Vol. 23, No. 2  May 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.
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.)
- 3:30-5:00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18, Yavapai Room.
  Chair: Marianna Di Paolo, Univ. of Utah. ADS Regional Secretary: Grant W. Smith, Eastern Washington Univ. Program:
  • Fugitive Sources for a Dictionary of English in Western North America. Thomas L. Clark and Michael Wise, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas.
  • Language Attitudes Towards Phonetic Variants of /al/ and /al/. Marianna Di Paolo.

South Central Regional Meeting
In association with SCMLA, Oct. 31-Nov. 2; Fort Worth, Hyatt Regency Hotel.
  Chair: Garry Ross, Northwestern State Univ., Louisiana. ADS Regional Secretary: Charles B. Martin, Univ. of North Texas. Program:
  • Readin', Writin', an' Rappin'. Janis Sawyer, Henderson State Univ.
  • A Survey of Oklahoma Dialects. Guy Bailey, Tom Wilke and Lori Sand, Oklahoma State Univ.
  • Business session. Election of officers.
  • Speech Act Processes in the Conversation of Children. Martha Dale Cooley, Henderson State Univ.

Midwest Regional Meeting
In association with MMLA, Nov. 14-16; Chicago, McCormick Center Hotel.
  Chair: Donald M. Lance, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia. Program:
  Friday, Nov. 15, SESSION A: 90 minutes
  • Female and Male Dialogue in Lillian Hellman's Plays: A Linguistic Analysis. Lucille M. Bailey, Indiana Univ. at Kokomo.
  • Dialect Is a Virus: Speech and Pathology in the Pages of Dial. Lisa Woolley, Univ. of Minnesota.
  • Using Video in Linguistics Classes: Some Problems and Pitfalls. Timothy C. Frazer, Western Illinois Univ.
  • Southern English Glide Deletion: Alive or Dead? Betty S. Phillips, Indiana State Univ.
  • The Syntactic Features of Muncie African-American English: Eight Case Studies. Lawrence M. Davis and Xiaozhao Huang, Ball State Univ.
  • Attitudes Toward Standard English Grammar: Testing the Acceptability of Non-Standard Sentences. Veronika Horvath, Ball State Univ.
  • More on the Language and Social Structure of a Midwestern College Campus. Thomas E. Murray, Kansas State Univ.

Midwest Dinner: The customary speech-less dinner for dialectologists and friends will follow at a Chinese restaurant a short taxi ride from the hotel. To reserve a place, please notify ADS Regional Secretary Michael I. Miller, Dept. of English and Speech, Chicago State Univ., Chicago IL 60628-1598.

South Atlantic Regional Meeting
In association with SAMLA, Nov. 14-16; Atlanta, Hyatt Regency Peachtree Center.
  2:00-3:45 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, Tudor Room.
  Chair: Bethany K. Dumais, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville. ADS Regional Secretary: Cynthia Bernstein, Auburn Univ.
  • Witnesses, Defendants, Attorneys and Judges: Legal Satire in New Yorker Cartoons. Richard K. Redfern, Bradenton, Fla.
  • The Syntax of Cognitive Negation in Bunyan's Life and Death of Mr. Badman. Mary Jane Curry, Auburn Univ.
  • Changes in Continuity in Military Experience Narratives. Carl J. Arseneault, Univ. of Tennessee.

In the Next Issue
Full details about registration, membership, and future regional meetings.
Attractive accommodations are being arranged.

Tentative Program!

ANNUAL MEETING 1991
San Francisco • December 27-30

Sunday, December 29
8:00-10:00 a.m.:
ADS Executive Council
Meeting open to all ADS members.
1:00-3:00 p.m.: Other Languages
• New England French in New York State: The French of Cohoes, N.Y. Cynthia A. Fox, State Univ. of New York, Albany.
• American English Influence on the Vocabulary of Fast Food in Brazil. Brian Head, State Univ. of New York, Albany.
• Recent Borrowings from Spanish into English. Garland Cannon, Texas A&M Univ.
3:00-5:00 p.m.: Dialectology
• Semantic Variation and Core Semantics. Kim Sydow Campbell, Auburn Univ.
• Labov's Contribution to the Sociolinguistics of the City. Nathalia Golubeva-Monatkina, Institute of International Relations, Moscow, U.S.S.R.
• Folk Dialectology. Dennis Preston, Eastern Michigan Univ.
5:00-6:00 p.m.:
Bring-Your-Own-Book Exhibit
6:00-7:00 p.m.:
New Words of 1991
• John Algeo, Univ. of Georgia, and David Barnhart, Lexik Books.
7:00-8:00 p.m.:
DARE Celebration, Volume II

Monday, December 30
8:00-9:00 a.m.:
Annual Business Meeting
9:00-12:00 noon: Program
• The (W)hole Story of the Doughnut. Anne Lambert, Univ. of Florida.
• J. R. Lowell's Literary Yankee Dialect: The Courtin' (1484-1873). Herbert Penzl, Univ. of California, Berkeley.
• Written Evidence of Black English in the Mid-Nineteenth Century. Celia Millward, Boston Univ.
• Reconstruction and the American Language: The End of Dialect? Randy Roberts, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia.
12:15-2:00 p.m.:
Annual Luncheon

ADS at MLA
ADS-sponsored session at the MLA Annual Meeting, time and place to be announced:
• The English Language in Japan: The 19th Century. Richard W. Bailey, Univ. of Michigan.
• Early American Literary Sociolinguistics. Marianne Cooley, Univ. of Houston.
• Wordplay and Humor in Gay and Lesbian Slang. Leonard R.N. Ashley, Brooklyn College, CUNY.
Financial Report for 1990

RECEIPTS

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BANK BALANCES DECEMBER 31

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*The Hans Kurath Fund for the Linguistic Atlas, administered in trust by ADS, supports Linguistic Atlas work at the University of Georgia. Since the Kurath Fund is primarily invested in mutual funds, bills are paid out of ADS general funds and then reimbursed, with interest, when mutual funds are cashed in.*
Teaching Committee Invites—

Wayne Glowka and Donald Lance announce that the ADS Committee on Teaching's Language Variation in North America: Research and Teaching has been approved for publication by MLA.

Kathryn Riley now takes over the chair of the committee from Lance. ADS members are invited to join the newly reconstituted committee and to help define and implement new projects—for example, updating the 1983 survey and bibliography on teaching about American dialects. (See NADS 16.1, January 1984, 8-10.)

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please drop a note by September 1 to Riley at Dept. of Composition—420H, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth MN 55812.

ADS at NCTE

ADS session at the convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, Nov. 22-27:

Seattle, Washington State Convention Center.
Session I-18, 4:45-6:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24.
Classroom Uses of the Dictionary of American Regional English.
Chair: Allan Metcalf, MacMurray College.
Presentation: Beth Lee Simon, DARE.
Preregistration for NCTE members is $70. For further convention information write NCTE, 1111 Kenyon Road, Urbana, Illinois 61801; phone (217) 328-3870, fax (217) 328-9645.

ADS at LSA

ADS session at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 9-12, 1992, Philadelphia, Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel:
Panel: The Significance of Slang.
Chair: Connie Eble, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Panelists include Pamela Munro, UCLA, and others to be announced.
Preregistration for LSA or ADS members is $40 regular, $20 student. Hotel rooms are $65 single or double. Write LSA Secretariat—Annual Meeting, 1325 18th St. NW Suite 211, Washington DC 20036-6501; phone (202) 835-1714.

NWAV Call for Papers

The 1991 conference on New Ways of Analyzing Variation will be held at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Oct. 3-6. Abstracts of 20-minute papers are invited for an ADS session. Please send them by July 15 to Dennis R. Preston, Dept. of English Language and Literature, Eastern Michigan Univ., Ypsilanti MI 48197; phone (313) 484-3643, bitnet userxeah@umich. Papers on all aspects of variation are invited, including bilingual and pidgin-creole varieties and variation in the organization of discourse or pragmatics.

Panel on Newfoundland English

At the American Folklore Society annual meeting Oct. 17-20, Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's:
Organizers and Chairs: John M. Kirk (Queen's Univ. of Belfast) and Sandra Clarke (Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland). Presentations:
Continuity and Change in a Regional Lexicon. George Story, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, co-editor of Dictionary of Newfoundland English.
Language and Performance: Dialect and Verbal Art in Newfoundland Oral Narrative. J.D.A. Widdowson, Univ. of Sheffield, co-editor of Dictionary of Newfoundland English.
Lexical vs. Structural Variants in Areal Dialects of Newfoundland English: A Comparison of Two Surveys. Harold Paddock, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, author of The Dialect of Carbonear.
Generics and Specifics of Placentia Bay Place Names. R. Hollett, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, editor of Newfoundland Regional Language Studies.
Respondents: Clarke and Michael B. Montgomery, Univ. of South Carolina.

For further information about the panel, write Sandra Clarke, Dept. of Linguistics, Memorial Univ., St. John's NF Canada A1B 3X9. Or contact John M. Kirk, Dept. of English, Queen's Univ. of Belfast, Belfast BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland.

Chair of the local organizing committee is Gerald Thomas, Dept. of Folklore, Memorial Univ.

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.
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.


Craig M. Carver. A History of English in Its Own Words. New York: HarperCollins, 1991. 275 pages illustrated. This informal history is told primarily by the etymologies of more than 750 words in order of their entrance into the language. Each of the six chapters covers a period in the development of English (including American English) and has a background account of the important linguistic and historical events.


David Muschell. Where in the Word? Prima Publishing (PO Box 1260WW, Rocklin CA 95677), distributed by St. Martin’s Press, Nov. 1990. iii + 290 pages. $8.95 paper. A general-audience look at word origins, examining nearly a thousand common words from aardvark to geek to zodiac.


Also of Note

Dictionary Society Program: Friday, August 9 (See Back Page)

All sessions in Auditorium, Ellis Library

8:00-9:00 a.m. • Registration
9:00-9:15 • Welcoming remarks

9:15-10:45 • Session A

   □ Concept names are word combinations which may be eponymous, colorful or descriptive, serving to honor their discoverers or accentuate new ideas—and to enhance or legitimize arguments in scientific papers. They can also serve the historian of science. Quick and easy gathering of concept names should be possible with computerized reference databases, but the usefulness of databases varies according to their structure.

9:45 • Semantic Field Theory and Dictionary Construction. Harris Winitz, Psychology and Speech Science, Univ. of Missouri, Kansas City.
   □ According to this theory, lexical items are organized in memory into discrete networks or word webs, whose structure is defined according to principles such as coordination, collocation, superordination and synonymy. A word-web dictionary consists of miniature narratives, each centered on a concrete anchor word. A subsequently presented word is then defined according to its function within a particular word web.

   □ For every procedure that its culture considers notable, the language has a transitive, however technical. And a complex action must, by definition, have at least two parts. Therefore any transitive can be divided into ever simpler ones. Our Darwinian paradigm recommends that we define a concept as the most similar simpler concept, plus a slight addendum: To enlarge and develop = to grow. To tend and grow = to foster. To grow and complete = to mature, etc. Such causality-branching broadens wordbooks' traditional reliance on alphabetics or synonymy.

10:45-11:05 • Break

11:05-12:05 • Session B

11:05 • Slang Etymology, Dictionaries, and the Tamony Collection. Gerald Cohen, Modern Languages, Univ. of Missouri, Rolla.
   □ Even the leading dictionaries are weak in their treatment of slang etymologies. For example, beef 'complaint, to complain' is listed under beef 'meat' with no mention of its deriving from criminal rhyming slang beef 'stop thief'. All leading dictionary publishers should have etymology editors and perhaps in-house specialists in slang etymology, and one of the first tasks of these specialists should be to familiarize themselves with Peter Tamony's material.

   □ The etymology of heroin serves as an example of the political role of dictionaries in our culture. Current dictionaries claim that Heroin, the German trade name for diacetylmorphine, derives from the Greek word for 'hero' and say that it was named for its psychological effects, that is, it makes one feel like a hero. Although this etymology runs counter to available evidence, it follows a prevailing mythology surrounding heroin and its use. This paper presents evidence for a more credible etymology.

12:05-1:25 • Lunch

1:30-3:00 • Session C

1:30 • Blacks, Whites, and Natives: Some Apparent Inconsistencies in Capitalization Practice as Revealed by Major Dictionaries. Robert S. Wachal, Linguistics, Univ. of Iowa.
   □ Exploring the capitalization practices of major dictionaries for names of ethnic groups reveals some apparent principles as well as logical inconsistencies and divided usage. Because capitalization may confer recognition or indicate respect, the use of lowercase may be perceived as belittling, disrespectful or even bigoted. Thus capitalization practices merit serious study in the socially sensitive area of ethnic identification.
Friday Afternoon, Saturday Morning: Worldwide Lexicography

2:00 • Ethnolectal Representation in the Dictionary of the English/Creole of Trinidad and Tobago. Lise Winer, Linguistics, Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale.

While there are virtually no young local native speakers of heritage languages other than English or English Creole in Trinidad and Tobago, many words from other languages have become part of the vernacular. This paper discusses 1) the importance of including “minority” ethnolectal words in the dictionary, 2) criteria for their inclusion, 3) data collection, 4) usage labeling, and 5) popular reactions to a policy of inclusiveness. Special attention is given to emic and etic approaches.

2:30 • The Early New High German Dictionary: Onomasiological Complements. Ulrich Goebel, German, Texas Tech Univ.

Semasiological lexicography takes as its point of departure the phonetic/graphemic sign (word) and observes its semantic contents (meanings); onomasiological lexicography does the reverse. I will discuss methodology and procedures used in compiling two onomasiological registers for the Early New High German Dictionary.

3:00-3:20 • Break

3:20-4:50 • Session D

3:20 • The Renaissance of Lexicographical Work on Canadian French. Pierre Cardinal, Univ. of Quebec/Hull.

After three and a half centuries (1640-1959) of mainly prescriptive glossary making, there has been a true scientific Renaissance in lexicographical work on Canadian French, especially in the last decade. There is a continuing theoretical debate, with ideological overtones, between the proponents of a “domestic” (internal) vs. an “international” (external) standard.


How does one gloss pronunciation in a script that is neither alphabetic nor syllabic? The classical Chinese lexicographer devised several strategies for providing this phonetic information, starting with shaky paronomastic examples and ending with sophisticated rhyme tables built upon Sanskrit linguistics.


The dictionary is arranged alphabetically, containing approximately 300,000 entry words and phrases without including run-on entries. Great attention is given to meaning discriminations of synonyms and idiomatic usage. The innovations are presentation techniques, hitherto not exploited in China, concerned with assisting English learners.

6:30-9:00 • Reception

Chancellor’s Residence

Saturday, August 10

8:30-9:00 a.m., Registration

9:00-10:30 • Session E

9:00 • Towards a Lexical-Based Lexicography. Rufus H. Gouws, Afrikaans, Univ. of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Where the word-based dictionary concentrates on a listing of headwords, a lexical-based dictionary offers a more comprehensive reflection of the lexicon by listing lemmas, which include multi-word units and morphemes that are smaller than words. Although the majority of dictionaries include multilexical and sublexical lemmas, a definite word-bias still prevails. To include words as lemmas even though they do not qualify as lexical items but merely function as parts of multilexical items impedes the linguistic quality of a dictionary.

9:30 • Session on Meanings vis-à-vis Senses in Lexicological Research:

• An Associative Approach to Senses and Meanings. Sally Yeates Sedelow and Walter A. Sedelow, Computer Science, Univ. of Arkansas, Little Rock.

Mathematical Ring Theory (and the theory of Semi-Rings as well), when taken along with Rough
Sets, affords an alternative to hierarchical Knowledge Representation structures for capturing Associative Differentials in word senses. This is because the brain is not a dictionary but closer to a conceptual thesaurus. Before dictionaries, words did not have "definitions" or "meanings," but rather Roughly established, Roughly resolvable sense associations.

- The Reexamination of Type-10 Chains of the Bryan Model vis-à-vis Abstract Thesauri via the Talburt-Mooney Quartet. Victor Jacuzzi, Computer and Informational Science, Univ. of Arkansas, Little Rock.

  □ Building on the work of John Talburt and Donna Mooney ("The Decomposition of Roget's International Thesaurus into Type-10 Semantically Strong Components," Proceedings, 1989 ACM South Central Regional Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma, pp. 78–83), this presentation will recapitulate a replication test of their work, as well as evaluating Roget's as an instantiation of the "Abstract Thesauri" model defined by Robert Bryan ("Abstract Thesauri and Graph Theory Applications in Thesaurus Research," in S. Sedelow et al., Automated Language Analysis 1972–1973, Lawrence: Univ. of Kansas Depts. of Computer Science and Linguistics, pp. 45–69). Talburt and Mooney concluded that the Type-10 restriction over-discriminates, resulting in more homographs than are found in standard dictionaries. This presentation will describe alternative algorithms to exploit Type-10 constraints with Roget’s.

- Image Schemas and Lexicons: A Comparison between Two Lexical Networks. John Old, Computer and Informational Science, Univ. of Arkansas, Little Rock.

  □ Brugman and Lakoff (in Lexical Ambiguity Resolution, 1987, ed. Small, Cottrell and Tanenhaus) attempt a graphic representation of distinctions among word senses that are definitionally determined. This paper compares their lexical network for over with the hierarchical and cross-hierarchical networks for the same word derived from Roget's International Thesaurus, 3rd edition. Clusterings within the networks of the latter are formed through multiple links, which in turn provide a basis for definition of strength of semantic connectivity.

10:30-10:50 • Break
10:50-12:20 • Session F
Co-Sponsored by the American Dialect Society

10:50 • The Treatment of Nonce Words by Lexicographers, Allen Walker Read, emeritus, Columbia Univ.

  □ What should be the attitude of lexicographers toward nonce words? Does the catching of nonce words have any importance? Is the task so daunting that it should be bypassed? Some practices in the past will be surveyed.

  One “small” area alone represents millions of possible items: the derivatives from geographic names. We all accept Chicagoan, Denverite, and Columbian, but derivatives from the names of small villages can turn up at any time. Are there “Podunkers”?

  Does the dictionary establish a canon for a word corpus? Can popular attitudes, one way or the other, be modified?


  □ The flood of neologisms presents two problems for a lexicographer: which new items to include and which older ones to delete. Even if the dictionary is to be revised frequently, the editor must look for new terms which will reflect some major element of society. Most teenage slang terms, for example, are probably not worth the time and research required to include them. Likewise, many new scientific terms which garner attention in the press will fade into obscurity. The editor must decide whether or not hula hoops will become the next yo-yo.

11:50 • The Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English. Michael Montgomery, English, Univ. of South Carolina, and Joseph S. Hall, English, Pasadena City Coll.

  □ This dictionary will include 4000 entries and introductory essays on the history, pronunciation and grammar of the English of a remote region of Southern Appalachia. Even though most of the territory was made a national park and depopulated 50 years
Saturday Afternoon, August 10: History and Grammar

ago, there is a rich collection of source materials. They include recordings, notes, and citations made by Joseph Sargent Hall from the late 1930s through the late 1960s; early 20th-century local and historical literature; and 30 hours of recorded interviews with former residents, made by park personnel from the 1950s through the 1970s. The historical essay will deal with Old World connections in detail.

12:20-1:45 • Lunch
Memorial Student Union

1:45-3:15 • Session G

1:45 • Of Bestiaries, Dictionaries, and the Perpetuation of Myth and Folk Belief. David Vancil, Rare Books and Special Collections, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State Univ.

Cockeram’s Part Three (second edition 1626) treats “of Gods and Goddesses Men and Women, Boyes and Maids, Giants and Divels, Birds and Beasts, Monkies and Serpents, Wells and Rivers, Hearbes, Stones, Trees, Dogges, Fishes, and the like.” In the bestiary tradition, early dictionaries like Cockeram’s, whose work was intended for “young Schollers,” perpetuated myth and folk beliefs of earlier times, first in an acceptance of fanciful nonscientific definitions and then by defining in special dictionaries of phrase and fable terms such as “crocodile tears.”


Both Webster (1841, but not acknowledged till 1864) and Worcester (1846) independently made use of some 5,000 or 6,000 new words supplied by clergyman William Allen (1784-1868), president of Bowdoin College 1819-1839. Coleridge, Byron and Scott were favorite writers cited in Allen’s list, while there were numerous citations to British literary periodicals.

2:45 • Who Was Philip Gove? A Profile of the Editor of Webster’s Third. Herbert C. Morton, Bethesda, Md.

Based on his papers and interviews with former staff members, his son and daughters, and others who knew him, this profile of Gove is drawn from a manuscript on the dictionary controversy to be completed this fall for Yale University Press.

Gove turned to lexicography in mid-career, a not unfamiliar pattern. A New Englander, he joined the Merriam Company as an assistant editor in 1946. Within five years he was put in charge of the Third Edition. Self-confident, strong-minded, hard-working, and demanding of his staff, Gove had the confidence of the Merriam management, and the dictionary was, to a surprising extent for a large collective work, “his book,” as H. B. Woolf put it. He was prepared for criticism of Webster’s Third but not for the vituperation directed at him.

3:15-3:35 • Break

3:35-5:05 • Session H

3:35 • Latin Derivational Morphology in English Dictionaries. James Rader, Merriam-Webster.

Historical linguists see Latin suffixes quite differently from Anglo-American lexicographers. There are different parsings of base and suffix boundaries, most dramatically with suffixes that for Latinists begin with t, such as action-noun suffixes -tus and -tio and the agentive suffix -tor. English dictionaries uniformly see these as suffixes beginning with a vowel. There are also underanalyses, resulting in the merger in a single dictionary entry of what Latinists see as more than one suffix. For example, the English suffix -ile collapses at least three Latin suffixes: denominal -ilis, deverbal -ilis (a variant of -bilis), and deverbal -tilis.

4:05 • Grammatical Information in ESL Dictionaries. Edward S. McCorduck, State Univ. of New York, Syracuse.

This paper examines the accuracy, clarity and utility of information on grammar provided in ESL dictionaries through grammar codes, definitions, example sentences and usage notes. It discusses related information that often is not included but would also be useful.

4:35 • Bilingual Collocational Dictionaries. Morton Benson, Slavic Languages, Univ. of Pennsylvania.

The time has come to move beyond the mono-
Saturday Night, Sunday Morning: Wine, Cheese, Etymology

lingual dictionary and tackle the problems of treating collocations in bilingual dictionaries. One major problem is cultural differences. For example, in a combinatory English-Russian dictionary, a clearance sale can be easily translated since the same referent exists in the target culture along with a Russian term. On the other hand, Russian culture does not include the American concept garage sale or dinner theater, electoral college, sunshine law, TV dinner, work-study student, etc. Another difficulty is the rendering of grammatical differences, such as the English category of the article (definite and indefinite).

5:05-6:00 • Business Meeting

6:30-7:30 • Wine and Cheese Reception
Sponsored by the U.S. Trademark Association

7:30-9:00 • Banquet

Sunday, August 11

9:00-10:30 • Session I

9:00 • Old English Lexicography and the Problem of Headword Spelling. Michael Ellis, English, Southwest Missouri State Univ.

Since all but a handful of Old English manuscripts are in late rather than early West Saxon, dictionaries with headwords normalized to Henry Sweet's idealized early West Saxon suffer limitations as research tools. The new Toronto Dictionary of Old English fortunately bases its spellings on late West Saxon. Its extensive cross-referencing and attention to variant forms suggest that the technology which has made the DOE possible has also freed it from the necessity of a narrowly defined and phonocentric model for Old English spelling.


In Caxton's translations from the French, the French word-stock is significantly greater than that of earlier French-influenced writers. In comparison to the Romance neologisms of earlier courtly writers, particularly Chaucer, Caxton's tend to be less semantically novel and more purely rhetorical. Probably because of their inferior semantic usefulness, Caxton's first recorded occurrences have a lower survival rate than those of earlier writers.

10:00 • The OED Database and Specialized Dictionaries: A Case Study. Linda M. Jones, Centre for the New OED, Univ. of Waterloo, Canada.

The OED database has made possible the identification and extraction of about 1000 entries for a historical Dictionary of English Nursery Language. Labeling for this topic is scant, and definitions and etymologies vary widely in the manner in which they identify relevant entries. Considerable editing and further supporting material were also needed. But the apparent limitations are minor impediments compared to the overall value of the resource.

10:50-12:20 • Session J

10:50 • Gazing at The Imperial Dictionary. Michael Hancher, English, Univ. of Minnesota.

Though in its text it copied Webster, John Ogilvie's Imperial Dictionary (Edinburgh and London: Blackie and Son, 1850) was the first general dictionary of English to rely heavily on pictorial illustration. Thousands of detailed pictures represented flora and fauna, industrial machines, mercantile sailing vessels, architectural elements, ecclesiastical utensils and vestments, classical artifacts, military weapons and heraldic designs. This paper will discuss the cognitive and cultural functions served by the illustrations, taking into account the institutional authority of Victorian iconography, the commercial and intellectual practices of Blackie and Son, the aesthetic training of the project's art editor, and the lexicographical purposes advocated by Locke.

11:20 • Notes & Queries as a Source for a New Bibliographical Dictionary of English Etymology. Martha Berryman, Germanic Philology, Univ. of Minnesota.

Founded in 1849, Notes & Queries was intended as a "cheap and frequent means" of providing a forum for queries, amateur speculation, and scholarship on all subjects. Many articles were devoted to the etymology of English words. Where the etymon
Dictionary Society of North America Biennial Meeting

The full program is displayed here on Pages 7 through 12. In addition, there will be book exhibits, and the Tamony Collection on colloquialisms and slang will be on display in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

Preregistration is $20 and must be received by July 29, along with payments for Saturday lunch (deli buffet, $7.50) and banquet ($22). On-site tickets will be limited. Request a parking permit if needed. Make checks payable to University of Missouri and mail to DSNA Meeting, 348 Hearnes Center, Univ. of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211.


Transportation: Columbia is halfway between St. Louis and Kansas City on Interstate 70. TWA discounts of 40 percent off full coach fare or 5 percent off economy fares are available by mentioning DSNA to your travel agent or TWA at (800) 325-4933.

Housing is available at special rates. Mention DSNA when making reservations.

—University Inn (formerly Rodeway), 1111 East Broadway, half a mile from the meeting; downtown, close to restaurants and night life. $29.50 single, $39.50 double if reserved by July 9. ♦ ♦ from AAA. (314) 449-2401.

—Campus Inn, 1112 Stadium Blvd., a mile from the meeting. More comfortably appointed than the University Inn. $32 single or double by July 9. ♦ ♦ from AAA. (314) 449-2371.

The best two upscale accommodations in town:

—Ramada Inn, 1000 Vandiver Drive, 2.3 miles from the meeting. $44 single or double by July 1. ♦ ♦ ♦ from AAA. (800) 228-2828, (314) 449-0051.

—Holiday Inn Executive Center, 2200 I-70 Drive SW. $54 single, $64 double by July 25. ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ from AAA. (800) 465-4329, (314) 445-8531.

Continued from Previous Page (Complete Program Starts on Page 7)

of a word or phrase is lost, the evidence of a mid-19th-century amateur can be as helpful as any modern conjecture. These articles will be cited in a Bibliographical Dictionary of English Etymology now being compiled at the University of Minnesota. Current etymological scholarship is too often ignorant of the work of its predecessors, and the same etymologies are offered again and again.

11:50 • Americanisms in Mary Botham Howitt's Our Cousins in Ohio (1849). Earl R. Anderson, English, Cleveland State Univ.

This book by an Englishwoman is based on a journal of one year, prepared by her sister, who lived on a farm not far from Athens in the Ohio River Valley. The 77 Americanisms she calls attention to in her book, therefore, are based on first-hand observation by an English native. She never makes a negative remark about an Americanism. They include 19 words not attested in dictionaries of Americanisms, such as bar 'fence rail', holiday fix 'precise order', imported carpet (in contrast to rag-carpet) and popcorn candy.

12:20 • Closing comments