

number of Bible Society representatives are expecting to discuss technical problems of translating with a group of Roman Catholic scholars, and this will be for us a very important meeting. Those who represent you will need to be fully informed. We shall certainly need to know something of the past history of Bible Society relationships with the Roman Catholic Church. In this respect the Editor has tried to do his part, having read through most of the files of the nineteenth century, when this was a burning issue. On the whole it was a dull, depressing and arid experience. Much of the discussion was marred by a spirit of rancour, suspicion and self-assurance. The all-important thing seems to have been to score points. However sincere and well-meaning the pamphleteers may have been, their methods and attitudes defeated any constructive object they may have had. Let us hope and pray that in the latter half of the twentieth century we shall do better in this respect. If we really can find a common basis for working together, it would not be the first time that the Bible has proved the essential link of union in our sadly divided Christian world. But this is something which cannot be simply imposed from above. It must grow out of the realities of local situations. It is just here that you can help us. Here is an opportunity in which there is a new development and we just cannot, if we are honest, afford to close our eyes, but at the same time we are aware of the many problems which may be involved in any such development, and this is why it is so important for us all to consult.<sup>1</sup> If you have any ideas to express, please write to the Editor as soon as you can.

<sup>1</sup> Readers might find it helpful to read the chapter on 'Roman Catholic Translations in the Mission Fields' in *Roman Catholicism and the Bible*, by Olivier Béguin; Lutterworth Press, London, 1963; price 5/-.

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