

SPECIAL MEETING OF DSNA AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA, JULY 27

A special meeting of the DSNA will be held on Thursday, July 27, 1978, at the University of Illinois in Urbana. The theme is dictionary making, and editors of some dictionaries recently published or in progress will speak on their procedures and problems. Those who have already agreed to speak are Erika Reiner of the Assyrian Dictionary of the University of Chicago; Sherman Kuhn of the Middle English Dictionary (University of Michigan); Frederic G. Cassidy of the Dictionary of American Regional English (University of Wisconsin); Dinh Hoa Nguyen of the English-Vietnamese Dictionary (University of Southern Illinois, Carbondale); John J. Nitti of the Old Spanish Dictionary (University of Wisconsin); Sharon Butler of the Dictionary of Old English (University of Toronto); N. H. Olsen on Computer Processed

Dictionaries of Oceanic Languages; and Robert A. Amsler of lexicological research in English with the application of computers (University of Texas, Austin).

The keynote speaker will be Professor Yakov Malkiel of the University of California. His talk is jointly sponsored by the Division of Applied Linguistics, the Conference on Romance Languages, and DSNA.

An exhibit of dictionaries of historical interest is being prepared by the libraries of the University of Illinois and Indiana State University.

Members of the planning committee are Ladislav Zgusta, Chairman; Edward Gates; Donald Hobar; Henry Kahane; Rosemary Laughlin; Sara deMundo Lo; and Robert K. O'Neill.

COURSES IN LEXICOGRAPHY

Ladislav Zgusta, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Illinois, is conducting a two-month summer seminar for the National Endowment for the Humanities on the topic "Words and their Meaning: A Comparative Study in Lexicology."

Participation is limited to college teachers who qualify for the \$2,500 stipend (deadline for application is March 13, 1978). Inquiries may be sent to Professor Ladislav Zgusta, Department of Linguistics, 4088 Foreign Languages Building, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801.

The British Association for Applied Linguistics will hold a Seminar on Lexicography at the University of Exeter from December 15-17, 1978. Its aims are to explore the relevance of linguistics to dictionary making and to review

current problems and practices.

To be discussed during the weekend seminar: grammatical and lexical theory, dictionaries for general and technical use, monolingual compared with bilingual dictionaries, data processing by computer, and discourse and contrastive analysis. Participants can also inspect ongoing dictionary projects.

Participants will be limited to 50. While preference will be given members of the Association, others are welcome to apply. Inquiries and offers of papers (abstract due by June 1, 1978) may be sent to Dr. R. R. K. Hartmann, The Language Centre, University of Exeter, Queen's Building, The Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QH, England.

DICTIONARIES IN PROGRESS

American Regional English

The Dictionary of American Regional English received word on October 12 of a grant of \$275,000 from the Andrew Mellon Foundation. It is hoped that at least the major part of this will be matched by funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This would fund the project through 1980, when it should be near completion.

Work is now proceeding on the definition of entries in A through G. Information is needed on

several items: **act like Sancho**, **battle-hammed**, **dead cat on the line**, **dearborn wagon**, **diamond**, **dickens/devil and Tom Walker**, **faludgin**, **gabriel ratchet**, and **gall/gauze shirt**. If these are known to you, send information on how, when and where they were used, and on the age, sex, education, and ethnic backgrounds of the speakers to DARE, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706. (DARE Newsletter, October 1977)

Canadian Bilingual Dictionary

A second edition of **The Canadian Dictionary/Dictionnaire canadien**, first published in 1962, is being prepared at the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. An English/French, French/English translation dictionary, it correlates the varieties of French and English used in Canada.

Besides the common vocabulary shared with all Anglophone countries Canadian English shares some Britishisms and some Americanisms and contains many Canadianisms and some regionalisms. Canadian French has as its core international French and contains a large proportion of Canadianisms, including regional vocabulary from Quebec and Francophone parts of Ontario and Saskatchewan (**quebécois**), and from the Maritime provinces (**acadien**, also used in Louisiana). The variations are reflected not only in vocabulary but also in pronunciation and sometimes in spelling.

Intended to be useful to speakers of both languages, the **Canadian Dictionary** gives ex-

Carribbean English

Since 1971, work has been under way at the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill on a Dictionary of Carribbean English Usage. Words and phrases used distinctively in English-speaking parts of the Carribbean region are being collected with their pronunciation, meaning, and usage status. The work will be a tool for teachers and students of the area, helping them to understand Carribbean expressions unfamiliar in their own locality and to use acceptably those in their own vocabulary.

Written sources of data are all available books by Carribbean authors and a sampling of newspapers, journals, and pamphlets. Oral sources include tape recordings of conversations and stories, Magistrate Court records of spoken evidence taken ten or more years ago, picture questionnaires, and data obtained at workshops for teachers and teacher trainees. By mid 1977, 440 books and journals had been obtained, 174 had been marked, and 123 marked and excerpted. With the other sources, this produced about 75,000 data cards, 15% of the 500,000 estimated to be needed.

Old English

The Dictionary of Old English, being produced at the University of Toronto under the editorship of Angus Cameron, during 1977 completed proof-reading of the computer print-out of its corpus of known Old English texts, comprising poetry, prose, interlinear glosses, glossaries, and inscriptions — a total of three million running words. —

First-stage concordances, bringing together in alphabetical order sentences exemplifying forms identical in spelling, have been made for

planatory material in the language of the entry word and parenthetical information about translations in the language of the translation.

One feature of the new edition is the classification of many terms by subject field, such as Arts, Archaeology, Architecture. Beside being used as discriminatory labels in the dictionary, these classifiers can serve as codes for computer retrieval and printout of all the terms in a given field.

The use of computer technology for storage and retrieval of data enables the editors to compile subject field dictionaries to monitor data collection, and to update future editions rapidly and economically. Computer processing also demands two qualities needed in dictionary making: accuracy and consistency.

Director of the Canadian Bilingual Dictionary Project is Professor Jean-Paul Vinay, who also edited the first edition. His assistant is Murray T. Wilton.

The project is under the direction of Dr. S. R. R. Allsopp of the Department of English, University of the West Indies at Cave Hill. The 1977 staff also includes three full-and one half-time project assistants (two in Barbados and two in Guyana) and one typist. An Assessment Committee has recommended funding of an assistant editor. A volunteer in Ottawa, Canada, has helped with the reading, and students from St. Michael's Girls School in Bridgetown, Barbados, have helped prepare excerpts for the file.

Funds have come from the University, the Governments of Barbados and Guyana, the Ford Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, and Barclays Bank (International). \$252,000 (Barbados) have been spent, and committed funds will carry the project through July 1978.

Planned purchase of a cardpunch machine to computerize data to be used in the first draft was delayed by a shortage of funds.

The target date for publication of the first draft is 1980. Users of this draft will, it is hoped, provide information for a more definitive edition.

all the poetry and some of the prose and glosses. Second stage concordances, bringing under a base form all sentences exemplifying inflected and variant forms, have been made for some of these. R. L. Venezky, of the University of Delaware (whose LEXICO program, devised at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, was used in putting the texts into machine readable form) and Antonette diPaolo Healey are seeking a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to produce a complete concordance to the Old English corpus.

PAPERS ON LEXICOGRAPHY AT SCHOLARLY MEETINGS

A number of papers relating to dictionary making were presented at meetings of the Modern Language Association, the American Dialect Society, and the Linguistic Society of America held in Chicago December 27-30, 1977. At a session arranged by the Discussion Group on Present-day English Language, Frederic G. Cassidy, editor of the Dictionary of American Regional English, presented "Some Unexpected Regionalisms."

The Lexicography Committee of the Discussion Group on Present Day English heard a report on a new computer archive for linguistic (including lexicographic) studies presented by Donald Sherman of Berkeley, California. Its data bases include the WEBSTER'S SEVENTH NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY. Chairman R. W. Bailey reported that the papers from the Leiden conference on historical lexicography (see DSNA NEWSLETTER-2) will be published in 1978. Announcement was also made of the acquisition by the lexicography archive at the University of Western Ontario of three and a half million dictionary slips from the dictionary company of Clarence Barnhart, Inc. The archive had previously obtained materials from the Dictionary of Air Force Terminology, compiled by Woodford Heflin. It is hoped that other lexicographical materials which might otherwise be destroyed can be located and transferred to the archive. The committee also heard about a Dutch-English dictionary proposed by a Dutch publishing firm.

At the special session on "Lexicography as a Science and as an Art" (organized by Roger J. Steiner of the University of Delaware), six papers previously duplicated and distributed to interested participants were summarized and discussed. These were: "Jacob Grimm's Inclusion of Loanwords and Compounds in the DEUTSCHES WORTERBUCH" by Chauncey J. Mellor of the University of Tennessee; "Statistical Etymologies of New Words in American English" (on the origin of the new words in 6000 WORDS) by Garland Cannon of Texas A & M University; "Sentence and Solaas: Lexicography and Lexicology in Later Medieval England" (reporting a survey of dictionary and glossary manuscripts in British libraries) by

Jeffrey F. Huntsman of Indiana University; "The Treatment of Lexemes Larger than the Word in English Dictionaries" by Edward Gates of Indiana State University; "Problems of Limitation in Some Current Dictionaries" (reporting especially the scope of DARE) by Frederic G. Cassidy of the University of Wisconsin; and "Lexical Features and Nominalization in French Slang" by Simon Belasco of Pennsylvania State University.

At the session on "Textual Analysis and Lexicography of Medieval Spanish Literature," Lloyd A. Kasten of the Seminary of Medieval Spanish Studies, University of Wisconsin, presented a paper on "The Old Spanish Dictionary: A Report and Discussion."

The session on "Computers and Lexicography" heard presentations on "Computers and the Old Spanish Dictionary" by John J. Nitti of the University of Wisconsin; and by Ashley Crandall Amos of the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto on "The Dictionary of Old English and The Computer." The panel for "Computers and The Study of Language" included Frederic G. Cassidy, editor of the Dictionary of American Regional English.

At the LSA session on the History of Linguistics, Glendon F. Drake of San Diego State University read a paper on "The Great Dictionary Wars" dealing with the competition between the publishers of the Webster and Worcester dictionaries in the 19th century and the controversy over WEBSTER'S THIRD.

"The Thesaurus Linguae Graecae: A Billion Bytes of Classical Greek" was the topic of a paper presented by Brook Tomkins of Think Research Corporation in New York to the Computer and Informations Sciences Section of the New York Academy of Sciences on December 13, 1977. It described the compilation, using computer processing, of a thesaurus covering all known writings in Classical Greek. (*The Sciences*, December 1977, p. 17)

At the American Translators' Association convention in October, DSNA member Gladys Saunders presented a paper, "How Translators Would Like Dictionaries Prepared."

NEWS OF MEMBERS

A newspaper and a radio interview with Warren N. Cordell, president of the Dictionary Society, have attracted new members to the Society.

An interview by Lloyd Green appeared in the August 29, 1977, issue of the *Chicago Sun-Times* (p. 20). It speaks of Mr. Cordell's interest in collecting dictionaries for 20 years, his gift of 4000 old dictionaries to Indiana State University, and his presidency of the Dictionary Society of North America. Not long after, he was interviewed by telephone for a broadcast over radio

station CJAD in Montreal, resulting in inquiries and applications for membership to DSNA.

Madeline Kripke, one of the founding members of DSNA, has opened a home-based service for buying and selling rare and interesting dictionaries and other works in lexicography, philology, and linguistics. This combines her interest in dictionaries as a collector with her experience in book selling. Her stock is listed in an annotated catalog of 250 items. For the catalog or inquiries about particular items for which you

For the use of definers, the computer entries are being printed out on citation slips. Specimen entries in the letter **D** were prepared and presented to a conference of interested scholars in May preceding the meeting of the Mediaeval Academy of America. The responses gave the editors a clearer idea of what Old English scholars want in a new Old English Dictionary.

A choice of computer entry-editing system will be made early in 1978. Paul Bratley and Serge Lusignan, of the University of Montreal, have proposed a system designed to provide the citations needed for each entry from the archive of texts, to permit correction of citations and entries, and to make a tape that will drive a photocompositor.

Work began on the DOE in 1970 and is scheduled to be completed in 1985. Funds have been provid-

Shakespeare Dictionary

A dictionary of the words that Shakespeare used (SHAD) is being made with the help of the computer at the University of Munster in West Germany. It will be a new kind of dictionary, taking advantage of the wide range of information available on Shakespeare's use of English words and of the flexibility of the computer to present literary and linguistic information more accurately than traditional dictionaries. The exact nature and format of the dictionary will be developed as the materials are worked over. Each kind of information will be treated according to its distinctive character. Meaning, the hardest kind of information to deal with, will be treated last, drawing on what has been learned before.

The making of the dictionary began with the merging of a concordance to the works of Shakespeare (a corpus of 900,000 words) and a computerized version of the **Shorter Oxford English Dictionary** (80,000 main entries). Now

Old Spanish

Work on the Dictionary of Old Spanish before 1500 at the Seminary of Medieval Spanish Studies of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, is currently in the stage of producing and editing machine-readable transcriptions of manuscript texts. Old Spanish scholars in various places have been enlisted to transcribe the manuscripts, using IBM Selectric Typewriters, in machine-readable form, indicating alphabetic and diacritic representation, rubrics, illuminations, illustrations, illegible text, scribal and editorial interventions, etc. These are optically scanned by a bar code scanner and stored on floppy disks. In three years, more than 50 million characters have been transcribed.

Editing is done using a computer terminal that calls up a portion of text from storage onto a screen. Editorial changes can be made on the terminal, and the corrected text replaces the original in storage.

ed by the Canada Council, the Foundation for Education and Social Development (Boston), the University of Toronto, and the Macdonald-Stewart Foundation. The staff includes Angus Cameron, Editor; Ashley Crandell Amos, Assistant Editor; and Roberta Frank, Editor of the Toronto Old English Series. Computer Consultants are: Richard Venezky, University of Delaware; Paul Bratley, Serge Lusignan, and Bernard Derval, University of Montreal; Nathan Relles and Lynne Price, University of Wisconsin, Madison; and Joel Troster, University of Toronto. The International Advisory Committee is composed of Helmut Gneuss, University of Munich; John Leyerle, University of Toronto; Fred D. Robinson, Yale University; and E. G. Stanley, Pembroke College Oxford. (Source: Progress Report, December 1977)

completed is the association under a base form of inflected and variant forms, derivatives, and compounds.

A multi-volume work is planned. The first volume will give information about families of words (e.g. **horse, unhorse, horse-back, stalking-horse**, etc.). Such questions as the following will be treated. When did the word first appear, and if first found in Shakespeare, in what play? How many words are in the family, how many of their inflected or variant forms are found in Shakespeare's writings, and how often did he use them? Did his use of the word increase or decrease over the years? The first volume will also contain diagrams analyzing the pattern of derivation and compounding in the family, and a taxonomic classification using a new system being worked out pragmatically.

The project is under the direction of Professors Marvin Spevack and H. Joachim Neuhaus of the English Seminar of the University of Munster.

In 1978, the Seminary will publish in microfiche form paleographic editions of thirteen extant manuscripts produced by the Royal Scriptorium of King Alfonso X of Spain (1242-84).

After the texts have been edited, an alphabetic concordance (associating inflected and variant forms under a single lemma) will be produced for each, using computer processes. During production of the concordances, examples useful for defining will be marked, and in the writing phase, a definer will be able to call these up onto the computer terminal screen without necessarily having them printed out.

The archive of texts will be accessible to scholars for vocabulary studies, literary analysis, historical atlas work, and other research.

Editors for the DOSL are Lloyd A. W. Kasten and John J. Nitti.

(Source: Flyer announcing DOSL)

are searching, write Ms. Kripke at 317 West 11th Street, New York, NY 10014.

DSNA member Eugene Nida, Secretary for

Translations of the American Bible Society, was presented with the 1977 Gode Award at the convention of the American Translators' Association in October.

LADISLAV ZGUSTA LEADS LEXICOGRAPHY WORKSHOP AT 1977 LSA SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Linguistic Institute of 1977 took place at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii. It was co-sponsored by that university, the LSA, and by the East-West Center Culture Learning Institute in Honolulu. One of the components of the Institute was the language planning area. The courses covering various aspects of language planning were mainly concerned with the languages of Asia and Africa.

As a part of these language planning studies, Professor Ladislav Zgusta from the University of Illinois conducted a short workshop in lexicography. Professor Zgusta is the author of the **Manual of Lexicography** (Mouton 1971) and various papers on lexicography. He is the former director of lexicographic projects in Eastern Europe (Dictionaries of Colloquial Mandarin in Prague and Berlin, etc.). He has also written several books on the onomastics of some ancient Indo-European languages and papers on semantics and lexicology.

The participants at the workshop came from various countries, including America, Japan, China (Taiwan), the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Nepal, and some African countries. Some of them were graduate students, some were post-doctoral participants; all of them, however, already had experience in lexicography. For instance, there was a graduate student who works on the application of computers to the compilation of dictionaries of a Micronesian language; an anthropologist, co-author of some Micronesian dictionaries; the editor of the official normative dictionary of Tagalog; and members of language planning

boards (or equivalent institutions) from various countries.

The workshop was conducted in two sequences of sessions. In the first sequence, Professor Zgusta lectured on various aspects of lexicography, particularly those connected with the focus of the Institute, such as: types of dictionaries, considered especially from the point of view of their purpose; dialectal, social and stylistic variation, particularly diglossia as represented in various types of dictionaries; cultural differences of meaning present in equivalents indicated in bilingual dictionaries; the influence of cultural tradition on the choice of the canonical form of the entry word; tradition in orthography and its changes; the development of standard (national) languages; the filling of lexical gaps; the normative component of the lexicographer's work; the sequence of various dictionaries to be planned for languages without a lexicographic tradition.

In the second sequence of sessions, the participants reported on their projects, problems, and experience. Each participant presented his case in a short expose, which was then discussed as to the methods applied and compared with other participants' experiences. The high level of the participants and the variety of languages and projects represented produced sessions which were rich in content and very interesting. They showed that lexicography can be treated as a coherent field of linguistic and anthropological activity, though differences between single languages and cultural situations cause corresponding variation in the dictionaries.

QUARREL: NEW DICTIONARY CITATION SERVICE

Since Samuel Johnson collected quotations from the best English writers to supply the words for his 1755 **Dictionary of the English Language**, the better dictionaries have compiled citation files as the basis of their vocabularies. But the collection is never complete, because new words are constantly being created. The G. & C. Merriam Company published in 1976 a supplement to **Webster's Third New International Dictionary** entitled **6000 Words**, collected over 15 years, and representing words having significant use over a period of at least five years. Keeping up is difficult for dictionary makers.

Beginning in 1978, a service supplying citations for new English words is available to dictionary makers. Laurence Urdang, who was an editor of the Random House Dictionary and now heads a dictionary company with offices in Essex, Connecticut and Aylesbury, England, is offering a citation service called **Quarrel** (Quarterly Report on the English language) at \$12,000 for the first year and \$10,000 a year thereafter. His staff will collect words, names, and phrases not found in current dictionaries from at least 30 daily newspapers, 60 weeklies and fortnightlies, and 100 monthlies and quarterlies published in the ten major English-language areas of the world: U.S. and Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, Australia and New Zealand, the Carribean, South Africa, East Africa, West Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Malaysia, and elsewhere

(including Oceania, the Far East, Europe, the Near East). Such a program of reading and excerpting would cost a single company more than \$100,000. The citations will be sent out four times a year in printed form or microfiche, each issue containing probably between 350 to 400 pages of citations arranged by word in alphabetical order. Citations will be collected for a new word until it appears in a dictionary or no longer appears in use.

A sample brochure has been published containing 100 words gleaned from British and American publications in 1977. Among these are (from the U.S.) **cashless society**, **charm** (of a subatomic particle), **downsized** (of autos), **Eurocommunism**, **the Fed**, **Gang of Four**, **gas-guzzler**, **hyphenate** (as a noun, e.g. **writer-producer**), **Legionnaire's disease**, **Moonie**, **neutron bomb**, **off-road**, **prime-time**, **recombinant DNA**, **redlining** (of real estate); and (from Great Britain) **punk** (one involved in a recent youth trend), **sterling house**.

Urdang expects to find between 12 and 18 subscribers for his service among publishers of monolingual or bilingual dictionaries, or from language research centers.

(Information from the **Quarrel** brochure and from the **Chicago Tribune**, December 6, 1977, pp. 1, 4.)

PLANS FOR DSNA JOURNAL

Although it was originally hoped that the first issue of the Society's Journal might be issued by January 1978, publication now appears to be yet some months away. Several papers from the 1977 conference, which it is hoped to include, are being returned to the writers to give them the opportunity to make revisions recommended by readers who assessed them. The editors of the 1971 and 1975 proceedings have decided not to make them available for use in the journal, their publication having already been delayed too long. (It is hoped to publish these early this year and distribute them as a membership benefit). One other article and review have been submitted and it is hoped that more materials of the kind described in the October 1977 NEWSLETTER will be sent in. Upon the recommendation of the Publication Committee, which met in Chicago during MLA sessions after

Christmas, invitations are being sent to people representing diverse interests in dictionaries to submit papers.

Send reviews of dictionaries or books on lexicography or closely related topics to R. K. O'Neill, Head, Rare Books, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.

Send reports of progress on dictionaries or substantive lexicographic research to Eugene Thomas, 24 Old Wood Road, Stony Brook, NY 11750.

Send articles, notes, or queries on dictionary making, critique, use, collection, or history; descriptions of significant collections; or lexicographic bibliographies to J. E. Gates, Department of English and Journalism, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.

NOTICE

Members who have not paid their dues for 1978 are urged to do so at once. Notices have already been sent to all members. Additional reminders are both time consuming and expensive.

Also, a few copies of Volume 1, No. 1 of the

Newsletter, containing a history of the Society and its Constitution, are still available. Write to the Secretary-Treasurer, DSNA, Continuing Education, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.