

It is in his introduction to Part Four that Gerald Walsh confirms this reviewer's suspicion that the writing of this volume represents his commitment as a humanist to those who would have hope in the future, if they could. He says:

We live in a dangerous world, but not a hopeless one. The problems are difficult and the price of failure appears catastrophic. Whether we solve them or not will depend on our will, ingenuity, our breadth of vision and our humanity.

From this point on Walsh makes it seem relatively easy for us to conclude along with Barbara Ward and René Dubos that hope for the future lies in going beyond "the multiple pluralisms... to achieve just enough unity to build a human world."

On several scores then there is cause to be grateful for this book, though some may wonder where the inductive process in history has gone. For students who have neither the interest nor capacity to be their own historians, *A Global History* may well fill a need. For those to whom a picture says more than a thousand words, the illustrations alone give some feeling for the past century. And finally there are those who may find in it an historical perspective with which to dispel the gloom and doom of hourly newscasts.

Why then should we quarrel about the omissions, the cataloguing of events, the flat judgmental statements? They are as nothing, if the readers are caused to reflect on their own humanity and their commitment to it.

Margaret MacKay  
Montreal

R. R. Krueger, R. M. Irving,  
and C. Vincent.

**REGIONAL PATTERNS:  
DISPARITIES AND  
DEVELOPMENT.**

Toronto:  
McClelland and Stewart, 1975.  
88 pp. \$2.50.

R. C. Langman.  
**POVERTY POCKETS: A STUDY  
OF THE LIMESTONE PLAINS OF  
SOUTHERN ONTARIO.**

Toronto:  
McClelland and Stewart, 1975.  
95 pp. \$3.25.

R. R. Krueger and John Koegler.  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN  
NORTHEAST NEW BRUNSWICK.**

Toronto:  
McClelland and Stewart, 1975.  
63 pp. \$3.25.

Patricia Sheehan.  
**SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE  
ALBERTA FOOTHILLS.**

Toronto:  
McClelland and Stewart, 1975.  
63 pp. \$3.25.

The Canada Studies Foundation and the Canadian Association of Geographers have jointly sponsored the publication of a series of books entitled: "Regional Patterns." The Series is noteworthy in two respects. Firstly it focuses upon poverty, one of the most persistent problems facing Canada, a facet of Canadian life that is all too frequently ignored in the classroom. Secondly, it provides a set of texts written by geographers and providing geographical perspectives on the subject. It should have a wide appeal at different levels, from high school to first year university, in social science and social studies courses.

*Regional Patterns: Disparities and Development* is jointly authored by R. R. Krueger (series editor), R. Irving, and C. Vincent. This is intended as the overview or source book of the series. Krueger provides a very short description of the nature and causes of disparities in

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ses that national or provincial policies are unable to deal with small pockets of poverty such as these, it makes no attempt to suggest how these problems might be solved.

A strong point of the series as a whole is the attention that has been paid to the illustrations in the case studies. Langman's in particular has a series of stunning and evocative photographs. In addition, historical, land-use capacity, and topographical maps, aerial photographs, illustrations, diagrams and newspaper cuttings add considerably to the attractiveness of all the texts. Nearly all of the illustrative materials are accompanied by questions and lists of subjects for debate that should enliven classroom discussions. My only disappointment here is that most of the reference material cited in the case studies is not more accessible.

Two criticisms of the series can be raised: while the resource book stands well on its own, it is not integrated with the case studies; secondly, none of the case studies deals with urban poverty. In numerical terms, most of the poor in Canada live in cities, and some of the greatest disparities in this country exist within its cities. The series might well have considered including one book on this very important area. Despite this limitation, the books are readable, topical and useful. It is to be hoped that they will be used extensively in the classroom, for they provide a fund of ideas, concepts and information on a subject that should concern all Canadians.

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**Robert M. Stamp.**  
**ABOUT SCHOOLS: WHAT EVERY**  
**CANADIAN PARENT SHOULD**  
**KNOW.**

Don Mills, Ontario:  
New Press, 1975.  
177 pp. \$6.95.

**Mark W. Novak.**  
**LIVING AND LEARNING**  
**IN THE FREE SCHOOL.**

Toronto:  
McClelland and Stewart, 1975.  
137 pp. \$3.95.

As schools tend to be the mirror of society, educational literature tends to be the mirror of educational theory and practice in a society. The risk involved in accepting this premise is that we are then inclined to view the literature, theory and practice of education in Canada with a certain dismay. In content, our educational literature is preoccupied with borrowed themes: moral development à la Lawrence Kohlberg, values clarification, intercultural education, community schools, educational alternatives, M.B.O. ("management-by-objectives" for the uninitiated), competency-based programs, accountability. We read *Phi Delta Kappan*, allow for the cultural lag of crossing the 49th parallel, and murmur the mantra of Canadian education, "Me too." In form, our educational literature is dominated by three genres: the articles, many of which are very provocative, found in assorted periodicals; the anthology, a synthetic book for an instant market; and the report, a form of Proclamation - by - Royal Commission which has been the major source of our educational enlightenment and inspiration.

Amid this fragmentation, commercialism, and paternalism, it is refreshing to find *entire* books written by *single* authors, and the works of Stamp and Novak make contributions that are useful, contrasting and, in a sense, unusual.

Both of the books deal with three interrelated themes of what may