

Books Received And Noted

(Mention here neither implies nor precludes future review in this Journal - VCH)

Choose Life. A Dialogue between Arnold Toynbee and Daisaku Ikeda.

Richard Gage, editor.

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989.

(Copyright 1976)

374 pages.

Arnold Toynbee, "an international sage", died in October 1975 at the age of 86. Ikeda is President of soka Gakkai International, a Buddhist lay organization with ten million members, and "devoted to the promotion of education, culture and peace". Between 1971 and 1974 these two engaged in discussion of a wide range of issues, considering the human predicament in its personal and social, political and international, philosophical and religious aspects. The conversations were recorded and then edited for publication by Richard Gage. The result is a well bound, well designed volume, occasionally urbane and insightful, but mostly inflated, self-indulgent, platitudinous and banal.

Better Together. Christian Partnership in a Hurt City

Derek Worlock and David Sheppard

London: Penguin Books, 1989

(First published by Hodder and Stoughton 1988)

318 pages \$Aust. 12.99

David Sheppard is Anglican Bishop of Liverpool and a former England cricketer. Derek Worlock is Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool. Finding themselves neighbours in a city close to bankruptcy, a city of strong sectarian loyalties and bitter deprivation, these two outstanding Christian clerics have

called for Christian unity and joined forces to fight for the renewal of their city. It's a heartening and entertaining story of courage and practical action arising from a shared Christian vision.

Radical Christianity

Christopher Rowland

Cambridge (U.K.): Polity Press, 1988

viii + 199 pages Paperback \$Aust.27.95

Distributed in Australia by Allen & Unwin

Christopher Rowland lectures in Divinity at the University of Cambridge and is Dean and Fellow of Jesus College. His book deals with the history of radical (apocalyptic) Christianity by discussing some of the most important developments and figures from the millenarian movements of early Christianity to Muenzer and Winstanley, then to the liberation theology of today. Rowland clearly documents the notion that, at different times and places, Christian ideas have had a radical, critical role and have served as a basis for programmes of social change.

Words and The Word. Language, poetics and biblical interpretation

Stephen Prickett

Cambridge: Cambridge University

Press, Paperback 1988 (Hardcover 1986)

xii + 305 pages. Paperback \$37.50

Stephen Prickett, Professor of English at the Australian National University, "pursues the question of the relationship between religion and poetics, and in particular the nature of religious

language, investigating the hermeneutic, epistemological and linguistic reverberations of eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth-century theories of biblical interpretation".

Buddhism in Australia 1848-1988

Paul Croucher

Kensington, N.S.W., Australia: New South Wales University Press, 1989
ix + 147 pages.

Paul Croucher, born in 1961, grew up in Sydney and Melbourne, encountered Buddhism in 1979 and began to study with Tibetan teachers soon after. At present he is doing a Ph.D. in Zen history. His book chronicles the history of Buddhism in Australia and its influence on our poetry, art and religious life. "A colourful mosaic of eccentrics, charlatans and domineering personalities together with the occasional saintly character."

Dogma and Mysticism in Early Christianity. Epiphanius of Cyprus and the Legacy of Origen.

Jon F Dechow

North American Patristic Society:
Patristic Monograph Series 13
Macon, GA: Mercer University Press,
1988
x + 584 pages \$25.00

Materials for the Study of Ancient Indian Ideologies; Pravrtti and Nivrtti

Greg Bailey

Torino, 1985

(Pubblicazioni di "Indologica Taurinensia")

Greg Bailey, La Trobe University, describes his work as "a pilot study for a much larger study that will be completed sometime in the future. As such it should be seen as a report on research in progress, rather than a completed work." Dr Bailey welcomes criticisms and suggestions.

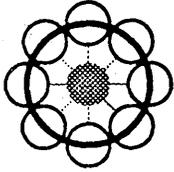
Australian Religion Index. Annual Cumulation Volume 1, 1989

Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association (ANZTLA) together with the Centre for Information Studies, Charles Sturt University, Riverina

xvii + 121 pages. Published bi-annually.

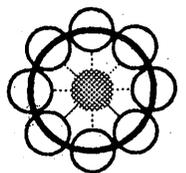
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Charles Sturt University, PO Box 588,
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650.

"ARI indexes the contents of a selected list (57 at present) of religious and theological serials which are published in Australia or New Zealand and which represent the several religious traditions. Some of these serials are indexed comprehensively, some selectively. ARI provides an author, subject and scriptural passage index to articles and, in addition, coverage of book reviews and of new serial titles." This first Cumulative volume features 880 articles and 444 reviews. ARI is most welcome on the Australian scene and represents a major resource for those engaged in religious or theological studies at all levels.



A A S R

Books in Print



AASR BOOKS IN PRINT

Identity Issues and World Religions: Selected Proceedings of the fifteenth Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions, edited by Victor Hayes. Religions are in a constant interplay between identity and change, dynamic processes in which the survival of traditions are at stake. What gives identity to a religion? How do religions maintain their identities when faced with dispersal, secularism or pluralism. How do religions relate to the quest for identity? What are the religious dimensions of various identities? These and other issues are addressed — largely in terms of specific case-studies — in this selection of 28 papers from the 15th IAHR Congress held in Sydney in 1985. 307 pages, 6"x 9", hard and paper \$A24.95 (H) \$A15.95 (S) ISBN 0-908083-14-9

An Introduction to Maori Religion. Its Character before European Contact and its Survival in Contemporary Maori and New Zealand Culture, by James Irwin. Contents: the Maori world-view; creation; structure of Maori society; Mauri-Manu-Tapu-Noa; gods, demons and ghosts; approaching the sacred; Tangihanga —the rituals of death; Te Ngaherehere A Tane; sacrifice and offerings. Illustrated, bibliography, glossary, 96 pages 5.5"x 8" \$A7.95 ISBN 0-908083-11-4

Religious Experience in World Religions, edited by Victor C. Hayes. A readable discussion of religious experience in various world religion contexts, plus an introductory overview of types of religious experiences and an analysis of the notion of such experiences. 184 pages, 5.5"x 8.5", paper \$A9.95 ISBN 0-908083-06-8

Ways of Transcendence. Insights from Major Religions and Modern Thought, edited by Edwin Dowdy. An exploration of transcendence and transcendental experience from within the contexts of Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and tribal religions. In addition, a sociologist, a psychologist and a philosopher consider transcendent experience as encountered in modern industrial societies. 184 pages, 5.5"x 8.5", paper \$A9.95 ISBN 0-908083-08-4

Religion in Australian Life. A Bibliography of Social Research, edited by Michael Mason, compiled by Georgina Fitzpatrick. A bibliography of 3,600 research publications (not primary sources) on religion in Australian life, published both in Australia and elsewhere from 1945 to 1977, with selected materials up to 1981. Aboriginal religion, well covered in other bibliographies, is not included. 264 pages, 6"x 9", paper \$A15.95 ISBN 0-908083-09-2

Interpreting Aboriginal Religion: an Historical Account, by Tony Swain. Australian Aborigines have long been a high focus of attention for Western anthropologists and have had a tremendous impact on anthropological theory. Tony Swain has investigated these Western investigators and composed a history of anthropological and pre-anthropological attitudes towards Australian Aboriginal

religion, dating from 1606 to the modern era.

Bibliography, 166 pages, 5.5"x 8.5", paper \$A10.95 ISBN 0-908083-11-4

Powers, Plumes and Piglets: Phenomena of Melanesian Religion, edited by Norman C. Habel. A synopsis of various types of religious phenomena found in Melanesia, including rites and customs which up to now have received scant attention. The materials have been arranged to facilitate their educational use. Adopted by academic institutions in Australia and Papua New Guinea. Glossary, 240 pages, 5.5"x 8.5", paper \$A10.95 ISBN 0-908083-07-6

Let Sleeping Snakes Lie: Central Enga Traditional Religious Belief and Ritual, by Paul Brennan. A major analysis of the Enga religion completed after eight years of anthropological research in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

Bibliography, 64 pages, 6"x 9", paper \$A4.95 ISBN 0-908187-01-3

Central Australian Religion: Personal Monototemism in a Polytotemic Community, by T. G. H. Strehlow. Professor Strehlow's famous study representing his mature thinking about the core of Central Australian religion, which is a major contribution to anthropology and religion studies in this area. It first appeared as an article in the *Festschrift für A. D. Jensen* (1964), but has been completely redesigned and reset for this edition.

64 pages, 6"x 9", paper \$4.95 ISBN 0-908083-03-3

High Calling, High Stress. The Vocational Needs of Ministers: an Overview and Bibliography, by Robin J. Pryor. In two parts: first an overview of vocational needs of ministers, including a summary of previous research; then a 570-item annotated bibliography with index.

Bibliography, 136 pages, 6"x 9", paper \$A7.95 ISBN 0-908083-09-2

Aboriginal Australians and Christian Missions, edited by Tony Swain and Deborah Bird Rose. Forty-one contributors explore, in specially commissioned historical and ethnographic studies, the enormous two-hundred-year long impact of Christian missions on Aboriginal lives.

500 pages, paper \$29.95 ISBN 0 908083 15 7

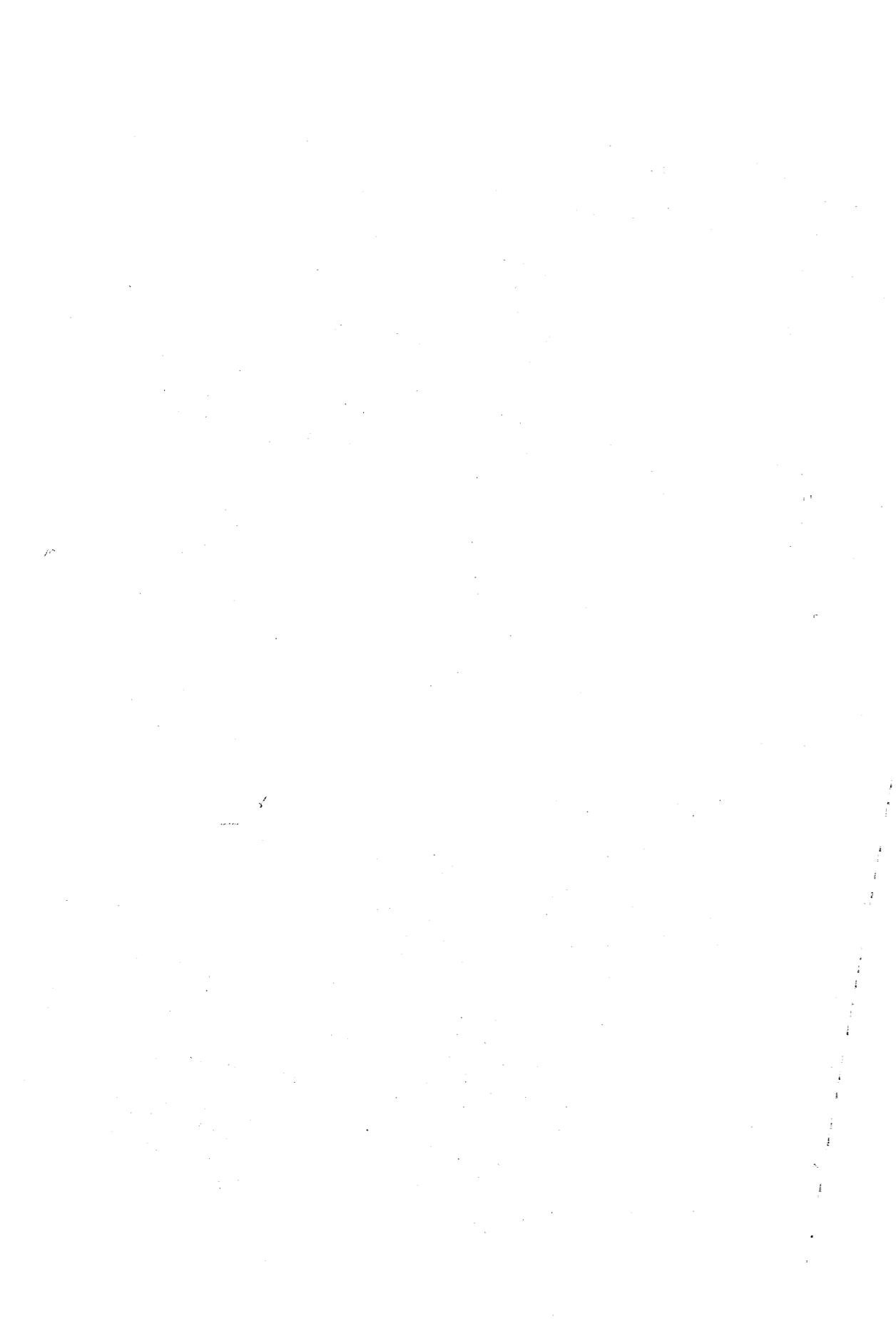
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