

[s]

[z]

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT
SOCIETY

Volume 9, Number 3

October 1977

NADS 9.3

Dues Due Again, But the ADS Holds the Line Against Inflation	Page 2
Nominations for Offices 1978	2
LAMSAS Gets Six-Figure Grant from NEH	2
LANCS Gets NEH Grant Too	4
Third International Conference on Methods	4
Help Wanted: Editorial Associates for LAMSAS	4
Papers from Methods II: A Progress Report	5
Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting (October 20)	5
Midwest Regional Meeting (October 27)	5
South Central Regional Meeting (October 28)	9
South Atlantic Regional Meeting (November 5)	10
NCTE Concurrent Meeting	12
Annual Meeting	12
Language Change Division Meeting at MLA	13
<i>Mississippi Folklore Register</i> Issue on Names	13
Life and Culture of the Upper Mississippi Valley	13
New Deadline for National Humanities Center Fellowship Applications	13
<i>DARE</i> Appeals to <i>NADS</i> Readers for Help	14
Cancellation of Summer 1977 Meeting at University of Hawaii	15
Papers Sought for Milwaukee Linguistics Symposium on Urban Dialects	15

ADS HOLDS THE LINE AGAINST INFLATION—FOR A WHILE

Although the 1976 financial report, taken by itself, suggested declining fortunes, there were hidden assets in the membership figures, which showed 252 private and 286 institutional members in arrears. Thanks largely to the good will and patience of private members, we now have bank balances sufficient to pay all foreseeable expenses in the current fiscal year. Rumors of a rise in dues may be dismissed.

The publication year problem. Relations with institutional subscribers are somewhat less satisfactory since serials librarians and subscription agencies have trouble adjusting to our "sportsmanlike" policy of billing for *publication year*. Thus payments are held up by protests that the current publication year was paid for by a cheque dated in that year. This has necessitated a great deal of clerical work and it is not certain that these problems can be taken care of except by catching up to publication year.

Catching up. And this is what *American Speech* under the editorship of John Algeo is doing. The search for a new publisher is reported going well, and when an agreement has been reached, copy for the calendar year will go in to the new publisher.

New confusions for old. The accelerated rate of publishing will mean more frequent dues notices. Please note the one enclosed. Many members have already paid twice in calendar 1976 and one who made a wry observation on this was hospitably invited by the Executive Secretary to make one more.

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee, consisting of past presidents Lee Pederson and Audrey Duckert and elected member Paul Eschholz, reports the following nominations for the elections to be conducted at the Annual Meeting:

Vice President 1978 (succeeding to the Presidency in 1979): **John Algeo**

Member of the Nominating Committee 1978: **F. G. Cassidy**

With Eschholz abstaining, the Committee also nominated:

Member of the Executive Council 1978-81: **Paul Eschholz**

Additional nominations may be made by petition of at least ten members in good standing. Such a petition must reach the Executive Secretary by December 10.

LAMSAS GETS SIX-FIGURE GRANT FROM NEH

The National Endowment for the Humanities announced in July an award of \$149,341 to support the editing of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States April 1977 through March 1980. In addition, under its gifts-and-matching program NEH will award an additional \$148,000 if matching funds can be raised, making a possible total of \$297,341.

The work is being carried out under the direction of Associate Editor Raymond K. O'Cain, and a provision of the grant makes it possible for Editor-in-Chief Raven I. McDavid, Jr. to oversee editorial activities several days each month. Other members of the

The *Newsletter of the American Dialect Society*, published 3 or 4 times a year, is sent to all ADS members and subscribers. This, the last issue for 1977, is Vol. 9, No. 3. Next issue scheduled for Jan. 1978; copy deadline Jan. 2. Send editorial correspondence and back issue requests to: Allan Metcalf, editor, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Ill. 62650. Send ADS dues (\$15 annually) and all other correspondence concerning the Society to: H. R. Wilson, Executive Secretary, English Dept., Univ. of Western Ontario, London, Ont., Canada N6A 3K7.

staff are George T. Dorrill and David Fischer, Editorial Associates; Sara L. Sanders, Typist-Composer, and Nell H. Huffman, Graduate Research Assistant. The staff will assist visiting scholars in using any unpublished portion of the corpus.

Editing of LAMSAS is being carried on at the University of South Carolina, which has actively supported the project since 1974. South Carolina has provided equipment and supplies, arranged for shipment of the archives from Chicago, and furnished salaries for research assistants. The Associate Editor has been given a reduced teaching load, and the Editor-in-Chief was invited to serve as Distinguished Visiting Professor during the fall terms of 1974 and 1976. In cooperation with the Director of Libraries, working space has been set aside in the Thomas Cooper Library, which opened in June 1976. A research library has been made available through the generosity of Hans Kurath, director of the Linguistic Atlas project.

The principal use of the funds will be for salaries of full-time editorial personnel who will carry out the final stages of editing and prepare camera-ready copy for photo-offset reproduction by the University of Chicago Press. Copy is being produced using the Cam-wil 1873M phonetic type element designed by McDavid and Alva L. Davis (*NADS 6[3].5 [1974]*), and will be issued in fascicles of 128 pages. Every effort is being made to facilitate the joint use of LAMSAS and related publications, e.g. the *Linguistic Atlas of New England*, *Word Geography of the Eastern United States*, and *Survey of English Dialects*.

The first fascicle will give the conventions of presentation, the phonetic alphabet, and a table of informants by types. The latter will include the age and sex of each informant and the name of the field worker and the year the field record was completed. Additional details, such as the comparison of the field workers and the lives of the informants, will appear in the *Handbook of the Linguistic Geography of the Middle and South Atlantic States*, now being prepared by McDavid.

Also part of the first fascicle will be list manuscripts for the names of the communities investigated, in normal spelling; the names of the communities in phonetics, and the county names in phonetics. Following the first of these lists will be a reverse index of the names of counties and selected cities to community numbers. The presentation of the results of the systematic survey of the Middle and South Atlantic States will likewise begin in the first fascicle, and will follow the topical arrangement of the *Linguistic Atlas of New England*, beginning with the names of cities and states. The last fascicle will be an index, prepared under the supervision of Associate Editor Audrey R. Duckert.

The corpus consists of approximately 1.5 million words and phrases, the responses of 1216 informants in 518 communities to the more than 800 points of usage in the work sheets. The entire states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina are covered in the LAMSAS survey, as well as the District of Columbia, the Georgia seaboard and a large part of northern Georgia, and the adjoining portions of southern Ontario, eastern Ohio, eastern Kentucky, and northern Florida. By the time the midpoint of publication is reached, the full phonetic record for two-thirds of the items in *The Pronunciation of English in the Atlantic States* and additional details, minor variants, and pronunciation for three-fourths of the items in *A Word Geography of the Eastern United States* will be available to scholars. Moreover, since the field work for upstate New York, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida was not complete when the *Word Geography* went to press, there will be a significant amount of entirely new material to add to the analysis of the regional vocabulary.

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO LANCS TOO

In the same breath, NEH announced an outright grant of \$92,557 for the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States, directed by Raven I. McDavid, Jr. at the University of Chicago, and promised LANCS an additional \$27,750 if matching gifts can be found. The possible total grant would thus be \$120,307.

LANCS has announced that it will welcome contributions to be applied to the gifts-plus-matching grant. Checks payable to "University of Chicago," with the annotation "for the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States," may be sent to McDavid at the Department of English, 2050 East 59th St., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill. 60637. Such contributions are considered contributions to the National Endowment for the Humanities and are tax-deductible.

The LANCS grant covers the period April 1, 1977 through March 31, 1979.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON METHODS

November 7 is the deadline for submissions of prospectuses for papers to be given at the Third International Conference on Methods in Dialectology at the University of Western Ontario, August 1 to 9, 1978. These submissions should describe some development or innovation in the methodology of collecting, analyzing, or presenting dialect materials on one page 8½ by 11 inches (or nearest metric size) and should be sent to H.R. Wilson, Department of English, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 3K7. Prospectuses will be circulated to the international committee, who should have acceptances available by mid-January.

Members may receive the Second Bulletin on the Conference and all following detailed accounts of conference features either by contributing \$5.00 to the pre-conference administration fund or ordering *Papers from Methods II* at \$9.00 a copy.

HELP WANTED: EDITORIAL ASSOCIATES

The Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States, in conjunction with the University of South Carolina and the National Endowment for the Humanities, will have several full-time positions open during the next three years.

The positions are full-time, with appointments normally made for the calendar year. Salaries and fringe benefits will be determined on the basis of training and relevant experience. While special permission will be required to continue normal academic work, staff are encouraged to use the Linguistic Atlas collections in their research and publications.

Specific duties consist of proofreading list manuscripts in finely-graded phonetics, and drafting analytical summaries of lexical, phonological, and grammatical data. A general idea of the nature of the work can be had by studying the *Linguistic Atlas of New England* and the *Handbook of the Linguistic Geography of New England*.

Interested persons should send a letter of application, curriculum vita, and the names of references who can appraise their academic and work experience. Training in general linguistics, phonetics, dialect geography, historical linguistics, or related fields at or beyond the Master's level is highly desirable.

Reply to: Raymond K. O'Cain, Associate Editor, LAMSAS, Department of English, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208.

The University of South Carolina is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in employment. All appointments, transfers and/or promotions are made solely on the basis of qualifications and without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

PAPERS FROM METHODS II

Papers from Methods II is in the final editing process. The manuscripts are all at hand and in camera-ready form. Delay was caused by the editor's assumption of the ADS Executive Secretaryship just at the crucial point when the introduction and bibliography of Methods I papers were to have been prepared. These are now going forward and the volume should appear less than a year late. The patience of the authors and those who have ordered the volume is appreciated.

October 20: ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL MEETING

Las Vegas, Alladin Hotel, Sultan Room, 5:30-7 p.m.

Presiding: **Bates Hoffer**, Trinity University

Secretary: **John Sharp**, Univ. of Texas, El Paso

Regional Secretary: **Thomas L. Clark**, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas

Paper:

"Language Used in Roles of Young Female Characters, Old Timers, Mexicans, and Indians in Dime Novels of the Southwest." **James Evans**, Pan American Univ. (Dime novelists of the later 1800's often catered to an Eastern audience by writing sensational and improbable stories of adventure in the West. Frequently the author added to the adventure and melodrama by including young female characters who became involved in Indian raids, with Mexican outlaws, and so on. The language used for various Western types was absurd, but it catered to the stereotype expected by the Eastern audience.)

Panel topic:

"Is Dialectology a Part of Sociolinguistics?" Panelists **Thomas Clark**, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas; **Robert Hausmann**, Univ. of Montana; **Tracy Terrell**, Univ. of California, Irvine; **Gary Underwood**, Univ. of Texas, Austin. Commentators: **Mary Key**, Univ. of California, Irvine; **Don Nilson**, Arizona State Univ., and all present at the meeting. (In recent years much of the dialectologist's research area has been appropriated into the field of social linguistics. Is dialectology viable in the face of new trends? Is sociolinguistics another scholarly fad which will fade? What is the future of dialect study?)

October 27: MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

Chicago, Conrad Hilton Hotel, Bel Air Room, 1:30-5:45 p.m.

Chairman: **Richard Payne**, University of Chicago

Regional Secretary: **Donald M. Lance**, University of Missouri, Columbia

Session I, Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States, 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Papers:

"A Report on the Current Status of the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States." **Raven I. McDavid, Jr.**, Univ. of Chicago. (Third of the American regional atlases to be undertaken, and third in the number of informants interviewed, the Atlas of the North-Central States presents some familiar problems in the number of field workers, their disparate training, and the time elapsed between the launching of field work and its completion. It presents new ones in the fact that editorial work is of necessity being conducted at several institutions, and that publication will offer an even more drastic selection of material than that offered in Allen's *Linguistic Atlas of the Upper Midwest*, with neither complete lists or maps presenting the full phonetic data for particular items.

Solutions to these problems provide some innovations in the editing of linguistic at-

lases. The microfilming of all the records to provide multiple copies of the records means that individuals and institutions can acquire the basic evidence for whatever examination and analysis they wish. The fact that tapes of many complete interviews survive means that they can be retranscribed according to the conventions of the more experienced investigators and that in the process the interviewing techniques of the interviewers have come to light in a way never before accessible to editors or other scholars. The publication of the tapes themselves, along with original transcriptions and recent retranscriptions, gives interested scholars a chance to make their own transcriptions and comparisons.

With the completion of publication of the basic materials, including the tapes, conventional editing is proceeding rapidly. Availability of intelligent and energetic editorial assistants and a trained editorial compositor means that editorial work is proceeding rapidly and that some parts of the completed Atlas should be in the hands of the publisher by the middle of 1978.)

“Some Aspects of the Settlement History of the North-Central States.” **Timothy Frazer**, Western Illinois Univ. (This is a progress report on “The Settlement History of the North-Central States,” currently in preparation as part of the first volume of the *Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States*. The paper reviews some of the commonly held assumptions about the settlement of this region and the results so far of the SHANKS appendage to *LANCS*. Particular attention is given to the current state of “social history” or “quantitative history,” and to the historical implications for areal linguistics. Some attention is also given to work in other social sciences which bears upon the current research.)

“Patterns of Grammatical Variation in the North-Central States.” **Virginia McDavid**, Chicago State Univ. (Editing of the grammatical materials in the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States will be completed in 1978 and the materials ready for publication. In these more than 550 records are more than 150 grammatical items, many of them verb forms. Analysis of these materials reveals both regional and social differences. Such verb forms as the past tense and past participle of *come*, *do*, *drive*, *give*, *run*, *tear*, *throw*, and *write* reveal a clear social distribution. Other forms, for example *troths* ‘troughs’ and *to* as a preposition of location, are clearly Northern. *I want off* and *quarter till* appear in areas of Midland settlement.

In general the patterns of both regional and social distribution follow those found along the Eastern Seaboard. Forms characteristic of the least educated speakers in New York or Virginia continue to be found in the speech of the same group—where they survive at all. It continues to be the least sophisticated speakers who use such forms as *blowed*, *growed*, *throwed*, *drownded* and *them boys*.

As in vocabulary and pronunciation, regional differences in grammar are less sharp in the North-Central States than along the Atlantic Seaboard, as might be expected in an area of secondary and fairly recent settlement. Regional differences, however, do exist on every level. The regionally distinctive grammatical forms in these states reflect the usage of the Inland Northern and South Midland regions of the Atlantic Seaboard. The more spectacular relic forms are rare except in eastern Kentucky. Social differences that do occur are not accurately represented in judgments about usage in teaching materials.

Questions and discussion.

Session II, Language Variation in Specific Locations, 3-4 p.m.
Papers:

“The Vocabulary of Metropolitan Chicago.” **Carol Belshaw**, Thornton Community

Coll. (To date, only two studies of Chicago speech have been completed: Lee Pederson's dissertation on the pronunciation of Metropolitan Chicago [1962] and Robin Herndobler's dissertation on several aspects of the speech of Chicago's Eastsiders [1977]. Until my research, no one had conducted a systematic investigation of the vocabulary of Metropolitan Chicago.

My paper will present research findings on selected lexical items found in the speech of 41 primary informants and some 150 secondary informants—all native-born residents of Metropolitan Chicago. The vocabulary items for the primary informants have been culled from field records by Pederson and Herndobler, both of whom used modified Atlas worksheets, while the items for the secondary informants have been taken from checklist interviews conducted by Raven I. McDavid, Jr., Roger Shuy, and others. A number of generalizations about Chicago vocabulary can be made. For example, some items are beginning to fade from Chicago speech, occurring primarily in the speech of older informants—*parlor*, *bureau*, *davenport*; some items have "regional" distribution even within Chicago—*gangway*, *prairie*; some items have a gender distribution—*yoo hoo* [call to summon friend, call to attract attention, call to hail taxi—by women].

My paper will indicate the distribution of selected items, describe their variants, and account for their occurrence and distribution, in the context of our knowledge of regional dialects. As Metropolitan Chicago appears within the Northern dialect boundary, its vocabulary is indeed largely Northern. But as one would expect of a large and important urban center, especially one that is a true crossroads of the nation, its residents speak anything but a uniform dialect.)

"A Survey of Dialect Items in McLean County, Illinois: IV." Garrett Scott, Bloomington, Ill., Public Schools. (This study is the fourth in a continuing series of brief dialect surveys designed to describe the dialectal preferences of McLean County in north central Illinois. The North-Midland characterization of the county is generally confirmed here.

Of the ten items surveyed here, five confirm a Midland identification. Two items hint at Northern terms impinging on this Midland area. One term seems, inexplicably, Southern. One pair of terms, *scoop-shovel*, was studied for the interest of it. One other item showed no preference for any specific dialectally interesting term.)

Questions and discussion.

BUSINESS MEETING.

Session III, Sociolinguistic Factors in Regional Speech, 4:20-5:40 p.m.

Papers:

"How Nonstandard is 'Appalachian English'?" Linda Blanton, Central YMCA Community College, Chicago. (Most of the early Appalachian studies, at the beginning of the century, focused on the so-called folk speech of the mountaineers. The emphasis was on the "quaint" and the "archaic." Gradually our linguistic tools and knowledge of Appalachian English have become much more refined, beginning with the Linguistic Atlas project in the early 20's and its rejection of the simplistic categorizations of some of the earlier studies. With the development of a variational model of analysis by Labov [1966] and its subsequent refinement by others, there have been renewed attempts to wrestle with the complexities of speech in the Appalachian region: Hackenberg [1972], Blanton [1974], and Wolfram and Christian [1975].

The full or partial orientation of all these recent regional studies has been to describe and account for that which is in contrast to Standard English. In spite of our rejection of the stereotyping implicit in the early Appalachian studies, our focus on the non-standard forms existent in our data may lead those who make use of our analyses to

formulate the wrong conclusions. Therefore, it is important to always present the frequency of occurrence of nonstandard forms alongside the frequency of occurrence of standard forms and to work with data from a cross-section of the language community.

A look at frequencies based on data from research conducted in Breathitt County, Kentucky shows that, at least for the grammatical categories analyzed, Appalachian speech is far less nonstandard than it is generally thought to be.)

"Concurrent Shifting of /ay/ and /ey/ in the Speech of Four Generations of an Ozark Family." **Carol C. Mock**, Southwest Missouri State Univ. (In the transmission of a language from one generation to the next, the specific role of the family is not entirely clear. There is some evidence that in cities parents have less influence on the nature of a child's vernacular than playmates do; if the same were true in rural areas, the nuclear family might be the major source of language change and stability, because one's playmates would be siblings most of the time. If the people a child interacts with most often are the ones who determine his language socialization, sources of linguistic changes in rural families might be identifiable as particular persons in the family. However, if the brute amount of interaction is not significant, a careful study of a rural family over several generations should reveal linguistic variation not relatable to the family's members, but to other factors which could then be verified by studies in the broader speech community. A study of phonological variables over four generations of a family in rural Christian County, Missouri, has indicated that the family may not be the major influence on the phonetic character of speech even in rural settings. There are discontinuities from one generation to the next as well as progressive changes: /ey/ is becoming progressively more centralized and lax in each generation, but the phonetic realization of /ay/ seems to be emerging as a marker of sexual identity.)

"Southern Louisiana English and the Substratum Theory." **Eugene Grace**, North-eastern Illinois Univ. (The substratum theory is a claim that the phonological and syntactic distortions of a language acquired by a large group of native speakers of another language can persist into the speech of subsequent generations even after the new language has become the sole language of that group. This paper reports the conclusions of a test of the substratum theory based on observations of Southern Louisiana phonology rather than its syntax, morphology, or vocabulary, because (1) there appear to be no outstanding differences in syntax and morphology, or vocabulary, between Southern Louisiana and other parts of the Deep South, and (2) even opponents of the substratum theory agree that vocabulary easily passes from one language to another.

The only gross interference from French found in Southern Louisiana English is the possibility that Southern Louisiana English may have incorporated nasalized vowels into its phonological system during its formative stage. The nasalized vowels are gone today except in French loan words, but the vowel qualities in many words containing nasals suggest that the vowels once were nasalized. But the interference probably goes far beyond this. Southern Louisiana English is basically a Deep Southern dialect phonologically, but it agrees in many low-level phonetic details with various Northern dialects rather than with the dialects of the Deep South. In nearly all of these details the low-level phonetics of the Northern dialects is closer than that of the Deep South to the low-level phonetics of French. The investigation suggests that substratum phenomena do persist from generation to generation, but not usually as gross interference phenomena. Instead, the younger speakers of the new language tend to select those alternative allowable pronunciations most compatible with the old language. They follow the path of least resistance, but they adopt pronunciations which are acceptable in at least some dialect of the new language.)

Questions and discussion.

Dinner, Private Dining Room 1, 6:30 p.m.

Florida Citrus Sections and Pineapple Chunks in Supreme (au kirsch)

London Broil (Saude Madeira)

Whole Blue Lake Green Beans Amondine

Tiny Rissole Potatoes

Tossed Green Salad (Marco Polo Dressing)

Strawberry Ice Cream Cake with brandy sauce

Hard Rolls and Butter

Coffee — Tea — Milk

Clement Colombe Vin Rose (3 bottles for each [round] table of 10 diners)

Informal, convivial; spouses welcome. Price \$13.75. Prior reservations are absolutely necessary (preferably with prepayment); write to Donald M. Lance, Regional Secretary, English Dept., 231 Arts and Science, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. 65201.

October 28: SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MEETING

Hot Springs, Ark., Arlington Hotel, 9-10:30 p.m.

Chairman: **Fred Tarpley**, East Texas State University

Regional Secretary: **Curt Rulon**, North Texas State University

Papers:

"A 1977 Update on the Arkansas Language Survey." **Gary N. Underwood**, Univ. of Texas, Austin. (Until rather recently the regional and social aspects of the language of the state of Arkansas have received short shift. This gap in our knowledge is systematically being filled by research which bears the earmark not only of the best traditionally oriented methodology but also of more modern approaches which supplement it and refine both the theory and methodology involved in the scholarly description of language variation.)

"Arthur Kober's 'Bronx Pastoral' and the New York Jewish Dialect." **Peter L. De-Rose**, Lamar Univ. (This paper examines and comments upon Arthur Kober's literary use of a commonplace social situation and his "careful attention to phonological, morphological, lexical, and syntactic detail" through which he "has captured as accurately as possible the distinctive dialect of the New York Jew.")

"Language Variation in Appalachia." **Robert Hackenberg**, East Texas State Univ. (A corpus collected from tape recorded interviews with 75 informants who represented a cross-section of the social class structure of Nicholas County, W. Va., was analyzed for a correlation between social class level and the frequency of occurrence of certain nonstandard grammatical features. The two features which correlated well were those of nonstandard subject-verb agreement and nonstandard relative pronoun deletion. Other incidental features will also be discussed.)

Business Session. Election of officers.

Papers:

"Academic Letters of Reference: Masculine Intelligence vs. Feminine Personality." **Charlotte Ingman**, Trinity Univ. (This paper examines academic letters of reference to determine the ways in which those written for women differ from those for men. The source materials are approximately 80 references written for 16 (8 men/8 women) Ph.D.'s or doctoral candidates seeking college teaching positions. The content of the reference is analyzed using Grice's conversational rules, modified to fit the highly formalized style/context of academic references. The references are examined in terms of

the ways in which the rules appropriate to this form of communication are broken, and, specifically, how the ways in which these rules are broken differ with the sex of the subject and writer.)

"Doublespeak: Dialectology in the Service of ESL and ESD Students." Diana Mae Sims, North Texas State Univ. (Students of English as a second language [ESL] and English as a second dialect [ESD] need to know the facts about dialect variation so that they can cope with problems it may cause. Difficulties can ensue simply from the dialect of the teacher, who is always modeling. An ESL or ESD teacher who is knowledgeable about dialectology will monitor his modeling effect on student performance and will strive to teach a mastery of standard American English and a recognition of other varieties. Moreover, this paper suggests that a teacher can motivate students to master ESL or ESD without personal abuse through clarifications of popular misconceptions about dialects, linguistic definition and argument for standard English, and applications of dialect study out of class.)

November 5: SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING

Washington, D.C., Sheraton-Park Hotel, Assembly Room, 9:30 a.m.

Chairman: Raymond K. O'Cain, University of South Carolina

Regional Secretary: David L. Shores, Old Dominion University

Papers:

"Subject Relative Pronoun Deletion: A Discourse Function." Michael Montgomery, Univ. of Florida. (Subject Relative Pronoun Deletion [SRPD], as in sentence 1, is acknowledged to be an optional rule which distinguishes Appalachian English from some other dialects of American English [Hackenberg 1972, Wolfram and Christian 1976].

1. I have a brother goes to Harvard.

But little analysis of its governing factors has been made.

Hackenberg claims social gradation for it, but suggests that its only syntactic "constraint" is that it is more common in clauses beginning with existential *there*. A closer look at the Hackenberg corpus, however, reveals a much larger generalization: SRPD occurs in relative clauses following a sentence's verb at least 95 per cent of the time. Very rarely does SRPD occur after sentence subjects. Thus SRPD can better be accounted for as a discourse operation, occurring after the subject and verb of a sentence have been established.

About those sentences where SRPD follows the subject, two observations can be made: 1. If the subject is [+definite], the relative clause represents a presupposition which will be clear from the discourse context. 2. If the subject is [-definite], the relative clause will be given an intonation pattern distinguishing it from the rest of the sentence. Speakers in Appalachia thus never mistake a relative clause even if its subject pronoun is deleted.)

"Popular Uses of Quotation Marks." Michael Witkoski, Univ. of South Carolina. ("Standard punctuation" as taught in schools, especially primary and secondary, changes considerably when used outside such a structured context. By studying the use of punctuation we can uncover general feelings about language. In general use, especially in advertisements, quotation marks are used for three purposes: 1. emphasis of words or short phrases; 2. indication of names—nicknames or trademarks; 3. to mark what the writer feels is a sentence. The first two uses adhere to standard practice, although unintentional humor may result from a word being emphasized innocently but ironically. The third usage seems to indicate that many writers confuse quotations and sentences, and apparently include as sentences clauses and phrases. These particular us-

es of quotation marks are unaffected by geographical differences. A tentative conclusion suggested by the evidence is that many people feel that sentences are a particular form of linguistic phenomena which need to be set off in a special manner.)

"Historical Attitudes Toward 'Dialect.'" Shirley Brice Heath, Winthrop Coll. and Univ. of Pennsylvania. (Analysis of data from American periodicals, conversation manuals, and general readers' books on language during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries shows that definitions of *dialect* and linguistic data presented as dialect samples changed diachronically. A distinct pattern of attitude change is evidenced by the terms with which *dialect* collocates in these publications on language prepared for the general American reading public. An examination of how attention to dialects in these writings has shifted over time shows changes in the ways varieties of English were considered in relation to a standard norm. This paper suggests methods of historical sociolinguistics for re-examining data on American dialects.)

"From List Manuscript to Isogloss." Raven I. McDavid, Jr., Univ. of Chicago. (One of the most important editorial tasks of a linguistic atlas project is the transferring of the data from the field-record responses to charts, using numbered base maps. The accuracy of all editorial statements depends on the care with which this charting is done. Where the full phonetic data is not presented in list-manuscript form, as in the Linguistic Atlas of the North-Central States, the charts are even more important than in the New England *Atlas*, where a reader dissatisfied with the editorial interpretation can make an independent interpretation from that data. This paper discusses the charting procedure developed for LANCS, beginning with the cartographer's needed awareness of the uses to which his work will be put, continuing with his consultation of other studies of particular items to guide his decision on what and how to chart, and concluding with considerations governing the choice and placement of symbols and lines on the map itself.)

"He Broke It: Football Talk." Charles Ruhl, Old Dominion Univ. (Football announcers have developed a phrase to describe a long run by a running back: *he broke it*. The sentence, at first glance, seems to be an idiom; neither the verb *break* nor the preposition *it* seems to be motivated. I will show that this first impression is wrong.

The object of *break* can be "the thing broken"; this is the AFFECTED OBJECT. It can be such an object, as sentences with noun phrases show: *Capilleti almost broke the play* (Al DeRogatis); *He broke the kickoff today* (Curt Gowdy). One can also be the object: *Franco broke one for a touchdown* (Joe Paterno); *Newhouse could have broken that one for a first down* (Gary Bender). Alternatively, in a causative construction, the runner can be the object: *A block by Stu Voigt is what broke Chuck Foreman* (Pat Summerall); a passive of this construction is possible: *He thought he was broken* (announcer on NBC Sports).

The direct object can also be an EFFECTED OBJECT: *He has far more opportunity to break long-gainers* (Jim Caffrey); *He won't break a touchdown [running] outside* (Curt Gowdy). Additional modifiers are also possible: *off* in *Jeff Kinney breaks it off* (Frank Gifford); *away* in *This [play] just about breaks away* (Al DeRogatis); *open* in *He almost breaks another one open* (Frank Gifford). Still another possibility is *Foreman breaks a couple [tackles]* (Pat Summerall); this may have been the original pattern from which the others developed. All these possibilities occur with *break* in many other contexts. A full display of the possible data will make it obvious why the verb is *break*.)

"The Big Bust Revise: The Language of Burlesque." Charles M. Latta, Eastern Kentucky Univ. (In its heyday professional burlesque entertainers had an extensive and

remarkably stable professional argot, very little of which was spoken outside the subculture. In contradistinction to the various groups within the infrastructure of burlesque, the real professional had an excellent, fluent command of spoken (and often written) English; some of them were adept at assuming dialects or brogues when necessary; generally all of them were first-rate actors, such as W.C. Fields, Sophie Tucker, Jackie Gleason, Red Skelton, Ed Wynn, and Weber and Fields. The argot is of considerable interest linguistically, for it is a prime example of linguistic diffusion and the ultimate demise of a legitimate subculture.

There are wide linguistic differences between *burlesque* and *strip tease* argots, though they overlap in many places and it is sometimes difficult to draw a line which separates them. Some idea of the relationship between the two types of argot may be had from an examination of selected vocabulary items.

Nominating Committee: John Algeo, Univ. of Georgia; Charles W. Foster, Univ. of North Alabama; Jeutonne Brewer, Chairman, Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro.

November 25: NCTE CONCURRENT MEETING

New York City, City Squire Hotel, State Suite, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Chair: H. Rex Wilson, Univ. of Western Ontario

Papers:

"Was There a Privative *be* in English?" George Javor, Northern Michigan Univ.

"Ives and Faulkner: The Use of Dialect in Literature." John W. Murphree, Jr., South Georgia College.

"Making Little Words out of Big Ones." Charles Kreidler, Georgetown Univ.

December 28-30: ANNUAL MEETING

in association with the Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association

Chicago, Palmer House

President: William R. Van Riper, Louisiana State Univ.

[Executive Council meeting, 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, Parlor D]

Session I, 2:45-4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, Room 752

Papers:

"The Changing Language of American Catholicism." H. R. Stern, Univ. of South Carolina, Ashville.

"Criticisms of the Eighteenth Century." Allen Walker Read, Columbia Univ.

"Beyond Linguistics: Some New Outlets for Research in Dialectology." Timothy Frazer, Western Illinois Univ.

Session II, 8:30-9:45 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, Room 736

Papers:

"Linguistic Relativism: Divorce of Work from Word." James Sledd, Univ. of Texas, Austin.

"Aspects of Regional and Sociolinguistic Variation in the Vocabulary of the North Central States." Richard C. Payne, Univ. of Chicago.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Session III, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, Room 736**Papers:**

"Determining Dialect Distance: Some Preliminary Evidence from Verbal Inflection." **Curt M. Rulon**, North Texas State Univ.

"English Monolingualism in San Antonio." **Scott Baird**, Trinity Univ.

"Double Subjects in Conversational English." **Carol Fitzgerald**, Univ. of South Carolina.

AT MLA: LANGUAGE CHANGE

The Language Change Division of the Modern Language Association will present two programs on "Language Change and Typology" at the MLA annual meeting, 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, in room PDR 3 of the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago. The principal speaker will be Winfred Lehmann on "Typology and the Study of Language Change." Seven other papers will be presented, some of which will be available for distribution in advance. For copies write: John Algeo, Dept. of English, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, Ga. 30602.

JOURNAL ISSUES SPECIAL ON NAMES

The Mississippi Folklore Register has made Vol. 11, No. 2 a special issue on place names, edited by Philip C. Kolin. Articles include: **Philip C. Kolin**, "Place-Names, Naming, and Folklore"; **Raven I. McDavid, Jr.** and **Raymond K. O'Cain**, "*Louisiana and New Orleans*: Notes on the Pronunciation of Proper Names"; **Virginia G. McDavid**, "Notes on the Pronunciation of *Chicago* and *Illinois*"; **Thomas J. Richardson**, "Current Place-Names of Jasper County, Mississippi"; **Kelsie B. Harder**, "The Names of TVA Dams"; **Bonnie C. Brinegar**, "Choctaw Place-Names in Mississippi"; **John Algeo**, "Hostelry Names: The Generics"; **Philip C. Kolin**, "State Names Used for City and County Names."

Copies are available at \$3 from *The Mississippi Folklore Register*, Southern Station Box 418, Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401.

LIFE AND CULTURE

Two papers on linguistic geography were scheduled for ADS member Timothy Frazer's Conference on the Life and Culture of the Upper Mississippi Valley at Western Illinois University Sept. 30-Oct. 1. Richard Payne of the University of Chicago was to speak on "A Word Geography of the North Central States" at 5 p.m. Sept. 30, and Harold B. Allen of the University of Minnesota was to speak on "Linguistic Geography in the Upper Midwest" at 10 a.m. Oct. 1. The seven other papers dealt with topics such as regional poetry and social history.

NATIONAL HUMANITIES CENTER SEEKS FELLOWS

Feb. 1 is the newly revised deadline to apply for a position as one of the first 25 Fellows in the National Humanities Center which opened in September in the Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill area of North Carolina. Fellowships will be open to "humanistically inclined" scholars in the natural and social sciences and the professions as well as to scholars in fields ordinarily identified with the humanities.

For further information write William J. Bennett, Executive Officer, National Humanities Center, P.O. Box 12256, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709. The Center asks that it be explicitly mentioned that it "admits Fellows of any race, color, or national or ethnic origin."

DARE APPEALS FOR HELP

DARE is now in process of editing the letters A through G, with A virtually done. But we need help with a number of problems from ADS members or any other qualified people—problems of meaning, source, range, further evidence. Here is your chance to contribute to the ADS's official dictionary.

Address replies to Prof. F. G. Cassidy
Dictionary of American Regional English
6125 Helen White Hall
Madison, Wis. 53706

All contributions used will be acknowledged in *DARE*.

Act like Sancho/Sanko. What is the origin of this name as used in the phrase *act like Sancho* (misbehave), or *run like Sancho* (fast)? We have several examples, the earliest in *Little Women*, the latest in the 1930's, in the *Linguistic Atlas of New England* (pronounced with a *k*). One author says firmly it's *not* for Sancho Panza. In the phrases it looks like a euphemism for *Satan*. Found in New England and the South. *Sanko* was a common name among slaves. One of Lorenzo Turner's Gullah informants, recorded on a disk, was *Sanko*. Was there perhaps an unruly runaway slave depicted in some story or play? We have not been able to establish any firm connection with *Cinque* of the Amistad case. The idea of blackness, literal or metaphorical, seems to be an important thread.

Battle-hammed. We have only two quotes, one from 1727, the *New England Weekly Journal*, describing "A young Negro Man-Servant, about 20 Years of Age, a stout Fellow . . . has thick lips, battle-ham'd, and goes somewhat waddling;" the other from 1942 Hurston *Dust Tracks on the Road*, "It is an everyday affair to hear somebody called a . . . butt-sprung, battle-hammed, knock-kneed, razor-legged . . . so-and-so!" Other examples of this obviously unfavorable epithet? What exactly does it mean? Etymology?

Dead Cat on the Line. In answer to Question V1, *When you suspect that somebody is trying to deceive you, or that something is going on behind your back, you say, 'There's —.'* We picked up 20 examples, 12 from Black informants. Distribution: AB, FL, GA, KY, MP (2), MR, NC (2), SC (6), TX (2), VA, WV (2). We also have *dead cat up the branch* from GA and SC. What is its origin? Is it a dead cat(fish) on the (fishing) line—providing stench and no mystery? A cat electrocuted by an electric transformer—providing stench and mystery? Something else?

Dearborn Wagon. There's a great deal of material on this useful nineteenth century vehicle. But we have no definite proof of the origin of the name. It is alleged to be named for (1) its inventor, not identified; (2) its manufacturer, not identified; (3) Gen. Henry Dearborn, who is said to have first "taken to the field" in one (Fort Dearborn was named for him); (4) his son, Henry A.S. of Boston; and (5) its place of manufacture, Dearborn, Mich. (settled too late for this). Two PA informants gave it as an example of a horse-drawn vehicle to carry heavy loads (Question N41b), one adding "called a Dearborn no matter if it was one of their wagons or not" and the other, "a term which was adopted for all kinds of wagons whether made there or not"; two residents of Delaware gave it as answer to N41e, a horse-drawn vehicle to carry light loads. But the origin of the name is what we most want to establish.

Diamond. We have an 1888 quot which says that an open space (like a square) in the center of "interior" towns in PA was frequently called a diamond. We also have *Coon Diamond* given in Lewistown, PA as response to Question II25, which asks for names or nicknames for parts of a town where poorer people, special groups, or foreign people live.

Is this perhaps an old area taken over by Blacks? Other evidence on *diamond* in this sense?

Dickens/Devil and Tom Walker. "What in the devil and Tom Walker are you talking about?" "He worked like the dickens and Tom Walker." *And Tom Walker* is apparently merely an intensifier. Our quotes range from the early 1900's to the present; all are eastern, mostly southeastern. There seems to be no connection with *tom-walkers* meaning stilts. But who was *Tom Walker*?

Faludgin. We have only one example of this, from *Dialect Notes* 5-33, Kentucky, 1918, "Aunt Sallie shouted all over the church, an' got faludgin." No gloss is given. No doubt there's a connection with *falutin'*. But we need more evidence. Is the word still current? Does it describe a specific type of religious excitement or activity? Other examples in print or recollection would be welcome.

Gabriel Ratchet. So *OED* has it, with dialect forms *gabble ratchet* and *gabble racket*; it turns up in folklore in Virginia (1899) and South Carolina (1950) referring to the noise made by wild geese flying unseen overhead, which sounds like a pack of hunting dogs. Hence also *Gabriel's Hounds*, a novel by Mary Stewart (1967). The portent is evil. Is there evidence for this from other states? Other forms of the term?

Gall Shirt. Our evidence so far shows this to be chiefly Southern (VA, TN, SC, FL), chiefly Black, old-fashioned: a shirt-length undergarment worn by women, similar in material and design to a man's undershirt. For the same kind of garment, also worn by women, we have *gauze shirt* or *gauze vest*, also chiefly from old informants, chiefly east coast, but also Ohio, Michigan. From similarity of the garments and their use, the terms would seem to be related. What source for *gall*, what meaning? Further evidence, especially in print, since our present examples are all oral.

Postscript: "If we get a good response from this we can easily increase it at this end (DARE)," Cassidy writes. "We have a practically unlimited number of questions."

ALOHA HAWAII

Hardly any ADS members proposed papers for the ADS summer meeting planned for the University of Hawaii at Manoa in association with the recent LSA Linguistic Institute and summer meeting, so meeting chairman Stanley M. Tsuzaki canceled it, with Executive Secretary Rex Wilson's approval. Hawaii may have been too distant for most ADS members; the summer 1978 meeting will be more centrally located.

MILWAUKEE LINGUISTICS SYMPOSIUM

November 11 is the deadline to submit abstracts of papers on *theoretical or educational implications of urban dialects* for the Seventh Annual University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Linguistics Symposium March 17-18. Robbins Burling of the Univ. of Michigan is the invited speaker. Five copies of a one-page abstract should be sent to: Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Fred Eckman, College of Letters and Science, Dept. of Linguistics, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201. Enclose a 3 x 5 card with author's name, paper title, institutional affiliation and mailing address; author's name should not appear on the abstracts.

*Newsletter of the
American Dialect Society*

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

FIRST CLASS

To: