

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Elected as the first officers of the DSNAs under the Constitution in the spring of 1977 were the following: President, Warren N. Cordell, Vice-President and Chief Statistical Officer, A.C. Nielsen Company, Northbrook, Illinois; Vice-President, Richard W. Bailey, Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan; Secretary-Treasurer, Donald Hobar, Director of Continuing Education, Indiana State University; Executive Board Member at Large for Four Years, James L. Rosier, Professor of English Philology at the University of Pennsylvania; Executive Board Member at Large for Two Years, William J. Cameron, Dean and Professor of Library and Information Science of The University of Western Ontario. As Past President, Edward Gates is the sixth member of the Executive Board. He is Professor of English at Indiana State University.

ACTIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD, JUNE 1977

The Executive Board, with Richard Bailey and James Rosier not present, but with the counsel of Eugene Thomas and other members, met over breakfast during the June meeting of the Society and agreed on the following actions:

- Anyone joining the Society before December 31, 1977, will be designated a Charter Member. The twenty-four participants in the meeting at which the Society was originally formed will be known as Founding Members.
- Committees to carry on the work of the Society were named, and the members listed have agreed to serve. Committee assignments are not complete.
 - CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION: Harold B. Allen, Edward Gates, James L. Rosier, and Eugene Thomas
 - FINANCE: Thomas Creswell, Donald Hobar, and Jess Stein
 - PROGRAM (Special Meeting, 1978): Edward Gates, Henry Kahane, Rosemary Laughlin, Sara deMundo Lo, Robert O'Neill, and Ladislav Zgusta
 - PROGRAM (Regular Meeting, 1979): Walter Avis, William Cameron, Thomas Paikeday, and H. Roche Robertson
 - PUBLICATIONS: William J. Cameron, Frederick Cassidy, Raven E. McDavid, Virginia McDavid, and Allen Walker Read
 - PUBLICITY: Robert Barnhart, Stuart Flexner, and David Guralnik
 - NOMINATING: Frederick Cassidy, Paul Koda, James Rosier, and Roger Steiner
- The Board accepted the invitation of the Department of Linguistics of the University of Illinois to hold a special meeting of the DSNAs in conjunction with the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America being held in Urbana in 1978.
- The Board accepted the invitation of William J. Cameron to hold the next regular meeting of the Society in 1979 at the University of Western Ontario. Meeting there would afford members a chance to see the dictionary collections of the University and the computer retrieval system for information on historical dictionaries developed by Professor Cameron and his students. Word of University approval has been received.
- The DSNAs NEWSLETTER will be issued once or twice a year. Edward Gates was appointed editor.
- The Society will publish a journal, for the time being annually. The Board tentatively proposed the name DICTIONARIES, but members were asked to send in suggestions. If feasible, the first issue will contain papers selected from those given at conferences on lexicography held at Indiana State University in 1971 and 1975, as well as those from the 1977 conference. Edward Gates agreed to edit the first issue, with the help of Donald Hobar and J. E. Congleton, who have been working with him on the 1971 and 1975 proceedings. Robert O'Neill, Head, Rare Books, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University was appointed editor for book reviews; and Eugene Thomas, instructor in English in the Port Jefferson, New York, High School, for reports on dictionaries or lexicographic research in progress.

CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY AND MAKING OF DICTIONARIES

was held June 9-10, 1977, at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana. A total of 58 people were in attendance. A dinner was held in conjunction with the meeting enabling the participants to discuss mutual interests informally.

The program included the following papers:

Robert K. O'Neill, Indiana State University, "An Introduction to the Cordell Collection."

Allen Walker Read, Columbia University, "The Development of the Historical Outlook in English Lexicography."

Harold B. Allen, University of Minnesota, "Reactions in Johnson's DICTIONARY to Some of Shakespeare's Vocabulary."

Gerald J. MacDonald, Harvard University, "Lexicography in Spain before the 18th Century: Progress, Personalities, and Milestones."

Eugene J. Thomas, Jr., Mt. Sinai, N.Y., "Preliminary Notes on the Gimbel-Yale DICTIONARY Sheets."

Keith Roe, The Pennsylvania State University, "Encyclopaedic Dictionaries and the Encyclopaedic Dictionary."

Roger J. Steiner, University of Delaware, "How a Bilingual Dictionary Best Serves the Writer."

Gladys E. Saunders, The Pennsylvania State University, "Metalanguage and French Lexicography."

Robert H. Secrist, Youngstown State University, "Pronunciation Guides: Principles, Practice, Performance."

Jeffrey Hirshberg, University of Wisconsin, "The Preparation of Entries for the Dictionary of American Regional English: A Progress Report."

Richard Allsopp, University of West Indies at Cave Hill, "Sociolinguistic Determinants for Status- Labelling in a Regional Lexicography."

Dennis R. Preston, SUNY, College at Fredonia, "Distinctive Features of Language Variation: Applications to Lexicography."

James W. Smith, Henderson County Junior College, "The Treatment of Usage in 19th Century Dictionaries."

REVISION OF THE DSNA CONSTITUTION

A Constitutional Revision Committee was appointed by the Executive Board to consider suggestions for constitutional revision. Some suggestions have already been submitted on the ballots that were sent for the approval of the Constitution. Other suggestions regarding the Constitution and/or By-Laws should be forwarded to the Chairman, Harold B. Allen, 200 Cecil Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414.

MATERIAL WANTED FOR THE JOURNAL

Material is being solicited for the new journal to be published annually by the Dictionary Society. Writers should remember that the membership of the Society includes all who are interested in "fostering scholarly and professional activities relating to dictionaries." They range from dictionary editors through college and university teachers with a scholarly interest in the making or history of dictionaries, rare book librarians, antiquarian booksellers, to people just interested in dictionaries. The following kinds of material have been suggested:

- Articles on the making, critique, use, collection, and history of dictionaries, including sketches of lexicographers. (Articles on vocabulary will be considered if they approach the topic from the standpoint of dictionary-making.)
- Short notes or queries on the above topics.
- Reports on work in progress — dictionaries or substantive lexicographic research. (Send information to Eugene Thomas, 24 Old Wood Road, Stony Brook, NY 11750.)
- Descriptions of significant dictionary collections.
- Reviews of books on lexicography and closely related topics. (Send to Robert O'Neill, Head, Rare Books, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.)
- Suggestions for reprinting lexicographical articles not readily accessible.
- Bibliographies on some aspect of lexicography.

It is hoped that the first issue will be published late in 1977 or early in 1978. Except as indicated above, material should be submitted to Edward Gates, Department of English and Journalism, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.

LEXICOGRAPHY IN INDIA

As reported in the first issue of the NEWSLETTER, the Lexicographical Society of India was formed in the summer of 1975. The Society publishes a newsletter, edited by the General Secretary of the Society, B.C. Balakrishnan (Address: Malayalam Lexicon, University of Kerala, Trivandrum-1, India). The June 1977 LxSI NEWS BULLETIN (Vol. 1, No. 2) reports several dictionaries recently completed or in progress. The first volume of an ENCYCLOPAEDIC DICTIONARY OF SANSKRIT ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES was published in 1976. The work is being prepared at Deccan College, Poona, under the general editorship of Dr. A.M. Ghatage. Included in this volume is a discussion of the nature, scope, and problems of the Dictionary.

1976 also saw the publication of the third volume of the MALAYALAM LEXICON being produced at Kerala University, Trivandrum, under the editorship of Dr. N.V. Nambudiripad. The first volume was published in 1965. The three volumes contain 3,650 pages; 37,000 entries; and 320,000 quotations. The work is an historical dictionary, largely following the pattern of the OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY.

A three-volume Telugu Etymological Dictionary is being prepared at Andra University and is near completion. Also nearing completion is the ENGLISH-PUNJABI DICTIONARY being made at the Punjab University under the editorship of Dr. Attar Singh.

A course in lexicography is offered as part of a graduate program in applied Hindi linguistics at the Central Institute of Hindi, New Delhi. A two-week course in lexicography was taught by Dr. R.A. Singh, of the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, in the Summer Institute in Applied Linguistics at Madurai in May 1977, and at Shillong in October-November 1977.

THE SECOND CONGRESS ON HISTORICAL LEXICOGRAPHY

Richard W. Bailey presented a paper on the Early Modern English Dictionary materials at the Second Congress on Historical Lexicography held in Leiden in May and sends the following report:

Once we widen our view beyond the confines of English, we find an amazing number of dictionaries on historical principles, all of them akin through a common descent from the great nineteenth-century citation dictionaries, particularly the Greek lexicon of Liddell and Scott, the *Wörterbuch* of the Brothers Grimm, and the *New English Dictionary* of Sir James A.H. Murray. Today's historical dictionaries resemble each other in essential ways but also differ markedly in appearance: some, like the *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal*, preserve the conventions and appearance of a century ago; others, like the *Tresor de la langue française*, are thoroughly up-to-date and streamlined. But whether their appearance is antique or innovative, these dictionaries all share a profound scholarship and a reverence for learning that sets them apart from most commercial dictionaries. Many of them are "official" dictionaries supported by government funds and regarded as arbiters and repositories of the national language; all of them attract learned editors who willingly devote their entire careers to lexicography.

The first formal meeting of European historical lexicographers took place in Florence in 1971; the second was held in Leiden, The Netherlands, from May 10-12, 1977. Since the Leiden proceedings will eventually be published, it will suffice to mention here just one of the themes of the conference, the distinction between the "lexicographer" (a person whose learning is boundless and whose dictionary does not know the limits of time and space) and the "dictionarist" (a person who produces a tangible, finished reference work). The visionaries (i.e., lexicographers) and practical editors (i.e., dictionarists) present in Leiden examined a great variety of proposals for new dictionaries and for refinements of old ones, and the best of new and old was well illustrated in the workrooms of the hosts, the Institute for Dutch Lexicology where both the *Woordenboek* and the *Thesaurus* of the Dutch language are produced. The conference was handsomely organized in attractive surroundings; good food and time for informal conversation made the meeting a remarkably congenial and productive time.

CORDELL COLLECTION OF DICTIONARIES

On September 30, 1976, Mr. Warren Cordell transferred to Indiana State University title to 1,003 dictionaries, constituting his third and "final" major gift of dictionaries. The appraisal value of this third gift was \$93,000.

No sooner had Mr. Cordell declared his intention to ease up on his purchase of dictionaries than he was busy persuading Bernard Rosenthal of San Francisco to give Indiana State University first option to buy 30 rare and valuable Renaissance dictionaries. The "jewel" among these items was a superb copy of Zacharias Calliergis' *Etymologicum Magnum Graecum* (Venice, 1499). Mr. Cordell persuaded his employer and close friend, Mr. A.C. Nielsen, Jr., to provide the funds for the purchase of the *Etymologicum*. The library at Indiana State University and Mr. Cordell combined resources to purchase the remaining twenty-nine dictionaries. This group included: Accarisio's *Vocabolario* (Cento, 1543); Balbus' *Catholicon* (Lyon, 1503); three editions of Calepinus' *Dictionarium* (Basel, 1512; Basel, 1551, and Padua, 1772); Cooper's *Thesaurus* (London, 1573); Forster's *Dictionarium hebraicum*

(Basel, 1557); Junius' **Lexicon Graecolatinum** (Basel, 1548); two editions of Marchesinus' **Mammotrectus** (Venice, 1486, and Venice, 1511); and five editions of Perottus' **Cornucopeiae**, including the Venice 1501 and Lyon 1501 editions.

With funds made available from the Anderson Foundation, the Library purchased the magnificent 1476 edition of Johannes Marchesinus' **Mammotrectus super Bibliam**, printed in Venice. Marchesinus was a Franciscan friar who was active sometime before 1312. The **Mammotrectus** is his most famous work. It is a dictionary explaining difficult words in the Bible, in liturgical books and in saints' legends. Included also is a **Tractatus de orthographia**. Marchesinus' purpose was to present an elementary dictionary for the less educated reader. The copy acquired by the Library is a particularly handsome one, in near mint condition. It is one of the earliest books printed and also contains numerous rubrics and letters illuminated by hand. The full-calf, blind-tooled binding, probably 18th century, is among the most beautiful in the Library. The edges of the paper are gilded. With the addition of the 1476 **Mammotrectus**, the number of incunabula in the Library totals 21.

In the winter, the Library negotiated for the right to make copies of the papers of Mitford Mathews of the University of Chicago, one of the foremost living lexicographers in the world. A few months later, Dr. Mathews donated the original papers to the Library. These papers should greatly enhance the lexicography program on campus, and it is hoped that his lead will be followed by other lexicographers.

A total of seven important and reasonably scarce dictionaries were purchased from the collection of Philip Gove, the last editor of Webster's **Third**.

In the autumn, the Department placed the first of three ads in **AB Bookman's Weekly**. The response was very gratifying. The Department not only picked up many new dictionaries as a result, but it has also made a number of friends who have promised to search out rare dictionaries for us. One of these friends found the very rare first Dublin edition of Samuel Johnson's **Dictionary**.

— Robert K. O'Neill

ITEMS OF INTEREST

"General, Yiddish, and Dzhudezmo Lexicography" is the name of the first lexicography course ever taught in Israel and the first one in Yiddish or Dzhudezmo lexicography ever taught anywhere. It was offered by David L. Gold at the University of Haifa in the fall term of the 1976-77 school year and is now being permanently offered as a tutorial. Several lexicographical projects in various Jewish languages have been underway at the University of Haifa since 1975.

NOTES AND QUERIES

I am working on a paper on "The Study of Lexicography" and would like information as to when and where lexicography has been taught and an indication of the content of the course.

I am also compiling bibliographies on general lexicography and on the history of dictionaries. If readers have published papers in these fields that have not appeared in my bibliography in **LEXICOGRAPHY IN ENGLISH** (eds. Raven I. McDavid, Jr., and Audrey R. Duckert), or are not indexed in the MLA, MHRA, or LSA bibliographies, I would like to receive the reference. Please send information on both topics to Edward Gates, Department of English and Journalism, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809.

Limited copies of Volume I, Number 1, of the DSNAL Newsletter are still available to those new members who did not receive one. Write to Donald Hobar, Secretary-Treasurer, DSNAL, Continuing Education, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.

CALENDAR: EVENTS OF LEXICOGRAPHIC INTEREST

December 28, 1977. 4:30 p.m., Room 521, Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, IL. Lexicography Seminar. Chairman, Professor Roger J. Steiner, Department of Languages and Literature, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19711

Summer 1978. Special Meeting of DSNAL, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL.

1979. Biennial meeting of DSNAL, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

DICTIONARIES IN PROGRESS

Philip Baker, recently of the University of York, is compiling a dictionary of Mauritanian Creole of more than 11,000 terms.

Clifford Fyle and Eldred Jones, Fourah Bay College, recently compiled a 30,000-entry **Standard Krio-English Dictionary**. It awaits publication soon by Oxford University Press and Sierra Leone University Press.

Clifford Fyle, Alex Johnson, Fred Jones, and Ola Venn (no address available), are compiling a Krio-English/English-Krio dictionary.

John Holm and Barbara Assadi (no address available), are compiling a dictionary of local usages of the people on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua.

LEXICOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

Robert L. Chapman, College of Liberal Arts, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey 07940, is writing a history of lexicography of the English language. Chapman is soliciting dictionary folklore (stories, quips, favorite definitions, etc.) enjoyed by "dictionary people" but nowhere written down.

Eugene J. Thomas, Jr., 24 Old Wood Road, Stony Brook, New York 11790, is soliciting any information about the location of books marked by Samuel Johnson for his **Dictionary, 1755**. Extant books already marked include Bacon, **Works**; Burton, **Anatomy of Melancholy**; Drayton, "Poly-Olbion" in **Works**; Duppa, **Holy Rules, etc.**; Hale, **Primitive Origination of Mankind**; Harte, **The Amaranth**; **Works of the Most Celebrated Minor Poets**; Norris, **A Collection of Miscellanies**; Shakespeare, **Plays** (lacks Volume 6); South, **Sermons** (lacks Volume 1); Virgil, **Aeneid** (trans. Pitt, lacks Volume 1); Walton, **Life of Sanderson, etc.**; Watts, **Logick**.

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