

Seated around the table, with every meal there ought to be some evidence of gratitude, of humor, of real affection... For isn't the family table a place where something besides physical hunger should be fed?

**We Heard It Said By:**

NOAH BLOSSER, principal at Adams school: "A good working relationship between

parents and teachers at Adams school is traditional. Both parents and teachers enjoy this relationship which is profitable, especially to the children."

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**Higgins and Frank**



IT'S FUN to select toys from this cart—easy, too, say youngsters at the Sister Kenny polio hospital in Farmington. It's a "Johnstone cart".

**Santa's Local Aide In Pontiac Hospital**

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Santa's helpers are sad today because one of their best men, located right here in Birmingham, is ill. Wilbur Johnstone, who lives at 952 Ridgedale, is confined to St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac, receiving medical treatment for pleurisy and pneumonia.

He has been working for Santa Claus for nearly 20 years, specializing in repairing toys which have become damaged in the long trip from the North Pole to the stores which handle them in this area. Stores like the J. L. Hudson company, in Detroit, and local merchants have sent thousands of toys to Johnstone. In his excellent basement workshop he has taken the broken items and restored them to their original efficiency and beauty.

ALWAYS GOOD at "fixing things", he took over when a batch of damaged toys were sent to Birmingham as a project for children to handle. Some of the repairs were beyond what the average child could handle, calling for knowledge of woodworking machines and expert craftsmanship. Once started, he simply kept on with the job, which grew a little larger each year, until his "hobby" was practically a full-time job, occupying just about every spare

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minute the man had. As his workshop became more and more adapted to this form of work, line after line of bins and drawers were filled with spare parts and materials which could be lathed into usable parts.

BUT, ANOTHER change came along, and Johnstone began widening his horizons to supply toys to children in hospitals who needed cheering up.

While the joys of Christmas were important to them, the long hours in beds, wheelchairs and receiving treatment, made additional pleasure necessary. The tempo of his work quickened and the toys began to travel from the workshop summer and winter.

A visit to a children's hospital showed Johnstone that another problem existed—the handling of so many toys was proving a burden to nurses. The storage of them had its own difficulties.

Typically, Johnstone solved the problem by building a cart to hold the toys when not in use, and provide an easier system of getting them to the children's bedside.

ONE OF THESE is at the Sister Kenny polio hospital in Farmington. Six feet long, and nearly as high, it has three roomy shelves, each filled with toys. Trimmings like a circus tent, the cart is gay with red and white plastic trim. Nurses push it along easily.

Wheeling its treasure from room to room. Built to have the first shelf at bed-level, the cart is a welcome sight in every ward. Faces light up and little hands reach eagerly for a favorite toy—many of which have come from Johnstone's work room.

Today this very good friend of ill and crippled children is fighting his own battle for health. To him go the prayers and hopes of the little tots who have had so much pleasure because of his efforts.

**Willets Widening Involves Problems**

Unresolved engineering problems might force the city to delay its decision on the improvement of Willets street west from Bates. City commissioners have learned certain grade and turning radius matters, might not be ready for decision at the forthcoming assessment hearing Nov. 14. On that evening, they expect to determine necessity of widening the block between Bates and Wood-

ward, with the city paying one quarter of the cost for the additional right-of-way, and 85 per cent of the pavement widening. THE COMMISSION also will decide on paving Bates north of Willets. Plan Technician Herbert Herzberg said preliminary surveys show Willets is carrying considerable traffic seeking to avoid traveling through the downtown area.

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