that public opinion in Ireland should be concentrated asstrongly as possible on the question which engrossed the attention of the large meeting of trained nurses held in Dublin last night. consider the proposed exclusion of Ireland from the Nurses' Registration Bill. . The injustice is so palpable that a strong challenge to the Government on the subject must, one would think, compel them to drop the clause with which they have let themselves be associated."—The Daily Express, Dublin.

"Is what is beneficial in England and Scotland injurious in Ireland? If not why should Ireland be excluded from the benefits of legislation, which England and Scotland enjoy?"— The Poor Law and District Councils' Journal.

The Medical Press and Circular, of the 12th inst. contains an admirable letter from Dr. W. I. de Courcy Wheeler, emphasising the seriousposition of Irish Hospitals and Training Schools. if Ireland is excluded from the Nurses' Registration Bill.

A HOSPITAL COMMITTEE TAKES ACTION.

At the recent bi-monthly meeting of the Joint Committee of the Meath Hospital and County Dublin Infirmary, at which Sir John Moore, M.D., presided, the question of the Nurses' Registration Bill now before Parliament was considered, and the following Resolu-

tion carried unanimously:

"Resolved-That the Meath Hospital and County Dublin Infirmary, which has a Training School for Nurses attached to it, are of opinion that it is essential to the high standing of Irish trained nurses that any Bill providing for the education, examination, and registration of nurses-should extend to Ireland. The Joint Committee further consider that full representation of the various nursing interests in this country on a Central Nursing Board, to be created under a Nurses' Registration Bill, should be accorded to Ireland."

Amongst those present were the Right Hon. Sir Horace Plunkett, P.C., and Mr. Charles

Lawler, J.P.

WELCOME HELP.

We acknowledge with thanks the following donations towards the expenses of the Nurses Registration Bill:—

s. d. Miss Beatrice Kent 5 0 Miss Kate Walker (Brighton)

previous page next page