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NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT
SOCIETY

Volume 8, No. 4

December 1976

NADS 8.4

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NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

By action of the Executive Council, H. REX WILSON of the English department of the University of Western Ontario has been appointed Executive Secretary of the American Dialect Society, succeeding A. Hood Roberts, who announced his resignation in August.

A native of Nova Scotia and a graduate of the University of Toronto, the new executive secretary began his professional career as a reporter on the Toronto Globe and Mail. He has also taught at Brown University, Augustana College (Rock Island, Ill.), and the Royal Military College of Canada.

He wrote a doctoral dissertation on The Dialect of Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia under the direction of Albert H. Marckwardt and continues active in work in the speech of Canada's Maritime Provinces.

He has served as Treasurer of the Canadian Linguistic Association, of which he is a founding member, and has been President of the Linguistic Circle of Ontario.

Currently, of course, he is also President of the ADS.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS

In consequence of the change of Executive Secretaries, the ADS secretariat has also moved. No longer should you write to Arlington, Virginia about memberships, subscriptions, back copies, meetings, committees, and the like.

ALL American Dialect Society correspondence should now go to:

H. R. Wilson
Executive Secretary, ADS
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario
N6A 3K7
CANADA

For U.S. residents, domestic postage rates apply.

All ADS files, including the membership and mailing lists, were supposed to be in the new Executive Secretary's hands by mid-October. This deadline was not met, however, and as of mid-November some materials still remained relatively inaccessible in Arlington. Wilson therefore has been momentarily unable to respond properly to inquiries about memberships and back issues. He asks the patience of members and subscribers until the transition is completed (as soon as possible).

YOUR MAILING ADDRESS: IS IT RIGHT?

Please check all details of your address as it appears on the mailing label for this issue of NADS. This is the address on our mailing list. We plan to publish it in a special directory issue of NADS in the coming year, and we want to give the names and addresses to the satisfaction of each member. If you would prefer another address, now is the time to change it.

Send corrections, of course, to the new executive secretary at the above address.

THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

New York: Americana Hotel

in association with the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association of America

President: H. Rex Wilson, Univ. of Western OntarioVice President and Program Chairman: William R. Van Riper, Louisiana State Univ.

(Executive Council meeting: 8-10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 26, Buckingham A, Americana.)

SESSION I: 8-10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 27, Georgian B, Americana Hotel.

Papers:

1. "The Study of the Language of Black Americans in Salt Lake City." THOMAS E. TOON, Univ. of Utah. (20 minutes)
2. "Departures in the Black English Vernacular of Young Children from Standard English Rules: Deletions and Different Restrictions on Transformations." BARBARA Q. GRAY, Rutgers Univ. (20 minutes)
3. "Semantic Constraints on the Use of Multiple Modals in Southern States English." WILLIAM L. COLEMAN, Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro. (20 minutes)
4. "The Approach to Dialect Writing by a Nineteenth Century Maine Fegionalist." JACOB BENNETT, Univ. of Maine. (20 minutes)
5. "Current Theoretical and Methodological Trends in American (Dia)lectology." CURT M. RULON, North Texas State Univ. (20 minutes)

SESSION II: 1-3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 27, Georgian B, Americana Hotel.

Paper:

1. "Methods and Presentation of Data in American Linguistic Geography." RAVEN I. McDAVID, Univ. of Chicago. (25 minutes)

Business MeetingPaper:

2. "The Linguistic Atlas of the North Central States: A Plan for Editing." RICHARD C. PAYNE, Univ. of Chicago. (20 minutes)

SESSION III: 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, Georgian B, Americana Hotel.

Papers:

1. "Dialectology and the Future." W. N. FRANCIS, Brown Univ. (25 minutes)
2. "The Egalitarian Spirit and Attitudes Toward Usage." SIDNEY I. LANDAU, J. G. Ferguson Publishing Company. (25 minutes)
3. "Some Features of Alaskan English." RUSSELL TABBERT, Univ. of Alaska. (20 minutes)

NOMINATIONS FOR ADS OFFICES: TO BE VOTED ON AT THE BUSINESS MEETING

Vice President 1977 (succeeding to the Presidency in 1978): A. Hood Roberts.
Member of the Executive Council 1977-80: Walter S. Avis.
Member of the Nominating Committee 1977: Paul A. Eschholz.

Additional nominations may be made by a petition which has the signatures of at least ten members in good standing, and which must reach the Executive Secretary (H. Rex Wilson, Univ. of Western Ontario) by December 10.

THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

By John Algeo

The Problem. The present state of the American Dialect Society is puzzling. At no other time has there been greater interest in the study of language variation in America--or greater need for it--than there is today. The American Dialect Society is the principal organization devoted to such study. Yet our membership is comparatively minuscule; according to the most recently published figures, it stands at 850, which makes us one of the smallest of professional societies. The discrepancy between the vitality of the field and the size of our organization raises questions about our activities and about our future. We are at a critical period in the Society's history: the role of the Society in studying language in America during the rest of this century will be determined by the present actions of its members. It is important that those actions be taken deliberately and in full awareness of their probable consequences, rather than that we drift into the future unawares.

The Past and Present. When the Society was founded in 1889, it was doubtless modeled somewhat after the British Society and aimed at producing a dialect dictionary comparable to Wright's. There was a time, just before the Second World War, when the Society broadened its outlook and sought to encompass all kinds of English language study--but for sundry reasons (the war, prominent among them), that vision was never completely fulfilled. Now we are on the verge of achieving the Society's long-standing aim, with the forthcoming publication of F. G. Cassidy's Dictionary of American Regional English; moreover, the several LAUSC projects, which have come to be associated with the ADS through our members' interest in them, are making progress, with the recent completion of Harold Allen's Linguistic Atlas of the Upper Midwest and vigorous activity in some newer projects like LAGS and a revival of activity in some older ones like LANCS. Our principal activity has returned more to what the Founders had in mind in the 1890s than to what the Reformers envisioned in the 1940s. We can be proud of our solid achievements in regional study and especially of the prospective completion of DARE, which will fulfill the original mission of the ADS, but our present state raises questions about our future. The British Dialect Society dissolved when Wright's Dictionary was published. If we are not to follow their example, we must ask what our role will be hereafter.

One Alternative. It may be that our present small size is approximately right--that we can best serve the ends of scholarship by remaining a limited group with relatively homogeneous views and common aims, devoted principally to one kind of variation study. There are, indeed, several arguments in favor of such a decision. Even after DARE is published, there will remain a great deal to be done in most of the LAUSC projects. An organization devoted chiefly to supporting LAUSC and related work would serve a valuable end and might be more effective in achieving that end than a larger, more diffuse organization with more diverse aims. Perhaps the best future for ADS is to concentrate on providing support for the Linguistic Atlas. If we decide to move that way, there are some inevitable consequences. As important as regional dialect study is, it is only one kind of variation study--not that with the widest appeal or that most involved in current issues of scholarship or national policy. (No one should confuse a statement of fact with a value judgment.) Consequently, an organization devoted mainly to LAUSC work and allied projects is likely to remain at approximately our present size.

A Practical Consequence. If we remain at our present size, significant changes in our publication program will be inevitable. With continually rising publication costs and with the prospective loss of Columbia University Press's subsidy of American Speech, we cannot continue the extensive publication program we have had. It will not be financially possible to continue PADS, NADS, and AS as they have been. We have already gone to a different format for NADS. An almost certain consequence will be that either PADS or AS will have to be discontinued, or the two combined, and that the format of the resulting publication will have to be modified in the same direction as NADS. A small unendowed society is a poor society. And a poor society cannot afford elaborate publications. Of course, if the aims of the ADS are limited, it has no real need for elaborate publications, and so the consequence is appropriate.

Another Alternative. An alternative that is less certain of achievement is to aim at making the ADS into an organization that serves everyone interested in studying any kind of variation or perhaps just variation in English in our part of the world. At present, there are several groups with such interest (this listing is one suggested by Roger Shuy):

1. Linguistic geographers--Atlas style researchers who have been the backbone of ADS for decades.
2. English department linguists--those whose interest in language is broader than dialect atlas research, perhaps including lexicography, neologisms, social history, and so on; they have contributed to American Speech, read PADS, and been active in TESOL groups and the NCTE.
3. Linguistic department linguists--formerly more interested in universals, these people have been moving gradually back toward variation studies; they publish in Language and attend conferences like the NWAVE in Washington.
4. Anthropology department linguists--interested mostly in the ethnography of communication; their major journals are Language in Society and Journal of the Sociology of Language.

There is some interchange and commonality of membership among these groups, but a great deal of isolation. Perhaps no single organization could serve all of their diverse interests. If one could, perhaps it would have to be a new organization (though scholarship is not well served by a proliferation of organizations). But a single organization could serve all those who are interested in studying the English language in the New World, from whatever theoretical approach. As David DeCamp points out, that is a study not covered by any other group; in fact, it is what our constitution says the ADS does now, although actually we are leaving a lot undone. An organization whose activities are broad enough to attract as members a sizeable number of persons from the groups listed above would be large enough to be a significant voice in the scholarly community; it would also be able to support a publication program of high quality. Those two consequences are connected. Of course, larger and broader organization would also entail disadvantages. Its aims would be more diffuse; and thus, in being less single-minded, it would run the risk of being less effective in pursuing them.

Steps toward the Alternatives. To achieve the first alternative, no special steps are needed. It is the direction we are presently headed. All that is necessary is to recognize the direction and to prepare for the consequences. To achieve the second alternative a great deal of work would be necessary--and it is by no means certain that it can be achieved even with good intentions and hard work. But if the Society wanted to move in that direction, steps like the following might be appropriate:

1. Actively solicit the participation in our national and regional programs

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of persons who are interested in related studies, but who are presently not members of ADS; arrange special sections at those meetings.

2. Arrange some special conferences between students of American English with different orientations, to explore common interests and areas of cooperation.

3. Sponsor individual language studies of diverse kinds--perhaps by formal action of the Executive Council--especially (as James Sledd suggests) studies that reach out to the concerns of society: the "crisis" in writing, standards for the use of English as a world language, proper limits on occupational demands for standard English, and so on.

4. Institute an official exchange of information and a sharing of activities with other organizations engaged in related language study.

5. Consider a merger of ADS and some organizations with related interests.

6. Launch a membership campaign, directed especially at those persons who are potentially active members of our society.

7. Bring our publications up to date--realistically, there is little hope for an extensive membership campaign until we can deliver current issues of our publications; until we have something to give members, soliciting new ones may even be counterproductive.

8. Promote the Society through local groups--Linguistic Circles and Language and Literature groups of the kind that many colleges have.

9. Reactivate those committees of the Society (e.g., the Usage Committee) that have been less active recently, with the special purpose of having them serve as liaison groups to gather and disseminate information about studies in progress and perhaps sponsor or carry on their own studies (e.g., as the New Words Committee now does).

10. Actively publicize the activities of the Society--through both academic and popular outlets. The press likes feature stories about language--dialect, words, and the like--we should see that the press gets them and that we are identified in the stories.

11. Encourage American Studies Divisions and American Institutes in Europe and elsewhere to join by establishing a category of institutional membership (Hans Galinsky's suggestion); doing so might also attract individual members from abroad.

12. Change the name of the Society to suggest more accurately the scope of our interests. Dialect has two almost coeval meanings (see the OED): (1) a speechway characteristic of some group; (2) a subordinate variety of a language, a provincial speechway differing from the standard. Although most dialectologists use the word in the first sense, it is popularly understood in the second, which may well have been what the Founders of the ADS intended too and which certainly leads to a misunderstanding of the stated aims of the Society. Moreover, any reasonable meaning of dialect excludes a great deal of variation from its reference, for example, stylistic (or register) variation and inherent variation, which are fields of study in which many potential members would be interested. It also excludes such aspects of "the study of the English language in North America" (to quote our constitutionally defined object) as are not explicitly related to variation (for example, name study or aspects of structure that are relatively uniform). In 1940 there was a proposal to change the name of the ADS, which

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failed to achieve the then required two-thirds affirmative vote at the annual meeting. A recent query about the name produced the following suggested alternatives:

English Language Society
English Language Association
English Language Society of America
English Language Society of North America
American English Society
Society of American English
American English Association
American Speech Society (the acronym disqualifies this)
Society for American Speech
American Language Society

Any of these has the advantage of broadening the focus from dialect study to larger concerns. Several of them shift the focus in other ways.

Action. If we do nothing, the problem described here will not disappear nor will we avoid choosing between the possible alternatives for dealing with it. We will simply choose one alternative by default. That alternative may be the best one; it may be the one a majority of our members want. But if so, let us choose it after considering both its consequences and other courses of action with their consequences. Let us choose a course of action and not merely drift into one.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Members' reactions to the issues raised by this statement will be welcome--at this year's Annual Meeting, or directly to Algeo and the new Executive Secretary, or to NADS, which will print as many responses as there is room for. Use these addresses:

John Algeo English Dept. University of Georgia Athens, Georgia 30602	H. R. Wilson Executive Secretary, ADS Univ. of Western Ontario London, Ontario N6A 3K7 Canada	Allan Metcalf Editor, <u>NADS</u> English Dept. MacMurray College Jacksonville, Illinois 62650)
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SECOL XVI

The 16th Southeastern Conference on Linguistics will be held March 24-26, 1977, at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

For information write William Coleman or Jeutonne Brewer, Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C. 27412.

The NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY appears in three regular issues a year and sometimes, as in the present instance, in extra issues when the news warrants it. All individual and institutional members of the ADS receive the Newsletter as part of their membership. Annual dues are \$15 and should be sent to the new Executive Secretary, H. Rex Wilson, English Dept., Univ. of Western Ontario, London, Ont. N6A 3K7, Canada. The Newsletter is edited and published by Allan Metcalf, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650. Correspondence concerning the Newsletter's editorial content and requests for back issues should go to the editor; all other ADS business should be directed to the Executive Secretary. The next regular issue, in January, will report on the Annual Meeting and give full details on ADS meetings scheduled for 1977.

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

1977 MEETING SCHEDULE

Abstracts due

(Nov. 1)

March 15

max. 2 pages to:
 Tracy D. Terrell
 Dept. of Spanish and
 Portuguese
 Univ. of California
 Irvine, Calif. 92717

April 15

one page following LSA
 format; 2 copies to
 H. R. Wilson
 English Dept.
 Univ. of Western Ontario
 London, Ont. N6A 3K7
 Canada

approx. April 1

approx. April 15

approx. May 1

approx. April 15

Meetings

APRIL 21-23, 1977: NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with NEMLA
 Pittsburgh: Univ. of Pittsburgh
 Chair: Willard Martin, Pennsylvania State Univ.
 Regional Secretary: Paul A. Eschholz, Univ.
 of Vermont

MAY 1977: PACIFIC COAST REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with the California
 Linguistics Association
 probably in the San Francisco area
 Chair: Tracy Terrell
 Regional Secretary: Mary Key, Univ. of
 California, Irvine

AUGUST 11, 1977: SUMMER MEETING
 in association with LSA
 Summer Meeting and
 Linguistic Institute
 University of Hawaii, Honolulu

OCTOBER 1977: ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with RMMLA
 Regional Secretary: Thomas L. Clark
 English Dept.
 Univ. of Nevada
 4505 Maryland Parkway
 Las Vegas, Nev. 89154

OCTOBER 1977: SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with SCMLA
 Regional Secretary: Gary N. Underwood
 English Dept.
 Univ. of Texas
 Austin, Tex. 78712

OCTOBER 27, 1977: MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with MMLA
 Chicago: Conrad Hilton Hotel
 Chairman: Richard C. Payne, Univ. of Chicago
 Regional Secretary: Donald Lance
 English Dept.
 Univ. of Missouri
 Columbia, Mo. 65201

NOVEMBER 1977: SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING
 in association with SAMLA
 Regional Secretary: David Shores
 English Dept.
 Old Dominion Univ.
 P.O. Box 6173
 Norfolk, Va. 23508

approx. May 10
 to: H. R. Wilson
 English Dept.
 Univ. of Western Ontario
 London, Ont. N6A 3K7
 Canada

DECEMBER 26-29, 1977: ANNUAL MEETING
 in association with MLA

(The January 1977 issue of NADS will contain full abstract information for each of these meetings.)

PAPERS FROM METHODS II

Editing of Papers from Methods II, a collection of papers read at the Second International Conference on Methods in Dialectology (1975), is in the final stages. (See NADS, Sept. 1976, p. 14.)

The press date has been delayed in order to be able to include more papers than was at first thought possible. It should be ready for the mail after Christmas.

BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF THE PHONETIC SCIENCES: SPECIAL ADS DISCOUNT

ADS members will receive a 10 per cent prepublication discount on the price (approximately \$14) of the forthcoming Biographical Dictionary of the Phonetic Sciences, ed. Arthur J. Bronstein, Lawrence J. Raphael, and Cj Stevens, to be published in the spring by The Press of Lehman College.

The discount will be granted on all orders from ADS members received before March 1977 by The Press of Lehman College, P.O. Box 423, Bronx, N.Y. 10468. The edition will be limited, and all interested purchasers are advised to make prepublication reservations.

A decade in the making, the 250-page hardbound volume is sponsored by the ADS along with the American Association of the Phonetic Sciences, the Speech Communication Association, and the International Society of the Phonetic Sciences.

In addition to the three editors, a thirteen-member Advisory Committee and more than 200 authors of individual entries have been involved with the volume. The more than 400 entries contain biographical and bibliographic data as well as critical evaluations of those biographees who have made significant contributions to the phonetic sciences. The essays run from three or four brief paragraphs to as long as four or five typed pages. They deal with figures in general and comparative linguistics, articulatory, acoustic, and experimental phonetics, phonology, dialectology, lexicography, speech, speech and language pathology, and speech education.

The volume includes entries for Atwood, Bell (all three), Bloch, Bloomfield, Bolinger, Bopp, Bridges, Brugmann, Bullokar, Chao, Chiba, Chomsky, Cobb, Comstock, deCourtenay, Daneš, Duponceau, Durand, Ellis, Emerson, Fairbanks, Firth, Fischer-Jorgensen, Fortunatove, Frank, Franklin, Fries, Funk, Gilliéron, Grasdagent, Gray, Greet, Grimm, Halle, Hanley, Hart, Head, Helmholtz, Hempl, Hockett, Hoijer, House, Hultzén, Ives, James, Jakobson, Jassem, Jud, Kopp, Kenyon, Kittredge, Klinghardt, Krapp, Kurath, Liberman, Lowman, McLean, March, Marckwardt, McIntosh, Meillet, Mencken, Moore, Müller, Nares, Paget, Passy, Pickering, Pitman, Pound, Rask, Ripman, Rush, de Saussure, Sheridan, Smith, Steele, Thomas, Tilly, Trager, Turner, Twaddell, Uldall, Vendryès, Viator, Walker, Webster, West, Whorf, Wise, Wundt and 300 others.

Among the contributors are D. Abercrombie (Edinburgh), H. Allen (Minnesota), R. Austerlitz (Columbia), W.S. Avis (Canada), C.L. Barnhart (New York), J. W. Black

Ohio), D. Bolinger (Harvard), G. Bonfante (Turin), J.D. Bowen (California), R. Brend (Michigan), R. Brubaker (Pennsylvania), E. Buysens (Brussels), F. Cassidy (Wisconsin), Y.R. Chao (California), M. Chapallaz (London), F. Coco (Bologna), A. Cohen (Netherlands), D. Cohen (Sorbonne), M. Cohen (Paris), J. Daan (Netherlands), A. Davis (Illinois), D. DeCamp (Texas), P.B. Deneš (Bell Labs), A. Duckert (Massachusetts), G. Fant (Stockholm), C. Ferguson (Stanford), R.A. Fowkes (New York University), W.N. Francis (Brown), D.B. Fry (London), A.C. Gimson (London), H. Guiter (Montpellier), R. Hall (Cornell), G. Hammarstrom (Melbourne), L. Hammerich (Copenhagen), E. Hamp (Chicago), K. Harris (Haskins Labs and City University of New York), Z. Harris (Pennsylvania), E. Haugen (Harvard), R-M S Heffner (Wisconsin), A. Hill (Texas), H. Hoenigswald (Pennsylvania), A. Issatschenko (Austria), S. Ives (New York University), H.G. Kopp (San Diego), J. Kurylowicz (Krakow), P. Ladefoged (California), I. Lehiste (Ohio), D. Langendoen (City University of New York), W.P. Lehmann (Texas), R. Leutenegger (Wisconsin), L. Lisker (Pennsylvania), B. Malmberg (Lund), R.I. McDavid, Jr. (Chicago), K. Moll (Iowa), W.G. Moulton (Princeton), W.V.J. Pee (Ghent), K.L. Pike (Michigan), R.W. Rieber (City University of New York), P.H. Salus (Toronto), S. Saporta (Washington), T. Sebeok (Indiana), S. Singh (Texas), E. Sivertsen (Trondheim), S. Smith (Hamburg), M.D. Steer (Purdue), K. Stevens (MIT), A. Tauber (Yeshiva), W.R. Tiffany (Washington), J. Tonndorf (Columbia), J.L. Trim (Cambridge), H. Truby (Florida), J. Vachek (Bratislava), W. Van Riper (Louisiana), H. Wängler (Colorado), K. Wheatley (Texas), E. Zwirner (Cologne) and 100 more.

LINCOLN, BOOTH, AND DIALECTS

C. Frank Velcas, 207 Valentine St., Bennington, Vermont 05201, writes of plans "to publish a monthly journal which will be a comprehensive review of the Case of Abraham Lincoln, John Wilkes Booth, and Associates. Included will be historic background material, a serial facsimile presentation: official government transcripts, letters, and other important documents. We also plan articles from time to time by experts in the Forensic Sciences, Medicine, Anthropology, Odontology, Genealogy, Toxicology, Voice Print Identification, Ballistics, Handwriting Analysis, Codes and Ciphers, Political History, Law, Architecture, Iconography, Clinical Psychology, Psychoanalysis, and other disciplines.

"We believe of special interest would be articles relating to speech of some of the key figures. . . . Materials that are available for study are writings in the form of letters, diaries, public speeches and the like. There are also phonograph recordings made by Edwin Booth and a person claiming to be John Wilkes Booth. Some years ago, we heard mention of a computer study of writings by Shakespeare. Perhaps this technique could be applied to writings or speech of our subjects. Perhaps you could provide some references on the Shakespeare computer study. No doubt general articles of the dialect field would also be of great interest to our readers, as an introduction.

"We hope that this will be of interest and hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you soon. . . ."

WORK IN PROGRESS: PLEASE REPORT

For his annual report on current studies in dialectology (which will appear in the January NADS), Paul Eschholz, chairman of the ADS Committee on Regionalisms and Linguistic Geography, has been sending his annual questionnaire to active dialectologists, asking for information on personal activities (books, articles, and current projects), dissertations and theses, and noteworthy books, projects, and meetings. If you did not get his questionnaire but have something to report, write him at College of Arts and Sciences, Univ. of Vermont, Burlington, Vt. 05401.

And for the American Name Society's annual Place Names Work in Progress report, E.C. Ehrenspurger has sent out his circular asking for information. He will be happy to receive your place-name news at 1002 Mulberry St., Yankton, South Dakota 57078.

ERNEST ROY GREENE

Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages at Dartmouth College and long-time member of the ADS Ernest Roy Greene died December 23, 1975 at the age of 96.

Born in Bangor, Maine, the son of a Congregational minister, Greene was a Harvard graduate of the class of 1901. In 1907 he received his M.A. from Harvard and started teaching at Dartmouth College, where he remained until his retirement in 1949. Initially at Dartmouth he taught both French and Spanish, but by the 1920's he was devoting himself entirely to Spanish. He specialized in the Golden Age (Siglo de Oro) of Spanish literature and did considerable research on the Lazarillo de Tormes and the novela picaresca.

He belonged to the Modern Language Association for over 70 years, and was also a member of the Instituto de las Espanas, the American Folklore Society, and the American Association of Teachers of Spanish as well as the ADS.

He is survived by four children and ten grandchildren. His funeral, attended by some 40 people, was held in Hanover in January 1976.

THE LANCS BASIC MATERIALS: PROGRESS REPORT, NOVEMBER 4, 1976

By Richard C. Payne

When editing of the Basic Materials of the Linguistic Atlas of the North Central States began in June, it soon became evident that the records for the various states would require differing amounts of editorial preparation time in order to make them ready for the camera. The status of the short worksheet records was as follows: the records for Wisconsin (Part 1) were the work of a single field-worker and had been completed in accordance with the original plan in 1941; Michigan (Part 2), where four fieldworkers were involved, had been essentially completed according to plan by 1948 (although one record was added in 1956, and another in 1962); Ontario (Part 3) was done by two fieldworkers in one year, 1950 (although the editors hoped until very recently that it would be possible to acquire additional records); Illinois (Part 4) had involved eleven fieldworkers, from 1939 on, and the editors wished to include some records only just being compiled in June, as well as some others which had to be recopied before they could be included; Indiana (Part 5) had involved nine fieldworkers between 1938 and 1964; Ohio (Part 6) had involved five fieldworkers between 1948 and 1957 (two student records were added later); Kentucky (Part 7) had involved five field-workers between 1951 and 1962. The long worksheet records (Part 8), involving four fieldworkers, had been compiled between 1933 and 1949 (although one additional record was made in 1968). The editors reasoned that states involving greater numbers of fieldworkers working over longer periods of time were likely to present more problems. In the case of the long worksheet interviews there was an additional problem, in that the records had to be transported from the LAMSAS archives at the University of South Carolina and returned there immediately after being photographed.

Some other factors also weighed on the amount of time required to straighten out editorial problems in different parts of the series. In Illinois, the problem of community renumbering was clearly the most complex, since many communities had been added to the ones originally planned; Ohio and Kentucky also posed some

numbering problems; in the remaining states, renumbering was a simple matter of substituting a new number for an old one. Marckwardt's files contained neatly typed informant biographies suitable for inclusion in the Basic Materials copy, but he had not done biographies for the long records, Ontario, Indiana, and Kentucky, and he had only finished half of Illinois. A final factor to be weighed was the fact that Raven McDavid, the senior editor, was least familiar with the circumstantial details of the conduct of fieldwork in Indiana, where the field-worker situation promised to be most complex. This factor also applied to the later fieldwork done in Kentucky, but this did not involve many records.

In order to get the project moving, the editors determined to concentrate on the "easy" states first and leave the more problematic ones for last.

Copy for Wisconsin was completed in time for the Bicentennial. Michigan, the long records, and Ohio followed within a month. Kentucky was completed at a somewhat less hectic pace, but was delivered to the photographer by the beginning of September.

Editing has continued methodically on the remaining parts, although the production of copy is being held up by specific editorial problems. The Indiana records as we have them were camera-ready, including final proofreading, over a month ago. Initially they were held up to check on queries regarding field-worker attributions, and the decision was made about two weeks ago that copy for the Indiana Basic Materials should be held up until a number of McDavid transcriptions can be included. McDavid has completed transcriptions of eight complete Indiana records, one partial record, and one tape fragment. These are currently being recopied, and at least six of these will be included in Part 5 as "T" records. We are also waiting to receive additional tapes from Professor Householder at Indiana University.

Proofreading of the Illinois material (Part 6) exclusive of the Cook County records was completed yesterday. We are holding copy on this part until we receive seven Cook County records currently being recopied. We expect to receive them by some time in December, and some additional time will be required after the receipt of the records in order to assign code numbers in Cook County, sort the Cook County records once they have been stamped, and prepare the final table of contents for this very complicated set of records.

Ontario, which has received little editorial attention to date, promises to revive the heady pace of last summer in terms of production of copy. We are shifting the editing of the Ontario records into high gear. Since there are only seventeen records on hand, it is inconceivable that preparation of copy will take more than a month.

An appendix containing the McDavid transcriptions not included in the eight parts of the series will be issued as an additional number of the Microfilm Collection (Series XXXVIII, No. 208). Work on this appendix will be done continuously as time permits, although priority will obviously be given to the transcriptions that will be included in the Indiana records.

In summary: Five of the projected eight parts are complete at this time; of those remaining, Ontario should be complete by December, Illinois by January, Indiana by February, and the appendix by March.

(This report was presented at the ADS Midwest Regional Meeting. For further information on the publication of the LANCS field records, see NADS Sept. 1976, p. 7.)

PACIFIC COAST REGIONAL MEETING 1976

The annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Region was held May 1, 1976, at San Diego State University. As in previous years, the meeting was held in conjunction with the California Linguistic Association Conference. About 75 people attended all or part of the meeting. Seven papers were given, of which three dealt with dialects of languages other than English.

Professor Robert Lint, Department of English, CPSU-San Luis Obispo, reported on the survival of a number of pre-literate poetic traditions in the *cicho* of the Mexican barrio. Lint made a detailed stylistic analysis of poems by José Montoya showing the survival of mnemonic uses of rhythms, rhymes, and symbolism from the Chicano oral tradition. Professor Norman Roberts, Leeward Community College, Hawaii, described some of the problems encountered in the study of Hawaiian Japanese. Although the Japanese of Hawaii can be related to the dialect of Western Japan, it has numerous specifically Hawaiian characteristics. The study of this language must be to a large extent sociolinguistic rather than merely regional. John Gosoph, a student at CSU-Fresno, reported on his pilot study of a Russian-English bilingual community, the Molokan community of Kerman, California. The Russian of this community has preserved a number of features now archaic in standard Russian; in addition it has greatly simplified Russian grammar and has developed new definitions for many words besides borrowing heavily from English. It is thus an example of pidginization.

Bruce Berryhill, a teacher in Delano, California, described his research in the community of Tulare, where he attempted to find out the extent to which the dialect of the area preserved features of the South Midland from which so many Tulare residents came. He found a complicated situation in which code switching was common and in which regional dialect features were now markers of style and class.

Charles DeBose, Linguistics Department, CSU-Fresno, presented a paper called "Be insertion: A Zero Copula Analysis of Black English Deep Structure." DeBose argued that unlike Standard American English, Black English has no copula in deep structure. "Be" insertion in Black English sentences such as "He be working hard" is triggered by the presence of HAB in the deep structure. BE constructions such as "The baby will be done cried" and "He be done lost his cool" as well as "I done lost my hat" are also explained by this analysis.

Lawrence Johnson, Linguistics Department, U.S.C., reported on the spread of voicing of /t/ in post-voiceless consonantal contexts, such as "actor," "captain," and "softer." Johnson noted that voicing in this environment is apparently spreading, and that it is most noticeable in the speech of younger, working class, male informants. Voicing also occurs most frequently in the environments /k/ and /s/.

Tracy Terrell, Linguistics Program, UC-Irvine, described two computer subprograms which are suitable for calculating the significance of phonological, stylistic, and sociolinguistic constraints in the description of phonological variation. These programs are part of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS): CROSSTABS and BREAKDOWN. Terrell demonstrated the usefulness of the computer in describing the incidence of the low vowels in Southern California speech, in which such variables as race, nativeness, place of origin, and parents' place of origin as well as at least six phonetic variants must be taken into account.

At the business meeting which followed the presentation of papers, Professor Terrell was elected Meeting Chairperson for the spring meeting, 1977. Mary Key, UC-Irvine, kindly consented to serve as secretary for another year.

Fred Brengelman, Chairperson

CHICAGO TO SPONSOR CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE VARIETY

More than 40 scholars, most of them well known to members of the ADS, will participate in a conference on "Language Variety in America and its Implications for Cultural Pluralism" sponsored by the Center for Policy Study, University of Chicago, April 7-9, 1977. Co-chairmen are Raven I. McDavid, Jr., and Joseph M. Williams, both of the English department at the University of Chicago.

All interested people are welcome to attend.

The Center provides the following outline of conference topics:

- I. Complexity of the speech act
 - A. Non-verbal communication
 - B. Dimensions of variation
- II. Concept of standard languages
 - A. Development of standard languages: case histories
 - B. Development of standard English
 - C. Standard English in America
- III. Variety in American English
 - A. Variation in standard English
 - B. Nonstandard varieties in white speech
 - 1. General variations
 - 2. Southern folk speech
 - 3. Appalachian speech
 - 4. New York City speech
 - 5. Rural New England
 - C. Black-white relationships
 - 1. Caribbean
 - 2. Gullah
 - 3. Rural South
 - 4. Urban South
- IV. Multilingualism
- V. Teaching and the current implications of language variety
 - A. Recognition of individual differences
 - B. Language and writing
- VI. Conclusion: a view toward the future

Participants will submit papers on conference topics at least 60 days in advance, and copies will be distributed to participants. At the conference each participant may join the panel of his choice; the final composition will be determined in the informal evening session before the beginning of the formal conference.

In addition to the co-chairmen, participants include: Walter AVIS, Royal Military College of Canada; Linda BLANTON, Chicago; Arthur BRONSTEIN, Herbert H. Lehman College; Marvin CARMONY, Indiana State Univ.; John B. CARROLL, Univ. of North Carolina; Frederick G. CASSIDY, Univ. of Wisconsin; Thomas CRESWELL, Chicago State Univ.; A. L. DAVIS, Illinois Inst. of Technology; Lawrence M. DAVIS, Univ. of Haifa; George DORRILL, Univ. of South Carolina; Audrey DUCKERT, Univ. of Massachusetts; John FISHER, Univ. of Tennessee; Guy FORGUE, Sorbonne; Glenn GILBERT, Southern Illinois Univ.; Sidney GREENBAUM, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; Robert HALL, Cornell Univ.; Eric HAMP, Univ. of Chicago; Einar HAUGEN, Harvard Univ.; Shirley HEATH, Winthrop College; Robin HERNDOBLER, Loop Jr. College; A. A. HILL, Univ. of Texas; Betty JACOBSEN, Chicago; Nathan KANTROWITZ, Kent State Univ.; Mary KEY, Univ. of California, Irvine; William KIRWIN, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland; Frank LaBAN, Univ. of Arizona; Wallace LAMBERT, McGill Univ.; James B. McMILLAN, Univ. of Alabama; David MAURER, Univ. of Louisville; William MOULTON, Princeton Univ.; Raymond O'CAIN, Univ. of South Carolina;

Lee PEDERSON, Emory Univ.; Randolph QUIRK, Univ. of London; Carroll REED, Univ. of Massachusetts; Frances Land USKUP, Roosevelt Univ.; W. R. VAN RIPER, Louisiana State Univ.; Juanita WILLIAMSON, LeMoyne-Owen College; John P. WILLIS, Des Moines, Iowa; H. Rex WILSON, Univ. of Western Ontario; Norman Zide, Univ. of Chicago.

Further information is available from Judy C. Ullmann, assistant director, Center for Policy Study, University of Chicago, 5733 University Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637, phone (312) 753-4494.

CONFERENCE ON UPPER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY TO BE HELD ON SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY

Papers on linguistic topics are invited for the first of what is intended as an annual conference on the culture and life of the Upper Mississippi Valley, to be held April 23, 1977 at Western Illinois Univ., Macomb.

Papers should be designed for 15-minute oral presentation, and should be addressed to a general audience. Other fields such as literature, history, geography, archaeology, architecture, and agriculture may also be represented in the conference.

January 1 is the deadline for sending two copies of the paper to ADS member Tim Frazer, English department, Western Illinois Univ., Macomb, Ill. 61455.

DIALECTS AT LSA

The Sociolinguistics session at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, 2-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30 at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel, includes papers on American English and sign language dialects. This is the program:

- 2:00. "Southern White English: The Changing Verb Phrase." CRAWFORD FEAGIN.
- 2:30. "The State of 'Steady': Aspectual Marking in Black English." JOHN BAUGH, Univ. of Pennsylvania.
- 3:00. "Social Stratification and Linguistic Forms of Factory Workers." PATRICIA TWAY, Woodmere.
- 3:30. "Investigating Comprehension in Real World Tasks: Understanding Jury Instructions." VEDA CHARROW and ROBERT CHARROW, Center for Applied Linguistics and Howard Univ. Law School.
- 4:00. "Providence Island Sign Language." WILLIAM WASHABAUGH, Univ. of Wisconsin, and JAMES WOODWARD and SUSAN DeSANTIS, Gallaudet College.
- 4:30. "Negative Incorporation in FSL and ASL." JAMES WOODWARD and SUSAN DeSANTIS, Gallaudet College.

For further information, write LSA Secretariat, 1611 North Kent St., Arlington, Va. 22209.

COMPUTERS IN THE HUMANITIES

On August 2-5, 1977, the Third International Conference on Computers in the Humanities will be held at the University of Waterloo, Canada, co-sponsored by the universities of Waterloo and Montreal.

January 15 is the deadline for sending abstracts or papers on any topic regarding computers and their relation to the humanities to Prof. Paul Bratley, Département d'informatique, Université de Montréal, Montréal, Quebec H3T 1J4, Canada.

From: Allan Metcalf
English Department
MacMurray College
Jacksonville, Illinois
62650

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