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NEWELL CARLYLE KEPHART (1911–1973) A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Newell C. Kephart was born in Parker, Kansas, on January 24, 1911. He received the A.B. and M.A. degrees from the University of Denver and the Ph.D. degree in child welfare from the University of Iowa.

He worked as a mental hygienist with the Wayne County Training School for several years and during World War II served in the U.S. Navy, assigned to the Bureau of Personnel. In 1946 he joined the faculty of Purdue University, where he served as professor of psychology and education and conducted the Achievement Center for Children, a research and treatment center for handicapped children.

Kephart made major contributions to both the theory and practice of special education. His neuropsychological approach to the diagnosis and treatment of learning difficulties greatly influenced the thinking in the field, and his classroom applications, presented in a manner readily understood by teachers, have been widely employed throughout the United States since the perceptual-motor training movement of the 1960s, to which Kephart was a leading contributor. He taught a generation of teachers that parents are major contributors to their child's development and that they must be involved in the child's education.

Kephart's contributions to the literature include *The Slow Learner in the Classroom*, widely used by teachers, *Learning Disability: An Educational Adventure*, editorship of a series of books on the slow-learning child, and numerous articles and papers.

Retiring from Purdue University in 1968, Kephart served until his death as director of the Glen Haven Achievement Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, a school devoted to the education of handicapped children and to their parents.

Newell C. Kephart died on April 12, 1973.

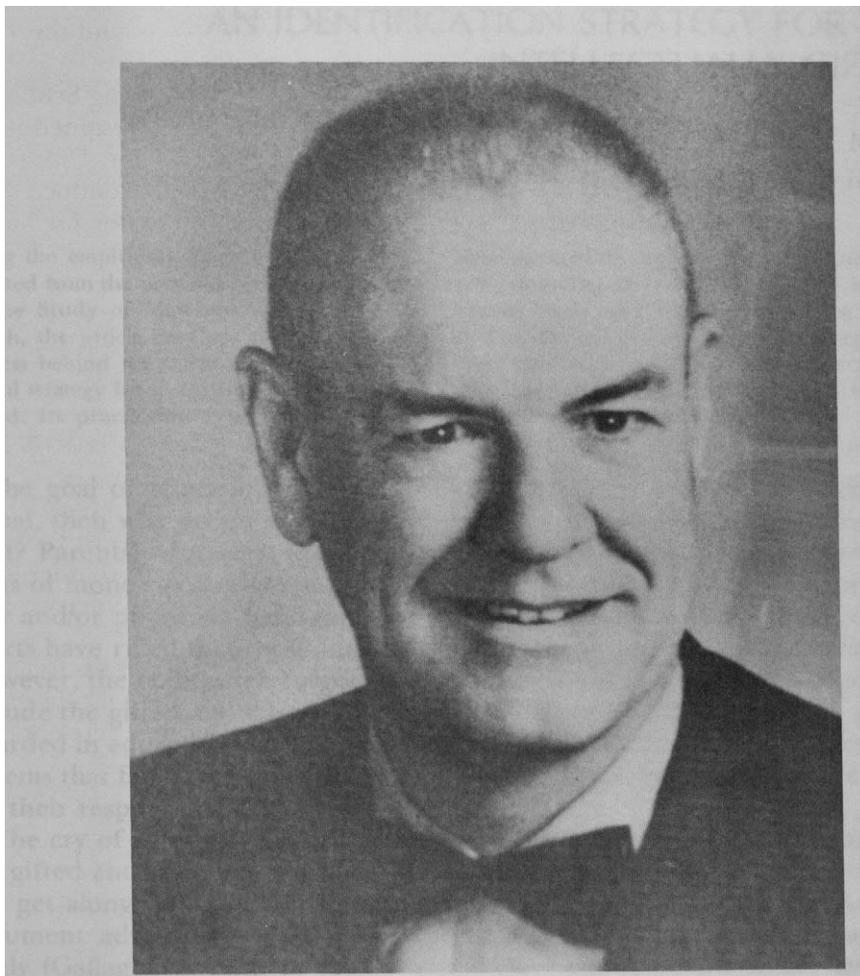
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