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Report of the Place - Name Committee

A question which this committee should like to have our society decide is whether there should be a Place-Name Committee in the Dialect Society. Before the establishment of the American Name Society, our committee had an important function, as it was the only group in any organization interested especially in place names. For some years our committee has turned its attention to discovering and encouraging place-name research in progress but not yet in print. There are some who feel strongly that our committee should continue as a part of the Dialect Society; there are others who feel that all place-name study should center in the American Name Society.

Members of our committee hope that the executive committee of the Dialect Society will determine the future status of the Place-Name Committee. The committee may be discontinued. If it is continued, however, it should be reconstituted. There have been no changes in committee membership for many years, except for the death of two members. Some committee members are no longer interested. If the committee is to make reports of much value, these must be published within a reasonable length of time and not after a period of a year or more.

A reconstituted committee might serve a useful purpose, but, in any case, a decision concerning the matters stated above should be made as soon as possible.

Members of the committee have been Frederic G. Cassidy

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(Wisconsin), Elliott V. K. Dobbie (Columbia), Audrey R.  
Duckert (Massachusetts), T. M. Pearce (New Mexico), W. P.  
Randel (Florida State), and E. C. Ehrensperger (South  
Dakota), Chairman.