was published in 1957 and Isaiah in 1962; the translation is said to have been completed by the time of A. E. Knoch's death in 1965, but I do not know if any more of it has appeared.

Dr. Duthie's book will prove very helpful to readers who are trying to decide which version to use; for certain purposes he advises the use of more than one.

F. F. BRUCE

Larson, Mildred L.: **Meaning-based Translation: A Guide to Cross-language Equivalence.** New York: University Press of America 1984. 537 pages. No price stated.

The overall emphasis of this book is on the importance of meaning-based translation in contrast to form-based translation. Because of the differences in linguistic structure between languages, attempts to make a meaning-based translation pose all kinds of problems of adjustments and modifications of that structure. This book is devoted to demonstrating how these problems can be solved for any language.

Dr. Larson has aimed at providing an introdution to translation that can be used in courses at universities and for self-teaching. In this reviewer's opinion, these objectives are met.

The technical vocabulary for the theory of translation can be formidable. Larson uses that vocabulary, but manages to explain it immediately in simpler terms. This makes it possible for this text to be used by those who have minimal linguistic training.

Of course, much of the material presented is similar to topics found in books on the principles of Bible translation. Biblical examples are used, but since much of the material is exemplified from other sources, the presentation will also be attractive to those interested in translating secular material.

Translation principles are treated in a new and fresh way, particularly on topics that go beyond the lexical level. Twice as many pages are devoted to translation principles applied to semantic units larger than single lexical items. So the greatest contribution of the book lies in the extensive treatment given to the larger semantic units, namely propositions, paragraphs, and entire texts.

Many examples are used to help to teach concepts. There are exercises at the end of most chapters to provide drill material for a classroom situation. The book also has a detailed bibliography of 14 pages listing a wide variety of authors.

Dr. Mildred Larson is Translation Coordinator of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, based in Dallas. She brings her wide experience to bear on the subject as she organizes the various topics in her text.

Section I presents an overview of the translation task, dealing with such issues as form and meaning, the kinds of translation, the semanic structure of language, implicit meaning, and also the steps and stages of a translation project. The fundamental principles given in the first section are expanded, explained, and applied in the other sections.

Section II deals with translation problems related to the lexicon. Section III presents translation problems of propositional structures (roughly, at clause level). Section IV is entitled Communication Relations; it discusses the relation-

ship between propositions in larger semantic units. And Section V takes up the translation problems found in the discourse structure of text units.

The final section, VI, gives further information regarding a translation project—organization, translation procedures, and some helpful suggestions on testing a translation.

For translation personnel with considerable training, the most useful aspect of this book is the thorough treatment of problems occurring at higher semantic levels. Many books available on translation do not deal adequately with the relationships between clauses, discourse genres, or matters of discourse structure (such as cohesion, new and old information, prominence, span, foregrounding, setting). A deeper knowledge of these matters could help translators improve their work considerably, and consultant personnel would become more competent in translation checking.

This book is a welcome addition to a translator's library.

HAROLD W. FEHDERAU

Lapide, Pinchas E.: **Hebrew in the Church. The Foundations of Jewish-Christian Dialogue.** Translated by Erroll F. Rhodes. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans 1984. UK distribution by Paternoster Press, Exeter. x + 266 pp., $24.95 or £27.95. ISBN 0-8028-3615-1.

The oldest extant Hebrew translation of Christian scriptures was what we should call a selection: a mid-ninth century translation of the Lord's Prayer, literally translated from the Vulgate by a scribe with limited knowledge of Hebrew.

From this beginning, Pinchas Lapide traces the history of Hebrew Christian literature through the middle ages to the present day. His book was originally published in German in 1976; the English edition has an extra chapter dated October 1982.

The book is equally remarkable for the wealth of detailed information it offers (both scholarly documentation and discussion of particular texts), and for its careful consideration of translation principles. Delitzsch's Hebrew New Testament is descried as a "monument" (91). The 1976 translation by Joseph Asmon was expected, on the basis of preliminary samples, to be "of the highest scholarly order" (174); but Lapide's reaction to the complete work is more critical: "In vocabularly, style, and diction this edition represents an uneasy compromise between the Qumran style . . . and the colloquial usage of Israel today" (193). He is particularly critical of the handling of quotations from the Old Testament in the New.

Of particular interest is the author's list of "seven sins" of which "nearly all" translators of the New Testament and liturgy "have been guilty on occasion":

"(1) Attempting to reconstruct the 'original Hebrew text' underlying the Greek New Testament.

(2) Adapting the text to the modern colloquial usage of the readers, for better or for worse.

(3) Theologizing or detheologizing passages that are either ambiguous or capable of interpretation on different levels, depending on the context and the present meaning of certain words.