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Editorial Comment

The Need of Adult Reading in the Junior College

In our changing world the content of all college courses is being modified in keeping with new facts resulting from research. This is especially true in the natural sciences, social studies, literature, art, and music. The educated man of today will not be the educated man of 1998 unless he learns to hunger and thirst after new facts, new ideas, and new points of view. This means that college students of today must learn to read with zest and eager curiosity. Reading is an act of the total organism and, as long as it maintains vigorous life, reading should be a continuous process.

For thirty-six years colleges and universities have provided credit courses in adult reading for their students who wished to develop their maximum reading and study skills. Men and women taking these developmental courses have made significant gain not only in reading ability as measured by tests but in point-hour-ratio as well. Studies show that superior readers need to facilitate, through reading, their use of textbooks and other reference materials.

In America, junior colleges are increasing at the rate of one each week. Their student body is made up of vocationally minded students who are less carefully selected than the enrollment in four year colleges and universities. These young people need the opportunity to develop more effectively their reading and study skills. They are saying, "Give us the know-how, and we can do the job."

Homer L. J. Carter
Editor