



# Bulletin

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## GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS

The six books chosen to receive the Governor General's Award for 1971 have been announced by the Canada Council. The choice was made by a reorganized selection committee from over 300 literary works by Canadians published in 1971.

Chosen for the awards are *The Last Spike*, by Pierre Burton, the second volume of a history of the Canadian Pacific Railway (McClelland and Stewart); *Selected Poems*, by John Glassco (Oxford University Press); *St. Urbain's Horseman*, a novel by Mordecai Richler (McClelland and Stewart); *Le cycle*, a novel by Gérard Bessette (Editions du jour); *La fin d'un règne*, a collection of essays by Gérard Fortin (Editions Hurtubise HMH); and *Le réel absolu*, a book of poetry by Paul-Marie Lapointe (Editions de l'Hexagone).

The awards will be presented on May 5 in Ottawa by Governor-General Roland Michener; the authors will also receive cash prizes of \$2,500 each from the Canada Council.

The selection committee for the Governor General's Awards was reorganized and expanded to 18 persons this year; the reading task of the nine-

man jury for each language was divided among three sub-committees, one each for fiction, non-fiction and the combined category of poetry and drama. Co-chairmen of the committee were Hugo McPherson, literary scholar and former Government Film Commissioner, and André Renaud, professor of French literature at the University of Ottawa.

### PIERRE BERTON

Pierre Berton's award-winning *The Last Spike* is a best-seller that has been praised for its vigorous style and careful researching.

Born in 1920 in Whitehorse, Yukon, Pierre Berton grew up in Dawson City and graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1941. During his career as a journalist he has been city editor with the *Vancouver News Herald*, feature writer with the *Vancouver Sun*, managing editor of *Maclean's Magazine*, and associate editor and columnist with the *Toronto Daily Star*. He has written numerous magazine articles and scripts for radio, television and film. For four years he was editorial director of the Canadian Centennial Library Series. He is a well-known broadcaster.

He has written 18 books, among them *The Mysterious North* (1956, Governor General's Award), *Klondike* (1958, Governor General's Award), *Just Add Water and Stir* (1959, Leacock Medal for Humour), *The Comfortable Pew* (1965), *Remember Yesterday* (1965), *The Smug Minority* (1968), *The National Dream* (1970).

### JOHN GLASSCO

The publication of John Glassco's award-winning *Selected Poems* confirms his place as a leading Canadian man of letters.

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His first volume of poetry, *The Deficit Made Flesh*, appeared in 1958. In 1964 he published a second volume, *A Point of Sky*, which had won, in manuscript form, the 1962 Province of Quebec Prize for Creative Literature in English.

John Glassco, who was born in Montreal in 1909, has also published *Memoirs of Montparnasse*, a book of reminiscences of his stay in Paris (1970), and a translation of the *Journal* of Saint-Denys Garneau (1962). He edited *English Poetry in Quebec* (1965) and *The Poetry of French Canada in Translation* (1970).

#### MORDECAI RICHLER

Critics have called Mordecai Richler's award-winning novel, *St. Urbain's Horseman*, his most ambitious, complex and successful work.

Mr. Richler, who was born in Montreal in 1931, received the Governor General's Literary Award for 1968 for a collection of essays and articles, *Hunting Tigers Under Glass*, and a novel, *Cocksure*. He has written numerous film scripts and magazine articles.

His other novels are *The Acrobats* (1954), *Son of a Smaller Hero* (1955), *A Choice of Enemies* (1957), *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (1959) and *The Incomparable Atuk* (1963). In 1970 he edited an anthology, *Canadian Writing Today*.

#### GÉRARD BESSETTE

*Le cycle* is the second novel by Gérard Bessette to receive a Governor General's Award. The other, *L'incubation*, won both the Governor General's Award and the Province of Quebec's Literary Prize in 1965.

Mr. Bessette, who was born in 1920 in Sabrevois, southeast of Montreal, has also written *La Bagarre* (1958), *Le libraire* (1960, translated into English under the title *Not for Every Eye*), and *Les pédagogues* (1961). He has also published a volume of poetry, *Poèmes temporels* (1954) and two critical works, *Les images en poésie canadienne-française* (1967) and *Une littérature en ébullition* (1968). He edited *L'anthologie d'Albert Laberge* (1962) and *De Québec à Saint-Boniface*, an anthology of French-Canadian short stories (1968), and co-edited *Histoire de la littérature canadienne-française par les textes* (1968).

#### GÉRALD FORTIN

Gérald Fortin's award-winning book, *La fin d'un règne*, has confirmed his reputation as one of Canada's most distinguished sociologists. He is 43.

Among his books and reports are *Les comportements économiques de la famille salariée du Québec* (1964, with Marc-Adélar Tremblay), and *Le défi d'un monde rural nouveau* (1967). Many of his articles have appeared in sociological journals and he has contributed chapters to a number of books.

#### PAUL-MARIE LAPOINTE

Paul-Marie Lapointe's award-winning book, *Le réel absolu*, is a highly praised collection of poems written between 1948 and 1965.

Mr. Lapointe was born in 1929 in Saint-Félicien in the Lac Saint-Jean region of Quebec. He studied at St. Laurent College and l'École des beaux-arts in Montreal, then spent three years with the Quebec newspaper *L'Événement-journal*. He joined *La Presse* in Montreal in 1954 and became news editor, but left in 1961 to join the staff at *Le Nouveau Journal*. He worked for a short time as a television writer and in 1964 became editor-in-chief of *Le Magazine Maclean*. In 1969 he joined the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, where he is currently director of the French language news service.

#### FRENCH-LANGUAGE COUNCIL SUPPORT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, announced recently that the Government of Canada had decided to make a contribution of \$25,000 to the International Council of the French Language. This further step in the implementation of the Government's policy towards the French community is particularly appropriate inasmuch as the aims of the Council are the standardization of the French language, objectives that correspond with a constantly growing need felt both by the Government of Canada and by a number of provincial governments.

Founded in 1967, the Council is a non-governmental international association of linguists, grammarians and men of letters from more than 20 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. Its principal concerns are the standardization of spoken and written French, research into the process whereby new words are created, and lexicographical research generally. The list of its achievements already includes the organization of international seminars, the establishment of a documentation centre in Paris, the preparation of manuals, thesauruses, vocabularies and glossaries, the publication of a periodical dealing with terminological matters, and the translation of a number of scientific works. Some of its manuals are in use in developing countries, particularly in Africa, as basic aids to the teaching in French of technical subjects.

The Council maintains close relations with international bodies such as UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation. In Canada, it already has contacts with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Government Translation Bureau in Ottawa, Quebec's French Language Bureau, the University of Montreal's World Bank and the Academie canadienne-française.

## INDIAN HOUSING PROJECT

The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Jean Chrétien, opened on March 21 a new Indian community of 106 housing units, provided by his Department, at the iron-mining town of Schefferville, 575 air miles north of Quebec City.

The \$2.5-million project, begun in the summer of 1970, will provide homes for about 700 Indians; 56 families of the Montagnais of Sept-Isles and 49 from the Fort Chimo Band of Naskapis.

The Montagnais and Naskapis hunted and trapped in the Schefferville area before the establishment of mining operations in 1955, at which time they occupied the John Lake Settlement, three miles north of the iron ore townsite.

The new community will be known as the "Village of Matimekosh" — Village of the Little Trout — a name which derives from an Indian legend of a miraculous catch of trout from Matimekosh Lake many years ago, which enabled Indian bands to eat and stock up enough food for the annual caribou chase.

### TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION

Twenty-two buildings, nine containing six row-type housing units and 13 with four, have been completed at a total cost of \$2,557,552.47, under a contract awarded in June 1970 to the construction firm of

Richard and B.A. Ryan Limited of Montreal. They will be ready for occupancy this month. Each two-storey unit will have either two, three or four bedrooms in addition to a living room, kitchen, a dining area off the kitchen, a three-piece bathroom and utility space.

Exterior walls are finished in a new material that has the appearance of aluminum, but has the insulation and handling qualities of hardboard. All units are oil heated.

Existing hydro, water and sewer services in Schefferville have been extended to the new 37-acre site located within the town's southern boundary, and a road from Schefferville has been extended into the development.

Houses have been allotted by band councils according to individual family needs, and occupants will contribute in relation to their income, either in cash or the equivalent in labour or home improvement.

More than 70 Indians are employed on a full-time or part-time basis at the Iron Ore Company of Canada. With the opening of the mine, the Montagnais Indians turned from their traditional livelihood of fishing and hunting to work in the mine and settled permanently at John Lake. The Fort Chimo Indians moved to Schefferville in 1955 when their fur, fish and game resources were almost totally exhausted.

### BANKRUPTCY TRUSTEE PLAN

A program to help people with small incomes who are deeply in debt was recently announced by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Robert Andras.

The program, which begins on June 1, will provide, at a nominal cost, the services of a public bankruptcy trustee to individuals who cannot afford to pay for a private trustee, but who seek the relief available under the bankruptcy law.

Employees of the Federal Government, specially trained and licensed to administer bankrupt estates, will operate the service, for which debtors will be asked to pay \$50 to cover essential administrative costs. Licensed trustees in the private sector ask for fees ranging from \$300 to \$700, usually payable as a deposit from debtors at the start. The size of this fee prevents many small debtors from obtaining the services of a trustee, and they are thereby excluded from the protection afforded by the Bankruptcy Act.

"This is an insurmountable barrier to many low income debtors and they need an inexpensive method of declaring bankruptcy," the Minister said.

The Superintendent of Bankruptcy, some of

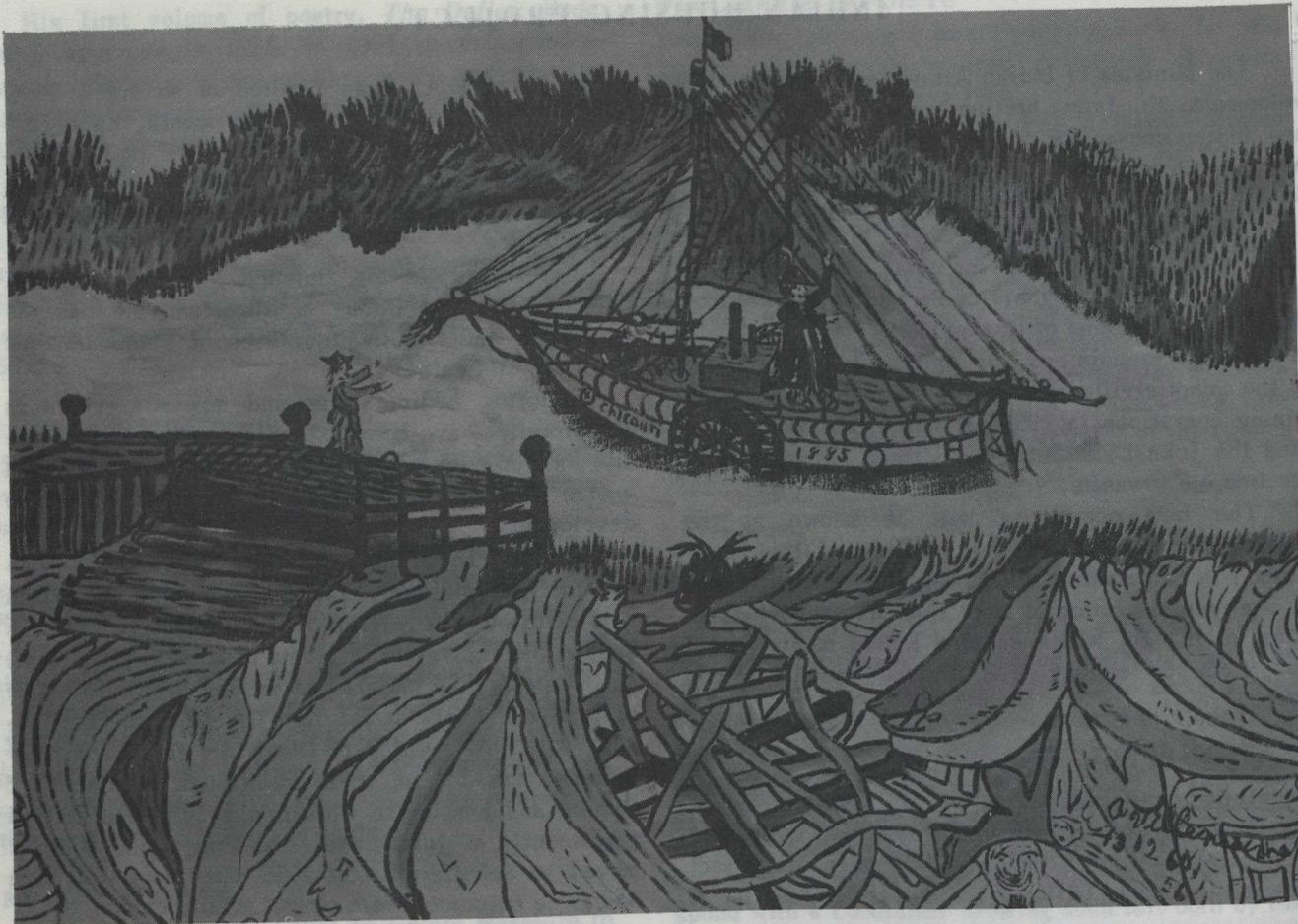
whose staff will be appointed as public trustees, already has regional offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, and initially, the scheme will operate in these cities.

Excluded from the plan are corporations, self-employed individuals and persons who may be considered able to afford to pay a private trustee. "This service is for persons who, in a practical sense, are denied the law's relief, which is available to the more fortunate debtors," Mr. Andras said.

"We can all gain much, both socially and economically, if hopelessly debt-ridden persons can be given a fresh start in life," he added.

The program will require special licences to be issued to federal employees trained in the administration of bankrupt estates. The public trustee will also help the debtor rehabilitate himself, and may direct him to social agencies providing advice on financial guidance and counselling.

Mr. Andras said that the initial phase of this program would make these services available in urban areas holding about 35 per cent of the total Canadian population. He added that the program should be extended gradually to other areas of the country as soon as feasible.



## MONTREAL EXHIBITION BY CONTROVERSIAL PAINTER

Quebec Chronicles, a group of 250 paintings by Arthur Villeneuve of Chicoutimi, Quebec, which was on exhibition at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts for over a month, closed on April 16.

The display, organized by Léo Rosshandler, the Museum's deputy director, which was opened on March 2 by Madame Marie-Claire Kirkland Casgrain, Quebec Minister of Cultural Affairs, will be shown at the Museum of Quebec from May 31 to July 9 and at the Vancouver Art Gallery from August 8 to September 17.

"Villeneuve's *oeuvre* was born amid bitter controversy and in presenting this survey, we are fully conscious of the fact that the embers of the controversy — is Villeneuve a true artist or an aberration of the art world — may flame anew," says David Giles Carter, director of the Montreal Museum. "What is beyond question is that Villeneuve has his own vision of the world around him. Certainly this is acutely true of Quebec, where he was born, and which he has painted in the style of a chronicler of old."

Prime Minister Trudeau and Mayor Drapeau of Montreal are among the private collectors of Villeneuve's work, and both have lent to the exhibition.

François Gagnon, acting head of the department

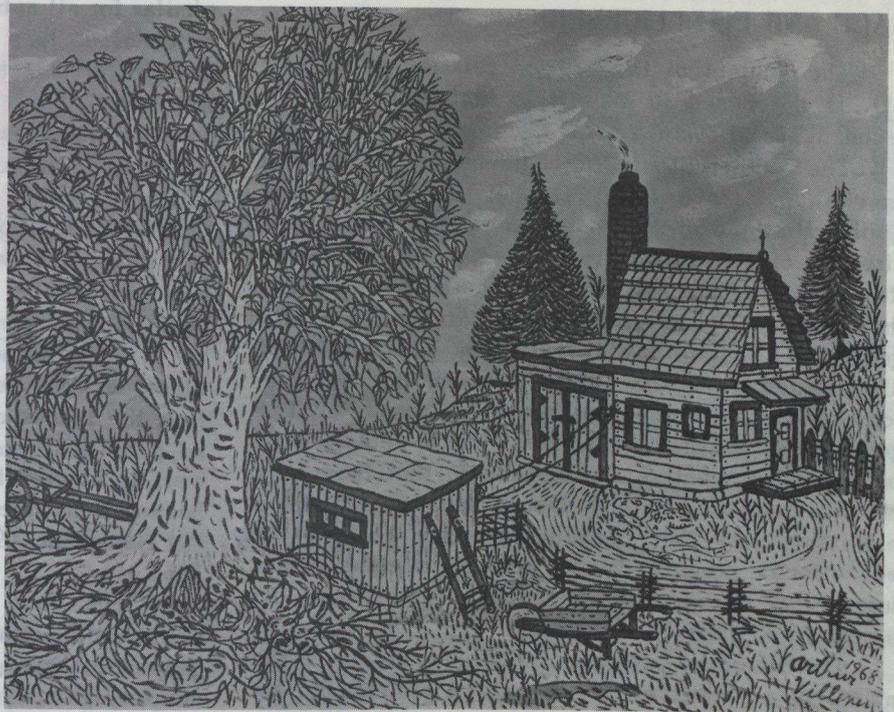
of art history at the University of Montreal and author of a major essay on Villeneuve's painting in the exhibition catalogue, calls Villeneuve "one of Quebec's greatest painters".

### UNIQUE HOUSE EXTERIOR

Villeneuve, now 62, became known in 1956 when he decided to decorate the inside and outside walls of his Chicoutimi house with his own paintings. Villeneuve, who quit school in Grade 3 at the age of 13, was a barber at the time. He had previously worked in a paper mill and in a lumber camp. In 1946, ten years before undertaking the painting of his house, Villeneuve had made timid attempts to draw; a school copybook with a number of sketches of the same representation of a house, carefully drawn with a ruler, a series of bizarre faces executed with wax crayons, a collage showing the same house with, on the steps of the porch, a cut-out photo of his father-in-law, all belong to the same period.

The painting of nearly all the walls and ceilings of his Taché street home — which he later called "Musée de l'artiste" — was a monumental work, "unique in the annals of painting", says Gagnon.

Opposite page —  
*Arrival of the King's messenger  
in Saguenay in 1885*



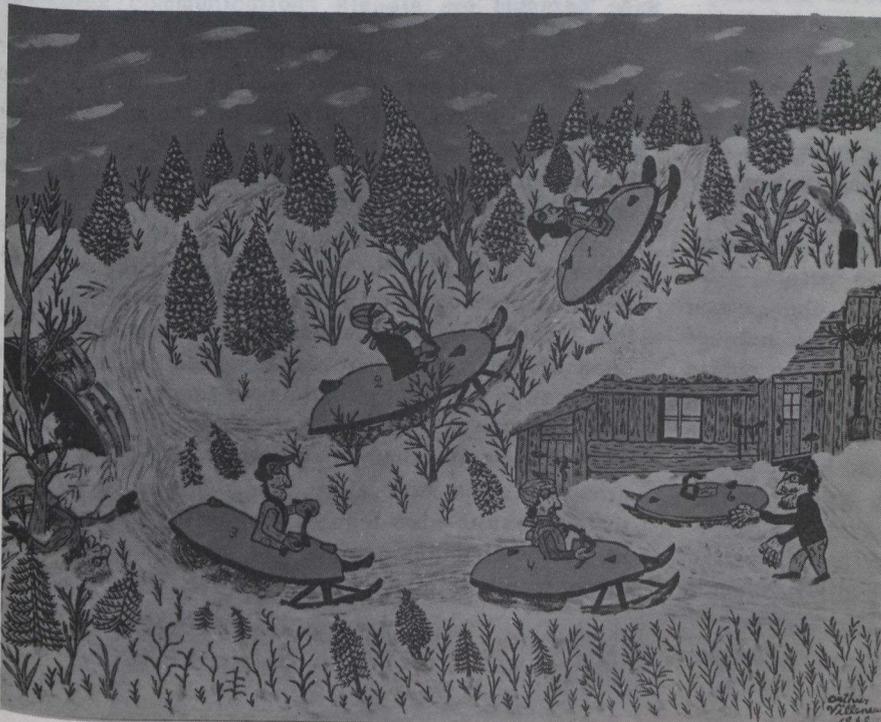
Right —  
*The tree, continuance of the  
house (only the tree makes the  
house possible)*

After three years the artist opened the "Musée" to the public. Doors and a few windows were also painted. Villeneuve was ridiculed, irreverently called "pinceau" (brush). He was branded a fool and a simpleton. From insults and mockery, the attitude changed to threats; he and his family were awakened in the middle of the night, by insulting phone calls. Violent acts followed the threats: an attempt was made to set fire to the roof of the house; a heavy wooden beam was heaved through the front door; windows were smashed with stones; filth was dumped

at the front door; paintings were smeared.

Events took a turn for the better only when artists like Edmund Alleyn and Stanley Cosgrove, critics like Bernard Hébert (also known as Bernard Verdun) gallery-owners like George Waddington and journalists like Paul Gladu, Jean Sarrazin and Yves Lasnier took pains to tell the public that Villeneuve was a "primitive" painter.

Villeneuve's genuine success in Montreal — the Waddington Gallery gave him an exhibition in 1961 — finally silenced those who scorned him.



Left —  
*Snowmobile race*

Photos courtesy of the Museum of Quebec

## RACE AND INTELLIGENCE

The subject of the alleged relation of race to I.Q. is discussed in an article that appeared in a recent issue of *The UNESCO Courier*.

The author, Dr. Otto Klineberg, a Canadian psychologist, who is at present professor at the *École Pratique des Hautes* at the Sorbonne, and director of the International Centre for Intergroup Relations in Paris, writes that "some 20 years ago there was good reason to believe that the notion of a genetic or inborn racial hierarchy had practically disappeared from the thinking of social and biological scientists concerned with this issue". "The general position," he continues, "could perhaps best be stated in negative terms, namely, that there was no acceptable scientific evidence in favour of such a hierarchy, and that consequently any political or educational program based on the alleged innate inferiority of any racial or ethnic group had no scientific validity."

Dr. Klineberg says that the disappearance of the notion of a genetic or inborn racial hierarchy is "far from complete, however, and the question of innate psychological differences continues to attract considerable attention." He mentions in particular the writings and statements of A.R. Jensen of the University of California at Berkeley and William Shockley, a Stanford University physicist.

### TESTS DON'T TELL ALL

Dr. Klineberg refers to the psychological test as the method by which attempts have been made to measure intelligence.

"This," he adds, "is all that would be necessary to settle the question of superior and inferior races if psychological tests were perfect instruments for the measurement of native or innate differences in ability. It is true that they were accepted as such for a long time, at least by some psychologists and educators, as well as by many laymen. We now know, however, that they are far from perfect."

"The successful solution of the problems presented by the tests depends on many factors - the previous experience and education of the person tested, his degree of familiarity with the subject matter of the test, his motivation or desire to obtain a good score, his emotional state, his *rapport* with the experimenter, his knowledge of the language in which the test is administered and also his physical health and well-being, as well as on the native capacity of the person tested."

"It is only when such factors are 'held constant' that is to say, when they are in essential respects

similar for all subjects tested, that we have the right to conclude that those who obtain higher scores on the test are innately superior to those whose scores are lower. This makes it immediately obvious that we must use great caution in interpreting the results when a psychological test is administered to two different racial or national groups. Living under different conditions dissimilar in culture, education and point of view, such groups may differ widely in the test results not because they have an unequal social environment.

"...The influence of poverty or of socio-economic class on test performance cannot be kept separate from the issues already raised. Low expectations as to pupil performance may affect the poor white as well as black; differences in language patterns have been demonstrated in the case of the poor in England (by Bernstein, 1960) and in the United States (John, 1963.)

"The fact of poverty and its consequences acquires importance in this context because of the proportionately greater frequency of poverty among minority groups, and particularly among the blacks in the United States.

"This consideration alone should impose considerable caution in arguing from the inferior test results obtained by black children (an average I.Q. of 85 as compared with the 'normal' 100). Research conducted in many countries and by many psychologists indicates beyond a shadow of a doubt that the test performance of poor white children is markedly inferior to that of the well-to-do; the difference between groups at the extremes of the economic range is in the neighbourhood of 20 points in I.Q., that is to say, greater than that between American blacks and whites.

"To this it is retorted that even when the comparison is between blacks and whites of the same economic level, the difference, though smaller, still persists. All that this really means, however, is that poverty, although of great importance, is not the only factor responsible."

Dr. Klineberg concludes his article with the observation that: "the net result of all the research that has been conducted in this field is to the effect that innate racial differences in intelligence have not been demonstrated; that the obtained differences in test results are best explained in terms of the social and educational environment; that as the environmental opportunities of different racial or ethnic groups become more alike, the observed differences in test results also tend to disappear. The evidence is overwhelmingly against the view that race is a factor which determines level of intelligence".