

REVIEWS

Schoder, Raymond V.: **The Art and Challenge of Translation**. Oak Park, Illinois: Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers 1987. 107 + viii pp.; no price.

Raymond V. Schoder, S.J. (1916-1987), was a Classics scholar who taught for twenty-five years at Loyola University, Chicago. He was asked by the New American Bible Translation Committee to translate Galatians and Philippians. Because of "editorial disagreements" (as the publisher informs us) Schoder withdrew his translation of the two books, which is here presented together with a "total metrical correspondence" translation of nine fragments of Sappho's poetry, and a rendering into "the language of Marcus Tullius Cicero" of John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural address.

The translation of the two Letters of Paul is accompanied by the Greek text (UBS 3rd edition, corrected) on the facing (left-hand) page. There are forty-seven Explanatory Notes for Philippians and 135 for Galatians: most of them are exegetical and expository; a few are textual. The translation is competently done, but the frequent use of male-oriented terms in English, where the Greek text is not exclusive (see, for example, Gal 1.10, 3.10, 11, 13, 6.7), seems to show that the translation was done quite a number of years ago and no changes were made when it was published. In Gal 1.2 "all my brethren" is used, and a note explains that "brethren. . . includes all fellow-believers in Christ, male or female." A two-page Foreword offers a brief, and unexceptionable, statement about the translator's task—hardly enough to justify the title *The Art and Challenge of Translation*.

The publisher included *Paul Wrote from the Heart*, which has the subtitle "Philippians Galatians In Straightforward English". Issued by the same publisher, and with the same date, this book is identical (even the same pagination) with the Philippians and Galatians portion of the other book. The three-page Preface offers a more adequate statement about the translator's task.

R.G. BRATCHER

Bruce, F.F., **The Book of the Acts** (The New International Commentary on the New Testament) Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans 1988. xxiii + 541 pp. \$24.95. ISBN 0-8028-2418-8. (Distributed in the UK by The Paternoster Press, Exeter, at 19.50).

It is no easy matter for an author to rewrite and update a book published thirty-four years previously, yet F.F. Bruce has been active in his retirement to revise not only this volume but also his commentary on