

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

NADS 14.1

Vol. 14, No. 1

January 1982

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

From:

American Dialect Society
Allan Metcalf, Executive Secretary
English Department
MacMurray College
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650

FIRST CLASS

To:

ADS OFFICERS AND COUNCIL FOR 1982

President 1981-82: **Marvin Carmony**, College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Ind. 47809.

Vice President 1981-82: **A. Murray Kinloch**, English Department, University of New Brunswick, Bag Service No. 45555, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 6E5, Canada.

Executive Secretary 1981-82 and Editor, *NADS*: **Allan Metcalf**, English Department, MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Ill. 62650.

Past President 1981-82: **Virginia McDavid**, English Department, Chicago State University, 95th St. at King Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60628.

ACLS Delegate 1980-83: **Frederic G. Cassidy**, *DARE*, 6125 Helen White Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. 53706.

Executive Council 1979-82: **Juanita V. Williamson**, Le Moyne-Owen College, Memphis, Tenn. 38126.

Executive Council 1980-83: **Richard W. Bailey**, Dept. of English Language and Literature, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109.

Executive Council 1981-84: **Bethany K. Dumas**, English Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn. 37916.

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

Editor, *American Speech*: **Ronald R. Butters**, 322 Allen Building, Duke University, Durham, N.C. 27706.

Editor, *PADS*: James Hartman, English Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan. 66045.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE INVITES NOMINATIONS

This year the Nominating Committee has three positions to fill: Vice President 1983-84 (succeeding to the presidency in 1985-86), Executive Council Member 1983-86, and Nominating Committee Member 1983-84. If you know of, or are, a suitable candidate for one of these positions (one requisite is ability to attend the Annual Meeting), drop a line to Nominating Committee Chair John Algeo, English Department, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. 30602. Other members of the committee are Virginia McDavid (see above) and Thomas L. Clark, English Department, University of Nevada, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nev. 89154.

COMMITTEE ON TEACHING: CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are invited for a new ADS Committee on Teaching authorized by the Executive Council at the December meeting.

The committee would concern itself with teaching about American dialects and contemporary American English. It would be especially concerned with graduate and undergraduate programs that prepare for the professional study of American English, and might make a survey of such programs and courses, perhaps also collecting and disseminating copies of curricula, syllabi and teaching materials. The committee might also pay attention to teaching about contemporary American English by non-specialists. NCTE and CAL, not to mention many individual ADS members, are active in preparing materials for non-specialists, and this new committee would take note of them, not usurp their functions. There is plenty of work for all.

If you are interested in working on the committee, please notify the Executive Secretary by the end of March.

CALL FOR PAPERS: ANNUAL MEETING, LOS ANGELES

Once again in 1982 the ADS will hold its Annual Meeting with the Modern Language Association, Dec. 27 through 30. The location is the Biltmore and Bonaventura hotels, Los Angeles. In addition to the usual papers and business meeting, we plan a convivial dinner. Future NADSEs will give details.

April 15 is the deadline to submit abstracts of 20-minute papers to Vice President Murray Kinloch (address on opposite page). Mail to his part of Canada sometimes moves slowly, so do not crowd the deadline. Slides and other audio-visual aids are welcome — they helped attract notice from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for George Oliver and Frank Parker's talk at the New York meeting — but requests for audio-visual equipment must be included with the abstracts. MLA makes a point of requiring those who speak at its sessions to be MLA members, but we may be able to arrange a session off the premises for those who do not belong to MLA. If that is your case, please let us know.

(It may be of interest that LSA meets in San Diego at the same time. Future LSA meetings will be Minneapolis 1983, Baltimore 1984, Seattle 1985. Future MLA meetings will be New York 1983, Washington 1984.)

CALL FOR PAPERS: NCTE, WASHINGTON

The National Council of Teachers of English meets in Washington, D.C. Nov. 19-22, and as usual ADS will sponsor a session of two or three papers, on Saturday, Nov. 20 or Sunday, Nov. 21.

March 15 is the deadline to submit proposals to our program chair, Bethany Dumas (address on p. 2). In addition to speakers, our session will also need an Associate Chair and a Recorder-Reactor. The same deadline and address apply for those who would volunteer for these offices.

CALL FOR PAPERS: LSA, SUMMER

This summer ADS returns to its custom of holding a Summer Meeting with the Linguistic Society of America's Summer Meeting and Linguistic Institute. The Institute will be at the University of Maryland, College Park; the LSA Summer Meeting will be July 30-31 and August 1. The ADS meeting will be held immediately afterward, on the afternoon of Sunday, August 1.

April 15 is the deadline to send abstracts of papers to the ADS program chair, Jeutonne P. Brewer, College of Arts and Sciences, 105 Foust Building, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C. 27412.

For further information on the Institute, write 1982 Linguistic Institute, Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. 20742, phone (301) 454-5831. On the LSA summer meeting, write LSA, 3520 Prospect St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.

CALLS FOR PAPERS: REGIONAL MEETINGS 1982

Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting in association with the Rocky Mountain MLA, Oct. 21-23, University of Utah, Salt Lake City. *April 1* is the deadline for 75-word abstracts to the meeting chair, Grant W. Smith, Department of English, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Wash. 99004. (Regional Secretary: Thomas L. Clark, English Department, University of Nevada, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nev. 89154).

South Central Regional Meeting in association with the South Central MLA, Oct. 28-30, San Antonio, Texas. *March 15* is the deadline for papers and 100-word abstracts to the meeting chair, Raouf J. Halaby, English Department, Ouachita Baptist University,

Arkadelphia, Ark. 71923. (Regional secretary: Scott Baird, Department of English, Trinity University, Box 105, 715 Stadium Drive, San Antonio, Tex. 78284.)

Midwest Regional Meeting in association with the Midwest MLA, Nov. 4, Stouffer's Cincinnati Towers, Cincinnati. *April 14* is the deadline for 100-word abstracts (two copies, please) of papers (maximum 30 minutes) to the meeting chair, Jim Vandergriff, English Department, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, Mo. 64093. (Regional secretary: Donald M. Lance, Department of English, 231 A&S Building, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. 65211.)

South Atlantic Regional Meeting in association with the South Atlantic MLA, Nov. 13, Atlanta. *May 1* is the deadline for abstracts of 300 words to the meeting chair, Crawford Feagin (University of Virginia, Falls Church Regional Center); send to her home address, 2312 North Upton St., Arlington, Va. 22207. Papers relating to the South are particularly welcome. (Regional secretary: Jeutonne P. Brewer, College of Arts and Sciences, 105 Foust Building, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C. 27412.)

STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS AGAIN AVAILABLE

For the first time in a decade, students may join the ADS at a special reduced rate. At the December meeting the Executive Council authorized a student rate of \$10 per year, available for up to three years for full-time students. A student's application should be accompanied by a note from an ADS member confirming the student's status. Student memberships will be made possible by unrestricted and specifically designated gifts to the Society.

PUBLICATIONS: ON SCHEDULE, FULL SPEED AHEAD

As predicted last time, all ADS publications are now up to date. The Missing Link, *American Speech* 52.3-4 (Fall-Winter 1977), was dispatched by Columbia University Press in November. Meanwhile, the University of Alabama Press continues *its* issues of *American Speech* on schedule: 56.4, Winter 1981, went out this month, and the first issue of Vol. 57, 1982, is expected as usual in May. Vol. 57, No. 4 for Winter 1982 will be a memorial issue for David W. Maurer.

Our big news for 1982 is *Publication of the American Dialect Society*. No. 67, Gary Underwood's *Dialect of the Mesabi Range*, and No. 68, Harold Paddock's *Dialect Survey of Carbonar, Newfoundland*, will shortly be sent to members. Somewhat later, but before the year is out, No. 69 should also appear — Dennis Baron's *Going Native: The Regeneration of Saxon English*.

Two more numbers of PADS are planned for 1983: one with Raoul Smith's *The Language of Jonathan Fisher*, another by Norman Heap.

PADS ANNOUNCES A MORATORIUM

With a backlog of five issues for the next two years, PADS editor James Hartman announces a moratorium for 1982 on submission of new manuscripts. A year from now, when the backlog is nearly cleared, he will invite submissions again.

AMERICAN SPEECH, PADS ASK STAMPS, DUPLICATE MSS.

Facing rising costs, the editors of our journals ask contributors to send *two copies* of manuscripts along with *return postage*. You have a year to make the extra copy and save up stamps for PADS (see above); for *American Speech*, in contrast, you are welcome to send them now to Editor Ron Butters, 322 Allen Building, Duke University, Durham, N.C. 27706.

LOOKING AT DR. CONDOM

Members who liked PADS 66, *Looking for Dr. Condom*, will be pleased to know that the author, Wm. E. Kruck, has hand-drawn a handsome advertisement for it on an 8½ by 14

poster, displaying the same elegance, good humor and decorum found in the book. Copies are available gratis from the Executive Secretary.

March 1981: PACIFIC COAST REGIONAL MEETING

In association with the Conference on College Composition and Communication (1111 Kenyon Road, Urbana, Ill. 61801)

San Francisco, Hyatt Regency Hotel

Thursday, March 18; 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. (Session C.10)

Chair: **Mary Ritchie Key** (Program in Linguistics, University of California, Irvine, Calif. 92717)

Associate Chair: **Alan Kaye** (California State University, Fullerton)

Recorder-Reactor: **Richard W. Bailey** (University of Michigan)

Regional secretary: **Mary Ritchie Key**

Program:

Similarities and Differences in Black and White Bahamian Speech. **Alison Watt Shilling** (College of the Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas). — The Bahamas, a largely Black country, has a 10 percent White minority, some living in small all-White settlements in isolated areas. Although bound together by historical and geographical circumstance, the two communities lead to some extent separate lives, and this is reflected in the language. Certain non-standard grammatical features are found with far greater frequency in the White community than in the black; there seem to be, as one might expect, resemblances with southern U.S. speech. The most typically creole features of the Black community are, predictably, not used by White speakers, although there are some surprises. Pronunciation remains the most distinctive difference between the two communities, with the results from vocabulary still indeterminate.

The Production and Perception of Diphthongs in the Spanish and English of Chicano Bilinguals. **Jerry McMenamain** (Department of Linguistics, California State University, Fresno, Calif. 93740). — This is a study of the "ascending diphthongs" of the English and Spanish of Chicano bilinguals. These diphthongs are paired combinations of vowels, found in both languages, which begin with /e, a, o/ and end with /i, u/. Most previous work indicates that the Spanish diphthongs are more peripheral (tenser) and longer in duration than the English diphthongs. Spectrographic findings confirmed the hypothesis that Chicano bilinguals use a phonetic form between the extremes of the monolingual norms. I then went on to investigate whether Chicano bilinguals could perceive the monolingual norms as different. I synthesized the diphthongs on a continuum from Spanish to English, and then systematically and gradually changed each diphthong. This enabled me to pair measurably same/different diphthongs on a discrimination test given to English and Spanish monolinguals and to bilinguals. Results indicate a close correspondence between production and perception (discrimination) in monolinguals and in Chicano bilinguals. The monolinguals produce diphthongs close to the respective English and Spanish norms, and they also successfully discriminate slight changes in any diphthong. The bilinguals, on the other hand, not only produce diphthongs that lie between the monolingual norms but also have much more difficulty in discriminating the monolingual norms. Chicano bilinguals have indeed created a new phonetic norm.

CARTOGRAPHY is the topic of an NEH-sponsored summer institute June 7 - July 2 at the Newberry Library. Twenty faculty members, and ten map librarians, will receive \$1500 stipends to attend. March 15 is the application deadline. Write Summer Institute in Cartography, Newberry Library, 60 West Walton St., Chicago, Ill. 60610.

COMMITTEE ON NEW WORDS: REPORT FOR 1981

We are happy to report that since the appearance of the invitation for volunteers in *NADS* 13.1 and our two pieces on the work of the Committee in *NADS* 13.2 and 13.3, four new members have been added to the Committee.

As a look at their institutions will show, one of our hopes, namely that for a wide geographical representation, has been partially fulfilled. Most important, of course, is that the four additional members will be adding at least 400 a year to our reservoir of citations. All told, we can now envisage a file of citations growing at an approximate rate of 2500-3000 a year. Not many compared with the number added by commercial lexicographers, of course, but enough for increasingly sounder installments of "Among the New Words," not to mention possible spinoff lexical studies.

Even before the new members joined the Committee, the chairmen had proceeded with their plan of making "Among the New Words" a Committee project. Copies of our rough draft for the Winter 1981 issue were sent out to the then three members for their comments and further checking against references suggested by the chairmen. The findings and comments received were then incorporated into what turned out to be enough material for both the Winter 1981 and Spring 1982 installments.

When the time came for the next preparation of the rough draft of the installment of "Among the New Words" for the Summer 1982 issue, the four new members had been added, so copies went out to the full committee of seven for comments, and additional references for checking were suggested for the new members.

Thus during 1981 three installments of "Among the New Words" were prepared by the chairmen with the assistance of the members of the Committee. These and future installments will appear under a heading worked out with the former and present editors:

Among the New Words

I. Willis Russell and Mary Gray Porter

The University of Alabama

(With the assistance of [names and institutions of members participating])

The members of the Committee are: Dennis E. Baron (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), William W. Evans (Louisiana State University), Michael Montgomery (University of South Carolina), Thomas M. Paikeday (*The New York Times Everyday Dictionary*, Toronto), Richard E. Ray (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), Peter Tamony (San Francisco), Catherine V. von Schon (State University of New York, Stony Brook).

I. Willis Russell and Mary Gray Porter

COMMITTEE ON PROVERBIAL SAYINGS: REPORT FOR 1981

The collecting of proverbial sayings continues. The chairman still records all proverbial sayings heard in conversation and on the radio and television and found in reading.

The chairman can report that the computerizing of proverbial sayings continues at Northern Michigan University Data Center through the help of Dr. Stewart A. Kingsbury, director of U.S. Place Name Survey and Dialect Studies in the Upper Peninsula, Michigan, and the computer programmer, Donald Schlientz. In 1978 and 1979, c. 180,000 proverb citation slips were computer programmed. In 1980, they have been able to collate 62,000 of the remaining 80,000-plus slips into one alphabetized holding with which they will in the future combine the present computerized data bank.

In addition to reordering the thousands of computerized proverbs and combining them with the new raw data, Dr. Kingsbury will establish a file of unique proverbs as well as a cross-referencing system to coordinate an individual proverb with other proverbs within the collection.

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

Margaret M. Bryant

***ROBERT LAVERNE PARSLOW 1924-1981**

In the death of Robert L. Parslow, the American Dialect Society has lost a member who turned a youthful interest in the varieties of English into a professional life devoted to teaching and research in our field. Born in Williamston, Mich., and raised in Muskegon, Bob served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945 in both Europe and the Pacific. As a GI in England, he was fascinated with the differences between American and Anglo-English, and when he returned home to begin his college education he was inclined to make jokes about those differences. His widow, Patricia Ferguson Parslow (whom he married in 1947), recalls that her getting the point of one such joke led to their initial friendship.

Completing his B.A. in 1951 at St. John's College, Annapolis, Bob came to the University of Michigan for an M.A. in linguistics and began his academic work in dialectology at the 1952 Summer Linguistic Institute, where he was a student of Raven I. McDavid, Jr. While at Michigan he taught at the English Language Institute, and when he had completed his M.A. he became an ESL instructor at Boston University. His residence in Massachusetts suggested the subject of his Ph.D. dissertation (completed in 1967), "The Pronunciation of English in Boston." The foundation for that work was established under the supervision of Albert H. Marckwardt; it was completed with James W. Downer as chair of his doctoral committee. In it, Bob adapted the methods of linguistic geography to an urban setting. He was an effective and affable field worker and delighted in the informants he found to represent the diverse neighborhoods of Boston. An extract from his dissertation was published by Juanita V. Williamson and Virginia M. Burke in *A Various Language* (1971), pp. 610-24.

In 1964, Bob joined the Department of General Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh, where he served in a great variety of roles: instructor in an open-admissions program, administrator in the English Language Institute, tutor in the Writing Workshop. While teaching courses in basic and applied linguistics, he completed a master's degree in library science and applied those skills and his interest in natural history to work at the library of the Hunt Botanical Institute of Carnegie-Mellon University. In 1969 he organized the Pittsburgh Dialect Project, an effort that occupied his time until the end of his life.

Richard W. Bailey

The University of Michigan

OKLAHOMA ATLAS RECORDS GO TO LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

In July 1981, Mrs. William R. Van Riper presented to the Library of Congress the original field records of the Linguistic Atlas of Oklahoma — tapes and worksheets of 50 interviews conducted by William R. Van Riper between 1959 and 1963. The records will be available to researchers through the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, and the Archive of Folk Culture, at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE COUNCIL, DECEMBER 1981

Comfortably ensconced around a long table in Room 543 of the New York Hilton, and adequately ice-watered, the ADS Executive Council had more than a quorum for its meeting December 29, 1981. Present were Council members Carmony, Kinloch, V. McDavid, Cassidy, Hartman, Bailey, Dumas and Metcalf; and Jeutonne Brewer, Audrey Duckert and Raven McDavid. In a quick hour and fifteen minutes the Council:

1. Approved plans for the 1982 Annual Meeting, Summer Meeting, and NCTE meeting as given elsewhere in this issue.

2. Heard the Executive Secretary's financial report and approved the budget for 1982 given elsewhere in this issue.

3. Heard a report from PADS Editor James W. Hartman, giving details mentioned elsewhere in this issue. He concluded:

"I would like to thank Bethany Dumas for her work as Associate Editor, especially taking on chores the Editor had little stomach for. Also, the Editor gives a warm welcome to PADS's new Associate Editor, Dennis Baron of the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

"Most especially the Editor wishes to acknowledge his deep gratitude to the Managing Editor, Jim McMillan. His knowledge, industry, wisdom and counsel were absolutely necessary to the Editor over the past year."

4. On recommendation of Bethany Dumas, approved the student membership mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

5. Approved, with thanks — and pending clarification of one clause in the official document — the gift of the ADS archives to the library of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, as recommended by Audrey Duckert, ADS Archivist.

6. Approved Frederic Cassidy's establishment of a local committee to ensure the continuity of DARE, congratulated him on prudent management of DARE, and thanked those who agreed to serve on the committee.

7. At Raven McDavid's request, expressed the Society's continuing concern for and interest in all Linguistic Atlas projects in North America, and concern for keeping and encouraging liaison between the Society and the project directors.

8. Approved a Committee on Teaching as described elsewhere in this issue.

9. Approved a new chair for the Usage Committee (further details in the May *Newsletter*).

10. Approved committee appointments for 1982 (details in the May *Newsletter*).

11. Appointed Murray Kinloch Canadian regional secretary and authorized him to schedule Canadian regional meetings.

12. Heard the Secretary's membership report (here augmented through the end of 1981): 179 individuals and 161 institutions were paid through 1981, and 246 individuals and 123 institutions were paid through 1982. Omitting five cancellations for 1982, this amounts to 423 individuals and 281 institutions, or a total of 704 current members. This number includes 23 Life Members but excludes 5 Emeritus and 18 complimentary members, who receive the *Newsletter* only. There was a net increase of about 60 individual members for 1981. There were two deaths: David Maurer and Robert Parslow. A memorial notice for Maurer will appear in *American Speech* 57.4.

WORLD-WIDE SUBSCRIPTIONS SOUGHT

The recently established journal *English World-Wide* needs subscribers to continue its plans for publishing text and general numbers of interest to ADS members. Annual subscription is \$28.50 from Heinle & Heinle Publishers, 51 Sleeper St., Boston, Mass. 02210. The editor is Manfred Görlach, Anglistisches Seminar der Universität, Kettengasse 12, D-6900 Heidelberg 1, West Germany.

FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1981**RECEIPTS**

Dues and direct sales of back issues	\$14,132.37
(net after refunds; includes 9 Life Memberships)	
Gifts	410.00
Royalties from University of Alabama Press	249.66
Sale of mailing labels	65.00
Interest	<u>2,315.78</u>
	\$17,172.81

EXPENSES

<i>American Speech</i> , Vol. 52, Columbia University Press	\$3,170.00
<i>American Speech</i> , Vol. 56, Alabama Press	4,600.00
<i>American Speech</i> , misc. back issues, Alabama Press	246.41
<i>American Speech</i> , misc. back issues, University Microfilms	92.10
PADS 66, Alabama Press	2,370.00
PADS, misc. back issues, Alabama Press	145.00
<i>Newsletter</i> , Vol. 13	<u>1,139.62</u>
Total publications expense	\$11,763.73
ACLS	\$1,139.42
(dues \$400; travel for Council of Secretaries \$739.42)	
Office supplies	423.53
Postage	442.57
Telephone	2.33
Bank service charges	11.77
Misc. printing	59.94
Subscription to <i>Verbatim</i> for <i>American Speech</i>	7.50
National Humanities Alliance contribution	50.00
Special trip to London, Ont.	248.00
(to obtain files and consult with former Secretary)	
Total administrative expenses	<u>\$2,385.06</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$14,148.19
Excess of receipts over expenses	\$3,024.62
(approximately equal to the value of 9 new Life Memberships)	

BANK BALANCES DECEMBER 31, 1981**U.S. Funds**

Savings certificates	\$20,000.00
Savings account	7,763.78
Checking account	<u>20.08</u>
	\$27,783.86

Canadian Funds

Royal Bank, London, Ont.	\$1,378.00
University of Western Ontario	<u>742.00</u>
	\$2,120.00

BUDGET FOR 1982

<i>American Speech</i> , Vol. 57	\$5,500
PADS Nos. 67, 68, 69	7,000
<i>Newsletter</i> , Vol. 14	<u>1,200</u>
Total publications cost	\$13,700
ACLS dues and travel	1,100
National Humanities Alliance	100
File cabinet	175
Other administrative expenses	<u>1,000</u>
Total administrative expenses	\$2,375
Total estimated expenses	\$16,075
<i>Income</i>	
Dues	\$14,000
Interest and misc.	<u>2,000</u>
	\$16,000

ANNUAL MEETING, DECEMBER 1981

Whatever happened to the Windchime Room? asked Ex-Executive Secretary Rex Wilson, and he was right. The New York ambience evoked all too vivid memories of the cacophonous chandellers across the street in 1976 (see NADS 9.1, p. 13), but in 1981 that ghost was safely laid to rest. The Beekman Room of the New York Hilton provided no droll annoyances to enliven this report; it was conveniently located, ample, decorated decorously with gray and brown vertical zigzags, outfitted with hundreds of comfortable seats and a working public address system. Furthermore, for the first year in a row, ADS had not only world enough, but time, for a proper Annual Meeting. MLA had met our wishes, arranging not just two but three consecutive sessions in the same comfortable enclosure. Even the weather cooperated, the Siberian Express a coinage yet unknown to those balmy days.

Late risers managed not to miss much of the first session, which started half an hour late, since **John M. Kirk** (University of Sheffield, England) had had to cancel his appearance. In his absence, the first speaker was **Anthony B. House** (University of New Brunswick). Looking at vowels in Anglo/Francophone New Brunswick, he contrasted unilingual Perth with bilingual Edmunston, and found the anticipated interference from French in Edmunston's English speech — more monophthongizing in particular. **Stanley Aléong** (Université de Montréal) not only spoke of the role of English-derived slang as a means of expressing rebellion against authority in Montreal (with terms like *potteur*, *freak*, *blower mon guitar*), but provided a tape-recorded minute of the French of Montreal's No. 1 disk jockey, Douglas 'Coco' Leopold: "La musique est wild ce soir. . . ."

Session 2 began with **James Hartman** (University of Kansas) listing a large number of features that are "leaking out of their regional domains" and spreading nationwide — for example, the [a/ɔ] merger, [au] fronting, laxing and lowering of tense vowels before [l], a fronted onset to [o], centralization of [u] and [ʊ], fronting of low vowels, weakening of diphthongs before [l], consonant cluster reduction. Socially mobile young adults, especially females, are acquiring these features in common. In a Kansas City high school, the higher a student's status, the more likely the student is to adopt these features. But can the speech of the young be trusted? Is it a condition of age rather than a universal change? "We know very little about adult language development," Hartman noted, and he said there was an urgent need for scholarly cooperation to learn more.

Is the Southern dialect dying out? asked **Virginia O. Foscue** (University of Alabama), and her students have been finding out that it seems to be, at least as far as distinctive regional vocabulary is concerned. Among those they interviewed, the younger informants used fewer regional terms of any sort than the older ones. The use of regional expressions by young people who have had some college education is decreasing.

Then the lights went out, the slide projector went on — courtesy of Arthur J. Bronstein, CUNY, and Peter Harris of the CUNY Audio-Visual Center — and the reporter for the Chronicle of Higher Education took note (see the Jan. 13 issue, p. 6). **George Oliver**, speaking for himself and **Frank Parker** (both of Louisiana State University) showed shotguns, doubles, duplexes, slave quarters, camelbacks, basement houses, raised houses — all found in New Orleans, and not what an outsider or a real estate ad would call them. As a house lagnappe, Oliver offered a view of a "converted double" with only one door.

Session 3 brought the ADS fully into the computer age, beginning with James Joyce's announcement of a call for papers (deadline Sept. 30) for the April 6-8, 1983 meeting of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing (abstract and title to him at International Technical Seminars, 2000 Center St., Suite 1036, Berkeley, Calif. 94704). The first speaker was **Diana Mae Sims** (Texas Instruments, Inc.), happy at the development of the TILT (Texas Instruments Language Translator) that automates the writing-editing process throughout Texas Instruments. It can maintain and achieve discourse for people who don't like to write, because the format is prescribed. It is more important that computer documents be readable and current, she said, than that they adapt to the user's language.

Equally happy with his computer was **Thomas M. Paideeday** (The New York Times Everyday Dictionary). He has been making dictionaries for 18 years, but has recently acquired a bit of know-how that has practically changed his life — the ability to use a microcomputer. Now he can search the NEXIS file of over 600 million words from the print media, going back to 1974, for such matters as earlier uses of new words.

From the ADS proverbs collection, now stored on computer, **Stewart A. Kingsbury** (Northern Michigan University) invoked the divine name, and found 38 sententious sayings about God, 33 phrases, 26 euphemisms, 82 true proverbs. Gosh, all potatoes. Goshwalader. Hot Almighty. God has a big menagerie.

The audiences remained fit and few, between two and three dozen at each session. Past President Virginia McDavid presided at the first, Vice President Murray Kinloch at the second, President Marvin Carmony at the third, which concluded with the briefest of Business Meetings. A voice vote ratified the uncontested election of Lurline Coltharp to the Executive Council; Allan Metcalf announced the actions of the Council, as reported elsewhere in this issue; Jim Hartman reported for PADS; and the assembly adjourned till next December in the Big Orange.

QUERIES: *The French Connection*, a 1969 book and a hit movie, made *connection* a catchword. A recent example is "Oklahoma Connection" as a source for cut-rate name-brand spirits (Wall Street Journal, Sept. 11, 1981, p. 33). Tired of saving string, Drew Downey asks that citations (with contexts, please) for post-*French* uses of *connection* in descriptors reach him c/o Box 1808, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Raven I. McDavid, Jr. would like to find out anything about the history of abbreviations, acronyms and initialisms. Write him at 5736 S. Blackstone, Chicago, Ill. 60637.

Richard Lederer, ADS member and columnist for the Concord Monitor, asks information on the origin of the phrase, "It isn't over until the fat lady sings." Write him at St. Paul's School, Concord, N.H. 03301 — and ask for a copy of his column on Pullet Surprises while you're at it.

ALGEO, WILSON FETED, DOUBLE-DACTYLED

Higgledy piggedly

John Thomas Algeo

Met with a challenge

And entered the breach.

Skillfully managed quite

Superincredibly

To edit and update

American Speech.

Dialect shmialect

Harry Rex Wilson

Found Society records

Somewhat of a mess.

Sought money and members

Ultramethodically,

Successfully serving

Our great ADS.

Say, muse! What moved Harold Allen thus to double-dactyl?

— A dinner that he did not even attend, at the Hotel Warwick, New York City, December 28, 1981, where a number of ADS members made a less than completely solemn point of attributing our two ex-s of 1981. Arranged, with the Executive Council's encouragement, by Fred Cassidy, and attended by some two dozen well wishers, the dinner concluded with tributary remarks by I. Willis Russell (in absentia), C.L. Barnhart, Murray Kinloch (recalling a slightly younger Wilson at Alexander College), Allen (vide supra), Audrey Duckert (retelling the labors of Hercules), Fred Cassidy (vide infra), and Allan Metcalf; presentation of two books to each of the honorees; and modest brief ripostes from both. The event was planned too late to announce in *NADS*, but it determined the Council to lay plans for, and announce well in advance, something equally convivial for the coming meeting in L.A.

Cassidy managed to obtain rhymes from Messrs. Silbert and Gullivan, as well as Mr. Nashden Ogg. There is room here for only a sample of the latter; complete copies are available on request from the Executive Secretary.

What more-or-less human creature can be so infernal —

Who can act more irrational (unless an unpaid creditor)

Than the would-be contributor to a scholarly journal

Who thinks he could do a far better job of it than the Editor?

Has he a field-shaking article on a new dichotomy

Which the Editor takes a thoroughly dim view of?

Does he write like a candidate for lobotomy

Because his own meaning is what he hasn't a clue of? . . .

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.

Worldmark Encyclopedia of the States. New York: Worldmark Press and Harper & Row, 1981. Includes 51 articles on language, one for each state and one for the country as a whole, prepared by **Harold B. Allen**. Each article summarizes and exemplifies what research has revealed about the area treated, regarding both the preservation of Indian languages and particularly the regional distribution of dialect items.

Harold B. Allen and **Michael Linn**. *Readings in Applied English Linguistics*, 3rd ed. Knopf, January 1981. Includes eight articles on regional and social variation.

M.S. Hetherington. *The Beginnings of Old English Lexicography*. [Spicewood, Texas:] Privately printed, 1980. 343 pp. From Laurence Nowell's 16th century *Vocabularium Saxonium* to William Somner's *Dictionarium Saxonico-Latino-Anglicum* of 1659, a detailed study of the lexicographers and their works, based on primary sources. A few copies are available free from the author (Department of English, College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C. 29401).

W.J. Kirwin, ed. *Regional Language Studies — Newfoundland*. Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's: Folklore and Language Archive, 1981. 240 pp. Includes No. 1 (1968) through No. 9 (1980), with corrections and an index. Many articles on Newfoundland English. Available for \$5 (Canadian) plus \$1.20 postage from the editor (Department of English, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5S7, Canada).

†**David W. Maurer**. *Language of the Underworld*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1981. 416 pp. Twenty essays originally published between 1930 and 1974, with new prefaces and an epilogue, "Social Dialects as a Key to Cultural Dynamics," by Maurer. Edited by Allan W. Futrell and Charles B. Wordell; foreword by **Stuart Berg Flexner**. Available for \$30 plus \$1 handling charge from the press (Lexington, Kentucky 40506). To be reviewed in *American Speech* by Raven I. McDavid, Jr.

Edgar W. Schneider. *Morphologische und syntaktische Variablen im amerikantischen Early Black English* (Morphological and Syntactic Variables in American Early Black English). Bamberger Beiträge zu Englischen Sprachwissenschaft, 10. Frankfurt am Main, Bern: Lang, 1981. 361 pp. A study of 20 linguistic variables in 104 interviews from the Slave Narrative Collection of the Federal Writers' Project in the 1930s. English summary, pp. 354-8, concludes: "on the one hand the possibility of locally restricted creolization processes on isolated big plantations cannot be excluded, but on the other hand there is no doubt that a supra-regionally uniform creole language spoken by Black slaves all over the South has never existed." Copies available at about sFr. 75 from Peter Lang Verlag, Wolfsgangstr. 92, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main 1, West Germany. Also, the Universitätsbibliothek Bamberg (An der Universität, Postfach 15 49, D-8600 Bamberg, West Germany) possesses a considerable number of copies for exchange.

SUMMER DAYS IN CIN WITH DSNA

Nestled among Cincinnati's 77 hills is Xavier University, and nestled near the University's alimentary canal, the University Center, is towering Kuhlman Residence Hall. There, for two days last June, in the Lounge on the first floor, while the healthy highschoolers of Operation Youth, not too heavily clothed, larked by, ADS melded with DSNA for the former's Summer and the latter's Biennial Meeting.

An observer, even unfueled by a Cincinnati beverage, could be pardoned for seeing single — for there, starting the DSNA program, was ADS member Fred Brengleman; and there, the next day, was ADS Life Member Allen Walker Read, also on the DSNA program, illustrating his "extreme contextualist position" concerning the Relation of Definitions to Their Contextual Basis with plentiful citation of *consummate* (v.) and *consummation* (n.) to illustrate two ways of *consummating* a marriage. To consummate the cohabitation of DSNA and ADS, Read was announced as the new president of DSNA.

For its official part, the ADS put in many a good word. **Stanley Aléong** illustrated "semantics follows politics" with the commercial success of the 1980 *Dictionnaire de la langue québécoise*, advertised as "prohibited to those under 18, professors of French, linguists and announcers for Radio Canada." **Arthur Bronstein** observed that the lexicographer must study, to use Chomsky's phrase, "the character of everyday speech, however degenerate it may be"; but do you mark the syllabification of the final consonant in *wagon*?

Then there was **Thomas Creswell**, who has found otiose apostrophe's in Harvard Square (sign in store: "Guess It's Weight"), on State Street in Chicago (a six-foot stainless steel sign, *Gift's*), and in the New York Times, and hypothesized that writer's feel a word is more correct or elegant with an apostrophe. **Michael Miller** found Green's *Word-Book* a guide to the actual

as well as the linguistic marshes of Virginia in 1912. And **Michael Montgomery**, having served on the original Writer's Hotline, could generalize: "The writer on the job is much more conscientious and curious than we give credit for." "Secretaries are nearly always right, and so are wives." But a lot of callers have phantom rules, and "the more specific or narrow the item, the more vigorously it is defended."

LAMSAS TO APPEAR ON FILM; HAPPY 90TH, HANS KURATH

Field records of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States are about to be published in microfilm.

Raven I. McDavid, Jr., editor in chief of LAMSAS, and William A. Kretzschmar, assistant editor, have announced plans for publishing the complete field records in Series LVII of Chicago Microfilm MSS, on Cultural Anthropology, under the general editorship of Norman McQuown. Within this series the following numbers are tentatively assigned:

- 360: Homage to Kurath on his 90th Birthday
- 361: LAMSAS, Ontario-New York
- 362: LAMSAS, New Jersey
- 363: LAMSAS, Pennsylvania
- 364: LAMSAS, West Virginia
- 365: LAMSAS, eastern Ohio
- 366: LAMSAS, Delaware-Maryland-District of Columbia
- 367: LAMSAS, Virginia
- 368: LAMSAS, North Carolina
- 369: LAMSAS, South Carolina
- 370: LAMSAS, Georgia-Florida
- 371: LAMSAS short worksheet records, Ontario, Ohio, Kentucky
- 372: southern England (Lowman, Collins)
- 373: Gullah (Turner)
- 374: Maritimes (Alexander), records with short worksheet paging
- 375: Maritimes (Alexander), records with long worksheet paging

Letters written for Hans Kurath's 90th birthday last December will be included as a prologue to the series. This emphasizes the concern Professor Kurath has had for the speech of the Atlantic Seaboard, as the seedbed from which other regional varieties of American English have developed.

As with the records of the Linguistic Atlas of the North Central States (see *NADS* 8.3, September 1976, p. 7), each part may be ordered separately from the Photoduplication Department, Joseph Regenstein Library, University of Chicago, 1100 East 57th St., Chicago, Ill. 60637. Where records were transcribed from tapes, reel or cassette copies may be ordered from the Language Laboratory, University of Chicago, 1126 East 59th St., Chicago, Ill. 60637.

The first installment, No. 371, was to have been delivered to the Photoduplication Service Jan. 21. Others will follow as time and finances permit. McDavid hopes that funds to assist the project may be obtained from interested institutions, especially those in the LAMSAS area.

"The more subscriptions we can work up for the series, the better the price for individual subscribers," McDavid notes.

Other records may follow. Records from Oklahoma and the Upper Midwest have been assigned to Series XXXVIII, along with LANCS records.

Work continues on the last pages of copy for Fascicle 4 of LAMSAS; the University of Chicago Press has approved samples submitted by Kretzschmar.

NEH REMAINS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Thanks perhaps in part to the vigorous representations of the National Humanities Alliance (see *NADS* 13.3, p. 15) and others concerned with national support for the humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities did *not* receive the 50 percent cut in funds originally proposed by the Administration for 1981-82. Instead, after nearly a year of negotiation, President Reagan last month signed a bill authorizing \$131 million for NEH in the current year.

Because of the struggle, many potential applicants seem to have turned themselves away. "The number of applications to most NEH programs is down dramatically from this time last year," writes NHA executive director Moira Egan. "Although this year's NEH budget is only \$20 million less than last year's, people seem to be under the impression that it is impossible to get an NEH grant anymore. With the exception of a few programs which have been discontinued, this is most definitely not the case." Now is a better time than ever to apply.

Information on deadlines and eligibility appears in "An Overview of Endowment Programs for 1982-83," available free from the Public Affairs Office, NEH, 806 15th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506.

In 1982 the NHA, to which the ADS has made a \$100 contribution, will continue to report on Washington developments concerning NEH and other federal programs related to the humanities. Members interested in receiving NHA reports are invited to write the ADS Executive Secretary.

ACLS: CONTINUING EDUCATION IN THE BERMOUTHES

Still vexed with care for such matters as the NEH budget (see above), the Council of Secretaries of the American Council of Learned Societies resolutely isolated itself in Hamilton, Bermuda for its November meeting. Your secretary was pleased to find his air fare less than that to Washington, D.C. for the ACLS Annual Meeting (see *NADS* 13.3, p. 15). He found excellent opportunities to garner information of value to the ADS, not only at business sessions in the modest modern Bermuda Room of the Princess Hotel, but also at breakfast and dinner in the Crown Room, on the hotel bus to the pink coral beach at Southampton, and in the Gazebo Bar overlooking Hamilton Harbour.

Amid concern for federal budget cuts, there was enthusiastic support for the National Humanities Alliance. "The NHA has kept together a fragile and largely hostile group of constituents," said one Washingtonian.

Data gathering was another of the Secretaries' concerns. Two Washington agencies were said to provide especially reliable statistics on academia: The National Center for Educational Statistics, and the private National Resource Council. Your secretary learned a number of useful and not too personal questions to ask with membership renewal forms.

And new technology, he learned, may enable the return of the independent scholar. For example, one day it may be possible to store the complete *DARE* files and all the Linguistic Atlas records in a few videodisks on one's shelf, quickly accessible by computer for whatever inquiry comes to mind. This won't happen right away — but an optical digital disk can now store one billion characters on a side.

There was valuable information, too, on computer bibliographies, the costs of newsletters (ours is cheap), arranging annual meetings (get as much for nothing as you possibly can), air travel (shop around), and good inexpensive hotels in New York (Hotel Empire, used by MLA, and the Saville). If you find your Secretariat working well, it's partly thanks to expertise borrowed from this Council. Next installment: New York, April 1, when the Secretaries have been promised a visit to MLA's computer for the 1990s.

A THIRTEENTH DARE FOR OUR READERS

MORE queries — always more! But this means of inquiry has proved very helpful, so we return. Please send any pertinent information to Prof. F.G. Cassidy, *Dictionary of American Regional English*, 6125 Helen White Hall, Madison, Wis. 53706.

asp - An unidentified "critter," but known by this name to at least 11 informants in West Texas, who say it bites or stings children when they climb trees. It is hairy, perhaps an arthropod. We'd gladly accept a genuine specimen.

Boston tag — The children's game. Reported once from Rhode Island without description. How widespread? How does it differ from ordinary tag?

pure O.D. — Compound adjective phrase, as in "That's pure O.D. nonsense," said by an elderly Mississippi woman. Her son says it's "fairly current throughout the South," but our consultants don't know it. This needs checking. And what does O.D. stand for?

chitlin — Two reports of senses other than "chitterling": From Michigan, a runt pig. From the southern Appalachians, one's hands. Is there any other support for these?

clacky, clackies — The first is hard, no-good gravy; central Virginia. The second, given as answer to the question, "What do you call a doctor who is not very capable or doesn't have a good reputation?" The grammar of the second is puzzling, too. Any suggestions?

pig-in — In Springfield, Ohio, this is a "social gathering at which barbecued pig is the main article of food." Is the term known elsewhere? (We have plenty of evidence on *pig-out*.)

feather party — From Ohio we have the announcement, in a Nov. 15 newspaper, of a "feather party" held by an Eagles Auxilliary. Are these eagle feathers or turkey feathers? What goes on?

bachelor hat — Craigie's *Dictionary of American English* lists this as "a garden flower" without identification. Where is it known? Can it be identified?

red miner — The *Woman's Encyclopedia of Cookery* notes: Pinto and pink beans. . . . The pinks . . . are sometimes called "red Mexican" or "red miners." We have no other record. Can someone tell us more?

shellout — More on beans from the same source: "Cranberry beans, called 'shellouts' in Ohio and Indiana, are similar to the pinto except that markings are pink instead of brown." Further evidence?

borga, booga — A paper sack or bag. We have had two reports from the Georgia-Florida borderland, near the coast. Does any reader know this? Both form and usage are uncertain.

apple melon — Like a small watermelon but with pale or greenish flesh. Reported only from Maryland; is it used elsewhere?

ash snake — Reported (1930) from Western Louisiana (and not an error for *asp*). Is this still in use, and where? Said to be a color reference.

(At the December meetings, Cassidy reported expectations of a 1983 publication date for the first volume of DARE. Don't delay your replies to these inquiries!)

DISCUSSION PAPERS IN GEOLINGUISTICS, a new series, is available at \$2.50 each or \$15 for six issues from the editor, Colin H. Williams, Dept. of Geography and Sociology, North Staffordshire Polytechnic, Stafford ST18 0AD, U.K. Already published are No. 1, *Bilingual Districts: The Elusive Territorial Component in Canada's Official Languages Act* by Don Cartwright; No. 2, *Micro-scale Language Mapping: An Experiment in Wales and Brittany* by John Ambrose; No. 3, *Language, Geography and Social Development in Norden* by Thomas Lunden; No. 4, *Scale as an Influence on the Geolinguistic Analysis of a Minority Language* by John Ambrose and Colin Williams.