

Reviews

Glenys G. Unruh and William M. Alexander.
INNOVATIONS IN SECONDARY EDUCATION.
New York: Holt, Reinhart and Winston, 1970.
\$5.45.

Innovations in Secondary Education is not intended to present material that would be new to the expert. It is a summary, a guide to further studies for the novice or the educator too long away from his reading. With these limited objectives, the book is fairly successful. It enjoys the further advantage of being simply written.

The first chapter provides a disturbing introduction. An attempt is made to show the power of innovation by sketching significant changes in society that affect education. This important goal is not achieved. Superficial single paragraphs laced with authoritative quotations out of context arouse suspicion that the promise of the preface and table of contents will not be fulfilled.

Later chapters concerned with more precise and static topics are well handled. Classifying individuals is discouraged and various ways of teaching them effectively are suggested, although it might be pointed out that these same methods would have merit even where the individual is largely ignored. Cost-benefit studies would have been a useful addition, but organization and staffing innovations are ably summarized. The bibliographies are well selected. Materials and media suffer principally because the impact of forces outside the school is ignored. Building design is considered from the perspective of ideal education with a single paragraph concerned with costs. The authors' view of educational economics is demonstrated by a chapter full of fund raising schemes that largely obscure the conceptual frameworks for educational change. One hopes

that few topics in education will be dismissed so abruptly as these innovations, but the authors mention most of the areas that deserve attention.

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Grant Venn.
MAN, EDUCATION AND MANPOWER.
Washington, D.C.: American Association of School Administration, 1970. 281 pp. \$6.00.
and
Emmanuel Mesthene.
TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE: ITS IMPACT ON MAN AND SOCIETY.
Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1970.
127 pp. \$5.75.

The author of *Man, Education and Manpower* is now the Director of the National Academy of School Executives for the AASA. Prior to his present appointment, Grant Venn spent many years in prominent positions in Technical and Vocational education in the United States. He is well qualified to take a penetrating look into the problems besetting society today as they relate to our educational systems.

Venn discusses these problems in the context of a technological society in which numerous technician positions are not filled, yet many people remain unemployed. He censures the educational enterprise as doing a poor job of preparing the youth of today for work in the modern world.

He discusses the history of education and manpower, proposing that the solution to manpower problems does not lie in a revamped program for those who have already proven unsuccessful in a college-oriented educational system. Rather, he advocates a complete overhaul of the system to provide programs where the