

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

# NADS 17.1

**FIRST CLASS**

From: **American Dialect Society**  
Allan Metcalf, Executive Secretary  
English Department  
MacMurray College  
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650-2590

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Vol. 17, No. 1

January 1985

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*NADS is sent in January, May and September to all ADS members and subscribers. Send ADS dues (\$20 per year), queries and news to the editor and executive secretary, Allan Metcalf, English Department, MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650-2590.*

## MEMBERS INVITED TO ANSWER SURREPTITIOUS INQUIRY

At the Fifth International Conference on Methods in Dialectology last summer, there was vigorous discussion of the acceptability of surreptitious recording as a method of collecting material, stimulated by Thomas Murray's paper. This led to a proposal to inquire about the views of all members of the ADS, and the policies of their institutions— a proposal which itself was so controversial that there was one negative vote, and one abstention, when the Executive Council approved it last month. But the topic was approved, and you are invited to join in the discussion.

The results of the following survey will be reported and discussed at the Annual Meeting in Chicago this December. Papers on this topic may also be proposed, and will be considered along with other program proposals. (See next page for the Call for Papers.)

1. Does the Human Subjects policy at your institution address tape-recording of respondents, as in dialect research?
2. If so, does it also address the matter of surreptitious recording with hidden microphones?
3. What is your own view of the acceptability of surreptitious recording? (Please circle a number on the scale below.)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Never Acceptable			Undecided				Acceptable			

4. Do you have any comments on the acceptability of surreptitious recording?
5. Please send us a copy of the relevant sections(s) of your institution's Human Subjects policy.
6. Please send your reply by *May 15, 1985* to:

Donald W. Larmouth  
 Communication Processes  
 University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
 Green Bay, WI 54301

(You may copy this form, tear it out, or answer the questions in a separate letter.)

# ADS ANNUAL MEETING 1985

December 27-30

*Chicago (and Seattle)*

*Options:* Having succeeded beyond our best hopes with 1984's hospitable sessions at the Library of Congress, the Program Committee once again will offer three options, centering on:

☞ A full day at the *Newberry Library*, Fellows' Lounge, Monday, December 30 — including the Executive Council meeting, the Annual Business Meeting, the now traditional Annual Luncheon, and most likely a special session on surreptitious recording — as well as papers by members. In addition, there will be:

☞ Papers at the *Modern Language Association* meeting, Chicago Marriott Hotel and Hyatt Regency Chicago. (Speakers must be MLA members by *April 1* and must pay MLA registration fees. Those who attend MLA sessions need not be MLA members, but must pay registration fees.)

☞ For those attending the *Linguistic Society of America* meeting in Seattle, ADS will once again sponsor a session there. (Speakers and those who attend need not be LSA members, but must pay meeting registration fees. If they are LSA or ADS members, this will be at the lower "members' rate.")

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS DEADLINE: MARCH 18

Abstracts of 20-minute papers for the *Chicago* sessions at the *Newberry Library* or *MLA* should be sent to Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf by that date. Program committee: Richard W. Bailey, chair; Thomas Clark, A. Murray Kinloch, Metcalf. You are encouraged to write even if you do not have a topic fully developed.

Please specify your preference of *Newberry Library* or *MLA*; if you have no strong preference, let the committee assign a place. Also indicate any needed audio-visual equipment.

Abstracts of 20-minute papers for the *Seattle* sessions with *LSA* should be sent to the meeting chair, Dennis R. Preston, 2184 Georgetown, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Again, please indicate if you need audio-visual equipment.

## HOTEL ALTERNATIVES

Some members have asked if ADS could make arrangements for housing independent of *MLA*. If there is sufficient interest, we will look for a reasonably priced, comfortable and convenient alternative. Please notify the Executive Secretary by *March 18* if you have such an interest.

## CALLS FOR PAPERS: 1985 REGIONAL MEETINGS

**Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting** in association with RMMLA, 10:15-11:45 a.m. Friday, Oct. 18; Provo, Utah, Excelsior Hotel. *March 15* is the deadline for abstracts not exceeding 100 words to the meeting chair, Fred Tarpley, Dept. of Literature and Languages, East Texas State Univ., Commerce, TX 75428. All aspects of dialect study are welcome. Membership in RMMLA (\$12) is required. The meeting will continue the new tradition of an RMMLA-ADS luncheon, this time to be arranged by Darwin Hayes of Brigham Young University.

BYU will provide transportation from the Salt Lake City airport for only \$5. Hotel double rooms are \$40. (Regional secretary 1985-86: Grant W. Smith, English Dept., Eastern Washington Univ., Cheney, Wash. 99004.)

**South Atlantic Regional Meeting** in association with SAMLA, Oct. 31-Nov. 2; Atlanta, Hyatt Regency. *May 1* is the deadline for abstracts to the meeting chair, George Dorrill, English Dept., Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC 29733. (Regional secretary 1985-86: Jeutonne P. Brewer, College of Arts and Sciences, 105 Foust Bldg., Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC 27412.)

**Midwest Regional Meeting** in association with MMLA, 1:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7; St. Louis, Marriott's Pavilion Hotel. *April 1* is the deadline for single-page (100-200 word) abstracts of 15-minute papers to the meeting chair, Rachel B. Faries, Alton High School, 2200 College Ave., Alton, IL 62002. "We are looking for papers on regional or social dialects of American English: Midwestern topics are perhaps best suited for this meeting, but we will consider topics on any aspect of language variation." Those chosen will be asked to have complete papers for MMLA distribution by Aug. 1.

The program will also include a special session, probably on dialectology's relationship to education, and it will be followed by the customary banquet.

**South Central Regional Meeting** in association with SCMLA, Nov. 7-9; Tulsa, Okla., Westin Hotel. *March 15* is the dead-

line for sending 100-word abstracts plus full text of papers to the meeting chair, Mackie Blanton, English Dept., Univ. of New Orleans-Lake Front, New Orleans, LA 70148, phone (504) 286-6273. Theme is "Theory and Dialect Study." Membership in SCMLA (\$8) is required. (Regional secretary 1984-1985: Scott Baird, English Dept., Trinity Univ., Box 105, 715 Stadium Dr., San Antonio, Tex. 78284.)

**NCTE Program Session**, Nov. 23 or 24, Philadelphia. *Early February* is the deadline for announcing plans; so far we have no program. If you would like to organize one, or present a paper, notify the ADS Executive Secretary right away.

**Northeast Region** has no immediate plans, but will host the 1986 Annual Meeting in New York. Regional secretary: David Barnhart, Lexik House, P.O. Box 247, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

### MLA ANNUAL MEETING 1985

*December 27-30, Chicago*

#### LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY DIVISION

"Oral Discourse" will be the topic for the 1985 sessions of the Language and Society Division at MLA. A division can schedule as many as three sessions, either with standard paper readings or as workshops with panels. Presentations may include conversational analysis, the processing of information in oral discourse, the language of "oral" cultural groups, or differences between written and oral discourse. Send abstracts by *March 15* to the Chair: Donald M. Lance, Dept. of English, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

#### PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH DISCUSSION GROUP

The PDE program usually complements ADS sessions. Send abstracts by *March 15* to the Chair: Fred Brengelman, Dept. of Linguistics, California State Univ., Fresno, CA 93710.

All MLA program participants must have paid 1985 MLA dues by April 1. For membership information write MLA, 62 Fifth Ave., New York 10021.

## COMMITTEES FOR 1985

Much of the work of the Society takes place in its committees. Additional hard-working members are generally welcome; if you are interested, write the appropriate chair or the Executive Secretary.

*Committee on New Words:* Chair, Mary Gray Porter, Box 4904, University, AL 35486. Vice chair, I. Willis Russell. Members: William W. Evans, Michael Montgomery, Thomas M. Paikeday, Richard E. Ray, Peter Tamony.

*Committee on Non-English Dialects:* Chair, Juergen Etchhoff, Dept. of German, Univ. of Wisconsin, 838 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706. Vice chair: Anthony B. House. Members: Scott Baird, C. Richard Beam, Robert H. Buchheit, Werner Enninger, Marion Lois Huffines, Alan S. Kaye, Nolan P. LeCompte, Dorothy M. Lee, Norman F. Roberts.

*Committee on Proverbs and Proverbial Sayings:* Chair, Kelsie B. Harder, English Dept., State Univ. College, Potsdam, NY 13676. (See report for list of members).

*Committee on Regionalisms and Linguistic Geography:* Chair, Edward Callary, English Dept., Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb, IL 60115. Vice chair: Bruce Southard. Members: Michael R. Dressman, Martha C. Howard, A. Murray Kinloch, Michael I. Miller, Terry K. Pratt, Laurence Seits.

*Committee on Usage:* Chair, Edward Finegan, Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089. Vice chair: Virginia G. McDavid. Members: John Algeo, Dennis Baron, Thomas Creswell, Boyd Davis, Andrew F. Downey Jr., William Evans, Kelsie Harder, Michael Linn, Charles F. Meyer, Michael Montgomery, Avis K. Payne, Richard K. Redfern, Ethel Grodzins Romm, Laurence E. Seits, Alan Slotkin.

*Committee on Teaching:* Chair, Donald M. Lance, Dept. of English, 231 Arts & Sciences Bldg., Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. Vice chair: Crawford Feagin. Members: Lynn Beene, Lawrence M. Davis, Arthur W. Glowka, Virginia G. McDavid, Rose Nash, John Tinkler.

## OFFICERS AND COUNCIL 1985

President 1985-86: *Thomas L. Clark*, English Dept., Univ. of Nevada, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154.

Vice President 1985-86: *Richard W. Bailey*, English Dept., Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Executive Secretary 1985-86 and Editor, *NADS:* *Allan Metcalf*, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Ill. 62650.

Past President 1985-86: *A. Murray Kinloch*, English Dept., Univ. of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3, Canada.

ACLS Delegate 1984-87: *John Algeo*, English Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602.

Executive Council Member 1982-85: *Lurline H. Coltharp*, 4263 Ridgecrest, El Paso, TX 79902.

Executive Council Member 1983-86: *Michael D. Linn*, English Dept., 420 Humanities Bldg., Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, Minn. 55812.

Executive Council Member 1984-87: *Thomas J. Creswell*, R.R. 2, Box 184, Michigan City, IN 46360.

Executive Council Member 1985-88: *Fred H. Brengelman*, Linguistics Dept., California State Univ., Fresno, CA 93740.

Editor, *American Speech* 1985-86: *Ronald R. Butters*, English Dept., Duke Univ., Durham, NC 27706.

Editor, *PADS* 1985-86: *Dennis E. Baron*, English Dept., Univ. of Illinois, 208 English Bldg., 608 S. Wright St., Urbana, IL 61801.

Nominating Committee 1985-86: Chair, *Marvin Carmony*, College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana State Univ., Terre Haute, IN 47809. Members: *Virginia G. McDavid*, *Patricia Nichols*.

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The Nominating Committee invites suggestions for help with its one task this year: finding a member of the Executive Council to serve 1986-1989. The last year of this term is the Society's centennial, so the Council will be increasingly active in these years, and the new member must be ready to serve (and to attend the December meetings). Send suggestions to the Nominating Committee chair, Marvin Carmony

## NEW YEAR'S CALL FOR PRESIDENTIAL HONORARY NOMINATIONS

The second group of students awarded Presidential Honorary Memberships all attended the 1984 annual luncheon at the Library of Congress and were recognized by President A.M. Kinloch:

—Carol M. Adams, formerly of Indiana State Univ., now at Emory, nominated by Edward Gates;

—Judith Dozier of the Univ. of South Carolina, nominated by Michael Montgomery;

—Keith Walters of the Univ. of Texas, Austin, nominated by John Baugh.

They join last year's first class of honorees

## TEACHING METHODS: INVITATION

The ADS Committee on Teaching is considering publication of a book on teaching about dialectal variation. As envisioned, the book would contain a general essay on teaching about dialect and a number of shorter pieces on proven methods of teaching about language variation. The volume is still very much in the planning stage; it could be published and distributed by either MLA or NCTE, not to mention ADS.

The Committee is now soliciting proposals for the shorter pieces in the volume. If ADS members have developed some effective short units on teaching about regional or social language variation, they should consider writing up a 5-8 page description and analysis for this volume. The Committee would particularly like articles on such class activities as student-administered questionnaires, field interviews by students, mapping exercises, student essays, and student panels. The units may be related to any regional or social dialects, usage, language change, language and power, language and gender, stylistic variation, etc.

Send two-page proposals to committee member Wayne Glowka, Dept. of English and Speech, Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA 31061. If you have suggestions or inquiries, please contact either Glowka or the chair of the committee, Donald M. Lance, English Dept., Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

(Nancy Dray, Thomas Martinet and Judy Shively) with four-year complimentary memberships, intended to encourage them to be active in our field and in the Society.

Now is the time to nominate members of the class of 1986. Simply send a letter explaining your candidate's virtues to the new president, Thomas L. Clark, English Dept., Univ. of Nevada, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154. Samples of the student's work and other supporting materials may be attached. Deadline for nominations is *Aug. 1*.

## ADS ARCHIVES AT WORK

The University of Massachusetts Archives now hold, along with the complete carbons of the *LANE* worksheets, all of the ADS materials received from Hood Roberts when he retired as Executive Secretary and materials from other officers and members. The library has a complete run of *DN*, *PADS*, and *American Speech*. Visiting firemen are welcome.

The bulky, massive heaps of paper that came first have all been dealt with by a professional archivist and are lying in wait for the historian, who is going to use the January midyear break to begin on them.

If any ADS members or friends have materials they think the archives should have, we'll be glad to receive them: Univ. of Mass. Archives, Tower Library, Univ. of Mass., Amherst 01003.

—Audrey M. Duckert  
*ADS Historian*

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*PADS* editor Dennis Baron is still looking for a few good manuscripts for our monograph series. Write him at English Dept., Univ. of Illinois, 208 English Bldg., 608 S. Wright St., Urbana IL 61801

*PADS* No. 72, Raoul Smith's *Jonathan Fisher. Early American Linguist*, is well into production and should be published in midyear. The content of No. 73 is yet to be determined.

**RAVEN IOOR McDAVID, JR. OCT. 16, 1911-OCT. 21, 1984**

In the midst of his vigorous scholarly life, Raven McDavid died suddenly of a heart attack Oct. 21. A memorial notice cannot do justice to his influence on dialect studies; he deserves a book, in the Mencken vein.

To many of us with letters of his still on our desks, reminding us of urgent tasks still to undertake, he lives on. And in other ways: His article leads off the latest number of *PADS*; he arranged for the presentation of the Hanley disks to the Library of Congress at last December's meeting.

Tributes to him may extend for a number of issues of this *Newsletter*. To begin with, from his successor as editor in chief of two Linguistic Atlas projects, William Kretzschmar:

"All students of American English will mourn the passing of Raven McDavid; to those of us who worked closely with him, the loss is personal and deeply felt, for Raven's generosity and humanity characterized every aspect of the tasks we shared with him.

"His commitment to data is well-known, but for those who did not have an opportunity to observe his thinking, the word 'data' may mask his central concern—that language is a human phenomenon, and that the study of a language is diminished if the humanity of its speakers is obscured

*American Speech* offers the following fare for Spring 1985: "Historical Notes on the Vocabulary of the Women's Movement" by Fred R. Shapiro; "The Language of Singles Bars" by Thomas E. Murray; "Hugo Schuchardt and the Atlantic Creoles: A Newly Discovered Manuscript 'On the Negro English of West Africa'" by Glenn G. Gilbert; "Among the New Words" by Mary Gray Porter and I. Willis Russell; four reviews, and Miscellany.

Summer 1985 will bring: "Ethnicity as a Sociolinguistic Boundary" by John R. Rickford; "The Words of Scrabble" by Thomas E. Murray; "The Chant of the Tobacco Auctioneer" by Koenraad Kulper and Frederick Tillis; "The Continuing Story of *-ola*" by A. Wayne Glowka; five reviews, and Miscellany.

by approaching it only through formulae. We might remember Raven's credo, in theory and practice, and his delight in his work, from the following extract from one of his letters:

"You recall that in 1963 my Mencken contains a reference to the Georgia informant who called a bull a *preacher cow* (I think HLM had previously commended me on that, as the grandest tribute to the clergy in nineteen centuries of Christianity). In checking the worksheets I found that one of the other Georgia informants had reported her grandfather's bull as being named *Henry Ward Beecher*.

"I didn't catch the implications, since this was before the *New Yorker* report on HWB's involvement in an adultery suit in Brooklyn, and I am sure the old lady didn't know more than I did. But I bet grandpappy did!"

The *Dictionary of American Regional English* once again has no inquiries for this issue, but editor F.G. Cassidy has plans for both inquiries and the publication of Vol. 1 this year.

The *September 1984 Directory* inadvertently omitted Emeritus Member Herbert Penzl, Dept. of German, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. So many new members subsequently joined that the directory is already obsolete. A new version will be published in the Sept. 1985 issue.

**MEETINGS IN FUTURE YEARS**

1986 ADS Summer Meeting, Aug. 27-30, Trinidad, with the Society for Caribbean Linguistics. ADS chair: Ronald Butters, Duke Univ.

1986 NCTE Meeting, Nov. 22-23, San Antonio. ADS chair: Lurline Coltharp, Univ. of Texas, El Paso.

1986 ADS Annual Meeting, Dec. 27-30, with MLA, New York City, Marriott Marquis and Sheraton Centre hotels. ADS program chair: Richard Bailey, Univ. of Michigan. LSA also meets in New York.

1987 NCTE Meeting, Nov. 21-22, Los Angeles.

## ACTS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNCIL

It was the most gracious hospitality the ADS has ever experienced at an annual meeting: a day at the top of the Madison Building of the Library of Congress Dec. 28, beginning with complimentary juice and coffee, ending with complimentary wine and cheese, including a luncheon instantly expanded from the planned 30 to the actual 50 guests, reports from committees and regions, papers on the usual wide variety of topics, and a happy ceremony of presentation of the Hanley disks to the Library.

To begin with, the Executive Council transacted its annual business. It included:

- Approval of a statement of the relationship between the ADS and the Linguistic Atlas projects for the North Central States and the Middle and South Atlantic States, and approval of the staffing of those projects, including William A. Kretzschmar Jr. as editor in chief, succeeding Raven I. McDavid Jr.

- Appointment of Lee Pederson as new trustee of the Hans Kurath Fund for the Linguistic Atlas. At year's end, that fund held \$9748 cash plus stocks worth \$86,791, an increase from the \$6241 cash and stocks worth \$77,569 a year earlier, despite expenses of \$1820. The fund received five gifts in memory of Raven McDavid.

- Authorization of a committee to plan the Society's centennial celebrations in 1989. President Clark will appoint the committee later this year; members are invited to tell him of their interest in serving.

- Approval of an ADS Distinguished Scholar Award, to be given occasionally rather than at fixed intervals, for lifetime achievement; on recommendation of the ad hoc committee on prizes and awards, chaired by Edward Callary. That committee, augmented, will consider possible candidates this year and make recommendations to the Council this December.

- The deaths of Raven I. McDavid, Jr. and William Card, both Life Members of the Society, were noted with regret.

- Other actions of the Council are reflected elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Membership in ADS continued to grow in 1984, with a record 92 new members, compared with 56 last year. At year's end there were 818 members in all, compared with 780, 740, and 709 in the three preceding years. As of Dec. 31, 307 individuals were paid through 1985 and 205 through 1984; 200 institutions were paid through 1985 and 96 through 1984. Omitting two institutional cancellations for 1985, and adding 10 emeritus members, the ADS had 522 individual members (including 21 students and 24 Life Members) and 296 institutional members. This compares with 475 individuals and 298 institutions at the end of 1983.

## BUDGET FOR 1985

### Income

Dues .....	\$15,500
Interest .....	3,500
Miscellaneous .....	500

### Expenses

	\$19,500
<i>American Speech</i> , Vol. 60 .....	\$6,600
PADS No. 72 .....	3,230
PADS No. 73 .....	3,000
<i>Newsletter</i> , Vol. 17 (incl. postage) ..	1,900

Total publications cost ... \$14,730

ACLS dues .....	\$400
ACLS travel .....	500
Other Executive Sec. travel .....	1,000
Advance planning, Annual Meetings ..	200
PADS editor travel to Ala. ....	300
National Humanities Alliance .....	200
Postage .....	500
Telephone .....	150
Office expenses .....	200
Miscellaneous printing .....	300
Miscellaneous .....	200

Total operating expenses .. \$3,950

Total expenses .....

\$18,680

*Note:* This does not include \$4,000 authorized as a one-time capital expense to buy a computer for the secretariat.

Pacific Coast Region still needs program ideas and participation. Write Regional Secretary Fred Brengelman, Linguistics Dept., California State Univ., Fresno, CA 93740.

**FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 1 — DECEMBER 31, 1984**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	1984	1983
Dues net . . . . .	\$15,151.75	\$16,035.64
Sales of back issues . . . . .	67.50	135.70
Gifts . . . . .	220.00	435.00
Royalties from University of Alabama Press . . . . .	521.08	397.02
Sale of mailing labels . . . . .	45.00	16.20
From Kurath Fund for expenses . . . . .	20.00	—
Interest . . . . .	4,417.23	3,717.98
	<u>\$20,442.56</u>	<u>\$20,737.54</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<i>American Speech</i> . . . . .	\$6,895.22	\$6,433.46
PADS Nos. 70, 71, 72 (partial) . . . . .	5,289.80	35.75
<i>Newsletter</i> (includes \$1044.60 postage) . . . . .	1,942.06	1,661.97
Total publications expense . . . . .	<u>\$14,127.08</u>	<u>8,131.18</u>
ACLS dues . . . . .	\$400.00	\$400.00
ACLS travel (New York \$195, San Francisco \$111.80) . . . . .	306.80	441.20
Other Executive Secretary travel (Chicago \$193.44, Victoria \$500, Bloomington IN \$22.77, Washington \$55.10)	771.31	831.82
Travel to NCTE for Usage Committee chair . . . . .	200.00	200.00
Travel for editorial conferences . . . . .	275.72	1,191.61
Annual Meeting expenses . . . . .	134.00	54.00
National Humanities Alliance contribution . . . . .	200.00	200.00
Assistance for Midwest Regional Meeting . . . . .	51.00	—
Postage (excluding NADS) . . . . .	357.89	425.39
Telephone . . . . .	168.68	148.63
Office expenses . . . . .	302.01	59.47
Miscellaneous printing (stationery, dues notices, etc.) . . . . .	203.80	438.83
Bank service charges, accounting fees . . . . .	93.77	33.47
Support for journal editors . . . . .	100.00	146.00
Support for Methods V . . . . .	500.00	—
Total operating expenses . . . . .	<u>\$4,064.98</u>	<u>\$4,570.42</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES . . . . .	<u>\$18,192.06</u>	<u>12,701.60</u>
Excess of receipts over expenses . . . . .	\$2,250.50	\$8,035.94
<b>BANK BALANCES DECEMBER 31</b>		
	1984	1983
Savings certificates . . . . .	\$33,500.00	\$33,500.00
Savings account . . . . .	12,614.57	10,344.72
Checking account . . . . .	64.86	84.21
Total on hand . . . . .	<u>\$46,179.43</u>	<u>\$43,928.93</u>

"She thinks she's Miss Got Rocks." ADS member Henry Niedzielski asks for information on the origin and meaning of this phrase; "a 75 year old man said that in 1974 in the Virginia mountains and he was understood!" Possible meanings: snob, snooty. Write him at Dept. of European Languages, Univ. of Hawaii, 1890 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822.

ADS Life Member Barbara Hunt Lazerson of Illinois State Univ. won the \$1000 first prize in Verbatim's second essay competition last November for her article, "Word Play the Media Way."

ADS Life Member Allen Walker Read was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from Indiana State Univ. last May.

## THE HANLEY DISKS: PRESENTATION TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

By F.G. Cassidy

With assistance from Margaret Waterman and Audrey Duckert

(Remarks at a special session of the ADS Annual Meeting, Madison Building, Library of Congress, Dec. 28, 1984.)

"The Hanley Disks" is a convenient abbreviation for a collection which, by its date and extent, deserves to have a fuller title, or at least to have the abbreviation explained more fully.

As we all know, the *Linguistic Atlas of New England*, published 1939-1943, was the first part of an extensive project known as the "Linguistic Atlas of the United States and Canada," intended to be prepared by natural geographic sections moving from the Atlantic area progressively westward. So far as I know, no overall decision as to the boundaries of these sections was made at the start; convenience, the possibilities for support, and the personal interests of scholars were practical first considerations. Henry Alexander's was the first fieldwork done in Canada; I have heard that Hans Kurath and John Kenyon in the United States saw good reasons in favor of beginning with Ohio. But the historical priority of New England, and the excellent study of its settlement made by Marcus Hansen, won it first place.

Miles L. Hanley of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, associate director under Hans Kurath, and an enthusiastic pioneer in applying mechanical aids to phonetic and acoustic studies, was aware (as was Kurath) of the unavoidable shortcomings of collecting by direct interview, due to the differences of ability among fieldworkers. (We may recall that for the *Atlas Linguistique de la France* the fieldwork was done by one man only: Edmond Edmont.) Certainly, one of Hanley's purposes in making phonographic recordings was to compensate for these personal variations among the nine *LANE* fieldworkers, to have a check on their handwritten records of heard speech. For *LANE* these differences proved to be considerable, to the point where Kurath, with charac-

teristic scientific scrupulosity, published (in the *Handbook of the Linguistic Geography of New England*, 52-53 and 125ff.) the ranking of the fieldworkers, including Hanley and himself, by their abilities and practices.

Having undertaken to make phonographic recordings, Hanley developed the necessary apparatus. Compared with present audio recorders, this equipment was barely portable, with an old stand-up microphone of very limited pickup range, a huge control box, and another box with a turntable and head to cut the aluminum disks, the whole clumsy hookup powered by a series of automobile batteries. Yet, for the time, it was technologically advanced and worked reasonably well.

Stowing this rig in the back of his car, Hanley drove to many places in southern New England from October 1933 through part of June 1934, cutting about 775 disks. If anyone ever suffered for science, Miles Hanley did, for on one occasion, when he was returning to Providence and driving fast as he usually did, a farmer in a truck drove out in front of him. He slammed on the brakes, and by inertia the collection of heavy batteries in the back slid forward and crushed him against the steering wheel, breaking his spine. That accident lost Miles about three inches in height and renewed his tendency to epilepsy, which eventually brought about his death.

He nevertheless had made a unique record of New England speech, and it is this collection of disks, with about 200 more made by Guy Lowman, Jr., the chief fieldworker, that we are presenting today.

In her thorough and careful account of the Hanley Tapes, compiled in 1974 while she was an associate editor for the *Dictionary of American Regional English*, Dr. Margaret Waterman has written:

"Of what use are the tapes? I suppose their greatest worth is that, ruling out the poor recordings from which very little emerges, there still remains a vast corpus of informal speech, that of a generation now

long dead. Like other antiques, these speech samples will increase in value with the passing years.

"Most of those interviewed were old, many in their eighties. We have then a record of the speech of people born in the 1850s, a few in the 1840s. One informant speaks of being engaged to a young man who went off to the Civil War and never returned. Another tells of hearing Henry Ward Beecher preach.

"For me the pleasure gained from the best of the disks has little to do with language. The voices and the sounds—some distracting—are capable of transporting a listener to another time and place; like old diaries, old letters, old pictures, they carry a person momentarily into a different world.

"I have found myself in an old farm kitchen where Professor Hanley's contraption has been set up, lugged in from the back of his car. Even the car would be a valuable antique now! . . . The equipment was semi-portable, so moving it in must have been a far cry from carrying in a modern tape recorder.

"Grandpa has drawn up alongside Professor Hanley for the ordeal, Grandma is stationed not far away—close enough for some backseat driving when the informant fumbles or forgets the name used 'around here' for apple pudding made with biscuit dough. Dogs bark and have to be let in or out; clocks strike. Sometimes a rooster (who perhaps ended in a fricassee forty years ago!) crows vigorously. A train whistles by on a nearby track.

"One feeble old man asks Professor Hanley to close the door behind him, please. 'I was threatened last winter, you know,' he explains. By pneumonia, I decide, not by an assassin stealing in when his back was to the door.

"And so it goes until I am harshly brought back to the 1970s by the disks noisily running out. 'Then all of a sudden my horse stumbled and—' The speaker apparently goes on with the rest of his story while the 'engineer' turns over the disk and starts the operation again, by which time the speaker has moved on to something else. There is no way of ever knowing what happened to the horse or of catching the word I am

listening for, which comes all too often just as the disk ends.

"Or the needle gets stuck in a groove, and the tape [made from the disks] screeches something like *ickera-ickera-ickera-ickera* until someone lifts the needle from the groove and the *ickera* turns out to be part of *an epidemic around here*.

"The informants are living in the depth of the Depression. World War II is still to come. Roosevelt and the New Deal are current topics of conversation. The speakers are all concerned about prices—low prices, for most of them are farmers. They have just survived the coldest winter they have ever known.

"Old men who have followed the sea tell yarns; a woman describes the ghosts and haunted houses she has known. 'I was skeered,' she says, 'though I was a married woman with three children at the time.' Two elderly sisters get into such a squabble over how mackerel was processed at the cannery in their village that it's impossible to tell what either is saying.

"There are poor people concerned with finding good doctors, getting on the welfare rolls. There are rich people with houses full of valuable antiques which they discuss; librarians, butchers, town clerks, storekeepers and farmers . . . many, even a 'lady farmer.'

"The person who pleases me most is a maiden lady from Maine, a descendant of the Pilgrim Fathers, who wanted more than anything else to lay her hands on Plymouth Rock. Finally she got to Plymouth on an excursion—with a church group, I think—and found the rock fenced in. Nothing would induce the guard to let her through. So she did the next best thing: she put her face between the bars and spit. The wind was apparently with her, and she returned to Maine knowing that she had somehow made contact with her noble ancestors."

End quote!

In other words, the disks are not of linguistic value alone. They are unique historical and social records.

Now back to the disks themselves. There were two sets, each of about 1500 double-sided disks. One set found its way to

Chicago, into Alva Davis's Center for American English at the Illinois Institute of Technology. The other was brought to Madison by Hanley in 1934 for his own use.

Aluminum does not wear well, and Hanley played his favorite records frequently in phonetics and dialect classes. Further, he tried to have transcripts made on free federal student money, but the students were untrained, and many recordings, in any case, were less than ideal. One especially annoying thing: the microphone often picked up the informant's answer without having picked up Hanley's question, so one can only guess at what is being said.

In a word, the transcriptions are virtually useless. Hanley's set of disks is so badly worn that when I tried to use them for *DARE* I realized that the only thing to do was to transfer them to audiotapes.

At this point I appealed to Raven McDavid for help, and he found half the money; my dean contributed the other half. The Chicago disks, which had been little played, were obviously the better set to copy. A student drove up to Madison with them, and we delivered them to the university radio station, where one man was an expert in getting the best off old disks onto tapes. If you think of aluminum as a light metal, let me disabuse you: transferring all these disks back and forth was a heavy job!

We got the whole set of disks onto audiotapes: 75 seven-inch reels, one hour each side at 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> IPS. The original set went back to Raven and the CAE, but not till Audrey Duckert had had a copy made for herself, now transferred to cassettes and archived at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Wanting to use these records for *DARE*, I asked Hans Kurath what use had been made of them for *LANE*. He said he did not think they had been used at all. After the amount of labor and expense that had gone into making them, I find this ironic. However, once in tape form, we have been able to read the entire set for *DARE*—so they will have that much good use after all.

And of course there are the original disks, which will be safe and more generally acces-

sible housed at the Library of Congress. I recommend that anyone who uses them be sure to read Dr. Margaret Waterman's careful study of them. And of course I thank Raven McDavid for his help in getting the disks put on to tape, thus making their valuable examples of New England speech of use, at last, in *DARE*.

*Further notes by Audrey M. Duckert:*

It is altogether fitting and proper that we refer to these as the Hanley disks, since it was Miles L. Hanley who undertook the journeying to make them just a little over 50 years ago. (The earliest ones date to 1932.)

It is also fitting that we recall that the idea of making the recordings, the imaginative as well as the practical guidance to launch the project, was Hans Kurath's. His foresight is abundantly evident to those who work with other Linguistic Atlas materials even now; it was Kurath who got advice from the American Library Association about the paper on which the *LANE* maps are printed. They chose the best obtainable, which was said then to have a projected life of at least 100 years.

The meticulous scholarship and imaginative foresight of both Hans Kurath and Miles Hanley—to say nothing of their prodigious amounts of just plain hard work—have left today's young scholars an authenticated, working legacy; a dimension not otherwise available is now being enthusiastically explored.

A current example: In the fall of 1984 a first-year graduate student at the University of Massachusetts, whose interests lie in the happy combination of studying American literature along with the American language, was working on Melville and *Moby-Dick*. Hanley's interview with James Henry Gibbs from Nantucket (*LANE* informant 124.1) holds an account of a whaling voyage in 1869. Other Nantucket men recorded about the same time talk about whaling and everything from Quakers to shipwrecks; there are whaling songs, too.

When the young man who has now finished transcribing these materials considers the literary with the literal, we will all be the richer for it.

## PROVERBIAL SAYINGS: 1984 COMMITTEE REPORT

By Margaret M. Bryant

The collecting of proverbial sayings continues. The chairman still records proverbial sayings heard in conversation and on television and found in reading. In addition, Wayland Hand, former editor of the *California Folklore Quarterly* and professor of comparative folklore and mythology at the University of California, Los Angeles, sent in his collection of 22,000 California proverbs. These must be edited for the new sentence-length proverbs and any duplicates that may be found therein.

Stewart A. Kingsbury of Northern Michigan University, who has almost completed the computerization of the proverbs, must now include these additional ones.

He likewise located a microfilm of *Colorado Folksayings*, collected by Marjorie M. Kimmerle of the University of Colorado before her death. He has completed the editing of the more than 10,000 citations and has found 512 new sentence-length proverbs as well as 1015 duplicates in the collection.

One more collection is left to be edited—that of the Ernest W. Baughman Collection

of Oral Folklore, located in the Zimmerman Library of the University of New Mexico. The data found here must be added to that of the Hand and Kimmerle collections and then word-processed to be included in the manuscript of the *Dictionary of American Proverbs* now being prepared by three editors: Kelsie B. Harder of the State University of New York at Potsdam, Wolfgang Mieder of the University of Vermont, and Kingsbury.

Dr. Kingsbury has devised a research coding system for the project to indicate geographical distribution, proverb types, and kinds of subject matter, such as military, weather, and superstition. He has also devised a system for eliminating the variance in key words by supplying one base form for proverbs of a similar semantic category. For example, the normalized key word *act* combines the present key words used by separate field workers: *act* (noun sg.), *to act* (verb infinitive), *act* (verb imperative), *act* (verb 2nd pers. pl. present tense), *action* (noun sg.), *actions* (noun pl.), *active* (adjective), *activity* (noun sg.), *actor* (noun sg.), *actors* (noun pl.), *acts* (verb 3rd pers. sg. present tense), *acts* (noun pl.)

In addition to computerizing and editing added material, Dr. Kingsbury has written an article on "Computerizing a Proverb Collection of 250,000+ Citations" for *Proverbium*, an internationally known publication in proverb research, edited by Dr. Mieder. He also prepared a paper for the meeting of the ADS in Washington in December.

The three editors have been meeting and discussing procedures for preparing the manuscript as well as considering the publication of the dictionary. They have had conferences with different publishers, including Oxford and Scribner's. It is to be hoped that with the amount of work done through the years since 1945 with many collectors throughout the United States and Canada, in getting the collections computerized and now in the editing of the manuscript, that the *Dictionary of Amer-*

### THE HANLEY DISKS AT LC

On Dec. 28, after a welcome by Alan Jabbour (director of the Folklife Center) and Cassidy's remarks, Joseph Hickerson, head of the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library, played newly-taped excerpts from the Hanley disks. The demonstration tape included the voices of James Henry Gibbs and other *LANE* informants, as well as a young Alistair Cooke, Edward Sapir, Alan Lomax, Bernard Bloch, and Hanley himself.

A one-hour tape of selections from the disks is available for listening, by appointment only. For information, write or call the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540; (202) 287-6590.

*ican Proverbs* will finally be published in the years ahead.

The Committee consists of Harold B. Allen (Minnesota, emeritus), Frederic G. Cassidy (Wisconsin, emeritus), Ernest R. Cox (Florida, emeritus), Byrd H. Granger (Arizona, emeritus), Herbert Halpert (Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, St. John's), Wayland D. Hand (California, Los Angeles, emeritus), Kelsie B. Harder (State Univ. College, Potsdam, N.Y.), Muriel J. Hughes (Vermont, emeritus), Thelma G. James (Wayne State, emeritus), Lorena E. Kemp (West Virginia State College), Stewart A. Kingsbury (Northern Michigan), William E. Koch (Kansas State), James B. McMillan (Alabama, emeritus), Wolfgang Mieder (Vermont), T.M. Pearce (New Mexico, emeritus), Henry A. Person (Washington, emeritus),

T.K. Pratt (Univ. of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown), W. Edson Richmond (Indiana), G.M. Story (Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, St. John's), and Margaret M. Bryant (Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, emeritus), chairman.

*(After 40 years, Dr. Bryant recently asked to be relieved of the chairmanship of the Committee on Proverbs and Proverbial Sayings, which she founded. Other ADS committees have had their times of hibernation, but Dr. Bryant's committee always had its annual report, and on time. With the advice of Dr. Bryant and the ADS Executive Council, President Kinloch appointed Kelsie Harder as her successor. The collecting of proverbial sayings continues.)*

## AMERICAN SPEECH: EDITOR'S REPORT FOR 1984

By Ronald Butters

First, some statistics concerning manuscripts. Most of these figures are approximate, but they yield a pretty good indication of the state of the journal with respect to the very important issue of article flow.

For the period Oct. 15, 1983 to Oct. 15, 1984 we received approximately 140 articles, ranging in length from brief notes to 60 pages, for our consideration. (This does not include solicited reviews). During the same period we accepted 30 articles, rejected 40 outright, and returned 20 to the authors for revision. We have currently (Oct. 19, 1984) in our "unaccepted manuscripts" drawer approximately 60 file folders representing approximately 60 articles and notes in various stages of the decision process. During the past 12 months we have assigned 14 reviews.

These figures can be profitably compared with the actual publication statistics for Vol. 59 (1984). First, we actually published 17 regular, full-length articles (and 3 "Among the New Words" columns) and 37 "Miscellany" and filler pieces in Vol. 59, a total which is perhaps disturbingly greater (by some 24 manuscripts) than the number of articles accepted during the same period. However, this in reality does not mean that our backlog is shrinking, **except perhaps**

**for high-quality, full-length articles**, because of the large number of undecided manuscripts, the vast majority of which are shorter pieces which may be decided upon quickly.

It is also the case that the number of reviews assigned is 11 fewer than the number (25) actually published in 1984. This is to some extent deliberate; I have something of a backlog of reviews already accepted.

From the editor's point of view, there are three situations that approach being problems:

—The relatively small number of high-quality medium-length articles (2500-5000 words) being submitted;

—The relative glut of shorter pieces (100-1250 words);

—The occasional high-quality lengthy piece (over 15,000 words, i.e. 25 journal pages).

My feeling is that readers like medium-length pieces best, and that many 15,000-word articles could be cut considerably, broken into shorter articles, or combined with other material to make monographs. The "Miscellany" pieces are fun to read and fun to write but hell for the editor to keep track of, and often difficult to edit. Some authors seem to have the feeling that short

pieces need not be written with the care of "real" articles. They leave much more editing—and checking!—to the editor, frankly, than they should. I wish that I could somehow inform contributors that the average "Miscellany" piece seems to take me about as much time to deal with as does a 2500-word article. Authors who deluge the editor with half-thought-out notes tend to get put on my editorial back burner.

Beginning with the Spring 1985 issue, I am following the new Modern Language Association *Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 2nd ed. (1984) for documenting sources—using, however, the author-date system outlined in the *Handbook* (161ff.). Up to this time we have said (inside our back cover) that we were following the *Chicago Manual of Style* format B, though in reality we had developed over the years a combination of formats A and B, with a few quirks of our own. This situation caused me to expend countless hours revising the documentation of almost every manuscript we published. I hope that, as authors increasingly grow familiar with the new MLA format, my editorial task will be considerably simplified. We will continue, of course, to follow the *Chicago Manual* on points not discussed in MLA, and we will continue as well to follow our own "Stylesheet for Glossaries" developed by John Algeo in 1970 (copies available from the editor).

My task as editor has been made much easier since Phyllis Randall of North Carolina Central Univ. has come aboard as assistant editor. Phyllis helps with all aspects of the journal (except typing and answering correspondence): manuscript editing, galley proofreading, checking, editorial decisions. Her energy, attention to detail, and good sense have been invaluable to me.

Although they are not, like Phyllis, just down the road from me, the two associate editors, James Hartman and Charles Clay Doyle, continue to be of immense importance to the success of the journal. I rely heavily on their promptness (despite the multiple demands on their time), thorough-

ness, and wisdom. Various members of the Advisory Committee have rendered similar service (though I do not call on them so often as I do on Doyle and Hartman): Walt Wolfram, John Algeo, and Connie Eble deserve special mention, and Donna Christian and John Holm are two of the newer members upon whom I will be leaning considerably during the coming months.

Finally, in giving credit to others who are involved in the editorial process, I wish to mention Richard Irons, Debbie Gilliland, and Cam Aycock. Irons, a graduate student in English, serves voluntarily as reader of galleys. Gilliland, secretary in the Department of English, has helped with typing, xeroxing, and moral support. Most important, however, has been Cam Aycock, the only paid employee of the journal. Cam does all the typing and filing, and considerable amounts of checking, purchasing, telephone answering, galley proofing, and so on. He prepares the annual index. He looks out for the editor's sanity in countless ways, and the editor is unabashedly devoted to him, and grateful for all his services.

Of things financial there is much to tell and be grateful about. *American Speech* has been subsidized this year to the tune of approximately \$14,000 by Duke University, and that doesn't include the released time for the editor (one course per semester), nor the cost of the space which the English Department has lent us for the duration of this editor's term in office—a three-room suite, directly across from the main campus library, which also serves as the editor's English Department office and the office for the Interdepartmental Committee on Linguistics. A rough estimate of Duke's financial contribution to *American Speech* would be \$30,000; the dollar figure for institutional support of the editorial staff would increase if one added the released time which NCCU provides Phyllis Randall.

It is through the office of Professor Ernestine Friedl, dean of arts and sciences, that this support ultimately comes. I am especially grateful to Dean Friedl.

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"New Books by ADS Members" will return as a regular feature in our May issue.

# CALL FOR PAPERS: SUMMER MEETING DEADLINE: MARCH 15

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### CONFERENCE ON ENGLISH LINGUISTICS

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor

August 18 to 24, 1985

A Conference on English Linguistics  
Composed of Four Related Sessions

Sunday to Wednesday, August 18 to 21

•The Meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America

•A Colloquium on English Lexicography

Wednesday to Saturday, August 21 to 24

•The Summer Meeting of the American Dialect Society

•The Twelfth International Systemics Workshop

All four sessions will feature papers on English Linguistics. Papers on applied and theoretical issues as well as on languages other than English are also welcome. Major speakers are expected to include: R. W. Burchfield (Editor of the Oxford English Dictionary), Frederick G. Cassidy (Editor of the Dictionary of American Regional English and former President of the American Dialect Society), M. A. K. Halliday (Author of Language as Social Semiotic and other works that have shaped the theory of systemic linguistics), and Ladislav Zgusta (President of the Dictionary Society of North America).

Send one-page abstracts for papers by **MARCH 15, 1985**. Please include your name, address, the conference session in which you expect to speak, and the length of your proposed presentation (20 or 40 minutes). A preliminary program, registration forms, and housing information will be sent to prospective attendees in May 1985. Send your abstract or inquiry to:

Richard W. Bailey  
Department of English  
The University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109 USA

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