

beautiful, Honey, thank You Lord! That's Mama's love letter to you, Sweet Boy, in Jesus' Name, amen! (Maria: Amen. Thank You Lord! I love you, David. GBY: I'm praying for you. See you later! Bye, bye. OK David, we have a little bit of tape left on this side so Mommy & Daddy are going to sing you a song, Lord willing.) Ready? "Jesus Never Fails....Jesus never fails, Heaven & Earth will pass away, but--Jesus never fails!"

#### AMUSING THE SICK CHILD.

49. IF IT IS DIFFICULT TO KEEP AN ACTIVE CHILD occupied & free from boredom when he is well, it is still more difficult to do so when he is in bed, particularly in the convalescent stage of an illness. Even while he feels like staying in bed, a child begins wanting to play. He needs to be provided with amusements which do not frustrate him by being too complicated or demanding for his limited energy. He may enjoy now playing with things you thought he had grown out of ages ago--one good reason for not giving away "easy" or cuddly toys the minute you consider him too old for them.

50. A WISE MOTHER HAS ANTICIPATED THE PROBLEM OF ILLNESS or boredom by putting aside a box of play materials for times such as these. The box may contain Christmas cards for cutting & pasting, magazine pictures for making a scrapbook, spools, acorns, pine cones, toy catalogs, pegs & pipe cleaners, scrap material for dolls' clothes, puzzles, etc. Other suggestions include cardboard boxes for doll furniture, a magnet with suitable metal objects, gummed paper for the scrapbook or art, & plenty of nice music & word tapes to hear as much as possible! It is important not to give all the Bed Box at the same time. The treasures should be rationed day by day. The child could work on a serving tray laid across his lap.

51. IF THE MATTER OF HYGIENE IS PROPERLY TAKEN CARE OF, perhaps the child could have a little pet in his room for a buddy--a goldfish or turtle, for example, may provide just enough company to save you several trips to the

sickroom. Growing plants is also fun; mustard & cress sprout up quickly.

52. A NEW DRAWING PAD & SET OF CRAYONS may amuse a child, whereas the sight of the old set may provide no inspiration at all! A child who has learned to draw likes to be able to sit or lie & admire his artistry. His favourite drawings may be temporarily stuck to the wall.

53. YOUR CHILD WILL ENJOY BEING ALLOWED to do something he is not normally or often allowed to do, i.e., tidying up your workbook, using the typewriter, polishing silver on a tray, etc. A balloon or two could be tied to the bed.

54. FOR THE YOUNGER CHILD, a broom handle notched or attached across the cot allows toys to be suspended within reach. For extra storage space, a bag on a coat hanger can be hung on the outside of the cot.

55. OBVIOUSLY, HOW YOU DEAL WITH YOUR CHILD DEPENDS on his age, how he feels on any particular day, & how free you are to spend time with him. Usually 10 minutes of concentrated attention when he really wants it is worth an hour of resentful company from you when you would rather be doing something else. Moving his bed near the window so that he can look out, or moving him near the rest of the family when he is ready for it, may provide as much company as he needs.

56. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE THE BED & ROOM COMFORTABLE FOR HIM. The older child will need a backrest with pillows. A bedside table is almost a necessity for a child. Care should be taken to ensure that he is not facing the light. See that his sickroom is warmed by means of a suitably protected heater, & yet well ventilated, with windows slightly open, as long as he is protected from a draught.

### "The Story of Davidito" (continued)



Ready to roll, with a cart full of freshly-mowed grass!

1. "YOU KNOW, I DON'T THINK THAT LAWN-MOWER IS GOING TO FIT IN THE CAR," Davidito said to me as we were walking past the garage. "Well, I guess we'll never find out," I said, "unless we have to pick it up & put it into the trunk. But we probably won't." Sometimes I just don't see how Davidito concludes his own far-out ideas & statements. He's usually so serious & "adult" in conversation. As happens oftentimes, his psychic prediction was soon confirmed:

2. THE VERY NEXT NIGHT AT DINNER, DADDY SAID TO THE BOYS, "Looks like that lawnmower needs repair. You'd better try to haul it into the back of the car as soon as possible & get it to the shop!" Ha ha! Davidito had by that time already concluded that it would fit!

3. THE LAWNMOWER'S ABSENCE THEN PRESENTED A LITTLE PROBLEM when we learned the owners of the house were going to be making a visit & would see that our grass had not been cut in awhile. Because Dad always strives to keep every part of the

house & lawn presentable to the neighbours, owners & all, he suggested that the next day the entire staff all line up in the back yard at an arm's length apart & cover the whole yard picking weeds!



Bepi, Emmanuel, Hannah, Rich, Monica, Dora & us!

4. SO WE DID! FIRST THING THE NEXT MORNING AFTER BREAKFAST the whole "team" gathered in the back yard, getting their morning exercise picking weeds & leveling flat all the tall grass! Davidito was especially excited to be of help & act



David the Helping Handyman, shovelling gravel!