

EURALEX NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1991

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The EURALEX Newsletter

This quarterly Newsletter is intended to include not only official announcements but also news on EURALEX members, their publications, career moves and (it is hoped) their opinions. Please try to support this by sending newsletter contributions to the Secretary at the above address. The deadlines for winter, spring, summer and autumn issues respectively are 15 September, 15 December, 15 March and 15 June annually.

Publications

A new edition of *The English Dictionary from Cawdrey to Johnson 1604-1775*, by DeWitt T. Starnes and Gertrude E. Noyes, was published in April 1991 by John Benjamins Publishing Company. Added to the original text are a substantive introduction and a bibliography by Gabriele Stein, professor of Linguistics in the University of Heidelberg and author of *The English Dictionary before Cawdrey* (1985). The 28-page introduction surveys the scholarly studies published since 1946 that cover this period in more detail.

This is No. 57 in the series Studies in the History of the Language Sciences. Cost: \$79 from John Benjamins Publishing Company, 821 Bethlehem Pike, Philadelphia PA 19118; (Europe): John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsteldijk 44, NL-1007 HA Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Edward Gates

Volume 2 of David L. Gold's Jewish Linguistic Studies has appeared. For information on how to obtain this 561-page large-format volume, write to: David L. Gold, 67-07 215 St., Oakland Gardens, New York 11364-2523, U.S.A.

A Dictionary of Modern Danish

On 28 June the Danish minister for Cultural Affairs and the director of the Carlsberg Foundation (owner of most Danish Breweries) jointly announced their sponsorship of a new six volume dictionary of modern Danish, *Den Danske Ordbog*. Under a fixed budget of 30 million DKK (6 million US\$) and a fixed time schedule of eight years the three managing editors (Ebba Hjorth, Iver Kjær and Ole Norling-Christensen) and their staff at the University of Copenhagen shall build a text corpus of 40 million words and prepare a manuscript ready for printing. Gyldendal Publishers will do the printing and distribution, and pay royalties to a fund for promoting further lexicographical work. For the preparation of the manuscript the editors will use GestorLEX, an advanced SGML-based computational tool developed jointly by Gyldendal Publishers and the Danish softwarehouse TEXTware.

A Lexicographic Society in Iceland

A lexicographic society, *Ordmennt*, has recently been established in Iceland. The purpose of the society is to further practical and theoretical lexicographic work, and to strengthen contacts in the field abroad.

In the last few years there has been an increasing interest in dictionaries and lexicography, both at the University of Iceland in Reykjavík, and at individual publishing companies.

At the University's Institute of Lexicography, the extensive collections of citations gathered in the past four decades are being edited for a historical dictionary of Icelandic. In addition, the Institute has recently published an Icelandic etymological dictionary (İslensk orðsifjabók), and a frequency dictionary (İslensk orðsifjabók) will be published later this year. The Institute also publishes a journal, Orð og tunga.

There is a strong tradition for terminologic work in Iceland, especially as the formation of new Icelandic terms from Icelandic word stems is preferred to adopting loanwords from foreign languages. The Icelandic Language Committee (*Îslensk málnefnd*), which is affiliated to the University of Iceland, plays a central role in the terminologic work, both in the coordination of effort, and in the initiation of new projects. Among publications by the Language Committee are a data language dictionary (*Tölvuorðasafn*, 2nd ed. 1986), and a spelling dictionary (*Réttritunarorðabók*, 1989).

As far as dictionaries are concerned, the interest of the publishing houses has mostly been centred on bilingual dictionaries, and the most ambitious project to date is a large English-Icelandic dictionary published by Örn og Örlygur in 1984. The same company also published the first Icelandic lexicon in 1990.

Anyone interested in lexicography is free to join the society, which will publish a newsletter and arrange talks and meetings on the subject.

For further information, please contact the society's chairman, Jón Hilmar Jónsson, Institute of Lexicography, University of Iceland, 101 Reykjavík, Iceland. JHJ

Dr Johnson's House Basement Appeal 1991

The house in which Dictionary Johnson compiled his famous work is in a financial crisis. After much consideration and expert advice the Trustees and Governors have launched this appeal to raise the £60,000 necessary to renovate the basement and turn it into a reception room with toilets and some kitchen facilities. It is believed that such a space can generate upwards of £100,000 each year, sited as it is in the centre of the City of London. Such a sum of money, earned annually, would place the running of Dr Johnson's House on a sound financial footing, as well as ensuring that many more people were able to enjoy the house.

We urge you, therefore, to subscribe to this appeal by sending your cheques, made payable to 'The Dr Johnson's House Trust', to Lord Harmsworth (The Chairman of the Trust), at The Old Rectory, Stoke Abbott, Beaminster, Dorset, DT8 3JT, and to visit the house if you are in London.

C. N. Freemantle

Forthcoming events

- 2-4 October 1991 Genève: Colloque International Phraséologie et Terminologie en traduction et en interprétation. Info: Bruno de Bessé, École de Traduction et d'Interprétation, Université de Genève, 19 Place des Augustins, CH-1205 Genève, Switzerland.
- 10-11 October 1991 Angers: (17th) Annual Conference of the International Association of Language and Business ('Languages: a Key Factor for the New Europe'). Info: Zeyringer, IPLV-UCO, 3 Place André Leroy-B.P. 808, F-49008 Angers, France.
- 7-10 November 1991 Frankfurt: (4th) Annual Language Fair. Info: Expolingua, IVH Verlag, Postfach 2464, D-5300 Bonn 1, Germany.
- 3-6 January 1992 Barcelona, Spain: (26th) Conference of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language. Info: Julia Norcott, IATEFL, 3 Kingsdown Chambers, Kingsdown Park, Tankerton, Whitstable, Kent CT5 2DJ, UK.
- 23–28 July 1992 *Nantes*: (14th) International Conference on Computational Linguistics. Info: COLING-92, Antonio Zampolli, Via della Faggiola 32, 1-56100 Pisa, Italy.
- 31 July-2 August 1992 Canterbury: (1st) Conference of the International Association of Literary Semantics. Info: Trevor Eaton. Honeywood Cottage, 35 Seaton Avenue, Hythe, Kent CT21 5HH, UK.
- 4-9 August 1992 *Tampere*: (5th) Congress of EURALEX. Info: Conference Organizers, EURALEX 92, University of Tampere, P.O. Box 607, SF-33101 Tampere, Finland.
- 9-14 August 1992 *Quebec*: (15th) International Congress of Linguists ('The Survival of Endangered Languages'). Info: CIL-91, Département de Langues et Linguistique, Université Laval, Quebec City, GIK 7P4, Canada.
- 26-29 August 1992 *Uppsala*: International Conference on Discourse and the Professions. Info: Britt-Louise Gunnarson, FUMS, Uppsala University, Box 1834, S-75148 Uppsala, Sweden.

- 31 August-1 September 1992 *Noordwijkenhout*: (2nd) International Conference on Maintenance and Loss Minority Languages. Info: Prof. K. Jaspaert and Ms. Y. Van den Lemmer, Steunpunt Nederlands als Tweede Taal, Faculty of Letters, University of Louvain, Blijde Inkomststraat 7, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium.
- 23–26 September 1992 Granada: International Congress on the Spanish Language: 1492–1992, organized by the Spanish Association of Applied Linguistics (AESLA). Deadline for proposals: 3 October, 1991. Info: Congreso Internacional Español: 1492–1992, Universidad de Granada, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Edificio A, Campus de Cartuja, E-18071 Granada, Spain. Tel: (958) 243674/243591. Fax: (958) 270095.
- 5-9 October 1992 *Manila*: The First Asian International Lexicography Conference. Theme: 'Meeting Lexicography Needs for the 21st Century in the Pacific Region'. Info: Linguistic Office, De La Salle University, P.O. Box 3819, 2800 Manila, Philippines; Fax: (632) 522-3661.
- 2-7 August 1993 Leipzig: (10th) International Conference for Teachers of German (IDV). Theme: German Instruction in a Changing World. Info: IDV, Claus Ohrt, Lumumbastrasse 2, DDR-7022 Leipzig, Germany.
- 8-12 August 1993 Amsterdam: (10th) World Congress of the International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA). Info: Dr Johan Matter, Vrije Universiteit, Faculteit der Letteren, Postbus 7161, NL-1007 MC Amsterdam, The Netherlands. E-mail: AILA-@LET.VU.NL.