

# Williamstown Builds Reading Skills

(NOTE: This is the first of two articles on Williamstown High School's reading program.)

Almost every average teenager or adult, when asked if he feels his reading can be improved, says "Yes, I would like to read better and faster."

Better reading encourages the reading of more books, acquiring more knowledge, and becoming, therefore, a more capable, better-informed and more interesting person. There is little doubt that the ability to read rapidly

and more efficiently is desirable, and almost essential. There also is little doubt that the reading performance of most people can be improved.

There are many types of reading material, various tasks, a multitude of purposes and individual growth rates. Each of these variations causes a different approach in offering material and learning activities which best serve the reader's purpose. To produce enhancement in the reader's total complexity of skills and abilities, a program must be directed toward this aim. This

is the task of Mrs. Ruth Ross, reading specialist of Williamstown High.

## Survey Results

The history of the reading program in the high school is a short one and, as in most other high schools in the last few years, is a growing entity called into being through a felt need.

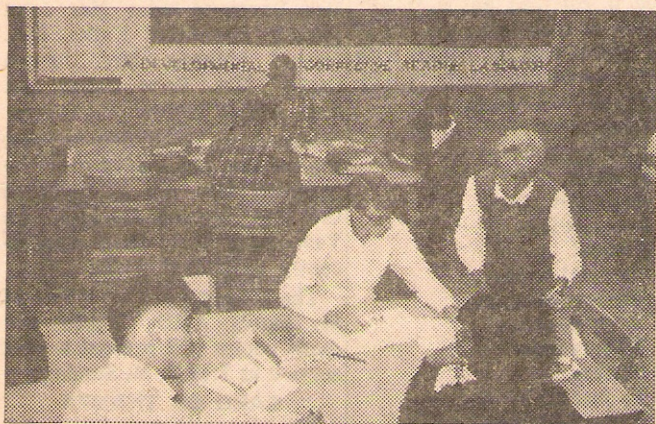
In order to direct her sights, Mrs. Ross made a school-wide reading survey. She also conducted a detailed study of the reading status of 32 students in the junior class. This happened to be a group made up of individuals of low potential, and disabled readers with high potential. The results indicated a profuse need for exploratory and remedial reading programs.

## Positive Factors

Though the task is a great one, there are some compensatory considerations at Williamstown High School which contribute to a good reading improvement program. First, there is a good reading laboratory room, situated off the library, with excellent acoustics, and equipped with library tables and chairs; second, the administration is willing to purchase any reading materials necessary, having already supplied the classes with a controlled reader, two S. R. A. reading laboratory kits, vocabulary books, etc.

Finally, there exists an excellent, competent guidance department and faculty who are willing to help. Because of these positive factors, success will be realized.

—Morton Tener,  
Administrative  
Assistant,  
Williamstown  
High School.



*READING EFFICIENCY is goal of Williamstown High's developmental, corrective reading laboratory, where students are shown working under guidance of Specialist Mrs. Ruth Ross.*

## Monongahela Teachers Visit Students' Homes

As school opens, probably no better word painting of the Ogre of Bald Mountain could be drawn than the description of Johnny's new teacher. While aware of this exaggeration, parents fre-

lems and ways in which the parents might help. It also helps both sides to understand the other's point of view. Mr. Hoffman and Mrs. Bain have been so satisfied with the results so far that they plan to visit all their