

DICTIONARY  
SOCIETY of NORTH  
AMERICA

# DSNA

N E W S L E T T E R

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2 FALL 1991



*Participants at 1991 meeting of DSNA, Saturday, August 11*

## NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

The biennial meeting of the Society took place at the University of Missouri in Columbia, August 9-11, 1991. More than 100 participants were counted during the three-day meeting, which was held in Ellis Library. Professor Don Lance, Department of English, University of Missouri, chaired the Local Committee. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Western Historical Manuscript Collection. The American Dialect Society also took an official part in the meeting.

Members presented the following papers:

Joseph R. ALLEN, "Phonetic Glosses in Premodern Chinese Dictionaries"

Earl R. ANDERSON, "Americanisms in Mary Botham Howitt's 'Our Cousins in Ohio'"

David K. BARNHART, "Language Growth and Its Implications for Dictionary Makers"

Morton BENSON, "Bilingual Collocational Dictionaries"

Martha BERRYMAN, "Notes & Queries as a Source for a New Bibliographical Dictionary of English Etymology"

Henry G. BURGER, "The Wordtree as a Dictionary of Cause and Effect"

Pierre CARDINAL, "The Renaissance of Lexicographical Work on Canadian French"

Gerald COHEN, "Slang Etymology, Dictionaries, and the Tamony Collection"

Joanne M. DESPRES, "French Loanwords in William Caxton"

Michael ELLIS, "Old English Lexicography and the Problem of Headword Spelling"

Ulrich GOEBEL, "The Early New High German Dictionary: Onomasiological Complements"

Rufus H. GOUWS, "Towards a Lexical-Based Lexicography"

Michael HANCHER, "Gazing at the Imperial Dictionary"

Victor JACUZZI, "Modeling Semantic Association Using the Hierarchical Structure of Roget's International Thesaurus"

Linda M. JONES, "The OED Data Base and Specialized Dictionaries"

T. H. LINKS, "Ideology ('Apartheid') and Afrikaans Dictionaries"

Edward S. McCORDUCK, "Grammatical Information in ESL Dictionaries"

Edwin A. MILES, "William Allen and the Webster-Worcester Dictionary War"

Michael MONTGOMERY, "The Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English"

Herbert C. MORTON, "Who Was Philip Gove? A Profile of the Editor of 'Webster's Third'"

M. Lynne MURPHY, "Auto-Ethnonyms and Lexicographic Responsibility"

John OLD, "Image Schemas and Lexicons"

James RADER, "Latin Derivational Morphology in English Dictionaries"

Allen Walker READ, "The Treatment of Nonce Words by Lexicographers"

Keith E. ROE, "Gathering the Named Concepts of Science"

David RUDDY, "Politics and the English Dictionary: The Etymology of 'Heroin'"

Sally Yeates SEDELOW and Walter A. SEDELOW, "An Associative Approach to Senses and Meanings"

David VANCIL, "Of Bestiaries, Dictionaries, and the Perpetuation of Myth and Folk Belief"

Robert S. WACHAL, "Blacks, Whites, and Natives: Some Apparent Inconsistencies in Capitalization Practice as Revealed by Major Dictionaries"

Lise WINER, "Ethnolectal Representation in the *Dictionary of the English/Creole of Trinidad and Tobago*"

Harris WINITZ, "Semantic Field Theory and Dictionary Construction"

The Society is grateful for the excellent hospitality and efficient help of the administration and staff of the University of Missouri and congratulates Don Lance and his associates for their faultless arrangements.

## MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Society was held on August 9, 1991, in Tate Hall, at the University of Missouri. The meeting was opened at 8:05 a.m. by David Guralnik, President of the Society, who chaired. Present were Virginia McDavid, William Frawley, Lloyd Vandersall, John Algeo and the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Secretary-Treasurer presented a report on the annual volume (*Dictionaries 12*). He also gave a report on the publication of the Newsletter. The Board agreed that all commercial advertisers should be expected to pay in cash rather than in kind.

The Treasurer's report (as audited by the Cleveland State University auditor) was presented. It showed that the Society's fund balance as of June 30, 1991 was \$19,270, an amount that included a certain number of memberships in arrears. The proposed budget for 1992 was \$10,650. The report as a whole was accepted by the Board.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to inquire into the possibility of the Society seeking membership in the American Council of Learned Societies.

The nomination by Edward Gates of Audrey Duckert for a Fellowship of the Society was considered. It was decided to seek a vote from the Fellows present at the meeting.

David Guralnik presented a report on the standing committees: Publications (Ch. Rosier); Editorial (Ch. Landau); COLT (Ch. Spears has resigned); Nominating—two new members to be appointed by the Executive Board, as provided for under the new Constitution.

## THE NEXT MEETING

The site of the next biennial meeting, to take place in mid-1993, has not yet been determined. The University of Nevada at Las Vegas has requested details about a host institution's responsibilities and is in the process of considering whether to make an offer. Members wishing to discuss the possibility of a meeting at their locations are encouraged to contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A new directory containing the names, addresses, telephone numbers and specialties or interests of all current members been sent to all members in good standing for 1991 (i.e., those who have paid dues for that year). Any who have not received one and believe themselves entitled to it should get in touch with the Society's office.

Every effort has been made to seek accuracy, including sending an address verification form to all members. Please send corrections so that an erratum may be prepared.

## (SLIGHTLY) NEW ADDRESS

The Society's quarters have been moved from one building (Fenn Tower) to larger space in another building (Rhodes Tower). The previous building designation (FT-1218) has been changed to RT-936/937. All else—street address, telephone numbers, FAX and e-mail—remains the same. The Secretary-Treasurer may also be reached at his own telephone number: (216) 687-3953, now located in one of the Society's offices.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

Members will have become aware of the lawsuit between the Merriam-Webster Company and Random House in the matter of the claimed infringement of the "trade dress" of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary by the Random House Webster's College Dictionary. Expert witnesses in the court case included members John ALGEO and David BARNHART, on opposite sides of the matter. The federal jury awarded Merriam-Webster damages in the amount of \$2.3 million and Random House was ordered to change its dust-jacket. The *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, all called the Society's office for background material.

Thomas PAIKEDAY's *New York Times Everyday Dictionary* (1982) has just been published in a CD-ROM version in Toronto. It is MS-DOS compatible and can produce a concordance for every one of its 85,000 words. Although list price is \$100, copies are available to members from the author (1776 Chalkdene Grove, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4W 2C3) at a substantial reduction.

C. Richard BEAM of the Center of Pennsylvania German Studies announces that he and his associates are revising the Pennsylvania German Dictionary, originally published in 1982, for a fourth revised printing. The publisher will be Brookshire Publications of Lancaster PA.

Henry G. BURGER (University of Missouri, Kansas City) is the author of an article entitled "Roget, Darwin and Bohr: Parallelizing Evolutionary Diversification with Conceptual Classification," which appeared in the *International Journal of Lexicography*, Vol. 4, No. 1, 23-67.

Eugene GREEN (English, Boston University) plans a Dictionary of Literary English in America, in which will be included terms used by the

# DICTIONARY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

It is a source of great pride to me and an honor to have you add my name to those of earlier presidents: David Guralnik, Victoria Neufeldt, James Rosier, Ladislav Zgusta, Allen Walker Read, William J. Cameron, and Warren N. Cordell. When we formed the Society in 1977, we had sixty-two members. Today we have more than five hundred. Our meeting in August, 1991, so ably organized by Donald Lance at the University of Missouri-Columbia, was attended by over one hundred. I cannot remember a meeting of any group like ours with papers of such variety and excellence and with so enthusiastic an audience.

Our journal *Dictionaries* was conscientiously and well edited by Richard Bailey (now a member of the Executive Board) during its history. He is now succeeded by William Chisholm, whose first publication continues that tradition. To our earlier Secretary-Treasurer, Edward Gates, we also owe a great debt. These secretary-treasurers, like Louis Milic, our present one, hold an organization together and keep it functioning.

Although the site of our 1993 meeting has not yet been decided, I have entire confidence that it will be the same success as our last one. I look forward to seeing you there and hearing your papers.

*Virginia McDavid*  
President

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## BALLOT

According to Section II.B.4 of the Constitution of the Society, nomination to Fellowship must be approved by the membership. Audrey Duckert's nomination has already been approved by the Executive Board and by the Fellows themselves. To determine whether the nomination becomes effective please indicate on this ballot whether you approve the nomination.

\_\_\_\_\_ **APPROVE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **DISAPPROVE**

Please return this ballot to the office of the Society as soon as you can.

Dictionary Society of North America  
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canonical American writers, such as new and figurative expressions, neologisms, dialect, archaisms, foreignisms, technical terms and words "that have an unpredictable incidence in the works surveyed." Members interested in corresponding about this project may write to him at 236 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215.

**Christian KAY** and **Irene WOTHERSPOON**, Department of English Language at the University of Glasgow (Glasgow, Scotland G12 8QQ) send a progress report about the work of the Historical Thesaurus of English covering the years 1988-90. A copy of the Report and further details may be requested from the editors (e-mail: c.j.kay@uk.ac.gla.vme).

**Wayne P. ELLIS**, who describes himself as "Antiquarian Collector of Antiquarian Dictionaries," has written an article, "Standardization of Terminology in ASTM: The Historical Perspective," published in *Standardization News*, Vol. 19, No. 12 (December 1991), 30-35. [ASTM stands for American Society for Testing and Materials.]

From **Linda WHITE**, editor of the Basque Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, comes the latest issue of its Newsletter, in which may be found a list of Basque language books, including a grammar and a dictionary, available from the University of Nevada Press.

**Richard A. SPEARS**, now at National Textbook Company (though still at Northwestern University as Adjunct Professor of Linguistics), gave a paper entitled "Lexicography and Etiquette: A Twentieth-Century Dilemma" at the EURALEX meeting in Malaga, Spain. He states that any member seeking a publisher for a specialized dictionary should get in touch with him.

An Albanian visitor to the United States, Dr. Vladimir Dervishi, who is assisting Professor **Leonard NEWMARK**, of UCLA, in the compilation of a 75,000-entry Albanian-English dictionary, stopped in at the DSN office on November 12, 1991, to discuss the project he is engaged in with Professor Janet Byron-Anderson, an Albanologist at Cleveland State University. The compilation of the dictionary presents some unusual difficulties resulting from the "purification" of the language by the Communists, a process that stopped with the fall of the regime, which saw the revival of words previously discountenanced and the introduction of many new ephemeral forms. Mr. Robert Palmer of the USIA and Ms. Beverly Smith of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs escorted Dr. Dervishi. During his stop in Cleveland he also visited **Victoria NEUFELDT** and the offices of *Webster's New World Dictionary*.

## MERRIAM-WEBSTER COLLECTION AT BEINECKE LIBRARY

The uncatalogued archives of Merriam-Webster (mainly prior to 1900) have been transferred to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University. It includes 68 bound volumes of outgoing correspondence and nine boxes of incoming described in five drawers of file cards: "Index to Correspondence: Chronological, Undated-1891 and 1892-1966"; "Index to Correspondence: Alphabetical"; "Index to Correspondence: Webster's Dictionaries and Spellers." There are also six boxes of miscellaneous printed pieces, photographs, deeds and the like, concerning the Merriam-Webster company and its publications and eight scrapbooks containing reviews and articles, sixty volumes of ledgers and order books covering the years c.1840-1877, as well as the word list submitted to the company in 1855, boxes of index cards containing words and illustrations, and several microfilms. Further information may be secured from Paul C. Allen at Beinecke Library, 1603A Yale Station, New Haven CT 06520.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

*Dictionary of American Regional English*, ed. by Frederic G. Cassidy and Joan Houston Hall, Vol. II (D-H), 1991, Harvard University Press, \$70. [To be reviewed in *Dictionaries 13*]

*The Guinness Book of Words*, 2d. edition, by Martin Manser, from Guinness Publishing Ltd., 1991 (ISBN 0-85112-946-3), £8.99. Contains a farrago, medley, hodgepodge, potpourri and miscellany of information about language, including lists of clichés, often misspelled words, quotations, catchphrases, acronyms and words with interesting histories.

*Harrap's Shorter French and English Dictionary*, 1991, c.2000 pp., £15.95 (ISBN 0-245-55046-1). [To be reviewed in *Dictionaries 13*].

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

**Max Niemeyer Verlag:** *The Computer Developed Linguistic Atlas of England I*, ed. by Wolfgang Viereck, Heinrich Ramisch et al., 1991, 422 pp., DM 430 (ISBN 3-484-40122-2). Work on the second and final volume has now begun.

*Dictionnaire onomasiologique des langues romanes*, compiled by Henri Vernay, Vol. II (of 5 or 6), 1991, 220 pp., DM 128 (ISBN 3-484-50310-6). Volume I remains available.

*History, Languages, and Lexicographers*, ed. by Ladislav Zgusta, 1991, 190 pp., DM 78 (ISBN 3-484-30941-5).

*Tamil Lexicography*, by Gregory James, 1991, 277 pp., DM 128 (ISBN 3-484-30941-5).

*Lexikologische Analysen zur Abstraktheit, Häufigkeit und Polysemie deutscher Substantive*, by Stefan J. Schierholz, 1991, 260 pp., DM 108 (ISBN 3-484-30269-0).

*Lexikos*, a collection of lexicographical studies in Afrikaans and English, edited by P. Harteveld, has been published by the Bureau of the Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal, University of Stellenbosch, Republic of South Africa, from which it may be obtained for \$48.50, airmail postpaid.

**De Gruyter:** Volume 3 (Words beginning with H) of Jaan Puhvel's *Hiittite Etymological Dictionary*, 1991, 462 pp., \$170. (ISBN 0-89925-431-4).

Fourth revised and enlarged edition of von Beseler/Jacobs-Wüstefeld *Law Dictionary*, 1991, 1932 pp., c.\$352 (ISBN 3-11-010716-3).

*English Computer Corpora* ed. by Stig Johansson and Anna-Brita Stenström, 1991, 402 pp., c.\$93 (ISBN 3-11-012395-9).

**John Benjamins North America:** *A Dictionary of English Normative Grammar 1700-1800* by Bertil Sundby, Anne Kari Bjørge and Kari E. Haugland, 486 pp., \$95 (ISBN 1-55619-358-9).

**Oryx Press:** *Kister's Best Dictionaries: A Comparative Guide for Adults and Young People* (ISBN 0-89774-191-9) by Kenneth F. Kister is announced for February 1992. Available from the publisher at 4041 N. Central, Phoenix AZ 85012-3397, for \$39.50 postpaid.

**Oxford University Press:** *Dictionary of American Proverbs*, ed. by Wolfgang Mieder, Stewart Kingsbury and Kelsie B. Harder, November 1991, 726 pp., \$49.95 (ISBN 0-19-505399-0).

*Oxford Encyclopedic English Dictionary*, 1991 (ISBN 0-19-861248-6).

*Oxford Dictionary of New Words*, ed. Sara Tulloch, 1991, \$19.95 (ISBN 0-19-869170-X).

*The Compact Oxford English Dictionary*, New Edition, 1991, \$295, is the compact edition of the OED, Second Edition, 1989. The New Compact includes a User's Guide magnifier. Each page consists of nine reduced pages of the original work.

**Franklin Learning Resources:** a line of electronic devices deriving from Merriam-Webster, Collins and other reference tools with such names as Language Master, Dictionary Companion, Wordmaster, French Professor, Spanish Professor (Franklin Education Division, 122 Burrs Road, Mt. Holly NJ 08060-9913).

**Routledge, Chapman & Hall:** *A Dictionary of English Surnames*, ed. by P.H. Reaney and R.M. Wilson, Third Edition, 1991, \$75.

*Compendium of the World's Languages*, 2 vols., by George L. Campbell, 1991 (ISBN 0-415-02937-6).

**Cambridge University Press:** *English Pronouncing Dictionary* by Daniel Jones, revised by A.C. Gimson and supplemented by Susan Ramsaran, 1991, \$29.95/14.95.

*Dictionary of Russian Personal Names*, by Morton Benson, announced for February 1992, c.\$44.95.

**Simon and Schuster:** *Dictionary of Medical and Health Terminology* (English-Hebrew, Hebrew-English), ed. by Ellen Feingold, Miriam Frier, Zerem Freir and Ehud Ben Galim, 1991, 450 pp., \$65 (ISBN 0-13-210253-6).

*Dictionary of World Politics*, ed. by Graham Evans and Jeffrey Newnham, 1991, 460 pp., \$55. (ISBN 0-13-210527-6).

**Dell/Laurel:** *Cruel and Unusual Puns*, by Don Hauptman, 1991, 137 pp., \$5.99 (ISBN 20850-5). Illustrated. Actually about spoonerisms. The publisher regards this work as belonging to the "recreational linguistics" genre.

## AN APPEAL TO MEMBERS

The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary workers in their Newsletter 14 appeal for "clear modern quotations of up to fifteen words" of the following:

**spark**, n. ironic, as in *some bright spark left the window open*.

**steam**, v. transitive uses in literal senses, as *steam open a letter*, *steam off wallpaper*, *steam a pudding*, *steam up the kitchen*.

**supremacy**, n. in *air supremacy*.

Members with examples to offer should send them to Jeremy Marshall, New SOED, 37a St. Giles', Oxford, ENGLAND.

## CALENDAR

**June 28-July 2, 1992:** 30th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware. For information: Don Walker, Bellcore, MRE 2A379, 445 South Street, Box 1910, Morristown NJ 07960-1910; phone (201) 829-4312; e-mail: walker@flash.bellcore.com; Sandra Carberry, University of Delaware, Computer & Information Science, Newark DE 19716; phone: (302) 451-1954; e-mail: carberry@dewey.udel.edu.

**July 13-18, 1992:** 19th International Systemic Functional Congress, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia (Ruqaiya Hasan, School of English and Linguistics, Macquarie University, NSW, 2109, Australia).

**August 4-8, 1992:** LACUS FORUM (Linguistic Association of Canada and the U.S.), University of Quebec, Montreal, Canada (Valerie

Makkai, P.O. Box 101, Lake Bluff, IL 60044). This meeting precedes the International Congress of Linguists.

**August 4-9, 1992:** EURALEX 92 (Fifth Euralex International Congress), University of Tampere, Finland. Information may be secured from the Congress organizers at P.O. Box 607, SF-33101 Tampere, Finland (e-mail: treura@uta.fi).

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

### C-WORD!

Nonsexist monograph showing American and British lexicographers have no clear notion of female genitals. Entertainment guaranteed. \$3 post-paid. FREE with orders (\$6 post-paid) of *The Native Speaker is Dead!* (discussion of linguistic myth with Chomsky and 40 others by author, AKA "Kurien," "Singh" in book. Write: T.Paikeday, 1776 Chalkdene Grove, Mississauga, Canada, L4W 2C3.

## FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Members are again reminded that dues for 1992 are to be paid by June 30 of the current year. Reminders are expensive and time-consuming. The Secretary-Treasurer hopes that a single dues notice per year will suffice to generate income flow to the Society.

The Secretary-Treasurer apologizes for the lateness of this "Fall Newsletter," resulting from the dislocation consequent on the change of offices. Although he believes that he has kept up with correspondence from members, his apology extends to those whose letters and inquiries he may have neglected.

## ADVERTISING RATES

Advertisements in the Newsletter and *Dictionaries*, limited to offers of dictionaries and related reference works or of publications, services, and the like relating to reference books and lexicography, are available at the following rates:

DISPLAY	Page	\$200	Half	\$110	Quarter	\$60 (1 INSERTION)
		\$500		\$300		\$150 (3 INSERTIONS)

**CLASSIFIED** Available only to members: 10 words free once per year in the Newsletter; additional words 30 cents each.

All copy is subject to approval. Display rates apply to camera-ready copy. Typesetting will be charged extra. Flyers may be inserted in the Newsletter. Ask for rates.

**Deadlines:** April 30 for the Spring Newsletter and *Dictionaries*; September 30 for the Fall Newsletter.



The Newsletter of the DSNAL appears twice a year (Fall and Spring). The Editor is Louis T. Milic, who thanks Edward Gates for his help and Amy Jenkins for consistent design ideas.

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