

BOOK NOTES

Anderson, Lascelles and Windham, Douglas M. (eds.) *Education and Development: Issues in the Analysis and Planning of Post-Colonial Societies*. Lexington, Mass. and Toronto: D.C. Heath Co., 215 pp., \$28.95.

Education and Development is a series of edited articles grouped around five issues or problems: 1. the need to achieve equality of educational opportunity and implications of different societal objectives for such equity; 2. the problem of limitations of available data for studying questions of education development and progress; 3. problems in the interface between education and the labour market; 4. the uneasy relation between received notions of planning and the philosophical underpinnings of criteria of free individual choice; and 5. the fundamental problem of the endo-geneity of education. The book is written in a colonial/post colonial framework to enable the reader to capture the educational implications of development. A major undertaking which has uneven results!

Barrow, Robin. *Language and Thought: Re-thinking Language Across the Curriculum*. London, Ont.: Faculty of Education, University of Western Ontario, 1982. 39 pp., \$2.95 (paper)

This is a short essay based on the assumption that "to give people command of the public language is to give them the power to think." The author believes that there is a close relationship between language and thought; that to increase people's command of language is to increase their scope for thought and their power of communication. Therefore, the schools and teachers must strive toward a precise command of language by their students, a usage that enhances rational discourse. To be able to "describe things as they are and to present valid arguments and coherent conceptions" is very important in a world where the written word, despite protestations, is still important. A useful and easily readable essay on language!

Fuglesang, Andreas. *About understanding: Ideas and Observations on Cross-Cultural Communication*. Dag Hammarskjold foundation, 1982 (Decade Media Books, Inc., New York). 231 pp., \$10.95 (U.S.)

No one doubts that cross-cultural communication is difficult. Each culture has its own language, spirit, system of values, concepts and structures. To describe another culture in terms or expressions of one's own cannot do justice to it. These ideas are crucial to *About Understanding*. It is a book full of images, examples, peoples and ideas from many cultures and many countries around the world. It is also a book without answers. Fuglesang offers new perspectives on some of the problems of Third World countries; he links practice to the ethical issue of understanding; and he offers "fondness for people" as perhaps the only answer to cross-cultural communication and social transformation. The text is overrun with sub-titles, short paragraphs, drawings and catchy phrases most of which do not add to our understanding!

Godfrey, David and Sterling, Sharon. *The Elements of Cal: The How-to Book on Computer Aided Learning*. Victoria: Press Porcicip Ltd., 1982. 286 pp. \$14.95 (paper)

This book is designed to help teachers and others use developments in technology to improve the whole of the learning process. It is not a book for beginning computer users. It assumes that the reader already has mastered at least one computer language and is familiar with at least one brand of machine.