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Diamond Jubilee--WMU

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EDITORIAL COMMENT



DIAMOND JUBILEE—WMU

No one could be happier than we are at being able to share the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee with Western Michigan University. While READING HORIZONS is only seventeen years old, its beginnings are to be found in the 1930's, when Western was a State College of Education. Homer L. J. Carter, who established the first learning clinic in this part of the country, believed in sharing with others what can be learned about students and academic difficulties. Thus, with the assistance and efforts of Dr. Dorothy J. McGinnis as the other member of the team, Carter and McGinnis became leading innovators in the field of reading and learning. They represented Western Michigan at conferences and conventions all over the nation. Their research findings are still being quoted and cited in textbooks in many colleges of education. Their contribution to the reputation of WMU cannot be overstated.

Sharing ideas was their special enthusiasm in education, and the team of Carter and McGinnis started READING HORIZONS for that purpose in 1960. For the first ten years, it was a local organ of the IRA chapter of the Kalamazoo area. As it grew in stature, this quarterly journal attracted contributions and reader attention in other states. Today, subscribers in all 50 states and many foreign countries are sharing research findings and ideas for the teaching-of-reading. This issue, the Jubilee issue—Volume 18, Number 1—is an example of the best that has been written by the best that we can find on this subject of teaching reading. Classroom practitioners say they often use the journal as a "textbook" because it contains valuable information in every issue.

We are proud to say that READING HORIZONS contains the feature writing of Donald C. Cushenbery. Regents Professor at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, at the secondary level of teaching reading. Other contributors in this issue include such well-known experts as Brother Leonard Courtney, Minnesota, Patrick Groff, San Diego State, and other leaders from reading clinics and research centers in several parts of the nation. We are proud to have them in our quarterly, and proud to let them know that Western Michigan University is in the business of sharing ideas through education and through READING HORIZONS.

Kenneth VanderMeulen Editor