

Young Allan Begins a letter to his father, and shows how well-advanced he is in the difficult art of toe-writing. His parents live at Mudgee, Western New South Wales, 191 miles from Sydney, so that letters are the only mode of regular communication. Only occasionally are his people able to make the long train journey to Sydney to see him.

TOES AS GOOD AS FINGERS

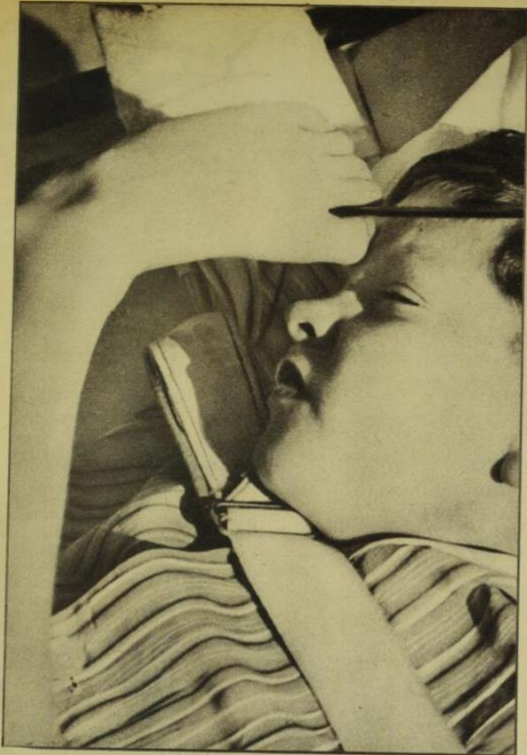
ALLAN is seven years old and an infantile paralysis patient at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital in Sydney (N.S.W.). His arms are totally paralysed, but he has learned to replace his hands with his toes. With his well-trained toes, he can write, read books and comics, comb his hair and eat without spilling. Hope that he may one day be able to use his arms again is held by the hospital doctors. In the meantime, Allan cheerfully and bravely continues to use his toes in finger fashion.



With His Flexible Toes Allan puts a penny in the money-box which is held by Sister Margaret McIntosh. She thinks that he is "a great little fellow." Every sister in the ward is full of admiration for the initiative and bravery that Allan has shown.

ONLY ONE OF THOUSANDS

This boy is only one of thousands of little sufferers in New South Wales and PIX publishes these pictures of him because he is typical of those who will benefit from the Sydney "Sun's" Christmas Toy Fund. The fund is one of the largest philanthropic movements in Australia.



Allan Cleverly Combs His Hair. He went into hospital two years ago with osteomyelitis of the right shoulder bones. He was just convalescing from this illness when he developed infantile paralysis.



He Reads His Comics just like any other child. It is no trouble for him to turn the pages and hold it in a reading position with his toes. His arms are kept strapped in special splints most of the time. Comics, animal books are his favorites.

Disease Takes Heavy Toll In Australia



SMILING THROUGH HIS HANDICAP

Allan Smiles Happily as he munches away at biscuits and lettuce. The disease from which he suffers has taken a heavy toll of young life in Australia. In last year's epidemic in Victoria, 99 children and adults died, while 1980 others were afflicted. In 1918, in the same State, there were 300 cases. Other States also had hundreds of cases in recent years.