

Among the notable titles of Harcourt, Brace & World are James Weldon Johnson's "The Book of American Negro Poetry" (1922, 1931), Drake's and Cayton's "Black Metropolis: A Study of Negro Life in a Northern City" (1945), Jacob Javits' "Discrimination—U.S.A." (1960), James W. Silver's "Mississippi: The Closed Society" (1964, 1966), and a forthcoming book (fall, 1966) that would appear to be a classic in its field, Matthews' and Prothro's "Negroes and the New Southern Politics."

During the past three years we have published three new elementary textbook series in English and science that directly express our belief in explicit representation of our multi-racial society, as do the recent social studies textbooks, "Rise of the American Nation: Second Edition" (1966), "Story of the American Nation: Second Edition" (1967 publication), and "American Civics" (1967 publication). "New Worlds of Literature" (1966) gives particular attention to the life of minorities in cities, both in text and in illustration, as will our forthcoming educational anthologies on Negro poets and on the multi-ethnic origins of American creative life. Where appropriate to the subject matter and structure of the work, all the current educational publications of Harcourt, Brace & World include illustrations of both white and colored peoples. It should be noted, in this connection, that a number of states and local communities (including private schools) now require that textbooks give adequate representation, pictorially and otherwise, to different ethnic and racial peoples.

While all rational men wish that the corrosive evidences of discrimination in present-day communities of the United States would be eradicated, one should not depreciate the progress that has been made in the conduct of race relations as represented in American textbooks. Quite apart from the regulations in some states and communities that seek by purchasing restrictions to ensure discrimination-free educational materials, the fact is that no textbook adoption committee, either at the state or the local level, and no school official has ever informed us that our textbooks would not be considered because of multi-racial references in their content or illustrations. Three new Harcourt, Brace & World elementary school series that plainly reflect the multi-racial nature of American society have already been variously adopted in Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Utah, Tennessee, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and West Virginia. They are also being widely purchased in major American cities and in hundreds of smaller communities where adoptions are made locally, as well as in many Catholic dioceses.

There can be no doubt that increased (and increasing) federal expenditures in education will in part ensure that educational materials are candid and equitable in their treatment of social needs in the United States. It is not within the scope of this short paper to discuss the corollary question of whether federal expenditures will lead, or moreover should lead, to a strong federal influence on public education. Harcourt, Brace & World, it can be said, welcomes any democratic and constitutional circumstance, whether local or national in origin, that will encourage American schools to confront the problems of discrimination in our society, for we believe that good publishing thrives on free inquiry and tolerant reflection.

Federal expenditures in education obviously raise questions beyond that of treating the issues of discrimination in race relations. The commitment of huge appropriations inevitably requires that some attention be given to economies in purchasing. Such attention will reveal, in our belief, that pricing practices in the textbook industry reflect the nature of the industry itself, in which there is a high degree of risk and a high degree of competition. Both conditions, in our opinion, tend to result in equitable pricing.

Since the passage of the National Defense Education Act in 1958, the prices of Harcourt, Brace & World textbooks have generally increased, but it is relevant to note that they have increased in relative proportion to the higher costs of materials and processes used in book manufacturing. The attached chart indicates pertinent information, on typical titles, of price increases and cost increases. A great many elements enter into the pricing of an individual textbook. Accordingly, Harcourt, Brace & World always has priced its textbooks individually; we have never proceeded on the basis of "across-the-board" price increases. No generalization about pricing will hold true for all titles.

It is perhaps obvious, but it needs to be said, that a statistical summary (including the chart attached here) cannot represent the difference in kind between textbooks published in 1958 and those published in 1966. One is not comparing the very same product, as, for example, in a comparison of coffee