A. Sterl Artley Papers
(C3955)

Collection Number: C3955

Collection Title: A. Sterl Artley Papers

Dates: 1940-1998

Creator: Artley, A. Sterl, 1907-1998

Abstract: 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.

Collection Size: 1.8 cubic feet
(129 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] A. Sterl Artley Papers (C3955); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The A. Sterl Artley Papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Dr. Artley on December 17, 1992 (Accession No. CA5130). Additions were made to the papers by Dr. Artley on May 6, 1992 (Accession No. CA5170), by Richard D. Robinson in October 1998 (Accession No. CA5787), and by Richard D. Robinson on December 19, 2014 (Accession No. CA6392).

Historical Note:

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.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following three series:

Professional
Personal
Publications

Scope and Content Note:

Professional

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.

Personal

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.

Publications

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.

**Container List:**

**Professional Series**

- f. 1 A Commitment to Reading” Symposium, 1977
- f. 2 Biography, 1977
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1944-1950
- f. 4 Correspondence, 1961-1976
- f. 5 IRA 25th Anniversary, 1980
- f. 6 Lecture notes
- f. 7 Lecture notes
- f. 8 Poem from students
- f. 9 Publicity, 1942-1966
- f. 10 Publicity, 1967-1976
- f. 11 Publicity, 1977-1986

**Personal Series**

- f. 12 Autobiography, 1984
- f. 12a MU Alumni Magazine article, background information, 1940s-1990s
- f. 13 Awards, Certificates, 1966-1979
- f. 14 Awards, Programs and Invitations, 1977
- f. 15 Correspondence, 1957-66, 1986
- f. 16 Newspaper Clippings, 1976-1999
- f. 17 Newspaper Clippings, 1998
- f. 18 Photographs
- f. 19 Photographs

**Publications Series**

- f. 20 Bibliography of Professional Writing of A. Sterl Artley
- f. 21 *An Approach to Teaching Reading Through a Basal Reading Series*
- f. 22 *Are Reading Teachers Becoming Obsolete*
- f. 23 *Basal Materials in Reading—Use and Misuse*
- f. 24 Beyond Skills
- f. 25 *Brief History of the International Reading Association*
- f. 26 *Children Are Ready for the Dictionary*
- f. 27 *A Clinical Service for Teachers and Administrators*
- f. 28 *Controversial Issues with Respect to Word Perception*
- f. 29 *Developing Basic Reading Skills in Junior High School Through Skill-Building Materials*
- f. 30 *The Development of the Inventory of Teacher Knowledge of Reading*
- f. 31 *Developmental Reading in the 1960’s*
- f. 32 *Early Readers: How They Got That Way*
- f. 33 *Educating Teachers for Secondary Reading Instruction*
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f. 41  How Reading is Taught in Today’s Schools
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f. 43  Improvement of Instruction Through the Recognition of Reading Skills
f. 44  Individual Differences and Reading Instruction
f. 45  Influence of the Field Studied and the Material Read on the Reading Attitudes, Habits, and Skills Needed
f. 46  Interrelatedness Among the Language Arts
f. 47  Language Relationships and the Remedial Reading Program
f. 48  Learning Disabilities vs. Reading Disabilities
f. 49  Literature Reading Versus Basal Reading
f. 50  The Middle Grade Program
f. 51  The Open Classroom and Reading
f. 52  The Parent’s Guide to the Use of the World Book
f. 53  Phonic Skills in Beginning Reading
f. 54  Phonics Revisited
f. 55  Prevention of Reading Disabilities as a Reading Problem
f. 56  Principles Applying to the Development of Word Recognition Skills
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f. 71  The Reading Specialist Talks to the Public
f. 72  Reading—Study in the Content Areas
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f. 105 Untitled: Chicago S.F. Field Conference, 15 December 1975
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f. 108 Guidance in Reading for the Few or All?, 1940
f. 109 A Study of Certain Relationships Existing Between General Reading Comprehension and Reading Comprehension in a Specific Subject-Matter Area, 1942
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f. 114 A Survey of the Educational Program of the Elementary Schools of Manhattan, Kansas, 1958
f. 115 Fun Wherever We Are, 1962
f. 116 Before We Read: Teacher’s Edition, 1965
f. 117 We Read Pictures: Teacher’s Edition, 1965
f. 118 What is Reading?, 1965
f. 119 We Read More Pictures: Teacher’s Edition, 1966
f. 120 Trends and Practices in Secondary Reading: A Review of the Literature, 1968
f. 121 Proceedings- A. Sterl Artley: A Commitment to Reading, 1977
f. 122 Individual Differences and Reading Instruction, 1981
f. 123 Journal of Reading, 1988
f. 124 Leaders in Reading Research and Instruction: An Interview with Dr. A. Sterl Artley, 1990
f. 125 The Reading Teacher, 1992
Reading in an Age of Mass Communication, William S. Gray, editor, 1949
Think-And-Do Book, part one and two, 1956, 1965, College of Education Alumni Newsletter, Fall 1998

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