"WYANDOTTE TOYS" "GOOD AND SAFE"

All Metal Products Compa

NEW YORK OFFICE & DISPLAY
200 FIFTH AVE. SUITE 426-428

GENERAL OFFICE & FA
WYANDOTTE, MIC

July 18, 1945

Mr. Ray R. Russell
Russell's 5¢ - $1.00 Stores
Paola, Kansas

Dear Mr. Russell:

Thank you for your letter of July 12, listing your stores covering shipment of metal toys. As ~~for~~ PER your request we are shipping two assortments to your store in Paola, Kansas.

We too are very happy that we are again returning to the manufacturing of metal toys, and rest assured we will keep you advised on any new items coming through.

Very truly yours,

A. B. Smith

Al B. Smith,
Asst. Sales Manager

ABS:DK

March 31, 1956

To Our Stockholders:

We enclose herewith the financial statements of your Company at December 31, 1955, certified by its independent Public Accountants.

The Balance Sheet reflects a working capital of $1,609,300.35 consisting of $1,960,959.18 of current assets, less $351,658.83 of current liabilities. Raw materials and supplies were increased by the end of 1955 by reason of advanced purchases of steel, which was then in short supply. The increase in finished goods at the end of the year, was planned in order to furnish a supply of merchandise for shipping during the period of plant rearrangement. This inventory is now substantially sold.

The loss shown by the accompanying statement is due principally to the consolidation of the operations of three plants into one. In addition to the moving cost, non-cash items of depreciation and amortization amounting to $307,111.09 were charged in computing the loss.

The year 1955 was one of major adjustment. We consolidated operations at Piqua, Ohio and discontinued operations at Martins Ferry, Ohio and Wyandotte, Michigan. It involved the planning for expansion at Piqua and the moving of material, machinery and personnel. It is our belief that the best interests of your Company were served by this change. It will result in more efficient and economical operations and reduce the cost of shipping customers' orders. The new building addition to the existing Piqua Plant is underway and will shortly be in full production. It will be adequate to manufacture the substantially increased sales volume that has been developing for the year 1956. A term loan of $300,000.00 repayable in annual installments of $30,000.00 until June 30, 1962 at 4% interest was undertaken to handle the new addition and conserve our current working capital. This rearrangement of our productive facilities involved the cost of $346,064.85 and was taken into account in determining the loss of $297,081.69 shown on the accompanying Statement of Consolidated Loss.

In addition to the enlargement of the Piqua Plant and the concentration of manufacturing operations there, we have, during the year, developed an outstanding group of novel toys for the 1956 trade. Our showing was very enthusiastically received and we are glad to report that the consensus of opinion of customers at the Toy Show confirmed our anticipation of satisfactory results for 1956. Orders at this point are more than double the 1955 volume for the same period.

Cash dividends of 10 cents per share were paid during the year from previously accumulated earnings. During the year, the By Laws were amended to provide for five Directors.

The Annual Stockholders' Meeting will be held in Piqua, Ohio on Friday, April 20, 1956 at 2:00 P.M. and we hope that you will arrange to attend. We would like to show you the installation in Piqua and the novel line of items that your organization has developed. Please communicate with us and we will be happy to assist you in planning your trip to the meeting.

Charles H. Block
Chairman, Board of Directors

**Some Mass Production Practices Are Used in**

# Santa Claus' Detroit Workshop

It is the task of Betty Weaver, 2724 Koths street, Inkster, to fit handles onto shovels. Shovel is good working model of one Dad uses.

Mrs. Edyt
carriage, c

By Boyd Simmons
**News Staff Writer**

ONE of Santa Claus' main workshops is only a few miles from Detroit.

In the two plants of the All-Metal Products Co. in Wyandotte, makers of Wyandotte Toys, toy trucks, guns, trains, cars, shovels and other playthings are produced by methods closely resembling the production practices of the automobile plants. Officials say the company is one of the three largest toy manufacturers in the world. It ships toys all over the world.

A conveyor system carries parts through the factory. Assembly methods similar to those of auto plants will be used next year when the buildings are expanded.

During the war the plants made Garand rifle clips and flare guns. War production ended July 20, 1945. Toy manufacture was resumed the next day.

To avoid difficulties with OPA ceilings the company's first production was of toys costing 25 cents or less. These items were among the first postwar toys to reach the market.

Material shortages have prevented the company from putting many new type toys on the market but they have some real novelties planned for 1947.

"You have to keep ahead of the kids," officials said. "They know what is the latest type automobile or plane and they want toys just like them. It keeps us humping."

There are only a few girls' toys made in Wyandotte. The company is aware of this favoritism to boys, executives say, but find it more difficult to think up new toys to please the young ladies. Boys' ideas are so definite and so varied that the only trouble is keeping up with them.

After WW

# WYANDOTTE TOYS

# and

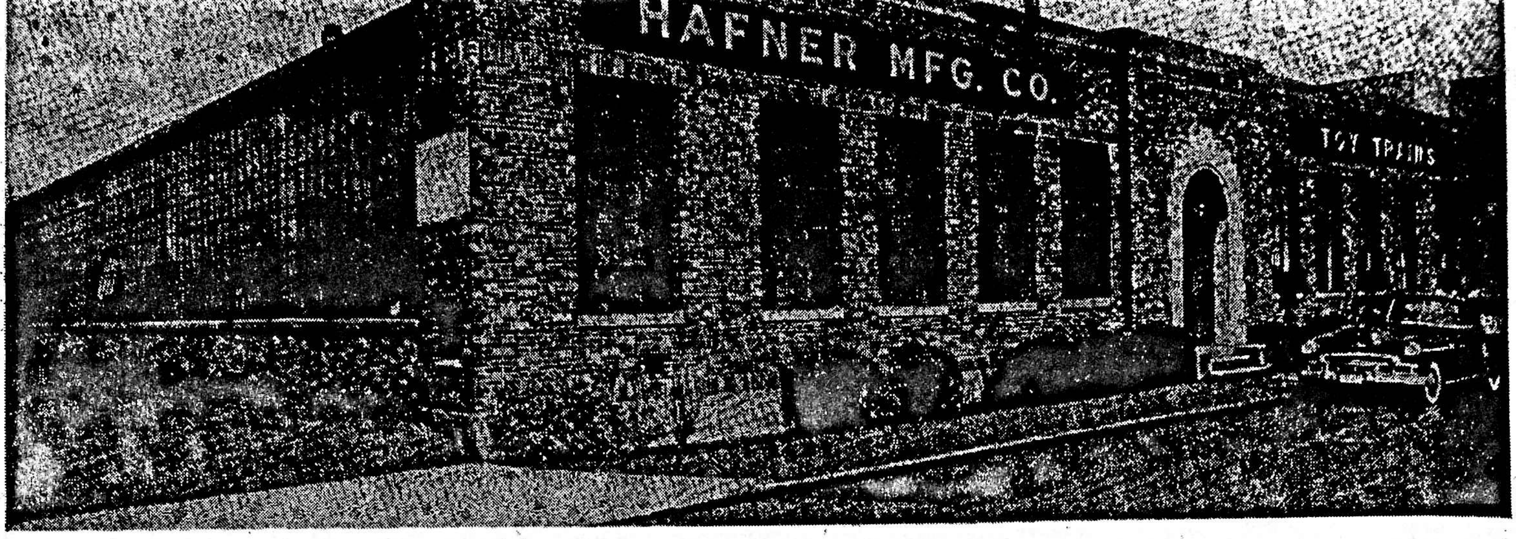
# HAFNER TRAINS

## ALL METAL PRODUCTS

*General Office:* WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN

*New York Office and Display:*
Suite 1156, 200 FIFTH AVENUE
Phone: ORegon 5-5466

*Export Office:*
112 EAST 19th STREET
Phone: ORegon 3-8506




Hafner buildings at 1010 North Kolmar Ave., Chicago 51. Though the merger adds facilities and is expected to double production, the Kolmar Ave. plant remains the center of manufacturing.

After WW II

# HAFNER MERGES WITH ERICKSON

## IMPROVING PRODUCTION FACILITIES

The Hafner Manufacturing Company, a pioneer maker of mechanical toy trains, expanded its production facilities three different times between 1914—when it was founded by William F. Hafner—and the end of 1949.

Early in 1950, a constantly increasing volume of orders made it apparent that a fourth and major expansion would soon be necessary. The result was the recent merger of the Hafner Manufacturing Company with the Wallace A. Erickson Company, Chicago manufacturers of plastics.

The merger with Wallace A. Erickson offered several important advantages to both the Hafner Manufacturing Company and its customers. Expanded facilities mean, in this case, faster delivery on large orders—an increase of total production by approximately 100% and even more rapid improvement of the well known Hafner line.

Added product development capacities are among the immediate benefits provided by the merger, as several new features already indicate. Hafner trains currently in production boast an automatic stop-and-start mechanism, electric headlights, and four additional colors in the lithography. Samples of these models are now obtainable, according to Mr. Hafner, and the new catalog is available on request.

These production developments now make it possible for Hafner to fill even the largest orders promptly. Regardless of quantity, any order receives the dependably efficient handling which has long distinguished Hafner service. As always, Hafner's agreement to deliver by a certain date will be a practical guarantee of such delivery.

Except for the features mentioned, the Hafner Manufacturing Company remains basically unaltered by the merger. Key personnel, exclusive sales representatives; All Metal Products Company, New York and Wyandotte, Michigan, and the main plant location at 1010 North Kolmar Avenue, all remain unchanged. John C. Hafner, formerly sole owner of the firm and for 32 years its able executive, continues in the post of general manager.

Preliminary negotiations for the merger, stated Mr. Hafner were completed on March 6th. Final arrangements were made in May, at which time the expansion was made known to Hafner customers.

Wallace A. Erickson and John C. Hafner examine two new models with electric headlights and automatic stop-and-start mechanisms. Mr. Hafner (right, seated) continues as general manager following the merger.