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AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No. 18

DECEMBER 1992

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ANZTLA is an association of libraries and individuals involved in and interested in theological librarianship. It seeks to cooperate with the Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools and to promote its aims and objectives insofar as they apply to libraries and librarianship. However, membership is open to all libraries and individuals sharing the interests of the association, upon the payment of the prescribed fee.

The ANZTLA Newsletter is published three times a year to provide a means of communication between personnel involved in and interested in theological librarianship. Contributions are invited of articles and items of particular interest to theological librarianship: scholarly articles; information on all aspects of librarianship; book reviews; library profiles; and news about libraries and librarians.

ANZTLA holds an annual conference, where practicable in association with the annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools. Local chapters in the major cities provide a forum for local interaction.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Go to any librarians' meeting these days and the program would not be complete without some discussion, either formal or informal, of information technology. An ANZTLA conference is no exception. Delegates are always keen to learn how their colleagues are progressing in the automation stakes.

Included in the program at this year's Adelaide gathering, was a panel presentation in which each of the presenters was asked to tell which library management system had been chosen for their libraries and the particular features of this system which appealed for their setting. An edited collation of three of the four presentations is included in this Newsletter.

In the last issue you will have read Margaret Henty's *Conspectus in Theological Libraries*. The complement to that conference paper presentation was given by Gary Gorman. His paper, entitled *Collection Evaluation in Theological Libraries*, has been divided, for the purpose of publication, into two parts. Part I comes to you in this issue; Part II will continue in our April issue.

Regional Chapters of ANZTLA are ever active, and we welcome news of your activities. The Western Australian members recently visited the library of the New Norcia community. Alan Meers' account of their experience makes interesting reading.

This issue would not be complete without Lawrence McIntosh's annual survey of the year's major reference publications. Many thanks for your valuable contribution, Lawrence.

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COLLECTION EVALUATION IN AUSTRALIAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIES

Gary E. Gorman

Introduction

Back in 1988 the authors of *Collection Development for Australian Libraries* stated that there appeared to be little in the way of planned collection development or collection development policy formulation in this country. They also said that 'some Australian libraries now have written collection development policies, but this seems mainly to be the larger organizations – national, state and academic libraries. Very few public, school or special libraries have made any attempt to plan or devise a systematic approach to collection development.'[1] In the course of preparing a new edition of this work we recognized that major changes have occurred since late 1988, particularly with regard to the proliferation of written policy documents. Most significantly, the National Library of Australia (NLA) has revised its 1981 policy to provide a document that should serve as a benchmark for all Australian libraries. Also, at least five other states have formal or partially formulated policy documents, and an increasing number of public library authorities have recognized the need for written policies. A flurry of activity, but are the results any good?

The core of any policy document must be its statement of collection levels, a detailed listing of subjects together with annotations indicating the strengths and weaknesses of existing resources and the degree of recommended coverage – collection density (Existing Collection Strength), intensity (Current Collecting Intensity) and future collecting intentions (Desired Collecting Intensity), or what has been, what is, what is hoped for. For such a comprehensive statement to be both accurate and genuine it must incorporate the results of collection evaluation. That is, one must first understand the present adequacy or inadequacy of the collection and the way in which it is being built and used; on the basis of this knowledge informed decisions can be made about projected collection building. It is precisely this aspect that so many existing policy documents have overlooked – hence our view that we have before us not an embarrassment of riches but simply an embarrassment.[2]

Aside from the National Library's document, the *Collection Development Policy* of the State Library of New South Wales is the only Australian policy to rely heavily on analysis of collection use, together with quantitative studies of the collections.[3] It offers, in other words, an example of collection evaluation and policy formulation occurring in tandem. At the risk of damning with faint praise, this is almost textbook material; it covers internal and external factors in collection development, indicating appropriate data-collecting methodologies and presenting facts and figures clearly. Particularly valuable are the tabular data on library use, user characteristics and usage by Dewey areas. In Part 4 specific subject areas are described by broad Dewey areas. Each area includes a subject description and Dewey numbers, statement of target client groups, figures on use of the collection, related collections, collecting profile, forms/formats, notes on the collection. In terms of formulation procedures and content this policy is exemplary and should serve as a model document for libraries of all kinds.

Conspectus and Collection Evaluation

Part of the reason for the plethora of second-rate collection development policies that are flooding the profession is, one suspects, that too many librarians have latched onto Conspectus without genuinely understanding what it is. They simply use Conspectus as a magical formula for producing a policy document because everyone else seems to be producing one. Conspectus offers a standardized format for describing collections. This applies to three aspects:*what* is described, the *levels* of description and *how* the description is offered. Both 'what' and 'levels' are summarized in the following statement: '...Conspectus uses a numerical value to provide an overview or summary of a library's Existing Collection Strength (ECS), Current Collecting Intensity (CCI) and Desired Collecting Intensity (DCI).'[4] That is, Conspectus asks for a collection to be described in terms of its collecting history (strength), present collecting activity (current intensity) and projected collecting level (desired intensity) – multifaceted description that allows us to see a collection in three dimensions.

One should note that the Conspectus methodology aims to record and display information on collections in a standard way and that this is its primary function. 'Conspectus is a collection-centred approach, providing a methodology for describing collections which have been

assessed using a variety of standard techniques. Assessment is performed using both quantitative and qualitative measures, each with its own advantages and disadvantages.'[5] That is, Conspectus does not provide a *methodology for assessing* collections, but rather a *procedure for describing* collections. Conspectus is *not* a collection assessment methodology. It does provide a series of general assessment technique recommendations: shelf list measurement, shelf scanning, list checking, evaluation by outside experts, citation analysis.[6] For each of these it offers broad guidelines rather than specific, detailed procedures (e.g., 'tailor the experience to fit the library's needs', 'identify primary books and periodicals in the field'). Different libraries will use different techniques to suit their specific needs, or will employ a combination of techniques.

Reasons for Collection Evaluation

Evaluation of a library collection is the process of getting to know its strengths and weaknesses using techniques which are likely to yield valid and reliable results (in other words, techniques which measure what they set out to measure and which provide results which can be replicated if necessary). Evaluation of a collection should lead to a more objective understanding of the scope and depth of the collection, and provide a guide for collection planning, budgeting and decision making.

The reasons for evaluating a collection are of two main kinds. As professionals, theological librarians will wish to know how well the collection is meeting the demands and needs of its users and potential users. As administrators spending other people's money, and under increasing pressure to justify why and how they are doing so, they may well need the fullest possible understanding of the way the funds are being expended, and a basis for timely action to make improvements or economies. The main concern of collection evaluation is to determine whether the library is achieving its objectives and satisfying its users, as collection evaluation is a function of collection development and is related to the planning, selection and pruning of collections. Regarded in this light collection evaluation has a number of aims:

1. to search for more accurate understanding of the scope, depth and utility of collections;
2. to determine collection adequacy or quality;

3 to establish the existence of special strengths, as well as weaknesses, in the collection;
4 to help rectify inadequacies in library holdings and to improve them;
5 to prepare a guide and a basis for collection development;
6 to aid in the preparation of a collection development policy;
7 to measure the effectiveness of a collection development policy;
8 to focus human and financial resources on areas most needing attention;
9 to provide justification for book budget increases;
10 to demonstrate to administrators that something is being done about the demands for 'more money';
11 to check the need for weeding and collection control, and to establish areas of priority for these operations.

In the present context these aims are listed broadly in descending order of importance, which is not to say that those at the bottom of the list are unimportant, but rather to stress that those at the top should be regarded as of greater significance, since the primary concern is to aid the theological library in achieving the objective of satisfying its users. Thus the first four aims listed here would need to command the most attention. The need to understand the present state of the collection underpins all the other aims, as on that understanding are built the subsequent tasks of preparing guides and policies for collection development, and of measuring the effectiveness of those policies. One develops measurements of the adequacy of the collection so that attention can be further focused on the areas in which the collection is less than adequate, and on the practical measures that must be developed to rectify these shortcomings.

An Overview of Collection Evaluation

The mark of a professional theological librarian is that he supplies what the client needs, rather than what the client wants, or says he wants. There is a difference between these three concepts of need, actual demand, and expressed demand; and, while published work seems not to concern itself with 'subconscious needs', there is little doubt that we must be concerned with 'yet un-expressed demand'. The theological library must be managed in such a way that clients' needs can be

anticipated as much as possible and material is made available at the earliest expression of any demand. It is possible to express the formulation of this information need as follows:

an actual but unexpressed need

the conceptualization of the need in the mind

a formal statement of the need in a natural language

a formal statement of the need in an interface language used by the library

The role of collection evaluation, especially through use and user studies, is to help make that need more obvious by giving us a better understanding of users and collections. It is probably true that users' perceptions of how good a library is have very little to do with the collection's size and scope, or any other 'objective' measures of quality devised by librarians, and a great deal to do with how well it happens to provide what each individual user happens to be looking for when he is looking for it.

It is important to remember that the information-gathering methods employed by people in different fields vary enormously. In general, however, ease of access seems to be the most important single criterion, with relevance, pertinence, accuracy and currency of information being relatively less important. A researcher prefers to ask an accessible colleague rather than go to a library, and overall there is little doubt that to many people a library means little as a source of information. Comparison of a survey made in 1950 with another made in the early 1970s shows that the situation appears not to have changed during those two decades; the 1972 thesis concludes that the information systems relied on by community groups trying to effect social change were entirely informal and interpersonal, the library playing no role in supplying information for any of the activities studied.[7] Similarly, a 1989 study of theologians in Adelaide found that nearly half of the respondents (48%) viewed library collections as having little or no bearing on their choice of research and that over half (53%) relied not on institutional libraries but on their personal collections or those of colleagues for research materials.[8] On the basis of these and similar

findings that study concluded, in part, that 'Adelaide theologians rely to a significant degree on the "invisible college" for exchange of ideas but do so informally through a network of colleague contacts'[9] This lack of interest in libraries as information sources has been well documented in a number of other studies; the point here is not to rehearse this sad tale but to remind theological librarians of (1) the difficulty in relying on 'use' as a sound measure of a library's value and (2) the long, hard battle ahead if such 'use' is to improve quantitatively and qualitatively.

One must be careful not to assume that use patterns or information needs are similar in different classes of library users, but it is evident that only limited use is made of library services by undergraduate students; and other studies have disclosed that the average faculty member is only barely aware of the services available in academic libraries.[10] Much the same attitude shows up in studies of public library use; there is little doubt that a minority of the population belongs to and actually uses public libraries, and only a small part of that minority is responsible for most of that use, so that if more use of public libraries in particular is wanted, it may be more profitable to concentrate on those people who are actually using them, rather than to try to attract non-users. The truth seems to be that, while we can identify some demographic variables that allow us to predict library use, there are other demographic factors that appear to have no effect, and those factors that do have an effect seem to account for a small part of library use.[11]

The various findings that lead one to these conclusions may be closely related to a serious misconception in use studies – that surveys are the best way to find out about users. In fact studies have shown that a considerable amount of the variation reported in library 'use' may be no more than variation in interpretation of the meaning of the word 'use'. Even the most common words mean different things to different people, and thus will have a serious effect on survey results. The question of different interpretations of meaning is attacked by Yerbury, who replicates a study by Bookstein, and confirms his findings, which are that much work has yet to be done before such studies have any practical significance.[12] It is difficult to demonstrate with any degree of certainty that the use of libraries has any definite influence on anything else, because the question of the causes behind library use is still wide open for study. Use studies provide very little help when it comes to collection

development, because, despite the fact that librarians and other researchers have been studying library users for many years, we still do not have a satisfactory understanding of why people do, or do not, use libraries.

Basic Assumptions in Collection Evaluation

Because we cannot demonstrate that size alone is a measure of a library's worth, it is necessary to establish other measures that better indicate such worth.[13] Thus it becomes necessary to make some basic assumptions:

use of a book is a measure of its value

past use of books is a valid indicator of likely future use

circulation figures are an indication of the actual use of an item

measurements of use in the library are indicators of use outside the library

Countering these assumptions is the argument that measures of past use show what was done, whereas what *ought* to have been done is perhaps more important. Underlying methods of analysis of use or user statistics is the basic assumption that value is directly proportionate to use. However, it might be suggested that availability of material, rather than ideas of perceived value, is the most significant factor affecting material use, so that measurement of use is a doubtful method of measuring value, even though it may well be a good measure of availability; and that to calculate in terms of use is almost certain to guarantee the status quo. There is also an implied assumption underlying these studies that knowing what people need can be translated into a service that people will use to satisfy their needs. Effective collection evaluation must bear in mind as many as possible of these assumptions, and the evaluation must be undertaken both with a clear purpose and with methods that are appropriate to that purpose.

For Australian theological libraries appropriate collection evaluation methodologies may be limited to two classes: (1) collection-oriented measures; (2) user-oriented measures. There is thus no place for non-

quantifiable evaluation, and for a very good set of reasons. First, most theological librarians in this country lack the specialized training needed to conduct and interpret non-quantitative user studies. Second, there are a number of disadvantages in such studies that are exceedingly difficult to overcome: they measure demands rather than needs; it is difficult to design a sophisticated survey; data analysis is difficult; the passivity of some users can make surveying difficult. In the Australian theological library context, then, we focus on quantitative methods of two broad types, collection-centred measures and user-oriented measures. In the remainder of this discussion we look first at collection-centred evaluation and then at user-centred evaluation. This presentation provides only an overview of each method, listing advantages and disadvantages to help one decide which method is most suitable for a given library and a given librarian's abilities. The practicalities of applying each method are more properly the subject of an intensive workshop. Alternatively, one might prefer to use a standard 'how-to-do-it' manual; the best of these is Blaine H. Hall's *Collection Assessment Manual for College and University Libraries.*[14] Only those methods deemed appropriate to the needs of Australian theological libraries are treated here.

Collection-Centred Evaluation

For Australian theological libraries the most straightforward, and therefore most appropriate, group of evaluation methodologies comprises collection-centred measures. Collection-centred measures are a group of statistical descriptions of collections, concentrating on size, subject areas, usage, expenditures and other factors. The principal methodological techniques are those dealing with size and patterns of growth. They comprise the investigation of the question of minimum size in relation to level and size of specific areas, such as teaching programmes, also taking into account the budget in relation to the same kinds of areas. Statistics on size are easily available, easily understood and are easy to compare, but are of questionable use when measuring how good a collection is.

The principal methodological approaches include the application of standards, the use of checklists and verification studies, and the use of citation analysis. In general they work on an assumption that the collection should be moulded to a 'stimulus-response' pattern based on

the needs of those who use libraries most frequently. In the Australian setting neither collection standards nor citation analysis are appropriate – the first because theological collection standards do not yet exist, the second because of the complexity of the procedure for many untrained library staff. This leaves three collection-centred approaches to be commended to Australian theological librarians: list checking, collecting statistics, direct examination of the collection.

Collection-Centred Measure 1: List Checking (or Verification Studies). One of the most important methodologies for theological libraries is list checking, measuring the resource adequacy of a collection to supply materials in demand. This requires the checking of standard lists and bibliographies. Also known as verification studies, the results of this approach are easy to summarize and to compare and can be used to measure 'quality' of the collection; but they need to be matched with the library's specific objectives and require appraisals by library users and experts.

In this procedure the librarian selects lists of titles appropriate to the disciplines being evaluated, and these lists are searched (often against the shelflist) to determine the percentage of materials held by the library. This method assumes that a high percentage of items in the collection indicates successful collection development. However, there are no generally accepted standards for theological collections against which to interpret results of list checking.

The lists used to check the collections may be standard checklists, for example, those published by the H.W. Wilson Company.[15] These comprise listings put together for quite specific purposes such as to allow a teaching institution to supply all the material necessary for the preparation of essays and project papers, and for independent background reading, or composite lists such as the various guides to reference books which are often used as checklists for establishing core collections. For Australian theological libraries there are a number of appropriate types of tools:

1 specialized bibliographies and lists (e.g., bibliographies used by the Sydney College of Divinity in its collection assessment programme)

2 current catalogues and lists (e.g., Jos Goudswaard's Beacon Hill catalogues, theology catalogues prepared by Heffer's or Blackwell's)

3 bibliographies of special types of materials (e.g., guides to theological reference literature by Gorman and Gorman or McCabe, lists of serials such as *AULOTS*)

4 course reading lists (e.g., those prepared for external students of the Melbourne College of Divinity or Australian College of Theology)

5 reviews and abstracts in theological indexing services (e.g., ATLA's *RIO* and *RIT* or ANZTLA's *Australasian Religion Index*)

The weaknesses of this kind of checking are: the various lists must of necessity be out of date as soon as they are published; they are often designed with American or British conditions in mind, rather than Australian; they tend to induce conformity by encouraging librarians to collect what is already held by other similar libraries. It is essential that such lists be assessed for their suitability for a particular library. Indeed, in some situations especially designed lists may be the only answer. The checking may also cover only a small part of the library's holdings in any specific subject area, and could well overlook many important works held by the library but not listed in the checklist. One variation is to evaluate the library against listings of sources used by scholars in the preparation of well-known works, and in effect to ask whether such books could have been written using only the resources available in that library. This method has the attraction that not only will it check the collection at a practical as well as a theoretical level, but also it will check the holdings in many peripheral subject areas that might have been covered by the works in question. Another variation is to make up the initial list from several reviewing and selection tools, assuming that the appearance of any specific title on a multiplicity of lists is an indication of its acceptance as a worthwhile acquisition.

Advantages and Disadvantages of List Checking

Advantages

1 Many types of lists are available, including specialist coverage in religion studies and theology

2 Many lists are by experts, either scholars or subject specialist librarians

3 Lists of current materials are generally available

4 Lists can be compiled according to the needs of an individual library or type of library

5 List searching is a simple task to perform

6 List searching increases subject knowledge for the selector

Disadvantages

1 Available lists may have already been used by the library as selection tools

2 Lists representing a specific viewpoint may not be representative of the subject

3 Lists in appropriate subjects may not reflect the library's purposes

4 Many standard lists are not revised and become dated

5 In some subjects appropriate lists may be difficult to locate

Collection-Centred Measure 2: Collecting Statistics. Probably the most commonly used method for evaluating collection strengths are aggregate figures on two aspects of collections: size and expenditures. Such figures may be useful for comparing collections and collecting activities of two or more libraries or for gauging a single library's change over time. Typically statistics are collected on four aspects of a collection:

1 size of collection, either as a whole or for specific subjects (using classification groups, etc.)

2 growth rate, measuring the net units added to the collection or to specific subjects

3 expenditure on materials, either as a whole or on specific types (e.g., serials, reference)

4 collection overlap, determining how materials are distributed by subject or how many individual items are held in common by two or more libraries (particularly useful in the case of theological college contortia)

Advantages and Disadvantages of Collecting Statistics

Advantages

1 statistics are, or should be, readily available and easily collected (e.g., the annual compilation of statistics for ANZTLA libraries)

2 statistics are widely understood and broadly comparable if they are clearly defined

Disadvantages

1 statistics may be recorded improperly

2 clear definitions of units may not be available or may alter significantly over time

3 records may not be comparable

4 statistics tend to develop a life of their own, being collected after the are no longer needed

5 compiling statistics manually is very time consuming

Collection-Centred Measure 3: Direct Examination of the Collection. In this approach a person who knows the subject literature, or perhaps a team of individuals (for example, an academic and a librarian-subject specialist), physically examines material on the shelves. The person or team then draws conclusions about the size,

scope and depth of the collection. This method is most practical when the collection is small or the subject narrowly defined – both characteristics of theological collections in Australia.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Direct Examination of the Collection

Advantages

1 Collection strengths and weaknesses can be assessed rapidly

2 The method can be applied to any library collection

3 Multiple objectives can be achieved: weeding, preservation, storage, etc.

Disadvantages

1 Expert evaluators in specific subjects may be difficult to locate or may be unavailable

2 The method may not produce quantitative results

3 At any given time shelves are unlikely to contain everything in the collection, so additional methods should be employed (circulation records, etc.)

Notes

1 G.E. Gorman and B.R. Howes, *Collection Development for Australian Libraries*. Topics in Australasian Library and Information Studies, 1 (Wagga Wagga: Centre for Library Studies, 1988), p. xv. A revised edition has recently been released: G.E. Gorman and J. Kennedy, *Collection Development for Australian Libraries*. 2nd ed. Topics in Australasian Library and Information Studies, 5 (Wagga Wagga: Centre for Information Studies, 1992).

2 See G.E. Gorman, 'An Embarrassment of Riches, or Just an Embarrassment? Comments on Some Recent Australian

Collection Development Policies.' *Australian Library Review* 8, 4 (1991): 381-388.

3 State Library of New South Wales, *Collection Development Policy*, eds-in-chief: Janine Schmidt and Alan Ventress (Sydney: State Library of New South Wales, 1990)

4 Margaret Henty (comp. and ed.), *Australian Conspectus Manual: A Collection Assessment Guide*. Prelim. ed. (Canberra: ACLIS Secretariat, 1991), p. 8.

5 Marion Bate, 'Accountability, Collection Management and Conspectus.' *Australian Library Review* 8, 2 (1991): 142.

6 Henty, *Australian Conspectus Manual, op. cit.*, p. 21. Each of these methods is described briefly, together with an indication of strengths and weaknesses, on pp. 22-27 of the *Manual*.

7 Douglas L. Zweizig and Brenda Dervin, 'Public Library Use, Users, Uses: Advances in Knowledge of the Characteristics and Needs of the Adult Clientele of American Public Libraries.' In *Advances in Librarianship*, Vol. 7, ed. Melvin Voigt (New York: Academic Press, 1977), pp. 237-238; Pauline C. Wilson, *A Community Elite and the Public Library: The Uses of Information in Leadership* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1977).

8 G.E. Gorman, 'Patterns of Information Seeking and Library Use by Theologians in Seven Adelaide Theological Colleges.' *Australian Academic and Research Libraries* 21, 3 (1990): 150.

9 *Ibid.*, p. 155.

10 A study reported by Peter Mann in 1976 indicated that students in technology at the University of Sheffield tended to make very little use of the library and concluded that '...there is no apparent connection between failure in examinations and a lack of borrowing or purchase of books.' Peter H. Mann, 'Undergraduates and Books: The University Lecturer.' In *Books and Undergraduates: Proceedings of a Conference Held at Royal Holloway College, University of London, 4th-6th July 1975*, ed. Peter H. Mann (London: National Book League, 1976), p. 9.

11 Carol L. Kronus, 'Patterns of Adult Library Use: A Regression Path Analysis.' *Adult Education* 23 (1973): 115-131.

12 Abraham Bookstein, 'Sources of Error in Library Questionnaires.' *Library Journal* 4 (1982): 85-94; Hilary Yerbury, 'Is Library Use Using a Library?' *Australian Library Journal* 33, 2 (1984): 19-23.

13 The seminal study in this area, and to date the most used, is that of Clapp and Jordan, who produce convincing arguments for the measurement of collection adequacy in an academic library by the use of a formula that began with the statement of a base number of volumes to which are then added more volumes, the additional number being calculated according to separate quite specific factors. They use lists of required titles, produced by academics in each discipline area, to establish the base of 42,000 volumes, which they argue is the minimum number needed regardless of factors such as subjects taught or student numbers. They then suggest that additional volumes be added, the numbers calculated by adding sixty volumes per full-time member of teaching staff, ten volumes per full-time student, 2400 volumes for each subject area in which work is done at master's level, and 16,000 for areas in which doctoral work takes place. There is nothing immutable about the numbers, or the factors, and the approach can be used in any library, with the factors and the numbers of volumes being adjusted to suit local conditions. See Verner W. Clapp and Robert T. Jordan, 'Quantitative Criteria for Adequacy of Academic Library Collections.' *College and Research Libraries* 26, 5 (1965): 371-380.

14 Blaine H. Hall, *Collection Assessment Manual for College and University Libraries* (Phoenix, Ariz.: Oryx Press, 1985). A new guide to collection assessment techniques is in preparation by G.E. Gorman and John Kennedy, but will not be available for another two years (published by Bowker-Saur).

15 A good example of the type is *Books for College Libraries: A Core Collection of 50,000 Titles*. 3rd ed. (Chicago, Ill.: American Library Association, 1988).

(Part II of this report will be included in the April issue.)

Dr G.E. Gorman lectures in The School of Information Studies, Charles Sturt University, Riverina Campus, Wagga Wagga, NSW.

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NEW NORCIA LIBRARY

Alan F. Meers

New Norcia Library was the venue for the Spring meeting of the ANZTLA, WA Chapter. Since commencing in September, 1990 the meetings of the Chapter have been held quarterly on a Monday evening and have rotated around the seven metropolitan libraries. However as New Norcia is 132 km north of Perth it was decided to hold the meeting there on a Saturday afternoon.

New Norcia, Australia's only monastic town, with its towered buildings, olive trees and richly-decorated interiors, is like a piece of old Spain in the heart of the Australian bush. Founded in 1845 by Spanish Benedictine monks, the settlement has been a mission to the Aborigines, the centre of the monks' extensive farming activities and a place of education and culture.

We met at the Abbey at noon and immediately joined the monks for prayer in the new chapel and then adjourned to the park in front of the Abbey for a picnic lunch. At 1 pm we assembled in the monastery library. Since the library is within the monastic enclosure, special permission had to be obtained for our lady members to enter. After a formal welcome by the Prior-Administrator (Father Placid Spearitt) we were given a guided tour of the library by Brother David and the recently appointed qualified lay librarian, Travis Lawton.

The New Norcia Library houses the largest theological collection in W.A. with some 60,000 items. The areas of strength (as laid out in the collection development policy) are Scripture, Philosophy, Theology, Liturgy, Spirituality, Church History and Monastic Studies. The Library is also the oldest Theological Library in the State and, in fact, has the second largest collection of rare books in any Australian library. They have over 2000 books (representing 1008 titles) published between 1508 and 1801.

As well as the Sacred collection, the Library also has about 20,000 books in its Secular collection. At present the Library is in a transitional state. The collection is in the process of being transported to another building. The new library building (of concrete/brick construction) was originally a

classroom facility and as such has many interesting areas which will provide for a well laid-out library. The new building is situated opposite the Abbey between St. Gertrude's (the former Girls' College, built in 1908) and the cemetery (the resting place of some 130 monks and nuns, as well as many Aborigines and pioneers).

As books are being moved from the present library to the new building they are being computer catalogued using the Inmagic software package. Work has commenced on the Secular Collection and when this is completed a study area will be created. This will give plenty of space for both comfortable reading and serious work.

With the re-organization, the library will become a centre of excellence in the religious field and will offer a wider range of services than are currently available including access to the collections by other libraries and students.

The Community also has an extensive archive of both photographic and manuscript materials which documents a lot of early history of the district as well as missionary activities among Aboriginal people.

The library has commenced publishing a quarterly newsletter (*Amici Bibliothecae*) which is available from the Editor at New Norcia Library, Holy Trinity Abbey, New Norcia, W.A., 6509.

Any reader travelling to W.A., either for business or pleasure, should make New Norcia a must on their itinerary. Accommodation is available in both the Abbey and the Old Convent. Seminars, etc. can be run in adjoining buildings.

However it must be explained that New Norcia Library is NOT a public library. At present NO women are able to look through the main library room, and because of the valuable collections it is necessary to be certain that only bona fide visitors are able to access the collections. Prospective visitors, should, therefore, make contact with the Library prior to their arrival at New Norcia so that satisfactory arrangements can be made.

Dr Meers, Principal of Perth Bible College, is on the executive of the ANZTLA WA Chapter.

ANGLES ON ACQUISITIONS

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Mount St Mary's Seminary

Greenmeadows, Nr. Napier
NEW ZEALAND

8-11 July 1993

CONFERENCE PROG

Thursday 8 July

4.00	pm	Registration
4.30	pm	Welcome and info
5.00	pm	ANZTLA Commi
6.00	pm	*Evening meal*
7.00	pm	Address: Rita En Half the world curtain: Austra libraries find th

Friday 9 July

9.00	am	Addresses: 1. Philip Bull. what do they do 2. Lawrence Mc a librarian's per
10.30	am	*Morning tea*
11.00	am	Panel Chief resources materials
12.30	pm	*Lunch*
2.00	pm	Visits
6.00	pm	*Evening meal*
7.00	pm	ANZTLA A.G.M. (to be followed by

Saturday 10 July

8.45	am	Depart on bus trip
7.30	pm	*Conference dinner*

Sunday 11 July

9.30	am	Panel: Methods of ret
10.30	am	*morning tea*
11.00	am	1) Pettee sessions 2) Dewey dilemmas 3) NZ branch meet
12.30	pm	*lunch*
1.30	pm	Practicalities
3.00	pm	Closing liturgy

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CONFERENCE CHARGES

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Registration forms available from the Editor of the Newsletter, Lynn Pryor, or Helen Greenwood at St John's College Library, Auckland.

AUTOMATED SYSTEMS - MAKING A CHOICE

OASIS

Judith Goodwin, St Columban's College, Turramurra, NSW

The initiative for the computerisation came from the Columban Regional Director in Melbourne. As the Rector of St Columban's College had decided, with the arrival of the first word processing package, that computers would be his hobby, he readily started enquiries into library systems. A system was sought which would cater for the needs of two centres: - National Missionary Research Council Resource Centre, Librarian Rev Cyril Hally, and St Columban's College Library, Librarian Mrs Judith Goodwin.

Although housed in St Columban's College, the Resource Centre was set up and administered by the Catholic Bishops of Australia until 1990, when the Columbans took over ownership and maintenance. It is estimated that there are about one hundred thousand handwritten analytical entries using subject headings devised by the Pro Mundi Vita Centre in Brussells. It was these periodicals that the Columbans sought to make more accessible by entering the records on a computerised database.

The collection of monographs and periodicals in St Columban's College Library was built up to support and serve the staff and students of St Columban's Foreign Mission Society. With the establishment of the Union Theological Institute, the Pacific Mission Institute and the formation of the Sydney College of Divinity, the library has widened its clientele. Nevertheless, the primary clientele of the library are persons preparing for mission work in various forms in the Catholic Church.

Because it is the system supported by Catholic Dioceses in NSW for use in their OASIS was always the likely choice for St Columban's College. The Rector when asked his reasons for selecting OASIS, answered "Price". My New South Wales colleagues, who have chosen OASIS, have also given price, and the over one thousand library sites using it, as their reasons.

I visited one of the schools with the Rector. My husband Frank and I were asked our opinion after viewing a promotional video. We agreed that OASIS software seemed to perform all the automated functions required in school libraries, for which the system was specifically designed.

The automation of the Resource Centre's holdings was the priority, and even in the latter half of 1991 I was told that they would be completed before the library's holdings would be entered, possibly as long as 18 months later. Instead, probably because the Library Management module was purchased first, work began on the library's holdings at the end of November. Fifteen different persons were employed for data entry during the summer vacation, and up to 4 or 5 terminals were operating at a time.

As well as using OASIS software for cataloguing, records have been transferred from Library of Congress holdings on CD ROM, and then edited. The hit rate has been 40-50%. About 16,500 monographs are now on the data base, with up to 1,000 still to be added. About half the Resource Centre's periodical articles have been entered.

The cataloguing module for monographs is running quite well, presumably because it has many users, and most of its bugs have already been removed. However, the periodical module has caused problems. Little information was given in brochures and the promotional video. My guess is that St Columban's College may be among its early users, so problems are having to be solved as they show up. Discs which were sent to Brisbane for corrections were returned a week later, and immediately showed up the same errors.

It might sound dismissive to quote the sales talk that "a 3rd form child can access information." But I would say that being very user-friendly is the best feature of OASIS. Just as we hear stories of intelligent people who get their small children to programme their VCRs, there are students in our libraries who are wary of computers. If library staff are not always available, instructions need to be as brief and simple as possible. So it is encouraging to see the first screen appear with just "Enter search word/s".

There are certainly disadvantages from a cataloguer's point of view. Our software does not provide for MARC records; but Ken Elder of Tahlee Bible College tells me that Softlink has said they can make it available. In transferring from CD ROM, records have been lost and callnumbers confused, because the programme recognises only 20 characters of title. The same limitation also means that subject headings in authority files beyond 20 characters appear in order of entry. I am not satisfied with the programme for printing cards. Titles and publishing information are truncated, and no notes are included. We are committed to continuing to contribute to the SCD union catalogue held at St Patrick's College, Manly, and I want to maintain a shelf list on cards, so additional information will have to be added manually.

My Sydney colleagues know that I didn't have their enthusiasm for computerisation. I've had a family relationship with computers since the early 1960's, and in recent years I've heard so many stories about lost data and other disasters, that I'd rather hoped to retire before computers replaced card catalogues. For various reasons, it's not been an easy six months, but I'm <u>almost</u> converted to computers now!

Judith Goodwin.

INMAGIC

Glenis Dalziel, Mount St Mary's Seminary, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.

The Colin Library is the working and research library of Mount St Mary's Seminary and the main reference library for the Society of Mary in New Zealand situated at Greenmeadows, a suburb of Napier on the east coast of the north island. The Library holds over 70,000 books, of which about 60% fit within the subject areas taught at the Seminary, i.e. Theology, Church History, Scripture, Philosophy, Canon Law. The rest covers a wide range of subjects from ancient history through to foreign language texts, art and music appreciation to New Zealand and Pacific history, etc.

In the 1950's a member of the Seminary staff organized the collection into a working library. It was an enormous undertaking and I inherited this when I took over in 1979 as the first qualified librarian on the staff.

Immediately I could see problem areas within the library structure i.e. very inadequate catalogue card details, no subject headings and so on. Around this time in New Zealand there was a lot of talk about automation in libraries and I felt the Colin Library should move in this direction. I tried to keep up-to-date with what was happening within the library scene. I also kept the faculty and members of the Advisory Board aware of the advantages of library automation. By the early 1980's automation costs had dropped considerably, particularly the hardware side. In 1985 the Seminary started using word processing programmes on IBM compatible computers. The time had arrived for me to really press for the automation of the library.

In early 1987 I was able to attend a workshop in Wellington - the theme "Microcomputers in the Library environment" and evaluate 4 software packages. Inmagic was one of the four demonstrated and I felt it would really suit the Colin Library as it was designed for compatible hardware and basically an information retrieval database system which would fill a real gap in the Colin Library. I was a little hesitant in choosing Inmagic as I realised I would be the only user of the system locally. But with the help of two Marist priests (real computer buffs) I had no problems getting it running. Inmagic is a standalone product and allows the development of as many different databases as required for a variety of applications. I chose the single user Inmagic package, there is also a more expensive multiuser/network version available.

When creating a new database I have to decide which fields within it will be searchable - it is a very flexible programme with no limitation to the length of any field entry. As the library card catalogue had only author/title entry with no subject indexing, the main advantage of creating databases was the availability to word search any author/title entry. My main databases are books, periodicals, serials management and patron records.

When I order a book it is entered as a new identity onto the book database listing the firm I have ordered from - this enables me to print out an order to the dealer. If anyone is searching on the database the entry shows up that it is "on order". Accessioning a book and cataloguing it then completes the entry. From that stage, catalogue cards can be printed, budgetting details given, accession lists made, etc. Print outs of monthly book orders are given to the appropriate faculty

member keeping them informed of new material coming into the library.

The library caters primarily for the faculty and students. Now that they have moved to Auckland and the library is still at Greenmeadows (400 k away) being automated has made a big difference. The College has a computer with a backtrax tape unit fitted (the same as the library) and I send an updated tape to Auckland once a fortnight - this then gives them onscreen access to the library computer and any material required can be sent up overnight. By using this method the only cost was converting the computer to take the "tape system" (approx. $300, plus purchase of the tapes at $59 each). Most other methods we looked at i.e. modems, had ongoing costs attached to them. Another added advantage: using the tapes I could do away with my floppy disk back-up system which was becoming very time-consuming.

All in all I am very happy with the software I chose. Certainly I am using it in areas that I never thought possible. Overall I found it very easy to use - one small problem area I did find difficult to follow in the instruction book was creating a report format for a database. One dash or column line could change the format completely. But once I had some working in the correct layout it became easier to follow. I feel Inmagic is a simple information retrieval package very suitable to the needs of a small to medium size library and an easy system for a computer novice to cope with.

The latest cost of a single user packet of Inmagic is NZ$3,150. This system can have a MARC adaptor which converts MARC records to Inmagic format - cost NZ$250.

Glenis Dalziel.

OCELOT

Irene Mills, Vianney College, Wagga Wagga, NSW

Vianney College was established in 1991 to train priests for the Wagga Diocese. I was appointed in December 1991 to establish the Library to provide for the resource and information needs of the seminarians and

teaching staff. The Library is also seen as a community resource of theological and philosophical materials.

The seminarians at present number only nine, and five staff members use the library. Naturally the number of seminarians will grow over the next few years but will never be very large. There has already been a surprising amount of use of the library from within the community.

When I started as Librarian I was told there would be some use of the library by the new intake of students in February, with heavier use expected in the second semester. I had only a few months to make selected areas of the collection usable, and make all the right decisions in selecting a computer and computer system. Things such as ordering shelving, which classification scheme and subject headings to use, etc., had to be considered at this time also.

Fortunately Dr Gorman, who acted as library consultant to the Bishop at the planning stages of the seminary, had firmly advocated the need for a computerised library system from the outset, so I was spared the job of convincing the Vice-Rector of this.

Initially I ordered a microcomputer that had the capacity to run a reasonable library system and also could be incorporated into the Dynix system if necessary. Dynix was one system that had been recommended to me. The computer I bought is an Osborne SX-16 with dual 40MB hard disks and an internal modem.

I soon established that what I needed was a library management system that would give me good cataloguing and circulation control, and an OPAC that could be used easily when I was not here. As my position is half-time and the seminarians have access to the library 24 hours a day, a user-friendly system was important. I finally selected OCELOT from the following systems:

Dynix - very responsive to my enquiries, reputed to be very good, used by our local public library system: quote for what I required was $14,394 for hardware and $18,000 for software plus annual maintenance fees.

Inmagic - difficult to contact and information they sent did not give a clear picture of their system.

Oasis - very responsive: sent a video and documentation that gave a good picture of the system.

Ocelot - very responsive, sent good documentation.

I found that the packages offered by Inmagic, Oasis, and Ocelot were fairly similar and the costs of these three systems were also very close (about $4,000). All have authority control systems which allow for the validation of subject headings and names while cataloguing. Oasis and Ocelot both have keyword searching and items can be found by using Boolean logic and searching a mixture of terms, such as author and subject heading, etc. Bibliographies can be printed or downloaded onto disk from all systems and they all keep some statistics.

Now the choice had to be made. I really didn't feel I could justify the extra cost of the Dynix system. I discounted Inmagic because they seemed harder to deal with and because I was working alone with limited knowledge of computers. I would need to know there was constant backup available. Oasis is a great package but I feel it looks too much like a school system, especially the OPAC, for a seminar. I was able to visit the Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Education to look at their Ocelot system in action and talk to the staff there about their experience with the system and customer support. I was satisfied after this that OCELOT could offer what I required. The system I use is the schools system. They have another one for special libraries and I believe the difference is in size.

I purchased their Essential Modules package which includes an OPAC, cataloguing (including authority and thesaurus control, and a MARC loader - (I purchase records from ABN using their search and products system), circulation and stock-taking, and a report writer. Accessions, union catalogue and serials modules are also available.

With a 3-year maintenance contract (which includes any upgrades) and barcodes this package cost $4,000.

Many schools are using the Ocelot system, and also about a dozen special libraries. So far I have found it suits my library's needs well, backup is good through a 008 number to Melbourne. I have been able to go to one training day at Wodonga with other librarians from northern Victoria. There are a couple of aspects of the system that I feel could be better - this is mainly due to it being a modular system and having to go to different modules for different functions. I think that Ocelot will be adequate for Vianney until the use and size of the library grows considerably.

I have been able to put some functions of the circulation module on a low security so the seminarians are able to borrow books, and check their loans records when I am not there.

Irene Mills.

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MAJOR THEOLOGICAL REFERENCE RESOURCES: 1992

Lawrence D. McIntosh
Joint Theological Library

The continuing purpose of this annual survey is to alert librarians as to the availability of recently published reference resources. The annotations are meant to assist with selection decisions. Most of the imprints are 1992, but a few 1991 titles which arrived too late for inclusion in last year's list, are also included.

General

1. Ziefle, Helmut W. *Dictionary of modern theological German*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI.: Baker, 1992. 354p. 0-8010-9935-8; US$24.95.

Ziefle, with his *Dictionary* (1982) and *Theological German reader* (1986) has proved a friend to those struggling with theological German. The debt is compounded with a much enlarged edition of the *Dictionary*

which now contains some 20,000 entries. Historical vocabulary is still managed by his employing the Stuttgart edition of Luther's Bible while contemporary usage, both general and particular, is also well covered. The gender and plural form of nouns are given and all verbs are listed with their grammatical functions.
All libraries will need this expanded edition.

Biblical Studies

Attention should be drawn to the most recent bibliography in the BETL series on the Gospels published by Leuven University Press. *The Johannine bibliography: 1966-1985*, compiled by G. Van Belle (1988) was followed by *The Gospel of Luke: a cumulative bibliography 1973-1988*, by Frans Van Segbroeck (1989). Both are heavily used in this Library. Now we have:

2 *The Gospel of Mark: 1950-1990*, compiled by Frans Neirynck and others. Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium, 102. Leuven: Leuven University Press/Uitgeverij Peeters, 1992. xii,717p. 90-6186-502-6/90-6831-414-9. 2700 BEF.

Part 1, an alphabetical listing of authors, contains all types of materials, including revisions and translations. References are made to *New Testament abstracts* and to a selection of reviews. Part II contains an index to Gospel passages and also a subject index which is divided into several areas - bibliographical, general questions, textual, linguistic, Old Testament background, literary and theological - with a host of subsections. Part III provides abbreviations for serials' titles, a list of Festschriften represented in the volume and, finally, an interesting list, chronologically arranged, of commentaries on Mark published before 1950. (You will know, of course, that the first in line is by Chrysostom.)
In all a magnificent compilation and essential for all libraries supporting advanced work in New Testament studies.

A prize for the biblical work of the year would have to be given to:

3 *The Anchor Bible dictionary (ABD)*. Edited by David Noel Freedman. 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1992. lxxviii, 1232, 1100, 1135, 1162, 1230, 1176p. ISBN 0-385-19351-3[v.1], 19360-2[v.2],

19361-0[v.3], 19362-9[v.4], 19363-7[v.5], 26190-X[v.6]; US$60 per volume.

Almost a thousand scholars, Jewish and Christian, from many countries, have contributed some 6200 signed articles. It appears to continue the 'liberal critical' stance of the *Interpreter's dictionary of the Bible* (1962, suppl. 1975). While *ABD* effectively updates the *IBD*, it does not supersede it. Indeed its articles make more than occasional reference back to the earlier set. A particular strength is its up-to-date treatment of topics which have matured into disciplines - aspects of literary criticism, the socio-cultural background of biblical writings, the Nag Hammadi material, research on the historical Jesus, the matter of Christianity's relationships with Judaism, defining feminist hermeneutics, biblical insights into ecological issues - to mention but a few. Articles on major themes conclude with extensive bibliographies and the illustrative work (in black and white) is generally supportive.

The set desperately calls for an index volume, which is promised for 1993, it is not always easy to know where to look for a particular subject. The cross-referencing could be improved. Try, for example, 'the church in the New Testament'. There is no entry under 'church'; one must look at a section on the article, 'Community' and to a sub-section, 'New Testament koinonia'. It would also be valuable if the list of contributors included the titles of their articles but this is to cavil. There is no question that this set comprises an advanced reference resource, designed by scholars for scholars.

It belongs in every theological library.

4. *The Women's Bible Commentary*. Edited by Carol A. Newsom and Sharon H. Ringe. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster/John Knox Press; London: SPCK, 1992. xix, 396p. 0-664-21922-5; 0-281-04581-X; US$19.95.

The purpose of this work is to gather some of the fruits of feminist biblical scholarship. It also reflects ecumenical and inter-faith cooperation with its contributions from Jewish, Protestant and Roman Catholic women.

There are general articles on feminist interpretation and about women in the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. The remainder of the volume is given to individual chapters on the biblical books according to the Protestant canon along with the deuterocanonical additions to Esther and Daniel and Apocrypha. The first impression may be that this is a 'once over lightly' commentary. But the work does not intend to be yet another general commentary. Contributors were instructed to provide a brief introduction to the biblical book and then to comment on passages that are of particular relevance to women. The focus of interest is upon feminine characters, symbols, marriage and family and historical events which compromised the full humanity of women.

This is an important collection of writings which, because of the variety of stances taken by the contributors, introduces us to a range of feminist perspectives and points up their importance for the interpretation of the biblical text. It achieves this in ways that are refreshingly different. Recommended for all theological libraries.

5. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. Edited by Joel B. Green and Scot McKnight. Downers Grove, Illinois; Leicester, England: InterVarsity Press, 1992. xxv, 934p. 0-8308-1777-8. US$34.95.

It is some eighty years since James Hastings published his *Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels* (1909). This new dictionary intends to interpret recent scholarship in these subject areas for pastors, teachers and students. Because its focus is limited to Jesus and the Gospels the articles can afford to be longer than in a typical -one-volume Bible dictionary. The bibliographies accompanying major articles are also generous and include foreign language material. The editors intended that this work 'be both evangelical and critical at the same time', the contributors being 'representative of contemporary evangelicalism' (preface). Australia is well represented with entries by Maxwell Davidson, Kevin Giles, Colin Kruse, Leon Morris, John Painter, Graham Twelftree and David Williams.
This will be a useful guide to critically conservative perspectives on the Gospel traditions.

Church History

6. *Encyclopedia of the early church*. Edited by Angelo Di Berardino; translated by Adrian Walford. 2 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. xxv, 1130 p. 0-19-52089-7 set); US$175.00 (Also published Cambridge, Eng.: James Clarke, 0-227-67895-8 (set); £87.00).

Berardino's work, published in Italian in 1983, issued in a French translation in 1990, is now available in English, with a foreword and bibliographic updating contributed by W.H.C. Frend. The two volume work, from an international team of 167 scholars, representing a cross-section of Christian traditions, provides coverage of archaeological, philosophical, linguistic, theological, historical and geographical areas. With some exceptions, time limits have been set at Bede (673-735) in the West and John of Damascus (c675-c759) in the East. Bibliographies, revised to 1991, accompany each article and the chronological table, maps, charts and illustrations are outstanding. It has greater depth and is more extensive in scope than the very fine *Encyclopedia of early Christianity*, edited by Everett Ferguson (1990). The two works, however, effectively update the patristic material in the venerable *Oxford dictionary of the Christian church* (2nd ed., 1974).

Expensive, but will prove its value for many years to come.

7. *Encyclopedia of the Reformed faith*. Edited by Donald K. McKim, Louisville, KY.: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992. xxiv, 414p. 0-664-21882-2; US$36.95. (Also published by Saint Andrew Press, Edinburgh, 0-7152-0660-5.)

The 'Reformed faith' here means broadly the perception of faith rooted in the sixteenth-century Reformation and expressed by John Calvin and other Protestant leaders in Zurich and Geneva. More than 200 Reformed scholars write about the persons, events and theological issues which were important to the emerging tradition and also cover the histories of Reformed churches around the world. The entries from 'accommodation' to 'Zwingli' are short, with most events being covered in half a page and persons in a few paragraphs. Calvin merits two pages, Luther, who does not meet the criteria is confined to one, but Barth scores one and a half. Short bibliographies follow each signed article.

The strength of the volume is its clear and concise treatment of lesser known figures, summaries of Reformed theological positions and its introductions to contemporary theologians who stand in this tradition.

Recommended, particularly for libraries wishing to reflect Reformed perspectives on historical and theological matters.

Theology

8. *A New handbook of Christian theology*. Edited by Donald W. Musser and Joseph L. Price. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992. 525p. 0-687-27802-3 (paper); US$19.95.

In 1958 Marvin Halverson and Arthur Cohen edited *A Handbook of Christian theology* which has served admirably to introduce students to theological terms, concepts and trends. It was a Protestant work which bore the imprint of neoorthodoxy. The present work is a complete redesigning of the old. It not only updates the content of the earlier work but expands its scope by including contributions from Roman Catholic, feminist and minority groupings. It also contains articles on theologies which have been born during the lst thirty years; among them, black, confessional, death of God, deconstructionist, feminist, liberation, marxist, narrative and process theologies. This handbook provides thorough introductory articles by both established and emergent authors. It will become a major source for helping students understand recent theological movements and the nature of the issues, persistent and new, in the 1990s.

An essential resource.

9. *Bibliographie Karl Barth*. Edited by Hans M. Wildi. Bd 2: Veröffentlichungen über Karl Barth. Teil I: A-Z; Teil II: Register. Zürich: Theologischer Verlag Zürich, 1992. xxii, 2159p. 3-290-10082-0; DM1500.

Few libraries could afford this item; some must. Certainly all theological librarians should be aware of its existence.
In 1984, Theologischer Verlag published the first volume of this set - a bibliography of the writings of Karl Barth. Now the second volume covers the literature about Barth, his thought and influence. It is the

largest bibliography yet published, on a single author of the twentieth century.

The introductory material is in German and English. The arrangement begins with an enumerated alphabetical list of authors, some 9910 entries. Then there are lists of
- titles by language from Afrikaans to Walisisch (Welsh),
- serial titles with articles about Barth,
- persons also being featured, for example, Bonhoeffer, Brunner and Bultmann,
- places featured in the entries,
- cross references to the list of Barth's own writings in Volume 1 and finally,
- a chronological register of all these secondary sources from 1909-early 1991.

Although there is no subject index, some of the entries are annotated and the extensive lists, all of which are keyed to the numbered A-Z list, help overcome this lack.

Any library which is collecting materials on Barth to a research level would have to consider this magnificent tool.

10. Finson, Shelley Davis, comp. *Women and religion: a bibliographic guide to Christian feminist liberation theology*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991. xix, 207p. 0-8020-5881-7; US$70.00.

The purpose of this work is to demonstrate the range of Christian feminist resources in theological education, religious and women's studies which is available to faculty and students. Its entries include books, articles, dissertations and reports. The bibliography is divided by topic - Bible, history, Judaism, inclusive language, Mariology, ministry, pastoral care, religion and the church, spirituality, theology and worship. An appendix lists bibliographies and some journals devoted to women and religion. Given the topical arrangement, there is an author index. This is a comprehensive resource, the result of intensive searching of numerous data bases. It will effectively supersede a number of flimsy bibliographies which have yielded only limited coverage of feminist material.

Martha Aycock Sugg and John Boone Trotti (eds) Building a Pastor's Library (Richmond, Va : Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, 1991) 202 pp.

While this work is presented as an update of Trotti's *Essential Books for a Pastor's Library*, (last published in its fifth edition in 1976) it is scarcely recognizable from its immediate predecessor. Recognizing that it is really impossible to say what books are essential for a pastor's library, the compilers have opted more realistically for a list of items they consider important for the purpose. More significantly, however, this edition is greatly expanded and updated, including judicious and helpful annotations, greatly enhancing its value as a selection tool.

Till recently colleagues on the staff of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, Trotti being the current Librarian and Sugg the former Public Services Librarian, the compilers have set about their task with two aims in mind:

> (1) to identify those subject areas that should be represented in the library of a minister; (2) to suggest in each category one or more books regarded as highly important. (Foreword)

Some of their selections reflect the context in which they have been operating and would need to be substituted with corresponding publications of one's own tradition (religious and national); in such cases, the type of publication included is more relevant than the particular title. Bearing this in mind, the overall objectives have been very adequately realized.

The list itself comprises more than one thousand entries divided into six main sections according to the traditional subject divisions of theological literature. Within each section are appropriate subdivisions. The sections (with the number of their subdivisions in brackets) are: General Reference, Bible (14), History (8), Theology (3), Ethics (2), and Practical Aspects of Ministry (12). The subdivisions of the practical section, by way of example, are: Christian Education, Church Administration, Church and Media, Congregational Studies, Evangelism and Church Growth, Feminist Works, Liturgy and Worship, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Pastoral Leadership, Practical Theology, Preaching, and Spirituality. Some subdivisions are still further subdivided; thus, Issues in United States Church History is further

subdivided into the following categories: Aging, Bible, Church and State, Ecology, Ecumenics, Education, Nationalism and Civil Religion, Popular Religion, Race, Science, Sociology, Theology, Philosophy and Intellectual Life, War and Conscience, and Women. For every entry, there is a pertinent and informative annotation, usually of just one sentence.

This is obviously not as full and detailed a bibliography as Gorman and Gorman's *Theological and Religious Reference Materials* (for which Trotti has written the introductory essay) - nor does it claim to be. It differs from that work chiefly in the limitation of scope to current English language materials suitable for a pastor's library. The compilers have endeavoured to avoid highly expensive, foreign language, and out-of-print works. Bearing such stricutres in mind, they have succeeded exceedingly well. One might quibble about whether this or that selection is the best that could have been made, such things obviously being subject to personal differences of opinion, but few would argue that those selected are not important works in their field. Certainly, any pastor who possessed all the works included in this list, or the corresponding publications for his/her tradition, would have a fine and balanced collection. Indeed, we have here a solid (if small) nucleus for any theological library; and many a library in Australia and New Zealand would find in this publication many a suggestion for adding depth and balance to their collections.

The book is clear and uncluttered in layout, and represents a remarkably good value for the modest cost of US$4.00. (For my review copy, the cost of air mail postage was much higher than the cost of the book). A major drawback however is the lack of indexes. While this omission no doubt contributes to the inexpensiveness of the book, it nevertheless detracts from its usefulness.

This is a work which is highly recommended - practising clergy, to seminary students, and to theological librarians. Copies are available from the Open Book, GPO Box 1368, Adelaide, SA, 5001 or from Dr John Trotti, Library, Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, 3401 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227 USA.

Trevor Zweck.

NEWS AND NOTES

Welcome to ANZTLA, *Virginia Champion de Crespigny*, now installed as Librarian at Corpus Christi College, Clayton, Vic. Her predecessor, *Kay Cole*, is now enjoying her busy retirement!

Hot off the Press

Copies of the *Joint Collection Development Policy for the Libraries of the Sydney College of Divinity, May 1992* with the individual collection development policies of the libraries of member institutions of the S.C.D., and the S.C.D. Library Evaluation Project Report, August 1990, (ISBN: 0 646 11772 6) are now available. Cost $30.50, plus $8.40 packing and postage within Australia, and A$15.40 to New Zealand. Orders, with cheques payable to Sydney College of Divinity, should be sent to Gai Smith, Union Theological Institute, 1 Mary Street, Hunters Hill NSW 2110.

In addition the CDPs and the evaluation methodology and report, the book includes the excellent critical reports made by Gary Gorman, Lawrence McIntosh, Hilary Yerbury of U.T.S. Kuring-gai, and Trevor Zweck.

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Statistics 1988 and 1989. Copies of these are available from Lynn Pryor at a cost of AUD2.00 (equivalent in postage stamps acceptable).

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