

AUSINET are described in their printed form, but not as they appear online. Apart from the Australian sources — *Australian National Bibliography*, *Australian Public Affairs Information Service* and *Higher Degree Theses* — which were available early in 1979, *Arts and Humanities Citation Index* is now also available locally. Readers of SPAN would come across such a discussion in its 1979 issues. Some specific omissions which probably merit a mention are the *Westerly Index*, the *International guide to little magazines* and *ANHUL News*, but that is probably a minor quibble. The second edition of *Australian literature: a reference guide* inspires confidence from its beginning — “starting points” — to its end, and is well worth buying. It continues to be most things to most men.

Anna Davis,
Melbourne.

Stanley Morison & D.B. Updike. Selected Correspondence. pp. Edited by David McKitterick. London, Scolar Press, 1979. pp.xxxiv, 217. (Distributed in Australia by Cambridge University Press, \$52.00 Aust).

David McKitterick, Assistant Under Librarian at Cambridge University Library, has mined some fascinating manuscript archives in America and Britain to produce a book which should appeal to all those interested in printing and bibliophilic history. Stanley Morison and Daniel Berkeley Updike are, of course, two of the giants of twentieth-century typographical and printing history, and this volume covers their correspondence on a variety of subjects, but primarily their thoughts on typography and liturgical printing, between 1919 and 1941.

Morison was thirty years Updike's junior when he began the correspondence in December 1919. At this stage Updike was well established as the founder of the Merrymount Press and was working on the completion of his monumental work, *Printing Types: Their History, Form and Use*, which appeared in 1923. Morison had only begun his typographical career in 1912, so his achievements were naturally less than Updike's, but their shared interests and mutual respect soon cemented a friendship that lasted until Updike's death in 1941.

The men met for the first time in the United States in August 1924, but by that time their correspondence had ranged over a multiplicity of typographical topics, not least the gestation of Updike's *Printing Types* and Morison's *Four Centuries of Fine Printing* (1924). This correspondence was to continue, with a diminution in the 1930s, until Updike's death.

Morison was often more open in his comments on his contemporaries than Updike. The redoubtable Belle Da Costa Greene, Director of the Pierpont

Morgan Library (1905-48), was described thus in October 1924 by Morison:

Item, I met at the Morgan Library an utterly advanced female by name Greene. She talked insufferably about herself — in that silly vamped-up bohemian way only to be paralleled in English provincial life. Also she talked nonsense about my pet 'MSS, saec XVI.' Finally, I told her she was incompetent and silly. However we parted with some appearance of amity.

Updike replied:

As to Miss Greene, I have known her for many years. She is, of course, a rather curious person, and not as Bohemian as she perhaps likes to think herself. But nevertheless, I don't believe that it was quite worth while to be very angry with her for being, after all, herself, nor to lie down on the floor when Mr. Altschul asked you to dine!

Such comments and a continuing dialogue by Morison and Updike on their respective religious beliefs "season" an already satisfying meal of one hundred and seven letters.

As a bonus the volume is handsomely designed and produced by Roderick Stinehour of the Stinehour Press and contains twenty full-page plates. It is meticulously edited by McKitterick, although the lack of appropriate punctuation in the first sentence of the Introduction gets the reader away to an initially confusing start. This is not the place to comment on the pricing of books on the Australian book market, but a simple comparison of the U.S. price of \$25 with the Australian price of \$52 is yet more food for thought! These points aside, this fascinating volume whets the appetite for the forthcoming publication of the two large volumes of Morison's correspondence, edited by McKitterick for Cambridge University Press.

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