October 1973

Progress Report for 1974 MRA Conference Program

Michigan Reading Journal

English is used. Author of *Soul Brothers and Sister Love.*

Benson Boy by Ivan Southall.
An eleven year old boy, who lives without electricity and telephone, acts competently to help both his father, who has a serious accident, and mother who is about to give birth. A warm and spirited story.

The Silver Pony: A Story in Pictures by Lynd Ward.
A wordless picture book that can be used with upper elementary as well as lower elementary school children. Dramatic scenes and powerful illustrations make this a most satisfying book.

PROGRESS REPORT for
1974 MRA CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Last spring a Program Planning Steering Committee met to determine strategies for developing the 1974 Conference Program. The first task was to involve MRA members in identifying issues. To accomplish this task, a survey was sent asking members to respond to the questions: "What are some significant issues and/or goals for which Michigan Reading Association should provide leadership?" and "How could this be accomplished?"

The issues, as identified by members, were sorted into categories and the theme RIGHT-TO-READ ISSUES was established. From this summary a model for program content was developed on a 2-way grid. Each topic is related to 2 issues; i.e., the topic "Reporting to Parents" is related to VII COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT and to C. RECORDS. (See model pages 18 - 19.)

To seek resources for the program, invitations were extended to MRA members, local IRA councils, and other interested persons. A prospective MRA program presenter would select one of the topics from the model or develop a topic and designate which box would be appropriate for it.

Each presenter will complete a Program Description Form giving: RIGHT-TO-READ ISSUES, Topic, General Objective, Specific Objectives (written as behavioral objectives), Description, and Evaluation. These Program Descriptions will be duplicated for inclusion in a resource book to be distributed to conference participants.

The issues and topics for the MRA program are to represent an EXEMPLARY ONGOING PROGRAM as related to the RIGHT-TO-READ ISSUES.