Kiddy lit topic of meet

The multitude of children's books that appear on shelves throughout the world are stories in themselves.
To tell the tale, two children's authors and an illustrator shared their experiences at the second Children's Book and Author Luncheon on Monday at the Community House.

Community House.
Librarians, publishers, writers and teachers comprised part of the audience of about 140 people. Together they discussed the world of children's litera-

The program came from an idea of

The program came from an idea of Sol and Betti Kurtzman, owners of the Birmingham Bookstore. With seven sponsors, the program aims to promote greater interest in children's books.

"We worked closely with both Baldwin and Bloomfield Township libraries in organizing this years program," Mrs. Kurtzman said. "We don't think libraries and book stores are in competition. We feel that they support each other."

USING A SLIDE projector to aid in her discussion, Carol Fenner, author of "The Skates of Little Richard" told how she developed story ideas.

"I think stories just well up out of writers. Their living experiences, observations, instincts, pains and pleasures emerge as images," she said. "In the end, a perfect shape develops."

the end, a perfect shape develops." Fenner is a member of the Michigan Council for the Arts and frequently travels about Michigan and nearby states conducting writing workshops. Like most authors, not everything she has written has been accepted for publication. Mrs. Fenner shared the disappointment of getting rejection notices in the mail.

WITH A BOOK released last week, illustrator Ed Young expects his work to appear in stores within the next few

days. The new book, titled, "White Wave," is Young's first book done ex-clusively in black and white illustra-tions.

tions.
"Tee averaged about one book a year for the past 12 years. I usually get my ideas while I'm on the run. I rarely sit down and actually think about what I'm going to draw," Young said. "What I'm going to draw," Young said. "What I do is put little notes down, usually in the form of images. Eventually, I have a lot of images for a few words, then I develop this into a picture."

Young's pictures possess a dream-like quality and appear almost like ab-stract art ainsed at children. His work tells a story without words and is fre-quently of an ethical nature.

"When you to things of another cul-ture, it's like making friends. You learn the most from people who are really different from you," said the illustrator from Tokyo.

Although Youing has never written a book, he expresses himself with pic-tures. His book called, "Nung Gwana," depicts a young girl's fear of a crea-ture. The vivid illustrations come to life on the page, and the children em-phathize with the frightened girl.

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Although fewer' books are being pub-lished today, the trend reveals a higher quality of writing, according to award-winning children's author, Virginia Hamilton.

Her book titled, "H.C. Higgins The Great," made her the only author to receive the National Book Award and the Newberry Award the same year.

SHE WRITES for children 12 years old and up and her books appear in both hard cover editions as well as paperbacks.

"Kids are doing a lot of reading," she said. "They can go through a book in

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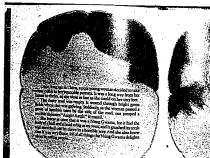
half-a day, and they just love paper-backs."

Most of her writing stems from real life situations. Mrs. Hamilton's childhood plays an important role in all of her writing. She grew up in Yellow Springs, Ohio, one of the strongest sta-tions fpr the underground railroad.

She completed her first novel at age 10 and has a unique style of writing in

her books.

"I never write the last chapter of a book until all of the other chapters are on white sheets," Mrs. Hamilton said." do my rough drafts on yellow sheets and on the final draft on white sheets. I never know how a story is going to end, so I wait until the last minute to finish



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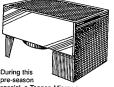




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