

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

NADS
24.1

Vol. 24, No. 1 **January 1992**

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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

MacMurray College

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FIRST CLASS

Forwarding and Address

Correction Requested

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting

In association with RMMLA, Oct. 15-17; Ogden, Utah; Weber State Univ.

March 15 is the deadline for abstracts or papers to the meeting chair, Michael Wise, English Department, Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas NV 89154.

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

Membership in RMMLA is \$20 regular, \$10 student. Write RMMLA Executive Director Charles G. Davis, Dept. of English, Boise State Univ., Boise ID 83725; phone (208) 385-1199.

Future meetings: 1993 Denver, Metropolitan State Univ.; 1994 Colorado Springs, Colorado College; 1995 Spokane, Eastern Washington Univ.

South Central Regional Meeting

In association with SCMLA, Oct. 29-31; Memphis, Radisson and Ramada Hotels.

March 15 is the deadline for abstracts to the meeting chair, Martha Dale Cooley, Dept. of English, Henderson State Univ., Arkadelphia AR 71923; phone (501) 246-5511.

ADS Regional Secretary 1992-93: Charles B. Martin, Dept. of English, Univ. of North Texas, P.O. Box 13827, Denton TX 76203-3827; phone (817) 565-2149.

Membership in SCMLA is \$20 full professors, \$15 associate and assistant professors, \$10 instructors and students. 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: 1993 Austin.

Midwest Regional Meeting

In association with MMLA, Nov. 5-7; St. Louis, Marriott Pavilion Downtown Hotel.

April 6 is the deadline for abstracts to the meeting chair, Betty Phillips, English Department, Indiana State Univ., Terre Haute IN 47809; phone (812) 237-3171, 237-3164.

ADS Regional Secretary 1991-92: Michael I. Miller, Associate Provost, Chicago State Univ., 95th

St. at King Drive, Chicago IL 60628-1598; phone (312) 995-3608.

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 meeting: 1993 Nov. 4-6 Minneapolis, Hyatt Regency.

South Atlantic Regional Meeting

In association with SAMLA, Nov. 12-14; Knoxville.

May 1 is the deadline for abstracts of 10-page papers to the meeting chair, Ellen Johnson, English Department, Park Hall, Univ. of Georgia, Athens GA 30602; phone (404) 542-2246. Presenters must be members of both SAMLA and ADS. Presenters are limited to one paper at the SAMLA meeting.

ADS Regional Secretary 1992-93: Cynthia Bernstein, Dept. of English, 9030 Haley Center, Auburn Univ., Auburn University AL 36849-5203; phone (205) 844-9072.

Membership in SAMLA is \$15 for individuals. Write SAMLA, Drawer 6109, University Station, Tuscaloosa AL 35486-6109; phone (205) 348-9067.

Future meetings: 1993 Atlanta, Hyatt Regency Peachtree Center; 1994 Baltimore, Omni Inner Harbor; 1995 Atlanta, Marriott Marquis.

Taboo Talk Wanted for NCTE Meeting

As usual, ADS will sponsor a session at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, to be held this year in Louisville Nov. 20-23. The proposed theme (hopably enticing to convention attendees) is "Taboo Language in the Classroom," dealing with such topics as how to respond to students' use of taboo language, how to deal with taboo language in texts the students read, how circumspect a teacher should be in using taboo language, and studying taboo language as a class project—or perhaps which words might be considered taboo in the first place. If you would like to participate in this program, please notify the Executive Secretary before the end of March.

Proposals are
WELCOME
from all ADS
members.

ANNUAL MEETING 1992

New York City • December 27-30

CALL FOR PAPERS

Bring your
BOOK
to the B.Y.O.B.
exhibit!

Deadline for abstracts: March 23

Back in the mother of all cities, ADS in 1992 will feature a special session "In Honor of Takesi Sibata: Current Japanese Dialectology and Sociolinguistics" with papers by his former students and exhibits of Japanese linguistics books (Dec. 29), as well as our customary "New Words of the Year" (Dec. 29), Bring-Your-Own-Book Exhibit (Dec. 29), and Annual Luncheon (Dec. 30).

If you'd like to participate, send your abstract to Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf, specifying whether you prefer the independent sessions (at a satisfying venue, still to be chosen) or a session at MLA (which requires MLA membership by April 1 as well as MLA registration), and whether you need audio-visual equipment. You are encouraged to make a proposal even if you do not have a topic fully developed.

Mother Wins '91 Word Title; Successor Sought for '92

Sixty-odd members and friends of ADS filled the opulent Salon IV of the Ritz-Carlton San Francisco Sunday evening, Dec. 29, 1991, to select our second annual Word of the Year—the word or phrase that best characterized the year immediately past.

The winner for 1991, hands down, was the ubiquitous phrase "mother of all —," adapted from Saddam Hussein's reference to the anticipated "mother of all battles" in late 1990 and applied, especially after the rout of Saddam's forces, to innumerable political and commercial occasions, especially those of more bluster than substance.

In spirited discussion and voting, those present also picked the words or phrases that were—

- Most likely to succeed: *rollerblade*, the skate with rollers in a row, and *safe computing*, taking precautions to avoid computer viruses.

- Most amazing: *velcroid*, a person who sticks by the President, especially for photo opportunities.

- Most unnecessary: *massively parallel*, many small computers yoked together.

- Most successful: *in your face*, 'aggressive, confrontational, flamboyant'.

- Most original: *pharming* or *moleculer pharming*, genetically modifying farm animals to produce human proteins for pharmaceutical use.

Aided by nominations from ADS members, panelists David Barnhart and John Algeo (with Adele Algeo) selected a few dozen final candidates for the New Words session. "Among the New Words" in the Summer 1992 *American Speech* will have a further report on the 1991 contest.

Thankfully, 1992 is starting with less of a bang than 1991. Maybe the New Word of 1992 will be as innocuous as *nabs* 'non-alcoholic brews'.

In any case, your assistance is needed to ensure that the true New Word of 1992 will be properly recognized. Send nominations, along with citations (tearsheet or photocopy for printed sources, note of circumstances for oral ones) to either:

John Algeo, English Department, Park Hall, Univ. of Georgia, Athens GA 30602 or

David Barnhart, Lexik House, P.O. Box 247, Cold Spring NY 10516.

And plan to be present for the vote on Dec. 29, 1992 at the ADS Annual Meeting in New York City.

MORE CALLS FOR PAPERS

Liaison Volunteers Sought

As an interdisciplinary, wide-ranging society, the ADS thrives on association with kindred academic bodies. At the December annual meeting, the Executive Council voted to extend the range of our formal alliances by encouraging individual members to propose ADS-sponsored sessions at meetings of other groups such as the American Folklore Society (see the May 1991 newsletter, page 5) or the International Congress of Linguists (see below right).

Currently ADS regularly sponsors sessions with the Modern Language Association of America (Dec. 27-30, with our annual meeting), the Linguistic Society of America (early January), and the Dictionary Society of North America (summers of odd-numbered years), as well as the conferences on Methods in Dialectology and regional affiliates of the Modern Language Association. This December the ADS Executive Council hopes to expand the list of regular collaborations.

If you know of a meeting at which ADS should sponsor a session, or if you are willing to organize such a session, please notify the Executive Secretary as far in advance as possible. One example:

AILA, the 10th World Congress of Applied Linguistics, Aug. 8-14 1993 in Amsterdam. For program information write Dr. Johan F. Matter, Secretary-General AILA '93, Vakgroep TTW-VU, 10A-28, De Boelelaan 1105, 1081 HV Amsterdam, Netherlands; phone 31-(0)20-5483075, fax 31-(0)20-6426355, e-mail bitnet AILA@LET.VU.NL. For registration and general information write AILA '93, University Conference Service, Vrije Universiteit, De Boelelaan 1105, 1081 HV Amsterdam, Netherlands; phone 31-(0)20-5484656, fax 31-(0)20-6462425.

ADS at LSA?

Participants and program are needed for the customary ADS-sponsored session at the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, to be held next in Los Angeles, Jan. 7-10, 1993. If you would like to volunteer for a talk—or propose a whole program—please notify the Executive Secretary soon.

Present-Day English at MLA

Quantitative studies of English are invited for this year's Present-Day English session of the Modern Language Association in New York City Dec. 27-30. Proposals might include word counts, counts of speakers, or the role of quantitative measurement in current English study. Send abstracts or papers by *March 15* to William A. Kretzschmar, Jr., Dept. of English, Univ. of Georgia, Athens GA 30602. Participants in this and the other MLA programs must be members of MLA by April 1.

LEXICOGRAPHY—"Tools in Lexicography"—broadly interpreted to include old and new tools—is the theme for the Lexicography Discussion Group at MLA. Abstracts are invited by *March 23* to David Barnhart, Lexik House, PO Box 247, Cold Spring NY 10516; phone (914) 265-2822.

LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY—"Language Shapes Our Lives: How Language Choices Affect Our Way of Living" is the theme for the Language and Society Division at the MLA meeting. Abstracts are invited by *April 1* to Allen Walker Read, 39 Claremont Ave., New York NY 10027.

ADS at ICL

Garland Cannon of Texas A&M University will chair an ADS-sponsored symposium on "Dictionaries, Neologisms and Dialectal Variations" at the XIVth International Congress of Linguists in Québec August 9-14. **John Algeo**, Univ. of Georgia, will speak on neologisms; **Fred Cassidy** will speak on *DARE*; **Murray Kinloch**, Univ. of New Brunswick, will speak on the history of Canadianisms.

ICL (or CIL, to speak French) also will have a panel discussion on "Women and Language" organized by **Sandra Clarke**.

For information write CIL 92, Dépt. de langues et linguistique, Université Laval, Québec G1K 7P4, Canada; phone (418) 656-2625; fax (418) 656-2019; CIPL92@LAVALVM1.BITNET. Registration is not cheap; participants pay \$285 (U.S.), accompanying guests \$142.50. Lodging is available in hotels at single-room rates ranging from \$65 to \$148 (Canadian) per night, with campus rooms at \$32. There are special rates for students.

MORE MEETINGS

Language Variety in the South: Conference Planned April 1993

A once-in-a-decade conference on Language Variety in the South will be held at Auburn University April 1-4, 1993 in conjunction with the spring meeting of the Southeast Conference on Linguistics.

The previous meeting on this topic was held at the University of South Carolina in 1981. Proceedings were published in *Language Variety in the South*, ed. Michael Montgomery and Guy Bailey (Univ. of Alabama Press, 1986).

The South Carolina conference focussed on black-white speech relations. The Auburn conference will provide an opportunity to review developments in that area, including publication of the *Linguistic Atlas of the Gulf States* (Pederson et al. 1981-91), *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (Wilson and Ferris 1989), *Dictionary of American Regional English* (Cassidy et al. 1985-), *The Tennessee Civil War Veterans Questionnaires* (Dyer and Moore, eds., 1985), *Freedom* (documents from the National Archives; Freedmen and Southern Society Project 1982-), *The Emergence of Black English* (transcriptions of interviews with former slaves; Bailey, Maynor and Cukor-Avila, eds., 1991).

Ranging further afield, the Auburn conference will encompass historical perspectives, regional perspectives, social perspectives, discourse perspectives, and perception issues, including attitudes and educational consequences.

It will also provide opportunities to share innovative computer methods in the collection and analysis of data.

Proceedings may be broadcast to other college campuses by satellite. A volume of essays based on conference presentations is expected to be published.

The conference is supported by a \$500 grant from ADS as well as by the host university. Other funding is being sought.

For further information write the conference organizer, **Cynthia Bernstein**, Dept. of English, 9030 Haley Center, Auburn University, Auburn University AL 36849-5203; phone (205) 844-9072, fax (205) 844-2378.

Tamony Abroad in April

Richard W. Bailey of the University of Michigan will speak on "Americanisms Abroad" April 23 at the University of Missouri, Columbia, in the seventh annual Peter Tamony Memorial Lecture on the American Language.

The talk will be given in Ellis Library auditorium at 3:45 p.m. A reception afterward will be hosted by the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, home of the vast Tamony files on American slang and colloquialisms.

Scott, Foresman Joins Tamony

To its Tamony files the Western Historical Manuscript Collection now has added approximately 1.3 million 4x6 slips comprising the Scott, Foresman and Company Citation Files. Largely the work of the editorial staffs of Clarence Barnhart, Inc. and Scott, Foresman and freelance reader Ethel Strainchamps, these files were collected from the mid-1950s through 1979 and used for various editions of the *World Book Dictionary* (Doubleday) and the Thorndike-Barnhart school dictionaries.

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

ADS at NWAV

Once again ADS will sponsor a section at the annual conference on New Ways of Analyzing Variation, to be held this year in Ann Arbor, Michigan Oct. 15-17. *April 15* is the deadline for abstracts to the ADS session chair, **Dennis Preston**, Dept. of Linguistics and Languages, A619 Wells Hall, Michigan State U., East Lansing MI 48824; phone (517) 353-0740, e-mail 22709MGR@MSU.BITNET.

Midwest Calls for Names

April 15 is the deadline for papers, abstracts, or ideas for papers for the MMLA section of the American Name Society in St. Louis Nov. 5-7. Write **Tom Murray**, Dept. of English, Denison Hall, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan KS 66506-0701; phone (913) 532-6716.

Acts of the Executive Council: December 29, 1991

In the plush Consulate Room at the heart of the Ritz-Carlton San Francisco, seven members of the ADS Executive Council and sixteen other ADS members (Council meetings are always open) met to transact the business of the society on the morning of Dec. 29, 1991.

With ADS President **Michael Linn** in the chair, the Council took these actions:

APPOINTMENTS

1. Reappointed *American Speech* editor **Ronald Butters** for the two-year term 1993-94.

2. Appointed to the *American Speech* advisory board for three-year terms 1992-95, as recommended by Butters: **Carole Chaski**, North Carolina State Univ.; **Marianna Di Paolo**, Univ. of Utah; **Joan Hall**, *DARE*; **Roger Shuy**, Georgetown Univ.

3. Reappointed Executive Secretary **Allan Metcalf** for the two-year term 1993-94.

4. Appointed to the Committee on Teaching, as recommended by committee chair **Kathryn Riley**: **Kim Campbell**, Auburn Univ.; **Harry Homa**, New York City public schools; **Charles Meyer**, Univ. of Massachusetts, Boston; **Frank Parker**, Louisiana State Univ.

5. Reappointed regional secretaries for two-year terms 1992-93: South Central, **Charles B. Martin**, Univ. of North Texas; South Atlantic, **Cynthia Bernstein**, Auburn Univ.

6. Appointed Kurath Fund trustees, as recommended by Editor **William A. Kretzschmar, Jr.** of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States: **Thomas Creswell**, reappointment for the three-year term 1992-1994; **Lawrence M. Davis**, Ball State Univ., to fill the term ending 1992 vacated by the resignation of **A. Murray Kinloch** (with appreciation for the latter's seven years of service).

7. Appointed delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies for the four-year term 1992-1995: **Ronald Butters**, Duke Univ.

MEETINGS

8. Endorsed wider sponsorship of sessions at meetings of other groups, as reported elsewhere in this issue (page 4).

9. Approved a grant of \$500 in support of a special conference on Language Variety in the South

organized by **Cynthia Bernstein**, to be held at Auburn University April 1-4, 1993. (See page 5.)

FINANCIAL

10. Acknowledged with appreciation a gift of \$250 from **Frank Parker** and **Kathryn Riley** for student memberships. The money will be used to sponsor a three-year student membership each year, the recipient to be appointed by the ADS president.

11. Approved this budget for 1992:

EXPECTED INCOME

Dues	\$20,000
Interest	2,500
Gifts, royalties and miscellaneous	1,000
Total income	\$23,500

EXPECTED EXPENSES

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

OTHER MATTERS

12. Endorsed *Heartland English*, edited by **Timothy Frazer**, to be published by the University of Alabama Press, as an ADS Centennial Publication, as recommended by review committee chair **John Algeo**.

13. At the suggestion of President Linn, approved special recognition of Professor **Takeshi Sibata** of Japan and a panel in his honor at the 1992 annual meeting.

14. Approved transfer of the ADS Proverbs Collection from **Stewart Kingsbury's** basement to the Library of Congress, pending approval by LC. The collection was amassed by **Margaret Bryant** and computerized by Kingsbury, then used as the basis for the new *Oxford Dictionary of American Proverbs*.

15. Once more instructed the Executive Secretary to have a professional audit of the Society's financial records, something he has promised but neglected to do in recent years.

Hans Kurath: December 13, 1891–January 2, 1992

The most influential figure in American dialectology, Hans Kurath died January 2 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, justly celebrated for his remarkable career. Founder of the family of projects known as the Linguistic Atlas of the United States and Canada, Kurath 60 years ago designed this comprehensive survey of American dialects, which continues today along the lines he pioneered.

Born in Villach, Austria (son of Johann and Anna Raimund Kurath), Hans Kurath migrated with his family to the German settlements of Texas. Graduating from the University of Texas in 1914, he was immediately appointed instructor of German, but in the wave of anti-German feeling following U.S. entry into World War I, the department at Texas was abolished. In later years he relished the fact that returning service personnel were eager to enroll for German classes but found no room at Texas.

Kurath completed his doctoral degree at the University of Chicago in 1920 and held faculty positions at Northwestern (1920-27), the Ohio State University (1927-32), and Brown University (1932-46). At Brown he was professor of Germanic languages and general linguistics and eventually chair of the Department of Modern Languages.

Annual Business Meeting 1991

Most of the business of the American Dialect Society is conducted at the open meeting of the Executive Council (see preceding page). At the Annual Business Meeting, however, on Monday, Dec. 30, 1991, with 21 members present, Michael I. Miller of Chicago State University was formally elected to a four-year term on the Executive Council, as proposed by the Nominating Committee.

It was also an occasion for reports. Donald Lance of the University of Missouri, Columbia, reported that the long-awaited *Language Variation in North American English: Research and Teaching* is being typeset and is scheduled for 1993 publication by the Modern Language Association.

And Dennis Preston of Eastern Michigan University announced that the Centennial Research Committee's collection is being published by Benjamins and should be out in 1992.

In 1930 he and Gertrude Prokosh were married; she survives. An influential scholar in her own right, Gertrude Kurath was a tireless worker in Amerindian anthropology and is remembered for having invented a notation system for recording dance postures, movements and rhythms.

Appointed professor of English at the University of Michigan in 1946, Hans Kurath trained a generation of dialectologists and edited the *Middle English Dictionary* until his retirement in 1961. The *Handbook* (1939) and *Linguistic Atlas of New England* (1939-43) set the standard for fieldwork and publication in American dialect geography. Further influential works include *A Word Geography of the Eastern United States* (1949) and (with Raven I. McDavid, Jr.) *The Pronunciation of English in the Atlantic States* (1961). After his retirement he published two books drawing on a lifetime of scholarship: *A Phonology and Prosody of Modern English* (1964) and *Studies in Area Linguistics* (1972).

There is no room here for an appreciation of Kurath's influence. Suffice it to say that he had that rare ability to organize large, long-term scholarly projects, and, though his successors have adjusted the details, the grand outlines he discerned continue to shape American dialectology and Middle English lexicography. —Richard W. Bailey

Teaching Committee Seeks News

The ADS Committee on Teaching solicits short items (under one page) pertaining to courses on language variation and related subjects for a Teaching Newsletter intended as an occasional supplement to *NADS*. Items might include teaching tips, descriptions of successful assignments or paper topics, syllabi, reading lists, and notices or reviews of textbooks and other teaching materials. Include a brief description of the course or courses your item relates to. Write Kathy Riley, Dept. of Composition, 420H, University of Minnesota, Duluth MN 55812.

The committee is also considering an update of the 1983 survey on teaching about language variation published in *NADS* 16.1, January 1984. Since nearly a decade has passed, the committee proposes surveying members again and publishing the results by 1994.

Getting from There to Here: Bronstein at Annual Luncheon

By Arthur J. Bronstein, U. of California, Berkeley
Remarks at ADS Annual Luncheon, Dec. 30, 1991

I am interpreting my title, *Getting Here from There*, in a time frame rather than a geographical one. That is, I plan to pinpoint a few events related to a few people, each of whom has had an effect on the members of this society, and I want to share an impression of what an aspect of those events might have taught me.

What happens to all of us as we develop in a field, and with whom it happens, helps shape us as we move from the academic training cauldron through the post-doctoral period and into the discipline and societies that nourish us. This society, one of many to which we all belong, has a large number of notably influential figures, and each of us developing in the field has brushed up against some of them in some way.

It's a few of those figures and events that, among many, helped shape why I came into ADS about four decades ago, and why I've tried to remain active therein through my academic career. At my tender age, which now spans three-quarters of the years that the ADS has been well and thriving, it is typical to look back occasionally. This is one of those times for me.

1. MARGARET SCHLAUCH

My doctoral training was at NYU. I went there after having listened to an address by Professor Margaret Schlauch at a Linguistics Circle meeting on some subject in the area of historical linguistics. You may know her as author of *The Gift of Tongues*, a widely-circulated book on languages and linguistics that first appeared in 1942. My interest in linguistics had developed sufficiently that I knew where I hoped to go academically. She became the chair of my doctoral committee. There is much I could say about this scholarly woman, but one day's event in a class on Old and Middle English dialects stands out.

Professor Schlauch was lecturing on one of the dialects of Middle English. She had made some comment that similar occurrences could be seen in other languages too—like Middle French, German, Dutch, and Russian. One of those know-it-all students (a label that could have been applied to all of us, of

course) who enjoyed "sticking it to the professor," as we might say, asked her something like, "Well, what about an ancient language like Hebrew—could you make similar comments about that language too?"

The class gasped; we all knew that Professor Schlauch's expertise was in the Indo-European languages and that she had never claimed any expertise in Semitic. Some of us tried to stare him down, but he would not stop. He finished his nasty probe and we waited to see how she would react.

Professor Schlauch handled the question by giving the remainder of the class time (about 25 minutes) to a discourse on the Hebrew language, stopping every now and then to ask that particular questioner if he was following her. She went through some phonological details with a number of syntactic flourishes to make the points clearer. It was a tour-de-force performance, better than any we could have seen from the upper balconies of the nearby Broadway theatres (which cost us 50 cents per seat then). She stunned us with her knowledge of a language that was not in her area of expertise, not only answering his question but doing so in the detail expected of a paper being delivered at one of the New York Linguistic Circle meetings to a group of other expert colleagues.

It was a lesson for all of us to remember: Don't try to one-up your professor, for it can make you look like one of those words Allen Walker Read probably found on the walls of men's rooms! More importantly, we saw how intelligently and graciously she handled the situation: not putting the student down at all but rather treating his query with regard, thanking him for bringing up an unexpected dimension to her lecture.

When the bell rang, we each of us stood up with smiles on our faces, proud to know such a scholar and one who seemed to represent the kind of faculty person we'd all like to be some day. There was a round of silent applause as we waited for her to gather her notes and leave the room. The day's lecture, which was supposed to have ended in an explanation of why London English had become the predominant (standard) dialect of late medieval England and was about the fact that nonstandard dialects are

Getting from There to Here (Cont.): Memories of Schlauch, Trager

not really debased versions of the language, didn't take place that day; we had, in fact, learned something much more important. I was glad to be one of those lucky enough to study with her. . . .

2. TRAGER AND CHOMSKY

My next story has to be set into a historical framework. It was during the early 1950s that linguistics as a discipline began to push its frontiers sharply, with new vocabularies developed to describe the English language we were teaching and studying. The work of the Linguistic Atlas was well on its way—Kurath's *Word Geography* had appeared in 1949, Atwood's *Survey* appeared in 1953, Kurath's and McDavid's *Pronunciation in the Atlantic States* was to be issued in 1961, just ten years after he and Virginia Glenn McDavid had completed the *Compilation of Worksheets of the Linguistic Atlas*. Pike's *Intonation* had appeared in 1945, his *Phonemics* in 1947 and his *Grammatical Prerequisites to Phonetic Analysis* in 1949.

Extensive fieldwork was beginning to ferret out the information of how different people in different parts of the country were using which words and which expressions, and the shift towards the theoretical base accompanying the structural revolution was a strong one. Traditional grammar, as it was called, was now being replaced by a new approach, and the impact of immediate constituents, slot-and-filler techniques, allomorphs and allophones and intonation phonemic levels was all around us.

Not all linguists, of course, accepted all details of the structuralist push, but it was the dominant theme of the essays in the linguistic journals and texts being issued for students and teachers of the language at the time. If Dwight Bolinger called Trager and Smith's phonemic levels a "wild goose chase," which he did—because he argued in a widely-quoted essay that intonation was much more aptly described by configurations rather than by levels—most linguists of the time *were* moved into the structuralist box. The arguments and evidence by so many prestigious scholars following the Bloomfieldian approach had made an overwhelming impact on our linguistic sense.

This particular story takes place in the late 1940s.

George Trager had been asked by the editors of a forthcoming dictionary at Random House (on which I was a young consultant) if he would consider writing an essay for the front-matter section on the grammatical approach then burgeoning. An indication that he'd try resulted in a submitted draft. But it was considered by Barnhart's editorial staff as a bit too vituperative for readers who had not exactly moved into the approaches Trager (and his teachers and colleagues) had so effectively developed.

The dictionary staff seemed hesitant. The editors requested that he proceed with the second draft but do so without any remarks that would belittle the readers rather than teach them what linguistic evidence had now made clear. I don't know his exact reaction, but it must have been something like "too bad for them!" He was not about to pussyfoot about saying what had to be said. The editors' decision was, if reluctantly, not to print the essay in that style. They did not want to criticize their readers, right as the expressed statements might be.

It was H.L. Gleason who called linguistics a "pugnacious profession" in 1965 in his *Linguistics and English Grammar*. He wasn't the first to think so and he isn't the last. The feistiness of the incident I just related has been repeated numerous times since—e.g. when Kenneth Pike informed Noam Chomsky at the Ninth International Congress of Linguists at MIT, in 1964, that other linguists already had answers to phonological analyses without resorting to the rules of what Chomsky called generative phonology, to which Chomsky retorted in an unswerving manner; when Paul Postal called Hockett's statement in his 1961 *Language* essay on "Linguistic Elements and Their Relations" "empirically and logically contentless remarks," and when remarking on the contribution of Sidney Lamb's approach, he titled the fifth chapter of his *Aspects of Phonological Theory* in 1968 "Incoherence in Stratificational Phonemics."

When, in the 1980s, Noam Chomsky was invited to deliver an open lecture at Columbia University, I asked a number of my students in the doctoral program at The Graduate School of CUNY to attend and to report back to me the next day. They did, some-

Getting from There to Here (Cont.): Clarence Barnhart and the *ACD*

what aghast at the strength of the attack from the floor by Jerrold Katz, Chomsky's former colleague at MIT—a verbal battle not expected in the cloistered towers of academe. Or should it not have surprised them?

Perhaps it *is* more pleasant to learn what we need to learn in the most gracious of climates. There may be occasions when, considering the state of a discipline at a given time, alternative approaches do need to be made forcefully, if they are to be listened to. How conclusions get the attention of the audience they need to influence has been argued about since at least Aristotle's time. What is important is that the conclusions or approaches, whatever they be, do get our attention and do get considered, evaluated, accepted, rejected or changed. A discipline that cannot take criticisms of its own beliefs and theories doesn't thrive. I'm so glad our has.

3. CLARENCE BARNHART

This next story revolves around Clarence Barnhart, my first lexicography boss. My career was interrupted by World War II. Shortly after I returned in May 1946 to my instructorship at Queens College, I was asked to join the editorial advisory staff of a dictionary that Clarence was in the stages of editing. Clarence Barnhart was then in his late 40s, with a name already known to many as co-editor, with Edward Thorndike, of the Thorndike-Barnhart school dictionaries.

My move into the Random House complex on Madison Avenue opened a new world for me. Clarence was editing the *American College Dictionary* then, and I learned how vast the world is on which a dictionary editor must rely. There were literally hundreds of consultants with whom contacts were being made, from the fields of anatomy and physiology to zoology and innumerable areas in between. There were academic consultants who specialized in North Temperate Edible Vegetables and others with such titles as Professors of Vegetable Crops or Professors of Subtropical Horticulture, Professors of Public Utility Management, Directors of Lighting Research and Acting Chiefs of Swine Research.

Clarence Barnhart made lexicographic history

with that dictionary, as all members of this society know. Clarence's impact on dictionaries of the day ranged from small important details to large new approaches to the lexicography profession—like the fact that Clarence was the first lexicographer in America to introduce the schwa / / symbol into the dictionary respelling system, a small but very important innovation of the time, since copied by almost all others.

More importantly, the *ACD* was the first major dictionary to recognize the linguistic revolution then taking place, the move from traditional to structural linguistics. Barnhart decided his dictionary would be based on the most current linguistic scholarship. To do so he gathered some of the most important linguists of the time to act as an advisory committee. They included Bernard Bloch, Leonard Bloomfield, Charles Fries, Cabell Greet, Kemp Malone, Robert Hall, Zelig Harris, Miles Hanley, Albert Baugh, Mitford Matthews, Allen Walker Read—to advise him on setting policies and procedures in the areas of etymology, synonyms, pronunciation, usage and dialect distribution, and British vs. American English usage.

It was, for me, who served as one of the two assistants to Cabell Greet, a special lesson in the bridge between the academic and the corporate dictionary publishing world. I learned among many things some that no lexicography student ever forgets: It is untrue that there are only 24 hours in the day of the dictionary editor or even seven days in any one week. And it is very wise to assume that, once you've researched a pronunciation (or synonym or etymology or other) entry item to the hilt by checking every reference source available to you and verifying such with your co-worker and your supervisor, maybe you'd better recheck everything before putting it on the editor's overburdened desk.

Clarence had set such a climate of activity that you knew he would catch anything you had overlooked. Since he was on a 25-hour-a-day schedule working against an impossible budgetary as well as publishing deadline, you did everything you could to ease his burden and yet be exact, thorough and correct in every possible detail. Clarence made you feel

Getting from There to Here (Cont.): Bronstein on Broadway

that his dictionary was your dictionary and that his reputation was riding on your assistance and efforts in behalf of the project.

Clarence never seemed to leave the office. He was always there no matter how late you left, and it was never possible to get to the office before he did. You knew that the pile of sheets on his desk from all the staff people would be checked and corrected before the next day began. If you are wondering how Clarence managed to do it all, I could not answer; I have wondered all these years and never had the nerve to ask him. Maybe his children Robert and David, who have become major lexicography editors themselves, can, but I doubt it.

Anyway, we all, professors and instructors on his advisory board and those on editorial and office staff, made sure that the *ACD* would throw the lexicographic world off its feet. And it did, when it was issued in 1947.

To Clarence Barnhart I owe the recognition that whoever said lexicography was the work of drudges lied or distorted, defamed. All of us at the *ACD* knew differently, and we had Clarence Barnhart to thank. Hard work will get you everywhere, Clarence showed us. I have not forgotten that lesson and am therefore tired most of the time!

4. GARSON KANIN

My last story is a sample of how one's reputation as a "linguistic maven" to the outside world can sometimes lead to interesting adventures. One of those for me was a letter sent Nov. 20, 1956 from a Warner LeRoy, administrative assistant to Mr. Garson Kanin, Broadway producer and director. It reads:

"Dear Professor Bronstein—We are producing the new Robert Sherwood play, *Small War on Murray Hill*. The action of the play takes place on Manhattan in 1776 during the Revolutionary War. It concerns an incident when General (Sir William) Howe, Commander of the British forces, spent the night at Robert Murray's house and the American army, in retreat, escaped.

"Our problem is we do not know how Americans and Englishmen spoke in those days. If we could find pronunciations different from today's, it would add

immensely to the feeling and atmosphere of the play. As we are already in rehearsal, we would appreciate an immediate reply."

I decided to help and went to meet Mr. Kanin at the Shubert theatre and observe a rehearsal. (It was then that I found out a piece of American history not taught us in school: General Howe was seduced by Mrs. Murray to spend the night with her, and it is to her infidelity, but patriotic loyalty to the Revolutionary cause, that Generals Washington and Putnam's armies were able to escape sure defeat in order to fight and win at other battles.)

Mr. Kanin's request was that I take the play's script and rewrite any parts of it indicating any special pronunciations that would convey the period of the late 18th century more accurately, both for the British and the American speakers. To remind you of some of the differences one might have heard then, which I included in my notes to Mr. Kanin: words like *meet* and *receipt* rhymed with *great*; *seen* rhymed with *brain*; Americans then pronounced *deaf* as "deef," while their British counterparts were using the "def" pronunciation; since standard English of the 18th century had no broad "a" for American speakers, the common American pronunciation for words like *calm*, *father*, *hardly* and *ask* used the sound of "at," while their British counterparts had already begun the shift to a lower vowel for all of the words noted; and postvocalic /r/ in words like *far* and *war* had already been lost by cultivated British speakers; it was not lost by their colonial contemporaries; and, of course, both Americans and British speakers were "leftenant" speakers, and more. Mr. Kanin felt that these changes (and some others that were written into the scripts for the actors) would add a touch of realism to the performance.

My wife and two children were invited to the premiere in New Haven, where all Broadway shows opened. Our two children, ages 13 and 9 then, had memorized the opening scene. We all listened very carefully to the actors performing—and watching the audience.

After the performance we went backstage to talk with Mr. Kanin. It was clear that the audience was impressed with the touch of authenticity, although

Getting from There to Here (Cont.): Changes in the Fabric

some in the audience must have wondered why some of the actors seemed to be mispronouncing some of the words. But even they were sure, of course, that by the opening performance in New York those mispronunciations would be noticed and corrected.

No one doubted that Mr. Kanin was surely a magnificent director—who else would have dared to add such spoken authenticity to the hairdos and costumes of the period? I assured Mr. Kanin that Ben Franklin would not have been surprised at any of the pronunciations being used by the stars of the play—Leo Genn, Jan Sterling, Daniel Massey and others.

So, as you can see, it sometimes pays to be a dialectologist. If nothing else, it can get you free tickets to a Broadway show and a chance to meet some of the great actors and directors of the Broadway stage!

I think what I have been trying to say is that my travels within my discipline have been exciting. The road has been bumpy at times, but never boring. If I think back to when my teachers were functioning, I realize that they were not as fortunate as we are here today, for look with whom we mingle.

There are amongst us, among the membership of this society and its related societies to which so many of us belong—sociolinguists, psycholinguists, regional dialectologists, generative semanticists, general semanticists, discourse analysts, case grammarians, students of pragmatics, cognitive linguists, acoustic, experimental, clinical as well as articulatory phoneticians, generative phonologists and metrical phonologists, construction grammarians, cognitive linguists and more. All of us here belong to more than one of these groups.

My teachers could not have imagined such an array of colleagues. As such, we are a reflection of how vastly different and extended our discipline has become. So much of what we have to know is continually being studied and reported on, and it does change how we see the very fabric of our discipline. *DARE* is only partly finished; the Linguistic Atlas studies of some parts of the country are now on our shelves; more Atlas studies are going on, right now, and their finished volumes will find places on our shelves soon; language variation is being argued

about generally, specifically, and at times very heatedly. There really is no last word in any discipline, nor should there be.

So it is not unreasonable to look forward to the next 50 years or so, or even to the next centennial celebration of this society, and to the presentations that our colleagues will continue to make. It is certainly more exciting to think ahead than to look back.

And when those times come, each of you will have many stories to tell about how we have changed, grown, discarded previous theories and developed new ones. If those years will be as exciting as those we here have lived through, it will have been a most worthwhile experience to have been part of this society as all of these events take place. I hope you agree.

William W. Evans 1930-1991

Bill Evans was born in Cleveland and received his B.A. and M.A. from Case-Western Reserve there in 1953 and 1954, respectively. He studied medieval literature and language at the University of Florida, where he received his Ph.D. in 1959. That year Bill came to Louisiana State University as an instructor. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1962 and associate professor in 1977.

Bill's primary interests were in demonstrating the usefulness of linguistics in the study of literature, and encouraging a realistic and tolerant attitude toward variation in English.

During his 32 years at LSU, Bill published several articles in *American Speech* and *Names* and several notes in "Miscellany." Three of his papers were reprinted in *Papers in Language Variation*, *Critical Essays on George Washington Cable*, *Transactions of the Yorkshire Dialect Society*, and *Journal of the Lakeland Dialect Society*. Bill also served on the ADS committees on Usage and New Words, beginning in 1981.

AT LSU, Bill served on dozens of M.A. and Ph.D. committees for graduate students in English and linguistics. He developed several courses in English language, covering topics such as stylistics, regional variation, and usage. He will be missed by colleagues and students alike. —Frank Parker

Nominations Invited for 1993 Presidential Honorary Memberships

Each year the current president of the American Dialect Society appoints three students, graduate or undergraduate, to complimentary four-year Presidential Honorary Memberships.

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. If possible include a sample of the student's work.

Presidential Honorary Members for 1992, announced by President Linn at the 1991 Annual Luncheon, are **JoEllen M. Simpson**, (Univ. of Florida), nominated by Edward Callary of Northern Illinois University; **Margaret Mishoe**, nominated by Michael Montgomery of the University of South Carolina, and **Ken Haley** (Prairie View A&M Univ.), nominated by Guy Bailey of Oklahoma State University.

Borrowings from the Japanese Move Up to Second Place

By Garland Cannon

In view of the media's interest in vocabulary exchanges between the Japanese and English languages (as in the Japanese newspaper *Asahi Shimbun*), partly as a result of both cultures' remembrance of Pearl Harbor and of President Bush's recent economic visit to Japan, it is gratifying to note that English is continuing to borrow words from Japanese at an ever-expanding rate and thereby to suggest that the two cultures are now interacting relatively harmoniously rather than militarily.

In my 1987 *Historical Change and English Word-Formation*, analysis of 13,683 new English words showed that French was providing the largest number of borrowings, with Japanese and Spanish tied for a distant second place. Tabulation of items in the *Third Barnhart Dictionary of New English, 12,000 Words*, *Barnhart Dictionary Companion*, and the Longman collections by Mort and Ayto shows that Japanese may have moved solely into second place, with Spanish a close third.

These give a total of at least 735 Japanese borrowings into English since the transfer of *bonze* by 1552. The two largest categories in the following list of borrowings of the last three decades embrace sports (especially sumo-related items) and art, including new artistic concepts as reflected in *ikebana*, *suiseki*, and *tsutsumu*:

aikido	Etsuzankai			
aiki-jutsu	gagaku	jinkai senjitsu	Minamata disease	senryu
aragato	gaijin	jomon	nashi	sesshin
arigato	gengo	Kamakura	ninja	Seto ware
basho	gi	kanban	ninjutsu	shakuhachi
beddo	habatsu	karaoke	Nintendo	shiatsu
Bizen ware	hanamichi	karateka	nunchakus	shinkansen
black mist (tr.)	haniwa	Karatsu ware	ofuro	shochu
budo	hara-gei	kirin	Oseibo	skosh
Bunraku	hashigakari	koban	ozeki	Soka Gakkai
burakumin	hayashi	kogai	Pac-Man	sokaiya
byobu	Heian	koza	rumaki	stable (tr.)
dan	hibakushi	kumite	ryokan	suiseki
Danjuro	honcho	kuromaku	Sanda ware	sumi-e
daruma	hootch	Kutani	samurai bond	sumotori
dashi	iaido	kyokushinkai	sanpaku	sushi
dohyo	ikebana	kyudo	sarakin	tachiai
dojo	ippon	mama-san	sekiwake	Tago-Sato-Kosaka
dokusan	itai-itai	maruyu	Sendai virus	teriyaki
enka	Japglais	mawashi	Sendust	tonfa
				tsutsumu
				umami
				utchari
				waribashi
				yakitori
				Yakuza
				Yamaguchigumi
				Yamato-e
				Yayoi
				yenbond
				yokozuna
				yusho
				zaibatsu
				zaikai
				zaitech
				zazen
				zendo
				zensho
				zori

Kick Up Your Jaybird Heels for *DARE*

Thanks to the many readers who have answered, *DARE* III editors have greatly improved a number of entries—so keep at it! Write Prof. F. G. Cassidy, Dictionary of American Regional English, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

From I through M—with one leftover from Volume II:

fiddleworm—We think our entry is right but would like more evidence.

I went to Paris—A game in which players on an imaginary shopping trip mimic with gestures the things they would purchase, the other players having to guess what the items are. Where is it played? Further details about it?

Japip or Jabib, to go from here to—To go the long way or “take forever” to get somewhere or do something. Such evidence as we have is from the Delaware Valley, the Philadelphia and New Jersey area. Is it known elsewhere? Other details on its use?

Japanese bean beetle—This is evidently not the same as the Japanese beetle common in New England but was reported from Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee. The *bean* is significant. And that’s far away from the Mexican bean beetle. Has anyone met this term?

jaybird heels—From Georgia, 1960, we have one report. Is this literal or metaphorical? Whichever it is, we’d like to be enlightened. It sounds as if it ought to be well-known—a bit of folklore.

Joe bacon, joe hide (of an animal)—Reported once each from Ohio and New Jersey. What does “Joe” mean? Could it be related to *Joe blade*, a hand tool for cutting underbrush and digging roots? Information on any of these would be a help.

Johnny pump—A fire hydrant in parts of New York City. What parts, when, and any further information? There must be a story behind this.

joker—Used about a cultivator (the tool—one instance from Ohio); also for a beat-up, stripped-down tractor or car (one instance from Minnesota). Any other evidence of its use, not as a mere epithet but as a name?

jollop—A Georgia informant reports [jalap] suppers as a local kind of party, and *jollop* as a type of creamed chicken served over hot rolls or toasted buns. Is this term known or used elsewhere?

jo-solly—In Missouri, says a correspondent, “fat jolly” is used of an obese person, usually a woman. Is the term known? We have only this one report.

jowter—Once a fairly common word for a peddler, southeast Minnesota. Does anyone know or remember it? Where and when used? How pronounced?

jubilee—A phenomenon in which fish and shellfish seem to “get drunk” and congregate in shallow water at neap tide, at which time they can be gathered by the tubful. One report from Alabama. It must be known elsewhere, perhaps by other names.

julie—We have a 1963 written reference to *julie* meaning a wheelbarrow, said to have been used in eastern Tennessee in the 1920s. Can anyone add anything?

jump butt—The base of a tree trunk having a defect that makes it unsuitable as a saw log. Two citations from Alabama. Is it still known or current?

jump street—Does anyone know the expression “from jump street” meaning “for a long time”? We have a single quot from a Black woman in North Carolina in 1982.

just as—In such a phrase as “I’ll be just as good,” meaning extremely. Perhaps a truncation of “just as ___ as I can be”? More evidence needed!

kitchen yard—An informant from Sawyer, Kentucky, used it in conversation to mean the front yard, between the house and the road. Does anyone else know this?

lemon pelter—An Englishman! So from an informant from Tarrytown, N.Y., an old fisherman and sailor. Has anyone else ever met the term? Where? When?

mad fence—A fence put up between adjoining properties through neighbors’ disagreement. Reported 1930, said to have been used in the 1890s. Further evidence past or present would be welcome.

marigut—California informant said it’s the ‘milk

gland of a young cow," fried and eaten. Evidently from *marrow gut*. Can anyone explain further and testify to the word?

married-man matches—Those that strike anywhere. Found in Iowa, Wisconsin. Is this a common joke? Is there a story connected with it? Known elsewhere?

May bee—A middle-aged homemaker of St. Augustine, Texas responded with this to the question, "What do you call the first day of May around here?" Does anyone else know this? What is the significance of "bee"?

may so—Meaning "perhaps," as in answer to such a question as "Are you coming along too?" Our sole example is from Kentucky.

mark that in the chimney corner—Advice to avoid forgetting something. A oncer from Pennsylvania. This sounds like an old expression. Does anyone know it?

matchmaker—Nickname for an umbrella: a man, when courting, would "forget" it at the woman's home as an excuse for returning. We have one report of this, 1969, Connecticut. This sounds like a maneuver that must have been well used. Does anyone remember it?

meat candy—We have one response, 1968, from North Carolina, to the question "kinds of cheap candy that used to be sold years ago." The informant mentioned that meat candy was "not very sweet." We'd like to know more.

meat fisherman—One who fishes using salmon eggs as bait. We have one instance from the Cascades, Oregon, 1949. Sportsmen! Can you give us more on this?

meemaw and meepop—For grandparents. From Texas. Could this be an individualism or is it known by others?

mell (not mill)—From a southeast Tennessee story: "King Arthur and his knights melled stoutly together." And from Mississippi: "He has nothing to do, so he's just melling around." Is this extant?

methodist measure—Three-fourths of a glass (of liquor). Is this ironic? Does it refer to Luke 6:38? Or is it an allusion to "sprinkling" rather than total immersion at baptism? Or something else again?

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.

This issue does not have room for all the recently received announcements, but they will be included next time.

Richard W. Bailey. *Images of English: A Cultural History of the Language.* University of Michigan Press (P.O. Box 1104, Ann Arbor MI 48106-1104), January 1992. xiv + 329 pages. Cloth \$27.95. Enriched by citations of about 500 sources from the 8th century to the present day and around the world, this is a compendious account of attitudes both worshipful and critical towards the English language and its various dialects. ISBN 0-472-10283-4.

Garland Cannon. *The Life and Mind of Oriental Jones: Sir William Jones, The Father of Modern Linguistics.* Cambridge University Press. Hardcover \$49.50. A new and definitive biography of the man who not only laid the groundwork for modern comparative linguistics but made contributions to anthropology, archaeology, astronomy, botany, history, law, literature, music, physiology, politics and religion. ISBN 0-521-39149-0.

Walter F. Edwards and Donald Winford, eds. *Verb Phrase Patterns in Black English and Creole.* Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1991.

Alan S. Kaye, ed. *Semitic Studies in Honor of Wolf Leslau.* Wiesbaden, Germany: Otto Harrassowitz Verlag, 1991. Vol. I: 65 articles by linguists from around the world in English, French, Italian and German on Semitic linguistics, including two by the editor. Vol. II, containing another 70 articles, will be published in early 1992.

Wolfgang Mieder, Stewart A. Kingsbury and Kelsie B. Harder. *A Dictionary of American Proverbs.* New York: Oxford University Press, November 1991. 726 pages. \$49.95. Based on Margaret M. Bryant's extensive collection for the American Dialect Society Committee on Proverbs and Proverbial Sayings, this is the first major collection of English-language proverbs using primarily oral sources. Indicates recorded regional distribution of proverbs. ISBN 0-19-505399-0.

E-Mailbox for ADS

Thanks to a conversation at SAMLA between **Bill Kretzschmar** and **Natalie Maynor**, ADS now has its own electronic discussion list. Posterity may want to note that it was established Friday, Nov. 22, 1991, at Kretzschmar's University of Georgia, with Maynor (of Mississippi State University) serving as "list owner," i.e. administrator.

If you have e-mail access and would like to join the discussion, send the following command to **LISTSERV@UGA.CC.UGA.EDU** (internet) or **LISTSERV@UGA** (bitnet): **sub ADS-L Your Name** (e.g., sub ADS-L Jane Doe).

The listserv is a computer program, not a human being, and thus cannot answer your questions. If you have questions for a human being, send e-mail to Maynor (**MAYNOR@RA.MSSTATE.EDU**). She can add you to the list if you have trouble subscribing. Subscriptions to listserv discussion lists are free.

If you are a newcomer to the world of e-mail and are not sure how to send mail of any kind, ask your local computing center how to get started. Most commands for internet and bitnet are specific to the mainframe you are using and thus cannot be determined by people at other universities.

Initial subscribers to the list included Marianna Di Paolo, Vera Horvath, Cindy Bernstein, John Baugh, Larry Davis, Edgar Schneider, Salikoko Mufwene, Boyd Davis, Michael Montgomery, Bethany Dumas, and Dennis Baron as well as Kretzschmar and Maynor.

Committee Seeks Nominations

Three persons are to be elected to ADS office at this December's annual meeting: an at-large member of the Nominating Committee to serve a two-year term; a member of the Executive Council for a four-year term 1993-96, and a Vice President 1993-94 to advance to the presidency in 1995-96. The Nominating Committee invites your suggestions, either of others or of yourself. Write to Nominating Committee Chair **Richard W. Bailey**, Dept. of English Language and Literature, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109, or to committee members Thomas J. Creswell, Michigan City, Indiana, or Amy J. Devitt, University of Kansas.

Major Changes Ahead

New Editors Sought

New editors are now being sought for both of the American Dialect Society's journals.

Publication of the American Dialect Society, our monograph series with approximately one number a year, will have a new editor possibly as soon as 1993. Our quarterly *American Speech* will change editors possibly in 1994.

Editor **Dennis Baron** of *PADS* and Editor **Ronald Butters** of *American Speech* have both expressed interest in passing the torch to their successors. Baron took over *PADS* from James Hartman in 1984, while Butters succeeded John Algeo as editor of *American Speech* as long ago as 1981.

Both editors have given sufficient notice to allow an orderly and thoughtful search. The Executive Council voted to appoint **John Algeo** (Univ. of Georgia) chair of an ad hoc search committee for both positions. Other members of the committee will be **Richard Bailey** (Univ. of Michigan) and ADS President **Michael Linn** (Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth). Baron and Butters will serve as consultants.

The search committee will also take the occasion to review the editorial operations of both publications and possible connections between the two. The *American Speech* office, equipped with ADS-purchased computer and software, has recently undertaken to typeset an issue of *PADS*, and more such collaboration might be desired.

As the search begins, now is an especially good time for members to offer suggestions. Who would you like to see as editors of our journals? Who would be available? What institutional support might be provided?

You are welcome to propose yourself as well as someone else. Send advice, explanations, and nominations to Algeo at English Department, Park Hall, Univ. of Georgia, Athens GA 30602, or to one of the other members of the committee.

If you have a suggestion, please send it soon. The appointments to these editorships will be the Society's most important decision of the early 1990s and will affect us all for years to come. Everyone's help in these decisions is earnestly solicited.