

OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY TO BE COMPUTERIZED

On May 15, the Oxford University Press announced plans to integrate the 21,000-page **Oxford English Dictionary** and its 4-volume Supplement by computer and to produce electronic versions of the integrated and revised work, to be known as **The New Oxford English Dictionary**. The project involves the keyboarding of the 60 million words used to record a vocabulary of 500,000 words and phrases, including more than two million quotations. The new edition will cover in one alphabet the English language from the twelfth century to the present day.

In Phase I, IBM United Kingdom is providing computer equipment and software and two data processing experts. Keyboarding is to be done by International Computaprint Corporation at Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, a subsidiary of Reed International. Employing 650 keyboarders, this will be the most expensive single part of the project. Programs and coding instructions are being developed. Completion of a revised and updated edition will take four years and seven million pounds (\$10 million), of which £288,750 is being contributed by the British Department of Trade

and Industry. Laurence Urdang Inc. of Essex, Connecticut, have been engaged as consultants. (See NEWS OF MEMBERS)

Phase II will involve publication of electronic versions of the new dictionary on magnetic tape, optical disk, or on-line, making it available to anyone with a computer. In this form, the work can be constantly updated. Additional material may be added from historical dictionaries or other national varieties of English. Material collected for the printed version but not used in it can be available in the electronic version. For this phase, research will be conducted on how best to construct and to access the database in ways not possible with a printed work. In this the OUP will have help from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, which has one of the foremost computer science departments in the world. The whole project will be overseen by an advisory council and an editorial board headed by Dr. Robert Burchfield, chief editor of the Oxford English Dictionaries, with Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, as deputy chairman.

OBSERVANCE OF THE 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SAMUEL JOHNSON

Dr. Samuel Johnson, among whose many accomplishments was his great **Dictionary of the English Language** (1755), died December 13, 1784. Among the many observances of the 200th anniversary of this event during 1984 are the following: March 4, the year's observances were officially opened with a civil service in St. Mary's Church in Lichfield, the church attended by Johnson's family.

July 8-13, a Johnson conference with 41 papers was held at Pembroke College, Oxford. July 13-15, the Johnson Society of Lichfield held a banquet, book fair, performance of the **Messiah**, Lichfield Cathedral service, and original stage production about Johnson. September 21-24, Johnson's birthday will be celebrated in Lichfield, including a wreath-laying in Market Square. December 13, a memorial service will be held in St. Mary's Church, Lichfield. December 14-16 in London there will be a banquet in the House of Commons, the unveiling of a plaque at Boswell's Coffee House, a wreath-laying and service at Johnson's grave in Westminster Abbey,

and a service at St. Clement Danes officially closing the year's observances.

In the United States, the anniversary is being observed by the Johnson Society of the Central Region at its annual meeting in Chicago May 11-12 and by the newly formed Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California with a program December 14-15 in Los Angeles. Exhibits are being mounted by the British Library November 30 to March 31, 1985, at the Johnson Birthplace Museum, at the Johnson House at Gough Square in London, and at the Huntington and Clark Libraries in California. The Johnson Society of Lichfield has commissioned 200 copies of the Wedgewood portrait of Johnson. This was originally created by the Artist John Flaxman in 1784 and is a white on pale blue jasper medallion. The Society has also commissioned a limited edition of a Staffordshire Bone China Miniature of the Johnson birthplace. Both are distributed only by Salloways Limited, Jewellers, Bore Street, Lichfield.

OBSERVANCE OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PART OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

On 1 February 1884, the Oxford University Press published the first paperbound 64-page fascicle of the **New English Dictionary on Historical principles** (later renamed **Oxford English Dictionary**) containing A-Ant. The project began in 1857, when the Philological Society of London undertook the making of a dictionary that would record all the English words used since the earliest writings, and exhibit their changes in spelling and meaning over the centuries. The chief editor was a Scotsman, James Murray, who began work in 1879, and did not live to see completion of the project in 1928 (with reissue in 10 volumes and a Supplement in 1933).

In observance of the event, the editorial staff of the Oxford Dictionaries made a trip by bus to the Mill Hill School of London, where Murray began his work on the Dictionary. In the U.S., a major exhibit was mounted in observance of the anniversary at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library of the University of Kansas, Lawrence, during March. Prepared by reference librarian Eleanor Symonds, the display (entitled "Words, Words, Words") traced the evolution of the English dictionary from the hard-word

glossaries of the 17th century through Samuel Johnson's great 1755 work to the **Oxford English Dictionary**. A photograph of James Murray in his Oxford workshop, the Scriptorium, was displayed, along with a galley proof containing Murray's corrections, a copy of the first edition, and cards containing examples of American usage that Miss Symonds collected and sent for the OED Supplement now in progress. Other Oxford dictionaries were also exhibited — the Shorter, Concise, Pocket, and Oxford Minidictionary. For comparison, the dictionaries were opened to the word "cat." An edition of the French Academy's dictionary, which prescribes good usage, was also shown. The exhibit brought English dictionaries down to the present with some examples of specialized works (as rhyming and pronouncing dictionaries) and computer-assisted lexicography (discs on which are stored definitions for the Dictionary of American Regional English, in progress at the University of Wisconsin).

The editors of the Newsletter hope to hear of other observances to report in the fall issue.

WOMAN CAMPAIGNS TO GET WORD IN DICTIONARY

A court secretary in Connecticut could not find a legal term familiar to her in her **Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary** and campaigned for eight years to get it in. According to an article in the Hartford, Connecticut, **Courant** published in September 1983, Dorothy Voyer, administrative secretary for the Vernon Superior Court, heard the word **aggrievement** (meaning 'the quality or state of being aggrieved') in court and tried to look it up to be sure she had spelled it correctly. Not finding it but continuing to hear it and to find it in Connecticut statutes and even in the newspaper, she wrote to the Merriam Company saying she thought it should be in the dictionary. An editor replied that for it to be entered, more evidence indicating widespread use was needed. Ms. Voyer then began an eight-year campaign to supply the evidence, sending quotations from wherever she could find them. With the publication of the **Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dic-**

tionary last year, her efforts were crowned with success. The editors had considered the citations she sent, along with a million and a half for other words collected since the publication of the previous edition, and included **aggrievement** as one of the 11,000 added.

The article notes that editors at the company spend an hour or two each day reading books, magazines, newspapers, and other publications to find new words and new meanings and to collect examples of their use (citations) for the file. The Merriam-Webster files now contain 13 million citations. For the **Collegiate**, only about one in twenty words represented in the file have evidence of enough use to be included. Legal terms do not make the splash that terms in some other fields do — the computer term **floppy disk**, for example, was an almost instant candidate for entry, producing dozens of citations in a few months. (Article sent in by Frank Nuessel)

DICTIONARY EDITORS ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT WORDS

- The Language Research Service of Merriam-Webster Inc. offers owners of Merriam-Webster dictionaries the privilege of answers about words and their usage from their editorial resources — at no cost. Resources include the largest dictionary staff in America and a library of more than 13 million word citations and a data collection program that produces thousands of new citations every year. Questions about word origins and pronunciations, shades of meaning, variants and slang, new coinages, and changes in usage over the centuries will be answered promptly.

Only written inquires are accepted and they must be accompanied by a stamped-self-addressed envelope. Send your questions to Language Research Service, Merriam-Webster Inc., P.O. Box 281, Springfield, Massachusetts 01101. (BAK)

- A permanent free service — the Oxford Word and Language Service or OWLS — was established in the spring of 1983 to answer questions and problems about language. After the British news media published stories on the service, the letters and phone calls began pour-

ing in. About 30 lexicographers and their books, millions of quotations from publications of every kind, and their computer terminals are available for retrieving the answers which the general public needs. The requests range from the word for a collector of fire helmets (there is none), a collector of postcards

(deltiologist), to the word for mud at the bottom of a stagnant pool (iper). For anyone not finding needed words in the Oxford dictionaries, send written inquiries to OWLS, 37a St. Giles', Oxford OX1 3LD, England, or telephone the hot-line (code 0865) 56767. (BAK)

PLANS FOR DSNA 1985 MEETING

The 1985 biennial meeting of the DSNA will be held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor during the last week of August. A week of interesting events is planned, beginning with the 12th International Systemics Workshop. As in 1981 and 1983, the American Dialect Society will hold its summer meeting jointly with DSNA.

Chair of the Program Committee is Robert E. Lewis, Professor of English and Editor of the **Middle English Dictionary**, in progress at the University. (See NEWS OF MEMBERS) Also on the Committee to date are Richard W. Bailey (editor of **Dictionaries: Journal of the DSNA**) and Thomas Toon of the English faculty.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR LEXICOGRAPHY

The EURALEX Executive Board has met four times since the foundation of the Association to revise the Constitution, agree on a new membership structure, initiate a system of regional representatives, establish contacts with other bodies, and plan publications and meetings. A working party planned a one-day research seminar in London on June 13 on the "The Use of Learners' Dictionaries." An interim issue of the EURALEX BULLETIN was issued by the Secretary, Reinhard Hartmann, in March, and the first regular issue was expected to appear in April. Editor of the **Bulletin** is Robert Ilson, Survey of English Usage, University of London. With the DSNA, Euralex is cooperating in the publication of the series of monograph supplements to the annual **Lexicographica** published by Max Niemeyer of Tuebingen.

Revised categories of membership and annual subscriptions are as follows: Full Member — in work of direct relevance to lexicography, L8 sterling (or, in each case, the equivalent in US

dollars); Honorary — invited by the Association because of outstanding contributions to lexicography, exempt; Associate — 1) in full-time studies or engaged in a training program in lexicography or a related field 2) retired from full-time employment directly related to lexicography, L4; Institutional — university, academy, training centre, publisher, etc. with an interest in lexicography as a profession, L25; and Supporting — anyone not in lexicographical work but interested in supporting the work of the Association, L25. Initial membership in the Association was formed by the 270 registrants at the International Conference on Lexicography at Exeter in September 1983. The applications of new members must be accompanied by a sponsorship form signed by a Full or Honorary Member. Membership runs from April through March. For further information, write the Membership Secretary, Professor N. E. Osselton, Department of English Language, University of Newcastle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RU England. (EURALEX BULLETIN)

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Lists of references and photocopies of material on the Webster-Worcester Dictionary War, the Oxford English Dictionary, and other 19th and 20th century dictionaries are being compiled by Theodore P. Haebler of Lynn, Massachusetts, from the holdings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston Public Library,

Princeton University Library, and various catalogs and bibliographies. He is depositing copies of his research in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections of the Cunningham Memorial Library at Indiana State University, Terre Haute. By 1 February, about 1000 items had been sent.

NEW DICTIONARY RESEARCH CENTRE AT EXETER

A new Dictionary Research Centre was officially inaugurated on May 1, 1984 when the University of Exeter Language Centre celebrated its 10th birthday. Gabriele Stein, Professor of English at Hamburg University and first Chairman of EURALEX, gave a lecture on the English dictionary.

The DRC has been established with the following objectives: 1) to promote systematic research into lexicography at the University of Exeter; 2) to facilitate visits and lectures by experts in dictionary-making; 3) to build up a body of

materials for the exchange of information on lexicography; 4) to arrange meetings and sponsor publications; and 5) to support the activities of lexicographical associations in Europe and worldwide.

Membership is open to staff and students of the University of Exeter as well as visiting scholars and practitioners. Plans are for a lecture series to begin in October 1984 and it is hoped that the DRC will sponsor occasional publications, such as bibliographical guides to different aspects of dictionary-making. (LEXeter Newsletter No. 1, March 1984.)

CONFERENCES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS ON LEXICOGRAPHY

- The Lexicography Discussion Group of the Modern Language Association met in New York on December 28, 1983 and heard papers by David L. Vandermeulen (University of Wisconsin) on "Use of a Microcomputer at the DARE" and by Raoul N. Smith (GTE Laboratories, Waltham, Mass.) on "Extracting Lexico-Semantic Relations from Machine-Readable Dictionaries." Chair was Gladys E. Saunders, University of Virginia.
- The English and German departments of the University of Copenhagen conducted the Second International Symposium on Lexicography on May 16-17. Papers were read which dealt with theoretical aspects of lexicography and some were prepared about specific dictionary problems. Lexicographers from the Nordic countries, Germany, and Great Britain attended the Symposium. Publication of the proceedings will be handled by Karl Hyldgaard-Jensen (Germanic philology) and Arne Zettersten (English) at the University, 84 Njalsgade, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark. (BAK)
- EURALEX sponsored a seminar on June 13 to promote research into the use of learner's dictionaries, with the aim of identifying areas of difficulty and potential error for the user. The seminar was initiated by Sue Atkins, convened by R.R.K. Hartmann, and chaired by Anthony Cowie. The dozen members of a small working party began the planning for a larger conference, possibly for Spring 1985, for reporting their preliminary research findings, new projects, and discussing and coordinating further research plans. (BAK)
- A Colloquium on Lexicography will be held at Bedford College of London University September 13-16 under the auspices of the United States-United Kingdom Educational Commission (Fulbright Commission). Plann-

ed are seven talks and four panel presentations. About 30 lexicographers from the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States are being invited to attend. Director of the colloquium is Mr. J.O.A. Herrington, US-UK Educational Commission, 6 Porter St., London W1M 2HR, England.

"The Cordell Collection of Dictionaries and Johnson's Lexicographic Presence: The Love of Books in Two Centuries" was the title of a lecture given by James B. Misenheimer of Indiana State University, Terre Haute, before the Johnson Society of London on December 17, 1983.

"How to Present Grammatical Information in a Learner's Dictionary of English" was the topic of a paper given by Dinh-Hoa Nguyen on March 9 at the 18th Annual Convention of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages in Houston, Texas.

Two papers on Johnson's **Dictionary** are to be given at the Samuel Johnson Commemorative Conference at Pembroke College, Oxford, July 8-13: on Johnson's use of examples from Dryden (given by Keith Walker, University College, London) and on Johnson's approach to synonymy (by Katie Wales, Royal Holloway). (For information, write Dr. J. D. Fleeman, Pembroke College, Oxford OX1 1DW, England.)

"Using Comparisons: Historical Dictionaries and Specialized Dictionaries," given by Thomas L. Clark (U. of Nevada, Las Vegas) on July 17, 1984, at the Fifth International Conference on Methods in Dialectology held at the University of Victoria, B. C., reports Clark's quest for historical information for his **Dictionary of Gaming and Gambling terms**, in the OED and American historical dictionaries, and in specialized dictionaries and the DARE files.

COMPUTER LEXICOGRAPHY

A computer data base that can (for a price) be used for lexicographic and other language studies is the International Computer Archive of Modern English at the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities; available are the Brown U. Corpus in several forms, the LOB corpus — a British corpus with 500 text samples of 2000 words each, and the London-Lund Corpus of educated Spoken English with 87 texts of 5000 words each. One can also get information about

word frequencies in British and American English. For information on ICAME, available corpora, etc. or for a free copy of the **ICAME News** (No. 7, May 1983, has 70 pages, including a 20-page article on grammatical tagging of the Lancaster-Oslo/Bergen corpus of British English), write the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities, P.O. Box 53, N-5014 Bergen University, Norway. (NADS, Jan. '84)

NEW DICTIONARIES

- The first full record of Australian English appeared early in 1982 — **The Macquarie Dictionary**, compiled over 11 years under the editorship of Dr. Arthur Delbridge by faculty at the Macquarie University near Sydney and the Australian National University in Canberra. The work contains 2062 pages and cost more than a million dollars to produce. Funds came mostly from a South Australian

newspaper, the **Advertiser** of Adelaide. The first printing of 50,000 copies sold out in three months despite a price of \$50. Several abridgements have been made — the **Concise Macquarie**, the **Pocket Macquarie**, and the **Handy Macquarie**.

The English of Australia began when debtors and criminals were transported from England to what is now the Sydney area in 1788. Later

settlers, attracted especially by the gold rush of the mid-19th century, added many other dialects, which all blended into the present Australian language. Australians have often felt that their language, especially its more colloquial varieties, was inferior to the cultivated speech of Britain. It is hoped that this dictionary will give the people a greater respect for their own mother tongue. Already the Australian Broadcasting Company, some newspapers, and some state education departments have adopted the vocabulary of the Macquarie as a standard for usage.

Among the Australianisms in the new dictionary are **swagman** 'hobo', **jumbuck** 'sheep', **billabong** 'water hole', **galah session** 'a time set aside for women in isolated outback areas to converse with one another by radio,' and 67 entries derived from the word **bush**, such as **bushranger** 'bandit'. The origins of some words and phrases are obscure, e.g. **beyond the black stump** 'very remote' and **don't come the raw prawn** 'don't pull a fast one on me'. (Information from the *New York Times* of March 17, 1983.)

- Houghton Mifflin will publish its **Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary** on July 15. Anne Soukhanov, the managing editor of the project, says that the defining style and format are radically different from the **American Heritage Dictionary** (1982) and that the definitions will follow Noah Webster's traditions more closely. **Webster's II** is an abridged, college level, adult dictionary with approximately 200,000 senses in its 1536 pages. It is intended to meet the needs of home, office, and school with its new design, typeface, art program, and concise defining style.

The art is different from the renowned AHD in employing 400 line drawings embedded in text for such words as "dreadlocks," which the user might have difficulty envisioning. The defining style is more economical than the full, literary definitions of the AHD — describing words in phrasal form with increased emphasis on cross references. The etymologies are at the beginning of the entries, whereas in the AHD they follow the definitions.

Webster's II contains more verbal illustrations than the AHD, 900 synonym studies, and about 300 "word history paragraphs," a feature unique to this new dictionary. The usage program is also different from the AHD's. Usage notes were written by the staff on the basis of citational evidence and a long usage essay is included in the front matter. The essay covers pertinent questions such as negotiating subject/verb agreement and using "that" and "which" for restrictive and non-restrictive clauses. Another inclusion in the front matter is a guide to diction, examining hundreds of clichés and redundant phrases, which should be useful for students and business writers. Sections on typing research

papers and styles of business letters with many full examples are also in the front of **Webster's II**, as well as an essay about Noah Webster. There is a guide to foreign words and phrases in the back.

Houghton Mifflin's dictionaries and citations are in computer database form, enabling the staff to make new and different dictionaries much more quickly than other publishing houses. The electronic database allowed the Houghton Mifflin staff to add many new words including "hacker," "freebase," "fast track," "Vietnam syndrome," "Yuppie," and "AIDS."

Soukhanov and editor Dolores Harris concentrated on Noah Webster's traditions and principles in working on **Webster's II** during the past 1½ years. "This is a time of tremendous vocabulary change and syntactic change due mainly to technical advancement," Harris says. "We can take advantage of this exciting and fertile time of change because our data is in electronic form. This is the very principle Noah Webster enjoyed most — describing the lexicon of the language completely, the way it is used at that moment in time.

"Though **Webster's II** and the AHD were prepared for two different sets of users, they are meant to complement one another," Soukhanov said. The AHD contains the more literary approach, with the encyclopedia definitions, usage panel notes, and the elaborate pictures, while **Webster's II** has phrasal-form definitions in a concise style, usage guidance based strictly on citations, and is meant as a tribute to "the historical debt to Webster which is the basis for all lexicographical work," said Harris. The hard-cover dictionary will sell for \$14.95 and a paperback edition is planned. (BAK)

- The **Longman Dictionary of Psychology and Psychiatry** was published in 1983 under the imprint of Walter D. Glanze. Glanze spent a good share of the last three years editing, designing, and producing the dictionary whose editor-in-chief was Robert M. Goldenson, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. Created from primary sources of the past two decades, this dictionary was made to reflect the living vocabulary of the behavioral and cognitive sciences. Older terms that have special historical value are also included in the 21,164 entries. An unusual number of cross references — 10,750 — were included.

The dictionary encompasses the terms of all the psychosciences as well as terms from fields with which the psychosciences interact. It was written to be accessible to the general reader. There are also some lexicographical innovations which are "uncommon in a subject dictionary," said Glanze. The 832-page book is available for \$39.95 from Longman Book Division, 1560 Broadway, New York, New York 10036. (BAK)

- **Prefixes: and Other Word-Initial Elements of English**, a Laurence Urdang Reference Book, has just been published by Gale Research Company. The 533-page volume is a dictionary of nearly 3,000 common and technical prefixes and similar elements that frequently occur at the beginnings of English words. Those listed were found in at least five examples. Each of the entries in **Prefixes** includes the following information: number, in sequence; descriptive text detailing the origin, meaning, and use; illustrative examples; variant forms; related forms with references to full entries elsewhere in the book; and cognate forms, also found as full entries. A comprehensive index of all elements in the text is included. Alexander Humez served as Editor; Laurence Urdang as Editorial Director. The book is priced at \$48.00 and is available from Gale, Book Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226. (BAK)

Mottoes, a new tool for genealogical research covering over 9,000 mottoes of people and places was prepared by Laurence Urdang, Editorial Director; Ceila Dame Robbins, Editor; and Frank R. Abate, Associate Editor (Gale, 1984 \$60.00). It is a collection of mottoes from around the world and throughout history, with English translations for foreign examples and with entries arranged by thematic categories. Alphabetical indexes of mottoes and the individuals, families, and other entities that used them is included. **Slogans**, a collection of more than 7,000 slogans, rallying cries, and other exhortations was published in 1983 (Gale, \$48.00) with Laurence Urdang as Editorial Director and Ceila Dame Robbins as Editor. (BAK)

- **Webster's New World Misspeller's Dictionary**, published in 1983 by Simon and Schuster, is a help for people with spelling problems. It lists common misspellings and phonetic respellings and provides the correct spelling. It also lists homonyms and indicates their meanings to help the writer determine which form is the one wanted. There are 15,000 entries. Price is \$3.50. One of the compilers was DSN member Jennifer Robinson.
- A spelling guide, **Word City**, by Marvin Morrison, was published in November 1982. If one can pronounce a word, one can nearly always find the correct spelling in it; words are listed alphabetically by the consonants they have when pronounced. Thus **peignoir** is listed under PNWR, **yacht** YT. Words with vowels before and/or after a single consonant take longer to locate — at N there are 22 — but this is exceptional. 45,000 words are listed. Cost is \$4.95 from Pilot Light, P.O. Box 305, 1014 South Indian Creek Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30086.
- The **Oxford Student's Dictionary of American English** (1983) is an adaptation of the **Oxford Student's Dictionary of Current English** by A. S. Hornby, designed for those learning English as a second language on an intermediate level.

It contains about 35,000 words and phrases with 50,000 examples of use. Pronunciation is given using the International Phonetic Alphabet; detailed information is given on style and grammar (e.g. whether a noun is countable). Cost is \$11.95 hardcover, \$5.95 paper. It supplements the **Oxford Elementary Learner's Dictionary of English** — also published in 1983, with 10,000 entries and the more advanced **Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English** by Hornby, Cowie, and Gimson (50,000 entries). Oxford also markets a pocket ESL dictionary, **Oxford Keys-English Dictionary**, with 17,000 entries. A set of exercises, **Use Your Dictionary**, by Adrian Underhill, is also available. (For information, write Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Ave., New York, New York 10016.)

- The fourth and fifth fascicles of the **Dictionnaire etymologique de l'ancien francais** appeared in 1982 and 1983. The project is under the editorship of Kurt Baldinger with the collaboration of Jean-Denis Gendron and Georges Straka. The first three fascicles (all five so far in the letter G) were published in 1974 by the Laval University Press, along with a bibliography and index. The transfer of the editing from Quebec to Heidelberg resulted in a temporary suspension of publication; the publisher is Max Niemeyer Verlag of Tübingen. The dictionary is to cover the entire vocabulary of the French language from the oldest manuscripts to the middle of the 14th century. Each article treats a group of etymologically related words, with numerous citations.
- The first full-size **English-Russian/Russian-English Dictionary** to be compiled in the United States has been published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Kenneth Katzner spent 18 years compiling the dictionary alone on an Underwood standard typewriter, using 60,000 index cards of citations. The book is also the first to be based on American rather than British English and the first full-size dictionary published anywhere to contain English-Russian and Russian-English sections in one volume.

Unlike its Soviet counterparts, the Katzner dictionary is designed primarily for the native speaker of English, though Russian speakers should also find it useful. All explanatory notes are in English. The irregularities in Russian verb conjugations and noun declensions appear at the beginning of the entry for the given Russian word. In the English-Russian section, all English words with multiple meanings are numbered and defined. In addition, the two halves mirror one another; any Russian word given as the equivalent of any English word appears as an entry in the other section, and vice versa. The book is available through Wiley-Interscience, 605 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10158 (Attn: Jules Kazimir, Dept. 092) for \$69.95 (BAK)

- Two new Chinese Dictionaries have been reported by DSN member Thomas Creamer.

Jianming Hanying Cidian (A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary) was compiled at the Beijing Languages Institute and published by the Commercial Press in 1982. Containing 838 pages, it is intended for foreign learners of Chinese, and is also useful to Chinese translators, teachers and students of English. Its 20,000 entries include commonly used general and technical words, set phrases, and sayings.

Shiyang Hanying Cidian (A Practical Chinese-English Dictionary) by Ding Guangxun et al. was published in 1983 in Nanjing by the Jiangsu People's Publishing House. A general dictionary, it contains 1388 pages, 4600 single characters, and 36000 combinations. Pronunciation is given only for single characters. The work is intended for teachers and students in

middle schools and colleges and for translators.

The CETA Group Bulletin (Winter 1983) reports another Chinese publication. **A Chinese English Dictionary of Idioms**, has been prepared by the Dictionary Editing Group of the English Department of the Beijing Foreign Languages Institute (who also made **A Chinese-English Dictionary**, 1978). It contains 6251 entries in pinyin order. Each entry includes the Chinese characters, pinyin romanization, and English translation. Examples are often given from recent usage or literary works. Others listed are an English-Chinese microcomputer dictionary, E-C acoustics dictionary, particle physics section of a physics dictionary, and seven medical dictionaries.

NEW EDITIONS

- A second edition of **Picturesque Expressions**, edited by Walter M. Hunsinger, was brought out in 1983 (Gale, \$65.00) and a third edition of **-Ologies and -Isms**, edited by Laurence Urdang with Anne L. Ryle and Tanya H. Lee, is scheduled for early this year (Gale, \$74.00). A second edition of **Allusions** is planned for 1984. Other Urdang books published by Gale in 1983 were **Holidays and Anniversaries** and **Fine and Applied Arts Terms Index**. (BAK)
- The Collins-Klett German-English/English-German Dictionary (in two volumes) was published on 24 November 1983 by Collins Publishers of London and Klett Verlag in Germany. Based on the Collins German Dictionary, the work contains 90,000 entries with indication

of which meaning of a translation equivalent is intended, phrases showing use of words in context, style labels, and indication of the provenance of regional variants. Appendices include sections on German and English grammar, irregular verbs, weights and measures, and Christian names. Cost is L 7.95 or DM 26.80.

- A third edition of the **Learner's Chinese-English Dictionary** (Xuexi Hanying Cidian) was published in 1980 by Nanyang Siang Pau and Umum Publisher in Singapore. In 666 pages, it contains 5000 words and 15,000 phrases, with examples of use. (Thomas Creamer, Ed.)

NEW DSNA PUBLICATIONS

- In March **DICTIONARIES: JOURNAL OF THE DICTIONARY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA**, No. 5 (1983) appeared. It contains 136 pages with articles on the Cordell Collection of Dictionaries at Indiana State University; on the relationship between the first citations of old medical terms in the OED and their antedatings from medical texts published between 1547 and 1612; how the Dictionary of Trinidadian English is being made; on the chart method of defining — an outgrowth of symbolic logic; and on the general theory of terminology as a basis for compiling dictionaries containing classifying definitions of specialized terms. Also included are a glossary of current English lexicographic terms; a list of lexicographic projects funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1967; a necrology for Angus Cameron, late editor of the Dictionary of Old English; reviews of two books on word frequencies in English; and notes on the contributors. 1983-84

members received copies as a member benefit. Prices: \$10 for members; \$15 for non-members; add \$5 for overseas airmail.

- The Dictionary Society this summer or fall will publish a select bibliography on Samuel Johnson's **Dictionary** as part of the observance of the 200th anniversary of Johnson's death. The bibliography has been compiled by DSNA member J. E. Congleton and his wife Elizabeth. Dr. Congleton's earlier publications on Johnson include "Pronunciation in Johnson's **Dictionary**" in **Papers on Lexicography in Honor of Warren N. Cordell** (Terre Haute, 1979) and an edition (with Gwin Kolb) of **Deformities of Samuel Johnson** by James Thomson Callender. Each item will be annotated with quotation from the work, and there will be portraits of Johnson and a reproduction of the title page of the first edition. The work will be approximately 100 pages long.

NEW BOOKS AND ARTICLES ON LEXICOGRAPHY

- **Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography** by DSNA member Sidney Landau was published early this year by Scribner's. Contents of the 416-page book include the place

of the dictionary among reference works, history of dictionaries, how a dictionary is made, the role of the dictionary in relation to usage, and more. The book answers such

questions as the following: Why do so many Americans regard "the dictionary" as gospel? Why doesn't the highest entry count guarantee the best dictionary? Can an abridged dictionary be better than its source? By what process are words defined, and what constitutes the best definition? When has the reviewer of a new dictionary really done his job? To what extent do dictionaries reflect the written language and the spoken word?

Sidney I. Landau has worked on dictionaries for over twenty years. He was editor-in-chief of six standard dictionaries for Funk and Wagnalls and of **The Doubleday Dictionary**. He is now editor-in-chief of what will be the largest English medical dictionary of its kind, the **International Dictionary of Medicine and Biology**, to be published by Wiley in 1985.

Order from Charles Scribner's Sons, 595 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10017; hardcover \$29.95 plus \$1.50 for shipping. (Publisher's flyer & Ed.)

- **Idioms and Phrases Index**, a collection of idioms, phrases, expressions, and collocations of two or more words, was published in three volumes in 1983 by Gale Research Company (\$150.00 for the set). Laurence Urdang, Editor-in-Chief, and Frank R. Abate, Managing Editor, compiled over 140,000 expressions and phrases in the reference tool which is a convenient key to more than 30 dictionaries and word books commonly found in libraries. A bibliography of sources is indexed. (BAK)
- Also from Laurence Urdang in 1983 came **Literary, Rhetorical, and Linguistic Terms Index** (Gale, \$56.00) and **Loanwords Index** (Gale, \$75.00) The former is a 305-page reference containing over 17,000 citations to more than 10,000 terms. The terms were drawn from 17 sources and are those which are commonly used by the writer, literary critic, grammarian, and linguist. The latter is a compilation of 14,000 words and phrases used in English today which were borrowed from 80 foreign languages. It is keyed to 19 dictionaries and other works on loanwords available in most libraries of moderate size. (BAK)
- **The LEXeter '83 Proceedings**, containing 55 papers given at the International Conference on Lexicography at the University of Exeter, September 9-12, 1983, are being published in 1984 as Volume 1 of the new series **Lexicographica**, Series Maior by Max Niemeyer Verlag, Tuebingen. Editor is R.R.K. Hartmann. Those who took part in the conference or are members of EURALEX will be able to buy it at a discount price of \$24.50 from the EURALEX office.
- A bibliographic tool for locating, by subject, reference works answering questions about words is **Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, and Other Word-Related Books** (Gale, 3d ed. 1982), edited by Annie Brewer. Vol. 1 covers English-language works; Vol. 2 English plurilingual

works; and Vol. 3, non-English. A supplement published in November 1983 adds 3000 titles to the original 28,000. Cost is \$470 for the 3 volumes, \$140 for the supplement, from Gale Research Co., Book Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

- **Workbook on Lexicography: A Course for Dictionary Users** by Barbara Ann Kipfer (including exercises by six authors and a glossary of lexicographical terms by Jennifer Robinson) is being published this spring as Volume 8 of the Exeter Linguistic Studies (University of Exeter Press). The book contains 15 chapters, each with ten exercises, and grew out of reading reports assigned by Edward Gates in an independent study course at Indiana State University. Cost: \$19.50.

A selection of exercises complementing Ms. Kipfer's were devised by the original contributors to a survey volume entitled **Lexicography: Principles and Practices** (Academic Press, 1983). The exercises may be linked with the workbook in taught courses or self study. R.R.K. Hartmann is the General Editor of the Exeter Linguistic Studies.

- A history of early Italian dictionaries, **Die italienischen Worterbücher von den Anfängen bis zum Erscheinen des 'Vocabolario degli Accademici della Crusca'** (1612), by Gunnar Tancke, was published in 1983 as Vol. 198 in the supplemental series to the **Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie**. The 320-page volume surveys the evolution of Italian lexicography from the earliest manuscript works to the prescriptive dictionary produced by the Accademia della Crusca in 1612. In a second part each dictionary is analyzed systematically according to a method used by Bernard Quemada in his history of French lexicography. An appendix describes the outstanding treatment by John Florio in his two Italian-English dictionaries of the conceptual field of plant names.
- A collection of essays in general lexicography entitled **Die Lexikographie von heute und das Wörterbuch von morgen** and edited by Joachim Schildt and Dieter Vieweber was published by the Akademie der Wissenschaften of the German Democratic Republic in Berlin in August 1983. Topics include micro-, medio- and macrostructure as pieces of information in the dictionary, approaches to a theory of lexicography, the relation between lexicology and lexicography, and the problems of valence, phraseology, synonymy, connotations, and function words. The work contains 363 pages and costs 20 marks outside the DDR.
- **Studien Zur Neuhochdeutschen Lexikographie IV**, edited by H. E. Wiegand of the University of Heidelberg, was published in 1984 by Georg Olms Verlag of Hildesheim in the Germanistische Linguistik series. The articles, all in German, deal with grammar in dictionaries, treatment of usage, dictionaries of loanwords

published between 1800 and 1945, multiword lexical units, word formation as an aspect of grammatical information in the dictionary; the treatment of regionalisms in dictionaries of contemporary German; the practical nature of all the information in a dictionary — not just information about linguistic and social constraints; the definition of "hard word" as a typological category; the treatment of the modal particle *schon* in dictionaries and linguistic research; and a plan for an international handbook of lexicography.

- The Winter 1983 issue of the **Barnhart Dictionary Companion** reports on a selection of 149 interesting new and unrecorded words and meanings, indicating how frequently they are used. Among these are **arctophile** "a fancier or collector of teddy bears", attested since 1980; **blissed-out** "ecstatic, enraptured", U.S. Slang, since 1974; **ditsy/ditsey** "high-toned, haughty, snobbish", U.S. Slang, since 1976 — perhaps an alteration of earlier **dicty/dickty** (since 1926); **RAM** "Reverse Annuity Mortgage", since 1982; **slam dance** "a style of dance done to punk rock in which couples deliberately collide violently with each other", common usage among teenagers since 1981; **the whole nine yards** "everything that pertains to something", Informal U.S., since 1983.

This issue also contains a reprint of three sections of Porter C. Perrin's **An Index to English** (Scott Foresman, 1939): "Formal English", "Informal English", and "Vulgate English", and book notices of **A Personal Kiwi-Yankee Dictionary** by Louis S. Leland, Jr. (Dunedin, N.Z.; McIndoo, 1979) and **Dictionary of the Natural Environment** by F. J. Monkhouse and John F. Small (NY: Wiley, 1978). A form for subscribers to ask questions about words and meanings is included. The concluding editor's page notes that beginning with this issue the Barnhart research on new words utilizes NEXUS, a commercial database containing the texts of periodicals published since 1975, and especially helpful in determining how often a word is used. Dr. Barnhart also discusses the problem for a dictionary maker of deciding which technical terms to enter and recalls James Murray's decision in 1891, on advice from the Oxford University Regius Professor of Medicine, to omit the word **appendicitis** from the **Oxford English Dictionary** as

too technical and uncommon. In 1902, the coronation of King Edward VII was delayed by an attack of appendicitis, and the word was on everyone's lips — but not in the dictionary! (Subscriptions to **Barnhart Dictionary Companion** are \$50 per year; address P.O. Box 247, Cold Spring, NY 10516.)

- Two articles in **Maledicta: The International Journal of Verbal Aggression**, Vol. 7 (1983), concern dictionaries: "The Deflowering of the **American Heritage Dictionary**" by Nat Hentoff (on inclusion of taboo words in dictionaries) and "Offensive Words in Dictionaries I: Smegma" by Reinhold Aman. (Bookstore price of **Maledicta** is \$23.50; subscriptions are \$18.50 in the US, \$19.00 elsewhere, from **Maledicta Press**, 331 Greenfield Ave., Waukesha WI 53186.)
- A survey of dictionaries entitled "Look It Up" by DSN member Francis S. Feighan appeared in **Big Valley** for May 1984.
- Herbert E. Wiegand's "Aufgaben eines bedeutungsgeschichtlichen Wörterbuches heute" (The Task of a Historical Dictionary Today) is being published in the **Braunschweiger Universitätszeitschrift** for 1984.
- The three volumes of the **Jewish Language Review** published so far contain several articles on lexicography ("The Treatment of Yiddish-Origin Lexemes in Hebrew Dictionaries," "The Labeling of Yiddish- and Hebrew-Origin Lexemes in Several English Dictionaries," "Divergencies from Word-for-Word Equivalence in English-Hebrew Lexicography and Their Linguistic and Cultural Implications," "A Note on the Eighth Volume of the **Leksikon Fun Der Nayer Yidisher Literatur**," "Some Additions and Corrections to the Eighth Volume of the **Leksikon Fun Der Nayer Yidisher Literatur**," "An Early American Unpublished Hebrew-English Dictionary: Jonathan Fisher's **Hebrew Lexicon**," "Some Suggestions for the **Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Alten Testament** With Reference to the Word *shalom*," and "An Introduction to Soviet Yiddish Lexicography") and numerous reviews of dictionaries. For more information write: Association for the Study of Jewish Languages, 1610 Eshkol Tower, University of Haifa, Mount Carmel, Haifa 31 999, Israel. (David Gold)

DICTIONARIES IN PROGRESS

- A Dictionary of the Welsh Language is in progress at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth. A historical dictionary on the model of the **Oxford English Dictionary**, it records the vocabulary of the language from the earliest extant manuscripts to current publications. It is intended primarily for the use of the half million people who speak Welsh. The Welsh language is used in teaching and to write both fiction and non-fiction, including scientific subjects. It will be the first general

dictionary of Welsh; earlier works are of limited scope.

Included are all words in literary and colloquial use, a selection of technical terms, and obsolete words used in different periods. Entries are in alphabetical order, including derivatives. Entry forms for nouns are singular forms; for verbs, first person singular present indicative and verb-noun forms; and for adjectives the masculine form. Pronun-

ciations are not needed. An article consists of the following information. 1) Etymology: For a loanword, the source language and etymon; for Celtic words, the form in other Celtic languages — Cornish, Medieval Breton, Modern Breton, Irish; proto-Celtic form; proto-Indo-European form; and cognates in other Indo-European languages, as English, Latin, Greek. 2) Part of speech; 3) Plural form of nouns; 4) Definition in Welsh followed by English equivalent. A field label may precede the definition, e.g. **Rhif.** (Arithmetic). 5) Quotation preceded by source with date of author or manuscript, and reference; for words entering the language after 1800, only the date of first attestation is given — no quotation. 6) Variant forms with dates. 7) Set phrases, with English translation, references, and/or dates. These are alphabetized by radical letters because Welsh words take different forms in different syntactic and phonetic environments. Cross references are provided at other words used in the phrase. Work began on the Welsh dictionary in 1919, when a corps of volunteer readers, paid student readers, and paid supervisors was set up. Examples of use were recorded on half-foolscap slips; these now number about 2,500,000. The original plan was for a dictionary of the scale of the **Oxford English Dictionary**. Then, since no standard modern Welsh dictionary existed, consideration was given to limiting the work to that. The plan settled on was for the whole vocabulary; however, Part I included citations for only the oldest words, because there had already been published a vocabulary of Old Welsh poetry. In Part II, citations were provided for all words entering Welsh before 1800. Part I was published in July 1950. The 21st and last part of Volume I was published in 1967. Part 33 (to LLE-) was completed during the past year. Vol. II will be completed with Part 35, taking the dictionary through LL-. With Vol. III, use of a microcomputer will be introduced, making possible printing by computer typesetting and the production of indexes. It is hoped to complete the work in 1990.

Mr. Gareth A. Bevan heads an editorial staff of seven. There is an editorial board of Welsh scholars at the University. Funding comes from the University Grants Commission through the University of Wales' Board of Celtic Studies.

- An English-Welsh Academy Dictionary is being made by Dr. Bruce Griffiths of the Department of French at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. Using a Harraps English-French dictionary as base, it provides translation equivalents in Welsh for English words. Target for publication is 1985.
- Robert Burchfield, Editor of the **Oxford English Dictionaries**, sends the following report.

The work in hand in 37a St. Giles', Oxford, includes the final volume (SE-Z) of **A Supple-**

ment to the O.E.D. This volume, which will include an extensive bibliography of the main works cited in the Supplement, is expected to be published towards the end of 1985. Work is proceeding on plans for the computerization of the **O.E.D.** and the four supplementary volumes, and an announcement about the way in which the integrated text of the sixteen volumes will be made available electronically and also in book form will be made within the next few months. The integrated electronic form will be used as a permanent basis for revision of the Dictionary and will be available on line to owners of reasonably sophisticated home computers. The lexicographical head of this project is E.S.C. Weiner, whose **Oxford Miniguide to English Usage** was published in 1983.

The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, first published in 1933 and reissued in 1973 with some 5,000 modern words printed as Addenda, is being revised. The new edition is expected to be ready by the end of the decade, and the Editor of the new edition is Mrs. Lesley S. Burnett.

The seventh edition of **The Pocket Oxford Dictionary** (first edited by F. G. and H. W. Fowler in 1924) will be published in July 1984. The new edition is edited by Dr. R. E. Allen, who will then proceed with the preparation of the next (eighth) edition of **The Concise Oxford Dictionary**.

Work is also proceeding on a dictionary to be called **The Oxford Encyclopaedic Dictionary**, edited by Joyce M. Hawkins. This will in some respects resemble **The Oxford Illustrated Dictionary**, which it will replace. But there are numerous new features, details of which will be announced in due course.

The Oxford Miniguide to English Usage (1983), edited by E.S.C. Weiner, and **The Oxford Minidictionary** (1981), edited by Joyce M. Hawkins, have been repackaged (with corrections), with an Introduction by myself, under the title **The Oxford Guide to the English Language**.

Among the most important new projects undertaken by the Oxford University Press in 1983 were the **Australian National Dictionary**, edited by W. S. Ramson, to be published in Australia in 1988; and **A Dictionary of South African English on Historical Principles**, edited by William and Jean Branford (more details in due course). The editorial work is being done in Canberra and Grahamstown respectively with some assistance from the O.E.D. Department.

Other projects are in hand but are still under wraps.

- David B. Guralnik, editor of the Webster's New World Dictionaries, reports that they have in progress a dictionary of business terms and a guide to pronunciation that will be a companion to the **Misspeller's Dictionary**.

- A revolutionary dictionary to be titled "The Wordtree" is the project of Henry Burger. Dr. Burger has spent 24 years collecting and incorporating words into a taxonomic or branching system. "Up to this point, as far as I know, words have never branched," Burger said. "The dictionary simply takes every word and lists it A to Z. Roget's Thesaurus has a thousand groups but considers them all equal unilinear. There has never been a branching system."

Burger's taxonomic classification is based on substance and process. Substances have been taxonomized for some time but process, which is transitive verbs, has not. The dictionary will display each verb with its subprocesses as definitions and continue on with a list of other words that mean essentially the same thing but branch from the first word. Under the category "fasten," for example, appear some 40 other verbs. The research has already rendered approximately 20 percent more transitive verbs than Burger counted in the **Oxford English Dictionary**.

Project data is being input on a Digital Corporation Vax mainframe computer and programs have been written to detect erroneous entries. A quality-control system is used: each computer program is run against purposely-flawed test data and then subjected to a line analysis. This system has proved very successful, detecting at least a dozen different kinds of error such as the imperfect pairing of antonyms. The project has also received media attention with one national and five local articles written about it. (BAK)

- At Brown University, Leonard and Barbara Lesko and Harold Streeter are using a computer to build a dictionary of late Egyptian hieroglyphics that should speed the laborious translation process and possibly unlock some 2,000-year-old secrets. Only about half the literature of that time has been translated

LEXICOGRAPHIC STUDIES IN PROGRESS

- "Language of the Lot: A Glossary of Carnival Terminology" was the thesis submitted by Carol M. Adams for her M.A. in English in the spring of 1984, but her work in collecting and describing the jargon, cant, and slang of carnival people continues. Her work updates and expands studies compiled in the 1920's and 1930's and more recently by D. W. Maurer in the 1950's.

She began the study when a friend who had worked in carnivals for seven years provided carnival terms for a college project she did. Intrigued, she pursued the research, making a short glossary, then the thesis, which contains some 380 terms. One entry is as follows: **ding** n. 1. a ding show, in which donations are requested. (These aren't seen much any more, because management has no way of telling how much a show takes in.) 2. An additional attempt to get money from a mark once he's paid his initial entrance fee to a show, as with a

because it is so difficult to read and the size and positioning of characters relative to others makes a good deal of difference. (BAK)

- Frederic G. Cassidy reports that the **Dictionary of American Regional English (DARE)** will now need five volumes to hold the work. Volume I is now approaching completion and should be out within a year. A recent publication describing certain features of the project is "The Intensive Prefix *Ker-*," which appeared in **American Speech** (58.4:291-302). (BAK)
- New member James S. Mdee, Director of the Institute of Kiswahili Research in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, reports work in progress there on an English-Kiswahili dictionary. Specialized dictionaries are also in progress, in cooperation with other faculty of the University of Dar es Salaam. The lexicography section of the institute has already produced a **Standard Kiswahili Dictionary**, a **Biology English-Kiswahili Dictionary** and dictionaries of birds, snakes, and marine life. Eight researchers are employed by the section.
- **Ordbog over det norrøne prosasprog/A Dictionary of Old Norse Prose**, published by the Arnamagnaean Commission in Copenhagen, treats the prose vocabulary of Old Icelandic (c. 1150-1540) and old Norwegian (c. 1150-1370). The dictionary has definitions in both Danish and English and is the modern successor to Cleasby-Vigfusson: **An Icelandic-English Dictionary** and Fritzner: **Ordbog over Det gamle norske Sprog**. In December 1983 the editorial staff published and distributed a sixty-page **Prospectus** containing a full introduction and guide, sample entries, keys and bibliography. Copies may be had on application to: A Dictionary of Old Norse Prose, Njalsgade 76, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark. The first volume of twelve will be distributed in 1986 and will cost approximately 250 Danish kroner. (Helle Degnbøl)

pitch or pitch acts — — e.g., the blow-off or blade box. "He had a real dimestore show — every other act was a ding." See **inside**, v. ... "We got a lot of beefs on the ten-in-one because they dinged the marks to death."

A college graduate, her informant shares her conviction that this vocabulary should be recorded and preserved, and he has now begun to carry a notebook in which to jot down additional words and phrases for her collection as he is reminded of them. In her future work on the project, Ms. Adams will not only expand the vocabulary but will indicate the inclusion of the items in prior publications and discuss their origin and history.

- The book **Lexicography: Principles and Practice** (edited by R.R.K. Hartmann; Academic Press, 1983) is being translated into Japanese by Sanseido, Tokyo.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

- We take belated note of the appointment of Robert E. Lewis as Editor of the **Middle English Dictionary** in progress at the University of Michigan. Dr. Lewis obtained his doctorate in English Language at the University of Pennsylvania in 1964, taught at Indiana University from 1963 to 1982, and went to Michigan in 1982 as Professor of English and co-editor with Sherman Kuhn of MED. With the retirement of Dr. Kuhn in June, 1983, Dr. Lewis became head editor. His publications are on Medieval English literature and Chaucer.
- Oxford Dictionaries' Chief Editor Robert W. Burchfield was awarded an honorary doctorate of literature (Hon.D.Litt.) in September by Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand), the university where he took his first degree in the 1940s. Dr. Burchfield gave four public lectures on lexicography while visiting the university and they are to be published by the University of Wellington Press later in 1984.
- Steve A. Demakopoulos distributed a collection of 18 articles by him about the Greek language at the meeting of the Second Greek Language Conference held in Brookline, Mass., in August 1983. It is entitled **Do You Speak Greek?** Most were columns he wrote for the **National Herald**. They are also being published by the **Contemporary Times** of Chicago, by the **Australian Modern Greek Teachers Association Journal** of Australia, and by the **Newsletter Exchange**.
- Saodah Nasution Elgersma, of Jakarta, Indonesia, reports meeting another DSNAMember, Khalid Hussein, at a meeting in Jakarta for Malay-Indonesian cooperation in developing hydrology terms. Both work for the language agencies of their governments. Mrs. Elgersma continues work on the Indonesian-English/English-Indonesian Dictionary.
- Victoria Neufeldt, formerly with Gage Publishing Ltd. of Agincourt, Ontario, joined the staff of the **New World Dictionaries** in Cleveland in January 1984. Her address is now Simon & Schuster, New World Dictionaries, Citizens Building, Suite 306, 850 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114.
- Thomas M. Paikeday gave a demonstration of lexicographical software at York University (Toronto) for the Applied Linguistics Research Working Group in February. Also, **The Wall Street Journal** published "The Meaning of the Computer for Dictionary Makers" (November 8, 1983) by the **New York Times Everyday Dictionary** editor.
- Allen Walker Read was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by Indiana State University, Terre Haute, at the Commencement ceremony on May 12, 1984. He is Professor Emeritus of English at Columbia University, where he began teaching in 1945. He is the author of more than 200 scholarly papers in lexicography, general semantics, and American language, including studies on the origin of O.K. He was president of the DSNAMember from 1981-1983.
- Carol M. Adams of Richmond, Virginia, graduated in May from Indiana State University's Master's Program in English with Specialization in Lexicography. Her thesis was "Language of the Lot: A Glossary of Carnival Terminology;" a description of this will be found in this issue under "Other Lexicographic Studies in Progress." Ms. Adams will begin work on a doctorate in American language studies at Emory University in Atlanta in the fall term.
- Thomas Creamer, of the CETA Group, has been selected to return to China for one year beginning June 1984 to work on the revision of the **New English-Chinese Dictionary** (Shanghai, 1974) and the **CETA Chinese-English Dictionary**. He has also been asked to give a series of talks on language and lexicography, especially on the current state of lexicography in the United States.
- Laurence Urdang, president of the company that bears his name, will act as consultant for computerization of the Oxford English Dictionary in the areas of lexicography and computer technology, both of which have been specialties of his for almost 25 years. Urdang, as Director of the Reference Department of Random House, was responsible for editing that publisher's **Unabridged** and **College** dictionaries. His own firm, founded in 1969, has been responsible for the research, writing, editing, systems design, and automatic typesetting of more than 100 dictionaries and other reference books in America and in England, where the company also maintains offices. Urdang expects the innovations emerging in the course of the project to have far-reaching effects on the processing and retrieval of many different kinds of information, as well as on such subtleties as automated editing, indexing, and word processing. His organization is examining, in particular, applications of artificial intelligence to enhance the manipulation of large data bases and to develop techniques for automatically evaluating information. (News Release, Laurence Urdang, Inc.)
- Andrew F. Downey, Jr., an Assistant to the President, Southern Railway System, has been transferred to the Atlanta office. His new address is: 1551 Knob Hill Drive, NE, Atlanta GA 30329. Currently he is working, with others, on a joint book of operating rules for the two railroads (Norfolk & Western and Southern) that combined as Norfolk & Southern in mid-1982. He notes that this task requires a clarity and precision similar to that required in dictionaries. "Rule writers need to know railroad language, as much as possible about all

language, technicalities of railroad operation and how rules 'work,' and then try to make all

this unmistakably clear to people with no yen, and maybe little ability, to read anything."

NEWS OF MEMBERS

- DSNAs President Ladislav Zgusta's **Manual of Lexicography** published in 1971 by Mouton has been translated into Chinese and published under the title **Cidian Xue Gailun** by Shangwu Yinshuguan (Commercial Publishing House) in Peking in 1983. 12,500 copies were printed. Translators were Lin Shuwu (Introduction and Chapter 1), Feng Jiafang (Ch. 4,5), Zhou

Shaoheng (Ch. 6), and Wei Zhiqiang (Preface, Ch. 7).

- David B. Guralnik, while on a trip to China this spring, visited the English-Chinese Dictionary project in Shanghai for a half day. His host was Professor Lu Gu Sun, who visited the U.S. in 1981 and attended the DSNAs meeting in Cincinnati.

DEATH OF LASZLO ORSZAGH, HUNGARIAN LEXICOGRAPHER

Laszlo Orszagh, eminent Hungarian lexicographer, died January 27, 1984, at the age of 77. His first dictionary was **A Concise English-Hungarian Dictionary**, (1948), which grew out of his dissatisfaction with existing dictionaries used in teaching English in Hungary. He became widely known for his **English-Hungarian Dictionary** (1960, rev. 1976), which contained 100,000 headwords and 150,000 phrases, idiomatic expressions, phrasal verbs, and illustrative sentences. Its complement, the **Hungarian-English Dictionary** (1953, rev. 1963), made effective use of usage labels and notes to help Hungarian users find the proper equivalent when translating from Hungarian to English. Professor Orszagh was editor-in-chief of the 7-volume **Dictionary of the Hungarian Language**

(1959-1963), author of **Problems and Principles of the New Dictionary of the Hungarian Language** (1960, in English), and editor of **Studies in Lexicography** (1966, in Hungarian). A notable example of his numerous reviews and essays is one on Samuel Johnson (1956, in Hungarian). He also published works on American studies and lexicography, one being **English Elements in the Hungarian Vocabulary** (1977, in Hungarian). Professor Orszagh served as a consultant for several English and American dictionaries, including the **Oxford English Dictionary** and the **Barnhart Dictionary of New English**. He was voted the first honorary member of the European Association for Lexicography a few days before his death. (Tamas Magay in **EURALEX Bulletin**, June 1984; & Ed.)

DEATH OF JESS STEIN, EDITOR OF THE RANDOM HOUSE DICTIONARY

Jess Stein, Editor in Chief of the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, died following a heart attack on his 70th birthday, June 23, 1984. Stein began his lexicographic career as managing editor of the **American College Dictionary** (1947). He was editor of the **American Everyday Dictionary** (1949), **American Vest Pocket Dictionary** (1951), **Vest Pocket Rhyming Dictionary** (1951), **Basic Everyday Dictionary** (1954), **Modern American Dictionary** (1957), the **Random House Dictionary of the English Language** (1966), and the revised edition of the

Random House College Dictionary (1975). He was also editorial director of the **Random House Encyclopedia** (1977). He worked at Random House for 36 years, becoming a vice president in 1959. After his retirement in May 1981, he formed his own publishing company, Bookmark Publishing Associates, in White Plains, N.Y. Mr. Stein was a member of various scholarly and professional organizations, including the DSNAs, serving on its Finance Committee from 1977 to 1981.

QUERIES FROM THE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN REGIONAL ENGLISH

Further information is needed on the following words found in the files of the Dictionary of American Regional English, in progress at the University of Wisconsin. Send comments to Prof. F. G. Cassidy, DARE, 6125 Heien White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison WI 53706.

hazel splitter — reported from NW Arkansas about 1910, as referring to girls with a bad reputation. Has anyone heard it?

jabib or **Jabib** — heard among high school

students in the 50's and from a high school teacher in 1973 in the phrase "way out to Jabib" — evidently a remote place. How is it pronounced? Any light to shed?

jabrone 'an inept, incompetent, clumsy person', heard, perhaps, from Slavic immigrants; may be the same as **jaboney**/**jiboney** in the **Dictionary of American Slang**. Is it current? (Abridged from Appeal in the **Newsletter of the American Dialect Society**, January 1984.)

CORRECTIONS

The price of the **Russian Explanatory Combinatorial Dictionary** given in the Fall 1983

Newsletter, \$3.00 US, was a typographical error; the correct price is \$30.00 US.

NOTICES

- The Center for Applied Linguistics is seeking information on any dictionaries, grammars, readers, or teaching materials for uncommonly taught languages (modern languages other than standard English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish) to update their useful bibliography, **Materials for the Study of the Uncommonly Taught Languages**, first published in 1976. The work, in eight fascicles, now has 7000 references to works on 970 languages. A reference must include author, title, place and date of publication, publisher, and number of pages. Also useful would be whether and from where the work is available. Write to Deborah H. Hatfield or Dora E. Johnson, Center for Applied Linguistics, 3520 Prospect St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007. (CETA Bulletin, Spring 1983)
- **The Chronicle for Higher Education** listed two expected openings for Assistant Research Editors of the **Middle English Dictionary**. These positions involve the preparation of dictionary entries from citation slips. Appointment is for 12 months, renewable. A Ph.D. in Medieval Studies is Required, with emphasis in Old and Middle English philology. Knowledge of a second medieval language and Latin is desirable. Write Robert E. Lewis, Editor in Chief, Middle English Dictionary, 555 S. Forest, Ann Arbor MI 48104.
- Since two of the four papers that would have formed **Studies in Lexicography as a Science and as an Art. 4** (proceedings of the MLA Lexicography Discussion Group for 1982) were published in the DSNJ journal, the editor, Walter Glanze announces that the volume will not be published, but the other two papers can be obtained from the authors. Write Dr. Henry G. Burger, The Wordtree, 7306 Brittainy, Merriam KS 66203, for his paper "A Transitive Taxonomy as a Perspective of Processes." Write Dr. Luciano F. Farina, Department of Romance Languages, Ohio State University, Columbus OH 43210, for his paper "Automatic Lexical Coding, Microprocessing, and Lexicography."
- Thomas Paikeday is exploring ways of retrieving dictionary information by various kinds of user input, and one way to find words in a state-of-the-art dictionary may be by means of phrases in which the words occur. He therefore is offering a hundred dollar prize for "collocational phrases" — phrases composed of words usually found together, more frequently in combinations than in other words. Excluded are idioms and phrases usually found in dictionaries, like "spill the beans." He wants phrases like "pork and beans", "tip of the iceberg", and "protective action/arrest/clothing/coloration/custody"; noun modifiers, as "quick...", "full...", and usual objects of verbs, as "recover a fumbled ball/consciousness/damages/one's balance", adverbs and prepositions, as "run off a few copies", "run out of gas". The prize will go to the person sending the largest number of such collocational phrases by September 1, 1984 (as postmarked).

The phrases should be from a limited section of the vocabulary, only about ten running headwords in a desk dictionary — e.g. **big to big wig**; and be in meaningful contexts, as "protective tariffs against imported goods." Contestants will be notified of the outcome by January 1, 1985. Mail to Thomas Paikeday, 1776 Chalkdene Grove, Mississauga, Ont., L4W 2C3, Canada.
- A free list of corrections to David Gold's review in **Dictionaries 4** is available by sending an addressed legal-size envelope to: Association for the Study of Jewish Languages, 1610 Eshkol Tower, University of Haifa, Haifa 31 999, Israel.
- DSNJ member Jack Noel is interested in being a contributor for dictionaries, in the field of naval terms. He was editor of a dictionary of naval terms published by Van Nostrand. Address: John V. Noel, Jr., 1014 West Houghton Street, Santa Fe NM 87501.
- J. E. Gates projects a history of the Dictionary Society, and would welcome information on instances in which the journal or newsletter provided information especially useful to you.
- A memorial fund for Angus Cameron, late editor of the Dictionary of Old English in progress at the University of Toronto, has been established. It will help support the dictionary project and when that is completed endow a Cameron Chair of Old English Studies at the University if funds suffice. Chair of the Fund is John Leyerle of the University faculty. Contributions are tax-deductible in Canada and the U.S. For further information, write: Angus Cameron Memorial Fund, Centre for Medieval Studies, 39 Queen's Park Cr. East, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1 Canada.

CALENDAR

AILA World Congress, University of Brussels, (ITO/VUB), Pleintan 2, Brussels B-1050 Belgium, 5-10 August 1984

Termia, 5 Rue de Constantine, Paris F-75007 France), August 1984

Fulbright Lexicography Colloquium, London, 13-16 September 1984

(See CONFERENCES in this issue)

MLA Lexicography Discussion Group, Washington, December 1984

EURALEX Seminar on The Uses and Users of Monolingual and Bilingual Learners' Dictionaries, Leeds, 1-3 April 1985. (A.P. Cowie, The School of English, University of Leeds, Leeds

LS2 9JT, England.)

DSNA Biennial Meeting, Ann Arbor, August 1985

Seminar on History of Lexicography, Exeter,
Spring or Summer 1986

EURALEX biennial meeting, Zurich, September
1986

EURALEX biennial meeting, Budapest, 1988



The DSNA Newsletter is published twice yearly
by the Dictionary Society of North America, Of-
fice of Instructional Services, Indiana State

University, Terre Haute In 47809. Editor:
Edward Gates; Managing Editor: Donald
Hobar; Assistant Editor: Barbara Ann Kipfer.

