

NURSING ECHOES.

Our Royal Family were united in a happy family party on Christmas Day, at Sandringham, and the youngest member, the little Princess Alexandra of Kent, enjoyed her second birthday on the great festival. From her portrait we realise her happy disposition, all smiles and dimples, and one and all wish her many happy returns of the day. A great-great-granddaughter of our Queen Victoria, she has the blood of many monarchs flowing in her veins—English, Scottish, Danish, Greek, Russian and German—which should make her *persona grata* with the world at large.

Little "Princess Sunny Face" might be her *sobriquet*.

We have read with deep interest and warm admiration the recollections of Nurse Catherine Black, S.R.N. which have recently appeared in *The Sunday Graphic and Sunday News*. She tells of her service in the front line hospitals in France during the Great War "a poignant, tragic human story," every word of which is inspired by deep human sympathy. The impression of the suffering of humanity in the conduct of this world slaughter can never be conveyed in words, and those of us who slipped quietly along the line within sound of the guns at the front, as we were privileged to do as Superintendent of the French Flag Nursing Corps by the French Minister of War, feel as intensely to-day, after twenty years have passed away, the keen sense of indignation that potentates and powers can fling into the trenches of death millions of God's human creatures owing to their own incapacity, avarice, or insensate love of power.

When are the so-called civilised nations going to combine to prevent the justification of the wholesale murder of humanity?

Surely every woman in the world should rise and

take part in the support of those who will no longer tolerate the martyrdom of peoples. We need thousands of Nurse Blacks—whose love of mankind makes them voluble in their demand for mercy. Splendid, fearless, tender-hearted women, to whom the grace of God is apparent and paramount.

We have always been thankful that our good King George V had in daily attendance, during his latter years of suffering, this beneficent attendant, Catherine Black.

Many County Councils are announcing a 48-hours' week for the Nursing staffs. The shortage of nurses makes it extremely difficult and sometimes almost impossible to maintain a proper standard of nursing in the county hospitals.

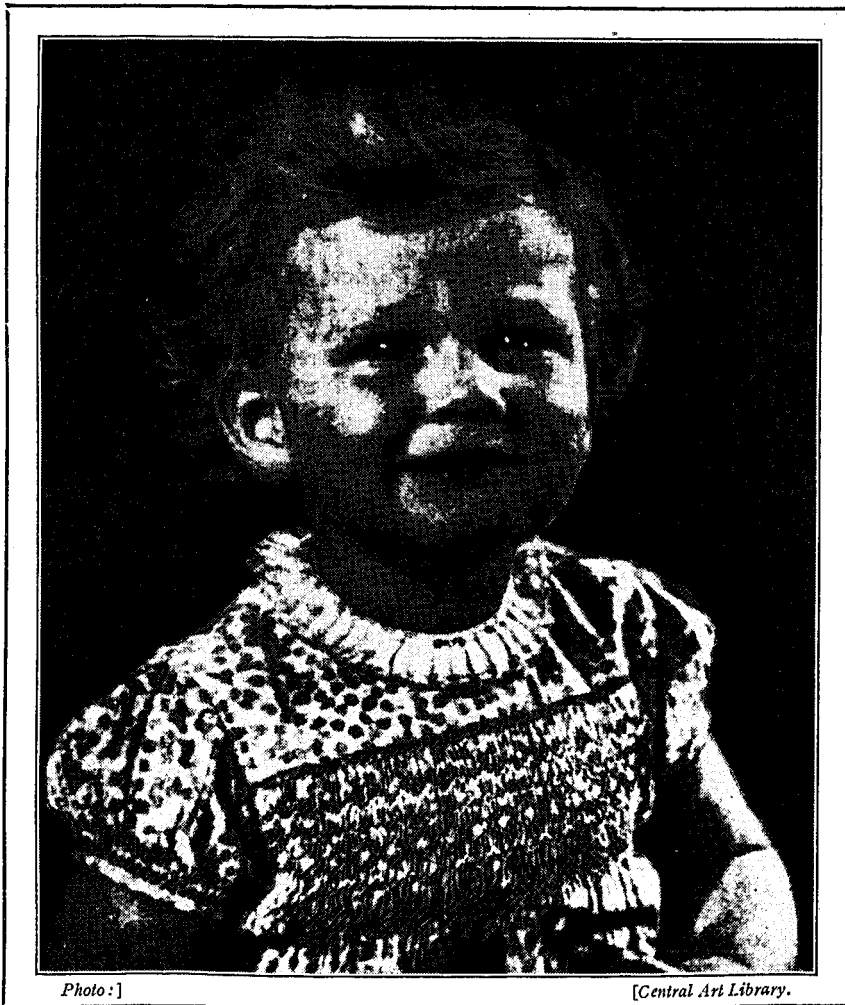
Schemes for bridging the gap between school-leaving age and the age at which probationers are accepted, are under consideration by many Public Authorities, but it is difficult for young girls to reconcile themselves to a life in hospital. Quite the minority of girls are really inspired with the spirit of self-sacrifice so necessary in the nursing profession.

We are pleased to learn that the Central Council for District Nursing in London has received through Lloyds Bank a

contribution of £2,500 from the bequest of the late Mr. James Henry Stephens, in aid of the Council's work for the nursing of the sick poor in their own homes in and around London.

Miss H. N. Richardson (the General Secretary) and Miss K. J. Macfee (Editorial Secretary) wish publicity given to the many posts now opened to trained nurses under missionary societies working overseas.

The posts vary greatly; in some the work is still sheer pioneering, in others it involves being matron or sister in a large up-to-date hospital. In most cases



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA OF KENT ("Princess Sunny Face").

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)