

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

The American Dialect Society  
Sesquicentennial 1889-2039

**NADS**  
**23.1**

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**Vol. 23, No. 1**                      **January 1991**

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*NADS is sent in January, May and September to all ADS members. Send ADS dues (\$25 per year), queries and news to editor and executive secretary Allan Metcalf, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650, phone (217) 479-7049 or (217) 479-7000, fax (217) 245-5214.*

*From:* AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

Allan Metcalf, Executive Secretary  
English Department  
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**FIRST CLASS**

Forwarding and Address  
Correction Requested

# CALLS FOR PAPERS

## Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting

In association with RMMLA, Oct. 17-19; Tempe, Arizona State University Conference Center. (Housing at Sheraton Mission Palms, Holiday Inn, Howard Johnson's; rates \$49 to \$82.)

*April 1* is the deadline for abstracts or papers to the meeting chair, Marianna Di Paolo, Linguistics Program, Stewart Building, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City UT 84112; phone (801) 581-4389, ext. 8047.

ADS Regional Secretary 1991-92: Grant W. Smith, English Dept., Eastern Washington Univ., Cheney WA 99004.

*Membership* in RMMLA is \$15 regular, \$10 student. Write RMMLA Executive Director Charles G. Davis, Dept. of English, Boise State Univ., Boise ID 83725; phone (208) 385-1199, 385-1246.

*Future meetings:* 1992 Ogden, Utah, Weber State Univ.; 1993 Denver, Metropolitan State Univ.; 1994 Colorado Springs, Colorado College; 1995 Spokane, Eastern Washington Univ.

## South Central Regional Meeting

In association with SCMLA, Oct. 31-Nov. 2; Fort Worth, Hyatt Regency Hotel.

*March 15* is the deadline for 100-word abstracts to the meeting chair, Garry Ross, English Dept., Henderson State Univ., Arkadelphia AR 71923; phone (501) 246-5511, ext. 3153.

ADS Regional Secretary 1990-91: Charles B. Martin, Dept. of English, University of North Texas, P.O. Box 13827, Denton TX 76203-3827; phone (817) 565-2149.

*Membership* in SCMLA is \$15 regular, \$5 student. Write SCMLA Executive Director Richard D. Critchfield, Dept. of English, Texas A&M Univ., College Station TX 77843-4227; phone (409) 845-7041.

*Future meeting:* 1992, Memphis.

## Midwest Regional Meeting

In association with MMLA, Nov. 14-16; Chicago, McCormick Center Hotel.

*April 8* is the deadline for abstracts to the meeting chair, Donald M. Lance, Dept. of English, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211; phone (314) 882-3582, 449-1757.

Luncheon or dinner at one of Chicago's renowned yet modestly-priced Greek restaurants will complete the program. Details in a future issue.

ADS Regional Secretary 1991-92: Michael I. Miller, Dept. of English and Speech, Chicago State Univ., 95th St. at King Dr., Chicago IL 60628-1598; phone (312) 995-2189, Bitnet BFCYO10 @ECNCDC.

*Membership* in MMLA is \$20 full and associate professors, \$15 other faculty, \$10 students. Write MMLA, 302 English/Philosophy Bldg., Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City IA 52242-1408; phone (319) 335-0331.

*Future meetings:* 1992 Nov. 5-7, St. Louis, Marriott Pavilion Hotel; 1993 Minneapolis, Hyatt Regency.

## South Atlantic Regional Meeting

In association with SAMLA, Nov. 14-16; Atlanta, Hyatt Regency Peachtree Center.

*May 1* is the deadline for abstracts of 20-minute papers on the topic "Language of Law and Liturgy" to the meeting chair, Bethany K. Dumas, English Department, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville TN 37996-0430; phone (615) 974-6965; Bitnet DUMAS@UTKVKX.

ADS Regional Secretary 1990-91: Cynthia Bernstein, Dept. of English, 9030 Haley Center, Auburn University, Auburn University AL 36849-5203; phone (205) 844-9072.

*Membership* in SAMLA is \$12 regular, \$5 student. Write SAMLA, Drawer 6109, University Station, Tuscaloosa AL 35486-6109; phone (205) 348-9067.

*Future meeting:* 1992 Nov. 12-14, Knoxville; 1993 Atlanta, Hyatt Peachtree Center; 1994 Baltimore, Omni Inner Harbor; 1995 Atlanta, Marriott Marquis.

**MIDWEST NAMES**—Proposals for 15-minute papers are invited for the American Name Society session at the MMLA meeting in November. *April 1* is the deadline for two copies of a 300-word abstract to Thomas E. Murray, Dept. of English, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan KS 66506.

**LEXICOGRAPHY**—The 18th annual meeting of the Lexicography Discussion Group will take place at the MLA Annual Meeting in San Francisco this December. To be put on the mailing list, write Roger Steiner, Dept. of Linguistics, Univ. of Delaware, 46E. Delaware Ave., Newark DE 19716.

## Sailors Called It Frisco

as Peter Tamony (see page 16) once wrote. The American Dialect Society calls it

# ANNUAL MEETING 1991 San Francisco December 27-30

## DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS: MARCH 25!

- Options:* 1. An independent ADS meeting on Sunday, Dec. 29 and Monday, Dec. 30 at another in our series of incomparable meeting places (t.b.a.)
2. An ADS-sponsored session at the **Modern Language Association** meeting, San Francisco Hilton and Marriott. Speakers must be MLA members by **April 1** and must pay the MLA registration fee.

Send abstracts to Executive Secretary **Allan Metcalf** (address on cover). You are encouraged to make a proposal even if you do not have a topic fully developed.

Please specify your preference of the independent meeting or MLA. If you have no strong preference, let the program chair (Vice President John Baugh) assign you a place. Also mention any audio-visual equipment you will need.

### Suggestions

You can propose a paper on any aspect of American English or dialectology, but here are some ideas that have been suggested for 1991:

- The Pacific Rim: Linguistic innovation and diversity.
- Creole and pidgin languages.
- Gay and lesbian language.
- Quarter-century retrospective of the publication of William Labov's *Social Stratification of English in New York City*.
- Language and the Law, following on the success of the special session at the LSA meeting this January.
- America D-H: Celebrating the 1991 publication of *DARE* Volume II.
- Bring Your Own Book—A do-it-yourself book exhibit where you are invited to BYOB and look at everyone else's.

### New Words of 1991

On the heels of the first session celebrating Words of the Year at our 1990 annual meeting (see page 6), panelists John Algeo and David Barnhart are laying plans for an even livelier session in December 1991.

"Both John and I will need less time to explain how we do what it is we do," Barnhart writes. "That will leave more of our hour to the new words themselves.

"*Busybodyfactor* sounds like a candidate for sure. I also like *hot button issue*."

Although the year is new, the panelists always welcome nominations. Members who would like to join in the hunt for new words are invited to write Algeo (English Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens GA 30602) for John and Adele Algeo's "Among the New Words" newsletter (#5, December 1990) with a list of 132 words for which they seek additional evidence.

### LSA Meeting

Participants, topic, and program are needed if ADS is to sponsor a session as it usually does at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, to be held next in Philadelphia, January 9-12, 1992. If you are interested in organizing the whole program, giving a talk, or presiding, please notify the Executive Secretary by **April 15**.

## OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS ON MANY DOORS

### Presidential Honorary Members

Each year the current president of the American Dialect Society appoints three students to Presidential Honorary Memberships.

The complimentary four-year memberships are awarded to outstanding students, graduate or undergraduate, to encourage them to be active in our field and in the Society.

Nominations for Presidential Honorary Memberships come from ADS members. From the nominees the president selects the winners, who are invited to be guests of the Society at the annual luncheon.

To propose a student for the next round of memberships, write now to ADS President Michael Linn at English Department, 420 Humanities Building, University of Minnesota, Duluth MN 55812. Explain as thoroughly as you wish, and if possible include a sample of the student's work.

Presidential Honorary Members for 1991, chosen by outgoing President Tom Creswell and announced by him at the Centennial Annual Luncheon, are **Judith H. Bean** of Texas A&M University and **Patricia Cukor-Avila** of the University of Michigan, recommended by Guy Bailey, and **Rafal Konopka** of the University of Georgia, recommended by William A. Kretzschmar, Jr.

### Executive Council

In this by-year, only one position is to be filled by election at the annual meeting, a four-year membership on the ADS Executive Council. For this position the Nominating Committee welcomes your suggestions, either of others or of your own willingness to serve. Members of the committee are Amy J. Devitt, University of Kansas; Thomas J. Creswell, Michigan City, Indiana; and Richard W. Bailey, Dept. of English Language and Literature, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109, chair.

### Committee on Teaching

This standing ADS committee needs a new chair to take over for retiring Donald Lance of the University of Missouri, Columbia. To volunteer yourself or suggest someone else, write Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf.

### NCTE Meeting

Participants, topic, and program are needed if ADS is to sponsor a session as it usually does at the convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, to be held this year in Seattle on the weekend of Nov. 23. If you are interested in organizing the whole program, giving a talk, or presiding, please notify the Executive Secretary by **March 1**.

**UNDERGRADUATE AWARD**—The Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender invites nominations for its 1990-91 Outstanding Undergraduate Paper Award. Papers must be concerned with gender and communication or language. Faculty members should submit five copies of nominated papers by **June 15** to Miriam Meyers, Communications Center, Metropolitan State Univ., 730 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis MN 55403-1897.

### Call for Papers:

#### Newfoundland, Folklore, Oct.

At the suggestion of John Kirk, the ADS will venture a new connection in a place rich with old associations—St. John's, Newfoundland, where the American Folklore Society will hold its annual meeting at the Hotel Newfoundland Oct. 17-20.

Kirk and Sandra Clarke, an ADS member on the spot at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, were appointed by the ADS Executive Council to organize our contribution to the program.

ADS members who would like to participate with papers on dialect and folklore (and Newfoundland?) should promptly get in touch with John Kirk, Fulbright Professor, Dept. of English, Univ. of Georgia, Park Hall, Athens GA 30602; e-mail WAKJENGL@UGA.BITNET, indicating 'John Kirk' as 'Subject'; or Sandra Clarke, Dept. of Linguistics, Memorial Univ., St. John's NF Canada A1B 3X9; phone (709) 737-7632, 737-8134; Bitnet linguist@mun.

For AFS information write Timothy Lloyd, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, AFS, Ohio Joint Program in the Arts and Humanities, 695 Bryden Rd., Columbus OH 43205; phone (614) 461-1132.

## Acts of the Executive Council 1990

Six of the nine Executive Council members were joined by 15 other ADS members at 8 a.m. on the 29th of December on the 29th floor of the Barclay, with a sunlit view of the Loop and wintry Lake Michigan. Under the aegis of President Tom Creswell, the Council accomplished this business:

1. Appointed as regional secretaries for 1991 and 1992: Rocky Mountain, **Grant W. Smith**, Eastern Washington (reappointment); Midwest, **Michael Miller**, Chicago State (replacing Donald W. Larmouth).

2. Reappointed Kurath Fund trustee **Lee Pederson** for a three-year term, as recommended by LAMSAS Editor William A. Kretzschmar, Jr.

3. Reappointed *American Speech* editor **Ronald Butters** for 1991 and 1992.

4. Reappointed Executive Secretary **Allan Metcalf** for 1991 and 1992.

5. Decided again to advertise for a chair for the Committee on Teaching to succeed Donald Lance (see item 7 of last year's Executive Council report in the January 1990 *Newsletter*, page 6).

6. Approved the meeting of the Dictionary Society of North America at the University of Missouri, Columbia, August 9-11, as the ADS summer meeting for 1991, and ADS member **Donald Lance** as its chair.

7. Appointed Sandra Clarke and John Kirk as co-chairs for ADS sessions at the American Folklore Society meeting, St. John's, Newfoundland, October 17-20, 1991.

8. Decided to advertise for a chair for a possible ADS session at the NCTE convention in Seattle, November 23, 1991.

9. Decided to advertise for a chair for a possible ADS session at the LSA annual meeting in Philadelphia, January 9-12, 1992.

10. Approved the Executive Secretary's proposed budget for 1991 and his firm commitment to have a formal three-year audit completed before the 1991 Council meeting.

11. Heard with approval the report of *American Speech* editor **Ronald Butters**: with the advent of in-house desktop publishing in 1990, the number of typographical errors has gone down and there has been much less paper shuffling. During the year he received

46 articles and 27 miscellany pieces; accepted 16 articles for publication (a rate of 35 percent); accepted miscellany pieces at a 50 percent rate. In 1990 *American Speech* published 15 articles, 4 installments of "Among the New Words," and 15 book reviews. For 1991 the number of pages will be increased by 16, so there will be 112 pages per issue.

At Butters' recommendation, the following were appointed to the *American Speech* advisory board for three-year terms: **Connie Eble**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill; **Edgar Schneider**, Freie Universität Berlin; **Robert Wachal**, Iowa; **Donald Winford**, Ohio State.

12. In the absence of *PADS* editor **Dennis Baron**, appointed an ad hoc committee to consult with him on behalf of the Council concerning present activities and future plans. The committee consists of **Richard Bailey**, chair; **Larry Davis** and **Dennis Preston**.

13. Heard **Donald Lance's** report for the Committee on Teaching that the volume on teaching about language variation was close to final approval for publication by MLA.

14. Appointed Richard Bailey to consult with the editors of the forthcoming *Dictionary of American Proverbs* (Wolfgang Mieder, Kelsie Harder, Stewart Kingsbury) regarding use of the ADS name in the book.

15. Heard **William Kretzschmar's** report on LAMSAS, as detailed on page 8 in this issue.

16. Approved **John Algeo's** retrospective collection of "Among the New Words" columns with introduction and index as an ADS Centennial Publication.

17. Thanked and applauded **Thomas Creswell** for two years of dauntless presiding over meetings of the Society.

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### Definitive Dialecticians

From *Webster's New World Dictionary of Media and Communications* (Simon & Schuster):

**dialect** local characteristics of speech A *dialect actor* or *dialect actress* specializes in the speech patterns of a specific area or group. *Dialecticians*, specialists in dialects, belong to the prestigious American Dialect Society. . . .

## A Superior Business Meeting

In the Barclay Hotel's Superior Room, elevated above the north end of Superior Street, the unassuming American Dialect Society held its annual business meeting on the morning of Sunday, Dec. 30, 1990.

President Tom Creswell called the assembly to order at 8:15. The first item of business was the election of the Nominating Committee's candidates for office—pro forma, because the opportunity for further nominations had passed. Tom Clark, chair of the Nominating Committee, commended members Larry Davis and Richard Bailey for their excellent selections, from quite a long list after considerable thought. Vice President for 1991 and 1992 is **John Baugh** of Stanford; Executive Council Member 1991 through 1994 is **Connie Eble** of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Nominating Committee member at large for 1991 and 1992 is **Amy Devitt** of the University of Kansas.

At Michael Linn's motion, a vote of appreciation was given to **Virginia McDavid** for establishing an

endowment fund for Linguistic Atlas work at the University of Georgia. (See page 9.)

After the Executive Secretary's report on the Executive Council meeting of the day before, there were a number of announcements, including two of international import. (See page 12.)

### New Words of 1990

David Barnhart, editor of the *Barnhart Dictionary Companion*, and John Algeo, co-conductor of "Among the New Words" in *American Speech*, made ADS history at the 1990 annual meeting with the first-ever year-end review of new words, culminating in a vote on the new words of the year.

And the winners were—

—But first the audience had to be properly informed. Each of the panelists handed out long lists of candidates for the outstanding words of 1990. Barnhart had 119 words culled from recent numbers of *BDC* and *ANW*, while Algeo offered 132 possible items for future issues of the Algeo & Algeo column.

And the nominations?

Algeo's candidates for **most original word of 1990** were *bushlips* 'insincere political rhetoric' and *voice merging* 'the oral tradition of black preachers using another's words'; for **most amazing**, *bungee jumping*, 'jumping with elastic cables on the feet'; for **most useful**, *potty parity* 'equalization of toilet facilities for the sexes' and *technostupidity* 'loss of ability through dependence on machines'; **most unnecessary**, *peace dividend* 'anticipated saving in military spending due to improved relations with the U.S.S.R.'; **most outrageous**, *PC* or *politically correct* 'adhering to principles of left-wing social concern'; **most likely to succeed**, *rightsizing* 'to adjust the size of a staff by laying off employees' and *notebook PC* 'a portable personal computer weighing 4-8 pounds'.

Barnhart noted that *peace dividend* goes back to 1975 and the end of another war.

And the vote? For **new word of the year 1990**: *bushlips* 12, *crack baby* 'one born addicted to crack' 5, *PC* 5, *potty parity* 4, *envelope*, *push the edge of* 'to be near violating acceptable behavior' 2, *bright collar* 'member of a managerial, professional, or entrepreneurial class' 2; *boomdocks*, *boomdock* 'a fast-growing community in the country' 1.

### Budget for 1991

Since *PADS* will have three issues (if all goes well), the budget will run a deficit, but this should be an anomaly, and there are ample reserves (see financial report in the September 1990 *Newsletter*, page 8).

#### EXPECTED INCOME

Dues .....	\$19,000
Interest .....	3,500
Gifts, royalties and miscellaneous .....	1,000
Total income .....	\$23,500

#### EXPECTED EXPENSES

<i>American Speech</i> .....	\$7,500
<i>PADS</i> , three numbers .....	10,000
<i>Newsletter</i> .....	3,000
Executive Secretary travel .....	1,500
Office expenses .....	2,000
ACLS and NHA dues .....	730
Annual Meeting expenses .....	500
<i>American Speech</i> computer expenses ....	1,000
Total expenses .....	\$26,230

## Stuart Berg Flexner 1928-1990

Stuart Berg Flexner, a major figure in American lexicography, died at age 62 on December 3, 1990 at the hospital near his home in Greenwich, Connecticut. Many of us in this society will sorely miss his presentations, his comments at our meetings, and his friendship. His presence will remain with us through his very valuable published contributions to the literature concerned with our changing language.

Stuart Flexner's death has stunned all of us who were his close friends. I had heard of his illness (bone cancer) and spoke with him only three weeks earlier. He sounded vigorous, even sanguine, although not unaware of the diagnosis. I sensed he was hopeful of continuing his consulting and editorial work for a good while. It was not to be.

Stuart Flexner's contributions to the study of American English bridge two fields—American slang and the lexicography of American English. His first major publication was *The Dictionary of American Slang*, which he co-authored with Harold Wentworth in 1960. Later editions of that dictionary appeared in 1967 and 1975, with special supplements written by Stuart. Two other associated publications appeared a bit later: *I Hear America Talking* in 1976 and *Listening to America* in 1982. These three works assure Stuart Flexner's place as a major contributor to the literature on American slang and the common spoken expressions of everyday American English.

*Listening to America* provides a convenient source for checking the backgrounds or explanations for approximately 10,000 words and expressions from what Stuart called "our lively and splendid past." That volume of 500-plus pages contains such expressions as those associated with lunch counters (*dough well done with cow to cover* 'battered toast', *Dusty Miller* 'chocolate sundae with powdered malted milk topping', etc.), common nicknames (of famous figures—*Old Hickory, Old Rough and Ready, Old Fuss and Feathers, the Boy Orator of the Platte, Vinegar Joe*, etc.—one doesn't need to identify these sources for ADS members!), expressions like *It's a cinch* (*duck soup, peaches and cream*, etc.) versus terms associated with more difficult or embarrassing situations (*ball buster, bitch*) or perplexing terms (*tight spot, up a tree, up a stump*).

Even more impressive was Stuart Flexner's contribution to American lexicography. He was the fourth in a series of editors in chief of dictionaries associated with Random House, following Clarence Barnhart, Jess Stein, and Larry Urdang. When Jess became emeritus editor in chief of the *Random House College Dictionary* in 1982, Stuart Flexner succeeded him. With Jess, Stuart was co-editor of the *Random House Thesaurus* in 1984. And he was editor in chief of the second edition of the unabridged *Random House Dictionary of the English Language* (1987).

During his association with Random House, until his retirement in 1989, Stuart was managing editor, editor in chief, editorial director of RH Dictionaries and of RH Reference Books and vice president of the company. His corner office, on an upper floor of the Random House building on East 50th Street and Third Avenue in New York City, supervised a large staff of lexicographers, editors, and assistants spread over a sprawling expanse.

Four ADS members (Virginia McDavid, Tom Creswell, Craig Carver, and the undersigned) contributed large front-matter essays to "his" *Random House Dictionary of the English Language*, second unabridged edition, among so many others who worked with him on that volume (there were 340 consultants and lexicographers associated with that nine-year project!). We will miss his counsel, his understanding, his gentle nature, his deep insights into American English usage, his amazing grasp of the magnitude of his publishing activities, and his appreciation of an ever-changing language. I personally will miss the many luncheons (almost every month over many years) especially like the joyous one when we talked about a Classics professor's review of the *RHDEL* in which the dictionary was criticized for being too permissive, especially as concerns certain "sloppy, vulgar terms." The reviewer hadn't realized how complimentary he was to a lexicographer who was making every attempt to describe and enter terms in everyday, common use.

—ARTHUR J. BRONSTEIN

*Professor Emeritus, The Graduate School of The City University of New York and Research Associate, Dept. of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley.*

## LAMSAS: Something Old, Something New

By WILLIAM A. KRETZSCHMAR, JR.

*Editor, Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States*

1990 was an exciting year for LAMSAS, with an old grant, a new grant, discovered maps, more maps, and a brand new endowment.

In July we began work under a two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which awarded the project \$155,000 outright and another \$20,000 in matching funds toward a total including University of Georgia and other contributions of almost \$300,000.

Under a 1989 grant from the National Science Foundation, we had in the spring finished testing new methods for entry, storage, and output of our data (responses to the 750 questions of the Atlas long worksheets, edited in both phonetic transcription and standard orthography) and associated coding on IBM-compatible desktop computers. (Many of our methods are described in *Journal of English Linguistics* 22.1, a special issue entitled "Computer Methods in Dialectology," available at \$10 per copy from this office.) We have promised NEH that we will process responses to the first 250 questions in our two years—we are on schedule for the first six months' work, with an augmented group of assistants—and we hope for two renewals of the grant to finish the job.

We are now renegotiating publication plans, but we expect LAMSAS to appear as a new series of volumes in which the responses for each question are summarized with a list of variant responses and with maps and tables to illustrate significant regional and social patterning of major variants. The new plan for item summaries is made possible in part by the assistance of **Edgar Schneider** of the Free University of Berlin, who spent a good part of the 1988-89 academic year in Athens with support from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft to work out new statistical methods, and of **John Kirk** of the Queen's University of Belfast, who is now in Athens with a Fulbright to work out new computer mapping methods.

### BURIED TREASURE

In September we conducted the "Great Housecleaning," assisted by **Virginia McDavid** and **Tom Creswell**. We reorganized our files and went through

the accumulation of materials that had been shipped to Athens from Chicago and South Carolina but were never inspected closely, and in the process disposed of four large recycling carts of paper. In one of the cartons from South Carolina, one that had probably traveled unopened from Brown to various universities for 50 years, I found a set of 180 camera-ready overlay maps and a base map for a South Atlantic Atlas. Each map contains hand-drafted responses: a complete set from Virginia and North Carolina, a few from Maryland and Delaware, none from Georgia or South Carolina. Responses from African-American informants are in a special sidebar. Responses appear to be just those that appear for the states in our list manuscripts. Each map is provided with a brief commentary.

The scale of the maps, 20 by 24 inches, and the style of the lettering are exactly compatible with the *Linguistic Atlas of New England*. Nobody seems to have been aware of the existence of these maps—Raven McDavid never mentioned them, Virginia and I were amazed by them—but they must have been made from the 311 interviews in Virginia and North Carolina completed by Guy Lowman between 1934 and 1937.

Clearly Hans Kurath intended to abandon this style of map-making in favor of list manuscripts, and these maps were never developed into a complete Atlas. Were they made by the *LANE* draftsmen after finishing *LANE*, possibly in 1943 or 1944 after Raven entered the Army Language Project and so might not have known about them, at a point when Kurath might have wondered whether the project could ever be completed?

I have proposed to the LAMSAS Advisory Board that we find a publisher as soon as possible for the maps, accompanied by enough front matter to make a usable independent, one-volume resource, and Board members have generally been in favor of the idea. Watch this newsletter for word of publication plans.

### SOUVENIR MAPS

Also as a result of the Housecleaning, we were reminded that we have a supply of original unbound 20 by 24-inch maps of the *Linguistic Atlas of New England*. Most come from Volume 3, maps 492-734, with a few from Volume 2, maps 243-491. I have mounted a map (No. 551, 'Civil War') on an inexpen-

## LAMSAS: Capital News (Cont.)

sive poster-mount set from the local K Mart, and it is both a great decoration for the wall and an interesting exhibit for my classes.

We would be happy to make the separate maps (without mounts) available while they last at \$15 per map, or four maps for \$50, shipping within North America included. Proceeds will be used for Atlas work, and will be tax-deductible as contributions. Checks should be sent to me at the English Dept., University of Georgia, Athens GA 30602, and should be made payable to "University of Georgia-Linguistic Atlas Fund." We will try to satisfy requests for particular maps, but we can't promise what we don't have; please let us know whether any map will do, or whether you want your check returned if we can't give you the specific map you want.

### A CAPITAL FUND

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to announce that Virginia McDavid has established an endowment fund,

the Raven I. McDavid Fund for Linguistic Atlas Research, through the University of Georgia Foundation. Her generous gift is the first step towards what we hope will become a \$2 million capital fund, to provide enough income for at least one faculty member, assistants, and baseline research costs so that it won't be necessary to win a grant every year.

We already have paper, audio, or computer materials from many of the American Linguistic Atlas investigations in addition to LAMSAS (the latest, thanks to David Carlson, a set of computer files on lexical and morphological responses from the Pacific Northwest materials), and the University of Georgia has been consistently the most hospitable of editorial sites since I moved here in 1986. The endowment, which has official standing in the University's current capital campaign, guarantees that Georgia will be a permanent archival and editorial site for Atlas and related work.

## New Books by ADS Members

*If you have recently published a book, send pertinent information to Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf (address on cover), and we'll mention it here.*

**Irving Lewis Allen.** *Unkind Words: Ethnic Labeling from Redskin to WASP.* Westport, CT: Bergin & Garvey/Greenwood (88 Post Road West, PO Box 5007, Westport CT 06881), September 1990. ix + 143 pp. \$10.95 paper (ISBN 0-89789-220-8), \$35 hardcover (ISBN 0-89789-217-8). An extensive study of ethnic labeling in American popular speech. Part I treats several hundred traditional slur-names by their themes of various cultural stereotypes, including a chapter on slurs directed at ethnic women. Part II focuses on recent formations and devices of "sly slurs" that use mispronunciation and decapitalization of group names, euphemisms and codewords, and acronyms to achieve a similar but more guarded verbal abuse of ethnic groups.

**Wayne Glowka.** *A Guide to Chaucer's Meter.* University Press of America, late January 1991. \$12.75 paper, \$29.50 hardback. Intended as a supplemental text for courses on Chaucer, the history of the English language, and English prosody.

**Sidney Greenbaum** and **Randolph Quirk.** *A Student's Grammar of the English Language.* Longman, 1990. 490 pages. Approximately \$25. An abridgement with revisions of *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Indicates features of grammar that distinguish spoken from written, formal from informal, and British from American English. ISBN 0-582-05971-2.

**Allan A. Metcalf.** *Research to the Point.* San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1991. xi + 208 pages. About \$16 soft cover. A student textbook that directs the library research paper by having the student begin with a hypothesis; find source material to support, oppose, or modify the hypothesis; and develop it into the thesis of the final paper. Teaches the essence of MLA documentation style, with APA in an appendix. Many innovative features. An instructor's guide is also available. ISBN 0-15-576604-X.

## Fundamentals of the American Dialect Society

*The current ADS constitution and bylaws have rested unchanged for more than a decade—and we haven't even bothered to publish them for almost that long. Here they are.*

### Constitution

#### I. NAME

The name of this association is the American Dialect Society.

#### II. PURPOSE

The American Dialect Society is organized in the interest of the academic community and not for profit. Its object is the study of the English language in North America, together with other languages or dialects of other languages influencing it or influenced by it.

#### III. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership is open to all persons interested in the object of the Society. Members are in good standing if they have paid dues for the current calendar year.

2. Dues are established by the Executive Council and are for the calendar year.

3. A person may become a life member by paying an amount set by the Executive Council. A life member shall be exempt from further payment of dues.

4. After retirement, a person who has been a member of the Society for 20 years may become an emeritus member with the privileges of voting, presenting papers, and receiving the Newsletter.

#### IV. ANNUAL MEETING

The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Executive Council shall determine. The Business Meeting shall be held during the annual meeting. Those members in good standing present at the Business Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### V. OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Society shall be a Vice President, a President, and a Past President. Each shall hold office for two years beginning at the conclusion of the annual meeting at which the Vice President is elected.

2. The Vice President shall serve as the chair of the program committee for the annual meeting, shall perform the functions of the President during the latter's absence or inability to serve, and shall succeed to the Presidency.

3. The President shall preside at the annual meeting and at meetings of the Executive Council. The President, or an appointed delegate, shall represent the Society in appropriate official functions. The President shall work with the Executive Secretary to promote the interests of the Society, and shall succeed to the Past Presidency.

4. The Past President shall act as the liaison officer between the Society and the regional secretaries and at the annual meeting shall report upon their activities.

#### VI. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. There shall be an Executive Council, composed of the three officers, the Executive Secretary, the delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies, and four members-at-large, each elected by members in good standing present at the annual meeting, for a term of four years, one post falling vacant each year.

2. The Executive Council shall convene at the annual meeting and at such other times as may be desirable and convenient. No member of the Executive Council may be represented by a proxy. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

3. When necessary, vote upon an immediate matter may be taken by means of a mail ballot to be distributed by the Executive Secretary. For a mail vote five affirmatives shall be required for passage.

4. The Executive Council shall direct the activities of the Society within the general policies determined by the membership.

5. The Executive Council shall appoint an Executive Secretary under such arrangements as the situation may require. The Executive Secretary shall have the functions of a secretary-treasurer and shall serve as secretary of the annual meeting and of the meetings of the Executive Council. The Executive Secretary shall hold office for two years, and may be reappointed. An audit of the Executive Secretary's financial records shall be made annually by an auditor appointed by the President, and the results reported at the annual meeting. At the annual meeting the Executive Secretary shall propose to the Executive Council a budget for the succeeding year, which the Council shall approve with such modifications as it deems appropriate.

6. The Executive Council shall fill any vacancy occurring between business sessions.

## ADS Basic Rules (Cont.)

### VII. ELECTIONS

1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the two immediate Past Presidents, and one member elected by the Society at an Annual Business Meeting for a two-year term. The senior Past President shall chair the Nominating Committee.

2. Not less than 90 days before the annual meeting the Nominating Committee shall report to the Executive Secretary its nominees. Within 30 days of receiving this report the Executive Secretary shall inform the Society membership by mail or through the Newsletter of the Committee's nominations. Additional nominations may be made by a petition signed by at least ten members in good standing, to be received by the Executive Secretary not later than 15 days before the annual meeting. Elections shall occur during the annual meeting.

### VIII. RESOLUTIONS

Any resolution on political or social matters not clearly and immediately related to the purpose of the Society shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members in good standing. A majority of those voting within the time limit set by the Executive Council shall prevail.

### IX. AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to this constitution must be approved by five members of the Executive Council or submitted in a petition to the Executive Secretary 60 days prior to the annual meeting. The petition must be signed by at least ten members in good standing. The amendment shall be discussed and may be amended at the annual meeting and then submitted to a referendum by mail of the members in good standing. A majority of those voting shall prevail.

## Bylaws

### I. PUBLICATIONS

1. The Executive Council shall appoint the editors of the Society's publications. Each shall hold office for two years, and may be reappointed. After consultation with and upon the advice of the editors, the Executive Council may appoint associate or assistant editors. Each shall hold office for two years, and may be reappointed. After consultation with and upon the advice of the respective editors, the Executive Council shall appoint a publications committee for the *Publi-*

*cation of the American Dialect Society* of three members serving three-year terms, one to be appointed each year, and an Editorial Advisory Committee for *American Speech* of twelve members serving three-year terms, four to be appointed each year.

2. Copyrights and reprint rights are covered by contracts drawn up by the Executive Council and executed jointly by the editor and the Executive Secretary.

3. Each editor shall make an annual report in person to the Executive Council. A written copy of such report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary.

### II. COMMITTEES

1. The standing research committees of the Society shall be as follows: Regionalisms and Linguistic Geography, Usage, Non-English Dialects, New Words, and Proverbial Sayings. Members and chairs of these committees shall be appointed annually by the President with the advice of the Executive Council. Chairs of standing committees shall report on the committees' activities at the annual meeting.

2. Ad hoc committees for the execution of particular tasks may be set up by vote of the Executive Council or the annual business meeting. Members and chairs of such committees shall be determined as are those of the standing committees.

### III. REGIONAL MEETINGS

1. The Executive Council may authorize the holding of regional meetings of the Society. Such regional meetings may be held during the conventions of the regional associations affiliated with the Modern Language Association or of the Canadian Linguistic Association or upon such other occasion as may seem desirable.

2. To facilitate the holding of regional meetings the Executive Council shall appoint regional secretaries, one for Canada and one for each region in which there is an affiliate of the Modern Language Association. Regional secretaries shall hold office for two years and may be reappointed. They shall have the responsibility of providing liaison with the Canadian Linguistic Association, the regional Modern Language Association affiliate, or any other appropriate organization in their region. They shall plan the program for the regional meeting with the assistance and coun-

## ADS Fundamentals (Concluded)

sel of the regional chairs or they may initiate, or cooperate in, such arrangements for a cosponsored meeting as regional circumstances may require.

3. At the regional meeting the Society members in good standing who are present shall elect a chair whose responsibility will be to preside at the next annual meeting and to assist the regional secretary in planning the program.

4. At least 30 days before the annual meeting each regional secretary shall report to the Past President the regional program and other relevant information. The Executive Council may invite regional secretaries to report in person at a Council meeting in order to consider matters of regional import.

### IV. DELEGATES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. At the appropriate time the Executive Council shall appoint a member to serve the customary four-year term as the Society's delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies. Such a delegate may not serve two consecutive terms.

2. The Executive Council may appoint delegates to other learned societies whose purposes are consonant with that of the American Dialect Society. Such delegates shall hold office for two years, and may be reappointed.

### V. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority of members in good standing present at an annual meeting.

## Sherman McAllister Kuhn 1907-1991

Born in Alexandria on the South Dakota prairie and raised in the manses of various villages which his father served as a Presbyterian minister, Sherman Kuhn liked to recall his summers following the harvest northward from Oklahoma into Manitoba. Educated at Dubuque University and Park College, he became a high school teacher of English in Lincoln, Illinois, and attended summer school at the University of Chicago, where he earned an M.A. in American literature (1933) and a Ph.D. in English linguistics (1936, with a dissertation, "A Grammar of the Mercian Dialect").

### International Opportunities

Membership in the recently established International Society for Geolinguistics is available for \$22 by writing the Society c/o ALE, Faculty of Letters, University, Piazza Brunelleschi 3, 50121 Florence, Italy. Membership includes a journal edited by Wolfgang Viereck of the University of Bamberg.

Michael Linn announced that the next in the series of triennial conferences on *Methods in Dialectology*, the VIIIth, would be held in 1993 in its old stamping ground, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

In 1935, he joined the faculty of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, now Oklahoma State University. Following military service as a cryptographer in World War II, he came to Michigan in 1948 as associate professor of English and associate editor of the *Middle English Dictionary*. When Hans Kurath retired in 1961, Kuhn was named editor (and professor) and continued in that post until his own retirement in 1983.

While the *Dictionary* occupied most of his time, he continued work on Mercian Old English and in 1965 published an edition of *The Vespasian Psalter*. In 1973 he and John Reidy received the U-M Press Book award for their work on the *MED*, and in 1982 he was recognized with a Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award for his many contributions to philology. At his retirement, he was presented with a published volume of his major papers (1939-79): *Studies in the Language and Poetics of Anglo-Saxon England* (1984), edited by Robert E. Lewis (whose prefatory "Biographical Sketch" is the source of much of the information above).

A demanding teacher, Sherman conveyed to his students the same respect for precision and love of medieval literature that had been fostered in him by his own mentor, J.M. Manley of Chicago. A long-time member of the ADS, he published in *American Speech* (52 [1980]: 5-18) "Middle English *don* and *maken*: Observations on Semantic Patterning."

—RICHARD W. BAILEY, *Univ. of Michigan*

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**LANGUAGE ORIGINS SOCIETY**—Seventh Annual Meeting, July 18-20, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. **March 15** is the deadline for 500-word abstracts to Edward Callary, English Dept., Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb IL 60115; e-mail TBOEXC1@NIU.BITNET, fax (815) 753-1824.

## DARE Seeks an Indian Hold on Obscure Terms

Now that *DARE* II is finished (and due for publication in May), we are deep into Volume III, which should cover *I* through *N* and perhaps *O*. ADS members can surely help to answer our queries and add further evidence. Please send your comments, as before, on date, place, speaker's age, sex, type of community, and other pertinent matters to Prof. F.G. Cassidy, Dictionary of American Regional English, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706. Thanks to all contributors!

**import store**—*LAGS* has furnished us two instances from Houston, TX. Is this a generic for "deli" or are these informants simply referring to a general import store that also has food? Is it used outside Houston?

**India, Game of India**—"Parcheesi" is the trademarked name. Where is it known as the "Game of India" or merely "India"?

**India, my ship's come home from**—Northwest Arkansas children's game: one quote, 1905. No indication of how it is played or whether it is still being played. What are (or were) the rules?

**influenza sparrow**—a goldfinch. A "oncer" from Mississippi. Does anyone else know the term? Or the reason for this name?

**Indian hold**—the clasping of hands wrist to wrist for extra strength in games such as red rover, in which children try to break through their opponents' line? We have only one example, from Idaho, 1968.

### What Have You Done with *DARE*? What Do You Want with It?

By Joan Hall, *DARE* Associate Editor

**Bibliography entries.** In writing grant proposals we have found it helpful to be able to cite specific instances where *DARE* materials have been used by other scholars. So we are in the process of compiling a bibliography of books and articles that mention *DARE* or have used our data, either from the published volumes or from our resources in Madison. If you've found our material useful, won't you let us know? Please send the bibliographic citation, or better yet a copy of the article. If work is in progress, we'd like to know that too.

***DARE* on tape.** We are writing a proposal for a grant that would allow us to copy all the *DARE* audiotapes, on an open-reel preservation master set and on duplicate cassettes for use by researchers. Many of the tapes include *DARE*'s version of "Arthur the Rat"; all have at least 20 minutes of free conversation. Would you find such tapes useful? Any number of cassettes could be duplicated (at cost) from the master set for your research project.

A look at the Informant list in Volume I of *DARE* (lxxxvi- cli) will tell you where tapes were made and provide information about the age, sex, race, education level, and occupation of each Informant. If you would some day have a use for such tapes, please let us know; we'll keep you informed of the success of the proposal and the progress of the project.

**Data Summary.** Soon we will also begin work on a proposal that would enable us to enhance and expand our *Data Summary*, the list of all responses to all the *DARE* queries, arranged question by question. We hope to be able to add to the responses all phonetic transcriptions in the Questionnaires, and all the comments made by fieldworkers.

Although we wanted to do this in 1970, it was too difficult at that point in computer history.

The enhanced *Data Summary* would be made available to scholars after the publication of the last volume of *DARE*, and would allow users to make maps, call up any response and get a list of Informants who used it, look at phonetic transcriptions, etc. But to make a convincing case, we need to have a more concrete idea of whether and how this information would be useful to you. What could or would you do with it? What other information would be useful? Please let us know as soon as possible. Write to Joan Hall, *DARE*, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

## Katy Bar the Door, *DARE* Won't Mule (Cont.)

- Indian sign**—a hex or curse. Often in the phrase “to have (or put) the Indian sign on (someone).” Our earliest quot is 1909, but surely it was used earlier in the literature of the West?
- Indian walking cane**—Our only quote (from the Ozarks): “The mountain dulcimer, also known as the Indian walking cane or Jacob’s coffin, . . . is a long, narrow, stringed instrument.” We need more evidence on both names.
- jackass cheese**—The *Linguistic Atlas of New England*, Map 299 (*Cottage Cheese*), gives this as “The regular old New England name for it,” but with one quote only—central Connecticut. Other evidence of its use, past or present, would be welcome. And why the name?
- Jackson bean**—Our only quote is from western Mississippi, 1966: beans “that are dark red when they’re dry.” Is the name used elsewhere?
- jag**—verb, to prick or stab, is widespread in the North. Is it used in the South? Where? (It is not related to Gullah *jook* or *juke*.)
- jelly cake, jelly roll**—meaning a jelly-filled doughnut, rather than the usual sense of a flat sponge cake covered with jelly and rolled. The first seems to be gaining ground over the second: if so, where? Is the distinction not made any longer?
- Katy bar the door**—an exclamation, in Wisconsin, to express disbelief at what someone has said. How widespread is this? Under what circumstances would it be used? What’s the origin?
- leadman**—We have two quotes for this game: 1901 central New York and 1950 Illinois, but no description of how it is played. Also, how pronounced—/lid/ or /lɛd/?
- mozey**—a type of marble other than a *commie*; Pennsylvania. Is it still known? What size and material? Where else known?
- milk brother**—a male child who was breast-fed at the same time as another child whose mother served as wet nurse (the first child’s mother having no milk). Appalachia. Can we have more evidence? Is the term still current?
- muck farm or garden**—We have one quote each from New York and Wisconsin. How widespread is the term? What is distinctive about this kind of farm or garden? See next.
- muckland**—Exactly what does this term cover, and where is it used?
- mud gutter**—a curb on a street—northern New Jersey. This looks like a big-city term, and perhaps old, but we have only one quot. However, from Brooklyn, NY, we have **mud-gutter band** for one which plays music in the street. There should be some recollections of this?
- mule**—as a verb: to become quiet (when threatened). “He just muled right down.” One example, from Kentucky, 1962. Where else is it used? Is this the usual sense?
- mully or mullie**—Cambridge, NY, 1989: “a rural person who grew up poor and ignorant, who wore the same dirty jeans covered with oil stains day after day, who was constitutionally unable to stay out of trouble.” This is our only information, but the word seems likely to be well known elsewhere, and perhaps in other senses.

### A Place for Names

Now there is a name and a place for a collection of nearly 300 works on names: The Lurline H. Coltharp Collection of Onomastics at the library of the University of Texas, El Paso.

The wide-ranging collection includes works on the names of Tlaxcala, Mexico; Maine; Cicero’s speeches; British families; cartoons; New Orleans; English places in *-ing*; ancient Egypt; taxicabs and babies, to name a few. Many works are in Spanish. Coltharp is represented with her *Bilingual Onomastics: A Case Study* and *Names in a Pawn Shop: A Study of Navajo Names*.

A 35-page bibliography of the collection, compiled by Roberta Arney, was first published in August 1989 and is to be updated annually.

For information write the library at the University of Texas, El Paso TX 79968-0582. Or for that matter ADS members might want to write the collection’s eponymous godmother: ADS life member and past Executive Council member Lurline Coltharp, 4263 Ridgecrest, El Paso TX 79902.

## **PADS Prospects: DARE We Say?**

It has been a while since anyone has seen a new issue of *Publication of the American Dialect Society*—April 1989, to be exact, when No. 74 appeared (*Variation and Change in Geographically Isolated Communities: Appalachian English and Ozark English*)—but it was the lull before the storm. Four issues are now in the works and not that far from showing up in our mail.

Three of them were announced in the September 1990 *Newsletter*—Nos. 75, 76, and 77, on topics ranging from Sea Island Creole to surreptitious recording to usage. Add to them now a daring new venture: a complete **Index to the Dictionary of American Regional English, Vols. I-II**.

An index for an alphabetically arranged dictionary? Yes, an index to the regional and social labels and other terms used to characterize the words. An index that will tell the reader interested in *Hawaii* to look under *aa*, *abuji*, *across* (prep), *ae*, *ahana*, etc.; that *Indiana* is known for *bank barn*, *belling* (vb1 n 2), *berm* (n 3), *bluetail hawk*, *calling hours*, *carry-in*, *catawba*, etc.; that words labeled *informal* are *and* (conj B3), *appreciate* (v B1), *at* (prep 4), *calaboose*, etc.; that *Black* words include *ace*, *airish* (adj 2), *air out*, *Alabama* (n B), *alligator* (n 1 B5); that *women* use *agree to disagree* (v phr 2), *brat* (n 1), *buck* (n 1 2e), etc.

*DARE* has a long list of labels, all of which will be indexed. There are regional, social, and usage labels (see Vol. I, page xx); etymologies (*back-formation*, *Choctaw*, *English Dialect Dictionary*) and specialized folk vocabulary (*railroading*, *logging*, *marble play*).

Using a computer program devised by Craig Carver, the *DARE* staff will be preparing the index shortly, as soon as final proofs for Volume II are sent to the Harvard University Press.

## **Dickson Up for Tamony in April**

"The Tamony Collection" is the answer to the question: Where (aside from Cooperstown) would the author of a definitive dictionary of baseball have to do his research?

"It couldn't have been done without the Tamony Collection," said Paul Dickson of Garrett Park, Md., a freelance writer and one of the most prolific users of the Tamony Collection.

Dickson has been chosen to give the sixth annual Peter Tamony Memorial Lecture at the University of Missouri, Columbia Thursday, April 18.

He will speak in the Ellis Library Auditorium at 3:45 p.m. Afterwards a reception will be held at the nearby offices of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, 23 Ellis Library, where the Tamony Collection is housed. The public is invited.

Pausing in his work on a "Gulf Glossary" that captures in real time the language of Operation Desert Storm, Dickson said in late January that he intends in his Tamony Lecture to discuss how a practitioner from outside the academic world can make use of special collections, like Tamony and Merriam-Webster, for "Ellery Queen detection" of etymologies.

Among Dickson's recent books which profited from the Tamony Collection are *Slang: The Topic by Topic Dictionary of Contemporary American Lingoes* (Simon & Schuster, Pocket Books, 1990) and *The Dickson Baseball Dictionary* (Facts on File, 1989). A forthcoming dictionary of Congressional terms and book of baseball quotations also cite the Tamony files.

For further information on the Tamony Lecture write Randy Roberts or Nancy Lankford at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, 23 Ellis Library, University of Missouri, Columbia MO 65201; phone (314) 882-6028.

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## **Opportunity for an Editor**

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Now that *PADS* is in full production again, and now that manuscripts (compuscripts?) are routinely available on computer disks, some reorganization of the *PADS* editorial process may be in order. An ad hoc advisory committee (see the report of the Executive Council, page 5, item 12) will work with Editor Dennis Baron to consider possible improvements.

Our publication used to have a managing editor to help with copy editing and prepare manuscripts for printing. Such a person (going by the title of manuscript editor, copy editor, associate editor) might be helpful once again. If you know someone who might be interested in this editorial position, get in touch with Baron at the English Department, University of Illinois, 608 S. Wright St., Urbana IL 61801; phone (217) 333-2392.

# Hail Columbia!

The ADS Summer Meeting is the  
 Dictionary Society of North America Biennial Meeting  
 August 9-11  
 University of Missouri, Columbia

## Deadline for Abstracts: March 25

*Send three copies of a one-page abstract to Professor Donald M. Lance, Dept. of English, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211; phone (314) 882-3582, 449-1757. Twenty minutes will be allowed for each presentation, followed by 10 minutes of discussion.*

*Papers may be proposed on any topic in lexicography or lexicology for the DSNA sessions. In addition, a session of papers on dialectology may be scheduled if there is sufficient interest. Lance is ADS agent for the latter as well as DSNA program chair.*

### The DSNA

Every two years some 50 to 75 of America's leading lexicographers, lexicologists, and lexicophiles may be cited happily commiserating the relentless craft of the harmless drudge at a DSNA summer meeting. Ever since 1981 ADS has happily chosen to go along.

Other linguists can pick and choose their quarry, but the lexicographer must round up the whole herd, achieve a resolution of every problem, rush to meet deadlines and as often as not compress the scholarly enterprise in a publisher's Procrustean bed. By definition, the number of lexicographers is minuscule, for few can be found who possess the necessary wisdom and fortitude to qualify. But they have a pronounced effect on others. And in synonymy with their fellows, they live long and productive lives.

### The Tamony Collection

The preeminent collector of American colloquialisms in the twentieth century was a bachelor San Francisco realtor whose formal education ended with a diploma from St. Peter's High School in the city's Mission District.

In the course of a long lifetime (1902-1985), Peter Tamony systematically collected citations on colloquialisms and slang, especially in sports, jazz, and politics. He published his own reports on them, a series he called "Americanisms: Content and Continuum," as well as a regular column in *Western Folklore* and articles in *American Speech* and other periodicals. *Maledicta* 7 (1983) is a festschrift in his honor.

Tamony's files, 750 linear feet of clippings, paperback books, recordings, and correspondence on contemporary American English, were so neatly arranged that with minimal preparation they were ready for use by researchers when they were donated to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection by his sister Kathleen in 1986.

The Tamony Collection of more than a million citations of 60,000 terms will be available for browsing during the DSNA Summer Meeting. Sessions will be held in the library that houses the collection.

Sixth Annual  
 Peter Tamony Memorial Lecture  
 PAUL DICKSON  
 Thursday, April 18, 3:45 p.m.  
 Ellis Library Auditorium  
 University of Missouri, Columbia  
 (Details on Page 15)