From the Editor

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Whether you are reading this publication in 1993 or 2093, what you will discover is the way the year 1992 looked to educationalists from within the year. The second Review/Arotake continues the documentation of contemporary educational events and reaction to those events as close to the time as possible and in doing so covers many aspects of the evolution of education in Aotearoa/New Zealand. The Reference Section at the back gives the bones of that evolution over the twelve month period; the articles, written by specialists all over the country, flesh out and critically examine what were seen to be key issues. Once again, the two sections combine to form a central and essential reference source for any researcher whose work involves happenings or trends in New Zealand education during 1992.

The articles fall roughly into three groups. First come those dealing with what might be termed driving influences in or behind New Zealand education in 1992 – the State Services Commission, Women, Maori. Then follow articles which examine the effects of recent reforms on a number of sectors in education – Early Childhood and Special Education, Teacher Training, Teachers' Pay, Technology, Vocational and Continuing Education, and others. The articles in the third group look at monitoring processes in education – Research, Review, Assessment, Audit – and the problem of those who rebel and retreat, the Truants. By way of comparison, there is an examination of educational developments in Sweden, a state which traditionally has had a reputation, as has New Zealand, of great concern for the welfare of all its citizens.

Each article has a significant point to make. Together, they form an important documentation of the changing – and for many, disturbing – directions of education in New Zealand.

There are, of course, significant subjects we have not dealt with. Hard pressed writers' circumstances prevented us, for instance, from examining the development of Whare Wananga and the National Language Policy. But these and other topics will be for the next issue. Once again, we will be welcoming suggestions of subjects for inclusion. In the meantime here is 1992 as we saw it at the time.