Acknowledgement

It is with a sense of reverence that I acknowledge my indebtedness to the late Dr. T. Jayaraman under whose guidance I started this project, and completed a large part of it.

I am equally grateful to Dr. G. K. Das, Professor of English, University of Kashmir, who took great pains to guide me in continuing the project and inspired new insights into the work which had been started under a different Supervisor. His queries and suggestions enabled me to understand my own viewpoint better, and helped me to complete the project.

I am also thankful to Professor K. Venkatachari, Department of English, Osmania University Hyderabad, Professor G.L. Labru, Head of the Department of Humanities, Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, and Dr. A. N. Dhar, Reader in the Department of English, University of Kashmir, for their valuable suggestions and comments.

Sincere thanks are also due to the ASRC, Hyderabad which enabled me to collect material on American Criticism by giving me research grants on two occasions. My thanks are also due to the Librarian, CIEFL, Hyderabad, for help in locating various sources and references.

Lastly I thank Mr. M. Ashraf Mir for typing out the thesis with care.

A. H. Tak