

New Zealand Religious History

NEWSLETTER

No. 2.

June 1988

Editorial Note:

The Newsletter has successfully survived its first issue and I am very grateful to all those who have expressed interest, forwarded material for publication in this issue, and contributed towards the cost of publication. At the end of this issue there is a "financial footnote" explaining the present position both in general and in regard to individual contributions.

The next issue will appear in June 1989 and, well before that date, a circular will be sent out requesting contributions.

Recent Publications:

New Zealand topics:

Barber, L. & Jensen, J. "'Henare Minita', a neglected missionary of the second New Zealand War" (Schnackenberg, 1812-80), Historical News (University of Canterbury), 52 (May 1986), pp.6-12.

Chambers, Wesley, A. Not Self - but Others. The Story of the Methodist Deaconess Order. Wesley Historical Society, 1987.

Fry, Ruth. Out of the Silence. Methodist Women of Aotearoa 1822-1985. Christchurch: Methodist Publishing, 1987.

Janus, D. With Renewed Vigour. Wesley Historical Society, 1987. (an account of the financial reorganisation of the Methodist Church over the last twenty years, by its financial director.)

Lineham, P.J. "Christianity and New Zealand Culture", Latimer, 95, May 1987, pp.2-9.

Lineham, P.J. & A.R. Grigg. Religious History of New Zealand: a Bibliography. Palmerston North: Massey University Department of History, second edition, 1987. (Available from the History Department, Massey University, for \$5.)

Nobbs, K.J. Rawiri Taiwhanga: a great Maori Pioneer. Published privately, 1988. (Available from K.J. Nobbs, 5 Homestead Rise, Aparangi, Te Kauwhata.)

Wesley's South Seas Heritage: a report of the South Pacific Regional Conference of the World Methodist Historical Society held at Wesley College, Paerata (including addresses and papers presented). Wesley Historical Society, 1987.

Australian Religious History: (Supplied by Ian Breward)

I. Gillman, Many faiths, one nation. Collins, 1988. This gives an account of 46 different groups, their history and ethos. \$19.95.

R. Humphreys and R. Ward, Religious bodies in Australia, 2nd ed., 1988. This is a privately published directory with a great deal of information not available in Gillman. It is obtainable from the authors at 358 Mountain Highway, Wantirna, Vic. 3152. \$19.95.

P. Kaldor, Who goes where? Who doesn't care? Lancer, 1988. The statistics update some of the work done by Mol and also break fresh ground.

M. Hogan, The sectarian strand, Penguin, 1987. A bicentennial survey of Protestant-Roman Catholic rivalries. \$14.95.

I.H. Murray, Australian Christian life, Banner of Truth, 1988. Though from an unlikely publisher, this is an excellent collection of readings on the evangelical tradition in the 19th century. \$36.

S. Judd and K. Cable, Sydney Anglicans, Anglican Information Office, 1987. The Sydney diocese made plain! A model diocesan history of a unique Anglican establishment.

Other Items of Interest:

This list includes items mentioned by contributors as likely to be of general interest to those involved in the study of religious history.

Brown, C.G. "Fundamentalism: survival and revival: a review of the literature", Australian Journal of American Studies, 6/2(Dec., 1987), pp.34-41.

Hastings, A. A History of English Christianity 1920-1985. Fount pb. 1987.

Lineham, P.J. "National Variations in the Great Awakening of the Eighteenth Century", in Christianity and National Consciousness, ed. John Wolffe. Leicester: Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship for Historians Study Group, 1987, pp.24-38.

Obelkevich, Jim *et al.*, ed. Disciplines of faith: studies in religion, politics, and patriarchy. London/New York: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1987.

Theses, Dissertations and Research Essays:

Borgfeldt, Tracey, "Preaching the Social Gospel: Methodist Pacifism 1935-45", M.A., Canterbury, 1988.

Threadgill, S.A. 'The Eastern Orthodox Church in New Zealand', M.A., Canterbury, 1987.

Waayer, Marcel. "Breathe the Spirit of the Age: the major churches in New Zealand and their influence on the Labour Government from 1936-1940". Hons research essay, History, Massey University, 1987.

Wisewitch, Y.L.A. 'Women's Rites: a study of fifteen Christchurch women's thoughts and feelings about their involvement in women's spirituality', M.A., Canterbury 1987.

Work in Progress:

This section is designed to put those engaged in research on the same, or related areas, in touch with one another. There is quite a lot of such research going on!

Ian Breward (Ormond College, Melbourne) reports that he is "slowly writing" his survey of the Australian churches.

George Carter (2/30 Ridgemount Rise, Mangere Bridge, Auckland), is engaged on research on Sarah Lydia Brown, wife of the Rev. Dr. George Brown, a noted Wesleyan missionary in the Pacific area.

Allan Davidson, (S. John's College), who recently returned from sabbatical leave, is working on the history of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand during the years 1930-60 and on the transplanting of Christianity to New Zealand during the last century. Where this latter topic is

concerned he is focussing especially on the work of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the training of clergy. It is expected that his Evangelical Attitudes towards India, 1786-1813: Claudius Buchanan and the British Missionary Movement, will be published by Sutton Courtenay Press later this year.

Bryan Gilling (Waikato) is still engaged on his thesis on revivalism and mass evangelism and, at present, intends to extend his study to cover the recent Palau and Ford missions.

Jim Irwin (12a Wainui Road, Ohope), is preparing material on the history of the Maori Synod in connection with the 1990 celebrations as they affect the Presbyterian Church. In addition to this relatively brief account Jim Irwin is also working on a much lengthier account of the encounter between the Maori people and the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

Warren Limbrick (P.O. Box 37-242, Parnell, Auckland), who has recently returned from study leave during which he held a Proctor Fellowship at the Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, Mass., has been working on an essay on Bishop Selwyn for the 'Dictionary of New Zealand Biography'. In addition he has recently completed an article on "Religion in New Zealand" for the new edition of the World Book Encyclopedia. He also reports that, although Bishop Selwyn in New Zealand 1841-1868 (Dunmore Press, 1983) has been out of print, a second impression may be issued if there are indications of interest expressed by orders to the publisher.

Peter Lineham (Massey University), is engaged in research toward a book on 'the Protestant Culture of New Zealand', another on the non-Wesleyan strands of the Evangelical revival in England, and on sectarianism in nineteenth century Britain.

The Methodist Church Archivist (Mrs Marcia Baker, P.O. Box 931, Christchurch), reports that, in connection with the 150th anniversary there, the history of Methodism in the Wellington area is being researched with Arthur Olsson co-ordinating these efforts. Marcia Baker also reports that Mollie Chalklin is doing research on 'The role of religion in the settlement of North Canterbury - the relationship between church and community 1850-1900.' Susan Thompson is making a study of 'The Ordained Methodist Ministry in New Zealand 1880-1980.'

Clive Pearson, recently returned from research at the University of Cambridge to take a ministerial charge at S. Ninian's Presbyterian Church, Christchurch, is completing a doctoral thesis on H.D.A. Major and the (English) Modernists.

Dave Roberts (2/10 Birdwood Avenue, Papatoetoe; secretary of the Wesley Historical Society) reports that they hope to publish a study of some aspects of the life of the Rev. John Whiteley based on a thesis by the Rev. Graham Brazendale, and a history of the Methodist Faith and Order Committee based on an updated version of the thesis by the Rev. Dr. Doug. Pratt. Dave Roberts reports also that they hope that research will shortly begin on a history of prison chaplaincies and that George Carter is planning a biography of the Rev. Belshazzar Gina, a noted Solomon Islands Methodist.

Jane Simpson (Ross Fellow, Knox College, University of Otago) is engaged in doctoral research into 'The churches and the changing role of women in New Zealand society, 1939 to 1959'. This thesis will be concerned to study "the way in which the mainline Protestant churches perceived women's role in society during the Second World War and throughout the post-war reconstruction of the late 1940's and 1950's." Jane Simpson recently presented a paper to a history postgraduate seminar at Otago under the title, "The Campaign for Christian Order: Theology and Propaganda".

Rory Sweetman has been appointed to a fellowship at the National Library and is doing research which includes Roman Catholicism in New Zealand.

Chris van der Krogt is pursuing doctoral research at Massey University, supervised by Peter Lineham and Peter Donovan. His topic involves the study of the social and religious history of Roman Catholics in New Zealand in the twentieth century.

Courses, Seminars etc.:

Peter Lineham's course on New Zealand religious history is being offered extramurally this year at 300 level. Based in the South Island it has an enrolment of about 22 students.

Conferences:

The 11th joint annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools and the Australian and New Zealand Society for Theological Studies will be held at Burgmann College, Australian National University, Canberra, from September 5-8. The theme is: "Australian and New Zealand Religious History, 1788-1988."

Library and Archival Items:

The Methodist Church Archivist (Mrs Marcia Baker), advises that the archives at Morley House, 25 Latimer Square have acquired the following theses:

Anderson, Ross 'New Zealand Methodism and World War I: crisis in a Liberal Church', 1983.

Borgfeldt, Tracey 'Preaching the Social Gospel: Methodist Pacifism 1935-1945', 1988.

Foy, Helen 'Methodism in Hawera 1874-1918', 1980.

The Anglican Diocesan Office, Christchurch moved recently to the Lower Riccarton area. The telephone number is now 430-519 and the address is P.O. Box 8741, Riccarton. The opportunity was taken to provide more adequate housing for the diocesan archives which have been substantially and systematically re-organised over the last few years. There is a permanent, part-time archivist and an Archives Sub-Committee responsible to the Standing Committee of the Diocese.

The Baha'i archives are held in Auckland and information about them can be obtained from the Archives Committee, National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is, P.O. Box 37-248, Parnell, Auckland 1.

Notes and News:

The Archives Committee of the Baha'i National Spiritual Assembly hope to form a New Zealand Association for Baha'i studies to encourage scholarship related to and study of their religious tradition in New Zealand.

Colin Brown (University of Canterbury) has been awarded a Canterbury Fellowship by the University and will be in the United States from late September to early December this year. The award is related, particularly, to work connected with his M.A. course on "Fundamentalism" and he will be spending much of the time at Wheaton College at the Billy Graham Archives held there. He will also attend some conferences organised by the Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals, one on Evangelicals and the mass media, and another on American Evangelicalism and Public and Political Life.

Warren Limbrick has pointed out an unfortunate error on p.5 of the last issue. In connection with the re-organisation of the Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church this journal has been re-named Anglican and Episcopal History. As indicated in the last issue of this newsletter the editor of this journal is very keen to publish articles on Anglican history, world-wide, but will also consider MSS relating to other topics in religious history. Preliminary inquiries about publication of articles or subscription to this (moderately-priced!) journal can be made to Colin Brown.

Financial Footnote:

The first issue cost \$41.80 and, presumably, this issue will cost about the same - \$80 in all. Thus far, I have \$35.70 in hand towards the cost of this issue. I suggested that a payment of \$2 would cover the first two issues. I shall add a note, in each case, about the position regarding your own donation/subscription.

Where this circular reaches those who have not made a donation I hope that they will consider making such. Those who have already made a donation of \$2 covering the first two issues may either send \$2 now, to be credited towards issues 3 and 4 (we do hope to survive!!) or delay their contribution until I send out a reminder notice for items for inclusion in the next issue in about June 1989. Where more than \$2 was paid I'm setting anything over \$2 against future issues. One eager subscriber has donated \$20!

Conclusion:

Please don't hesitate to send in corrections or suggestions. My renewed thanks to all those (quite a few), who have sent kind notes of encouragement.

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