

## MAJOR THEOLOGICAL REFERENCE RESOURCES: 1991

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The purpose of citing and commenting on certain reference resources remains as stated a year ago (*ANZTLA Newsletter* 12, 14-20). It is to alert librarians as the availability of recently published titles. The comments, avowedly impartial, are meant to assist with selection decisions. Most imprints are 1991, but a few 1990 titles which arrived too late for inclusion in last year's list are also included. Again it should be pointed out that prices of American and British imprints may vary considerably. Where there are two imprints the less expensive (at early December exchange rates) is cited.

1. *New twentieth-century encyclopedia of religious knowledge*. 2nd ed. Edited by J.D. Douglas. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1991. xv, 896p. 0 8010 3002 1; US\$39.95.

The earlier edition of 1955 was designed to supplement the *Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia of religious knowledge* (1886), itself a modified form of the great German Protestant work edited by Albert Hauck. Although the new edition retains some material from the earlier work it should not be regarded as a revision. Its coverage is much wider as it brings evangelical perspectives to biblical studies and theology, national churches and international movements, philosophical trends, non-Christian religions and contemporary issues. The more than 2000 entries are the work of an international cast of contributors and their work comprises an important and most comprehensive resource. Highly recommended.

### (GENERAL)

2. *Our Sunday Visitor's Catholic encyclopedia*. Edited by Peter M.J. Stravinskias. Huntingdon, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor, 1991. 1007p. 0 87973 457 4; US\$29.95.

Some 3000 articles written by a team of 39 contributors provide introductory information to all aspects of Roman Catholicism. Biblical books receive separate treatment; the documents of Vatican II also have separate entries. Simple illustrations support the text. This volume was designed for use in homes, Catholic schools and libraries and, as such, it will provide a reliable reference tool for information on the various aspects of Catholic teaching and practice.

3. Starkey, Edward D. *Judaism and Christianity: a guide to the reference literature*. Englewood, Colorado: Libraries Unlimited, 1991. xii, 229p. 0 87287 533 4; US\$42.00

This annotated bibliography identifies, describes, evaluates and compares 763 English-language reference books dealing with Judaism and Christianity and, in a second section, with the Bibles of these two traditions. Although the emphasis is on recency, with most of the titles being published from 1970-1988, the classics and other older essential resources are also included. Arrangement is by type of resource and there are author/title and subject indexes. The selection is good although more discretion in certain areas for example Bible dictionaries, would have highlighted the most useful titles. Annotations are thoughtful, well-balanced and usually generous enough to inform a decision to acquire. Not as comprehensive a coverage as G.E. and Lyn Gorman, *Theological and religious reference materials* (1984, 1985, 1986), in that general works are excluded, it does, however, effectively update and augment that resource. A very useful one-volume guide.

4. Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *An introductory bibliography for the study of scripture*. 3rd ed. (Subsidia biblica 3) Rome: Editrice Pontificio Instituto Biblico, 1990. xv, 216p. 88 7653 592 6; L.18,500.

Earlier editions (1961, 1981) established this guide as one of the best available for biblical studies. The new edition, enlarged to 706 entries, follows the earlier pattern of using convenient type and subject headings. Within these areas Fitzmyer provides entries accompanied by descriptive and critical annotations and also references to reviews. The author's modesty in characterizing this

work as 'introductory' is belied by the comprehensiveness and intensiveness of the coverage. An essential purchase.

(BIBLICAL STUDIES)

In last year's review we noted the *New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible. Fast on its heels have come the following three inevitable companions. The purpose of each is self-explanatory and all theological libraries will want to acquire them.

5. *The New Oxford annotated Bible with the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical books: New Revised Standard Version*. Edited by Bruce M. Metzger and Roland E. Murphy. New York: Oxford University Press, 1991. xxviii, 1237, xv, 364, x 432p. 0 19 528356 2; US\$37.95.

Successor to the much-used Oxford annotated edition of the 'old' RSV, the present work has been recast with the general articles and annotations adjusted or rewritten by an ecumenical team of biblical scholars.

6. Kohlenberger, John R. *The NRSV concordance unabridged: including the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical books*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1991. xiv, 1483, 76, 53, 76p. 0 310 53910 2; US\$39.95.

A remarkable index to the 84 books of the NRSV and to its 906,953 words. Simply, a must.

7. *The New Greek-English interlinear New Testament*. Translated by Robert K. Brown and Philip W. Comfort. Edited by J.D. Douglas. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House, 1990. xiv, 913p. 0 8423 1213 7; US\$34.95.

Uses the Greek text published by the United Bible Societies (1966; 3rd ed. corrected, 1983; Nestle/Aland, 26th ed.; informed by changes to be introduced in the forthcoming 4th ed.). This text is accompanied by an English interlinear translation and a

columned presentation of the *NRSV*. For all students of the New Testament having at least a modicum of Greek.

(CHURCH HISTORY)

8. *The Anglican tradition: a handbook of sources*. Edited by G.R. Evans and J. Robert Wright. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Fortress Press, 1991. xx,620p. 08006 2483 1, US\$29.95.

Here is a collection of 600 documents designed 'to show the continuity of the history of the Anglican Communion with that of the whole Church through the ages'. The arrangement is chronological beginning with an excerpt from Clement of Rome (c.96) and concluding with portion of the Archbishop of Canterbury's address to the General Synod of the Church of England in November 1989. Each document is preceded by brief comments on its context or particular significance. An index of scriptural references and a general index conclude the work. This presentation of the cumulative common mind of Anglicanism comprises an essential reference resource for all theological libraries.

9. *The Atlas of the Crusades*. Edited by Jonathan Riley-Smith. London: Times Books, 1991. 0 7230 0361 0; £19.99. (Also published by Facts on File, New York, 0 8160 2186 4; US\$40.00.)

Edited by the noted crusades historian this work describes, by text and illustration, the crusading movement over some 700 years in Spain, the Baltic, North Africa and within Europe. Twenty other scholars contribute sections of the linking narrative and, incidentally, draw attention to the revisions in historiography in the last two decades. Of particular interest is stress on the impact of the military and religious orders (like the several groupings of Hospitallers). The more than one hundred maps, plans of cities and battles and other illustrations are delightfully presented. A detailed chronology, a glossary, bibliography and index further enhance this volume. It is warmly recommended and, certainly, is essential for medieval studies.

10. Berkowitz, Luci and Squitier, Karl A. *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae canon of Greek authors and works*. 3rd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990. lx, 471p. 0 19 506037 7; US\$39.95.

The *Canon* is a register of the information stored in the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG), an ever-expanding computerized data bank of Greek literature beginning with Homer in the eighth century B.C. The data is all but complete from Homer to A.D. 600 and this edition represents also the coverage, to date, of works from 600 to 1453. It comprises the largest bibliography of Greek works available to us.

The arrangement is alphabetical by author, or title if anonymous. The author entry includes the field of literature, century, location and any cross-referencing. Then follows a list of titles, a citing of the best printed edition, the format transmitted, a word count and the item's genre. The work concludes with several indexes. Particularly important for theological librarians is the coverage of the Greek church fathers, the Septuagint books, and Jewish authors such as Josephus and Philo. While its chief use will be to facilitate the use of TLG it will also, on a more modest scale, serve to update the existing patrologies.

11. Carlen, Claudia. *Papal pronouncements, a guide, 1740-1978*. 2 volumes. Ann Arbor, Michigan: Pierian Press, 1990. xxiii, 957p. 0 87650 266 4 (set); US\$195.

Sister Claudia's earlier five volume work, *The papal encyclicals, 1740-1981* (1981), won a paean of praise for meticulous research and presentation. The present work does not reproduce documents (that would require a multitude of volumes) but rather provides an inventory to the papal pronouncements - encyclicals, decretal and apostolic letters, apostolic constitutions, exhortations and oral addresses - beginning with Benedict XIV (1740) and concluding with John Paul I (1978). For each document entry Carlen provides an item number, date, short title, description, information about the recipient or audience and type of utterance, a word count, a brief summary of its content and, finally, the sources for the text and for the preferred English translation, where available.

There is an index to the some 5000 documents and a copious general index to subjects, occasions, persons and corporate bodies. Clearly a must for Catholic theological libraries and for others serving studies on the modern church.

12. *The Coptic encyclopedia*. Edited by Aziz S. Atiya. 8 volumes. New York: Macmillan, 1991. 0 02 897025 X (set); US\$900.

For centuries the Copts have been all but totally unknown by their co-religionists in the West. Yet when it is remembered that, through to the fourth century, the history of the Coptic church was intrinsically bound up with the rest of Christianity and that its famed catechetical school at Alexandria was a leading theological centre, we can appreciate the need which this monumental work answers.

This is a typical Macmillan product with some 2,800 entries, most of them signed by leading authorities, on the history of the Copts, their ancient church in Egypt and their survival through a tumultuous history. The entries usually include bibliographies and the cross-referencing is well done. Volume 8 contains maps, a lengthy appendix on Coptic linguistics and a well-crafted index to the whole set.

It will be particularly valuable for material on the Coptic saints and other church leaders, their monasteries, councils, theological accents and perspectives on teachings in the West, and their use of the several art forms. An important scholarly addition for libraries serving studies in early church history and theology, hagiography, Christian art and archaeology.

13. *The Mennonite encyclopedia*. Volume 5. Edited by Cornelius J. Dyck and Dennis D. Martin. Scottdale, Pennsylvania: Herald Press, 1990. xxv,961p. 0 8361 3105 3; US\$80.

Those libraries holding the first four volumes of *The Mennonite encyclopedia* (1955-1959) will welcome this continuation volume which updates earlier material and adds some 900 new entries. In particular the volume reflects recent research in Reformation studies and in Anabaptism and new developments within the global Mennonite and Brethren-in-Christ family. The academic

integrity and bibliographic support which characterized the earlier volumes are well maintained.

14. *The Oxford dictionary of Byzantium*. Edited by Alexander P. Kazhdan et al. 3 volumes. New York: Oxford University Press, 1991. li; xxxi; xxxi; 2232p. 0 19 504652 8; US\$275.00.

Certainly a candidate for the 'general cum religious' reference work of the year, *ODB* covers all aspects of Byzantine civilization from the foundation of Constantinople in 325 A.D. to its capture by the Ottoman Turks in 1453.

Statistically the three volume set of 2283 pages includes 5200 entries signed by 127 specialists from 17 countries. The entries range from a dozen lines to four pages and cover all elements of Byzantine history and culture. Christianity permeated much of this culture and so the text reflects religious events, personalities, doctrines and schisms. The Eastern churches are well represented along with their saints, patriarchs, liturgies, councils and several art forms. Interesting are the Byzantine perspectives brought to bear on biblical subjects, theological doctrines and the events of extra-Byzantine church history, as in Rome.

Bibliographies were revised and updated until June 1989 and there are frequent illustrations, maps and tables.

Theological librarians often confess to needing help with information about the churches in the Byzantine empire. *ODB*, in complementing and augmenting older sources, is likely to be the scholarly reference tool for all things Byzantine for years to come.

In the same subject area it may be useful to note,

15. Nicol, Donald M. *A biographical dictionary of the Byzantine Empire*. London: Scaby, 1991. xxviii, 156p. 1 85264 048 0; £18.50.

The author, with numerous scholarly books on the Byzantine world to his credit, has listed in alphabetical order most persons of note and influence in the Empire from 300 to 1453. Along with the rulers of Constantinople and the philosophers, soldiers and politicians are the patriarchs and theologians of the church. A

learned, attractive guide and well-suited to libraries whose budgets could not run to the *OBD*.

(ECUMENICS)

16. *Dictionary of the ecumenical movement*. Edited by Nicholas Lossky and others. Geneva/Grand Rapids, Michigan: WCC Publications/Eerdmans, 1991. xvi, 1196p. 2 8254 10 25 X (Switzerland), 0 8028 2428 5 (U.S.A.) US\$79.95.

Without doubt this dictionary will prove a monumental resource as it covers the issues, institutions, doctrinal themes and personalities associated with the worldwide Christian ecumenical movement.

The six editors, Nicholas Lossky, José Bonino, John Pobee, Tom Stransky, Geoffrey Wainwright and Pauline Webb, recognised leaders in ecumenism, have enlisted a galaxy of Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant contributors. Many of the more than 600 entries have bibliographies; the cross-referencing is good, photographic illustrations add to the interest of the text and an index of subjects concludes a quality production. The result is, to quote Jaroslav Pelikan, 'An astonishingly thorough and eminently useful reference book'. Arguably the reference book of the year.

(THEOLOGY)

17. Bowden, John. *Who's who in theology*. London: SCM Press, 1990. viii, 152p. 0 334 02464 1; £5.95.

Frankly I expected a better work. Bowden has issued a short entry handbook, with limited information, on the main figures relevant to Christian thought from the New Testament period to the present. Entries range from 30 to a meagre 300 words and usually state the obvious. There are factual errors and poor proof reading (Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza would hardly appreciate her title being changed to *Bread not store*). A redeeming feature is that the modern period is well represented and so this volume will be useful for basic information about contemporary theologians.

18. O'Collins, Gerald and Farrugia, Edward g. *A concise dictionary of theology*. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1991. 268p. 0 8091 3235 4; US\$11.95.

Two eminent Catholic theologians set out to clarify key words and phrases used in theological discourse. They include biblical, catechetical, ethical, historical, liturgical and philosophical terms which theological students will need to understand. The intended reader is Roman Catholic but this work should be acquired by other denominational libraries as it is both sensitive to and instructive on ecumenical issues. In all a valuable, inexpensive resource.

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SOME NINETEENTH CENTURY PAPERS IN  
THE SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESAN ARCHIVES:  
ENTRIES IN THE GUIDE TO COLLECTIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS  
RELATING TO AUSTRALIA

Frank Carleton

Earlier this year part 1 of Series E of the National Library's microfiche *Guide to collections of manuscripts relating to Australia* was issued. A consolidated name index of collections and sub groups within collections spans all five series. Included in this latest supplement are five entries for early clergy and other papers in the Sydney Archdiocesan Archives at St Mary's Cathedral. The appearance of further submitted entries awaits the issue of another *Guide* supplement.

All the papers concerned were arranged and described during the first six months in 1987 of the two year New South Wales Bicentennial Archives Program. This program consisted of three unrelated archival projects, of which two were for private archives, entitled: the 'Archives of