

The Royal Babe.

WITH a thrill we see in the most recent picture of Prince Charles a happy reminder of how remarkably he has developed in the first nineteen weeks of his young life!

It would seem that the love that all babies inspire as they embark on the Sea of Life is invariably accompanied by a tender wonderment on the part of the beholder as to what their future will be.

This thought, especially relevant to Prince Charles' great heritage, draws from all the world affectionate good wishes for the happiest of lives.

We are reminded in the Evelyn Thomas publication of "Princess Elizabeth, Wife and Mother":—

As Heir Presumptive to the Throne, "in the days that lie ahead, Prince Charles may sometimes wish that he had not been destined from birth for the high position to which he is likely to be called. Certain advantages it may have," but the exacting duties and limitations which devolve on a Royal Prince are no sinecure.

"If Prince Charles were to grow up with a burning wish to enter one of the Professions or to follow one of the Arts his parents would have, regretfully, to tell him that, because he may one day become King, such specialised study is not for him.

"There are other limitations on the actions and conduct

of a Royal Prince that tend to make his position far from enviable. Though Prince Charles may become head of one of the world's greatest democracies, he will be denied certain ordinary rights enjoyed by the humblest of his subjects, such as the right to give voice to his own political opinions, the right to vote for the political party of his choice.

"He may be required as King at the Opening of Parliament to deliver a Cabinet-prepared speech with which he may entirely disagree. Though he may wish to hear at first hand what is said in Parliament, he will be constitutionally prohibited as King from entering the House of Commons. As a Royal Prince who may one day become

King, his choice of a wife must be approved both by his Sovereign and the people."

Now that Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh have enrolled Prince Charles as a member of the Buckingham Palace Savings Group, he has already been identified with a great national cause.

Another glance at the picture; the Prince's inscrutable baby gaze at the toy in his hands may well be divined as that of a strong and characteristic personality. May he prosper and grow under the well-deserved advantage of a Royal Prince, and live to shine as a King who

"Forgiving all things personal,
He hated only wrong to man."



Photo:

THE ROYAL BABE.

Baron.

Those

Precious Lives.

AS has been emphasised in previous years, the principal object of the immunisation campaign remains the same, i.e., to secure at the earliest suitable age the immunisation of at least 75 per cent. of all infants reaching the age of one year.

The number of children under five who were immunised during 1948 was approximately 575,000, or 60,000 short of the objective. Although the fall in the birthrate has lowered the 1949 objective of children in this age-group by 73,000 to 562,000, there is still an insistent need to lessen the gap between aim and achievements, if the risk of rising figures of notifications and deaths in later years is to be overcome.

An organised system of personal persuasion is still the most powerful element in any local campaign; and authorities are reminded of the assistance which is available in many areas, on request, from the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society, and Women's Voluntary Services, who have many opportunities of speaking to the parents of young children in the ordinary course of their work. The public should also be made fully aware that free immunisation is also available under the National Health Service through the Family Doctor, in addition to the other facilities; reference has been made to this point in national advertisements during the past six months.

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