

History of Reading News

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LEADER IN THE FIELD OF READING IS DEAD

Helen M. Robinson

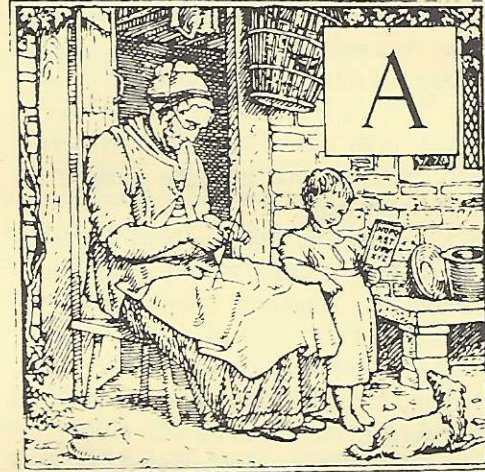
Helen M. Robinson, a leader in the field of reading, died on June 29th. Dr. Robinson's illustrious career spanned over five decades of scholarly effort in, and devotion to, the study of reading. The first of well over 100 articles and books by Dr. Robinson appeared in 1929; her last, in 1985. Her dissertation, published as *Why Pupils Fail in Reading*, represented a pioneering effort to understand reading disability and is recognized as an unqualified classic. From 1961 to 1968, she served as major author and editor of the *Annual Summary of Investigations Relating to Reading*. It was Dr. Robinson who established the category system still used in the summary.

The first William S. Gray Research Professor of Reading at the University of Chicago, Dr. Robinson served as president of the National Conference on Research in English and was the first president/secretary and one of the four original members of the Reading Hall of Fame. Additionally, she was president of the National Association of Remedial Teachers, one of the parent organizations of the IRA, and later a member of the Board of IRA. During her long teaching career at Chicago, Dr. Robinson continually stressed the importance of knowing the historical precedents in reading research. Her doctoral seminars always included a segment devoted to historical research and methods of inquiry as well as an analysis of pivotal early studies in reading.

In her will, Dr. Robinson requested that any contributions in her memory should be sent to IRA. Contributions can be made to the Helen M. Robinson Fund and mailed to IRA headquarters.

SUNY at Buffalo

Sam Weintraub



Source:
Schools & Educators: A History of the People

Video Tapes on History of Schooling

A series of seven videotapes, titled *Schools & Educators: A History of the People*, is available from Northern Illinois University. SIG member Richard D. Robinson, University of Missouri-Columbia, is the "featured educator" for a tape on "The Evolution of the Textbook in American Schools." Other titles are "Hornbooks: Forerunners of Today's Textbooks," "A Day in the Life of the One Room School," and "Women and Teaching: Hardships and Heroics." The remaining tapes examine the life of Johann Pestalozzi, the role religion has played in education, and the impact of the industrial revolution on schools. "Featured educators" include the educational historians Richard Altenbaugh, Northern Illinois University, Gerald L. Gutek and F. Michael Perko of Loyola University of Chicago, as well as Charles Wolf, Lewis University.

Each tape is in color, runs from 15 to 20 minutes, and is priced at \$100 (or \$650 for the set). Write to Learning Center, Northern Illinois University, Gabel 8, DeKalb, IL 60115.

History of Education Society Meets

The annual meeting of the History of Education Society was held in Toronto, Canada, at the Park Plaza Hotel, November 4-6, 1988. **Florence Estes**, Indiana State University, was scheduled to speak on "Cora Wilson Stewart and the Crusade for Adult Literacy in Kentucky, 1911-1920." SIG member **Bernardo Gallegos**, California State University, Los Angeles, discussed "Education in the American Southwest During the Spanish Colonial and Mexican Periods: New Mexico, 1598-1846." **Susan Lee Pentlin**, Central Missouri State University, evaluated "The Third Reich in American German-Language Textbooks, 1933-1945." **Barbara Finkelstein**, University of Maryland, discussed "Images of Literacy Among Three Generations of Burakumin Women, 1900-1988".

CALL FOR PAPERS

The *History of Education Quarterly* is planning to publish a special issue on the history of literacy in 1990. The purpose of this issue will be to advance scholarship on the study of literacy in its historical context.

The *Quarterly* seeks manuscripts that address broad issues in the field of literacy studies and examine the history of literacy in various national, regional, and world settings. Please submit manuscripts by **September 1, 1989**, to the Editor, *History of Education Quarterly*, School of Education, Room 203, Indiana University at Bloomington, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Please note: manuscripts should be prepared according to Style A of *The Chicago Manual of Style* (13th ed.), double spaced, and submitted in duplicate. Notes should be double spaced and placed at the end of the article.