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## Progress Report for 1974 MRA Conference Program

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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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The English ballet film "The Tales of Beatrix Potter," will be shown at Oakland University, 201 Dodge Hall at 6:30 p.m. on November 19th. A second showing will be held in the Oakland Centers Abstemion at 1:30 on November 20th. Peter Rabbit, Jemima Puddle Duck, Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle and other Beatrix Potter characters are featured in this lovely film. Children are most welcome. No admission charge. Contact J. M. Bingham (377-3067) if further information is needed.

(Jane Bingham is on the faculty at the School of Education, Oakland University.)

## 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.