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AMERICAN NAME SOCIETY

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If you mentioned to someone that you were interested in onomastics, would you be surprised if that person asked you in what branch of medicine your interests were? The very limited knowledge of classical Greek among well and even highly educated persons in our country explains why very few people recognize that onoma is the Greek word for names. Onomastics is more or less an international term, used in the title of the international organization in our field and by local groups in various countries. Several years ago some of our members wanted to change Name to Onomastic in the title of our society, but most of us objected because of the confusion just pointed out. It must be confessed, however, that to the man in the street the title American Name Society (hereinafter written ANS to save space) probably means little more than a possible title American Onomastic Society would mean. Even when the term names is limited to include only place names, the average person seems puzzled. Many ask such questions as: What do you mean by place names? How do you study them? Is this a new field of study? What is its importance? Over and over again those of us engaged in this work are called upon to explain just what we are trying to do.

Indifference to the study of place names in our country goes back a long way. Names were given to places everywhere; there were many changes; but few people took the trouble even to mention how, why, or just when these processes occurred. In the early part of our century only three significant works, very creditable jobs and since that time revised and reprinted, appeared: Warren Upham's Minnesota Geographic Names (1920), Abraham H. Espenshade's Pennsylvania Place Names (1925), and Lewis A. McArthur's Oregon Geographic Names (1928). It is interesting to note that these works appeared independently in three different parts of the country.

Serious study of place names on more than a local level began in the 1930's. An important work appeared January 1, 1934, entitled Introduction to a Survey of Missouri Place Names by Robert L. Ramsay and Allen Walker Read, with a sample county study by Esther Gladys Leach to illustrate the methods described in the early part of the work. Ramsay was probably the outstanding place-name scholar of this time, writing and lecturing, seeking out and encouraging workers wherever he could find them, and trans-



mitting his enthusiasm to many. At the urging of Ramsay, the editor of this report began his work on place names at this time.

Another development of the 1930's merits emphasis. During the great depression workers in the Federal Writers' Program in various states became interested in place names. Unfortunately only a few of their publications were of very great worth. Valuable information was recorded, to be sure, but often these works dealt with and emphasized only the unusual and the bizarre. This practice may have led some, especially in the academic world, to regard place-name workers as dilettantes, dabblers, or seekers after journalistic sensationalism rather than as genuine investigators. In spite of all their faults, these works did contribute much. Most of them were done by the writers alone, but the South Dakota volume, done under the direction of the head of the English department at the University of South Dakota, stands out, if we may be pardoned for saying so, as one of the best.

Although a few place-name studies did appear in American Speech and as papers at the Present-Day English section of the Modern Language Association (MLA), this field really had no home until the American Dialect Society (ADS) during the 1940's set up place names as one of its research fields and appointed a place-name committee, which was supposed to report at annual meetings. As a chairman of this committee the compiler of this report put together each year all the information he could gather about place-name activities in North America. These reports, at first brief and oral, later reaching considerable length in written form, were recorded in the proceedings of the annual meetings of ADS until taken over by ANS to appear as separate issues of the ANS bulletin series. Another example of how ADS has encouraged work in our field was the publication in 1947, as No. 7 of its series, of Frederic G. Cassidy's The Place Names of Dane County, Wisconsin (revised and republished in paperback by the University of Wisconsin Press in 1968), which, along with the Ramsay-Read-Leach work discussed above, has been a model for county studies ever since. As is clearly evident, in the days when place-name activities in our country were struggling for recognition, ADS did us yeoman service, and we owe that society a big debt of gratitude.

Perhaps the most important event in the history of place-name activity in U.S.A. was the founding of ANS in 1951. From the original twelve founders (Harold B. Allen, Harold W. Bentley, Margaret M. Bryant, Karl W. Dykema, Edward C. Ehrensperger, E. C. Ericson, Edward A. M. Fuchs, Erwin W. Gudde, Elsie Mag, William E. Mockler, Robert L. Ramsay, Elsdon C. Smith) the society has grown manyfold and has received worldwide recognition. The first number of the society periodical, Names, appeared in March, 1953, with Erwin W. Gudde as editor. In 1966 Kelsie Harder started publication of ANS bulletins four times a year, the latest issue, No. 60, being the place-name report for 1979.



At least partially as a result of the influence of ANS a large number of place-name works of various kinds have been produced. Perhaps the most important are those of George R. Stewart, whose death this year is memorialized later in this report, especially his Names on the Land, first published six years before ANS came into existence, but revised and reissued in 1960 and again in 1967, and his American Place Names, 1970.

Twenty-seven years ago Claude N. Neuffer founded a periodical entitled Names in South Carolina, published once a year and containing information about all kinds of names, especially place names. Through the persistent efforts of Professor Neuffer and Mrs. Neuffer this work, the only one of its kind, has made its way financially and otherwise down through the years and has brought together a mine of material which should prove invaluable to workers on a survey of South Carolina place names. Vol. 27 is mentioned later in this report.

Only one state in the union, Virginia, has a place-name society, founded in 1960, with some seventy members at the present time. This unique organization has published twenty-one occasional papers, usually has an annual meeting, and in recent years has been issuing newsletters telling of work being done or planned.

We should be remiss if we did not stress the cooperation ANS has received from the U.S. Board of Geographic Names and especially from the executive secretary of the board's Committee of Geographic Names, Donald J. Orth, author of the large, beautiful, authoritative Alaska Place Names, a model for workers on state volumes. Orth has served in numerous official positions in ANS, has taken part in our meetings and programs, and has been a great help in advising our members concerning many baffling problems.

The Canadian Society for the Study of Names has also been very cooperative, a goodly number of its members being active in ANS. One of its founders, J. B. Rudnycky, also founder of the Canadian journal Onomastica, was president of ANS before the Canadian society came into existence. The current president, Alan Rayburn, is a sort of liaison officer between the two societies, being also a member of ANS Board of Managers.

In the early years of our society there was a feeling that although work was progressing satisfactorily at local levels, we needed some kind of national effort or survey. Many of us worked hard to obtain a grant from some foundation or government agency, but such instrumentalities knew very little or nothing at all about place-name research and were reluctant to make even small exploratory grants. After years of struggle and disappointment, we rejoiced when the University of Arizona, as a result of the vigorous efforts of Byrd Granger, came to our rescue and offered us a head-



quarters and the means to begin a survey of the place names of U.S.A. Mrs. Granger headed the project and did an extraordinary job of organizing, with no available models to follow. Our society owes much to her and the University of Arizona for getting this big project on its way. After several years, when Mrs. Granger for several reasons felt she had to give up this heavy burden, East Texas State University took over this project, with its energetic and enthusiastic faculty member, Fred Tarpley, in charge, Fred's devotion to this huge undertaking, as well as to our society, has been unlimited. At present he is editing a big book to spread information about what this project and place-name research in general are all about, in which all the fifty state directors have been asked to write brief chapters telling what is going on in their areas. All power to him!

Not only have the annual ANS meetings been a source of pleasure and enrichment, but names institutes, which have been organized in various parts of the country, have served a similar purpose, especially for those unable to attend national gatherings as well as to deal with local situations. The first of these, in New Jersey, founded by and still under the able direction of E. Wallace McMullen, is now in its nineteenth year. Others, usually meeting annually, have been established in the following areas (names of founders and directors are in parenthesis after the place): Indiana (Marvin Carmony and Ronald Baker); Texas (Fred Tarpley); Connecticut (Arthur Berliner); Brockport, N.Y. (dealing only with literary onomastics, which, to be sure, includes place names, Grace Alvarez-Altman); Saranac Lake, N.Y. (Murray Heller); and, most recently, Waubensee Community College, Sugar Grove, Illinois (Laurence E. Seits). Sections on names have been set up in conjunction with both national and regional meetings of various professional societies: MLA, NCTE, the Linguistic Society of America, and others.

With the coming of the XIVth Triennial International Onomastic Congress to our country next August, ANS and onomastic studies in general will have come of age here. The work of our W.F.H. Nicolaisen, distinguished author of Scottish Place Names and of many other onomastic studies, is being recognized by his election as president of that august assembly.

In the few preceding pages we have attempted to sketch in extremely condensed form the beginnings and progress of place-name study in our country. We may have omitted some important work you have done. If so, let us know, and we shall try to make amends in some future publication. Remember, however, that this account deals only with place names and not with the many other branches of onomastics. We hope we have demonstrated that this study has become a genuinely scholarly pursuit, which should receive the cooperation and encouragement not only of the academic world but of practically everybody.



Read on to find out what has been going on, as far as we have been able to discover, in 1980.

Mae Urbanek (Lusk, Wyoming), author of Wyoming Place Names (now in a 4th edition planning stage) and of numerous works on pioneer history in Wyoming, had an article in Western Writers of America, March, 1980, entitled merely "Place Names," in which she stresses the importance of the study of place names to writers. "There is a good story in almost every name," she says.

James B. McMillan (University of Alabama), now retired, is digging into the history of names of small features which don't have much documentation, such as hills, branches, valleys, grist mills, ferries, and Negro churches. He is getting much information from courthouse records and as responses to public appeals for help. His study of the names of Talladega County, which we hope will appear before too long, will undoubtedly be a very thorough piece of work.

Philip C. Kolin (University of Mississippi) has written an article (not yet published) on "Names in Business and Technical Writing." Another article, "Richard Brautigan's Trout Fishing in America," deals in part with Brautigan's satiric use of names. As co-editor of the Mississippi Folklore Register, Kolin is always ready to consider southern place-name studies.

Martin I. Glassner (Southern Connecticut State College), as usual, sends some interesting information. As a consultant to the United Nations Development Programs, evaluating one of their projects in Asia, he visited several countries. In Kabul, before the Russian invasion, he noted that streets have no names. Mail is addressed by a box number and district of the city. People give directions to houses, stores, etc. by citing the district and then referring to landmarks--"across the street from the big bakery," "near the British embassy," etc. The names of some of the cities in both Nepal and Thailand are slowly being changed, but both old and new names are used interchangeably, even on maps,--a bit confusing to an unsuspecting foreigner, but it doesn't seem to bother the natives. Glassner also sent a note from the Far Eastern Economic Review for August 17, 1979, on the location of Coleridge's Xanadu. He calls our attention to two books, which probably escaped our notice, published by The Scarecrow Press, Inc., Metuchen, N.J.: Nicknames and Sobriquets of U.S. Cities, States, and Counties, 3rd edition, by Joseph N. Kane and Gerald L. Alexander, 1979; and Handbook of Geographical Nicknames, by Harold S. Sharp, 1930.

Last May Glassner received from the author the draft of a study of the place names in Israel. It is analytical, classifying place names by origin and differentiating the classifications by region. Anyone wishing additional information or wishing to contribute any material may write to Dr. Nurit Kliot, 21 Naomi St.,



Haifa, Israel.

Finally, Glassner calls our attention to a United Nations publication of July 9, 1980, Names of Countries and Adjectives of Nationality, Terminology Bulletin No. 317, Department of Conference Services, Translation Division, Documentation and Terminology Section. This trilingual bulletin (English, French, and Spanish) seems particularly important in view of the approaching International Congress.

Don L. F. Nilsen (Arizona State University) writes that his article "Floating Features as an Onomastic Process" will appear in Indiana English, Vol. 3, No. 4. Right now he is organizing a conference of the Western Humor and Irony Membership (WHIM) to take place on April 1, 1982 (April Fool's Day). The conference will have one or more sessions on humor in naming, including place names. He reminds us that his book, Language Play: An Introduction to Linguistics, has many references to names and also that an article by him and Mrs. Nilsen entitled "Ms. and Mr. Nilsen Debate Sexism" has a section on "Topless Topography."

George W. Boswell (University of Mississippi), executive secretary of the Mississippi Folklore Society, continues to encourage students to collect place-name material. He is one of many folklorists interested also in place names.

Donald B. Sands (University of Michigan) is currently finishing an article on the dialect generics in Maine place names. He is also working on a long-term study of Maine dialect from a diachronic approach. This study has place-name features since some older, obsolete Maine dialect is frozen or fossilized in place names. Before constrained by pressures from elsewhere to relinquish the position of state director, he made a good start on this important work.

Richard M. Lederer, Jr. (White Plains, N.Y.) reports that sales of his Place Names of Westchester County, New York have slowed to a walk and now total about 750 copies, but his publisher is in the black--but not by much. He is on the lecture circuit, ready to do a slide talk of from fifteen minutes to an hour "at the drop of an invitation." He has agreed to help organize counties neighboring Westchester in the New York survey.

Warren H. Buell (Los Angeles) sends us an article by Jack Smith in the Oct. 21, 1980, issue of The Los Angeles Times which argues effectively that the usually accepted explanation of the origin of the name Los Angeles is wrong and offers an alternate explanation. The article also states that the term used to refer to a citizen of Los Angeles, an Angeleno, should, from a linguistic point of view, be Angelino, but the form in e is so firmly established that no change is likely. Mr. Buell, a wide traveller



whose most recent adventure was a trip through Sweden, read a paper on California street names at our San Francisco meeting and is planning to be with us at Houston.

Louis Gracia (Tokio, North Dakota) continues his search for Indian place names. Recently he came across a list of Lakota names, the interpretation of which he was able to work out fairly well, but his biggest problem has been to find the exact location of the names. For example, he has an Indian name which means "Creek Where the Prairie Dogs Live," but just where is that creek? Eventually he hopes to collect his findings, together with a series of maps, in a book.

Wilbur Zelinsky (Pennsylvania State University) reports the publication of his article, "North America's Vernacular Regions" in Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 70, No. 1, March, 1980, in which he says: "The vernacular, or popular, region, 'the product of the spatial perception of average people,' is a phenomenon that remains too poorly known in North America." On the same topic, i.e. vernacular regions in America and their names, he refers us to two important articles: Terry G. Jordan, "Perceptual Regions of Texas," Geographical Review, Vol. 68 (1975), pp. 293-307; and James R. Shortridge, "Vernacular Regions in Kansas," American Studies, Vol. 21, No. 1 (Spring, 1980), pp. 73-94. Here is a field in which little has been done and in which place-name workers, geographers, folklorists, and sociologists all need to cooperate. Zelinsky also sent a program of a conference of which many of us may not have been aware: The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife at Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire. June 27-29, 1980. One entire section, "Naming the Land," dealt with place names. Besides Zelinsky, two other ANS members, Eugene Green and W. F. H. Nicholaisen, took part in this seminar.

H.R.N. Ashley (Brooklyn College), ANS president in 1979, has been busy as usual in 1980. A long article (with Michael Hanifin) on Roman anthroponyms appeared in the last issue of Names for 1979 and the first issue for 1980; another article, on American slang derived from names, is scheduled for the December, 1980, Names. Articles on words derived from toponyms have appeared in Comments on Etymology and one on words derived from names in classical mythology is due to appear in the next Classical Outlook. Papers he read at regional meetings of ANS and elsewhere in 1980 include: an article on the names of punk rock (New Jersey Names Institute in May); names in the fiction of William Goyen (Conference on Literary Onomastics in New York in June); names in the fiction of James Fenimore Cooper (Conference on Cooper, State University of New York, Oneonta, in June); French names (Canadian Society for the Study of Names, Montreal, in June); Amerindian names (North East Names Institute, Saranac Lake, N.Y., in September); and fore-names in American slang (Connecticut Place-Name Symposium,



Willimantic, in October). He also read a paper on toponyms at the annual meeting of the International Linguistic Association in New York last December. Two of his papers read at institutes in the past were published in 1980: his article on English pub names in the collected papers of the New Jersey Institute, and his English names on the map of Connecticut in the first volume of the Connecticut Symposium. Ashley is one of the most prolific ANS scholars.

Thomas L. Clark (University of Nevada) has started a collection of the names of places which are now under water. The creation of Lakes Mead and Powell made him wonder what names were on features that are now under the umbrella names of the lakes. Working with old maps is a challenge, as is finding the old maps with contours faithful enough to know which features are covered and which are above the brine. He can find a similar situation in South Dakota. Clark gives an interesting example of how names of places are changed. The MX program is threatening to inundate Nevada. If and when the Air Force moves in full force, many features of the topography will be changed. When they are, says Clark, "we will be on hand to record the new and lament the passing of the old, which will, no doubt, like so many Indians, simply be eradicated."

Lee S. Motteler (Pacific Scientific Information Center, Honolulu, Hawaii), writes that volunteers and CETA employees have made valuable contributions to the files of Hawaiian place names during 1980. More than 800 cards containing manuscript names of Molokai were typed onto file slips by one volunteer. During the summer months, two high school age CETA workers were able to add several separate island files of place-names to the main file, and also to convert many manuscript cards to typewritten ones. The principal basic work of compiling place names in Hawaii is now complete, except for the island of Maui, which is not quite half done, but should be completed during 1981. Primary sources have been covered, but an indeterminable amount of work remains to be carried out on secondary and obscure sources. The State of Hawaii Board on Geographic Names now meets at least quarterly and makes important decisions concerning place names. Recently the Board has taken steps to become more visible and accessible as a public forum for controversial and/or proposed new names in the state. Various plans are being hindered, however, by lack of funds. The same is true for funds to produce the state gazetteer.

Robert I. Alotta (Philadelphia, Pa.), author of Street Names of Philadelphia and Old Names and New Places, writes enthusiastically about our field: "Place-name research is important to a full comprehension of the history of a country, a nation. Through an understanding of why a particular name was given to a place, a street, a river, a building, we can uncover the temperament of the people and the times." He thinks that although much has been accomplished in academic circles, more has to be done in the public areas. To be truly effective the end product must be disseminated



to the widest possible audience. He advocates a much wider use of popular periodicals and of daily and weekly newspapers. In the Delaware valley, he says, there are two journalists, Edgar Williams of The Philadelphia Inquirer and Joe Markey, sometimes with the Philadelphia Daily News, who bring name material into many of their articles. Finally, after he finishes his Ph.D. work in June, he would like to circularize ANS members in the Delaware Valley region to see if there is any interest in getting a group together on a fairly regular schedule to discuss all kinds of matters pertaining to names.

Edwin H. Bryan, Jr. (Honolulu, Hawaii), who for many years has kept us informed about activities in his area, has retired, turning over his work to Lee Motteler, who is following in Bryan's footsteps and giving us very helpful reports. Bryan hopes to complete a job on which he has been working for a number of years, an annotated bibliography on the Central Pacific atolls, which are scattered from Clipperton atoll (off the coast of Mexico), through the Tuamotu archipelago, across the Central Pacific to a few in or near Hawaii, and across Micronesia, more than 150 in number. They have a bad habit of changing their names, even the groups also doing so. The Ellice Islands, for example, are now Tuvalu; and the Gilbert Islands, Phoenix Islands, and their neighbors, having Gilbertese inhabitants, have now adopted the name Kiribati (pronounced quite differently from the way it is spelled), which is the Gilbertese equivalent of Gilbert. We wish Bryan success in this frustrating job and we owe him a big debt of gratitude for his important pioneer work over the years in a little known area.

Jeannette G. Blumengarten (Brooklyn, N.Y.) has long been interested in the place names in Spenser's Faerie Queene and is hopeful of exploring further in the realms of Spenser as well as among other authors of that period. She has also tried to get students interested in some research on the place names of their environment. There is always the possibility, she says, that one may gain some more adherents to our field.

Walter P. Bowman (State University College at Brockport, New York) was sent by mistake two copies of our letter of inquiry, such prodding certainly not needed in his case, but he did send us a good reply. Cofounder of the Conference of Literary Onomastics as well as of the annual publication, Literary Onomastics, he has read many papers at local, regional, national, and international meetings. Although retired, he is still busy. His work on changes in British County names, presented in various forms over several years, is due to be published shortly by ECSC in what he hopes will be a final form with maps and tables. Fourteen new county names have been created as part of a local government reconstruction transcending any prior changes in the United Kingdom.



Robert A. Fowkes (New York University) participated in the Connecticut symposium, presenting a paper on "Germanic and Celtic Practices in Month-naming." He has started to investigate the treatment of American Place names in Armenian writings, and Scandinavian names in Wales, partly as a reflection of Viking settlement. We hope to hear more about these investigations.

Eugene Green (Boston University) reports that his book (with W. L. Sachse), The Place Names of Cape Cod and the Islands, is due to appear in May, 1982. He read a paper, "The Mapping and Naming of Early Massachusetts," at the Dublin Seminar of Folk-Life and Folk-Art in June and another, "Policies to Use in Algonquin and English Place Names," at the Center for Adirondack Studies. A grant for a book on names in literature is pending.

Donald Gill (University of Southwestern Louisiana) has been interested in place names for many years. He did his doctoral dissertation on the place names of the Panhandle of Texas under the direction of Fred Tarpley. He has published some eighty articles on place names in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. He has read papers at ten of the eleven Texas Names Institutes. He has been at work on Louisiana place names for almost eleven years and has found name origins of approximately 6,500 of the approximate 11,000 place names in the state. During 1980 at institutes he has read papers on "Place Names of St. James Parish, Louisiana" and on "Mississippi Onomastics: An Overview." Commenting on the importance of place-name research, he stressed the fact that a record of the place names of America, as well as other places, should be preserved before most valuable information is made very difficult to locate or is completely lost. He feels that much has been accomplished in recent years, especially as the result of the national survey. His final comment, undoubtedly similar to what many of us could say, is worthy of quoting: "I have experienced satisfaction, not only from my work, but also from the gradual (and somewhat reluctant) acceptance by my department and university of my work as scholarly research instead of just as a hobby. It took years of education here, however, to gain that acceptance."

James F. Hamburg (North Fargo, North Dakota), director of the North Dakota survey, reports that work on the place names of Slope, Burleigh, Benson, and Cass counties is getting closer to completion, and work is continuing on Emmons, Hettinger, Williams, and Richland counties. The high price of gasoline and lack of funds are continuing dilemmas. His doctoral dissertation entitled "The Influence of the Railroads on the Processes and Patterns of Settlement of South Dakota," which touches indirectly upon place names, is scheduled for publication in book form by the Arno Press. He would like to see ANS seriously consider switching annual meetings to summer and he also hopes continuing efforts will be made to combine "Tarpley" and "Ehrensperger" reports.



Margaret Bryant (Brooklyn College), although unable to attend our national meetings, still plays an important part in institutes. This year she attended both the New Jersey and the Connecticut gatherings of this kind. She had an article in the published volume of selected papers of the New Jersey institute and will have another article in the second volume of Connecticut institute papers due to appear soon. At our annual meetings we sorely miss this founding and, over many years, very active and productive ANS member.

Virgil J. Vogel (Northbrook, Illinois), now retired, says that this situation will give him more opportunity to work on his major opus, Indian Place Names of the U.S.A., at present about three fourths complete. This work is extensive, but not exhaustive. The arrangement is typical and the style is narrative. He was enthusiastic about the institute held at Waubesa College in Illinois in October and admirably directed by Larry Seits. Vogel read a paper there entitled "Bi-lingual Pairs in Place Names." His article on "Wisconsin's Name" in the Wisconsin Magazine of History, Spring, 1965, was reprinted this year as a pamphlet by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Virginia O. Foscoe (University of Alabama) writes that one of her graduate students is making progress on work on Colbert and Lauderdale Counties of Alabama. Two other students who began work some time ago have become involved in other activities but have contributed a substantial amount of material to the state files. She continues work on an Alabama place-name dictionary to be published as one of a series of books about Alabama by the University of Alabama Press.

Robert M. Rennick (Prestonsburg, Kentucky) laments that persons and groups he thinks ought to be willing and able to help him in his work on a book on Kentucky place names have failed to do so, thus forcing him to do much of the leg work himself and causing delays in progress. The work will be monumental in scope even though his publisher has insisted that he pare his material to the bone. Though some not too closely related material must be cut out, the naming accounts will remain--the fascinating as well as the prosaic, the folk etymologies, and the curious legends behind some of the names and their bestowal. Rennick wants his work to be interesting as well as factual.

James A. Dabbs (Austin, Texas), among several projects not onomastic in nature, is working on what he calls an "ortsname" problem. Near Brenham, Texas, there is a German settlement known as the Berlin Community with a church with records in difficult German script going back to the 1850's. Dabbs is trying to locate the 180 different places in Germany from which the settlers came. In the records there are questions about the spelling and the accuracy of statements made about those places. There have been



perplexing changes in names, especially in that part of East Germany given to Poland at the end of World War II, where the names are now all Polish. A situation like this shows us how important it is to keep a record of place names and to keep that record up to date.

Virginia McDavid (Chicago State University), among several others, writes enthusiastically about the institute at Waubensee Community College in Illinois, saying she never heard a more uniformly excellent series of papers. She reports that two fascicles of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States are out. They both deal with the pronunciation of place names: the informants' pronunciation of the names of their birthplace, community, post office, etc., and of state and city names. This is wonderful information not only for dialectologists but also for those interested in names.

John Rydjord (Wichita, Kansas) tells us that his Kansas Place Names is now out in paperback at a much reduced price. His Indian Place Names, now out of print, is being prepared for a new printing, also in paperback, by the University of Oklahoma Press.

Ladislav Zgusta (University of Illinois) has finished the main work on a book called Kleinasiatische Ortsnamen. He has some 1,600 pages of typescript of the body of the book and some 500 map sketches. He still has to write the preface, the index, and a few minor items. The book will be published in Germany. In it he has collected and studied the indigenous place names of Asia Minor as far as they occur in post-Hittite sources.

Elizabeth M. Rajec (City College of the City University of New York) has submitted to her publisher Vol. II of her bibliography, The Study of Names in Literature, which she hopes will appear before too long. Vol. I of this important work was so well received that we are looking forward to the appearance of the second volume.

Robert Hitchman (Seattle, Washington) writes that the eruptions of Mount Saint Helens removed a good many geographic features, and with them went familiar place names. Only one place name has been established since May 18 and that is Harry's Ridge, named by helicopter pilots trying to get their bearings in an area where almost every known landmark was obliterated. It serves as a memorial to Harry Truman, the crusty old resort owner who would not leave his home on Spirit Lake and who hasn't been seen since the Big Blow. The Washington State Board on Geographic Names continues to meet regularly and has a new executive secretary, Robert L. Edwards, who was scheduled (at time of writing) to attend the Fourth Annual Western Geographic Names Conference in Salt Lake City in November. Hitchman also tells of the death last April 28 of Guy Reed Ramsey, dedicated and tireless researcher into post office history in Washington. During the last twenty years Ramsey completed post



office histories for all of Washington's thirty nine counties. Nineteen of these have been published by county historical societies under the series title Postmarked Washington. Most are 6-by-9 inch soft cover booklets with maps, photographs, and sketches. The next book to be issued covers Pierce County and will be sponsored by Washington State Historical Society. It is hoped all of Ramsey's work will eventually be published. His work is filled with excellent place-name material, much of which cannot be found elsewhere. More about Ramsey will be found under obituaries later in this report.

Allen Walker Read (Columbia University) read papers at a series of onomastic gatherings during the year. In May at the New Jersey institute he spoke on "The Rivalry of Derivatives from the Name 'Boston.'" At the Literary Onomastics Conference in Rochester, N.Y., in June he gave the after-dinner address entitled "The Incantatory Use of Place Names in American Poetry." In September at the Saranac Lake institute he read a paper on "An Updating of Research on the name 'Podunk,'" dealing with the history and history and historiography of the name since his basic article on it in American Speech of April, 1939. In October at the Connecticut institute his subject was "What the Townspeople of Massachusetts Call Themselves." He will treat similar material about Texas at the annual ANS meeting at Houston in December. In addition to all this, he read papers or gave addresses on subjects not dealing with onomastics at five meetings in various parts of this country and Canada. This peripatetic scholar and pioneer worker in our field is a model whom few of us could ever hope to emulate.

Frank H. Trolle-Steenstrup (Clermont, Florida) urges all ANS members to make themselves available for speeches before all kinds of groups--service clubs, church groups, library and book clubs, American Legion, VFW, Women's Clubs, et al. He has been busy at this kind of work for years, using the press, periodicals, Names, as well as his own investigations and observations, as sources. At times he discusses onomastics in general; frequently he limits himself to place names or to names in literature, using such topics as place names in one's own town, county, or state, names used by one author, etc. This popular approach is important in spreading knowledge among the general public of what onomastics is all about.

Frederic Cassidy (University of Wisconsin), very busy man that he is in editing DARE, Dictionary of American Regional English, nevertheless finds time for one of his first loves--place names--serving this year as president of ANS, directing graduate students working in our field, and completing his own study of the place names of Brown County, Wisconsin, which he expects to see in print in 1981. One of his students, Conan Eaton, is busy completing the Door County place-name study.

Thomas L. Bernard (Springfield College, Mass.) has been giving



a number of talks to community groups on onomastics. He has been active in the context of place names, working in the area of surnames based on place names. Current research in which he is engaged relates to the origins of the names of Presidents, many of whom have names of toponymic origin, e.g., Lincoln, Washington, Roosevelt, etc.

Herbert H. Petit (Duquesne University) calls our attention to the recently published Pennsylvania County Maps, available from the Bureau of Maps, 841 Federal Square Station, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108 at \$7.00 plus \$1.00 for UPS service. The book of 148 pages contains separate maps of each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties and includes a brief history of each county as well as the origin of the name. Cities, towns, boroughs, and villages are shown and indexed, identifying their county location. Game land, state parks, streams, lakes, and waterways are identified. The book's greatest value to place name enthusiasts, says Petit, is to be found in its 20 column index with approximately 180 names to the column. It is to be hoped that this helpful volume will spur very much needed work on Pennsylvania place names.

Lurline Coltharp (University of Texas at El Paso) has had a busy year as a member of the Board of Managers of ANS, serving on the editorial board of Tarpley's Place Names, U.S.A., and planning in an official capacity for the forthcoming international congress. Her major interest in our field is bilingual onomastics. At the names section of the South Central MLA convention at Memphis in October she read a paper entitled "American and Mexican Influences on Chicano Naming Practices." Like most of us, she has been busy in other fields as well.

Mrs. Jane B. Hobson (Bellows Falls, Vermont) writes that her sixteen page booklet entitled Rockingham, Vermont, Place Names is being used and appreciated not only locally but also in other places, including California, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, Texas, and Virginia. Local schools all use it. It was a basic reference work for a state funded summer program at the Rockingham Public Library last summer to stimulate interest in and understanding of the community. To date no other such publication concerning Vermont is available. She concludes her comments as follows: "This work indicates to me that the study of place names is important today to keep a record of the past, inform people, and stimulate on-going interest in places and history as well as in people."

Mary R. Miller (University of Maryland) is looking for her Place Names of the Northern Neck of Virginia to appear now at almost any time. Her second book on place names dealing with insights gained from her first work is under way. At Houston she will read a paper which should explain the sort of thing she is doing in this second work. The research, she says, is going well, but there is a multitude of details.



J. B. Rudnycky (Montreal, Canada) at the spring meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names read a paper (in French) on Ukrainian street names in Montreal: Shevchenko Boulevard and Ivan Franko Street. A very pleasant surprise for him on the occasion of his 70th birthday was the publication by former students of An Annotated Bibliography of Theses Directed or Evaluated by J. B. Rudnycky. The two editors were O. Woychenko and Y. Pinchuk. In it thesis titles of the following onomatologists were included: F. Bogdan, L. Fedorkiw, S. P. Holutiak-Hallick, R. B. Klymasz, S. Radion, J. Rozumnyj, T. Salzberg, W. Slipchenko, I. Tarnawecky, and W. T. Zyla, some of whom are members of ANS, and some of whom even published their theses in Names. Rudnycky also tells us of the death this year of his teacher of onomastics at the University of Lviv in the Ukrain, Witold Taszycki, under whom he completed his Ph.D. thesis on Geographical Names in Boikovia in 1937, the first onomatological doctoral thesis, so far as he knows, in Eastern Europe.

Barrie Cox (Nottingham College of Education), Nottingham, England) gives us an excellent picture of place-name activity in England. The general current of the place-name scene there is as follows: the counties of Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Durham, Kent, Shropshire, Norfolk, Rutland, and Leicestershire are under investigation for the English Place-Name Society. Volume 2 of the Dorset survey was published this year. Volume 3 is now at press. He himself is working on the Rutland and Leicestershire surveys, Rutland being nearly complete. A further part of his research has been directed toward establishing a chronology for English place-name types. To this end, his latest publication appeared in North America, Viator, Vol. II (1980), produced by U.C.L.A., "Aspects of Place-Name Evidence for Early Medieval Settlement in England." This study is the third in a series comprising "The Significance of the Distribution of English Place Names in --ham in the Midlands and East Anglia," Journal of the English Place-Name Society, Vol. 5 (1973) and "The Place Names of the Earliest Records," J. E. P. N. S. Vol. 8 (1976). Cox also adds that another important item in this study of English place-name chronology is a chronology is a recent article by Professor Kenneth Cameron in J.E.P.N.S., Vol. 12 (1980), "The Meaning and Significance of Old English Walh in English Place Names." Still additional research of Cox lies in accumulating evidence for Old English lexis in English place names, specifically directed to providing data for the forthcoming University of Toronto Dictionary of Old English. His collection of otherwise unrecorded Old English items of vocabulary appearing in place names together with topographical significations of vocabulary is well-nigh complete. Since many American place names are of English origin, it behooves all of us to keep abreast of what is going on in England. We certainly appreciate receiving this important information from England's foremost authority in the field.



C. Richard Beam (Millersville State College, Pa.) had his interest in place names first kindled when he became aware that places where he was born and spent his early years possessed two sets of names, one in English and one in the Pennsylvania German dialect. Sometimes the English name was a translation, more or less, of the dialect name, or vice versa; frequently there was no connection between the two names. Although interested in general naming patterns elsewhere, he is very wisely confining his attention to Pennsylvania German. At the present time he feels the Pennsylvania place-name survey is not moving. Espenshade's old work, Pennsylvania Place Names, was splendid in its day (the 1920's) later reprinted, but it needs complete revamping and bringing up to date. Beam would be the ideal person to work on the Pennsylvania German place names of his state in such a revamping. The Pennsylvania German Dictionary, which he is compiling at the present time, will, of course, include place names. Finally, through his two weekly and one biweekly dialect columns, he has a rapport which few others possess with the Old Order communities. Currently he is engaged in a survey of the Old Order parochial schools, few of which, up to a decade or so ago, were teaching (Luther) German.

John McNamara (Pompano Beach, Florida) has been writing 12 to 15 place-name articles annually for a Bronx weekly newspaper since his book History in Asphalt: The Origin of Bronx Street Names, came out in 1978.

Robert Rudolph (University of Toledo) continues to collect newspaper articles about local history and place names as such articles appear in The Toledo Blade. He is dismayed, as many others are, because the Ohio place-name survey seems to be at a dead center.

Noel C. Stevenson (Laguna Hills, California), a lawyer, says that the writing of legal works interferes with his desire to complete his study of unique Spanish place names in California. He sent us clippings of an amusing controversy in Orange County, Cal., over the abbreviation of party names on the November ballot. Two parties sought a court mandate for new ballots because they said the abbreviations confused voters. A superior court judge ruled, however, that although abbreviations violated state election laws and must not be used in future elections, he would not grant the mandate since signs explaining the abbreviations posted in all polling places in the county and inside every voting booth seemed to be adequate.

Gerald Cohen (University of Missouri at Rolla) continues his splendid work. The little periodical, Comments on Etymology, which he founded and edits, is now in its 10th volume. Three issues of this work have and been devoted exclusively to onomastics, and a fourth is scheduled for next spring. During next summer he plans to



compile these four issues into a single monograph to be entitled Interesting Missouri Place Names, which he hopes will be just the first of several devoted to the subject. His work differs from previous research on Missouri place names by selecting a relatively few names (rather than hundreds or thousands) and treating them in more detail than previously done. In this work he has been ably assisted by Arthur P. Moser and Adolf Schroeder. The main task facing Missouri place-name scholars, he says, is to get Robert Ramsay's extensive work published; the M. A. theses Ramsay directed contain some 30,000 items, and place-name enthusiasts need ready access to them. Because of the increasing number of name studies being submitted to Comments on Etymology, Cohen is starting another publication to be called Papers in Onomastics, which is to appear irregularly as the receipt of material warrants and is to be issued as a supplement to Comments on Etymology, the first issue being dated November 15, 1980. The new publication may be ordered separately or will be sent with a subscription to Comments on Etymology (\$3.75 a year for both). Cohen feels that onomastics, one of the very few remaining areas of even moderately vigorous etymological activity, is deserving of encouragement and support. He hopes his new publication will permit the fairly prompt dissemination of working papers on names and provide authors with the very valuable feedback that such papers often produce. We certainly share his opinions and wish his ventures every measure of success.

E. R. Seary (Memorial University of Newfoundland), who is interested in both personal and place names, has an entertaining article in the Newfoundland Quarterly, Vol. LXXV, No. 4, Winter, 1980, entitled "The Game of the Name," in which he sets forth both seriously and humorously the joys and frustrations of working with names. In a few pages he brings in a mass of information not only about Newfoundland names, but also about names in general. At present he is busy with a second, revised edition of his Family Names of the Island of Newfoundland. He does what we wish many others would do--he sends names of people interested in our field.

C. W. Minkel (University of Tennessee) has a fair collection of "double names" (e.g. Walla Walla, Sing Sing) from around the world. He has a few ideas as to reasons for their existence, which he hopes to publish along with his collection when the press of other projects will allow. Is anyone else interested in this phenomenon?

Dean A. Reilein (Eastern Connecticut State College at Willimantic), director of the Connecticut state survey, like some of the other state directors, is puzzled about how to proceed in this difficult task. He would like to attend some kind of workshop or training session or to receive written instructions. He wishes for standardized methods of procedures and forms of reporting. Attempts have been made in these directions, but distances in our big country are a problem and conditions vary in different parts of the country. On the whole, progress is being made. Along with Arthur and Gina



Berliner, he directed a highly successful 6th Onomastic Symposium at his institution last October 4.

Delma E. Presley (Georgia Southern College at Statesboro) reports that two recent publications have enhanced the continuing efforts of the Georgia place-name survey: Cities, Towns, and Communities of Georgia Between 1847 and 1962 (Southern Historical Press, Easley, S.C.); and the Alphabetical Finding List for Georgia by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names. The Georgia survey received a mini-grant of \$2,000 from the Georgia Committee for the Humanities to support a pilot project focusing on Bulloch County in southeastern Georgia conducted by Dan Good of Georgia Southern College and survey director Presley. Field work has been organized according to militia districts, subdivisions unique to Georgia's counties. Two public meetings on place names have been well attended. Presley is happy to announce the appointment of Dan Good as associate director of the state survey.

Fred R. MacFadden (Coppin State College, Baltimore, Maryland) is particularly interested in place names based on proper personal names and vice versa. He raises many questions which would be very difficult to answer. For example, are there more places which get their names from people than there are people who derive their names from places? Do places deriving their names from people get the names from first, last, or even middle names? Do more such names come from women or from men? Have there been shifts in these naming processes and why? One could spend a lifetime speculating on these and many other similar questions.

Arthur P. Moser (Springfield, Missouri) has for several years been researching the history of several Missouri counties. In doing so, he comes across a large amount of the material dealing with place names. At present he is working on Caldwell county. He sent us his finding concerning Caldwell's first county seat, Far West; now a ghost town, the site of which consists of several fine farms today. He also sent an interesting story about the origin of the name of Tom (or Poor Tom) Creek. Information of this kind is very valuable in the Missouri survey, and Moser's assistance is appreciated very much.

Roberta Cheney (Cameron, Montana) has sent off to a publisher a 500 page manuscript for a second edition of her Montana Place Names, which has been out of print for some time and for which a large amount of new material has become available. She notes that a whole new group of people interested in place names are the stamp and postal cancellation collectors. One man in Spokane was so eager to obtain the information in her book that he is paying to have the whole thing mimeographed. She gave permission for a single run because she couldn't supply him with a copy. In Seattle another man said he could sell 20 copies immediately to people interested in early post offices. Tourism is big business in Montana, and tourists find this book interesting reading as they pass along



many miles of the state. A paperback edition is also anticipated. We hope the time will not be too long.

Laurence E. Seits (Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Ill.) is doing an admirable job in arousing interest in the study of place names, not only in Illinois but also in the whole north central part of our country. In 1980 he organized and directed the first North Central Names Institute at his institution on October 18. He hopes this will be an annual event. From those attending have come enthusiastic reports of the excellent program and the efficient direction. Because of the financial support of the Illinois Humanities Council and the NEH, the Proceedings of the institute are being published and may be obtained free by writing Seits, North Central Names Institute, Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, Ill. 60554. In Seits' opinion, the best thing in Illinois place-name study this year has been the USGS's Illinois Geographic Names (Computer File), which is an almost complete list for the state. Now it should be enlarged by someone to include etymological, historical, and folkloristic research on individual names as well as pronunciations. Last summer, NEH and Professor Raven I. McDavid, Jr. granted him some money to study American dialects. While so doing, he had the opportunity to scan the massive files (North Central states) for heretofore unrecorded place names in Illinois. Would there were many more workers like Seits, not only in Illinois, where place-name work is sorely needed, but also all over the country!

A. E. Schroeder (University of Missouri) sends, as usual, a splendid account of activities in his state. Mrs. Evelyn Sheets, whose "Grundy County, Missouri, Towns" is a valuable compilation gathered from oral and printed sources as well as from National Archives, continues to gather information from older residents of this county through a very successful Missouri Folklore course she is teaching at Trenton Junior College. John F. McDermott supplies the Missouri survey with information about French influence on place names in the Mississippi Valley. Rosemary Thomas of St. Louis Community College at Meramec is doing important work in Washington County among Old Mines French, collecting folkloristic and place-name data. A. E. Schroeder has prepared a series of slide/tape presentations on Euro-American groups in Missouri, which uses place names to demonstrate the cultural contributions of the many immigrant groups in the state. Schroeder is also preparing a history of place-name research in Missouri to be included in Jerry Cohen's pamphlet on Missouri Place Names scheduled for publication next summer. Robert Brady of the Gasconde County Schools has prepared an excellent slide/tape presentation on German settlements along the "Missouri Rhineland." Susan Pentlin of Central Missouri State University supplies information to the survey as she runs across place-name data in her work with family archives and documents in west central Missouri. Finally, Schroeder ends his report with sentiments we all share: "We all await a second Ramsay to edit the long planned Dictionary of Missouri Place Names."



G. Thomas Fairclough (The Burkburnett Library, Burkburnett, Texas) says that his main place-name project now is work on street name patterns, a subject he will discuss in a paper at Houston. The data analysis according to his original working principles has been completed, so that classifications and formulaic descriptions of street-name patterns are in existence for more than 2,000 U. S. and Canadian communities ranging in size from 400 to seven million. He is now concerned with theoretical problems, two in particular. He thinks two distinctive patterns should be added to the original four established by George R. Stewart in the Chapter "Of Patterns for Street Names" in Names on the Land. He feels that the same configuration cannot be applied to both Canadian and U.S. street names. Although he has resigned as survey director for the state of Nebraska, he is still working on one Nebraska project, the place names of ten of the Sand Hills counties, the ten in the state with the smallest population in 1970.

Frank Wuttge, Jr. (The Bronx, New York), who is listed by the New York Public Library as "Basic Researcher," has a list of entries on place names and place-name survey in the dictionary catalogue of that library. For many years he has been interested in Bronx place names in general and in names of streets in particular. He also has ideas on methods to be used in place-name surveys. In his many associations with memorial associations in his area and in library research, he is constantly pointing out the importance of place names.

Charles E. Hatch, Jr. (Yorkstown, Virginia), who was seriously ill the first half of 1980, has recovered and writes that his work on Mathews and Gloucester Counties of Virginia has been completed, but has not yet been published. Currently he is nearing completion of York County and the city of Poquoson, a city which until 1976 was basically part of York county. We hope he will be able to work on several more Virginia counties, work which, he says, he enjoys. It is interesting to note that although place-name research is difficult and often frustrating, nearly all place-name workers enjoy what they are doing.

Lewis L. McArthur (Portland, Oregon) continues work on the fifth edition of his father's great pioneer Oregon Geographic Names (1928). In the original edition, both after the entry and at the beginning of the book, information about the names was given, but this information has never been definitive or complete. In the preface to the fourth edition in 1974, our correspondent stated that he was preparing a state gazetteer on magnetic tape but he discontinued this project after the announcement of the GNIS, and McArthur would like to propose its general use for name classification. Within a year the printed and magnetic tape GNIS will appear in various states and will undoubtedly be widely used. The ANS through the Place-Name Survey is in a position to take the lead in the development of onomastic divisions to accompany the



geographic characteristics. "If we do not establish adequate rules," says McArthur, "they will either be imposed upon us by outside authority or they will be established by individuals within the discipline but fragmented and differing from state to state.

McArthur comments enthusiastically on the 4th Western Geographic Names Conference in Salt Lake City in October. The fifth meeting of this conference will be in Oregon next October.

Our correspondent reports the publication of Eugene Snyder's Portland Names and Neighborhoods, an excellent work on Portland's street names and many of its local districts. Work in progress in the state includes Gordon Clarke's research on Union County place names. Information about William Loy, state survey director, will be found elsewhere in this report. Would that all states could give us as good a report as Oregon's!

Mrs. June D. Holmquist (Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota) gives us some valuable information which most of us have probably missed: an article by Matti Kaups, "Finnish Place Names as a Form of Ethnic Expression in the Middle West, 1880-1977," in Finnish Americana, Vol. 2, pages 28-49 (1979). This periodical is an annual and, as the volume number indicates, is of recent origin. The article contains lists of examples from Minnesota and Michigan. In the long list of foreign languages influencing American place names, Finnish has rarely, if ever, been included.

Alan R. Woolworth (Woolworth Research Associates, White Bear Lake, Minnesota), mentioned elsewhere under South Dakota in this report, has completed about 90% of his study of the place names of Deuel County, S.D., but, as he says, work of this kind is a never ending search. As an anthropologist, he is particularly interested in the Dakota Indian place names, since place names can often give an insight into the daily lives and thought patterns of their creators. He is not only searching himself, but is very laudably encouraging others to do likewise. Recently his attention has been centering on Ojibwe Indian place names.

Sterling Stoudemire (University of North Carolina), director of the North Carolina Survey, says that William Powell's excellent Gazetteer, now in its second printing, gives so much information about the place names of the state that the main thing investigators have to do now is to work on changes of names, often a difficult job. He reiterates his desire for an onomastic textbook, half on place names and half on personal names, to be used in a course on the subject which might lead to A.M. and Ph.D. theses.

Louis Stein (San Diego, Cal.), at age 72, is a very active onomatologist. His San Diego County Place Names (1975) came out in a third printing last September, representing a sale of over



15,000 copies. During the year he made between thirty and thirty-five lectures on onomastic subjects. Last spring at a local university extension division he taught a course on San Diego County place names. He "guests" often on a local radio station on the same subject and he writes a weekly column for a local newspaper on California place names.

William A. Withington (University of Kentucky) in early September had printed privately 1,000 copies of his Kentucky in Maps, which is a brief survey and analysis in text, maps, graphs, and pictures all in black and white of Kentucky's principal spatial patterns, linkages, flows, nodes, and important recent changes. He is using this book as a text since the Atlas of Kentucky has been out of print for at least a year. In November he received from the U.S. Geological Survey Kentucky Geographic Names, which he thinks is part of the 50 state gazetteer series which the Geological Survey is putting out.

Stewart A. Kingsbury (Northern Michigan University), director of the Michigan survey, continued developing the name patterning in Michigan, using the computerized list of place names held in the PNSUS data stored on magnetic tape at his institution. In June at the Symposium on the Automation of Geographic Names sponsored by the Canadian Secretariat of Geographic Names, he read a paper entitled "Automation of Geographic Names in Michigan." Last summer he visited the U.S. Geological Survey at Reston, Virginia, and compared the work done under the NEH project in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with information found in the files of the USGS National Gazetteer of the U.S. In November at the Names Section of the Midwest MLA meeting at Minneapolis, he read a paper entitled "Sets and Name Duplication in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan," drawing conclusions on place-name patterning from a list of 6059 names computerized in his 1976-1977 NEH grant.

William G. Loy (University of Oregon), a geographer/cartographer, is spending this year as a Fulbright Professor at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. In addition to teaching, he is studying the place-name procedures of the Irish Ordnance Survey. Their main place-name task is to provide proper Irish names to complement the English names on a new 1:2,500 scale map series. There are currently eight full-time place-name workers. Speaking of place-name work in our country, Loy thinks that it should be a cooperative effort, bringing in workers from various fields with many points of view. In so doing we might overcome some of the shortcomings of the past, when, he thinks, there has been too much emphasis on linguistics and when many place-name books, with notable exceptions, have tended to be "grab samples" of names. There also has been a failure to give adequate locational information. In the future, in Loy's opinion, we should involve many more people, especially younger people, in our work. In spite of threatening financial stringency for our endeavors



in the years ahead, we can succeed if we all work together. Later in the year Loy plans to spend a couple weeks in Edinburgh investigating Scottish place-name procedures. We hope that at our future meetings he will tell us about his experiences.

One difficulty in recruiting younger workers is that most of them cannot make a living working on place names. They must spend most of their time on other pursuits, working on place names only when possible. When some of these enthusiasts retire, however, they frequently make place-name study an important, if not a principal, activity.

E. C. Ehrensperger (University of South Dakota) is glad to report some activity in the state, but would like to see much more. Alan R. Woolworth has nearly completed an intensive study of the place names of Deuel County, including the names of rural churches, cemeteries, and schools. Information about such schools is often difficult to obtain, for names were often informal, perhaps never recorded, and subject to many changes. Even the location of schools was frequently changed. Since most rural schools have disappeared or are rapidly disappearing today, it is very important to record this kind of information. The forthcoming publication of James F. Hamburg's The Influence of the Railroads on the Processes and Patterns of Settlement of South Dakota, even though it touches only indirectly on place names, is worthy of note. We are happy to announce that Mrs. Bettie Hutchinson of Northern State College has begun a study of the place names of Brown County. The principal names of that county were, of course, included in South Dakota Place Names, but no intensive and comprehensive work has ever been done. This is the kind of project we should like to see started in nearly every county in the state. The names of all South Dakota counties have been investigated to some extent, but our material in many cases needs to be revised, greatly expanded, and brought up to date. Ehrensperger was interviewed recently by a team from the university public television station concerning the history of place-name research, not only in South Dakota, but also in the country as a whole. The results of the interview have not yet been broadcast.

Yar Slavutych (University of Alberta), former president of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names, has completed field work on Ukrainian place names in Western Canada. He is now working on Soviet Policy in Namelore, preparing a paper on this topic for the approaching International Congress.

Gutierre Tibon (Cuernavaca, Mor., Mexico), our authority for the name Mexico as well as for Mexican onomastics in general, tells us that his large work, The History of the Name Mexico (1975), came out in a second edition the early part of this year. He has finished another book, which may be out by this time, which, he says, contains a considerable amount of onomastic material.



Marvin Carmony (Indiana State University at Terre Haute) has this year devoted the bulk of his research efforts to a cultural study which embraces place names and dialects along with a substantial number of other factors related to regional life in Indiana. In addition, he has gathered additional information on the pronunciation of Indiana place names, which will be used both for publication in 1981 and as additional material for any revision of his and Ronald Baker's Indiana Place Names, the paperback edition of which is still in print and widely available. He and Ronald Baker are the two original and most important place-name authorities in the state.

Burton R. Pollin (The City University of New York), recognized throughout the world for his nearly 100 articles and three books on Edgar Allan Poe, tells us of the publication in August of the second edition of his Poe, Creator of Words, enlarged and in durable hard covers, which contains a considerable amount of information about place names and should be of particular interest to those interested in literary onomastics. Before long (perhaps even before this report is out) he hopes to see the appearance of his volume of the long narratives of Poe, with full notes on matters onomastic as well as textual. An example of such matters, Pollin points out, is the place names in some of Poe's narratives given to newly discovered areas in the Solomons, long thought to be coined by Poe, were really given by an American sealing captain and subsequently changed by more accurate and "authentic" explorers. These early names, which Pollin likes to call "nonce names," entered into Poe's fiction for a kind of permanent record and have to be reidentified.

William E. Koch (Kansas State University at Manhattan) reports progress in his work on the place names of the Flint Hills of Kansas and on names of so-called towns in Kansas which are literally no more but which road signs and maps even today still indicate that they are. Sometimes a farm house exists at these "places," usually nothing at all, but almost without exception some dramatic history is connected with them. Koch's book, Folklore from Kansas, Customs, Beliefs, and Superstitions, came out in Jan. and has been very well received.

G.P.V. Akrigg and Mrs. Akrigg (Vancouver, B.C., Canada) are currently working on a new book, tentatively entitled 2002 British Columbia Place Names, to replace their 1001 British Columbia Place Names, which will go out of print any day now, selling 20,000 copies. Place-name study in their vast province, they say, is proceeding generally on a local area. A little book on Kamloops place names has been produced by Mary Bawlf, curator of the Kamloops Museum. Place Names of the Alberni Valley has been published by the Alberni District Museum and Historical Society, its authors being a group of local people. Finally, A Gazetteer of



Geographical Names: Cowichan Valley Regional District has been produced by the office of the District's Director of Planning. We appreciate receiving this interesting information.

David L. Ruell (Ashland, New Hampshire) has finished work on his book on New Hampshire place names and is searching for a publisher--a situation very familiar to place-name workers. The work contains over 2900 entries, some covering more than one place name. It is not a complete listing of the state's place names, but it is the only comprehensive work done to date, and it should provide a good base for further investigation. Ruell also tells us of the publication this year of Robert and Mary Hixon's The Place Names of the White Mountains, the first regional study of place names in the state. The White Mountains have over the years developed their own literature of guide books, histories, fiction, etc., so it is not surprising that they are the first region to produce their own place-name book.

Walter A. Schroeder (University of Missouri), director of the Missouri survey, is working with the great Robert L. Ramsay material. Ramsay and his students covered all 114 counties of the state, accumulating an enormous alphabetical card file of an estimated 35,000 entries. Since this work was done by many people over a period of years it is bound to be uneven and to contain errors and omissions. Schroeder is trying to find workers in every county who will check the material for their respective counties for errors and omissions and bring it up to date so that it may become part of a state place-name publication. This undertaking will require many years, but it should be done as soon as possible, and we certainly wish Schroeder and his co-workers every measure of success.

Sarah Evelyn Jackson (Georgia Institute of Technology at Atlanta) is interested in the study of the names of counties in a state. At the last ANS meeting she read a paper on North Carolina county names. She has almost completed a paper on Georgia county names, a much shortened version of which is ready for our Houston meetings. She plans to continue with the study of counties in several other Southern states and eventually in states all over the country, perhaps all fifty. She has also been working on a paper comparing and contrasting the county names of three New England states with those of a mid-Atlantic state and a Southern state.

W. F. H. Nicholaisen (State University of New York at Binghamton), president of the approaching International Congress and onomastics scholar extraordinary, has been very busy making preparations for the gathering at the University of Michigan next August. He says that the program is now well in hand and promises to be both informative and enjoyable. Yet, in spite of all this activity, he has read papers at an amazing number of



scholarly gatherings in this country, in Canada, and in Europe. He dealt with onomastic material at the following: the annual meeting of the Council for Name Studies in Great Britain and Ireland at the University of Keele, England, in March; a symposium organized by the Section for Onomastic Research at the Karl Marx-University, Leipzig, East Germany, also in March; the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names at Montreal in June; the Literary Onomastics Conference at Rochester, N.Y. in June; the Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife at Dublin, N.H. in June; the Northeast Regional Names Institute at Saranac Lake, N.Y. in Sept.; the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society in Pittsburgh in October; the annual fall meeting of the New York Folklore Society in Canton, N.Y. in November; and the Cornell Viking Lecture Series 80 in November. In addition, he has published a number of articles, three of which deal exclusively with onomastics. He spent the months of July and August in Scotland, collecting material at the Aberdeen University Library for his Dictionary of Scottish Place Names.

René Coulet du Gard (University of Delaware) is finishing a monumental work on American Counties, Parishes and Independent Cities, a project in which he has been engaged for the past 15 years and which he hopes to see in print in 1981. Other books on which he is still working are The Handbook of Ukrainian Place Names in North America and The Handbook of Spanish Place Names in the U.S.A. He is also publishing a considerable amount in history and literature. At the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names at Montreal last June he read a paper entitled "Du Gard's Le Prisonnier, Reality and Fiction, Its Toponymic Values."

H. Gardiner Barnam (University of Vermont) writes that his course on place names, offered several times as a provisional course, has recently been approved as a regular part of the curriculum of the College of Arts and Sciences. At present he is working on a comparative study of street names in Germany and Vermont. When that is finished, he is planning a study of German place names in North America.

Murray Heller (North Country Community College, Saranac Lake, N.Y.) in 1980 assumed the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of ANS and the Editorship of Names. He is continuing to serve as Director of the New York State Place-Name Survey and also as Director of the Annual Northeast Regional Names Institute, which completed its second meeting September 12, 13, featuring a panel and a theme, Amerindian Names, which was explored by American and Canadian participants. Names, Northeast, offering selected proceedings from the 1979 meeting and edited by Heller, became available at that time. If all this wasn't enough for one person to do, Heller added the reading of a paper entitled "Adirondack Settlement Names: Mount Pisgah Revisited" at



the initial meeting of the North Central Names Institute at Sugar Grove, Illinois, October 18.

Lionel Wyld (Cumberland, Rhode Island) has long been interested in "Canalese," language used in the Erie Canal area, canal terms including place names. His book, Low Bridge! Folklore and the Erie Canal, now in paperback, makes reference to place names throughout. He has just completed a book on Walter Edmonds, tentatively entitled Fiction, Fact and Folklore, which contains many place-name references and terms in use in upstate New York during the time depicted by Edmonds in his many books. For several years Wyld has been collecting material for a book on names used by stores and business establishments, names which are often peculiar and humorous.

Fred Tarpley (East Texas State University at Commerce), president-to-be of ANS in 1981, director of both the national and Texas place-name surveys, is having a difficult time with the forthcoming anthology, Place Names, U.S.A. Some state directors have failed to contribute essays. Since Tarpley wants all states represented, he is trying to fill the gaps. In June at his institution he directed the 11th annual South Central Names Institute and he is planning the 12th meeting for next June. The publications of this institute are behind schedule because of financial restrictions, but as editor he hopes to catch up soon. In November he attended the 4th Western States Geographic Conference, speaking on the national survey and taking part in a panel on how states make recommendations to the national board about geographic names. On November 17 the University of Texas Press released his new book, 1001 Texas Place Names, in which he presents what he considers to be the more interesting names in his file of some 75,000 Texas place names. The book will be at the University of Texas Press exhibit at MLA in Houston. For the past few years Fred Tarpley has made possible the appearance of our reports at our annual meetings. Not only has he looked after the whole duplicating process, but has also brought the bulky bundle to the meeting place. He has done so again this year, and we want to express to him our deep thanks and appreciation.

Kelsie Harder (State University College at Potsdam, N.Y.), whose arduous labors over the years have been responsible in large part for the growth and development of ANS, has, among numerous other activities, been working this summer and fall on a general view of onomastics in the U.S.A. and Canada to be presented at the August Congress and later published in the international review, Onoma. We wish him well in this important and difficult undertaking, for which he is admirably prepared.

Claude H. Neuffer (University of South Carolina), as we expected, produced Vol. 27 of Names in South Carolina on schedule again this year. This unique state onomastic journal has been popular not only in South Carolina but all over the country and has been the means of making many people become interested in onomastic studies. Through untiring efforts, Neuffer and Mrs. Neuffer have made this project succeed not



only as a journalistic venture but also as a financial wonder. It has paid its own way, not depending on any grant or outside subsidy. We hope that it will continue for many more years and that other states will follow this example.

Richard B. Sealock (Wooster, Ohio) has been working on the third edition of his important Bibliography of Place-Name Literature, United States and Canada. Over the years the exhaustive and reliable work of this intrepid bibliographer has been of invaluable service to all of us.

Donald B. Lawrence and Makarand Jawadekar (University of Minnesota) continue their efforts to find connections between American place names and Oriental sources. At the names section of the Midwest MLA meeting at Minneapolis in November they presented a paper entitled "Possible Old World Language Derivation of Aboriginal Amerind Names of Mount St. Helens and Spirit Lake."

Arthur Berliner (Mansfield Center, Conn.), founder and director of the Connecticut Onomastic Symposium, conducted, with the assistance of Mrs. Berliner, the sixth session of that symposium at Willimantic on Oct. 4. He also read a paper there entitled "The Story Behind the Real Name of Lake Webster, Massachusetts." A fine program was presented. He is working on issue No. 2 of Connecticut Onomastic Review and on several other onomastic projects.

Alan Rayburn (Secretariat, Geographic Names, Ottawa, Canada), who in our introduction is referred to as a sort of liaison officer between the American and Canadian Name Societies, is president of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names and looks after a multitude of onomastic activities in Canada, but often sallies south of the border--for example, his participation in the 4th Western Geographic Conference at Salt Lake City in November.

Grace Alvarez-Altman (State University of New York at Brockport), founder of the Conference on Literary Onomastics, directed the eighth annual meeting of this gathering at Rochester, N.Y., last June and read a paper entitled "Literary Onomastics Typology." Along with Frederick Burelbach, she edited Vol. VII of Literary Onomastic Studies, which contains the proceedings of the seventh conference. Among other activities, she read a paper at the New Jersey Names Institute in May entitled "Literary Onomastics in the Plays of Manuel Rueda, a Dominican Author."

E. Wallace McMullen (Fairleigh Dickinson University), director of the New Jersey survey and founder of the first names institute, directed a very successful nineteenth meeting of the New Jersey Names Institute on May 3, 1980.

Audrey R. Duckert (University of Massachusetts), director of the Western Massachusetts survey, among a wide variety of activities, read a paper entitled "Mencken and American Names" at the Mencken Centennial Celebration at the Newberry Library in Chicago on May 9, 1980.



Clarence L. Barnhart (Bronxville, N.Y.), a former president of ANS and compiler of the excellent index to the first 15 volumes of Names, published last September, with Sol Steinmetz and Robert R. Barnhart as co-editors, the Second Barnhart Dictionary of New English, a kind of supplement, as it were, with innovations, to the first work with this title published in 1973. Its completely new entry list is based on files of new words and meanings collected from books, magazines, and newspapers from 1970-1980. Onomatologists will find much in this book of great value in their work.

Donald T. Clark (University of California at Santa Cruz), University librarian emeritus and a long time member of ANS, has been working on Santa Clara County place names for the past 15 years. This year he published a booklet of 26 pages entitled Some Santa Clara County Place Names, which is described as "An Index to Topographic Sheets Covering Santa Clara County, California 1902-1973." This work is not intended to provide derivations or the use of names, but was created to accomplish two functions: "(1) provide an efficient finding device, keyed to a standard set of presenting the name in written form;" (2) establish a standard style of presenting the name in written form." We hope Clark will soon give us a complete dictionary of the names of this county.

John L. Andriot (Andriot Associates, McLean, Va.) sent us notice of the publication of Township Atlas of the United States (dated 1979 but publication notice came in Feb., 1980), a huge work of 1184 pages providing a comprehensive collection of maps and indexes to the minor civil divisions of all 50 states, arranged by states. This work is a completely new, revised, and enlarged edition of the 1977 volume with the same title, which included only 23 states. The new work can be ordered only from Andriot Associates at a price of \$70.00, cash with order.

Paul C. Durand (Prior Lake, Minn.) is actively pursuing completion of his Indian Place-Name Maps of western Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the eastern Dakotas. During the past few months Alan Woolworth has supplied him with many Dakota names which Woolworth had located in his continued research on these Indians. In 1979 Durand expanded his map to include Ojibwe place names. Recently, in examining Joseph A. Gilfillan's manuscripts, he found some 550 such names, more than he can place on his map. He and Woolworth are now working together on the band and village organization of the Eastern Dakota Indians and may ultimately come up with the answers to many riddles. Many of their village names are of considerable significance.

Ronald Baker (Indiana State University at Terre Haute), state survey director for Indiana, has a forthcoming book on Indiana folk legends, which has a large and very interesting set of folk accounts of the naming of Indiana places. Here is another good example of the close connection between folklore and onomastics. Ad editor of the Midwestern Journal of Folklore (now in its sixth year), he includes articles which frequently have onomastic connections and some which are almost exclusively in our field.



Violet Moore (Montezuma, Georgia), a journalist who has written many articles about place names, had such an article in the July 18 Citizen & Georgian of Montezuma entitled "Fruits Provide Delectable Names for Nation's Cities."

John Algeo (University of Georgia), editor of American Speech and an active place-name researcher, occasionally publishes articles in his journal containing place-name material.

Jay M. Hammond (Salt Lake City) served as chairman of the 4th Western States Geographic Names Conference held in Salt Lake City Nov. 6, 7, in which several ANS members participated and concerning which enthusiastic comments have been received.

Donald J. Orth (Executive Secretary Committee on Domestic Geographic Names, U.S. Geological Survey, National Center MS 523, Reston, Va. 22092), referred to in our introduction, is sending out a report on the progress of what is probably the most important development since the beginning of the Place-Name Survey: the Geographic Names Information System and the National Gazetteer now being completed at the U.S. Geological Survey. Place-name researchers have been at a great disadvantage in their efforts to determine which names exist on USGA maps and in the tedious process of recording coordinates. Soon this information for each state will be available on a magnetic tape for only \$20, with printouts available (usually at a cost less than \$20), and microfiche being planned. This is truly a major breakthrough in place-name research. Orth travels widely, researches, writes, and speaks, one of his most recent appearances being a participant in the 4th Western States Geographic Conference at Salt Lake City in November.

We wish we didn't have to report obituaries, but it seems that every year we lose some of our valuable workers.

1. George R. Stewart, dean of place-name scholars, one of the most outstanding workers in this field that America has ever produced, died last August. To list and comment on his numerous works would take up most of this report. What is more, his works are so well known that no comment is needed. He will be memorialized in Names, in many other publications, and in many places. Last Christmas time he was present at our dinner meeting, which was dedicated to him. From early days he was a loyal supporter of ANS, serving in many capacities, including the national presidency. He worked hard to gain financial support for our projects. He was one of the most faithful respondents for our reports. Although he will be missed, his influence upon ANS will always be felt.

2. Guy Reed Ramsay, dedicated and tireless researcher into post office history in the state of Washington, died last April. A retired Corvallis, Oregon, forester, he devoted the last 20 years to compiling post office histories for all Washington's 39 counties. Nineteen of these have been published and a twentieth is in the process of publication. It is hoped that the others will be made available before



too long. His work is filled with excellent place-name material, much of it not to be found elsewhere.

3. Witold Taszycki, professor at the University of Lviv in the Ukraine, was a pioneer in onomastic research in his country. According to J. B. Rudnycki, his illustrious student, he was an unforgettable teacher and a great onomastic scholar.

A report like this is necessarily highly condensed and brief. Further information about items and individuals will be furnished upon request, if possible. Notifying us of errors and omissions will be appreciated. Material reaching us after the deadline will appear as Addenda in the publication of this report as an ANS bulletin in February.

#### ADDENDA

The following information came in after the Dec. 1 deadline. Copies of the report were distributed at Houston. The complete report, including the addenda, will appear as an ANS bulletin no later, we hope, than February.

Betty J. Irwin (University of Georgia) makes some interesting comments concerning her work on the place names of Fulton County, Illinois. Now that she seems to have consulted all the possible printed sources, the work continues more slowly. We quote: "I interviewed approximately 25 informants early in the summer of 1980, and have written to about the same number since then. The problem seems to be, as one of my informants wrote me, that I started this study about 100 years too late! Nonetheless I will return to Illinois for a couple more weeks' research in the summer of 1981. If any of the more experienced place namers can offer me any hints or suggestions, I should appreciate it."

Eric Hamp (University of Chicago), director of the Illinois survey, is doing considerable work on exotic names, both place and personal. He had an article on some Iranian names transmitted by late Babylonian in Indo-Iranian Journal 21 (1979), 189-90; and has an article "Ulpia Cassa" (in Kosovo) in press in Beitrage zur Namenforschung. He also has a number of Celtic items in press in Celtic journals. Last spring he did a good bit of work on Latin inscriptions. He has a longish work on the Welsh Mabinogi under way, where names figure crucially. Finally, he is working on an article on the name Ohrid.

Claude N. Neuffer (University of South Carolina) has supplied us with additional information about Vol. 27 of Names in South Carolina, to which we referred briefly in the main part of this report. This issue, which appeared last November, contained an array of articles on legends and origins of place names, including Taverns and Coffee Houses of Old Charleston, Pickens County Streams, Revolutionary Battles,



Cherokee Place Names, the Grand Strand, and the editor's popular "Notes on Names" and queries. The journal continues to be solvent, self-supported by minimum subscription rates, a labor-of-love staff, and a goodly supply of patrons. Professor Neuffer wishes to express his appreciation of the support of many ANS members throughout the country.

Donald B. Lawrence (University of Minnesota), who with Makarand S. Jawadekar has been working on aboriginal Amerind names and their possible derivation from Sanskrit, or, more precisely, diffusion from Asian languages, especially from Sanskrit and Japanese, has written further to suggest projects which might assist this type of research. 1) He would like to see the organization of a world-wide cooperative research program to explore for and record, in Romanized type, Sanskrit words that have diffused into the various languages of the world, including the Aboriginal languages of the New World. In pursuit of this goal he has consulted with the Secretary General of the International Association of the Sanskrit Studies and has succeeded in having a special section devoted to the topic, "Names from the New World Derived from Sanskrit," included in the program of the Fifth World Sanskrit Conference to be held at Varanasi, India, in June, 1981. 2) He would like to see compiled an international glossary of geographic terms in Romanized type covering all the known languages of the world. Such a glossary does not exist and, along with the first project just suggested, would be, in his opinion, a very worthwhile effort that might be sponsored by the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences.

Richard B. Sealock (Wooster, Ohio) sent us a note in mid December saying that having just completed a year as Interim Director of the library of the College of Wooster, he now plans the completion of the third edition of his Bibliography of Place-Name Literature, United States and Canada, hoping for the speedy acceptance by the A.L.A. of his manuscript by mid 1981.

Kenneth I. Periman (Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado) reports that material on place names in southwest Colorado is almost complete. He has gathered all the topographical maps of the area, from which he has made a composite map. Much preliminary work has been done by students in a folklore class in tracking down Colorado place names. The main thing that remains to be done is to establish latitude and longitude, a job that is time consuming. We are glad to hear of this encouraging progress in work in Colorado.

Randall A. Detrow (Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, Louisiana) reports that he has completed a chapter on language and place names in the Atlas of the Society for the North American Cultural Survey. The official title of the Atlas is This Remarkable Continent: An Atlas of North American Society and Cultures. Publication by the Texas A & M University Press is scheduled for Aug., 1981. Copies may be reserved before that date at a saving of 30%. Detrow continues work on the place names of Lafourche Parish and on a chapter entitled "Louisiana Place Names" in an LSU Geography Department monograph entitled Potpourri.



Alan Rayburn (Executive Secretary, Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, Ottawa, Canada) distributed at Houston an article entitled "Onomastics: Progress and Prospects of Establishing the Study of Names as a Scholarly Discipline in North America," which was the result of answers he received on a questionnaire sent to various ANS members. We can merely refer very briefly to a few of his conclusions. "The time has come," he thinks, "to evaluate seriously the field of names studies as a professional discipline, to identify the benefits of names research, and to promote the scientific value of names study so that resources and personnel can be made available to fulfill the identified benefits." There is a definite need, in his opinion, to establish at least minimum scholarly standards, through the establishment of which we might upgrade the professional character of our names societies. The committee of which Rayburn is executive secretary has had a busy year, handling 1,000 inquiries for information on names and naming principles, processing 7,000 new names and corrections, and verifying 25,000 names for new mapping. The work of this committee is supported by four advisory committees: 1) Toponymy Research, 2) Glaciological and Alpine Nomenclature, 3) Names Outside Canada, and 4) Undersea Features. The annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names was held in Montreal in June, with an attendance of 49 and the reading of 27 papers. Membership is now 85 and dues \$10 a year. During the year the society published two numbers of Onomastica (57 and 58) and four numbers of the Name Gleaner. Rayburn participated in names meetings at Saranac Lake, N.Y., and at Salt Lake City during the year. He also organized a meeting at Montreal on the subject of priorities for toponomy research.

Don L. F. Nilsen (Arizona State University) would like to announce that on April 1, 1982, there will be a conference sponsored by the Western Humor and Irony Membership (WHIM) at Arizona State University, the theme of which will be "The Language of Humor and the Humor of Language." He thinks our members would be interested in such a conference and he invites some of us to submit paper proposals by July 4, 1981. (Note that the conference is in 1982.) Among important speakers already scheduled is our Allen Walker Read. Let Nilsen know if you would like to receive a conference brochure and be placed on the conference mailing list.

Gutierre Tibon (Cuernavaca, Mor., Mexico) is a Mexican cultural anthropologist who has done much with place names. His large book on the name Mexico is a classic. He also has a book on the name America. His latest work entitled The Navel As Cosmic Center, which will appear in February, has, he tells us, many references to place names. Shortly before Christmas he received a unique honor. The mayor of Toledo, Spain, informed him that a street in that imperial city is to bear his name. Tibon is undoubtedly the only ANS member to receive such distinction during his lifetime or at any time. Congratulations!

Nicholas A. Shoumatoff (Delaware Indian Resource Center, Trailside Nature Museum, White Plains, N.Y.) continues to consult surviving



speakers of the Delaware language of the Unani dialect in Oklahoma and the Munsee dialect in Ontario for the purpose of gaining information about Indian place names. He has found surviving place names to be very helpful vestigial elements of dying or extinguished dialects. Extended interviews with native Delaware speakers have given him many new interpretations for place names of Indian origin that are far more accurate than the interpretations made by earlier scholars, who not only never contacted the numerous native speakers alive during their time of research, but merely crosschecked lists of the place names with similar sounding words in rather inaccurate dictionaries compiled by missionaries and others. We wish Shoumatoff every measure of success in this difficult, often frustrating, but very important kind of work.

Herbert H. Petit (Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa.) assures us that the Pittsburgh Press is continuing to cultivate interest in place names by publishing now and then articles on place names. He sends us a column for December 31, 1980, entitled "Welcome to Uz? Strange, but True," Uz, of course, being a place. The column is a collection of strange names from all over the country. A column like this serves a very useful purpose in that it may attract the attention of the average layman and arouse interest in the more serious work many of us are trying to do.

We end our 1980 report with a brief reference to the death last March of one of the outstanding linguistic scholars of this century, Thomas Pyles. He was a long time member of ANS, serving at one time on the Board of Managers. He also served as president of ADS. Although unable because of ill health during the last few years to report any work in progress, he maintained his interest in place names and wanted to be kept on our mailing list. We add our deep sense of loss to that which will undoubtedly be expressed by many persons and in many places and periodicals.

Our next letter of inquiry will probably go out about the middle of next October. Please keep track of what you are doing and note what is going on in place-name activities so that you may reply promptly when the request comes.

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