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From the Editor

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dr. Harold Karbal

One of the happy things happening in reading is the serious move to finding time in the schedule for students to read something other than the basal reader. I feel we often mangle good stories by having children read them to death. Seems to me that there was once an unwritten rule that we "read" a story in the basal no more than three days. Nowadays, teachers frequently suck stories dry trying to get every skill available into the study of that story. How many times can a child read the same story? They are required to read them once silently, once to find the answer to questions and again to read aloud. When is the last time you have read a story three or more times?

Now teachers are saying to children, "Read a good book just to enjoy it." With March being Reading Month and sponsored by MRA, let us each encourage students to read just for fun as though that was a worthwhile objective all in and of itself. I know that nobody could get me to read Michener's **Texas** as a requirement. Nor could it remain on the best seller's list as a requirement.



Dr. Harold Karbal

What a potpourri we have in this issue. And what a pleasure it is to speak to potential authors as they outline what they would like to write about. From these casual conversations we have a poem, a study, an unusual use of the computer combined with reading, writing and art. Some of the most interesting articles are reports of happenings right in the classroom. Action reporting is certainly worthwhile.

It is almost March as we prepare this issue of the journal and a time to look forward to the annual MRA Conference. A perusal of the upcoming program indicates once more that a worthwhile experience awaits us all as we converge onto Grand Rapids. I look forward to meeting many of you and personally thanking those of our members who have written for the journal. This outpouring from our own experts is most meaningful as for a little while, at least, we do become prophets in our own land.

May I invite those who plan to give talks at the conference to consider putting these talks into writing for sharing with the membership and for documenting your well thought out presentations. It is certainly an important way to get more mileage out of the conference for those who were not able to attend the session and for reinforcement for those who did attend.