22 FOREWORD FOREWORD

ceded us, but only on a limited scale; it rendered the name "Jehovah" 18 times from Matthew to Acts. We have listed this as J²¹, and our footnotes show where its renderings occur and agree with ours. But we may be the first to render the name consistently throughout the 237 times in the main body of our text. However, many English readers will be surprised to learn that further support of our rendering of the Name comes from many non-Hebrew missionary sources.*

Parts of the Holy Bible have already been translated into more than 1,100 languages and dialects. From the 18th century forward the non-Hebrew translators have in many cases found no proper equivalent in the languages into which they were translating the Christian Greek Scriptures, and hence they have used the divine name in suitable native spelling. That our readers may appreciate something of the extent to which the divine name is published in missionary versions of the Christian Greek Scriptures, we print on the preceding page a chart. It shows 20 vernacular forms of "Jehovah" used in 38 versions, and the languages in which each form is used respectively. On pages 24, 25 we are pleased to reproduce photographically parts of pages of several such versions of the Christian Greek Scriptures using the divine name in the text.

* CHART

Versions of the Christian Greek Scriptures in 38 Languages other than English or Hebrew using a vernacular form of the Tetragrammaton (See collection of American Bible Society, New York)

Vernacular Form	Languages Using the Form	Vernacular Form	Languages Using the Form
1. Chihowa	Choctaw	12. Uyehova	Zulu
2. Iehova	Hawaiian; Kiwai;	13. Yahve	Ila
	Panaleti; Tahitian;	14. Yave	Kongo
	Toaripi	15. Yawe	Bobangi; Dholuo;
3. Ieova	Gilbert Islands; New Britain; Wedau	16. Yehova	Mongo (or Lolo)
4. Jehoba	Kipsigis; Mentawi	10. Tenova	Chokwe; Chuana (Tlapi dialect);
5. Jehova	Manus Island; Nandi; Fang; Gabun		Luba; Lugbara; Munchi (or Tiv);
Jehovah	Malagasy; Narrinyeri		Santo (Hog Harbo
7. Jeova	Kusaien	17. Yehovah	Mohawk
8. Jihova	Naga (Lhota dialect)	18. Yekova	Zande
9. Jihovaá	Naga (Angami dialect)	19. Yeoba	Kuba (Inkongo
10. Jioua	Mortlock		dialect)
11 Tiova	Fiff	20 170	Tamera

There can be no real objection for these translations to do so provided they reproduce the divine name at places where the Hebrew Scriptures show the background and validity for it. For corresponding reasons no reasonable mind can find Scriptural objection to our doing so in this English version. Rather, as our readers familiarize themselves with this version, they will rejoice over the added clearness it imparts to many scriptures not distinctly discerned before

While inclining to view the pronunciation "Yah weh" as the more correct way, we have retained the form "Jehovah" because of people's familiarity with it since the 14th century. Moreover, it preserves, equally with other forms, the four letters of the Tetragrammaton JHVH.

We count ourselves happy to be privileged to present this New World translation in the interest of Bible education, at the time when that righteous world is dawning, where the name of the Author of the Holy Scriptures will be known and honored by all who live. We shall be grateful if it guides many into right Scriptural understanding and action at this critical time when "anyone that calls upon the name of Jehovah will be saved."—Acts 2:21.

New World Bible Translation Committee. February 9, 1950, New York, N.Y.