

STRAPPED TO BOARD "SUNNY SALLIE" SMILES AS SHE BATTLES FOR LIFE



"Sunny Sallie" May Welch, Strapped to Her Board Bed.

San Diego, Cal., April 8.—On the main veranda of the County Hospital here where sunshine and suffering mingle a child was lisping a Mother Goose song.

Her bed was a board—her mite of a body was suspended at an angle of about 75 degrees. Around her neck was buckled a stout strap fastened at either end to two upright gas pipes. In one arm she clutched a Teddy bear that had seen better days. In the other she hugged a rag doll.

"And how's Sallie this morning?" asked a nurse, smoothing back the child's tousled hair.

"All right," she answered smilingly.

"Sunny Sallie" they call her, but her real name is Sallie May Welch and at the age of five she is making one of the bravest battles for life ever witnessed.

Struck down while at play with tuberculosis of the spine, "Sunny Sal-

lie" has suffered as few little girls have and is now bravely undergoing the most extreme treatment for that dread disease.

And one big thing is all in Sallie's favor—her cheerful disposition—her ability to laugh and sing when the pain is the worst.

"I'm going to get strong and well again," she said, "and grow up to be a real lady just like the pretty ladies who visit me."

Even the doctors cannot say how long "Sunny Sallie" will remain harnessed to those two gas pipes, her baby body kept rigid on the hard slanting plank.

"As long as she continues to sing the little songs her mother taught her—as long as she remains happy and courageous and hopeful," said County Physician Webster, "she has better than a fighting chance. But at the best, long, weary weeks of pain and suffering are ahead of her, with