

Revised Bible Draws Both Praise, Censure

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
NEW YORK (U) — Some like it. Some don't. In either case, the new version of the Bible today is whipping up the keenest interest expressed in the good book in modern history.

The revision has been called everything from "Satan's handbook" to "an invincible instrument of God." It has been praised as the finest English version ever produced, and mutilated and burned by critics.

"We're making progress, though," said Dr. J. D. Grey, of New Orleans, outgoing president of the Southern Baptist Convention. "It used to be that we burned translators—now we burn translations."

While the debate boils on, more people have bought copies of the new Bible in the shortest time—2½ million of them in eight months—than ever bought any book in the English language. It still is a best-seller.

Gains New Audience
"Whatever the varying reactions," said Dr. Frank H. Mann, general secretary of the American Bible Society, "a lot of people are reading the Bible, both the old and new versions, who haven't read it for years."

Demands for Bibles is the greatest in history, he said.

Most top Biblical scholars agree the new version gives a more accurate, lucid rendition of the original scriptural manuscripts than do the King James, or other older versions.

But some individual ministers and laymen have fervently protested. "The biggest hoax the Devil ever tried to put over on Bible-believing Christians," said Evangelist

Bob Jones, of Greenville, S. C., "is the revised standard version of the Bible."

Most literary reviewers have commended the new version for its readability and accuracy, but say it muddles the ring of some favorite passages.

It is "weaker, less vivid, defective in imagery, less beautiful," says Columnist Dorothy Thompson.

Oked By 40 Groups
Published last fall after 15 years work by 32 scholars authorized by 40 Protestant denominations, the revision has been approved by most major churches, bodies, including many which didn't participate in the project.

But like the King James version when it first was published 300 years ago, the new one has stirred bitter opposition, particularly among some of the fundamentalist and conservative church groups.

"It is the work of modernist infidels under Satan's control," said Rev. William Harlee Bordeaux, general secretary of the American Council of Churches, made up of small, separatist denominations.

In Louisville, Ky., a survey by the Courier-Journal indicated ministers with congregations totalling 151,000 approved the new version, while ministers with 12,500 followers rejected it, a ratio of about 13 to 1.

In Crewview, Fla., the city council outlawed Bible burning, after an evangelist threatened to follow the lead of ministers in Rocky Mount, N.C., Akron, O., and Shelbyville, Tenn., and burn parts of the new Bible.

Solo Trial to Ban Book
In Lansing, Mich., a state senator tried to push through a resolution condemning sale of the version, but the effort was balked amid protests from ministerial associations.

About 1,500 letters have poured into the American Bible Society, both denouncing and applauding the new version.

Under the version's policy, it approves for distribution only versions which have passed the test of time. Last year, it endorsed the New Testament portion of the revised version, which came out seven years ago.

But the completed Bible, including the Old Testament, hasn't been out long enough — only eight months — for a decision.

"We won't distribute or publish it until we're satisfied it will be received," Dr. Mann said. "That may be many years."

Biggest single complaint from fundamentalists against the new Bible has been that it uses the words, "young woman," instead of "virgin," in the Isaiah 7:14 prophecy about the birth of the Messiah.

Word Conflicts Vexing
The translators say this is simply because the original Hebrew Manuscript uses the word "alma," which means "young woman," instead of "bethula," which means "virgin." They say this does not impair the basis of the virgin birth doctrine, which is borne out in other passages.

Objections on this and other scores are "inexcusably inconsistent," says Rev. Paul Greffis, a self-avowed fundamentalist, independent Baptist of Conklin, N.Y., in a published analysis.

He notes the Moody Bible Institute and others who have attacked the revision on this ground previously have approved translations which use "maiden" instead of "virgin" even in New Testament passages on Christ's birth.

Evangelist Billy Graham says the new version probably is "the most nearly perfect translation in English," and should spur increased Bible reading, even though there "may be room for disagreement in certain areas."

The National Association of Evangelicals, also theologically conservative, has voiced no official position.

Most organized opposition has come from the American Council, an unflinching critic of the 30-denomination National Council of Churches, which holds the copyright on the new version.

END ADVANCE

Planes Collide, 2 Men Killed, 1 Parachutes

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash. (U) — Two men were killed and one man parachuted to safety Sunday when two Air Force jet planes collided in the air over the Olympic Mountains and fell in flames 12 to 15 miles south of here.

The crash started two fires in wooded areas of the Olympic Peninsula, one of which was extinguished immediately. The other was being fought by the State Forestry Department.

The bodies of the two dead fliers were found half way between the planes which fell about a mile apart.

One of the dead was identified by the Air Force as Capt. Cordell L. Sumner, 31, of Tacoma, Wash., and Madera, Calif.

The name of the other victim was withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The pilot of one of the planes, Maj. Charles Garino, parachuted moments after the planes hit. He drifted to a landing at Fort Flagler, near here, was picked up by a Coast Guard helicopter and flown here. Major Garino is operations officer for the 46th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron.

The screaming jets from McChord Air Force base were taking part in "Operation Tailwind," testing defenses of the United States and Canada.

They struck each other in a shattering crash that showered an area near Center, Wash., with flaming wreckage.

One of the planes, an F-86-D, carried one man; the other, an F-94, had two aboard.

William Eldridge, a farmer living at Dabob, 20 miles south of here, said he saw the two planes dive out of the clouds and collide. He said they fell to earth and a pillar of smoke and flame rose from the wreckage.

Two other witnesses, Erving Johnson, a farmer, and his sister, Annie, a school teacher, also heard the crash and saw the planes go down. Eldridge said another jet apparently saw the accident, circled the area, and then took off.

Red China's Peasant Folk Morale Ebbing

HONG KONG, (AP) — China's troublesome farm situation in Honan Province has erupted again. First it was flood and drought. Then it was insect plague. Now it's the peasant.

"The peasants' production morale still remains unstable," complains the Red party's mouthpiece, the Peiping Peoples Daily. Forceful borrowing from the better-off farmers is common practice. Often the money never is repaid.

"In some cases, even barbarous and unreasonable means are resorted to in borrowing grain from the well-to-do peasants," the paper said. The paper chided the attitude of the middle class peasants, saying they "should be more open-minded and hand out their money."

SINGER FINE RIDER
NEW YORK (INS) — Jane Stuart Smith, young operatic soprano from Roanoke, Virginia, is an all-around fine sportswoman whose specialties are tennis and horseback-riding. She is such a fine rider, she has collected a number of ribbons, and if she were not more interested in singing, she very well might have had a career in this sport.

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A Bit Of This-n-That
By

Sid Boise
George Huggins

Scene 1: Act 1:
The time: Anywhere, U. S. A.
The plot: Plot? It just thickens.
Characters: Mr. Average Vacationer and his family.
The Scene: Mr. Vacationer in a restaurant is standing barefoot in his BVD's looking at a sign which says: "Watch Your Hat and Coat." (He had been watching his hat and coat when the rest of his clothes were stolen.) He rushes to his car to find his distraught wife and youngsters bemoaning the loss of their luggage. Their car had been vandalized. "Don't worry," he consoled them, "we'll collect for our loss when we get home. I arranged for an Insurance Company of North America Vacationists policy just before leaving Salem. \$1,000 of insurance costs just \$10.00 for our three months' trip." Moral: Pay no attention to signs in a restaurant. You can lose your shirt.

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Labor Plans Protest of Fire Department Cuts At City Council Hearing

An organized labor last-ditch protest against fire department cuts and some controversial zoning legislation are expected to top a busy meeting for Salem City Council Monday night.

Six public hearings are called for the evening in connection with legislation up for final vote. One is the final taxpayers' airing of the new \$2½ million city budget for the coming year. The other hearings pertain to proposed new business zones.

Labor's objection, sparked by Trades and Labor Council officials, is to the budgetmakers' reduction of the fire department by five men as one of the belt-tightening moves made to allow a city employees' salary raise without substantially increasing the total budget.

The fire department reorganization calls for using regular duty firemen to assist first aid captains when necessary. Three trained first aidmen have been working with the captains on regular first aid car duty.

Gave First Aid Car
It was Salem's organized labor which gave the city a first aid car several years ago and thus, started a new city service which has since been widely used by citizens.

Besides the budget and zoning matters some new developments may come up if they are not crowded out of the hearings.

City officials may have a report ready on how funds could be found in the budget to go ahead with the long-deferred Chemeke Street bridge rebuilding project.

Go-Ahead for Park Work
A report from the Parks Advisory Board on landscape architect's plans for Bush's Pasture development as a city park may signal the go-ahead for park work on a larger scale than heretofore.

Another item to make its appearance before the Council is a proposed alley vacation requested by West Coast Fast Freight in connection with its terminal construction in the block bounded by North Commercial, Academy, Front and River Streets.

Other Proposals
The zone hearings are on these proposals:
1—St. Bernard's Nursing Home seeking business zone to erect a new building near the present home on Locust Street.

2—An apartment house at 620 S. Summer St. wants special business zone so beauty shop could be operated there.

3—Reinhold & Lewis, Venetian blind industry, wants business zoning of property it owns on Bellevue between 21st and 22nd Streets, between the factory and area by residential neighborhood.

4—Business zoning requested for Market Street near 17th where Clarence Wiles plans a drug store and doctor's office building.

Machine Brain Development Begun at UW

SEATTLE (U) — A "mechanical brain" to translate languages is under development by a University of Washington professor.

Dr. Erwin Reifler, associate professor of Chinese, got a \$2,500 Rockefeller Foundation grant Saturday to continue research on the project.

Thus far he has experimented with machines used for mathematical calculations, but now is planning a special machine for translating.

"In mechanical translating," Dr. Reifler explained, "the machine would be stocked with words rather than mathematical tables."

The foreign language text would be fed into the machine, which would pick out the equivalent words in the language desired.

COAL TAPPED
LONDON (INS)—British miners have thrust a 2½ mile long test tunnel under the North Sea in an attempt to tap a rich coal deposit estimated at 200 million tons. The bold experiment is being made from Lynemouth in Northumberland, England's most northerly pit and one of the most modernly equipped mines under a "reconstruction" program for Britain's coal industry.

Man, W. L. Anderson Inc., Market Drug Store, Market Coffee Shop, Rohde Shoe Shop, Calvin V. Kent Co., Carl E. Aschenbrenner, Ray & Wilma's Used Merchandise Mart, Louis Schmerber, Marckx Bakery.

zoning of property it owns on Bellevue between 21st and 22nd Streets, between the factory and area by residential neighborhood.

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World Shaking Hyphen Issue Solved at Last

HUNGRY HORSE DAM, Mont. (U) — It's unanimous now. The Columbia Compact Commission has decided to go along with Webster's unabridged and Funk and Wagnall's — no hyphen in interstate.

The Commission made this solemn decision Friday when it got to item four on an agenda filled with the technical problems of setting up a formal compact for allocating water and other resources among the states in the Columbia River system.

Some commissioners has suggested a hyphen belongs between inter and state. All agreed, to forget the dash and keep the two close together.

Rag auctions have been held at Dewsbury, England, for more than 100 years.

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Detailed information can be secured from C. W. Parker, State Highway Building, Room 115, Phone 4-2171, Extension 717, Salem, Oregon.

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