

PANORAMA

THE PHILIPPINE MAGAZINE OF GOOD READING

Vol. XVII

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

No. 10

EDUCATION FOR A HUMAN SOCIETY

Our educational ideals these days are expressed in the phrase "marketable skills". But entirely apart from the inability of the educational system to keep up with the market and forecast what skills it will buy, and entirely apart from the inefficiency of vocational training in school as compared with that on the job, the idea of producing marketable skills is ignoble and degrading for an educational system. It is an ideal that seduces the system into doing what it cannot and should not do and that forces it to neglect what it can and should do.

What education can and should do is help people become human. The object of education is not manpower, but *manhood*. This object we are now able to attain. We can now make the transition from a working to a learning society. . . . The man who is truly educated, rather than narrowly trained, is ready for anything. He has developed his human powers and is able to use them and his understanding of the world to meet any new problem he has to face. He is prepared by his education to go on learning. . . .

The democratic society is the *learning society par excellence*. . . . The law, the professions, the voluntary associations to which we belong, the political campaigns through which we suffer — all the institutions in our society should be regarded as teachers. Through them, as well as through the educational system, we can learn how to become human and how to organize a human society. — *By Robert M. Hutchins, Saturday Review.*