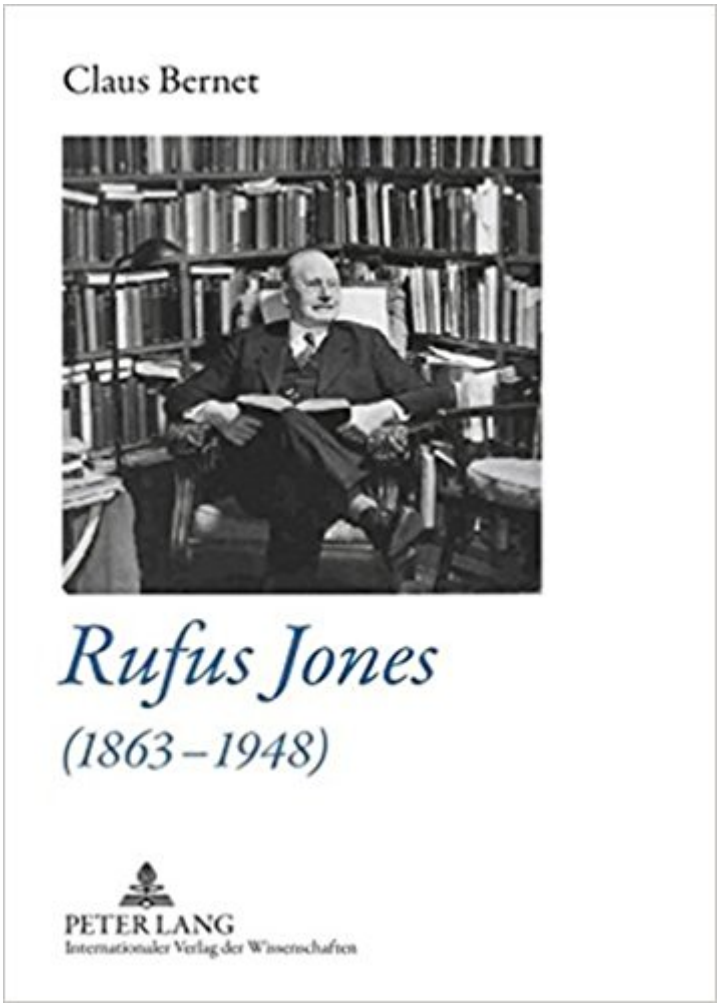
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Rufus Jones (1863-1948): Life And Bibliography Of An American Scholar, Writer, And Social Activist- With A Foreword By Douglas Gwyn



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Synopsis

Rufus Jones (1863-1948) helped organize the QuÃƒÂ¤kerspeisung (Quaker feeding effort), saving millions from starvation after the First World War. In Germany he is best known for having travelled to Berlin to seek a personal meeting with Hitler after the Kristallnacht in 1938. And, at the conclusion of a long life devoted to service, it was largely due to Jones that the American Friends Service Committee was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1947. But Jones was also the quintessential Ã Â«American scholarÃ Â», seeking to harmonize theory and practice. He was a pivotal figure of the 20th century who stayed in close touch with authors and statesmen the world over. He earned a reputation as a modern mystic and an active pacifist, and was regarded as the moral conscience of his era. His scholarship encompassed education and pedagogy, philosophical questions, church and Quaker history, as well as the political issues of the day. Jones dealt with such issues as justice, democracy, and child-rearing. His ideas are still alive today and still arouse controversy. He was particularly anxious to avoid the cultivation of an elite, pleading instead for individual growth and personality development. Over the course of his life, he was awarded twelve academic titles, taught at numerous universities, delivered countless lectures, and was one of the first theologians to recognise the significance of radio and to make full use of it. To this day Rufus Jones is still honored as a Ã Â«seerÃ Â», Ã Â«Protestant mysticÃ Â», and even as a Ã Â«Master QuakerÃ Â» and Ã Â«Quaker GiantÃ Â». It is time also to take a critical look at these honors.

Book Information

Hardcover: 146 pages
Publisher: Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften; New edition edition (July 27, 2009)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 3631589301
ISBN-13: 978-3631589304
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6 x 8.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item
Best Sellers Rank: #2,019,207 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Bibliographies & Indexes > Religion #220 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Bibliographies & Indexes > History #790 inÃ Â Books > History > Historical Study & Educational

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