DSNA *NEWSLETTER*

DICTIONARY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR NORTH AMERICAN ENGLISH SOUGHT

To ensure the highest standard of coverage of the English of North America, and to complement the work of the New OED lexicographers in Britain, Oxford University Press has decided to establish a lexicographical unit in the United States. As a first step, a Director is being sought whose task will be to establish and lead a small team of lexicographers and researchers. The director will direct and participate in the lexicographical research of the Center, the writing of new entries for the OED, and the revision of existing entries and will cooperate with scholarly dictionary projects under way in North American and with the scholarly community in general.

Candidates should have (1) a doctorate in a relevant discipline (English language, linguistics, modern languages, or classics), (2) a sound knowledge of the history of English, both in Britain and North America, (3) administrative and organizational efficiency, and (4) good interpersonal skills. Previous lexicographical experience would be an advantage. The salary range will be up to equivalent of professorial level, depending on qualifications and experience.

The deadline for application is 17 April 1987. Write to Kenneth Wright, Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016. (BAK)

EURALEX: NEW OFFICERS, NEW COMMITTEES

At the Second International Congress of EURALEX in September, 1986, a new Executive Board was elected. Members of the new board are: President, Professor N.E. Osselton; Vice-President, Professor A. Zampolli; Secretary, Dr. R.R.K. Hartmann; Treasurer, Professor F.E. Knowles. Other members are B.T. Atkins, R. Ilson, T. Magay, A. Rey, M. Snell-Hornby, and G. Stein.

An inaugural meeting of the EURALEX Working Group on "Dictionaries and Computers," took place. All members wishing to actively participate in the new Working Group are asked to register their interest by post to either Antonio Zampolli or Francis Knowles. WG members are asked to supply the following personal/professional details: name, address, telephone, electronic mail address, type of activity, data available locally, software being used, preferred personal computer, evolution and status of any relevant project being worked on, desire/intention of submitting a paper at BUDAlex, opinion on desirability/feasibility of mounting a subject-specific conference within the next two years.

Addresses of the co-convenors are: Professor A. Zampolli, via Santa Maria 36, I-56100 Pisa, Italy; and Professor F. Knowles, Department of Modern Languages, Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET, Great Britain.

A standing committee of EURALEX for Interlingual Technical Lexicography (Spectralex), a crossroads between translation, terminology, and lexicography, was also formed at the September congress. Spectralex seeks to form contacts with practitioners and theorists, particularly the hundreds of freelance and part-time lexicographers working in this highly diversified area. The committee's initial aims are to encourage the use of official terms preferred by standards bodies, to develop a theory of specialized lexicography, to improve the dictionary functions of word processing packages, and to draft specifications for micro-based computer-aided lexicography. Contact Dr. R.R.K. Hartmann, Dictionary Research Centre, University of Exeter, Queen's Building, Exeter EX4 4QH, Great Britain or Professor Knowles (address in previous paragraph) if interested in the activities of Spectralex. (EURALEX Bulletin, December 1986)

SPEARS SUCCEEDS RIGGS AS CHAIR OF DSNA COMMITTEE ON LEXICOGRAPHIC TERMINOLOGY

Dr. Richard A. Spears, of the Linguistics Department of Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Fred W. Riggs as chair of the DSNA's Committee on Lexicographic Terminology. Dr. Spears is the author of several dictionaries (see DSNA Summer 1986, p.6) and has been active in the work of the Committee. Dr. Riggs is a

member of the political science faculty at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and active in several terminological organizations. He agreed to head the committee in order to have it established. The committee, appointed by President Ladislav Zgusta in 1983, seeks to clarify lexicographic usage by finding out what terms lexicographers use to name things and

concepts, what terms are used differently by lexicographers, and what things and concepts need to be named. Discussion is encouraged by publishing findings in COLT notes, distributed occasionally with the DSNA newsletter. A future project may be to prepare a reference tool enabling users to learn what terms have been used for each lexicographic concept. Another product could be a set of generally accept-able key terms for use in information retrieval systems, such as subject coded bibliographies. Members added to the committee since the publication of the 1986 Directory include Professor Alain Rey (Dictionnaires de Robert, Paris) and Dr. C.M. Gatfield (Language Division, World Health Organization, Geneva). (EG)

DICTIONARY COLLECTIONS

The facilities housing the Cordell Collection of Dictionaries at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, underwent major expansion and remodeling during the past six months. The collection had expanded to the point that books were being crammed into any available niche. In addition, a leak in the roof threatened the collection, and the library's air-conditioning system failed to provide the proper humidity level for the rare old books. A quarter of a million dollars was spent overhauling the facility: a large area of general stack space was walled in, providing storage for at least ten years of growth; double insulation was installed in walls, ceilings, and windows; a self-contained environmental control system was put in; and a new security system, new carpeting, and new indirect lighting were added. The work required the entire Rare Books Department to be moved to nearby temporary quarters and back.

The Cordell Collection of Dictionaries was established when Warren N. Cordell, an alumnus of ISU and chief statistical officer of the A.C. Nielsen Company, decided after a flash flood damaged some of his collection of rare dictionaries in his basement, that they should be in a safer place. In 1970, he gave a first gift of 2,000 volumes to ISU; through his continued gifts until his death in 1980 and through other acquisitions the collection now numbers about 12,000 volumes. Holdings extend from the Manuscript Period to the present, chiefly in English and English bilingual dictionaries; Renaissance and 18th century holdings are particularly strong. A card catalog provides access by author, title, and date. Bibliographies have been made of some areas, such as dictionaries by or based on the work of Samuel Johnson. A descriptive catalog of the English-language dictionaries, compiled by former department head Robert O'Neill, is to be published in 1987.

Among new acquisitions in 1986 were Josephus Laurentius' **Almathea Onomastica** (1664), **The Traveller's Companion...in Four Languages** (1819), and Thomas Evans's **An English and Welsh Vocabulary: or an Easy Guide to the Ancient British** (1816).

The Dictionary Society of North America has a historical tie to the Cordell Collection. It was at a conference on history of dictionaries held at Indiana State University in 1975, introducing the collection, that the Society was founded, and Warren N. Cordell was elected its second president, in 1977.

For further information about the collection and its holdings, write to Cordell Reference Librarian, Rare Books and Special Collections, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809. (David Vancil, Head, Rare Books and Special Collections; and EG)

CONFERENCES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, AND LECTURES

Suggestions and interest concerning participation in a Summer Institute of Lexicography in July/August 1988 are being sought by the organizers. The institute, planned for five weeks, will be in Britain and will be modular, allowing people to register for one or more parts of the whole.

The course would include lectures and workshops with designated groups of staff and students formulating and solving practical problems of constructing a lexicographic text: ideally, these problems will be drawn from actual experience, whether in publishing houses or in academic projects. Topics of interest will be investigation of dictionaries of various types, the macrostructure and microstructure of dictionaries, lexicographic evidence, the rhetoric of dictionary discourse, linguistic and social significance of dictionaries, and the role of the computer.

Please send suggestions and comments to Robert Ilson, 58 Antrim Mansions, Antrim Road, London NW3 4XU, England or Fredric Dolezal, English Department, University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Station, Box 5037, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39406. (BAK)

A session on "Lexicographical Resources for Medieval Languages" will be part of the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America held in Toronto, April 23-25, 1987. The speakers will be Hans-Erich Keller, The Ohio State University, on "Neglected Old French Lexicographical Resources," Ulrich Goebel, Texas Tech University, "Early New High German Dictionary: Distribution of 14th and 15th Century Sources," Siegfried Wenzel, University of Pennsylvania, "The Middle English Lexicon: Help from the Pulpit," and Angus McIntosh, University of Edinburgh, "Investigating Regional Diversity in Middle English Vocabulary." The organizer and chairman will be Robert E. Lewis, Editor in Chief of the Middle English Dictionary (University of Michigan), a DSNA member. (BAK)

The Second Annual Conference of the UW Centre for the New OED, entitled 'Advances in Lexicology' was held at Waterloo in November 1986. Papers and their authors were: "Morpheme-Based Lexical Analysis," Manfred Gehrke and Hans-Ulrich Block; "The Role of Etymology and Word Length in English Word Forma-

tion," by Frank Anshen, Mark Aronoff, Roy Byrd, and Judith Klavans; "Thesaural Knowledge Representation," by Sally Yeates Sedelow and Walter A. Sedelow Jr.; "Explicit and Implicit Information in Dictionaries," by Beryl T. Atkins, Judy Kegl, and Beth Levin; "Building a Lexical Database by Parsing Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary," by Thomas Ahlswede, Martha Evens, Kay Rossi, and Judith Markowitz; "A Project for a Bilingual Lexical Database System," by Nicoletta Calzolari and Eugenio Picchi; "Towards an Objective Analysis of the Age and Origins of the English Vocabulary," by Peter Davies; "The Lexicon and Commonsense Reasoning: A Case Study," by Alexander Nakhimovsky; "A Conceptual Dictionary for Contextually Based Structure Selection," by Fabrizio Sebastiani, Giacomo Ferrari, and Irina Prodanof; and "Why Dictionaries Should List Case Structure," by Graeme Hirst.

The conference was a considerable success, drawing participants from many countries and interest groups. Copies of the Proceedings (**Advances in Lexicology**, November 1986) can be obtained from the UW Centre for the New OED, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1 at a cost of 20 Canadian dollars. Howard Webber's keynote address is also being distributed. The Third Annual Conference will be held November 9 and 10, 1987 in Waterloo. The theme will be "The Uses of Large-Text Databases." (BAK)

Seminars presented at the University of Waterloo Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary include "Finding the Right Words: an Account of Research for the Supplements to the Oxford English Dictionary," by Yvonne Warburton, editorial coordinator of the New OED, on October 21, 1986; "The Role of User Interface Science in the New OED," by Darrell Raymond, University of Waterloo Department of Computer Science on October 28; Linda Jones, a research fellow at the Centre spoke on "Etymologies and the Role of Infantine Forms in the English Language" on November 18; and Abigail Ann Young, Records of Early English Drama at the University of Toronto, spoke on November 25 (topic not given in correspondence). (BAK)

At COLING '86 in Bonn, West Germany (August 25-29, 1986), the following papers about dictionaries were presented: "An Empirically Based Approach Towards a System of Semantic Features," by C.A. Wibbelt, "Towards a Dedicated Database Management System for Dictionaries," by M. Domenig and P. Shann, "Towards the Automatic Acquisition of Lexical Data," by H. Trost and E. Buchberger, "Toward Integrated Dictionaries for M(A)T: Motivations and Linguistic Organization," by C. Boitet and N. Nedobejkine, and "Design of Electronic Dictionary Architecture," by M. Isoda et al. Announcement of the forthcoming proceedings will be carried in this Newsletter. (BAK)

Seventy lexicographers and lexicologists attended the Third Copenhagen International Symposium on Lexicography from 14 to 16 May, 1986. The program included five plenary papers by Herbert Wiegand, R.R.K. Hartmann, D. Vieweger, F.J. Hausmann, and G. Strauss. In addition, 19 more papers were read in English or in German. The papers will be printed in **Lexicographica (Series Maior)** by Max Niemeyer Verlag.

The program included the following papers in English: "The Learner's Dictionary. Dreams and Reality," R.R.K. Hartmann; "Homonymy, Polysemy and Heterosemy," G. Persson; "Nature and Natural: A Case Study in Lexical Relations," U. Magnusson; "Negative Prefixes in English: Opposition vs. Negativity," Arthur Mettinger; "A New English-Swedish Dictionary, Revising the Norm," G. Tottie; "The Lexicography of Scots: The Current Position," A.J. Aitken; "Lexicography and the Establishment of Translation Norms," J.E. Nielsen; "The Semantics and Lexicography of 'Natural-Kind' Words," Anna Wierzbicka; "The Usage Label 'Figurative' in Modern Dictionaries," N.E. Osselton; "Lexicographical Projects Based on the Linguistic Database of Frisian," H. Stellingsma; "A Diachronic Scouting and Guiding Glossary," S. Jacobson; "Phrasebooks," N. Haastrup; "Comments on the First English-Danish Dictionary," H. Lauridsen and I. Kabell; and "Dictionaries in Language Learning — What They Can Do and What They Can't," K. Opitz. The fourth symposium will take place in May, 1988. (EURALEX Bulletin, December 1986)

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

A one-week training course was held from 23-27 February at the Dictionary Research Centre of the University of Exeter. The aim of the course was to combine practical experience in compilation with an understanding of broader theoretical principles. A series of lecture-seminars were held and opportunity was given to carry out one or more limited projects (individual work supplemented by discussion and supervised sessions). The course was designed both for practicing lexicographers who wished to strengthen and reflect on their techniques and postgraduate students of lexicography and related disciplines. The main tutors were Reinhard Hartmann and Tom McArthur.

Topics covered in the lecture-seminars included a) the history of dictionary-making, b) dictionary typology, c) alphabetic and non-alphabetic reference works, d) compilers and users of dictionaries, e) information categories and how to present them, and f) the use of computers in lexicography. (BAK)

J.E. Gates of the Indiana State University English Department has been teaching a course entitled "Lexicography: Dictionary Making and Use" to one graduate and one undergraduate student and two faculty auditors during the spring term, using as a text Sidney Landau's **Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography**; and a tutorial on dictionary-making to another graduate student. Three students are currently enrolled in the Specialization in Lexicography within the English M.A. program. Gates also incorporates a ten-session unit on dictionary use in his freshman writing course. (EG)

COMPUTATIONAL LEXICOGRAPHY

In November, 1986, the University of Waterloo Centre for the New OED reported that the project is storing sample OED data on a Sun-3/160S processor with 16 megabytes of main memory and software development has been carried out in the UNIX environment using C as the programming language. To date, software developed specifically for the New OED project has been made available on both the UNIX and CMS operating systems.

Parsed data from the OED is available as the first 143 pages of the letter "M" and the letter "J". The Centre will be receiving tapes of the parsed dictionary data throughout 1987 and the entire dictionary (the OED and the **Supplement** text) should be available by mid-year. Also on-line for research purposes are **The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, The Collins English Dictionary, The Oxford Dictionary of Contemporary Idiomatic English, The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations**, and **The English Pronouncing Dictionary**.

Access to OED data and other machine-readable texts is limited to researchers working from terminals located at the University and who are recognized by the Centre as being associated with the project. Users are required to sign a non-disclosure agreement which spells out the conditions for accessing materials, stipulating that information retrieved from the data will be used in accordance with copyright law. (BAK)

EURALEX Bulletin Volume 3, Number 2 (December 1986) reports that a computer-usable dictionary is available for research from the Oxford Text Archive. It is derived from the machine-readable version of the **Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English** and contains nearly 38,000 entries. Each entry has spelling, pronunciations word-class(es) and inflection code(s); verbs also have verb patterns. The entries are in standard form, making it easy for a computer to process them. A second version of the dictionary, running to over 68,000 entries, includes all the inflected forms explicitly. To obtain a copy of both files with accompanying documentation, write to: Oxford Text Archive, 13 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6NN, England.

Computer Aids for Comparative Dictionaries by Mark Johnson, which first appeared in **Linguistics** 23 (The Hague: Mouton, 1985), was published in August 1986 as Report No. CSLI-86-58 by the Center for the Study of Language and Information at Stanford University. This 18-page report tells how a computer is being used in making a comparative dictionary of the Yuman languages, a family of American Indian languages spoken in parts of the American Southwest. The project is under way at the University of California at San Diego under the direction of Margaret Langdon. Data for the dictionary is being entered at three centers (San Diego, Berkeley, and Los Angeles) and transmitted electronically to San Diego for processing. Johnson writes, "We use the computer to compute the reconstructed root of each Yuman word by undoing the sound changes (essentially replacing one segment by another) that have occurred in each language, alphabetize each word entry by this reconstructed root, and then typeset the dictionary, producing photo-ready copy." What would take years if done by hand requires only 40 minutes of real time on a VAX 11-750 mini-computer — which undoes the sound changes, alphabetizes, formats, and prints a dictionary 120 pages long. The data can later be used for other projects, such as dictionaries of each of the individual languages concerned. The techniques used could be used to automate collating and indexing on similar projects. The publication can be obtained from CSLI, Ventura Hall, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305. (EG; thanks to Craige Roberts for the publication).

The **New Oxford English Dictionary Newsletter** (Number 13, January 1987) reports that the automatic processing of the text is proceeding smoothly and according to schedule. While this is in progress, the development of the editing system is being completed. It will provide a means of examining and correcting the text of the Dictionary on computer screens. Trials to determine the usability of the system and the rate at which editing work can be carried out are taking place now.

Plans are in hand for the publication of the 'original' **OED**, without the supplements, on CD-ROM later this year. The CD-ROM version will be published jointly by OUP and Tri Star (a subsidiary of Reed International and an associate company of International Computaprint Corporation). Further details of the product itself and marketing arrangements will be announced soon.

NEW WORD/REFERENCE BOOKS

The **Anglo-Russky Slovar Glagol'nykh Slovosochetanii** (English-Russian Dictionary of Verbal Collocations) by E.M. Mednikova et al contains 569 of the most frequent verbs of contemporary English and 1044 phrasal verbs formed from them. Included are patterns showing their lexico-grammatical combinability and copious examples of each pattern accompanied by Russian glosses with word-stresses. An index includes each English word used in the examples. The dictionary is published by Russky Yazyk in Moscow. (EURALEX Bulletin, December 1986)

Adrian Room has compiled a **Dictionary of Changes in Meaning**, which charts the sense development of over 1,300 English words. For each word there is a definition of a current meaning, followed by a discussion of earlier meanings, with examples. The 292-page book was published by Routledge & Kegan Paul. (EURALEX Bulletin, December 1986)

Al-Misbah, Students' Dictionary: English-English-Arabic, by Nayef N. Kharma and Anthony Eyre, was published in 1986 by Librairie du Liban in Beirut and by Longman. It explains 15,000 English words, first with an English definition and example and then with an Arabic gloss. Pronunciations and grammatical labels are given. The defining vocabulary is limited to the 1,500 most frequent English words. Appendices

provide Arabic equivalents for common abbreviations and names of countries. The dictionary, the first of its kind to be published in the Arab world, is based on research reported at the 1983 Exeter Conference on Lexicography (LExeter) and published in **Multilingua** in 1985. Nayef N. Kharma is Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics and Translation at Kuwait University, author of a number of books and articles, and joint author of **A Dictionary of Idioms: English-Arabic**; and a member of DSNA and EURALEX. (EG)

The **Longman Picture Wordbook**, written by Brian Abbs and illustrated by Giles Waring, was published by the Longman Group of Harlow, UK, in autumn of 1986. It introduces to children a vocabulary of more than 900 common words in 27 groups of handsome, realistic colored pictures on facing pages, each representing an area of experience. Topics include "Getting dressed," "At the market," "A baby can/what can you do?" "In the kitchen," "Then and now." At the end is an alphabetical wordlist with pronunciations in the International Phonetic Alphabet and reference to the page or pages on which the word appears. Cost of the book is 3.95 pounds. (EG)

The Facts on File Visual Dictionary by Jean-Claude Corbeil, contains labeled drawings of hundreds of objects, organized in 29 major categories, including astronomy, architecture, clothing, music, heavy machinery, sports, and weapons. Cost of the work is $29.95. (EG)

Over 1,300 entries illustrating the link between numbers and our culture can be found in the newly-published **The Facts on File Dictionary of Numerical Allusions**, compiled by Laurence Urdang. It is a lexicon of number associations, for example:

Googol is the word that signifies the number one (1) followed by 100 zeroes. Attributed in most dictionaries to the American mathematician Edward Kasner, it was actually coined on the spur of the moment by his nine-year-old nephew.

The 324-page book is $21.95. **Facts on File Visual Dictionary** and **Facts on File Dictionary of Numerical Allusions** can be purchased from Facts on File, Inc. 460 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016.

Diccionario del Espanol de Mexico was published by El Colegio de Mexico in 1986. It contains more than 30,000 senses and 90,000 examples of use in 561 pages. In the front are an introduction to the dictionary, instruction on verb tenses, rules for orthography and punctuation, and models of regular and irregular verb conjugation. In the back are a table on the writing of numbers and lists of the names given inhabitants of the Mexican states, their capitals, and other Latin American countries. The work is intended for use in schools to help children and adults learn to read and write their mother tongue or to help speakers of indigenous languages learn Spanish, the national language. It is also meant to provide a clear and reliable standard for those wishing to improve their Spanish. This dictionary is an expansion of the **Diccionario fundamental del espanol de Mexico** (1982), and both are based on the yet unfinished **Diccionario del espanol de Mexico**. All are from a staff

working at the Colegio de Mexico under the direction of DSNA member Luis Fernando Lara. The new dictionary contains the vocabulary found in the textbooks used in the primary and secondary schools of Mexico, and reflects the country's history and culture. The work, as described on its cover, was "created by and for Mexicans." (EG)

A reference providing connotative definitions of 1,500 legendary, fictional, and real locales and landmarks worldwide has been published by G.K. Hall and Company. **Names and Nicknames of Places and Things**, edited by Laurence Urdang, has among its entries cities, streets, natural wonders, historical landmarks, proverbial places, sites mentioned in literature, legendary locales, businesses, bistros, and other buildings of historic, folkloric, ceremonial, and cultural significance. For example, the reader will find the metaphorical meaning of "El Dorado," the character of Tokyo's Ginza District, a local nickname for Liverpool, holiday activities along the Costa Brava, the musical importance of Tin Pan Alley, and data on the Ho Chih Min Trail, 221B Baker Street, the Bible Belt, and other cultural landmarks.

The book is alphabetically organized and complemented by both geographic and subject indexes. It is $39.95 and available from G.K. Hall, 70 Lincoln Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02111. (BAK)

The first fascicle of the **Dictionary of Old English**, the letter 'D', consists of 897 headwords, in 951 pages, on microfiche. The material on which 'D' is based represents a look at all surviving Old English (except multiple copies of text), an estimated three million running words.

The **Dictionary of Old English** is meant to serve as a bilingual translation dictionary. It will be a historical dictionary, an inventory and description of the English language from its earliest appearance in written records, ca. 600. It will complement the **Oxford English Dictionary** for the earliest period of the language and will catalogue that Old English vocabulary deliberately excluded from the OED because it failed to survive past 1150.

The DOE draws on as wide a range of texts — in date, dialect, and genre — as possible. More than six percent of the words in 'D' are not listed in any previous dictionary. The DOE also differs from previous dictionaries in several important features: a listing in a simplified paradigmatic order of every spelling which is attested for a word in the dictionary corpus; frequency counts for each word in the corpus so that readers can know what proportion of the evidence has been cited; usage labels where they are statistically significant, noting restrictions to a class of texts, to an author, or to a particular period or dialect; exhaustive citation for all words of 12 or fewer occurrences.

The **Dictionary of Old English** began under the leadership of the late Angus Cameron after two planning conferences in 1969 and 1970. The intervening years have seen the collection of relevant texts, the development of sophisticated computer software for dictionary writing, the processing of texts into machine-readable form, the production of two concordances (published in 1980 and 1985) of the entire

Old English corpus, a bibliography of Old English, as well as various studies. The editors have drawn upon these resources and research tools in the writing of the entries for the letter 'D'.

The package containing this fascicle consists of four fiche; three contain the DOE proper; one contains the Preface, List of Texts, and Index of Editions. Fascicle 'D' was prepared by the late Angus Cameron (editor), Ashley Crandell Amos and Antonette diPaolo Healey (co-editors), Joan Holland, David McDougall, Ian McDougall, and the late Sharon Butler. Write to Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Department of Publications, 59 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2C4. The fiche are $5.95 for the set.

Other news from DOE is that funding for the dictionary is now assured through 1991. In June 1986, DOE was notified that the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada had awarded a substantial grant for five years. In addition, a separate grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council specifically to maintain and update the specialized library collection was given. A major grant, also for five years, has come from the Connaught Fund, a granting agency within the University of Toronto. This assurance of funding has allowed hiring of additional staff and concentration on entry writing.

In September 1986, Pauline Thompson joined the editorial team; in January 1987, Nancy Porter joined as an editor. In July it is hoped that another editor will be appointed, bringing the staff to its full complement for the next four years.

In June 1986, Allison Kingsmill who had been the bibliographer-librarian, retired. An administrative assistant, Alison Forrester, joined in October and has freed the co-editors from some administrative duties.

Sharon Butler, a colleague and friend, died in August from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. She had been with the project since 1977. She will be remembered by all of the staff for her cheerful attention to even the most tedious lexicographical task and her unfailing kindness to all who came to visit the project. (J. Holland)

WORDBOOKS IN PROGRESS

Led by Professor Zhimo Liu and Associate Professor Boran Zhang, a group of lexicographers are making progress with the **New Comprehensive English-Chinese Dictionary** (NCECD) at Nanjing University in the People's Republic of China. Comprehensive in nature, the NCECD is a bilingual dictionary containing approximately 250,000 entry words and phrases without including run-on entries. The intended users will include advanced students of English language, English teachers, translators, interpreters, and scholars of other disciplines who work with English. Mr. Houshen Qian is coordinator of the project.

With the intended audience's needs in view, entries in the NCECD are all drawn from authentic English dictionaries published in recent years in the USA, UK, Canada, and Australia. They are all arranged in alphabetical order. Those of single words have brief etymologies and guides to pronunciation. Each meaning of an entry is provided with the closest natural equivalent in Chinese and also with at least one sample phrase or sentence which is accompanied by adequate Chinese translation. All of the verbal illustrations are taken from authentic dictionaries of English language, works by established English writers, English novels, newspapers, periodicals, etc. Great attention is also given to meaning discriminations of synonyms and idiomatic usage. In addition to a labeling system, various devices are employed to indicate the appropriateness of words or phrases and their uses.

The bulk of the project will be finished in 1989 as a gift to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The whole work will be completed and published by the Commercial Press in Beijing in 1991. Once completed, it will be the biggest dictionary of the kind ever produced in China.

Others working on the project as members of the editorial board are Professor Zhongwen Huang, Professor Jiaoru Qian, Associate Professor Zhizhong Yang, and Associate Professor Meiyun Yue. A group of eminent professors and scholars in the field of lexicography both in China and abroad are invited to serve as consultants or advisers to the project. Nanjing University has instituted an M.A. program in bilingual lexicography. For further information about either the NCECD or the M.A. program, write Professor Zhimo Liu, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Nanjing University, Nanjing, People's Republic of China. (B. Zhang)

A dictionary of Swiss German, **Schweizerisches Idiotikon — Worterbuch der Schweizerdeutschen Sprache**, is in progress in Zurich. Participants at Zurilex '86 had an opportunity to visit the editorial offices, near the University of Zurich, and hear about it from the editor-in-chief, Dr. Peter Dalcher. The following report was written by a staff member, Lotti Arter.

The peculiar linguistic situation of Switzerland consists partly in the existence of four national languages, Swiss German, French, Italian, and Romansh. The **Schweizerisches Idiotikon** (SI) covers the biggest of the four linguistic regions, the German speaking part of Switzerland. The lexical material treated in the SI is, on one hand, the vocabulary of the various living German dialects spoken in Switzerland and northern Italy. Basis for the editing process are collections of words, sayings, and idiomatic expressions in manuscript form contributed by individuals, the Swiss German fictional literature of the 19th and 20th centuries, the linguistic literature on Swiss German dialects and regional dialect dictionaries. On the other hand, the language of historical sources written or published in Switzerland from the 13th through the 18th century (the emphasis lies on the 15th and 16th centuries) is incorporated. The SI therefore is not only a dialect dictionary, but a historical dictionary of late Middle High German and early New High German as well.

The individual entry or article of the dictionary starts with the headword (lemma) in its Middle High German form. If a Middle High German form is not to be found,

the corresponding New High German or phonetic dialect form is entered. The regional phonological forms follow the headword. Grammatical information concerning gender, inflection etc. is given. The definitions, i.e. the semantic information, introduce the main part of the article. Intricate cases are opened up by a disposition of the division of meanings. Most definitions are followed by a label or labels indicating the geographical areas, where they are found. If possible, the articles present citations corroborating the definitions. This is also the place where idiomatic phrases are quoted and explained. References from historical sources are dated and appear chronologically; they document the diachronic development of the word. Besides regional and temporal aspects, the SI also indicates sociolinguistic aspects, in the case of words that are used by certain social groups. As a rule, synonymous headwords treated in former issues are referred to. The so-called "Anmerkungen" (annotations) conclude the article. They contain the etymology of the headword (Middle High German and Old High German forms, origin of loanwords etc.) as well as the corresponding onomastic material (place and field names, personal and family names).

As to the order of entries, the lemmata are listed according to the stem words, i.e. compounds and derivatives appear with their stems. From volume XII onward, alphabetical indices are added to each volume, helping the user to find the words. In 1988 an alphabetical index for volumes I to XI is to be published; the data for it are now being computerized.

A brief history of the SI may start with the initiative of the "Antiquarische Gesselschaft in Zurich" of 1862 appealing to the German speaking Swiss people to collect dialect words, sayings, idiomatic phrases etc. The appeal had grown out of the patriotic and widespread fear of the time, that the peculiar Swiss German dialects might get lost. In 1881 the first issue was published.

The first three volumes pursue the concept of an "Idiotikon," i.e. only those Swiss German dialect words are included that do not appear in High German or that differ in meaning or form from the corresponding High German word. Around 1900 the scope of the SI was widened: from volume IV onward it tends to include the whole bulk of the Swiss German vocabulary.

In 1980 the third, revised edition of the "Quellen- und Abkurzungsverzeichnis" was published. It contains the sources cited in the lexical entries (often combined with short biographies of the authors) and explains the labels used for the geographical indications. It is in itself a bibliography to linguistic, historical, and fictional literature.

Today, the editing of volume XIV is almost complete, the last issue forthcoming in 1987. This equals about 150,000 lemmata that so far have been dealt with. In the editor's office lies the material for three more . volumes, namely the words with w- and z- in initial position; this material is continuously updated. For editing and publication of each volume a period of ten years is calculated.

The present staff of the SI comprises six editors: Professor Dr. Peter Dalcher, Dr. Rudolf Trub, Dr. Peter Ott, Dr. Thomas A. Hammer, Dr. Ruth Jorg, Dr. Niklaus Bigler, a secretary, and four assistants.

Though the SI was started by a private initiative, it has been supported by federal subsidies since 1874. Today, the legal body of the SI is the "Verein fur das Schweizerdeutsche Worterbuch." This association publishes the dictionary by means of federal subsidies (through the "Schweizerischer Nationalfonds zur Forderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung," Bern) as well as the dues paid by the "Kantone" of the German speaking part of Switzerland and other members of the association. The staff issues an annual report, which can be obtained from the editor's office, Redaktion Schweizerdeutsches Worterbuch, Auf der Mauer 5, CH-8001 Zurich, Switzerland. From the beginning, the SI has been printed by the publishing house Huber in Frauenfeld, where all parts are available.

To recruit informants from a broad regional and sociological spectrum for his forthcoming **Dictionary of Regional Anatomical Terms**, Reinhold Aman has offered a free 24-page "Maledicta Onomastic Questionnaire" to readers of 18 publications. Language researchers looking for respondents to their questionnaires may be interested in which readerships have shown the least and most interest in words dealing with body parts and excretions. Following are several publications, as well as the number of requests for the questionnaire in parentheses: **Newsletter of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex** (1), **Milwaukee Journal** (4), **Newsletter of the American Dialect Society** (6), **Verbatim** (13), **Times Literary Supplement** (18), **Washington Post** (76), **Toronto Star** (100), **Globe and Mail**, Toronto (120). The biggest response was by **Playboy** readers (510 so far. of which 20 percent are women), ranging from physicians and lawyers to laypeople, students, and convicts. An article on the Questionnaire was published in the **Times Literary Supplement** of 7 November 1986. (RA)

The first general English dictionary with 100 percent Canadian content is to be published soon, according to a contract signed with Paikeday Publishing Inc. of Mississauga by two Longman subsidiaries, Penguin Books Canada Limited of Markham and Copp Clark Pitman Ltd. of Toronto.

The lexicographer is Thomas M. Paikeday with a Canadian track record of over 22 years. He was Chief Editor of the Winston dictionaries of Canadian English (1967-1973) and has been involved with the compilation of the other Canadian dictionaries currently on the market, namely Gage (1967), Collier Macmillan (1979), and Collins (1981). Unlike these dictionaries, Paikeday revealed, no royalties will be owed on the new Penguin-CCP dictionary to foreign companies. It is being prepared using the Paikeday Database of lexicographical resources in electronic and hard-copy form developed since 1973. A Viking Penguin trade edition of the new dictionary is expected to be published first, followed by school and mass-market editions. (TP)

R.J. Nelson, author of **The World-Wide Spanish Dictionary** (Spanish-English side), **English At Your Fingertips** (for the Spanish speaker), and **The 1985 Supplement for the Velazquez Spanish and English Dictionary**, is writing a new dictionary of Spanish and English that provides precise semantic equivalence at word rank and above, with a special eye toward literary usages. Interested publishers should contact him at 2512 Park Street, Apt. 4, Jacksonville, Florida 32204. (RJN)

Cambridge University Press and W.R. Chambers announce that they are now in agreement to collaborate in reference book publishing. This collaboration will eventually lead to the publication of selected titles from both companies under a single, joint imprint. The newest dictionaries in the Chambers line are **Chambers Concise 20th Century Dictionary**, **Chambers Pocket 20th Century Dictionary**, **Chambers Mini Dictionary**, **Chambers Pocket Guide to Phrasal Verbs**, **Chambers Anagrams**, **Chambers 20th Century Thesaurus**, **Chambers Words** , **Back-words for Crosswords**, **Chambers Crossword Manual**, **Chambers Idioms**, **Chambers Universal Learners' Dictionary**, **Chambers Scots Dictionary**, and **Chambers Murray Latin-English Dictionary**. (BAK)

NEW PUBLICATIONS ON LEXICOGRAPHY

A Spectrum of Lexicography: Papers from AILA Brussels 1984 has been published in microfiche form by the Department of Applied Linguistics, Birkbeck College, London University (Vol. 7, fiches 1 & 2, 1986, free of charge). It is a collection from the 7th World Congress of Applied Linguistics with an introduction by Robert Ilson and 10 papers in English or French. Topics and contributors are: D. Geeraerts on semantic information, L.F. Lara on the **Diccionario del Espanol de Mexico**, T. Herbst on valency dictionaries, Ilson on the taxonomy of dictionary definitions, F. Neubauer on defining vocabularies, J.-C. Choul on translation equivalence, L. Baganz on Hindi-German dictionaries, G. Schorr on bilingual pocket dictionaries, N. Devons on computer-aided homograph discrimination, and B. Callebaut on 'vrais amis' and vocabulary teaching. (EURALEX Bulletin, December 1986)

Grammar in English Learners' Dictionaries, by Marcel Lemmens and Herman Wekker, was published by Max Niemeyer Verlag of Tuebingen in 1986 as No. 16 in its **Lexicographica Series Maior** (Supplementary Volumes to the International Annual for Lexicography). It deals with the ways grammatical information is coded in five monolingual dictionaries designed for learning English as a foreign language: the **Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English** (1980), the **Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English** (1978), the **Oxford Dictionary of Current Idiomatic English** (Vol. 1, 1975, Vol. 2, 1983), and the **Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs** (1983). Chapter I discusses the problem of treating grammar in dictionaries and what recent surveys show about the language needs and reference skills of foreign dictionary users. Chapters II and III deal with the several systems descriptively and critically, and Chapter IV outlines an alternative coding system proposed as consistent, self-explanatory, and reasonably easy to use. The book contains 117 pages and costs DM46. (EG)

Lexikographie der Dialekte: Beitraege zu Geschichte, Theorie und Praxis (Lexicography of Dialects: Contributions to History, Theory, and Practice) edited by Hans Friebertshaeuser was published by Max Niemeyer Verlag of Tuebingen in 1986 as Vol. 59 in its Germanic Linguistics Series. Authors and titles of the contents, translated from German to English, are: H. Friebertshaeuser: On the History and Methods of German Dialect Lexicography; K. Manherz: On the State of Hungarian-German Lexicography; R. Hildebrandt: Dialectology and Dialect Lexicography: On the Role of a Subdiscipline; D. Stellmacher: The User of Dialect Dictionaries: Is There an Answer to the Unresolved Question of Dictionary Research (Metalexicography)?; R. Joerg: Diachrony and Synchrony in Dialect Lexicography: Described by Examples from the Swiss Idioticon/Dictionary of the Swiss German Language; M. Hornung: Lexical Interference from the Dialects of the Bavarian-Austrian Border and Beyond: "Foreign Bodies" in German Dialect Dictionaries?; F. Hartwig: Regional Peculiarities of the Early New High German Wordstock in Alsace: Problems of Regional Specification in the Dictionary; G.W. Bauer: Sources and Corpora: On the Materials for German Dialect Dictionaries; W. Bauer: Elicitation by Questionnaire in German Dialect Dictionaries; K. Scheuermann: Slip or Electronic Data Processing: Problems with the Analysis for a Dialect Dictionary; R. Post: Slip and Electronic Data Storage: Problems of Method and Practice in Using Electronic Data Processing for a Current Dialect Dictionary Project; H. Niebaum: Lemma and Interpretation: on the Problem of the Structure of Articles in Dialect Dictionaries; R. Mulch: The Return Interview of the South Hessian Dictionary: Method and Result; J. Meier: Grammatical Categories in the Dialect Dictionary; C. Reichmann: The Onomasiological Processing of Semasiological Dialect Dictionaries: Proposed Procedures and Uses; H.E. Wiegand: Dialect and Standard Language in Dialect Dictionaries and Standard Language Dictionaries; O. Wilts: Language Norms and Dialect Dictionaries: On a Current Problem of North Frisian Dialectology; H.J. Dingeldein: Dialect Lexicography: Current Discussion. The work concludes with reports of discussion and a bibliography of works cited. The work contains 260 pages and the cost to DSNA and EURALEX members is DM56; $28. (EG)

Woerterbuchprobleme: Untersuchen zu konceptionellen Fragen der Historischen Lexikographie (Dictionary Problems: Investigations into Some Basic Issues of Historical Lexicography) by Hartmut Schmidt, was published in 1986 by Max Niemeyer Verlag of Tuebingen as 65 in its German Linguistics Series.

Chapter One deals with the analysis of meaning; contributions from linguistic theory, examination of the

structure of some articles in the **Deutsches Woerterbuch** (on which the author worked), structural characteristics of word meaning; paradigmatic and actual meaning, and the main meaning of polysemous words. Chapter Two treats lexicographic definition: types, synonymy, and special problems in historical dictionaries. Chapter Three examines problems of headword form, determination of headword list, and alphabetization. Chapter Four discusses the scope of information in a historical dictionary, the treatment of language names, the unrealistic expectation of early German historical lexicographers that their dictionary would be used in every home; and the systematic treatment of the relationship between linguistic and social developments. Chapter Five provides examples showing how dictionary articles can be composed for a new concise historical dictionary of the German language. A bibliography and index conclude the 180-page volume. It can be purchased for DM84 from Max Niemeyer Verlag, POB 2140, D-7400 Tuebingen, German Federal Republic. (EG)

La Lexicographie au Moyen Age, edited by Claude Buridant, was published in 1986 by the Presses Universitaires de Lille as Number 4 of the thematic annual, **Lexique**. The contents provide a glimpse into the prolific activity of medieval lexicographers, particularly in the Romance languages and German. Authors and titles (translated into English) are: C. Buridant: Medieval Lexicography and Glossography: A Survey of the Progress and Promise of Research; K. Kirchert (in German): **Vocabularius Ex quo**: On the Most Influential Latin-German Dictionary of the Late Middle Ages; K. Miethaner-Vent (in German): The Alphabet in Medieval Lexicography: Modes of Use, Forms, and Development of the Principle of Alphabetic Ordering; A.R. Bart (in Italian): On the Origin of Italian Lexicography; P. Nobel: The Translation of the **Catholicon** in Manuscript H 110 of the Medical Section of the Montpelier University Library; H. Nais: Report on a Future Concordance of the **Aalma**; C. Buridant: Review of **Die Italienischen Woerterbuecher von den Anfaengen bis zum**

Erscheinen des Vocabulario degli Academici della Crusca (1612): Bestandsaufnahme und Analyse, by Gunnar Tancke. **Lexique** is produced by the staff of SILEX and is devoted to studies on the theory and history of the lexical aspect of language and its relation to other aspects of language and life. Cost of the work is 85 FF plus shipping charges (10.30 FF in France, 6.10 foreign). Address: Presses Universitaires de Lille, Rue du Barreau, B.P. 199, 59654 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, Lille, France. (EG)

Issues 4, 5, and 6 for 1986 of the Chinese journal **Lexicographical Studies** have been received by the DSNA. No. 4 contains 13 articles e.g. on **A Comprehensive Dictionary of English Idioms, A Dictionary of Modern Chinese with Frequency Count**, and **A Glossary of Common Words and Expressions Used in Teaching Chinese to Foreign Students**. No. 5 has 9 articles, e.g. on folk etymology and defining, special dictionaries for a single author or work, **A Dictionary of Lenin's Language, An Esperanto-Chinese Dictionary, A Complete Dictionary of Chinese Idioms**, and a history of Chinese lexicons by Fukuda Jonosuke. No. 6 has 7 articles on the new **Hanyu Da Cidian** (A Comprehensive Dictionary of the Chinese Language) and 5 others, including one on the first Arabic dictionary. (EG)

In the first issue of its third year, **English Today** published an article on the use of the computer in the compilation of the **Dictionary of American Regional English** (Vol. I, 1985) by its editor, Frederic G. Cassidy. It describes the storage of data, computer-drawn maps, typesetting, and problems. The following article, by Robert Claiborne, charges DARE with biased coverage; according to Claiborne, the material was collected predominantly from rural and older informants, and although some occupational vocabularies are represented, those of such groups as oil drillers and criminals are not. ET also reprints reviews of DARE from the **New York Times, Time**, and the **San Francisco Examiner**. ET is published quarterly by Cambridge University Press. (EG)

LEXOCOGRAPHICAL STUDIES IN PROGRESS

Donna Lee Berg has prepared a bibliographic essay spanning the **New English Dictionary, OED**, and the **New Oxford English Dictionary**. Requests for copies should be directed to Ms. Berg, University of Waterloo Centre for the New OED, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1.

DEATH OF EDWARD ARTIN

Edward Artin, the man responsible for the pronunciation system used in **Webster's Third New International Dictionary** and **Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary**, died January 15, 1987, in Springfield, Massachusetts. Artin worked for the G. & C. Merriam Company (now Merriam Webster, Inc.) in Springfield for 43 years, beginning on the staff of **Webster's New International Dictionary**, Second Edition, in 1934, and retiring in 1973, with time out for army service during World War II.

Mr. Artin compiled an extensive file of pronunciations heard on radio, television, indeed wherever he went — even on vacation. When he and his wife drove into

a town, in order to collect the local pronunciation of its name, he would stop and ask a passerby, "What town is this?" Once after a woman answered his question, she turned to her companion and said, "Poor man; he must not know how to read." Artin had stopped right beside a large sign bearing the name of the town.

According to Sidney Landau in his book **Dictionaries: the Art and Craft of Lexicography, Webster's Third** is the best source of up-to-date pronunciations of American English. Besides working out the system for representing pronunciation and writing many of the

pronunciations for **Webster's Third**, Artin wrote a 13-page "Guide to Pronunciation" printed in the front. This includes not only explanations of the many symbols used but also discusses problems facing a pronunciation editor, such as foreign words, regional variation, and questions of correctness. (EG)

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Joseph A. Reif of Bar-Ilan University in Israel visited the USA following the EURALEX congress in Zurich, September 1986. While in New Jersey, he lectured to a group of teachers on dictionary use.

Jerry M. Rosenberg has had three dictionaries published and is awaiting the release of a fourth, due out in June. He is chairman of the business administration department at Rutgers University Newark campus and has compiled **Dictionary of Business and Management, Dictionary of Banking and Finance**, and **Dictionary of Computers, Data Processing and Telecommunications** for John Wiley & Sons. The forthcoming publication is **Dictionary of Investing**. Altogether, Rosenberg's dictionaries define some 50,000 terms. He is an established business book author and is an adviser to the editors of the **Oxford English Dictionary** and the writers of the Random House dictionaries. Rosenberg also has a collection of dictionaries dating from the 16th through 19th centuries.

T.R. Woolridge is spending time during a sabbatical leave at the Tresor de la langue francaise project in Nancy and at the Labortoire d'etude Statistique des Tresor literaire in Nice.

Tomas de Bhaldraithe was honored with a festschrift on the occasion of his retirement from the University College Dublin in December 1986. He held a professorship in the Department of Modern Irish. The collection of essays by his friends and colleagues will be published.

William A. Kretzschmar, Jr., formerly of the English Department at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, is now in the English Department at the University of Georgia, Athens. The University is providing a home in the Special Collections Department of the library for the dialect materials collected by the late Raven I. McDavid, Jr., and for work on the Linguistic Atlas of the United States and Canada, of which Dr. Kretzschmar is editor-in-chief. (EG)

John T. Algeo, Professor of English at the University of Georgia, Athens, and editor of **American Speech**, has become a Life Member of DSNA. Dr. Algeo is spending the current academic year on sabbatical leave at University College, London. (EG)

Boran Zhang, Chairman of the English Department at Nanjing University in the People's Republic of China, and joint editor-in-chief of A New Comprehensive English-Chinese Dictionary (in progress) is studying in the United States during the current academic year as a Fulbright Research Scholar. He spent the fall semester at Indiana University, Bloomington, and will spend the spring semester at the Harvard-Yenching Institute, Cambridge, Massachusetts. In December he visited Indiana State University, Terre Haute, to learn of the Cordell Collection of Dictionaries and the Specialization in Lexicography within the English M.A. program. (EG)

Joseph S. Schick, Professor Emeritus of English at Indiana State University, died February 10, 1987. As a graduate student at the University of Chicago, Dr. Schick worked on the **Dictionary of American English.** (EG)

NOTICES

Corrections: in the Autumn 1986 DSNA Newsletter, p. 6, Sol Steinmetz was author of the item on the **Hammond-Barnhart Dictionary of Science** rather than **Webster's Medical Desk Dictionary**. On p. 12, the correct address for Laurence Urdang Inc. and VERBATIM is: 4 Laurel Heights, Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371 USA. The European address for these is Box 199, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20, England.

In the DSNA Newsletter Autumn 1986, p. 12, a reader asked for information about **The Sesquipedalian**. This is a teaching-oriented journal on etymology, edited and published by Hughlings H. Himwich, 5007 Woodland Way, Annadale, Virginia 22003. The last issue appeared about nine months ago. This journal will not be published for at least a year (probably several years), due to the teaching duties of Himwich. Most of the past 18 issues are still for sale. (Reinhold

Aman)

Dictionary collectors are encouraged to submit articles to **Antiques and Collecting Hobbies**, a magazine about collecting topics. Write to Antiques & Collecting Hobbies, Lightner Publishing Corporation, 1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

Proceedings of the DSNA 1983 biennial meetings are available in two dedicated issues of the Canadian journal **Papers in Linguistics. Advances in Lexicography I** is in Vol. 18, 1:1-196 (1985). **Advances in Lexicography II** is in Vol. 19, 1:1-130 (1986). Editors of the papers are William J. Frawley and Roger J. Steiner. They can be ordered from Boreal Scholarly Publishing and Distribution Ltd., 9725 108 St., No. 105, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1B5, Canada.

DICTIONARY APPEALS FOR INFORMATION

The Oxford dictionary staff is writing entries for new words and senses. For the following words, examples of use are wanted which precede the date given:

boom box (large portable stereo radio and cassette player), 1981; bow out (to withdraw), 1943; bright-eyed and bush-tailed, 1975; dunk (a shot in basket-

ball), 1971; dunk shot (as above), 1966; flak (adverse criticism), 1968; fifth wheel (something superfluous), 1944 — and examples between 1944 and the 1970s. Good examples of use are wanted for the following: adj. (as an abbreviation for **adjective**); damsel in distress. Send examples to New English Words Series, Oxford University Press, Walton St., Oxford OX2 6DP, England. (From Appeal List No. 4, Jan 1986)

The **Newsletter of the American Dialect Society** for January 1987 has the following requests for information from the **Dictionary of American Regional English:**

dash—a dog of mixed breed. We have it once from an old South Carolina farmer (white). If this is not an individualism or a name, what's the semantics of it?

dog on wood—a kind of tag game, reported from Ohio, 1890. Is it still being played? How is it played?

domino—reported from El Paso, TX, by a middle-aged rancher in answer to our Question AA28: a joking expression used by women to say that another is going to have a baby. No further evidence. What does it mean in this context?

double-pen(ned) cabin or house—reported from GA, AL, MS. We are uncertain about the space between the attached cabins or houses: is it separately roofed, floored, open, or enclosed as in a shotgun house?

dusty miller—a type of white moth which appears dusted with flour, like a miller's clothes. We have quotes only from 1908 and 1911. Surely this is current still? More evidence would be welcome.

filer—one response only, from Raleigh, NC, a middle-

aged woman: "a horse-drawn plow used to hill tobacco." Further evidence would be welcome. Is the implement still known?

fill the dootsy—from Brooklyn, NY, a middle-aged man, answering our question A10, "What are you doing?" "Nothing in particular — I'm just _____." His reply: "I'm just fill-the-dootsying." Evidently, killing time. But *dootsy* is new to us, as also the phrase.

find rest—to die. One example from a "folk" novel. Is it really a folk expression (where? when?) or is it an example of "literary" folk speech? Is it regularly used in a known community?

higdom—a spicy side dish of chopped pickle and ketchup. Reported from Lafayette, NY, and Wellsboro, PA. A peculiar word but apparently genuine. Confirmation of the form and explanation of the source would be helpful.

huddler—a type of hunting dog which *huddles* game in some way. But in what way? Our examples come from KY, TN, NC. Appalachianists, this looks like one for you.

hull over—one example neCO, 1967. Local garage folk do not know the term. What, exactly, does it mean? How widespread is it? "After these batteries have been hulled over a few times, we throw them away."

jellybean—a favorable though light (unserious) nickname or epithet for a dandy, a boy/girl friend—even for a type of haircut and for sharp-pointed (men's) shoes. Mainly TX but also South.

Send information to Professor Frederic G. Cassidy, *Dictionary of American Regional English*, 6123 Helen White Hall, 600 N. Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

CALENDAR

5-6 June
Biennial Meeting of DSNA. Information: J.C. Traupman, St. Joseph's University, 5600 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131

29 June - 7 August
Linguistic Institute of LSA and ACL, Stanford, CA. Information: Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305

2-5 July
EURALEX Colloquium on Translation and Lexicography, Innsbruck, Austria. Information: M. Snell-Hornby, Institut fur Ubersetzer- und Dolmetscherausbildung, Universitat Innsbruck, Fischnalerstrasse 4, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria

December 1987. MLA Lexicography Discussion Group. San Francisco. "On Writing Definitions." (Note: Deadline for abstracts was 20 March.) Information: William J. Frawley, English Dept., University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19716.

December 1987. MLA Special Session "Beyond Lexicography: New Approaches to Johnson's Dictionary." Information: Thomas B. Gilmore, Jr., English Dept., Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.