

SYMPOSIUM was founded in 1960 by a small group of educators as an independent journal associated with the Johannesburg College of Education. Fifteen years later two of the original editorial board are still contributing. The mere survival of this journal for so many years is due to several reasons: the support of JCE as one of the most forward-thinking centres of English education in the country; the continuing faith of a handful of people associated with the production of SYMPOSIUM and lastly, a growing readership which now extends to Europe and America.

This issue of SYMPOSIUM examines the contribution made to education in South Africa by the English-speaking community and such agencies as The Council of Education, Witwatersrand, whose initial grant in 1960 enabled the journal to be printed. The work of other bodies has been described and the sum of evidence is undoubtedly that in the hands of a few determined idealists much effort is channelled to useful ends.

Wider issues, such as a critical shortage of English-speaking teachers, are considered as well as the traditional values and present expectations of this important section of the South African people. Although some of the household names have retired from the lists, we believe that it could be said of those that are represented here that (to use Alan Paton's frequent phrase) there is still "fire in their bellies".

BRIAN ROSE
Editor.

