

1962

American Dialect Society  
Committee on Place Names

After a lapse of two years this committee is making its eighth report on place-name research in progress but not in print. The report will eventually appear in PADS but is presented in mimeographed form at the annual meeting (1962) in order to be more timely and to allow for additions and corrections.

More information appears in this than in any former report, but place-name work still is far from what it should be.

✓ Walter C. Kraft (Oregon State University) is working on a Pronouncing Dictionary of the Place Names of the Pacific Northwest.

✓ A. J. Wright (Washington, D. C.) is finishing a Geographic Dictionary of Delaware which will include all known place names in the state, geographic coordinates for each, description of each feature, and information about the origin of each name. This work has been sanctioned by the Domestic Names Committee of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names and will be published (perhaps by May, 1963) by the Government Printing Office.

✓ E. R. Seary (Memorial University of Newfoundland) has published several articles on Newfoundland place names and is continuing his work in this field.

✓ Meredith F. Burrill (Director, Office of Geography, U. S. Dept. of the Interior) is engaged in the following projects: 1. A polyglot (English-Spanish-Portuguese-French) glossary of geographic terms in the Americas; a project of the Commission on Geography, Pan American Institute of Geography and History. (In early stages). 2. Distribution and varying application of generic terms in physical features names on topographic maps and nautical charts of the U. S. (Practically complete). 3. The nature of named geographic entities in all parts of the world, and generalizations that may be drawn therefrom. (In process). 4. International standardization of geographic names. This is well under way, but there is a long way to go.

✓ H. G. Raup (Kent State University) has been collecting material for fifteen years on geographic names of places, natural features, state parks and forests, and miscellaneous features within the state of Ohio. His 35,000 cards are virtually a card gazetteer of the state. Eventually the cards will be transferred to the U. S. Board on Geographic Names.

✓ G. A. Weslazer (Hockessin, Delaware) is preparing a paper on the Delaware town name "Hockessin."

✓ J. W. Harris (Southern Illinois University) is continuing collection of material on place names of Southern Illinois but is "still a goodly distance away from any extensive publication."

✓ Margaret Bryant (Brooklyn College) has graduate students working on the place names of various communities which make up Brooklyn, of which there are 44 in all. Two studies were completed last summer: Henry Rashkin's "Place-Names in Bay Ridge," and Jeanette Blumengarten's "Place-Names in Flatbush." Two others will be finished this term: Nicholas Marlow's "Place-Names in Bedford-Stuyvesant" and Pearl Minsky's "Place-Names in Canarsie." Several other studies are in progress.

✓ Arthur Minton (New Milford, Connecticut) has finished a paper on "The Battle of Bunker Hill: an Onomastic Anomaly."

✓ Arthur Berliner (New York, N. Y.) is working on street names in the Bronx.

✓ John Rydjord (University of Nebraska) has completed four years of study in preparation for a book on The Origin and History of Kansas Place Names.

✓ Arthur H. Hughes and ✓ Morse Allen (Trinity College) have the manuscript for Connecticut Place Names practically finished. There are 25,000 names, including about 1800 Indian place names and tribal names. The authors write that they need subsidy for the two or three volumes.

✓ Hamill Kenny (Mt. Rainier, Md.) reports that with hope of eventual publication he has opened new notebooks and begun a study of all the place names of Maryland.

✓ F. G. Cassidy (University of Wisconsin) has graduate students working on county place-name studies. Two may be published in 1963: ✓ Virginia Foscue's Place Names of Brown County, Wisconsin and ✓ Robert Rudolph's Place Names of Wood County, Wisconsin.

✓ P. Burwell Rogers (Bucknell University) is continuing his work on Virginia place names. His immediate interest is centering on colonial names relating to British royalty as an indication of relations between the colony and the mother country.

✓ A. R. Dunlap (University of Delaware) has written a short article on Corner Ketch in New Castle County, Delaware. In addition, he has in progress a guide to the pronunciation of Delaware place names.

✓ T. P. Field (University of Kentucky) is working on corrections of and additions to his The Place Names of Kentucky.

✓ R. B. Sealock and ✓ Pauline A. Sealy's supplement to the 1948 Bibliography of Place Name Literature of the United States, Canada, Alaska, and Newfoundland is due for publication by the American Library Association within the early months of 1963.

✓ Alfred Percy (Madison Heights, Va.) has revised and to a great extent rewritten a small booklet he published in 1950—Old Place Names (Central Virginia Piedmont and Blue Ridge). He hopes to have the booklet in print before the summer of 1963.

✓ Donald G. Baker (Collegeville, Pa.) is working on two projects: (1) a complete gazetter of New Hampshire (towns, rivers, hills, etc.), (2) a study of the origin of all the place names of the U. S. derived from ancient Greek and Roman sources.

✓ Francis L. Utley (Ohio State University) read a paper on "The Linguistic Component of Onomastics" at the Ninth International Congress of Linguistics in August, 1962.

✓ T. M. Pearce (University of New Mexico) says his New Mexico Place Names is in the hands of the University Press, but date of publication is uncertain.

✓ Rabbi Samson A. Shain (Lancaster, Pa.) is engaged in a study of some 250 place names on the map of Pennsylvania. About ninety percent of his information has been assembled.

✓ E. C. Ehrensperger (State University of South Dakota) has graduate students studying the place names of various counties of the state. In 1961 ✓ Winerva Van Roekel completed a study of the names of Douglas County. Last summer ✓ Janet J. Carlberg completed a similar study of the names of Clay County. Both works are available in typed form at the University library.

✓ Virgil J. Vogel (Chicago, Ill.) has been working for over five years on Indian place names in Illinois. In 1962 his work appeared serially in the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. In 1963 the Illinois State Historical Society will reissue the whole work as a pamphlet of 125 pages. In the work are over 200 names representing about 14 Indian stocks. Mr. Vogel is also planning an article on the origin of the name Wisconsin.

✓ Roland Dickison (Sacramento State College) is contemplating a study of place-name changes in Motherlode County, California.

Members of the place-name committee are F. G. Cassidy (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. Same