
This book is a collection of four papers read at a seminar, sponsored by the Leverhulme Trust, in London in May 1981. There is also a lengthy final chapter by the editor which brings together the main issues raised during the seminar. The overall focus of the seminar was the 'state of the art' of manpower planning and policy in the UK and U.S.A. At a time when Canadian labour market policies are in the limelight again, the book may have a special, but limited, Canadian appeal.

The first paper by Laurence C. Hunter, "Employers' Perceptions of Demand" provides a broad view of the whole spectrum of higher education in the UK and the perceptions and requirements articulated by employees during the last two decades when major technological and structural changes took place. The theme of technological implications for manpower is the focus of the second paper by Derek L. Bosworth who examines this subject both from a demand and supply perspective and the ability of the labour market mechanism to provide the anticipated highly-qualified technological manpower. Richard Freeman in his paper, "Response to change in the United States", concentrates on labour market differences, reflecting different economic and social structures, in Britain and the United States. He argues that more competitive American economy has been better able to adjust and innovate in a period of change than the British economy in which institutional barriers have slowed down productivity gains. In the final paper, Maurice Peston returns to the subject of higher education policy in the UK in the context of manpower planning, and he emphasizes the administrative problems of encouraging the higher education system to better respond to evolving manpower requirements.

Overall this is a useful book but one written for the specialist. It can be recommended to manpower specialists and policy-makers in Canada, particularly those interested in international comparisons. The major limitation of the book stems from the fact that educational and labour market policies are so different between Canada on the one hand, and the UK and U.S.A. on the other, as to rule out any simple transfer of experience.

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Paru d'abord en anglais sous le titre On Prison Education, cet ouvrage a été publié grâce à la collaboration des Services correctionnels du Canada. Il comporte 19 articles précédés d'une magistrale introduction, par le directeur de l'ouvrage, et d'un avant-propos bref et vivant, signé par J.W. Cosman du Service correction-