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VOLUME 5, 1999

Vouchers and the Privatisation of New Zealand Education LIZ ELEY AND JOHN CLARK	3
Standards-based Assessment in English: Take 3 TERRY LOCKE	13
Poem: Untitled PIRKKO MARKULA	32
Qualifications, Critiques, and Reforms: The Rhetoric Surrounding the New Zealand Qualifications Authority IVAN HODGETTS AND DARRIN HODGETTS	33
Poem: Boarder's Leave Ending RACHEL WOOD	50
The Maori Language Science Curriculum in Aotearoa/New Zealand: A Contribution to Sustainable Development MILES BARKER	51
<hr/>	
SPECIAL SECTION: TEACHER EDUCATION AND TEACHING: TRENDS AND POSSIBILITIES	61
Introduction BARBARA HAROLD	61
Reviews of Teacher Education in New Zealand 1950-1998: Continuity, Contexts and Change NOELINE ALCORN	63
Research Trends and Possibilities in Teacher Education CLIVE MCGEE	77
Teachers Talk Back: Educational Theory and Teacher Education SUE MIDDLETON AND HELEN MAY	89
Stories to Live by on the Professional Knowledge Landscape D. JEAN CLANDININ	107
Remapping the Practicum in Teacher Education ROSIE LE CORNU (DOBBINS)	121
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The Effectiveness of a Māori-Focussed Teacher Education Programme FRED KANA	133
Poem: Day is Done TERRY LOCKE	138
Coping with the Dual Crises of Legitimation and Representation in Research RICHARD PRINGLE	139
Poem: Tracks JIM DENISON	151
Bright Future, Five Steps Ahead - Making Ideas Work for New Zealand: A Commentary HOWARD LEE AND GREGORY LEE	153
Ka Ora Kāinga Rua: Finding a Home in the Academy. A study into the Experiences of Four Maori Women in the Academy LAURA HAWKSWORTH AND PARE KANA	165
Neo-Liberalism and Constructions of Democracy: The Impact on Teachers' Work NESTA DEVINE	171
Producing an "Iwi-Meaningful" Doctoral Proposal: A Case Study BELLA TE AKU GRAHAM	181
"Coming to Know" in Teaching Physical Education: Moving Across Cultural Boundaries GEORGE SALTER	189
To the Fullest Extent of his Powers: C.E. Beeby's Life in Education NOELINE ALCORN	199
Poem: Junia DEBORAH FRASER	208
Poem: Tania DEBORAH FRASER	209
Poem: Otorohanga, 1966 DEBORAH FRASER	210
Book Reviews	211
Poem: Let's Hear It TERRY LOCKE	217

DAY IS DONE

The last post sounds
and it's been sounding awhile
for the generation you might term
the chalk and talk brigade
sages on stages
masters of the steely glint
the whiplash quip at whose
who would somehow dare
to question the unquestionable
right of these cultural Canutes
to lead from the front.

It should be an orderly dismissal -
a timely consignment to an epoch
neatly packaged by the language
of a succeeding generation . . .

. . . Except that I find myself
haunted by an inexorable wall
of images, a veritable and
unconscionable sea to stretch
the seams of any neat
discursive knot:

Those who will have it out
in their own resistant terms
and I think of one, eaten from
within by his own impending death
still stubbornly fronting up
to offer, as teacher
knowledge beyond the husk
of a love of words
unaware or uncaring
of his fashionable heresy
never a facilitator he.

Terry Locke