

6 — YAKIMA REPUBLIC Saturday, Sept. 7, 1957

Pixie Mural Adorns Library Reading Room

By VELMA BAYLOR

Not every little elf will sit still long enough to have his portrait painted, but Pixie did.

Pixie is probably the best-known elf in Yakima. His home is in the children's room at the Yakima Valley Regional Library, but he does a lot of traveling, on the bookmobile and on story telling excursions.

Neglected By Friends

Pixie's best friends are the children of Yakima, but he feels that they have been neglecting him since he moved to his new address at 17 N. 1st St. So he decided to have his portrait painted.

No "man of distinction" pose for Pixie. In his portrait he is showing the way to the children's room where, he hopes, his old friends will come to visit him again and that new friends will find him.

Artist Is Bookbinder

Pixie's artist is Mrs. Earl Crittenden who lives with her husband and son, Doc, at 1812 S. 1st Ave.

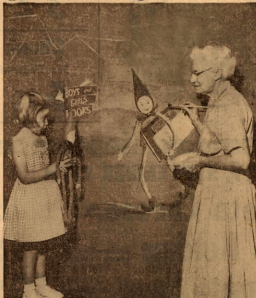
Mrs. Crittenden has known Pixie for six years. She has been working as a bookbinder in the library for that time.

New book jackets are slipped into plastic protectors to keep them bright and untarnished as long as possible. But over the best of books become battered and worn after a time. Then they are removed, front and back, with gray wallpaper and a bright tape is pasted on the back. They are lacquered and will last as much as two or three years more, Mrs. Crittenden said.

No Time For Hobby

Mrs. Crittenden began her art studies with the Yakima Valley Art Association in the early 30s. She found it an interesting hobby, but has had very little time for it since she started working at the library.

She enjoys working in watercolor most, but Pixie's portrait is done in tempera.



PIXIE PAINTER — Mrs. Earl Crittenden, head member at the Yakima Valley Regional Library for many years, touches up her mural of Pixie, mascot of the children's section. Janet Kidman,

Mrs. Crittenden's father was Frank Nichols, who brought his nine children to Yakima when

he became a widower, 26 years ago. She married in Yakima. Mr. S's daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Kidman of 1510 Volcker Ave., holds the doll as a model for Mrs. Crittenden. Pixie symbolizes the adventurous spirit of childhood.

Crittenden is now retired. Their daughter, Mrs. Paul Zimmerman, lives at Fort Worth, Texas.