

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

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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 Neiryneck 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 I, 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 last 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 strictures 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.

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