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INTRODUCTION

The papers of A. Sterl Artley, a professor at the University of Missouri School of Education, consist of correspondence, his autobiography, publicity and newspaper clippings, photographs, lecture notes, and publications. Artley was one of three authors of the children's "Dick and Jane" primers and an expert in the field of reading education.

DONOR INFORMATION

The A. Sterl Artley Papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Dr. Artley on 17 December 1992 (Accession No. 5130). Additions to these papers were made on 6 May 1992 (Accession No. 5170) by Dr. Artley and October 1998 (Accession No. 5787) by Richard D. Robinson.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

A. Sterl Artley was born in Liberty, Pennsylvania, in 1907. He taught high school English for several years in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and then went on to earn his M.A. and Ph.D. in psychology and reading at Penn State.

After receiving his degrees he and his family moved to Columbia, Missouri, where he taught psychology at Stephens College. After four years at Stephens he took a position teaching reading education at the University of Missouri.

Professional speaking soon became a part of his job and this duty took him around the country and around the world. In 1947, while speaking in Peoria, Illinois, he met two editors from the Scott, Foresman Company who persuaded him to help write stories for the popular children's primer series "Dick, Jane, and Sally."

He was president of the International Reading Association (IRA) and he began a Child Study Clinic in Columbia, Missouri, which was dedicated in his honor in 1977. He received numerous awards and commendations for his commitment to teaching reading including the Citation of Merit for Distinguished Service in Education, and the rank of Professor Emeritus from the School of Education. Artley and his wife, Dorothy had three children. He died in Overland Park, Kansas, on 7 July 1998.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Artley Papers consist of newspaper clippings, publications, lecture notes, correspondence, photographs, and his autobiography. They are arranged into three series: **Professional, Personal,** and **Publications**.

Artley's professional correspondence, newspaper clippings, lecture notes, and some photographs from the Commitment to Reading Symposium held in 1977 comprise the **Professional** series. This series gives a good overview of Dr. Artley's travels and discussions, and the progression of reading theory in the second half of the twentieth century. The papers are arranged alphabetically by topic and chronologically within each topic.

The **Personal** series includes personal correspondence, awards and certificates,

newspaper clippings, photographs, and his autobiography. These papers are arranged alphabetically by topic and chronologically within each topic.

The **Publications** series contains much of Dr. Artley's writings on teaching and reading theory and a bibliography of his published works. Included are three primers for the elementary and intermediate grades as well as three teacher's editions from the "Dick and Jane" series to which Artley contributed. The papers are arranged alphabetically by title and the volumes are arranged chronologically.

Researchers should also consult the University of Missouri Archives about records of the Child Study Clinic which relate to Artley's activities at the clinic.

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