

## FIRST VOLUME OF THE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN REGIONAL ENGLISH PUBLISHED

Volume I (A-C) of the **Dictionary of American Regional English** was published in September 1985 by Belknap Press of Harvard University. It contains 160 pages of introduction and a 903-page vocabulary with about 10,000 main entries and 521 maps. The completed work of about 100,000 entries in five volumes will fill an important place in the lexicography of English, providing the record of words and phrases not used everywhere in the United States. General dictionaries record only a fraction of these.

DARE is based on a thorough sampling across the country, and gives not only many times the number of regional words (including names of childrens' games and of wildflowers and a much larger proportion of verbs than in general dictionaries) with their part of speech and meaning, but also much more information about their form and use. Pronunciations are given when recorded by field workers. Written variants include pronunciation spellings (like **thoo** for an r-less pronunciation of **through**) and eye-dialect spellings (like **cum** for **come** — representing standard pronunciation but suggesting that the speaker has little education). Etymologies are not given if found in general dictionaries or if obvious (as with many compounds). DARE explains the origin of many phrases, which general dictionaries rarely do. Labels (e.g. Inland Southern) and often maps show where words are used. On the DARE map of the U.S., the size of each state is proportional to its population, so that there is room to put in dots for all the communities in which a word is used. Existing dictionaries have had no information of this sort available and merely said "Dialect." The questionnaire data also makes possible more explicit usage labelling: for frequency (e.g. rare, frequent); currency (e.g. obsolete, old fash.); manner of use (e.g. jocular), and type of user — in one type of community (e.g. rural), by older or younger speakers, by members of an ethnic group, by men or women, or by people with a certain level of education. As in other historical dictionaries, senses are in historical order, with quoted and documented examples of use appended, also in historical order. Since variants abound in dialect usage, DARE has about as many cross references as main entries. DARE's full description of regional vocabulary makes possible adequate coverage by general dictionaries of the items appropriate for them to enter.

The beginnings of the project go back to 1889, when the American Dialect Society was founded. One of its aims was to produce a dictionary of American dialect usage comparable to that being compiled in England by Joseph Wright. The Society had collected data on

40,000 words by 1965, when at last funding was found to begin work in earnest on the dictionary. To direct the project, the Society engaged Dr. Frederic G. Cassidy, Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin (Madison), who had done field work for the Linguistic Atlas, compiled the **Dictionary of Jamaican English**, and conducted the Wisconsin English Language Survey. Between 1965 and 1970, Cassidy sent out some 80 field workers with a carefully crafted "Questionair" of 1,847 questions to interview 1,002 selected informants in as many communities across the country. To collect pronunciation, tape recordings were made in each place. Information was also added from other collections and through excerpting of 5,000 publications and unpublished sources including letters and responses to queries published in the **Newsletter of the American Dialect Society** and elsewhere.

Special studies were fostered of regional variation in the vocabularies of coal mining and tobacco growing and marketing. The mass of data from 2,500,000 answers given by questionnaire informants was made readily retrievable by conversion to a computer data file. Thus usage information and maps were generated by computer.

On the staff of DARE are Frederic G. Cassidy, Chief Editor; Audrey R. Duckert (University of Massachusetts), Adjunct Editor (among whose contributions were collaboration in naming the dictionary and devising the questionnaire, and field work in Massachusetts); Joan H. Hall, Associate Editor (who wrote about DARE in **Dictionaries**, No. 1); John C. McGilliard and Margaret Waterman, Senior Associate Editors; 15 assistant editors; a bibliographer; five computer specialists; six word processors and proof-readers; an office manager; and 82 field workers.

Funding for the project has come from the U.S. Office of Education, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, four other foundations, Marathon Oil Company, more than 14 private donors, and the University of Wisconsin.

As work has proceeded, there has been increased public interest in the project. With Volume I forthcoming, Dr. Cassidy has been frequently interviewed on radio and television, and publicity has appeared in the **Chicago Tribune**, **The New York Times**, **USA Today**, **Newsweek**, **Time**, and many other publications. The first printing of 4,000 copies has already sold out and a second printing with corrections is being made.

The current staff of 16 is already well into Volume II. They hope to finish the Dictionary by 1989, centennial year of the American Dialect Society.

Price of the volume until December 31, 1985 is \$49.95; thereafter, \$60. One may find it at many bookstores or order it. The publisher accepts check, money

## DSNA BIENNIAL MEETING

The DSNA biennial meeting and a Colloquium on English Lexicography were held at the University of Michigan, August 18-20 as part of a weeklong Conference on English Linguistics. The University was also host to the meeting of the American Dialect Society and a Systemic Workshop from August 21 to 24. The organizing committee was composed of Michigan professors Richard W. Bailey, Robert E. Lewis, and Thomas E. Toon; Wayne State University professor Barbara Couture, and Peter H. Fries of Central Michigan University.

The five-part colloquium featured the following speeches: "OEDS4: The End of the Alphabet," by Robert W. Burchfield; "DARE and OED: Some Differences of Practice," by Frederic G. Cassidy; "Developing and Using Lexicographical Resources in Old and Middle English," by T.F. Hoad; "Early Modern English: OED, New OED, EMED," by Juergen Schaefer; "The Extinction of Scotland in Popular Dictionaries of English," by A.J. Aitken; "Lexicography of the Anglophone Caribbean," by S.R.R. Alisopp; "A Master Plan for English Lexicography," by R.W. Bailey; "Dictionaries Past and Future: Issues and Prospects," by Frank R. Abate; "The New Oxford English Dictionary: Progress and Prospects," by Edmund S.C. Weiner; and "Dictionaries of English: The User's Perspective," by R.R.K. Hartmann.

Speakers for the DSNA sections were: David Jost, "The Reading Program of the Middle English Dictionary"; Lister M. Matheson, "Life after the MED? A Proposal for a Biographical Dictionary of Medieval England"; Morton Benson, "A Combinatory Dictionary of English"; Frederick Dolezal, "Questions on the Origins and Originality of Roget's Thesaurus"; Douglas A. Kibbee, "Progress in Bilingual Lexicography during the Renaissance"; Thomas Creamer, "Shuowen Jeizi: the 'First' Chinese Dictionary"; David K. Barnhart, "How I Make Mountains out of Molehills"; Pamela J. Griffin, "The Role of Dictionaries in the ESL Classroom"; Jean-Claude Choul, "Testing Dictionaries: Procedures"; Barbara Ann Kipfer, "Dictionaries and the Intermediate Student: Communicative Needs and the Development of User Reference Skills"; Glen

order, Visa, and Mastercard (card number, expiration date, and signature required) for \$49.95 plus \$1.50 postage at Harvard University Press, 79 Garden Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138-9983. Credit card orders may also be placed by telephoning (617) 495-2577. (Ed., BAK)

D. Sandness, "A Microcomputer-Based Electronic Dictionary for Blind Persons"; Charles Ruhl, "Defining Break"; Allen Walker Read, "The Use of Travelers' Evidence in Historical Lexicography"; Claude Poirier, "Coping with American English Borrowings in the *Dictionnaire du Francais Quebecois*"; Sidney I. Landau, "The Expression of Changing Social Values in Dictionaries"; and Dorothy Wartenberg, "Dictionaries and the NEH."

An open house was held by the Middle English Dictionary staff during the conference. (BAK)

During the DSNA business meeting concluding the sessions, outgoing president Ladislav Zgusta introduced the incoming officers, secretary-treasurer Edward Gates summarized his biennial report on the state of the society, and members made suggestions to the Executive Board. One suggestion was for closer cooperation between DSNA and the European Association for Lexicography in publications and perhaps dual membership. It was noted that a single organization had been considered but decided against because of difficulties many Europeans, especially in Eastern Europe, would have in joining an organization associated with the United States. The other question raised concerned French participation. Although interesting advanced work in lexicography is going on in France and there are no formal organizations for lexicography or lexicology in France, the DSNA has only one French member and EURALEX has only three or four. How can we get more members and information from there? One reason there are few may be that the French wish to speak their mother tongue at international meetings. Dictionaries editor Richard Bailey pointed out that French is one of the languages in which articles may be written for the journal.

Meeting in two sessions during the biennial meetings, the Executive Board of the DSNA established an editorial/advisory board for the society's journal, reaffirmed the policy of placing only one candidate in nomination for each office, and elected two new Fellows (see separate item).

## REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE DSNA 1983-1985

The DSNA during the last biennium has increased in numbers, in financial income and outgo, in the size of publications, and (it is to be hoped) in usefulness to its members. From 137 charter members in 1977, our numbers had increased to 223 in June 1983. In July of that year, William Safire gave the Society favorable publicity in his widely published column "On Language" and within six months, we grew to over 700 members. In August 1985, the number stood at nearly 500.

Income (chiefly from dues and sale of publications)

has dropped from \$11,588 in 1983-84 to \$9,361 in 1984-85. Expenditures rose from \$10,004 to \$10,548. The largest cost is the journal — \$3,054 for the 1983 volume, \$4,699 for the 305-page 1984 volume. Newsletter costs are about \$700 per issue. Postage costs are about \$2,300 a year. Because of the increased membership in 1983-84, we joined with the Congletons to publish the Johnson annotated bibliography in 1985 at a cost of \$4,525. Our balance on July 1, 1985 was \$1,113.07.



## PROFILE OF THE 1985 DSNA MEMBERSHIP

In 1985, our 498 members lived in 39 countries. We had 371 American members in 42 states and the District of Columbia: New York, 71; California, 55; New Jersey, 23; Illinois, 22; Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, 19; Connecticut, 14; Ohio, 13; Indiana, 12; Florida and Texas, 9; Maryland and Virginia, 7; Georgia and Hawaii, 6; Tennessee, 5; and the rest fewer. Canadian members number 24, including 16 from Ontario and four from Quebec. From England, 20; West Germany, 13; Japan and Australia, 9; Mexico, Belgium, Scotland, 4; China, Netherlands, 3; Denmark, India, New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea, Israel, Italy, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, 2; and one from 18 other countries.

We have seven classes of members: regular, 388; retired, 43; student, 18; joint, 12; life, 3; fellows, 5; institutional, 34 (of the last, 22 are academic libraries, 2 public libraries, and 9 publishers).

DSNA members have worked or are working on at least 110 dictionaries (data incomplete): general monolingual, 28; scholarly historical, 8; subject field, 16; school, 5; dialect, 8; new words, 4; slang, 2; learner's, 5; bilingual of literary languages, 20; bilingual of vernaculars, 9; other, 5. Languages of these dictionaries besides general English include: varieties of English — Australian, Irish, Scottish, Caribbean, Prince Edward Island, American; periods of English — Old, Middle, Early Modern; Afrikaans, Alaskan native languages, Akkadian, Basque, Chinese, Cornish, Dutch, Erse, French, German, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Malayalam, Mexican Spanish, Mexican Indian, Mongolian, New Zealand native, Norwegian, Old Norse, Pennsylvania German, Quebec French, Russian, Sinhala, Sumerian, Ukrainian.

Information about the occupations of members is also incomplete, but at least 150 are members of university faculties (of whom at least 20 have worked on dictionaries and nine have taught courses on lexicography). The rest are editors employed by commercial publishers, 39; university students, 18; people in a business profession, at least 14; people in primary and secondary education, 12; translators, lawyers, 9; editors for university dictionary projects, 8; librarians, publishers, freelance writers, 7; military, 6; missionary linguists and researchers, 5; people working in electronic data (including two lexicographers), 5; journalism, 4; booksellers, 3; clergy, museum staff members, 1.

Information on members' interests in lexicography has also not been completely gathered and tabulated but the following is at least suggestive — dictionary-making, 77; lexicographic theory, 49; lexicographic method, 52; history of dictionaries, 38; study of dictionary use, 8; computer applications, 16; collecting dictionaries, 7; teaching dictionary use, 5; using dictionaries, 32. Interest in kinds of dictionaries — general monolingual, 32; scholarly historical, 29; language learner's, 42; specialized, 36 (17 for etymology, 14 for slang); bilingual of literary languages, 26; bilingual of vernaculars, 26; bilingual technical, 3. Besides interest in the dictionaries of the languages already listed, in which members were involved, interest was indicated in dictionaries of Pacific languages, Afro-American, Portuguese African, Medieval Latin, Pidgin English, Polabian, Serbian, and Old High German.

The secretary-treasurer hopes that in the future improved application forms and implementation of a proposed computer data file will make possible more accurate and complete tabulation of our members' backgrounds and interests. (EG)

## NEW DSNA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A new group of officers began working for the DSNA at the close of the biennial meeting. President is James L. Rosier, Professor of English Philology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia where he has taught since 1963. Professor Rosier has a doctorate in English literature and Germanic philology from Stanford University. He has been author or editor of four books and has had more than 20 articles and 12 reviews published. Among these are "The Sources of John Joscelyn's Old English-Latin Dictionary" (*Anglia*, 1958), "The Sources and Methods of John Minshew's *Guide into Tongues*" (*Philological Quarterly*, 1963), and "Lexicographic Genealogy in Old English" (*Journal of English and Germanic Philology*). He was an assistant editor of the *Middle English Dictionary*, working in the letters G and H, and contributed to the second supplement of the *Bosworth-Toller Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*. Dr. Rosier was one of the people who envisaged the founding of a lexicographic society, and he conducted the meeting at which it was established in 1975. He was chair of the Nominating Committee 1977-1981, served on the Constitution Revision Committee 1977-1979, and was chair of the Publications Committee 1983-85. As Vice-

President and President-Elect, he has been a member of the Executive Board 1983-85.

Vice-President and President-Elect is Victoria Neufeldt, Senior Editor with Simon & Schuster New World Dictionaries in Cleveland since 1983. Prior to 1983, she was Editor of Dictionaries and Senior English with Gage Educational Publishing, Ltd. of Agincourt, Ontario. She has served as a member of the DSNA Executive Board since 1981.

Re-elected Secretary-Treasurer was Edward Gates, Professor of English at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana, where he has developed a Specialization in Lexicography in the English M.A. program. He was an assistant editor with the G. & C. Merriam Company from 1956 to 1962, working on *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and *Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*. He later was co-editor of *A Dictionary of Idioms for the Deaf* (now *Dictionary of American Idioms*) and associate editor of a *Dictionary of Linguistic Terminology*. He was one of the people responsible for the organization of the Society and served as its president 1975-77. He has been editor of the *Newsletter* since its first

issue in May 1977. He is author of **An Analysis of the Lexicographic Resources used by American Biblical Scholars Today** (Scholars Press, 1972), "A Bibliography on General and English Lexicography" in **Lexicography in English** edited by Raven I. McDavid, Jr. and Audrey R. Duckert (New York Academy of Sciences, 1973) and of "A Survey of the Teaching of Lexicography" in **Dictionaries** (1979).

Donald Hobar, Assistant Director of Conferences and Non-Credit Programs at Indiana State University, has been re-appointed as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, with oversight of the Society's finances. He was editor of the **Papers of the DSNA 1977**.

New members at large of the Executive Board to serve for four years are Sidney Landau and Virginia G. McDavid. Mr. Landau is editor-in-chief of the multi-volume **International Dictionary of Medicine and Biology**, soon to be published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. of New York. Mr. Landau has worked on dictionaries for more than 20 years. He was editor-in-chief of six standard dictionaries for Funk and Wagnalls and of **The Doubleday Dictionary**. He is author of **Dictionaries: the Art and Craft of Lexicography** published by Scribners in 1984. He has also served on the DSNA Finance Committee. Dr. McDavid is Professor of English at Chicago State University. She served, with her late husband Raven I. McDavid, Jr., as a consultant on usage and dialect for the **Random House Dictionary of the English Language** and has

written several articles on usage labelling in dictionaries. "Dictionary Labels for Usage Levels and Dialects" was published in **Papers on Lexicography in Honor of Warren N. Cordell** (DSNA, 1979). "Variation in Dictionary Labeling Practices" was published in **Lexicography in English** (New York Academy of Sciences, 1973). She has developed the teaching of dictionary use in English courses and is author, with William Card, of **99 Exercises in College Composition**. She was a member of the DSNA Publications Committee 1977-1981. Continuing members of the Board are Frederic G. Cassidy, editor of the **Dictionary of American Regional English** (based at University of Wisconsin, Madison) and David B. Guralnik, Vice President and Dictionary Editor in Chief of the Simon & Schuster New World Dictionaries. Elected to the Nominating Committee were Ashley Crandall Amos, joint editor of the Dictionary of Old English under way at the University of Toronto, and Morton Benson, professor of Slavic Languages at the University of Pennsylvania. He is editor of the **SerboCroatian-English dictionary** (1971), **English-SerboCroatian Dictionary** (1978) and regularly teaches lexicography courses at the University. Continuing members of the Committee are Professor Dinh Hoa Nguyen, of the Department of Linguistics at Southern Illinois University; and Dr. James Smith of the Communications Division, Henderson Junior College, Athens, Texas. (EG).

## VIRGINIA MCDAVID AND FREDERIC CASSIDY ELECTED FELLOWS

The Constitution of the DSNA (Article II, Section 2e) provides that "Any member distinguished for the study, making, or collection of dictionaries may be elected by the membership as a Fellow of the Dictionary Society of North America." Subject to the approval of the membership, the Executive Board at its meeting on August 20, 1985, elected as Fellows Frederic G. Cassidy, Chief Editor of the **Dictionary of American Regional English** and Virginia G. McDavid, Professor of English at Chicago State University. Dr. Cassidy's work is discussed in the lead article of this issue of the Newsletter; Dr. McDavid's, in the preceding article. The first Fellows were elected in 1983: Clarence L.

Barnhart (see later article "Barnhart Dictionary Records..."); Sherman M. Kuhn, longtime editor of the **Middle English Dictionary**; Mitford M. Mathews, one of the editors of the **Dictionary of American English** and the editor of **Dictionary of Americanisms**, who died February 14, 1985; and Allen Walker Read, whose publications and papers in lexicography and American language are too numerous to list. By action of the Executive Board, Fellows are members for life. The Executive Board has also recommended that future additions to the Fellows be elected by the Fellows, and has designated Allen Walker Read as convenor.

## FIRST THREE DSNA LIFE MEMBERS

In July a new category of Life Membership in the DSNA was announced, and the Society now has three life members. The first two, coming the week of August 19, were Henry G. Burger and Steve A. Demakopoulos. Henry Burger is Professor of Anthropology and Education at the University of Missouri (Kansas City); his useful word-finder **The Wordtree**, was published in December 1984. Steve Demakopoulos is a senior economic analyst in the Aviation Department of the Port Authority of the City of New York, and a lexicographer of modern Greek. He is compiling an etymological dictionary of modern Greek and a lexicon of popular words, slang, and colloquialisms not found in standard dictionaries. He also writes a col-

umn "Do You Speak Greek?" on various aspects of the language, published in several periodicals read by Hellenic communities in North America and elsewhere.

The third life member is Theodore P. Haebler, a private researcher of Lynn, Massachusetts. Mr. Haebler is currently working on three projects: the collection of photocopies of pamphlets of the 19th century "war" between the publishers of the Webster and Worcester dictionaries; a compilation of useful quotations on language and lexicography; and a list of research desiderata in lexicography, particularly on the Dictionary War. Others can become Life Members by sending in dues of \$250. (EG)



## CALL FOR PAPERS: EURALEX SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Papers are invited for the EURALEX Second International Conference which will be held at the University of Zurich, 9-14 September 1986. The conference aims at providing an international forum for those involved in the making of dictionaries, though special emphasis will be given to three themes: (1) Meaning and the dictionary, (2) Grammar in the dictionary, and (3) The role of the computer in lexicography.

Within a structure of plenary symposia, papers will be given in parallel sessions and be accompanied by either discussions or practical workshops. A special session will be devoted to Swiss lexicography.

### CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND PROCEEDINGS

The Centre for the New OED at the University of Waterloo held a conference on 7 November 1985 entitled, "Information in Data." John Simpson of Oxford University Press gave the opening remarks the evening before the formal sessions. The UW Centre for the New OED has intended to facilitate research into practical applications of the data in the **New OED**. The Centre organized the workshop to research three of the research areas most closely related to this goal: knowledge bases, linguistics, and lexicology.

The essays presented in the session on linguistics raised issues of the usage level of the lexicon, the choice of inclusion and exclusion, the interpretation of borrowed elements, and the semantic implications of words and citations as ascribed to various periods. Neil Hultin of the University of Waterloo chaired the session for speakers Christopher Dean (University of Saskatchewan) and Gisele Losier (U. of Waterloo).

A panel of Robin Cohen, Randy Goebel (University of Waterloo), and John Sowa (IBM Systems Research Institute) discussed knowledge databases versus databases and the advantages of "conceptual modeling."

Michael Lesk of Bell Communications Research chaired a session on lexicology where three different interests were explored: retrieval, education, and textual analysis. The speakers described what on-line dictionaries, grammars, and other reference materials they are using, the problems they have had, and successes they have achieved. Speakers included: George A. Miller, Princeton University, who spoke about "Wordnet: A Dictionary Browser"; Henry Kucera, Brown University, who discussed "The Problem of Structural Ambiguity in the Lexicon"; and Donald Walker, Bell Communications Research, who talked about "Knowledge Resource Tools for Accessing Large Text Files." (BAK)

A series of seminars relating to its work is being held by the University of Waterloo Centre for the New OED. On March 28, Professor Ian Lancashire of the

The conference languages will be English, French, German, and Italian. Papers may be given and abstracts submitted in any of these languages.

Abstracts (800-1,000 words) should be sent by 1 November 1985 to Dr. Mary Snell-Hornby, Dekanat der Philosophischen, Fakultät I (EURALEX-Tagung), Universität Zurich, Ramistrasse 71, CH-8006 Zurich, Switzerland. A reply will be sent by March 1986.

A copy of the First Circular and requests for more information may also be addressed to Dr Snell-Hornby. (EURALEX Bulletin)

University of Toronto's English Department presented a seminar on "The Humanist's Operating System." On April 23 Krista Mackenzie, Terry McCain, and Cathy Paterson (UW co-op students working on the User Survey) gave a seminar on "The New OED User Survey: A Discussion of its Procedure, Potential Applications, and Results." On May 24 Professor Adam Makkai of the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle gave two seminars: "Towards an Associative Lexicon for Twentieth-Century English" and "The Tree of Sub-Dictionaries: English Idioms and Beyond." On October 2, Barbara Ann Kipfer presented "Dictionaries and the Student." On October 16, R.R.K. Hartmann discussed the user perspective in lexicography.

The 23rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics was held in Chicago in July. Among the papers given were "Structure-Sharing in Lexical Representation" by Daniel Flickinger, Carl Pollard, and Thomas Wasow; "A Tool Kit for Lexicon Building" by Thomas Ahlswede, "Using an On-Line Dictionary to find Rhyming Words and Pronunciations for Unknown Words" by Roy Byrd and Martin Chodorow, "Towards a Self-Extending Phrasal Lexicon" by Uri Zernik and Michael G. Dyer, "Extracting Semantic Hierarchies from a Large On-Line Dictionary" by Martin Chodorow, Roy Byrd, and George Heidorn; and "Dictionaries of the Mind" by George Miller. (BAK)

The Modern Language Association Discussion Group on Lexicography will have a session during the convention in Chicago, on Sunday, December 29, 1985, 8:30-9:45 a.m., in the Hyatt Regency Chicago, Buckingham, Concourse level, WT. On the program are "Johnson and the Dictionary of the English Language," by James G. Basker; "Dictionaries and the Standard" by John Earl Joseph; "Lexical Orality and Direct Semantic Ratification" by Michael S. Macovski; "Lexicography and the Spoken Word" by R.J. Nelson; and "Active and Passive Functions of the Dictionary: An Empirical Study" by John C. Traupman. Presiding will be Roger J. Steiner.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

R.R.K. Hartmann, Director of the Dictionary Research Centre at the University of Exeter, to lighten his responsibilities, has given up the chair of the Specialist Group on Lexicography within the Association for

Literary and Linguistic Computing and the column "Lexinotes" in the **ALLC Bulletin**. During the autumn term, he is spending a study leave in the United States and Canada. He lectured in the Lexicography

Colloquium at Ann Arbor and from August 28-September 14, taught a two-week lexicography course at the National Resource Center for Translation and Interpretation at the State University of New York in Binghamton. That was followed by a tour with professional contacts in New York, Terre Haute, IN, and Carbondale, IL. During October and November he was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Waterloo Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary. While there, he planned to write three articles for the international research encyclopedia on lexicography being produced in the Lexicographica Series Maior of Max Niemeyer Verlag, Tubingen.

Barbara Ann Kipfer completed her M.Phil. degree in linguistics in the spring of 1985 for the University of Exeter. Her dissertation topic was "Dictionaries and the Intermediate Student: Communicative Needs and the Development of User Reference Skills." She is proceeding to a Ph.D. on the use of computers for the entire lexicographic process. In August, she joined Bell Communications Research as a lexicographer for the Artificial Intelligence and Information Science Research group. She visits the Morristown, New Jersey office once a week and works at home the balance of the time. She works for Donald E. Walker and Robert A. Amsler. She presented papers in Leeds in April and in Ann Arbor in August. From 22 September-3 October, she was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Waterloo Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary. Since April 1985 her home address has been 435 Milford Point Road, Milford, CT 06460.

Dinh-Hoa Nguyen, Professor of Linguistics and Foreign Languages and Director of the Center for Vietnamese Studies at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, is preparing a modern edition of the **Book of Three Thousand Characters**, an 18th century work which used verse as a mnemonic device to teach 3000 Chinese characters to Vietnamese school-children. (BAK)

Though six of seven new U.S. books are never reviewed, Henry G. Burger's new wordbook, **The Wordtree**, has been reviewed in more than 50 publications,

including the **London Times**. Orders have come in from 26 countries. Responding to a review in **Language Monthly** (April 1985), Dr. Burger in the July issue contrasted inadequacy of any alphabetic dictionary when searching for a word to express an idea, with the utility of his **Wordtree** for this purpose and proposed as a challenge that readers try to find verbs combining five given sets of concepts. Answers from **Wordtree** were given on a later page. (He will send offprints of the article.)

Leslie Bivens, who has been studying toward a doctorate in historical linguistics at the University of Texas, Austin, has taken a position as editor with Harcourt Brace Jovanovich in Austin. She also has a new address: 924 Cardinal Lane, Austin, TX 78704.

Robert W. Burchfield, Chief Editor, The Oxford Dictionaries, is author of **The English Language** published by Oxford University Press in 1985. The book takes a historical perspective and benefits from his long experience as a lexicographer.

James L. Rosier, President of the DSNA, is co-translator of **Aldhelm: The Poetic Works**, published in 1985 by D.S. Brewer of Woodbridge, Suffolk, England.

Lloyd Vandersall retired from U.S. Government service in April 1985 after 38 years of translating and language teaching. He continues service as treasurer of the Washington D.C. chapter of the American Translators Association.

Allen Walker Read, a past president of the DSNA, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, **honoris causa**, by the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Rapids, on the 60th anniversary of his receiving his B.A. degree from that institution (then Iowa State Teachers College). In August he attended the meetings of the Linguistic Association of Canada and the U.S. in Saskatoon and the General Semantics Conference in San Diego, as well as the DSNA meeting in Ann Arbor.

## BARNHART DICTIONARY RECORDS BEING ORGANIZED

Advance in dictionary making and historiography has been slowed because the materials that lexicographers used in making their books were not available. Publishers have been secretive; dictionary makers have rarely published their lexicographic principles and methods; and the records needed to tell the stories of their dictionaries have usually been scattered or destroyed. Today a few are urging the preservation of such materials, if not by the companies, then in archival centers. And at least one lexicographer is working hard to organize his materials for posterity.

Clarence L. Barnhart, editor of the Thorndike-Barnhart series of school dictionaries, the **American College Dictionary**, the **Thorndike-Barnhart Desk Dictionary**, the **World Book Dictionary**, and the **Barnhart**

**Dictionary of New Words**, is organizing his company records into a file that will be useful to his successors and to other lexicographers and historians. In a letter written August 16, 1985, he reports that he is sorting the materials according to the books in which they have been used, and adding notes to some, explaining their importance in the work. The papers include "old committee records of [our] deliberations...on the making of the pronunciation key and...memoranda dealing with usage, definition, selection of entry, and any number of problems that the dictionary editor must encounter." He will select some papers for publication. To date, he reports having gone through some 50 file drawers, and he has at least 12 drawers of correspondence ahead of him. He estimates another two or three years will be needed to finish. (EG)



## COMPUTERIZATION PROJECTS

International Computaprint Corporation (ICC) continues its delivery of magnetic tapes and proofs to Oxford University Press. More than 1,400 pages of the **OED** and **Supplement** had been captured by May and ICC was keeping within the error rate of seven (or less) keystrokes in ten thousand. The University of Waterloo Centre for the New OED has mounted the letter "M" on its computer system. No further data will be supported at Waterloo until the entire text of the Dictionary has been captured and proofed in late 1986.

The Department of Computational Linguistics at the University of Goteborg is working on a database of lexical information on present-day Swedish. The database is to contain a sizeable number of lexical units from everyday language as well as from technical terminology and special-purpose language.

The linguistic information included is manifold, particular attention being paid to definitions. To minimize circularity, track is kept of the disambiguated main words of the definitions, with the aim of establishing a functional defining vocabulary. The linguistic analysis is based on a theoretical framework of the case grammar type and is carried out interactively on computer terminals. When the database is fully developed, a set of links will be established between relevant elements

of the material.

A monolingual Swedish dictionary is planned to be the first practical output of the project. The manuscript is being automatically generated from three separate files in the database.

Additional projects are Lexin, for the production of adequate and handy dictionaries for various immigrant groups; a commission from the Ministry of Education to study Swedish social terminology in immigrant languages; and the eleventh edition of the Swedish Academy Glossary. Martin Gellerstam is the Director of the Department. For more information, write for a copy of **Rapporter fran Sprakdata**, c/o Martin Gellerstam, Norra Allegatan 6, S-413 01 Goteborg, Sweden. (BAK)

Based on the **Webster's New World Dictionary**, **Webster's Spelling Checker** (Simon & Schuster for IBM-PC) has an impressive vocabulary of 110,000 entries and also catches a number of other errors, including double words and punctuation errors. Once the program flags an error, it offers as many as ten alternatives that can be inserted into the document with a single keystroke. It is compatible with WordStar, PFS Write, and most popular word processors and is also available for the Apple II series.

## LEXICOGRAPHIC STUDIES IN PROGRESS

Postgraduate students and honorary research fellows at the University of Exeter's Dictionary Research Centre are pursuing various topics. During 1984-85 these were the development of Arabic bilingual dictionaries, a bibliography of lexicographical literature and dictionaries published in China 1955-85, recent trends in Chinese lexicographical theory, and typological classification of Japanese dictionaries. During 1985-86, they will be computer-aided syntactic and lexical

analysis of Spanish, linguistic information in Afrikaans dictionaries and the training of lexicographers, Chinese-English dictionary compilation and ESP teaching, and contrastive linguistics and Korean-French lexicography. The University of Exeter Dictionary Research Centre, in collaboration with two members of the University library staff, have begun a Union List of Historic English Dictionaries in local libraries.

## NEW DICTIONARIES AND REFERENCE BOOKS

The **Reader's Digest Great Illustrated Dictionary** (GID), published in 1984 by Reader's Digest in Great Britain, is a two-volume work containing approximately 180,000 entries within its 1,917 pages. Building on a comparatively recent tradition of British 20th-century lexicography, it sets out to be both dictionary and encyclopedia: it is, for example, highly illustrated, with around 3,000 full-color illustrations and maps; it has geographical and biographical entries throughout A to Z; and it has special features on a variety of illustratable topics from volcanoes to Rembrandt.

However, there is another equally significant aspect of GID. Reader's Digest makes a speciality of knowing their public and so before embarking on GID, they conducted wide-ranging market research to ascertain what people would expect to find in a large-size dictionary. The results of this survey formed the basis of GID's policies on illustration, usage guidance, pronunciation, encyclopedic coverage, and indirectly influenced the philosophy underlying its defining style.

Houghton Mifflin was chosen as collaborators on the project and the **American Heritage Dictionary** was selected as a starting-point for compilation. AHD was selected for several reasons: it provided American input, had a strong encyclopedic bias, and had a discursive defining style. A team of lexicographers was assembled which included compilers from New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa, and has as its consultant editor an American lexicographer, Robert Ilson.

The only abbreviations used were for word-class labels and the definitions could consist of two or more complete sentences. The explanatory notes were designed to decode the lexicographic conventions GID employed. The usage notes were written by David Crystal and John Wells devised a respelling system for the pronunciations. The scope of the two volumes was to provide the maximum of information in a readily accessible form.

Thanks to computerization, the book took only three

years to produce. More than a year after publication, it is still abreast of most recent developments in vocabulary and can stand comparison with newer works. (Faye Carney)

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**The Origins of English Words**, a dictionary of Indo-European roots, by Joseph T. Shipley, is alphabetically arranged with an index of all the English words discussed. Since there are no direct records of the original Indo-European speech, vocabularies of its various descendants are compared to permit reconstruction of the basic Indo-European roots. Shipley catalogues these proposed roots and follows the process by which some of their offshoots have grown — for example, the process by which **plek** ("bend" or "fold"), could develop into modern English **flex** and **fiasco**, **diploma**, and **doubloon**.

Shipley is also the author of **Dictionary of Word Origins** and **Dictionary of Early English**. The new dictionary was published in the spring of 1985 by The Johns Hopkins University Press, 701 West 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21211. (BAK)

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Volume IV of the **Malayalam Lexicon** was published by The University of Kerala, India, in December 1984. It contains 12,800 words in 1,266 pages. The Lexicon is an attempt to satisfy the desire of the scholarly public of Kerala for an authoritative and comprehensive dictionary of the Malayalam language. The governments of Travancort, Cochin, and Madras set up a joint effort in 1953 and Shri Suranad P.S. Junjan Pillai was appointed as Editor.

A team of scholars collected nearly 3,500,000 citations from published literary works, books, historical records, folklore, idioms and proverbs, caste and regional dialects. That collection was complete by 1957 and the lexicon, containing 46,000 foolscap pages, was ready in 1960 for final editing. The first three volumes of the lexicon were published in 1965, 1970, and 1976 respectively. Volume 3 was edited by Dr. K.V. Nambudiripad and Volume 4 by Dr. B.C. Balakrishnan.

The lexicon will be printed in 11 volumes with a total of 15,000 pages. The descriptive, comparative, and historical principles of lexicography are employed and it is expected to meet the needs of different kinds of users ranging from the novice to learned scholar. There is a classification of verbs and a tabulation of paradigmatic forms. The citations are chronologically arranged under each meaning to illustrate the formal and semantic evaluation. Also included are interpretations of idioms, phrases, proverbs; archaic and absolute forms and meanings; various social geographic dialectical words; professional registers and honorific terms. There are explanatory notes and authoritative references to words from puranas, itihahas, and hereditary sciences.

For further information, write Department of Publication, University of Kerala, Trivandrum 1, India. (BAK)

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New in 1985 from Collins are two bilingual dictionaries in their Concise series. **Collins Concise Italian Dictionary** is a new work with over 100,000 words and phrases (Italian-English English-Italian). **Collins Con-**

**cise Spanish Dictionary** is based on **Collins Spanish Dictionary** and also has over 100,000 words and phrases in two vocabularies. Prices were not announced but the **Concise French Dictionary** sells for £7.50. Further information can be obtained from Collins Publishers, P O Box, Glasgow G4 0NB, Scotland. (BAK, Ed.)

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New bilingual dictionaries from Oxford University Press in 1984-85 are **The Oxford French Minidictionary**, **The Oxford Italian Minidictionary**, **The Oxford Russian-English Dictionary** (2d ed.), **The Oxford English-Russian Dictionary**, and **The Oxford Turkish-English Dictionary** (3d ed.).

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A revised, expanded edition of Morton Benson's **English-SerboCroatian Dictionary** was published in January 1985 by the Belgrade publishing house Prosveta. The first edition, which appeared in 1978, went through three printings. The revised edition has added many neologisms, offers an improved treatment of British English, and introduces a large number of lexical and grammatical collocations. It includes over 60,000 headwords. The eighth printing of Benson's **SerboCroatian-English Dictionary** has also appeared in Belgrade. This dictionary, first published in 1971, was revised and expanded in 1979 and now contains over 65,000 headwords. (MB)

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Robert Serre has self-published a bilingual technical dictionary entitled **Dictionnaire Contextuel anglais-francais de la corrosion**. The 138 pages include 460 main entries and 737 French equivalents covering the various aspects of metallic corrosion and the many techniques used to reduce or prevent corrosive attack of metals. The dictionary is designed specifically for translators as were Serre's previous dictionaries (solar energy, 1979; industrial dust control, 1980; and chromatography, 1981). The dictionary provides a definition of each main entry, one or more equivalents in French underlined within contexts of published literature, and a bibliographic source for each. A separate section includes 166 abbreviations and acronyms used in literature on corrosion and a list of the 108 documents used. Price is \$14.00 Canadian. For more information write: Robert Serre, 1057 Riviera Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1K 0N7. (RS, BAK)

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**The Brockhaus-Wahrig Deutsches Woerterbuch**, Vol. 6, was published in 1984 by Brockhaus & DVA of Wiesbaden. The work was compiled by the late Gerhard Wahrig and others.

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**Word Frequencies in British and American English**, prepared by the Longman Group, is the first major published study of relative word frequencies in contemporary British and American English. Comparative studies were made possible by the systematic matching of the Lancaster-Oslo Bergen Corpus of British English with the Brown Corpus of American English.

Both corpora contain a million words extracted from representative text types (500 samples of about 2,000 words each) and the sampling principles and the year of publication of texts are identical. The relative



frequencies of words have been tabulated and preferences in spelling and differences in word forms are revealed. The book also contains general frequency lists for the British English texts and comparisons of word frequencies in different categories of these texts.

Some of the lists, including a complete reverse-alphabetical wordlist for the Brown Corpus and LOB Corpus are reproduced on microfiche inside the cover. There are also three introductory chapters.

The work was edited by Knut Hofland, of the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities, and Stig Johansson, Professor of English Language at the University of Oslo. The 547-page book can be ordered for 29.50 pounds Sterling from Longman, Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE, England. (BAK)

Reprinted in August 1985 was DSNA member C. Richard Beam's **Pennsylvania German Dictionary: English to Pennsylvania Dutch**, along with a companion volume, J. William Frey's **A Simple Grammar of Pennsylvania Dutch**. These can be purchased for \$7.95 each (\$15 for set) from the publisher, Brookshire Publications, 200 Hazel Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17604. Mr. Beam is treasurer of the Society for German-American Studies.

**Webster's Guide to Abbreviations** was published in September 1985 by Merriam-Webster Inc. It can be used in two ways: in the first part, containing nearly 7,700 abbreviations, the user can look up abbreviated forms to learn the word(s) they stand for. In the second part, containing 12,000 words and phrases most often abbreviated in general usage, the user can learn what their abbreviated forms are. The work is based on the company's collection of 13 million examples of English words used in context.

**The Concise Scots Dictionary**, a comprehensive one-volume dictionary of the Scots language from the 12th century to the present day, was published by Aberdeen University Press in August 1985. The work is based on the 10-volume **Scottish National Dictionary** (1976), the **Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue** (published to the letter P), and (for older usage after the letter P) **The Oxford English Dictionary**. It contains the words, phrases, and meanings used distinctively by Scots of Lowland Scotland, from Shetland to the Southwest and the Borders. There are words with English equivalents (e.g. **loch**), with no English equivalents (e.g. **dreich**), and with different meaning in Scots from southern standard English (e.g. **close**). There are dialect words such as Aberdeenshire farming terms, specialist vocabulary such as legal and mining terms, words for Scottish objects, customs, and institutions (e.g. **kilt**, **first-foot**, **Court of Session**), and words used by such famous Scottish authors as Dunbar, Burns, Scott, and McDiarmid. Information given about the words includes spelling variants, pronunciation where this is likely to cause difficulty, grammatical information, historical information including centuries in which the word has been used, geographical limits of the use of the word, and a brief etymology. An introduction contains a history of the Scots language and guide to pronunciation. The dictionary was produced in Edinburgh under the au-

spices of the Scottish National Dictionary Association Ltd. Editor-in-Chief is Mairi Robinson. An article by M.A.R. Martin and Maire Robinson on the dictionary appeared in **Dictionaries 3** (1980-81). The dictionary can be obtained in the United States from Pergamon Press, Inc., Maxwell House, Fairview Park, Elmsford, New York 10523. Hardcover: \$24.50; Leather: \$53.55 including postage and handling.

**Ethnicity INTERCOCTA Glossary: Concepts, and Terms Used in Ethnicity Research** by DSNA member Fred W. Riggs was published in the summer of 1985 by the International Social Science Council's Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA), with the financial assistance of UNESCO. This pilot edition is the first of a series of subject-field 'glossaries' forming the first part of a projected "International Conceptual Encyclopedia for the Social Sciences." The INTERCOCTA glossaries are not alphabetical vocabularies with definitions, but word-finders — taxonomically-arranged definitions of concepts with lists of the terms that express them.

**Ethnicity** contains an introduction telling why and how to use an INTERCOCTA glossary; a list of participants; an introduction to the scope of the field; a list of organizations and journals dealing with ethnicity and nationality; an outline of the taxonomic key words and phrases by which the glossary is organized; the glossary — composed of defined concepts, terms used to express them, and citations; and at the back, a bibliography; index of citations; and index of terms. The work enables people employed in the field to find out whether a concept has been formulated, and what terms if any have been used to refer to it. A user can also use the glossary like a dictionary by turning first to the term index. The existence of the glossary as an online data base facilitates continuous updating, as new concepts and terms are identified and reported to the editor. This kind of reference tool, improving on works like **Roget's Thesaurus** (in its original conceptually-organized version), complements alphabetized glossaries and dictionaries. Dictionaries enable a user to get information about a known word; these word finders enable the user to find an unknown term expressing a concept, and as well to see it in relation to terms near it in the logical framework.

A dictionary of the language of the Passamaquoddy Indians of eastern Maine was published in the spring of 1985 as part of the tribe's efforts to teach the language to its younger members. Among New England's 21,600 Indians, only the 2,000 Passamaquoddies still use their ancestral tongue in daily life, and among them only the older generations. It has survived because until recent years the reservations, at the easternmost corner of the state, were isolated from most outside influence. The Passamaquoddy language is much like that of the Maliseet Indians of nearby New Brunswick; both belong to the Algonquian language family. Much of the research for the dictionary was done by Philip LeSourd, a doctoral student in Cambridge, Massachusetts. David A. Francis helped edit the work and is gathering material for a second, larger edition. (Information from **Boston Sunday Globe**, 9 June 1985)

Robert Burchfield's **New Zealand Pocket Oxford Dictionary**, which is a thoroughly New Zealandized version of the **Pocket Oxford Dictionary** (7th ed., edited by R.E. Allen, 1984) and includes some sections both in English and Maori, is expected to be published by Oxford University Press in January 1986. It will be a book of 928 pages. (BAK)

The **Yup'ik Eskimo Dictionary**, compiled by Steven A. Jacobson, was published in 1984 by the Alaska Native Language Center of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Central Yup'ik, a native Eskimo language spoken in southwestern Alaska, is represented in its first comprehensive dictionary. The entries, Yup'ik bases, are defined by English translations, and the 758-page work also contains an English index and discussions of Yup'ik phonology, orthography, grammar, and dialects. (J. Moulds)

The **New Finnish-English General Dictionary (Uusi suomi-englanti suursanakirja)** by Raija Hurme, Riita-Leena Malin, and Olli Syvaaja was published by Werner Soderstrom Osakeyhtio in Helsinki in October 1984. Containing 160,000 entries in 1,468 pages, it includes the general vocabulary of Finnish and core terms from a number of specialized fields. Some less common words were included if the editors found English equivalents of corresponding stylistic register. Not included were many compound words, descriptive words, and words for which English equivalents are easily derived by means of the suffixes -ing, -ly, and -ness. Both British and American English equivalents have been given when found.

Begun in the late 1970's, the work responds to a need for a Finnish-English dictionary containing the many new words and meanings created by the rapid social and technological developments of recent years. The wordlist was drawn from the **Dictionary of Modern Finnish (Nykysuomen sanakirja)** and the not-yet-published **Nykysuomen perussanakirja**, and supplemented from reference works, specialized terminologies, and citations from literature and the media. English equivalents were drawn in part from a comprehensive reference library. The dictionary is designed primarily for the Finnish user, but the needs of the non-Finnish user have also been taken into

account.

Also new in 1984 was the **EUDISED Multilingual Thesaurus for Information Processing in the Field of Education**, compiled by J. Viet and G. van Slype for the Council of Europe and the Commission of the European Communities, and published by Mouton in Berlin and New York.

**A Concise Hopi and English Lexicon** was published in Spring 1985 by John Benjamins, North America. It was compiled by Roy Albert, a Hopi-speaking scholar, and David Shaul, a linguist. It reflects the conservative usage of the Third Mesa dialect and contains an introduction, Hopi-English vocabulary, and English-Hopi index.

The Estienne-Nicot Project announces the publication by Editions Paratexte of **Concordance du "Thresor de la langue francoyse" de Jean Nicot (1606): materiaux lexicaux, lexicographiques et methodologiques** (ISBN 0-920615-00-7/01-5) by Terence Russon Wooldridge, University of Toronto. This research tool, comprising a printed volume of 270 pages and a microfiche volume of 78 fiches (19,363 pages), is of interest to students and scholars of Renaissance France, of the history of the French language, and of the history, types, and methods of dictionaries in general. The printed volume includes a methodological introduction, alphabetical and inverse lists of French words, frequency tables, and lists of metalinguistic key words, field labels and named sources. The microfiches contain the global concordance, two syntagmatic miniconcordances, an index of high frequency words, a frequency list of French words, alphabetical, reverse and frequency lists of Latin and other words, a copy of the computerized source text, and a list of the dictionary head words. The Estienne-Nicot Project is currently working on the preparation of concordances of several other dictionaries, including the **Thesaurus linguae latinae** (1531), **Dictionarium latinogallicum** (1552), and **Grand dictionnaire francois-latin** (1606-1614). The Nicot concordance may be ordered from: Editions Paratexte, Trinity College, Toronto M5S 1H8 (\$80 Can., postage-paid). (T.R. Wooldridge)

## DICTIONARIES IN PROGRESS

The "International Dictionary of Medicine and Biology," a three-volume work, is expected from John Wiley & Sons, Inc. in January, 1986. A special pre-publication price of \$350.00 may be arranged by contacting the publisher at 605 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10158. The dictionary will cost \$395.00 at publication.

Ashley Crandall Amos and Antonette diPaolo Healey are busy as joint editors of the **Dictionary of Old English**. A 1984 progress report said all words beginning with the letter "d" were finished in draft form and were being revised for a fascicle publication planned by the project.

The Dictionary's computer system is installed as are basic file structures for referencing the data. The

Dandelion terminals allow the editor to work with windows of information, displaying, for example, an entry form, lines from the text on which he is working, the appropriate short title for the text, the frequency count for his particular word of interest, the standardized spelling of that word, and references to the critical literature.

A "Guide for Entry Writing" was compiled by the editors reflecting what they had learned through the letter "d." The guide will help standardize the staff's practices and serve as an introduction to entry writing for new staff.

Donations to the Angus Cameron Memorial Fund of over \$1 million have ensured that the project will continue. The money was raised from foundations and



individuals after Professor Cameron, who initiated the project, died in 1983. Donations include a matching grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation of New York and from the Henry White Kinnear Foundation of Toronto. The fund will be used to hire two full-time editors for 10 years and, if possible, to establish an Angus Cameron Chair at the University of Toronto.

It is estimated that publication of the dictionary is another 10 years in the future. (BAK)

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The Instituut voor Nederlandse Lexicologie (Dutch Lexicological Institute) in Leiden, The Netherlands, was formally established in 1967 to promote the study of Dutch lexicology. Their two current projects are the *Woordenboek der Nederlandse Taal* (WNT), a dictionary of the Dutch language on historical principles; and a section data base.

Editor in chief of WNT is W.E.M. de Clerck and head of the data base is W.J.J. Pijnenburg. General and scientific director of the DLI is P.B.J. van Sterkenburg.

The WNT will be a large academic dictionary and is intended to be finished before the end of this century. It was started in 1851 and covers the period 1500-1920. For the period 1920 to the present day, Dutch lexicology can offer no dictionary based on a representative text corpus. The dictionary has 30 collaborators, 12 of whom are editors, and they have approximately one million citations still to be edited. Though the editorial work involves no use of computers, the edited dictionary articles are converted to computer form with the use of word processors. In 1983, the production amounted to 11 installments of 126 columns each. The section data base will ultimately be a lexicological inventory on magnetic tape and disks of the vocabulary of the Dutch language. Partly automatically and partly by hand, morphological codes will be given to each token. The main task of the data base would be to collect an inventory, exhaustive if possible, of Dutch vocabulary material, provided with contextual information by the use of the computer. Since 1971 the DLI has been able to convert all Dutch texts up to 1300 to magnetic tape. This has facilitated the production of different kinds of indices; and contextual information for each word form, including date and place of origin.

Three ways are being used to feed the data base with new material: 1) internal processing of texts with word processors, 2) the use of tapes from the graphics industry, and 3) the use of a data-entry machine. For converting existing printed material, the data base uses a Kurzweil Data Entry Machine.

Two of the data base collaborators have devised a strategy to enrich the raw vocabulary data with linguistic information. The entries of the *Van Dale Groot Woordenboek der Nederlandse Taal* (1976)

are subjected to an exhaustive morphological analysis: simplex words are provided with categorical information and complex words receive their internal structure. The information is encoded and the dictionary then functions as a look-up list where raw data receive the coding if they are represented in the list. If not, new types are signalled, analyzed along the same lines, and added to the look-up list. (BAK, Ed.)

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An Icelandic historical dictionary is being compiled by a research institute, *Ordabok Haskolans* (The University Dictionary), affiliated with the Faculty of Arts of the University of Iceland in Reykjavik. The work will cover the vocabulary of the Icelandic language from 1540 to the present. Work began on the dictionary in 1943; a permanent staff was appointed in 1947. During the period before 1982, more than 2,000 books and journals were systematically excerpted for examples of the vocabularies of different periods; two million citations were made. Other auxiliary collections increase the total number of slips to between two and one-half to three million.

Since 1982, excerption is done with the assistance of computers, in 19th and 20th century sources, and a collection of computer-readable texts from different historical periods is being built. In addition, a data base record of the words in the main collection (estimated at 600,000) will include for each word the grammatical class, age, number of quotations, word type, and oldest source. This data base will be used for other projects in lexicological research and computer application, including a spelling checker to be developed with IBM in Iceland. The data base also marks all words with respect to their behavior in compounds, and will be used in a project to investigate the compounding process in Icelandic word formation.

Project director is Jon Adalsteinn Jonsson. For more information, write *Ordabok Haskolans*, University of Iceland, Arnagardi, Reykjavik 101, Iceland.

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A dictionary of Papiamentu, a creole language spoken in Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao is projected by the *Instituto Lingwistiko Antiano*, a section of the Ministry of Education of the Netherlands Antilles. One of the tasks of the Institute is the normalization of the linguistic and literary conditions in the islands. Toward this end, the Institute is working for the officialization of English and Papiamentu alongside Dutch. That entails the standardization of the spelling and other aspects of Papiamentu and the creation of basic reference works for language acquisition and the study of literature, including a dictionary. A proposal for establishing a wordlist was presented at the Fifth Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics held at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica in August 1984. For more information, write *Instituto Lingwistiko Antiano*, Pietermaai 46, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles.

## PUBLICATIONS ON LEXICOGRAPHY

**Dictionaries, Lexicography and Language Learning**, edited by Robert Ilson, was published by Pergamon Press in 1985. Lexicographers, language teachers, linguists, and publishers from several coun-

tries offer discussions of the state of the lexicographic art, its future, and the use of its products.

Part I, "Types of Dictionaries," includes "A Lexicog-

raphical Dilemma: Monolingual Dictionaries for the Native Speaker and for the Learner" (Betty Kirkpatrick), "Monolingual and Bilingual Learners' Dictionaries: A Comparison" (Beryl T. Atkins), and "Innovative Practices in French Monolingual Learners' Dictionaries as Compared with their English Counterparts" (Marie-Noelle Lamy).

Part II, "Parts of Dictionaries," contains "Word-Formation in Modern English Dictionaries" (Gabriele Stein), "English Pronunciation and its Dictionary Representation" (J.C. Wells), "Grammar in the Dictionary" (Howard Jackson), "Collocations and Idioms" (Morton Benson), "Defining the Indefinable" (Dwight Bolinger), and "Usage Notes in Dictionaries: the Needs of the Learner and the Native Speaker" (Janet Whitcut).

"The Learner as Lexicographer: Using Dictionaries in Second Language Learning" by Richard Rossner, "Working with the Monolingual Learners' Dictionary" by Adrian Underhill, and "Alternatives to Dictionaries" by C.P. Hill, make up Part III, "Applications of and Alternatives to Dictionaries."

Part IV, "From Theory to Practice," is an article by Charles McGregor entitled, "From First Idea to Finished Artefact: the General Editor as Chief Engineer". The book is ELT Document 120. (BAK)

U.S. Distributor: Alemany Press, 2501 Industrial Parkway W., Haywood CA 94545. In Canada: Dominic Press, Ltd., 1361 Huntingwood, Dr., Unit #7, Agincourt, Ontario, Canada M1S 3J1.

Publications available from the Dictionary Research Centre at the University of Exeter (Exeter EX4 4QH, England) include: **Language Standards and Their Codification**, edited by J.D. Woods (Exeter Linguistic Studies 9), 1985, 3.50 pounds Sterling; **Workbook on Lexicography**, by B.A. Kipfer (Exeter Linguistic Studies 8), 1984, 4.50 pounds Sterling; **Exeter Tapes on "(German, Chinese, Irish) Dictionaries and How to Use Them,"** available from Drake Educational Associates, St. Fagan's Road, Cardiff, CF5 3AE, England.

A semantic study of the names of simple artifacts (cups and mugs), complex objects (bikes and cars), and folk biology (cats and dogs) was published by Anna Wierzbicka in 1984. **Lexicography and Conceptual Analysis** is available in paperback from Karoma Publishing, Inc., 3400 Daleview Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48013.

DSNA member Fred Dolezal's doctoral thesis, **Forgotten but Important Lexicographers: John Wilkins and William Lloyd, a Modern Approach to Lexicography before Johnson** was published in 1985 as Lexicographica Series Maior 4 by Niemeyer in Tubingen. Members who attended the 1983 DSNA meetings will remember his paper on the topic.

**Chinese Lexicology and Lexicography: a Selected and Classified Bibliography** was published in 1985 by the Chinese University Press of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The author, Paul Fu-mien Yang, S.J., is Associate Professor of Chinese at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., and earlier

compiled bibliographies of Chinese linguistics and dialectology. The work contains 4,165 references in over 320 pages, listing publications in Chinese, Japanese, English, French, German, Latin, and Russian. The front matter and subject headings are written in English, and titles in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Latin, and Russian are also translated into English. The part on lexicography lists bibliographies; reference guides; works on history, definition, problems, and dictionary compilation; Chinese monolingual dictionaries; Chinese and English dictionaries; and other modern Chinese bilingual dictionaries. In the fields of dialectology and technical terminology, only selected references are given because existing bibliographies treat these adequately. The publication is the first comprehensive classified bibliography of lexicology and lexicography and can serve as a model for similar works for other languages. The detailed outline of the fields which forms the table of contents is of great interest to teachers and writers concerned with conceptual organization of materials. It should be noted that a few headings devised for the system do not appear in the outline because there were no references to list. A Romanized list of authors concludes the work. (Thanks to T. Creamer for photocopy of front matter)

An introduction to and sampling of entries for the **Dictionnaire du Francais Quebecois, Tresor de la langue francaise au Quebec** was published in 1985 by the Laval University Press under the title **Dictionnaire du Francais Quebecois, Volume de Presentation**. The volume, edited by Claude Poirier, begins with an introduction containing a history of the project, the policies regarding the regional and historical scope of vocabulary entries, the sources of data, the intended body of users, the kinds of information given about the words, and the organization of entries. That is followed by the keys to pronunciation and to abbreviations and symbols, and maps of dialect regions in France and Quebec. The main part of the book is composed of 74 sample entries treating 300 words, from **schaler** to **water-boy**. In the back is a bibliography of sources cited, an index of words and phrases explained or mentioned, and the table of contents. The work is 170 pages long and costs \$10.

A collection of selected readings on lexicography, edited by DSNA member Ladislav Zgusta and entitled **Probleme des Woerterbuchs** was published in 1985 by Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft of Darmstadt. The 405-page book contains an introduction in German by the editor, four articles in English and twelve in German, a bibliography, and indexes of names and topics.

An article by DSNA member Gabriele Stein, "Forms of Definition in Thomas Elyot's **Dictionarie**," was published in **Kontinuitaet und Wandel, Aspekte einer Praxisoffenen Anglistik: Festschrift fuer Leonard Alfes zum 8. Februar 1985**, pp 195-205.

**Language Monthly**, a news magazine for those interested in language, includes items of lexicographic interest. In July a writer complained that general dictionaries neglect the specialized terms used by bicy-



cle enthusiasts; in August a dissenting letter objected that such specialized terms do not belong in general dictionaries. Earlier issues reviewed **Newspeak** (a dictionary of jargon), reported on the lexicography of the French ERLI group, and discussed "The English disease — snobbishness in dictionaries," and "English usage — Samuel Johnson and 'copious vagueness'." Overseas rates are \$28 (Airmail, \$40) per year. Address: **Language Monthly**, Praetorius Limited, 5 East Circus Street, Nottingham NG1 5AH, England.

The DSNA office has received four more issues of the journal **Cishu Yanjiu (Lexicographical Studies)**, published in Shanghai. Each issue contains 12-14 articles. A frequent feature is a collection of new words and meanings. No. 6 of 1984 begins with an editorial urging more personnel in compiling and publishing lexicographical works. No. 1 for 1985 contains an editorial "At the Threshold of an Era of Reform in the Compilation of Lexicographical Works," and an article "National Characteristics and State-System Features of Words and the Explanation of their Meanings in a Dictionary." Both No. 1 and No. 2 contain discussions on using computers in dictionary compilation; the first is a translation of a chapter of Barbara Ann Kipfer's **Workbook on Lexicography: A Course for Dictionary Users**. No. 2 also contains "My View about the Quantity of Illustrative Sentences in a Teacher's and Learner's Dictionary." No. 3 contains an article surveying Chinese dictionary history, one on problems in compiling Chinese bilingual dictionaries, and three on the revision of **A New English-Chinese Dictionary**.

### DEATHS OF EUGENE J. THOMAS AND JUERGEN SCHAEFER

Eugene J. Thomas, one of the younger scholars engaged in research on Samuel Johnson's **Dictionary of the English Language**, died of cancer on January 22, 1985. At the time of his death, he was chairman of the Department of English at the Earl L. Vandermeulen High School in Port Jefferson, NY, a position he had held since 1979. He obtained the degree of M.S. in Secondary Administration from Indiana University and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Wales at Cardiff, where his thesis was on "The Writing of Dr. Johnson's Dictionary: His Amanuenses and the Extant Copytexts." His publications include "The Continued Popularity of Samuel Johnson," in **The Johnsonian Newsletter** (1973), "Dr. Johnson and his Amanuenses" in **Transactions of the Johnson Society** (1974), and "From Marginalia to Microfiche" in **The Computer and Linguistics Studies** (1976). He presented a number of papers at meetings, among which were "Dr. Johnson's Amanuenses: The Men Behind the Man" delivered at the historical lexicography conference at Indiana State University in 1975; "Preliminary Notes on the Gimbel-Yale Dictionary Sheets" at the first DSNA biennial meeting in 1977; "The Wells of English Undefined" — Some Books Marked by Samuel Johnson for his **Dictionary 1755**" at the North Central Johnson Society Annual Conference in 1978; and "The Use of a Computer Program in the Development of a Source Guide for

A quarterly newsletter for those interested in Australian dictionaries, entitled **The Macquarie Dictionary Society**, is published by Macquarie Library Pty Ltd. Begun in 1982, the publication includes a feature article, editorial comment, biography of a lexicographer, queries on words about which more information is wanted for the **Macquarie Dictionary** (1st ed. 1982 — see DSNA Spring 1984, p. 4), and more. An article in the August 1983 issue by Dr. William Ransom discusses the functions of a one-volume general dictionary and the coverage of New Zealand English in the **Macquarie Dictionary**. Lexicographers whose lives were sketched include Eric Partridge, William Stanley Ransom (editor of the forthcoming **Australian National Dictionary**), and George Turner (author of **The English Language in Australia and New Zealand**, 1966). Inquiries about publishing matters should be sent to Macquarie Library Pty Ltd, 43 Victoria Street, McMahon's Point, NSW 2060. Regarding editorial matters, write Macquarie Dictionary Society, c/o School of English and Linguistics, Macquarie University, North Ryde, NSW 2113 Australia.

**Lexique**, an annual thematic publication in French, often treats matters lexicographic. **Lexique 2** (1983), entitled **Le dictionnaire**, contained the proceedings of a colloquium held at Amsterdam in April 1981. Among topics considered were the effect of linguistics and information science on lexicography. **Lexique 3** (1984) contained three papers relating to dictionaries. **Lexique 4** (1985) is **La lexicographie au Moyen Age**. The cost for No. 2 is 60 francs; No. 3, 80 francs; plus mailing cost. Publisher: Presses Universitaires de Lille, Rue du Barreau, B.P. 199, 59654 Villeneuve d'Ascq, Lille, France.

Words and Quotations Selected by Samuel Johnson for his **Dictionary 1755**" at the South Central Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in 1984. He was a founding member of the Dictionary Society of North America, and regularly contributed information on Johnson research to its Newsletter.

Dr. Juergen Schaefer, who held the Chair for English Literature at the University of Augsburg, died unexpectedly on 25 September at the age of 52. Professor Schaefer had already made substantial contributions to the history of lexicography, particularly in the area of Elizabethan dictionaries. Among his publications were **Documentation in the Oxford English Dictionary: Shakespeare and Nashe as Test Cases** (Oxford, 1980), "Elizabethan Rhetorical Terminology and Historical Lexicography" in **Dictionaries 2-3** (1980-81: 7-17), "The History of Ideas and Cross Referencing in the Future Early Modern English Dictionary" and "Documentation in the Oxford English Dictionary: A Plea for Supplementary Studies" in **Dictionaries 6** (1984: 128-144 and 145-149), and "Elizabethan Glossaries: a Computer-Assisted Study of the Beginnings of Elizabethan Lexicography" in **ALLC Bulletin 8** (1980: 36-41). The last describes the project on which he was working at the time of his death, to discover glossaries appended to many works of learning written between 1500 and 1620 and

to relate them to the contents of the early English dictionaries. He presented a paper at the Colloquium on English Lexicography in Ann Arbor on "Early Mod-

ern English: OED, New OED, EMED" and had planned to pursue his research in several North American libraries but cut short his trip to return home.

## QUERIES FROM DARE

- The Dictionary of American Regional English (of which Volume 1 is forthcoming from Belknap Press), would like information on the following items: **eureka dumpling** Reported once from Middleton RI in Worksheets of the **Linguistic Atlas of New England**, 1931-33: "A sweet dish made with biscuit crust and apples." Has anyone ever heard of it? If so, where, when? A simple recipe would be useful, and especially an explanation of "eureka". (Was there a type of biscuit so called?)

**Pollyanna (exchange)** A Christmas custom in which gifts are exchanged within club groups, girl scout groups, Bible classes, so that every member received a gift of about the same value. It has been reported from New York, Indiana, Pennsylvania,

places. The name no doubt goes back to the "resolutely cheerful" character in Eleanor Porter's **Pollyanna** (1913), which was exceedingly popular in its time. Mrs. Porter was born in New Hampshire and died in Massachusetts. Where is the custom still kept up?

**eye bait** The name of a fish. We have a lone example from Goode's **Fisheries of the U.S.** (1.246) of a hundred years ago - but it's an excellent authority, and fish names are both maddeningly local and highly conservative. Goode writes of "the sprat in Europe and the "brit," "eye-bait," or small herring in America" (North Atlantic). Is **eye-bait** still in use? Where? And why the name?

## NOTICES

DSNA members can order dictionaries published abroad through the French and Spanish Book Corporation, 115 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10003. The higher price of imports will be offset somewhat by a 20% discount offered our members. The Corporation publishes a catalog of overseas dictionaries; price available on request.

DSNA member Ira N. Bachrach writes that his firm, NAMELAB INC., which makes proprietary names for manufacturers, sometimes helps defray costs of surveys and data processing for graduate students working on theses related to brand names, company names, and the like. Write NAMELAB INC., 711 Marina Boulevard, San Francisco CA 94123.

Floyd Rudmin is involved in a cross-cultural study of the meaning of the verb 'to own.' He asks help from anyone with access to bilingual dictionaries for indigenous non-national languages. The task is to look up the equivalent words for **own** and then the back-translation from those words to English. Send this information, with full references for the dictionary, and any notes on the population for which usage of the indigenous word is claimed, to Floyd Rudmin, Psychology Dept., Queen's University, Kingston ON K7L 3N6, Canada. (Electronic mail to RUDMINF at QUCDN)

DSNA member Francis X. Feighan has begun work on a revision and expansion of **Bernstein's Reverse Dictionary** and wants to hear from those who have used it and have suggestions, corrections, or comments. Write Francis X. Feighan, 6218 Peach Ave., Van Nuys CA 91411.

Owners of the spiral-bound copies of **Dictionaries 4** (1982) are asked to check pages 123-154. These are missing in at least some copies. We will mail copies of these to members who lack them, at no additional charge.

DSNA member Jerry M. Rosenberg is collecting blunders and distortions found in English dictionary definitions. If anyone has some to share with him, mail to his attention at Rutgers Graduate School of Man-

agement, Hill Hall, Room 210, 360 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Newark, NJ 07102.

The CETA Group has developed a number of technical Chinese-English glossaries, but before publishing them needs to know what the demand will be. For a flyer listing potentially available glossaries and estimated costs, write CETA, 3910 Knowles Avenue, P.O. Box 400, Kensington, MD 20895-0400.

A colloquium on "Linguistic Fertilization: Terminological Problems Posed in the Romance Languages" is planned for 24-26 October 1986 in Paris. Interested specialists are invited to communicate with M. Pierre Lerat, U.E.R. des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Université Paris XIII, Avenue Jean-Baptiste-Clement, F-93430 Villetaneuse, Paris, France.

Prices have been reduced for **Johnson's Dictionary: A Bibliographical Survey: 1746-1984** by J.E. and Elizabeth Congleton. Hardcover \$10.00, Softcover \$7.00. Order from Dictionary Society of North America, Instructional Services, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809.

## CALENDAR

Dec 29, 1985 Modern Language Association Discussion Group on Lexicography. New York. Info: Roger J. Steiner, Department of Linguistics, University of Delaware, Newark DE 19716.

March 21-23, 1986 Dictionary Research Centre Seminar, University of Exeter, 'The History of Lexicography.' Info: R.R.K. Hartmann, The Language Centre, U. of Exeter EX4 4QH, England

Sept 9-14, 1986 Second EURALEX Conference, Zurich, Switzerland. Info: Mary Snell-Hornby, In der Au 38, Mellen, Switzerland CH-8076

The DSNA NEWSLETTER is published twice yearly by the Dictionary Society of North America, Office of Instructional Services, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809. Editor: Edward Gates, Managing Editor: Donald Hobar, Associate Editor: Barbara Ann Kipfer