

A Child's View of

Retirement

After a Christmas break, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holidays. One small boy wrote the following:

We always spend Christmas with grandpa and grandma. They used to live in a big brick house, but grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida. Now they live with a lot of other retarded people in little metal houses. As you go into their neighborhood, there is a doll house with a man sitting inside it. He watches all day so they can't get out without him seeing them.

They ride on big electric tricycles and they all wear name tags so they'll know who they are. They go to a big building called a wreck hall, but if it was wrecked they got it fixed, because it's all right now. They play games and do exercises there, but they don't do them very good. There is a swimming pool outside the wreck hall, but they just stand in it with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim.

My grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but she must have forgot how. Mostly they eat out. They always order early birds. This is a special food for retarded people. Some of the people are so retarded they don't know how to cook at all, so my grandma and grandpa bring food into the wreck hall in lucky pots.

My grandma says grandpa worked all his life to become retarded. I wish they would move back up here, but I guess the little man in the doll house won't let them out.

