(13:31); "When therefore they had rowed . . . they behold . . . and they were frightened" (6:19); "Afterward Jesus finds him . . . and said" (5:14). The literal reproduction of the Greek word order likewise has some disastrous results: "The next day *He* purposed to go forth into Galilee, and He finds Philip, and Jesus says to him . . ." (1:43).

Another peculiarity of this revision (not attributable to ASV) is its treatment of questions which in Greek have the negative *mê* (which calls for a negative answer). This is translated in English by a double question, negative-positive: "You do not want to go away also, do you?" (6:67); "Surely the Christ is not going to come from Galilee, is He?" (7:41); "He is not intending to go . . ., is He?" (7:35); "You[pl] have not also been led astray, have you?" (7:47); "You are not also from Galilee, are you?" (7:52).

Typographical errors are quite frequent; cf. 1:9, 32, 39, 42, 6:42, 47, 59, 64, 7:36, 8:33. "Permissable" in 5:10 and "admissable" in the margin of 5:31, 8:17, are, perhaps, not typographical errors.

It is doubtful whether the ASV really merits this kind of revision, which is less a revision than it is an attempted "modernization" of the 1901 version. A much more thorough-going, consistent, adequate and accurate revision of the AV-ERV-ASV translation has already been published and gained widespread acceptance in the English-speaking world. In fact, all the changes noted in the second paragraph of this article are identical with the wording of this revision which is, of course, the Revised Standard Version.

Robert G. Bratcher

The Geography of the Bible, by Denis Baly. New York: Harper and Brothers Publishers, 1957; xiv 303 pp., $4.95.

The culture of any society develops within and, at least partially, by reaction to its total physical environment: topographical configuration, soil conditions and distribution, and climatic patterns. The Bible itself witnesses to the intimate relationship sustained between the biblical people Israel and these conditions of their existence. Without a knowledge of the major physical conditions of life in Palestine, therefore, one lacks important background for interpreting significant elements in biblical history and theology.

The student of the Old Testament has at his disposal excellent guides to the political geography of ancient Palestine and the Near East in the form of Bible atlases and historical geographies. However, most of these do little to acquaint one intimately with Israel's physical environment. Many references to specific topographical features sprinkle the pages of the O.T.: *Arabah, Ascent of Scorpions, Biq'at Aven, the Valley of Achor, Jeshimon*—to name a few. What and where were they? Atlases and historical geographies (at times more interested in history than geography), and even Bible dictionaries,

are frequently less than helpful with such questions. Yet with these a Bible translator must often need help.

The Geography of the Bible meets a distinct need at this point. It is designed to give the Bible student an intimate knowledge of the Land of the Book in its physical aspects. To this end, in twenty brief but well-planned chapters, the author discusses basic geology in relation to topographical regions; the significant features of climate and soil distribution in these regions and the effect of these upon occupancy; and the distribution of routes of communication and the location of settlements as these depend upon geographical factors. In the course of these discussions, many topographical features of biblical reference are described in their broader geographical contexts.

The author, a trained geographer and long-time resident and student of Palestine, shows an expert and sympathetic knowledge of his subject—biblical no less than geographical. He knows how to impart his knowledge in an interesting style free of unnecessary technicalities. His purpose, to make the Land of the Book intimately known to students of the Book, has been admirably fulfilled. The text is helpfully augmented by many maps, charts, and revealing photographs. To increase the usefulness of the volume, a glossary of geological terms; a section of notes; a complete index of nearly one thousand biblical references; and an index of names and subjects have been added.

A clear style of type on good quality, non-glare paper increases readability. Maps of both O.T. Palestine and N.T. Palestine, in airplane view relief, grace the front and back end-papers, respectively. This volume is of potentially great usefulness; and the reviewer is glad to recommend it for a place on the field worker's shelf of translation aids alongside E. W. Heaton's *Everyday Life in Old Testament Times.*

Henry R. Moeller

All the Birds of the Bible, by Alice Parmelee. London: Lutterworth Press, 1960; 30/-.

We are fortunate in having in this book the work of one who combines a keen and informed enthusiasm for birds with sound and detailed Biblical scholarship. Miss Parmelee claims in her preface: "I have quoted or referred to all the verses about birds in the Bible and many in the Apocrypha". These amount to well over three hundred and they are all indexed, as also are the names of the birds themselves.

The lists of birds in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 are carefully examined and on page 106 there is a useful table giving the birds listed in the first of these chapters as they are identified in the A.V., the R.S.V. and by Professor G. R. Driver. Another useful section for the translator is the chapter on Job "an Old Testament naturalist", with special reference to Job 39.

There are few readers who will not find something new and fascinating in the accounts given by Miss Parmelee of the nesting, flying and migratory habits of the birds of Palestine. If we are tempted to complain that the Hebrews apparently made one word serve as a name for two or more different birds and were not as careful to dinstinguish between them as modern naturalists are, the author reminds us that the writers of the Bible were dependent on their own unaided vision to identify birds which modern watchers can observe through binoculars.