

American Name Society

IX. Twentieth Annual Report on Work in Progress on Place Names
1974

Before reporting on various projects perhaps it might be well to answer a few questions concerning place-name work in general. Some members of ANS who have not been able to attend annual meetings and who are not members of the Dialect Society have wondered why just last March they saw one of these reports for the first time in an ANS publication. Where have all the others been? These reports began long ago as the annual reports of the Place-Name Committee of the American Dialect Society. Given orally at the meetings they were included in the published proceedings of the society. When they became too lengthy for oral presentation, they were put into mimeographed form, passed out at the meetings, but always published in entirety in the proceedings. When ANS came into existence, a liaison place-name committee between ADS and ANS was formed, but the reports always appeared in ADS publications. Two years ago place-name work became the province of ANS alone, and so information about place-name work in progress began to appear only in ANS publications. This report will appear as a separate ANS bulletin in late February or early March, 1975.

Another question which is frequently asked is what kinds of people are interested in place names. Over many years and from various sources a list of over 300 names has been assembled. This list is in no sense exhaustive, but it does include a considerable proportion of those actually engaged in place-name research and also many who have an abiding interest in the field even though not actively at work. When the annual letter of inquiry was sent out this fall, each person on our list was asked to indicate his position or status and his interests. For many on our lists this information was already known and no reply was necessary, but much new information has been gained from a large number of replies. The following figures and percentages are merely approximations and are not intended as accurate mathematical computations. They do show very clearly, however, in what fields a large part of place-name work has been done and they also show where our society should make special efforts to increase interest and productivity.

We have been able to classify 87% of the people on our list. Of the total on the list, only 49 or about 16% are women. There are 12 Canadians and one Mexican. As might be expected, a large percent, over 70%, have definite academic connections of some kind. In non-academic situations are four lawyers, two clergymen (a rabbi and a priest), five librarians or museum workers, eleven with some type of government connection, thirteen journalists, publishers, or editors, two historical society employees, one housewife, and a small miscellaneous group. It is interesting to note the makeup of the academic group, all but 8% of which we have been able to classify. English teachers, including teachers in closely connected fields, make up 64% of this group; foreign language teachers (both ancient and modern), 15%; geography and earth science teachers, 6%; history teachers, 3%; and a miscellaneous group consisting of one or two in a field, 4%.

Bear in mind that these figures apply only to our list and not to the membership of ANS or any other group. A few observations concerning the figures may be in order. The comparatively small number of women in the field is surprising. The same comment might be made about the membership of ANS, but women in that society have been very active, no less than five of the nineteen presidents having been women, and all five primarily interested in place names.

The fact that such a large percentage of those on our list have academic connections is not surprising, but it is a situation which should be changed. Place-name work is not like that of a narrow academic field, but is an activity in which people of all kinds in a community may be involved. If more people with no college or university connections were sleuthing in our field, there might be much more rapid progress in our national survey. At the same time, we very much need the academic point of view in assembling and organizing what is brought to light.

Finally, the figures concerning those in academic positions show very clearly a situation which should be changed. It is fine that we have so many English teachers interested in place names and we would increase that number as much as possible, but we should also have a much larger number in fields such as history, geography and earth science, anthropology, folklore, sociology, etc. There are many connections between place names and every one of these fields. It is a curious fact that much of the early work on place names in this country was done by English teachers. The emphasis was often on the linguistic aspects of the word or words making up the names. This treatment may have been due to the influence of British place-name work, which was highly developed before much of anything was done in this country. British place names with a long history and many linguistic changes and influences served as a model for American workers. Now the linguistic aspects of place names should certainly receive emphasis, but there are also other aspects which should not be neglected. We must always remember, to be sure, that the history of a place name is not a history of the place for which the name stands, but we should also keep in mind that the study of place names is not merely a linguistic investigation.

The people on our list live in every state of the union except Alaska, in six Canadian provinces, and in Mexico. Alaska is well taken care of, however, for that state has one of the best place-name studies in existence, and Donald Orth, who did that job, although not an Alaskan and living in the East, is continuing his research in this field.

The final question to be discussed concerns the status of place-name work. Letters from a few of our respondents, especially some who have not been in the field very long, express a feeling of frustration and a conviction that our work is lagging. Such an attitude is understandable. In the first place, those in our field, probably without exception, have as their main occupation some other type of work. There are no chairs of onomatology in our universities and few opportunities to introduce any reference to place names in our regular courses. Place-name work has to be sandwiched in between other jobs or done after other jobs are completed if any time is left. Then, too, there is little, if any, financial support for our work. A few lucky individuals have managed to obtain small grants, but not enough to accomplish much. Even though the approaching bicentennial observance may have helped somewhat, such assistance is only temporary. Anyone trying to direct place-name surveys is likely to discover that he must depend on volunteer workers, some of whom are fine, but others, unfortunately, are not dependable. A director or worker may find that he just doesn't have the time or energy to do all that he has planned. If by good fortune a job is completed, the problem of finding a printer is frequently very discouraging. Place-name books are not popular best sellers, and publishers are wary about investing the large sums necessary in such undertakings. In these days subsidies for such publishing are virtually nonexistent.

In view of all these discouraging aspects, should we not agree with some of our respondents? A very brief glance at just a few facts should answer

this question. Since the advent of ANS in 1951 (only 23 years ago), place-name work in this country has progressed beyond the wildest dreams of many of us. Before that time, such work was scarce and not organized. ANS today, like practically every other human institution, is having financial worries, but similar situations have occurred before and have been surmounted. All indications are that ANS will not only survive but will continue to prosper.

As just one result of ANS influence, note the ever-increasing number of Names Institutes, beginning with the flourishing one at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey under the direction of Wallace E. McMullen, started some twelve years ago. A thirteenth session is scheduled for next May. Next in point of age is the institute held each May at Indiana State University at Terre Haute under the able guidance of Ron Baker and Marvin Carmony. A periodical, Indiana Names, has been published for five years. A sixth South Central Names Institute at East Texas State University at Commerce, Texas, directed by Fred Tarpley, is planned for next June. Three volumes of papers presented at these meetings have been published. The Canadian Institute of Onomastic Sciences is prospering and will hold its annual meeting at Edmonton the last week of next May. For the past two years a conference on Literary Onomastics has been held in June at the State University of New York at Brockport with Grace Alvarez-Altman in charge. A third is already planned. As a result of these conferences, the first volume of a new journal, Literary Onomastic Studies has appeared. For several years one group session of the annual NCTE convention at Thanksgiving time has been devoted to names, planned and conducted by members of ANS. A move has been started to have regional sessions on names in conjunction with regional MLA meetings. The first of these took place this past October at the University of Texas at El Paso under the direction of Lurline Coltharp. It is planned to extend this practice to other sections of the country. Also for the first time last October Arthur Berliner, director of the Connecticut place-name survey, directed a successful Symposium on Connecticut Place Names at Eastern State College in Willimantic. One of the most astonishing developments in place-name study has been the appearance year after year for 21 years of Names in South Carolina, the first journal in the USA to be devoted exclusively to place names, edited most faithfully by Claude Henry Neuffer.

Do all these extraordinary accomplishments, some new during this year, suggest that interest and progress in place-name work are lagging? What is more, look over the following entries in this report dealing with what various individuals all over the country are doing and thinking, and then draw your own conclusions.

Corrections, additions, and comments are always welcome. Note that all academic titles have been omitted and that, in order to save space, addresses have been abbreviated. Full information will be furnished upon request.

We deeply regret having to report the death of four of our distinguished colleagues: Francis L. Utley, Arthur R. Dunlap, Jack Smith, and Atcheson L. Hench. Fran Utley was a member of the Liaison Committee during all the years of its existence. As president of ANS he tried desperately to get a national place-name survey started and to find financial sources for the work. He was a human dynamo with no end of interests. Last December we missed his usual presence. He wrote us a note in January telling of his work. Arthur Dunlap was a pioneer in place-name research, especially with respect to Delaware. He left behind several unfinished articles. His last completed work will appear shortly in Names. Jack Smith was an authority on Mississippi place names. One of his Mississippi colleagues has written: "Jack Smith's death was indeed a body blow to Mississippi place-name study." Atcheson L.

Hench, a profound student of present-day English, always responded to our inquiries. Last year he said he had three or four place-name projects lying on his shelves labelled "Do when possible." We shall miss his cheerful letters. Last year he included postage to make sure our report was sent to him.

G. P. V. Akrigg and Helen B. Akrigg (University of British Columbia), authors of 1001 British Columbia Place Names (now in its third revised edition), continue their work on the toponyms of their province, hoping to produce ultimately as exhaustive a dictionary of these as possible. So far of the 33,000 place names in the Gazetteer of British Columbia they have run down more than 8,000, so this is obviously going to be the work of many years.

Harold B. Allen (Minnesota) informs us that there may be an updated edition of Upham's Minnesota Geographic Names in a popular version before long. This monumental work first appeared in 1920. A republishing of it in 1969 essentially as it originally appeared without any attempt to revise or update the text seemed to some of us an unwise venture. Details concerning this possible revised edition are not yet known.

John Algeo (University of Georgia), editor of American Speech, reports that scheduled for publication soon in that journal are four short articles dealing wholly or in significant parts with place names, from Wisconsin to Romania. It is interesting to note that American Speech, probably the first journal in the country to publish place-name material, is still carrying on that practice.

L. R. N. Ashley (Brooklyn College), who is interested in various phases of onomastic study, tries to stress the onomastic approach to the study of literature whenever possible. He finds students very much interested in this angle, ready to do in-class reports and term papers on names of characters in literary works. Among his many activities he read a paper on the connection between English and Connecticut place names at the Symposium on Connecticut Place Names at Willimantic last October.

George W. Boswell (Mississippi) is trying to stimulate interest in place-name research in his state, especially needed after the loss of Jack Smith.

Robert F. Brand (Statesboro, Ga.) is interested in place names in French, Spanish, and German and is eager to know what is being done in these fields.

Roger P. Bristol (Charlottesville, Virginia), director of the survey for his state, is doing things. He has sent us a list of the goals in this work, the interim steps to be taken, the procedures, and a few sample completed entries. Other state directors might well learn about and follow his admirable plans. He says that about 32 counties have been spoken for, and work is in progress with varying degrees of activity. The only paper that has come out so far is one on Greene County, which he did himself, largely to have something to point to as a model. He makes some typical comments which could apply to the work of all of us. Since he finished his county, he has discovered many additions and corrections. "There is always a little more that could be done." The project is (not surprisingly) in need of financial support. His final remarks are worth quoting, even though conditions may not be so bad as he thinks: "At our present rate of progress, it will take 48 years to complete Virginia, a term I cannot look forward to. I may be able to find district chairmen eventually. The trouble is that all these people are doing it for love of names, and there is no economic leverage in my power." He would welcome questions and suggestions from anyone interested.

Mrs. L. G. Browman (Missoula, Montana) is a housewife with a hobby of

being interested in local history. In going through old records she found a number of names of places in western Montana before 1893, which had an election precinct, a post office, a school or a store for a while and then vanished. When she tried to locate these communities, she found that some were still in existence but with different names. Her curiosity aroused, she has been gradually accumulating bits and pieces of information about some of these names. Narrow and limited as she says her interest is, she is doing a job which we wish an army of housewives were engaged in all over the country.

E. H. Bryan, Jr. (Pacific Scientific Information Center, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii) and his associate, Lee S. Motteler, are busily engaged in the task of preparing a guide to place names in the Hawaiian Islands. They have divided the 24 units (or sections) of the Hawaiian chain into four parts, one of which has been completed. This part includes work on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Kaula Island, Niihau Island, and the Island of Kauai. They have prepared what they call a "preliminary edition" of this first part, 128 pages long, for use in the field and by their collaborators. They consider it "restricted" and not for use outside the "family," because a field trip to the island of Kauai by Mr. Motteler has turned up numerous additions and changes, the absence of which from the preliminary edition would only lead to confusion and inaccuracies if a copy got into the hands of persons who would like very much to use the contents for their own purposes. For much the same reason, because the world is full of "swipers" who forget to mention where they get their information, they have obtained a copyright on even the "restricted" preliminary edition. They are not copy-righting the names, but merely the method of presenting their findings. (The compiler of this report can speak with deep feeling on the subject of copyrighting. Place-name workers should beware of those whom Mr. Bryan very fittingly calls the "swipers.") Part 2 of this monumental enterprise will deal with the island of Oahu; Part 3 with Maui County, including Molokai, Lanai, Molokini, and Kahoolawe; and Part 4 with the "Big Island" of Hawaii, for which a preliminary "map search" for names has already been made. For the areas they have worked they have almost double the number of names in any previous gazetteer, and additions are coming in. The grand total may exceed 20,000 names. We certainly wish these diligent workers every kind of success in this "grand" enterprise.

Margaret M. Bryant (Brooklyn College), one of the founding members of ANS, president of the society in 1958, and first vice president (which really means president elect) at the present time, has been singularly honored this year by having the September issue of Names dedicated to her. This Christmas time, as has been true several times when our annual meetings have been held in New York, she has been in charge of local arrangements. She is one of the most active retired people imaginable. This year she has read papers at the New Jersey Names Institute and at the second Literary Onomastics Conference in New York, and she has made an extensive trip to India where she has ridden elephants.

Warren H. Buell (Los Angeles, California) is a business man who is interested in everything connected with names.

Meredith F. Burrill (Chevy Chase, Maryland) has undertaken with a grant from the Association of American Geographers: (a) to collect toponymic generics from the nearly 30,000 topographic maps published since 1958, to add to those from the 25,000 maps previously issued; (b) to prepare for computerized mapping of all the terms; (c) to experiment in photographing archetypes of features referred to by those terms. He will be in New Zealand in December giving a paper on New Zealand Field Trip Toponyms at the International Geographical Union's Regional Conference. As chairman of a Group of Experts

on Geographical Names of the United Nations, he will meet with this group at the U. N. in March to plan the Third International Conference on Standardization of Geographic Names to be held in Athens in 1977.

Frederic G. Cassidy (Wisconsin) reports that he has found people to undertake studies of Door, Eau Claire, and Dodge Counties, but the work hasn't gone far as yet. He is still meeting twice a year as a consultant with the Wisconsin State Geographic Council, helping with decisions on names in many parts of the state. Some of the problems have a lighter side which he hopes sometime to write up for the ANS Bulletin. He further reports the publication of The Atlas of Wisconsin, Vol. I, general maps and gazetteer, University of Wisconsin Press, 1974. He was one of the original committee who planned this atlas, but he modestly says he deserves no credit beyond that, as the real work was done by others.

Roberta C. Cheney (Sheridan, Wyoming) is hoping that her Names on the Face of Montana, published in 1971, might be put into a paper back edition as a Bicentennial project, but, like many of us, she is faced with the problem of funding. She is speaking on place names on various occasions. Although her roots are in Montana and she spends much time there, she is now living near the Montana border in Wyoming and has done some work on Wyoming place names.

George Clark (Queen's University, Kingston, Canada) informs us that his university will probably be offering a Ph. D. program in historical geography (exploration and settlement of Canada). Quite possibly some of the people concerned will be interested in place names of early Canada.

Lurline Coltharp (University of Texas at El Paso) has been very busy. As Regional Vice-President for the South Central Region of ANS, she has planned and carried through most successfully a session in conjunction with a similar regional meeting of MLA at Houston on Oct. 31. On Nov. 29 at New Orleans she chaired a panel discussion sponsored jointly by NCTE and ANS on "Using Names for Motivating Minorities." She attends our national meetings regularly. She sent us a copy of "What's a Name In?" about a library display inspired by Yvonne Greear, Assistant Librarian at her institution. She very rightly feels particularly proud of the accomplishments of this young librarian because she introduced Ms. Greear to name study in a graduate seminar. This reference to a librarian leads us to stress the importance of interesting many more librarians in the study of names. Many know very little or nothing about Names, have a very scanty collection of place-name volumes or other books about names on their shelves, and are of little or no assistance to persons who come to the library to try to find out what onomastics is all about. Our hats off to Ms. Greear--and also to Lurline!

Joseph N. Corcoran (Elkins Park, Pa.) is a practicing lawyer with an amazing interest in both personal and place names. During the last forty years or more he has collected about six hundred or more books on names and innumerable dictionaries and tomes on peripheral subjects. He has thousands of clippings indexed in envelopes. He also has what may be a unique item. He has made a reverse index of names by meanings and has most of the frequent or common names listed in thousands (no exaggeration) of size 10 envelopes with labels such as bald, thin, left-handed, chess-player, etc. This collection, he says, should really be in a library or university where it would be accessible to students and the public. The only larger collection of books is probably that of Elsdon Smith. Mr. Corcoran attends our annual meetings regularly.

Jack A. Dabbs (Texas A and M University), a former president of ANS,

who for several reasons has not been able to attend our annual meetings for some years, sends greetings and says that he is busy with Mexican material.

Roland Dickison (Sacramento State College) is working on place names in Mother Lode Country, has lectured to various historical societies, and makes use of place-name material in his folklore classes. Some of us doing field work on names might be interested in a paper he is preparing entitled "How to Tell the Yokel from the Local."

E. C. Ehrensperger (South Dakota) reports that some progress has been made on the state survey. Material has been sent in for the following counties by the persons indicated: Aurora, Davison, and Hanson Counties by Mr. Richard Crop; Brookings County by Mr. John E. Bergh; Butte County by Mrs. Rosella Bracewell; Faulk County by Mrs. Norma Turner; and Jerauld County by Dr. Hershall Litherland. The Clay County study is complete as far as investigation is concerned, but is not being rushed into print before a thorough analysis of the names has been made. Individuals and historical societies are at work in several other counties, but the results have not yet been assembled. In the past the place names of 15 counties have been studied as M.A. theses, but these need to be brought up to date. Much remains to be done, but thanks and appreciation are due those who have produced thus far.

Donald Empson (Minnesota Historical Society) is a map librarian who has just about finished a work on the street names of St. Paul--about 1000 of them. He has done a very thorough job of research. A St. Paul newspaper has scheduled a weekly series to print the more interesting of the names. Since this series would cut into an already very small number of potential book buyers (so he says), he has decided to publish the whole series of names (every name) with footnotes, supplementary information, etc. in microfilm form. In so doing he would not only reach the widest possible audience, but would be able to publish all his material at whatever length he desires. When this project is finished he hopes to write an article dealing with where the records are, why and how street names are selected, different vogues in names, practical considerations, etc. He thinks many people would be surprised at some of his findings. Finally, he is working on a newspaper article explaining the origin of the names of suburbs surrounding St. Paul.

Bruce Finnie (Delaware) is editing for Names a special issue in honor of the memory of Francis Lee Utley, which is tentatively scheduled to appear late in 1975.

Virginia Foscoe (Alabama) reports that two students are writing doctoral dissertations about Alabama place names under her direction: Robert Bush on Baldwin and Gobile Counties, and James Jolley on Etowah and St. Clair Counties. She herself is currently preparing her study of Sumter County, Alabama, place names for publication.

Ralph O. Fullerton (Middle Tennessee State University) informs us that his Guide to Tennessee Place Names is at the state publishers and should be off the press by the end of the year. As soon as that happens, he plans to move to a second phase of name research.

Donald A. Gill (University of Southwestern Louisiana at Lafayette) regrets that, like many of us, he is having difficulty in getting answers to letters in his extensive work on Louisiana place names. A radio station in Morgan City, Louisiana, has used a great deal of his material. At the South Central Names Institute last June he presented a paper entitled "Louisiana Place Names of Arboreal Origin."

Eugene Green (Boston University) is doing things, as usual. Last summer he had the good fortune to work on place names in Boston as the result of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a result, he is currently writing a brochure on the history of Jamaica Plain in Boston, showing some previous inaccuracies in the explanation of the name. He intends to continue work on the place names of that whole region. He is trying in various ways to alert people throughout Massachusetts to the rewarding study of place names. Space will not allow us to go into detail concerning his many activities, but one unusual undertaking seems especially worthy of mention. He is about to do consulting work with a Boston architectural firm which has a contract to decorate part of the Prudential Center in readying the city and its visitors for the bicentennial celebration. His job is to come up with localisms, past and present, many of which will include names of Boston places. There aren't many aspects of life which are not connected in some way or other with place names!

Norman Hinton has moved from St. Louis University to Sangamon State University at Springfield, Ill. He has joined the Illinois place-name survey team and hopes to initiate some research in central Illinois.

C. G. Holland (University of Virginia) says that he is an archeologist who dabbles in Algonquin linguistics. Place names have been important to him in archeology in determining the aboriginal distribution of fauna and flora, earliest appearance of meadows (as evidence of aboriginal fire hunting areas), distribution of "licks" (saline springs) where animals would congregate, etc. He calls our attention to a recent publication of which many of us may not be aware. The Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Division of Mineral Resources, Charlottesville, Virginia, has just published Geographic and Cultural Names in Virginia as Information Circular 20, written by Thomas H. Biggs. This is a complete geographic listing of all the place names in Virginia plus water features, land forms, and religious institutions.

Thomas Kochman (University of Illinois at Chicago Circle) is a sociolinguist who is interested in cognitive anthropology, teaches in a speech department, and finds place name study related to all these fields.

Kenneth K. Krakow (Mercer University, Macon, Ga.) is in the process of having his book on Georgia place names published. Those who are familiar with this work think it will be the best study of Georgia place names ever made.

Richard M. Lederer, Jr. (White Plains, N.Y.) is a local history buff who should be contributing to the New York survey.

Lewis L. McArthur (Portland, Oregon), director of the Oregon survey, reports that the 4th edition of his father's Oregon Geographic Names was badly delayed at the printers, the finished books reaching him only two weeks before his writing on Oct. 30, 1974. Because of this delay he has put off until 1975 the writing of a short article giving the details, advantages, and disadvantages of computer setting and indexing a volume such as Oregon Geographic Names. Professor William G. Loy of the University of Oregon has his Atlas of Oregon well in hand. Using this material as well as his father's book, Mr. McArthur is working out a coding system and program. Right now he says that only he and Loy are doing any major work in his area.

Fred MacFadden (Coppin State College, Maryland) is currently working on place names by sex--Dorothy, N.J. and Shirley, N.J., for example. He is puzzled by Loveladies, N.J. There are also many place names from men's given names. In addition, Indian names continue to interest him.

John McNamara (Pampano Beach, Florida) reports that his manuscript on Bronx place names from 1650 to 1974 is being edited by the Bronx County Historical Society and will, he hopes, be published early in 1975.

Mrs. Anna K. McIlwain (Heavener, Oklahoma) is particularly interested in the place names of her native South Carolina.

Albert H. Marckwardt (Princeton) writes from the East-West Center in Honolulu that a revised and enlarged edition of Place Names of Hawaii by Mary Kawani Pukui, Samuel W. Elbert, and Esther T. Mookini has just appeared with a 1974 date, University of Hawaii Press.

Violet Moore (Montezuma, Ga.) is the kind of person who adds joy to the labor of preparing a report such as this. She wrote an informative letter telling not only of her own activities but including a list of people (not on our list and not limited to Georgia) who are interested in place names. She spoke enthusiastically about the work of Kenneth Krakow, who is mentioned elsewhere in this report. She has written an article on place names showing the value pioneers put on shade and trees and another article on places named for early railroad engineers, surveyors, firemen, or fuel purveyors. We appreciate her assistance.

Claude H. Neuffer (South Carolina), founding editor of Names in South Carolina, first place-name journal in U. S., reports Vol. XXI off the press on time, with the onomastic prize going to the series "South Carolina Revolutionary Battles." Among fourteen other features in this self-supported annual are "Savannah or Shawnee: Same or Different?" and "Southernisms in the Dictionary of American Regional English." Though not strictly related to place names, the following item may interest our readers. Professor Neuffer has recently revived the delightful name "Cooglerism" (a solemn absurdity) in co-editing a reprint of H. L. Menchen's "last bard of Dixie" J. Gordon Coogler, Purely Original Verse, with original reviews and biographical sketch, available (\$6) from Names in South Carolina, U.S.C. English Dept., Columbia, S. C. 29208.

William Nicolaisen (State University of New York at Binghamton), director of the New York survey, has submitted his Scottish Place Names: Their Study and Significance to publishers, and has begun to compile a basic gazetteer of 10,000 names to be included in his Concise Dictionary of Scottish Place Names. His interest in place names in literature is shown in the publication of his article, "Place Names in Traditional Ballads" and in his paper (not published), "The Place Names of [Thomas Hardy's] Wessex." He says that the place-name survey of the state of New York is still fairly embryonic, although a research assistant is currently employed in the extraction of basic information from early gazetteers. A project devoted to the place names of the Adirondacks will probably be started in 1975.

Don L. F. Nilsen (Arizona State University) in his work on theoretical linguistics used to think that the study of names was somewhat peripheral to this field, but he is now beginning to believe that in a number of ways it is central. His evidence or arguments are much too complicated to be presented here.

John L. Oldani (Southern Illinois University) reports that although Larry Seits is no longer working with him, he (Mr. Oldani) is going ahead, having already received four proposed manuscripts relating to place names in Illinois. He has definite plans for a book on these names and has presented his work to the Illinois State Place-Name Commission. "We are still alive," he writes, "but we are often taken for dead." He is still interested in the

Iowa project which he began some years ago when living in that state. As far as we have been able to learn, there is almost no place-name work going on in Iowa.

George B. Pace (University of Missouri) sends some good news. The Missouri survey is getting under way with A. E. Schroeder, professor of German at the University, as director. Three other university professors, in addition to Mr. Pace, are on the advisory committee of the state survey: Donald Lance (English), Walter Schroeder (Geography) and Howard Mincing (Romance Languages). We can look forward to some activity in Missouri.

John P. Pauls (Cincinnati, Ohio) is interested in Slavic place names and in literary onomastics. During 1974 he has published an article on "Chekhov's Humorous Names" and an article in Onomastica about place names of Polesie.

Thomas M. Pearce (New Mexico) writes that he has "a gorgeous new office in a new, new building." He still expects to see a sixth printing of his New Mexico Place Names with about forty corrections.

James W. Phillips (Seattle, Wash.) resigned the chairmanship of the Washington survey more than a year ago when he left for a year's research for a new book on English place names in the Pacific Northwest. Since returning he has devoted most of his time to his work as a member of the new Washington State Board on Geographic Names. As a freelance writer for the last several years he has written articles and books, including those on place names in Washington, British Columbia, Alaska, and the Yukon Territory.

William Powell (University of North Carolina) is thinking about a second, revised edition of his North Carolina Gazetteer (1968), the first edition of which his publishers tell him is rapidly selling out.

Thomas Pyles (Northwestern University, Emeritus) was honored by having ANS Bulletin No. 37 (Dec., 1974) dedicated to him.

Alan Rayburn (Executive Secretary, Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographic Names, Ottawa) read a paper entitled "Toponymic Exorcism: Casting Out Possession in Geographical Names and Eliminating the Apostrophe" at the meeting of the Canadian Institute of Onomastic Sciences in Toronto last June. The Toponymy Division of the Department of Energy, Mines, and Resources, of which he is Acting Chief, during the past year published the 2nd edition of the Alberta volume of the Gazetteer of Canada series. The 2nd edition of the Ontario volume will be published in early 1975. The Department has now started publishing annual cumulative supplements for each volume so that all decisions relating to each jurisdiction are available in either a gazetteer or a single supplement. The next supplements, with decisions complete to the end of 1974, should be available in March, 1975. Toponymic field work was completed in Nova Scotia this year. A volume on the origin of names will be written for publication in 1977. It will be Toponymy Study 3, after those on Prince Edward Island (1973) and New Brunswick (due in 1975).

Allen Walker Read (Columbia) read a paper entitled "A Panoptic Survey of Research on the Name 'Podunk'" at the Connecticut Place Name Symposium, which brought up to date an article of his entitled "The Rationale of 'Podunk'" in American Speech, April, 1939. He is working on several other place-name articles. Now that he has retired from active teaching, he has planned enough research to keep him busy for at least another lifetime.

J. Russell Reaver (The Florida State University) on April 6, 1974, conducted a seminar on place names as the visiting scholar for the annual meeting

of the Mississippi Folklore Society at the University of Mississippi at Oxford, where he shared experiences in collecting tales regarding such names with people in Mississippi with similar interests. He found much enthusiasm for the subject and hopes he stimulated further research.

Robert M. Rennick (Prestonsburg, Kentucky), director of the Kentucky state survey, has severed connections with the University of Kentucky and has joined what is now called the Department for Human Resources of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He travels around much of eastern Kentucky. He is still at work on a revision of his state gazetteer and on his Wayne County pilot study. Whenever possible he talks about the survey and Kentucky place names in general to college classes and other groups. With all his enthusiasm and energy he becomes somewhat discouraged because the survey isn't moving faster, and there are others who would agree with him, but when he reads the introduction to this report, perhaps things will not look so bad.

J. B. Rudnyckyj (University of Manitoba) tells us that his book, Mosaic of Winnipeg Street Names, announced in last year's report, has appeared to mark the centennial of the city in 1974. Now he is working on Names on the Campus of the University of Manitoba to mark the centennial of that institution in 1977.

Robert S. Rudolph (University of Toledo) is continuing his work on the place names of Lucas and Wood Counties in Ohio. He is compiling a basic list of maps and county histories.

Donald B. Sands (University of Michigan), director of the Michigan survey of the Lower Peninsula, is currently and hopefully awaiting a second Rackham grant. But map data for roughly two-thirds of the Lower Peninsula have been compiled and organized. A modest reference library has been accumulated and a map table and suitable files have been added to the office. His own study on dialect within Maine place names and in use in geographical terminology has been slowed down considerably by the Michigan project. The monograph on such dialect is far from completion although the materials have largely been collected.

E. R. Seary (Memorial University of Newfoundland) decided after the publication of his work on the place names of the Avalon Peninsula in 1971 that a study of family names was necessary since so many place names were family names. This work is now virtually complete, and he hopes to return to the preparation of a book on the place names of the whole island early in 1975.

Lewis P. Sego (Indiana State University at Terre Haute), a native of Tennessee, is working on the place names of that state. Under the direction of the survey chairman for Tennessee, Ralph O. Fullerton, he has laid the groundwork for a systematic study of place names in Houston and Montgomery Counties, Tennessee. One sentence in his letter is so typical of the troubles of place-name workers that we quote: "Currently funds have been lacking for the purchase of the twenty-five topographic maps needed to cover these two counties." It seems all place-name projects are in need of funds.

Charles L. Sellers (Greensboro, N. C.), Assistant Director for Planning and Relocation, Greensboro Office of HUD, has long been interested in the names of Mormon settlements in the American West. He has recently finished an article on this subject and hopes to have it published. He would like to see Names kept in its present format but would like to see more articles in popular style rather than "the excruciatingly scholarly ones." He also prefers articles dealing with American names.

Norman C. Stageberg (University of Northern Iowa at Cedar Falls) says very poignantly that although he has been teaching linguistics in Iowa for twenty years, he does not know of a single instance, past or present, of any work on place names in his state. This is particularly regrettable, he says, because of the fascinating diversity of Iowa place names. He wonders what could be done to change this unfortunate situation, which, we may add, is not unlike that found in many states twenty-five years ago--but in only a very few today.

Louis Stein (San Diego, Cal.) has for years studied, researched, lectured, and written articles on California place names. He has just about finished a book on the place names (almost 1,000) of San Diego County, where he lives. This work will be the first complete collection of existing place names of this county with linking anecdotal, biographical, and historical information.

Sterling A. Stoudemire (University of North Carolina) has been trying to line up regional investigators for the state survey, but is having some difficulty, for he finds that the general public, like children, has a very short interest span. A Ph.D. dissertation being completed under his direction deals with place names in the works of Cervantes. It is a monumental work, in quality as well as size, he says. Spanish names come from such a wide variety of sources (Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Arabic, Celtic) that their study is particularly fascinating. He hopes that this big dissertation may be published. He sees unlimited resources in the field of literary onomastics. He is also interested in the changing of the names of places and in the elimination of some names for a variety of reasons. He points out, for example, that the consolidation of county and municipal governments is doing away with some of the oldest names in the country. Likewise the merging of small counties in many states is bringing about a similar situation. In horse and buggy days many small units of administration served a purpose, but today such units are inefficient and expensive. When, however, two or three counties or other kinds of units are merged, what should be the name of the new unit? During the next year or two changes in names will probably be made as a result of the bicentennial celebration. Some have already occurred. Such phenomena should be carefully scrutinized and details fully recorded.

Noel C. Stevenson (Los Angeles), a California attorney who has long been interested in place names, does not believe that raising dues will solve the financial problems of ANS. He doesn't want anything to happen to our publications, which he says he would miss tremendously, but he wonders whether some offset process might be used or some other means of reducing cost.

Gutierre Tibon (Cuernavaca, Mexico) tells us that his book, History of the Name and the Foundation of Mexico, 800 pages in length, will be published in 1975 on the 650th anniversary of the foundation of the Aztec capital. He has been working on this huge book for many years, which he thinks is the most exhaustive work ever written on a single toponym. He has dealt with seventy different versions of the name, has made comparative studies, has tried to penetrate the pre-Columbian period, and has given evidence for his interpretations. Congratulations!

Frank H. Trolle-Steenstrup (Clermont, Florida) has completed basic research on four articles dealing with names but would like collaboration in getting his material ready for publication. During recent travel in Europe he became interested in the names of trains and would like to know whether there are any train buffs in our Society who would be interested in pursuing this subject with him.

C. A. Weslager (Brandywine College at Wilmington, Del.) sent a clipping from the Wilmington Evening Journal for Nov. 2, 1974, in which the statement was made that Rene Coulet du Gard's Handbook of French Place Names in the S.A. would be published in December (1974). We have no other news of this publication.

Juanita V. Williamson (Le Moyne College, Memphis, Tenn.) has been working to get several persons interested in collecting information about Tennessee place names.

Leslie G. Whitbread (University of New Orleans) writes that the Louisiana survey is making slow but steady progress. Work is almost completed on the eight West Florida parishes, and volunteers have been forthcoming for the collection of data in some seven parishes of south and southwest parts of the state. He is presently working on a survey of Jefferson parish names for the 1975 sesquicentennial celebrations.

A. J. Wright (Washington, D. C.), former Chairman of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names, is making considerable progress on a place-name book on Maryland, which will be not only a gazetteer but also an informative work on the names of the state.

Wilbur Zelinsky (The Pennsylvania State University) calls our attention to a major development, of which we should take note. On April 6, 7, 1974, there was held at his institution a conference which dealt with the broad subject of a Survey of North American Culture (SNAC), from which meeting a semi-organized organization resulted consisting primarily of geographers and secondarily of folklorists. One of the principal participants was William Nicholaisen, director of our New York survey. Although the discussions did not bear directly on the topic of names, toponymic or otherwise, obviously place names would eventually come within the orbit of this organization. A second major meeting is planned for March 8, 9, 1975, at Texas A & M University. Anyone interested should write Mr. Zelinsky.

Gordon F. Delaney retired last December as Chief of the Toponymy Division, Surveys and Mapping Branch, Department of Energy, Mines, and Resources, Ottawa, Canada. He will complete his two year presidency of the Canadian Institute of Onomastic Sciences in Edmonton next May.

Hamil Kenny (Annapolis, Maryland) writes that he has completed the manuscript for about a quarter of the alphabet of his non-Indian Maryland place-name study. There remains a huge amount of typing, and how to achieve publication is a question that is truly appalling. A publisher is contemplating a reissue in paperback form of his West Virginia Place Names (1945), not as a new, revised edition, but with the addition of sixteen pages of errata and addenda. He sends along two notions which he has had recently concerning the study of place names. One is that a book of this nature owes much of its value to the extent to which it unearths and discusses the older and more ghostlike places, often termed "lost." He quotes a Charlestown archivist who wrote him saying: "People are always trying to locate places, especially the long gone and obscure." His second notion is that the term place name has a technical sound which often confuses and confounds people. He gives as an example the recent mistaken citation of his Maryland Indian place-name study as Maryland Indian PEACE Names. He wonders whether "names of places" would be better. If, however, the term place name is Greek to some people, what would the term onomastics (which some people a few years ago even suggested using in the title of our society) seem?

Frank Wutte, Jr. (Bronx, N. Y.) sends us much information about his work

on street names and various other projects. He is constantly digging up new facts about one name or another and is always enthusiastic about the influence ANS has had in developing this kind of interest all over the country. As a result of moving into smaller quarters he has donated 21 cases of material to the New York Public Library where this material has been housed in a separate compartment where he can add to it whenever he wishes. He has been doing considerable work on place names of Queens County as part of the New York state survey. In an article he has described the part he played in a project in a sixth grade class in a school in the Chinatown section of New York where the children chose to investigate the history of street names in their community. He frequently supplies information to such organizations as the Municipal Reference Library, the New York Planning Commission, the Queens Historical Society, and others.

Thomas L. Clark (University of Nevada) is reviewing Helen Carlson's Nevada Place Names, due to come off the University of Nevada Press in Nov., 1974. He says that the prefatory material concerning the influx of waves of name givers into Nevada is particularly valuable and will serve as a model for other state studies. Among a group of about a dozen people working on place and personal names in Nevada, he serves generally as coordinator and disseminator of information about who is working on what.

Burwell Rogers (Newport News, Va.), whose name has appeared regularly in our reports, says that retirement has been such great fun for him that he has found little time for place-name studies. He hopes to have something to report next year.

Audrey Duckert (University of Massachusetts), as a result of being on a sabbatical last year, was able, in spite of problems, to get the Massachusetts Computing Center to give her a print-out of Don Orth's tape of the names on USGS topographic sheets. Two more towns in Massachusetts--Amherst and Belchertown--have been done by Jean Niven as a senior honors thesis. She has spoken to several historical societies about names and recommends them as excellent sources, especially on matters of pronunciation which can't be obtained from maps.

Bertha E. Bloodworth (University of Florida), who has co-authored with Alton C. Morris a book on Florida place names which was accepted and scheduled for publication by the University of Florida Press in 1974, is disappointed because the work has not yet appeared. The Press, like many institutions all over the country, has been beset by financial difficulties, and apparently the book will not appear for some time. We hope that better news can be reported next year.

Stewart A. Kingsbury (Northern Michigan University at Marquette), director of the Michigan, Upper Peninsula, Survey, reports that during 1974 workers carded some 2,769 location cards, filed some 400 historical and special document cards, and listed the station stops along the Minneapolis, Duluth, Sault Ste. Marie Railroad from documents dating from the 1890's. The fall term at his institution saw the introduction of an onomastic project which enlisted 15 field workers who are presently writing research reports on the western counties of the Peninsula and whose work is supervised by Ms. Mary Hoff, a graduate student at the university. The project is being carried out by working with historical societies, chambers of commerce, and news media in the three counties in and around Marquette and Houghton. The newest phase of the survey will be cooperation in the oral history program started by the Marquette County Historical Society. In addition to the activities listed above he himself has submitted two research projects which impinge

on the national survey: The Computerized Data Center for the U. S. Place-Name Survey (NEH) and The Language of the Consumer in the Upper Peninsula Michigan (ACLS).

James F. Hamburg (Moorhead State College, Minn.), director of the North Dakota survey, has been at work compiling names from postal records, maps, and other historical records for six North Dakota counties: Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Ward, Benson, and Slope. He plans to publish a booklet dealing with the place names of these counties in 1976. He has publicized the survey by giving talks at several scholarly meetings and by sending feature articles to the major newspapers of the state. His search for funds has not been successful. The people of North Dakota, on the whole, do not seem to be interested to any extent in the history of their state, he says. He makes a few comments which we all may well ponder. He has found that within academic communities, some scholars tend to think of the study of place names as not very "academic" or "scholarly," hence not worthy of their efforts. He wonders whether statements from outstanding scholars among the various academic disciplines supporting the study of place names might be published in a booklet which might help researchers in search of funds. He has also found that state directors of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission as well as of the National Endowment for the Humanities have no knowledge of or interest in place-name work. Again he wonders whether ANS or the national director of our survey could approach these national bodies to see if their state directors might be enlightened concerning our important work, which certainly has or should have a close connection with both of these other organizations. He feels very keenly (and rightly so) that something needs to be done. Can anyone offer suggestions on how to proceed?

John Rydjord (Wichita State University, Kansas), Dean Emeritus of the Graduate School, was singularly honored this past fall by the American Association for State and Local History, which awarded him a Certificate of Commendation "for giving the background and writing entertainingly about nearly 3,000 Kansas place names." His book, Kansas Place Names (1972), has been mentioned for several years in our reports. He is now working on the history of his university. "After all," he says, "I am only eighty-one--with twenty years of work piled up ahead of me."

Mary R. Miller (University of Maryland), because of the pressure of other duties, has resigned as chairman of the Maryland survey. She has, however, made excellent progress toward the completion of her own study of place names in the Northern Neck of Virginia. She is keeping in touch with Roger Bristol, director of the Virginia survey. She tells us that a person who is working in Maryland within the schemata of the survey is Patricia J. Reed of Hagerstown Junior College, who has organized her students to collect information.

Karl Rosen (University of Kansas) recently published his "Kansas Places with Postmasters' Names: a Master List" as Bulletin No. 36 of ANS. To appear soon in Heritage of Kansas is his "Classical Place Names in Kansas." He has just begun an exciting project on the onomastics of southwestern France (Aquitania, Gascony) which would involve several languages beside standard French. He is eager to visit this region as soon as possible.

Richard B. Sealock (Albany, N. Y.), librarian and bibliographer, who with the collaboration of the late Pauline A. Seely for many years has produced the Bibliography of Place-Name Literature for the United States and Canada, tells us that he has been joined in this project by his daughter, Margaret S. Powell, a trained cataloguer and librarian, who has long been interested in the work he and Miss Seely have done. They look forward to continuing the regular supplements, which have appeared in Names, and eventually to a third edition.

William E. Ashton (Helena, Montana), a retired highway engineer, has been delving into the early history of Montana post offices. Some of these, he thinks, were established only on paper--that is, records show them as established, but they never actually came into existence. For this reason lists Montana place names include post offices that never existed. These same lists omit many early railroad stations. He has an extensive card file which should be of great value to survey workers in Montana.

Z. J. Farkas (Georgia Southern College at Statesboro), director of the Georgia survey, writes of various place-name activities in his state. Marion Hemperley, Archivist in the Georgia Surveyor General Department, together with the late Francis Lee Utley, has edited the essays of John E. Goff under the title of Place Names of Georgia. The book is due off the University of Georgia Press in March, 1975. Kenneth E. Krakow's Georgia Place Names has been mentioned elsewhere in this report. Hal E. Brinkley's How Georgia Got Her Name, although not brand new, should also be mentioned. Fellow onomasticians who are collaborating in the work are Claude Britt of Georgia Southern College, Ed Dawson of Georgia College in Milledgeville, David Johnson of Columbus College, Joseph Mahon, Executive Director of Westville Historic Handicrafts at Lumpkin, and Violet Moore of the Montezuma Carnegie Library.

Danielle Chavy Cooper (Institute of Foreign Studies, Monterey, Cal.) mentions her pleasure in a column in the local newspaper, the Monterey Peninsula Herald, "By Prof. Toro," in which items concerning local place names are frequently presented, sometimes humorously.

C. Richard Beam (Millersville State College, Pa.), our Pennsylvania German specialist, is continually discovering strange things about the place names of his native region. One day, he tells us, an article on Pennsylvania German place names will be forthcoming.

Arthur Berliner (Mansfield Center, Conn.), director of the Connecticut survey, has been doing a superb job of getting things going in his state. Last October as mentioned elsewhere in this report, with the blessing of ANS, he organized and carried through very successfully a Symposium on Connecticut Place Names sponsored by the Center for Connecticut Studies at Eastern State College in Willimantic. One of his goals is to enlist directors of place-name study for every town and city in the state.

Fred Tarpley (East Texas State University) took over the directorship of the National Survey last August. In addition, he is director of the Texas survey, runs the South Central Names Institute (the sixth session is scheduled for June 12, 13, 1975), supervises the publication of papers presented at this institute, and is engaged in other projects of his own. Can anyone beat such a record?

We should not end this, our twentieth, report without expressing deep appreciation to two of our most faithful workers: Conrad M. Rothrauff, editor of Names, who without fanfare but with thoroughness and unlimited labor produces the periodical which we all prize; and Kelsie B. Harder, our executive secretary-treasurer and editor of our Bulletin, whose devotion to our society throughout the years has known no bounds. With these and many other loyal supporters and workers such as Elsdon Smith and Byrd Granger (space will not allow mentioning more), we need not fear for the future of ANS or of place-name work in the U.S.A.

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