The Holiness-Pentecostal Movement: A Comprehensive Guide

This is the final volume of Jones's update to his masterful 1974 work, A Guide to the Study of the Holiness Movement (Scarecrow, 1974), which has grown from the original single volume to four volumes. While this volume focuses specifically on the Holiness-Pentecostal Movement, the other volumes cover the Wesleyan Holiness Movement and the Keswick Movement.

Organized into four parts, this guide provides comprehensive coverage of the journal and monographic literature and of theses related to the Holiness-Pentecostal movement primarily in the United States, but also in other countries including Canada, the United Kingdom, and Chile. Part 1 lists resources related to the historical contexts of the Holiness-Pentecostal movement. Part 2 covers the literature on the Holiness-Pentecostal movement itself, especially as related to the various churches and church bodies that make up the movement and the so-called signs-following bodies, which include snake handlers. The breadth of the movement and the sheer number of churches that are associated with Pentecostalism are evident from the wealth of resources available. Part 3 is a directory of sorts to schools, including secondary schools, colleges, and seminaries that are associated with the Holiness-Pentecostal movement. For each school, its location, dates of operation, and affiliation with a church body are given. Also included in this section are sources of information about the schools such as books, articles, and theses. The final part of the guide is a listing of biographies of significant figures in the Holiness-Pentecostal movement, primarily of those who were born before 1940. For most individuals, the entry lists their birth and death dates and places, their church or affiliation, their role or occupation (for example, pastor, deaconess, or missionary), and sources of information about them. More than nineteen hundred biographical entries are included.

As the most complete bibliographical resource on the Holiness-Pentecostal movement available, this guide should definitely be purchased for the reference collections of libraries that serve seminaries, especially those associated with Protestant denominations, although it should be considered for purchase by all seminaries. For academic libraries that support programs in religious studies, American studies, or the sociology of religions, careful consideration should be given to this work for inclusion in their general collections. There are no other sources that cover the literature on the Holiness-Pentecostal movement to the depth that this one provides.—Gregory A. Crawford, Director, Penn State Harrisburg Library, Middletown

Let's Talk Turkey: The Stories Behind America's Favorite Expressions

The subtitle of this delightful collection of American idioms makes it clear that this is not just a simple dictionary, but more of a charming etymological examination of popular expressions. For example, the entry “Talk Turkey,” alluded to in the title, goes well beyond simply giving the meaning of the term. Author Rosemarie Ostler also covers the origins of the term, other related and outdated expressions, how the meaning of the term has shifted over time, and the context for how it is used today. What makes this work special is the author’s wide-ranging, learned discussion of these points. With “Talk Turkey,” the origins are actually quite murky and allow for alternate theories to be presented and scrutinized, which is done in a highly readable manner.

Entries are arranged into thirteen thematic chapters to which the terms are assigned according to their usage, not their literal meaning. For example, “Sing Like a Canary” is listed in the “Cops and Robbers” section and not in “Behaving Like An Animal” because it is used as a crime-related phrase, not an animal one. The chapters fall under the sections of The Natural World; Business, Politics, and Society At Large; Culture and Amusements; and The Home Front. Ostler makes a point of citing her sources in her discussions and describes how the advent of the Internet has been a boon for word historians in trying to trace the origins of familiar but distant American expressions. She also emphasizes how our language continues to grow, change, and evolve.

This book covers only around 150 expressions, and that is the only drawback to the work. No matter how fascinating it is and how well written, it is not nearly comprehensive enough to make it an essential purchase for reference collec-

The third title in Scarecrow's series on literary research, this guide to American Modernist writers (including William Faulkner, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Langston Hughes, Edith Wharton, and Willa Cather, among many others) was written by librarians at Washington State University. The authors define Modernism as "an international artistic phenomenon that gathered force in the early part of the twentieth century" (101). The book is intended to provide "a clear introduction to the best contemporary library resources and practices" for researching in this area, and the authors hope that it will "enable users to improve their information skills and fluency" (x). They frequently encourage readers to ask for assistance from a librarian.

Each title in this series follows a standardized, methodic format specific to the era being researched. Chapters include basics of online catalog searching, use of standard print and electronic bibliographies (such as Modern Language Association's International Bibliography database, MLAIB), locating articles in scholarly journals as well as newspapers, tracking down archives, judicious use of Web resources, and a difficult (or "thorny") research question. Most chapters close with bibliographic references. The appendix lists selected resources in related disciplines, and there is an index.

The work of Nella Larsen, the Danish–West Indian writer of the Harlem Renaissance, is the example used to research the thorny problem in this volume. The authors use this opportunity to highlight the online availability of African American newspapers. Current researchers have alluded to the possibility of Larsen being lesbian or bisexual because of perceived, though covert, same-sex references in her writing, but this possible factor is not mentioned, and the opportunity to introduce seriously researched gay and lesbian sources—such as The Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage: A Reader's Companion to the Writers and Their Works, From Antiquity to the Present, ed. Claude J. Summers (Holt, 1995; Routledge, rev. ed., 2002)—was lost. The authors do advise their readers that to stay current on "the development of issues or the critical reception of authors," they should "periodically review the scholarly journals in [the] field," (79–80) but they do not mention the fact that many databases allow users to set up free e-mailed tables of contents or other automated alerts.

Though some readers may be puzzled by the necessity in the opening chapters for screen shots of MARC records, others may enjoy decoding the secret language of catalogers. Screen shots of the Washington State University Library catalog (from Innovative Interfaces) are also provided, and the pros and cons of keyword searching versus subject searching in online catalogs are explored, touching on synonyms and the consideration of having to use culturally insensitive terms to find material from early years.

This book (and others in this series) is pushing up a valiant battle against Google Scholar. Certainly, an advanced Google (or Google Scholar) search can be remarkably useful, but students should always be steered toward the sources that the authors encourage, such as James Harner's Literary Research Guide: An Annotated Listing of Reference Sources in English Literary Studies (5th ed., Modern Language Association, 2008).

There is no end of quality academic websites that instruct students on sources of literary modernism. There are many guides to Modernism (in literature, art, and music) but they often are anthologies with brief lists of further reading, or are a little out of date for twenty-first-century students. This modestly priced book will be valuable to librarians and faculty and should certainly be available at academic and large public libraries. It appears not be available electronically, and that would perhaps vastly increase its usefulness.—Martha E. Stone, Coordinator for Reference Services, Treadwell Library, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston