TRANSLATION NEWS

During 1966, two Bible Societies celebrated their 150th Anniversaries. The meeting for Translations Consultants at Echo Lake, to which reference is made in this issue, formed part of the celebrations arranged by the American Bible Society in connection with its anniversary programme.

Later in the same month, the same cause brought together many friends of the Norwegian Bible Society in Oslo. It therefore seems a fitting moment for recalling services rendered by Norwegian missionaries to the cause of Bible translation.

It is our hope that we may carry a more detailed account in a future issue. Here we recall the labours of missionaries among the Lapps, in Greenland, in Cameroun, Madagascar and Zululand, in India, Tibet and in the New Hebrides. The story of most of this work on translation was recounted in one of the early publications of the Egede Institute, Oslo.

The book, entitled *Norske misjonærer som bibeloversettere* edited by H. Chr. Mamen, was published in 1960. It is interesting to note that it was published to commemorate the first complete Bible in Danish (Christian III's Bible of 1550) which is part of the common heritage of the Danish-Norwegian Church and peoples.

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A letter from a correspondent in Indonesia conveyed information about two problems which exercise the minds of translators in many areas:

'We have just been preparing short *introductions* to Philippians, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians and Thessalonians, to be printed with these portions.' He adds: 'I found the second edition of A. M. Hunter's *Introducing the New Testament* (S.C.M. Press) particularly helpful for its stimulating style and paraphrases.

'We have been employing the following *descriptive titles* for Old Testament Portions: "The First Times, God chooses His People" (Genesis), "God delivers His People, gives the Law, dwells among them" (Exodus), "At the frontiers (threshold) of the Promised Land, God's People receive once more lessons and admonitions concerning His Law" (Deuteronomy), "Joshua, God's Servant, who guides His People into the Promised Land", "The Judges, the Deliverers of God's People", "Ruth, an Ancestor of King David", "God's People, Immune to the Hatred of the World" (Esther). All these are sub-titles.'

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From Norway to Indonesia and back to Kenya . . .

At a recent ceremony held in Nairobi, a copy of the first edition of the Kikuyu Bible was presented to President Kenyatta. On the same occasion, a roll of honour containing the names of many translators who had helped in the cause of translating the Kikuyu Bible, was read out to the assembled company.

One of the names will have been that of the Rev. A. R. Barlow, a former missionary of the Church of Scotland, some of whose papers are in the care of the National Bible Society of Scotland.

He recorded, among other things, that in translating the command of Christ 'follow me', they had to be careful and avoid using a Kikuyu word which means 'follow me at a distance'.

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