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EDITORIAL

Archæological Discovery. We print elsewhere in this issue a note from Père Bauchet offering further evidence of the authenticity of the Hebrew manuscripts found in the cave by the Dead Sea. This taken together with the evidence previously produced must surely put their genuineness beyond all doubt in the view of reasonable people. The spectacular nature of this manuscript discovery has perhaps overshadowed the finding, at about the same time, of an important Phoenician inscription on statuary at Karatepe in Eastern Cilicia. A Hittite hieroglyphic inscription was also found on a large fragment of a statue. The Phoenician text is written in three broad columns and is "by far the longest and best-preserved Phoenician inscription ever recovered. The text differs but slightly from that of the statue inscription at the upper site. And Professor Bossert of Istanbul affirms confidently that the hieroglyphic Hittite agrees so closely with the Semitic inscription in length, in order and spacing of proper names, and—so far as can be judged—in contents, that the two must be regarded as forming more or less exact bilingual copies of the same declaration," Professor Honeyman writes the above in his article *Epigraphic Discoveries at Karatepe, Palestine Exploration Quarterly*, 1949, p. 23. See also R. T. O'Callaghan, S.J., The Phoenician Inscription on the King's Statue in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, July 1949.

Bible Societies. In *Cultura Biblica* for January 1949 there appears a long and generous account of our Catholic Biblical Association, its aims and activities. It is further stated that the *Sociedad Biblica Catolica* recently formed in Spain has very much the same objects. Indeed almost every number of *Cultura Biblica* contains an exhortation to Catholics to support the S.B.C. pointing out that there is a veritable Biblical apostolate to foster. In Switzerland the *Swiss Catholic Bible Movement* (Schweizerische Katholische Bibelbewegung) continues to flourish. It has published pamphlets outlining sermons, lectures and study clubs. The plans for study-clubs are specially interesting.

The Catholic Biblical Association of America. A year ago it was announced that the following translated works were ready to go to press or were in the press: Ricciotti, *History of Israel*, Vol. I; Heinisch, *Genesis*; Heinisch, *Theology of the Old Testament* Chaine, *Introducción to the Reading of the Prophets*. It is much to be hoped that possible

difficulties of publication will not long delay the appearance of such greatly desired works.

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It is now possible to subscribe to SCRIPTURE (6s. 6d. per annum) without becoming a member of the C.B.A. This facility may be of use especially to overseas subscribers.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS RECEIVED

We acknowledge with thanks the following:

Cultura Biblica, Catholic Biblical Quarterly, Collationes Brugenses, Catacomb, Pax, Verbum Domini, Reunion.

From Burns Oates and Washbourne:

Knox translation *The Gospel according to St. Matthew, The Gospel according to St. Mark, The Gospel according to St. Luke, The Gospel according to St. John.* Separately in paper covers. *The Old Testament, Vol. II.*

Palanque &c., *The Church in the Christian Roman Empire, Vol. I.*

F. R. Hoare, *The Gospel according to St. John.*

From the Catholic University of America:

Heidt, *Angelology of the Old Testament.*

From T. Nelson and Sons, Edinburgh:

Harrison, *The Bible in Britain.*

From Letouzey and Ane, Paris:

Pirot-Clamer, *La Sainte Bible, Tome IV (Par.—Job).*

NEW BIBLE TRANSLATIONS¹

THE June number of *Theology* contains an informing article by Dr. Hendry of Princeton Theological Seminary on the new translations of the Bible that are being prepared in England and the United States. Each of the two versions is to be a new translation, not a revision of any existing version; it will avoid all archaic words and phrases ("the second person singular shall be employed only in prayer"); it is to be based on what scholars consider to be the best available texts, which for the Hebrew Old Testament means Kittel's *editio tertia*; the unit of arrangement of the version on the pages will be the paragraph, while poetical books and passages will be printed in verse form. These works of Protestant scholarship will, in all probability, be many years in the making, and the panels of biblical experts will be supplemented by panels of literary advisers, made up of men distinguished in English letters.

¹ *The Old Testament*, newly translated from the Latin Vulgate by Mgr. Ronald A. Knox. Vol. I. Genesis-Esther. London, Burns Oates and Washbourne, 1949. Pp. ix + 739. Price 21s.

The Bible in Basic English. Cambridge University Press, 1949. Pp. 910. Price 12s. 6d.