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What's in a Name? By Leonard R. N. Ashley. Baltimore, MD 21202: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert St., 1989. Pp. xii + 257. Cloth \$18.95.

Those who have been fortunate enough to have listened to Professor Ashley in an after-dinner discussion know that he is no doubt the most articulate and entertaining commentator on names (and just about anything else) anywhere. But he is more than that. His encyclopedic knowledge, his publishing in many fields (military history, drama, short story, magic and superstition, Irish poetry, literary criticism, and others, besides names), his poetry (published in more than sixty magazines), his academic leadership, all testify to his Renaissance mind, his intellectual curiosity, and his scholarly pursuits. As a story teller, he is without peer. And, now, finally, we have part of the results of his quarter of a century work in onomastics. I use "part" because I know that this text is not Ashley's culminating statement on names, but it is indeed a monumental one, with the disciplinary span of a Mencken (but more scholarly) and the physical and mental energy of a Laurence Urdang (but without a computer).

First, the text is a narrative account of aspects of naming and the study of names, written in a style that pops and crackles and moves rapidly, much the way Ashley talks, but not chatty, for the content is important and the style serious, despite its rapidity. If style comparisons can be made, Ashley is akin to Tom Wolfe. But style must inevitably be carried by content, our immediate concern. A narrative has to have structure, here the chapter format. A survey of the chapters abstracts the approach, the facts, and the categories of names.

Authors of books on names are obligated to spend chapters on forenames (given names), surnames (last names), placenames, and meaning of names. Ashley follows the tradition, with forenames being the subject of the first two chapters. Here he sums up the scholarship on first names and also gives a history of "most popular names," a listing that changes almost from year to year. When he surveys forenames from many different countries (the Far East, African nations, Island states, Middle East), Ashley has moved into original research. Ashley comes

back to first names in the final two chapters (Part Six) and provides a dozen tips on choosing a good name for a child. In addition, he considers the subjective and psychological aspects of the namer, the one who can unilaterally choose a name without the consent of the person named.

The chapter on surnames is perhaps too wide ranging, with an attempt to pack too much information into only a dozen pages when a couple of heavy tomes could hardly do justice to the subject. Still, the history is covered, examples run into several hundred, and those most common are ranked. Some attention is also paid to name changes (a chapter) and to the effect of specific names on personality, commentary scattered.

Nicknames, titles, aliases (including pseudonyms), married names, curiosities, and middle names (with a glance at *Junior*) all have short chapters devoted to them. What is original here is the way Ashley arranges examples, hundreds of them, in short sections. Only a phenomenal memory could have dredged up some of them: *Xenerious Cherkinbower*, *Faramarz Faramarpour*, *Aavnaye* (from a placename in Minnesota), *Derrick Bang!* (the ! was added legally), and the filling out of initials, as *J. C. (James Cash) Penney*. Tidbits of information (some might call it trivia) fill sections, such as the knowledge that Voltaire used some seventy pseudonyms and that Daniel Defoe had one hundred or more. In modern times, John Creasey has written more than five hundred books and has used pseudonyms for most of them.

Part Two covers places, including Amerindian names, global names, streets, and a potpourri of categories (listed from A to Z, such as *C-Classical Names*, *E-English Influence*, *G-Ghost Towns*, *X-"X Marks the Spot,"* and *Z-"Last But Not Least"*). The section could have been expanded and would have had space been granted by the publisher. But within the few chapters, Ashley provides a succinct history of placenaming in the United States, a survey of state placename texts, and a description of the projected survey of all placenames in the United States. In the chapter on Amerindians, Ashley shows that in many cases earlier interpretations of the names are the result of attitudes, whether sympathetic or disparaging. Similarities between American-English naming habits and Amerindian ones are described. In general, we have not paid much attention to Amerindian names and their characteristics, but attempts are being made to correct this and to study the names in a more systematic and sensible way.

The chapter on placenames around the globe is also scanty, although Canada is given good coverage with a careful consideration of the

toponomic policy of the government of Quebec (with French spelling forms instead of English). Mexico and some South American countries are granted some attention, but again spatial demands intrude. England, New Zealand, Russia, and Central Africa provide some examples of origins, changes, and curiosities. Many changes are occurring during a time of political instability, and these have attracted Ashley to comment at some length on reasons for such changes, mostly for the sake of politics and pride.

Part Three treats names of things, such as rock bands, pets, businesses, codes, planes, ships, diseases, horses, fashions, brand names, condoms, radio stations, foods, and many others. Again the profusion of examples, along with Ashley's moving commentary, make the section both informative and entertaining.

Part Four covers language matters, including word play, name inflation, names as vocabulary, and names in literature, the latter now almost a discipline unto itself. A master at word play, Ashley moves with a flourish into names in puns, names in slang, acronyms, initialisms, abbreviations, license plates, anagrams, title sequels to books and entertainments, odd couples, and palindromes, to name only a few. A large segment of English vocabulary derives from names (proper names): *boycott*, *hooker*, *bloomer*, *silhouette*, *guillotine*, *derrick*, many brands of clothes, most of our flowers, and thousands more.

Some outstanding criticism (as well as some very poor articles) has appeared out of literary onomastics, the study of the ways that names function in literature. Ashley's excellent and somewhat extended chapter takes into account the Conference on Literary Onomastics, founded and directed by Grace Alvarez-Altman, and the publications emanating from it. He accounts for character names in the English drama and novel and the American novel (including Bret Easton Ellis' *Less than Zero*). He points out how places connect with plot and meaning (symbolism). And overall, the way an author names characters, invents or uses places, and coins the names for things can lead to a valid critical interpretation not available in any other way.

Part Five illustrates Ashley's special interest in names in magic, superstition, fortune telling, and all kinds of necromancy, if kinds exist. I know of no other text on names that has sections on such occult matters, which means that Ashley is apparently original in the field of onomantia, "names foretelling." He moves through cleromancy, bellomancy, axiomancy, hippomancy, ichthyomancy, and on to a dozen or more additional methods of attaining power to prognosticate. Specifically,

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onomantia is connected with numerology, the practice of assigning “a numerical value to each letter of a name to determine the bearer’s personality and to project his or her destiny.” Ashley, who does not believe in what he is writing about, explains the several systems of numerology, some very technical and very difficult to understand. He shows how a name achieves a personal number and then distills the “wisdom of the numerologist” and also its psychology and the effects on persons who dabble in this occult activity. No doubt, the chapter is the strongest in the text.

Ashley writes entertainingly, firing off tangential remarks, uncovering little known facts, and furnishing copious examples. Insights allow him to analyze the published research of others and come to valid conclusions and sometimes theoretical stances. Some quibbles can be allowed. An index, omitted by the publisher, would have been welcome. A few chapters are limited, scanty, and summarizing; but spatial considerations and demands eliminated pages of additional information. Besides, the text is directed to the ordinary reader, not the specialists, although they might find much of it useful and new. The content is always sound, with the writing style audience-centered and often conversational. A few printing errors have crept in, but here they shall go unidentified. In sum, Ashley has placed before us a valuable overview of names and naming, along with original research and thousands of pertinent and arresting examples. We are the better for this text.

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Diccionario etimológico comparado de los apellidos españoles, hispanoamericanos y filipinos [Etymological Dictionary of Spanish, Spanish American, and Philipino Family Names]. By Gutierre Tibón. Mexico: Editorial Diana, 1988. Pp. xxii + 433. Price not listed.

ANS colleague Gutierre Tibón has made several important contributions to onomastic science, primarily but not exclusively dealing with the field of Hispanic names. For example, his book on the history of the name *America* (*América, Setenta siglos de la historia de un nombre*, 1945) reaches far back into early European history, and his monumental

volume on the history and connotations of the name Mexico (*Historia del nombre y de la fundación de México*, 1975) involves much pre-Conquest research.

The latest work of this indefatigable onomast represents the culmination of many years of collecting and evaluating family names. Given names were dealt with in an earlier work, *Diccionario de nombres propios*, 1956.

Collecting material for this *Diccionario* led the author to call on his extensive linguistic training and to work with sources from Spain and Latin America to the Philippines and even to Easter Island. Variations in names bring in forms used in 180 languages and dialects.

For example, the name *Maldonado*, a common Spanish family name, leads us not only to the original *MacDonald*, but to the Gaelic etymons that he traces to the Inscription of Ancyra of Galatia, modern Ankara, First Century AD. And Tibón finds not only two variations in Spanish but thirteen variations in England and Ireland. Thus it is easy to believe the claim that the book deals with 43,000 names, although it is true that many of them are only mentioned once and appear once in the index.

The text consists of 261 pages, double column, followed by ten pages of bibliography (263-273) and 161 pages of index (273-433), four columns per page.

A special feature of this dictionary is an innovation that has long been needed in Spanish, but which only a scholar with the respect that Gutierre Tibón enjoys has ventured to introduce. For purposes of alphabetization the "letters" *ch*, and *ll*, are broken up into the individual components. The letter *rr* has already given way in many writings; here it is regularly treated as an *r* followed by *r*. The palatal *n* [ñ] is alphabetized as if it were a plain *n*. In the past *ch*, *ll*, and *ñ* were treated as separate letters, and this practice made it difficult to alphabetize foreign words like *Charles*. The dilemma has been whether *Charles* should follow *ce* or should appear in the special section for *ch*. This dictionary places *Chab* immediately after *Cetzal* and *LLaca* immediately after *Lizundia*; there is no separate section for *ch*, *ll*, *ñ*, or *rr*.

Let us hope that this reform gains acceptance.

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The Thesaurus of Slang. By Esther Lewin and Albert E. Lewis. New York: Facts on File, 1988. Pp. xi + 435. \$40.00.

The Dictionary of Confusable Words. By Laurence Urdang. New York: Facts on File, 1988. Pp. vii + 391. No price listed.

Roget's Thesaurus. Introduction by Laurence Urdang. Facsimile of the First Edition. London: Bloomsbury, 1987. Distributed by Gale Research Co., Book Tower, Detroit, MI 48226. Pp. xvi + 418. \$49.95.

Loanwords Dictionary. By Laurence Urdang and Frank R. Abate. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1988. Pp. xviii + 324. No price listed.

For many years Laurence Urdang has been a supporter of the work of the American Name Society and of the study of names. He has also edited more than 125 dictionaries, including the first edition of the well received, unabridged *The Random House Dictionary of the English Language* (1966). He also founded and edits the best language magazine available, *Verbatim: The Language Quarterly*, which many would like to see published more often than quarterly. In 1987 he published *Names & Nicknames of Places and Things*, to which many members of the Society contributed. Some of his recent texts, although not ostensibly concerned with names, have an importance to onomastics and need to be noted with more than mere commentary.

Whether Peter Mark Roget can be credited with the condition of writing in English may be a moot question. Nevertheless, the thesaurus has contributed to some of the strange senses and shades of meaning that cause accuracy to be slanted if not completely lost. The beginnings of the demand for variety in writing probably can be traced to Aristotle's treatise on rhetoric, but its virulence seems to have occurred in England during the Romantic Period, when variety was the vogue in writing style, with invention at a premium. Roget, a medical man, began to make lists as early as 1805 for his own use. When he retired from his practice, he devoted his time to compiling and arranging his thesaurus, it being published in 1852 when he was seventy-three years old. His intention was pedagogical, as the title indicates: *Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases Classified and Arranged so as to Facilitate the Expression of Ideas and Assist in LITERARY COMPOSITION*. The book struck a tender cord, for it has gone through many editions and revisions, so many that the number and dates are not known.

For our purposes here, the thesaurus has onomastic content. Under *beauty* can be found *Venus, Hebe, the Graces, Peri, Houri, Cupid, Apollo, Hyperion, Adonis, Narcissus, and Concinnity* (surely obsolete). The category *master* contains many titles: *serasker, alcade, syndie, palatine, seignoir, satrap, beglerbeg, sirder, ameer, sachem, mandarin, bashaw, pascha, dey, cham, hospider*, and fifty or more additional ones, including the waggish *Joe Miller*. Under the letter *J* occur *Jack, Jackpudding, Jacquerie, Japan, Jesabel, Jesuit, Jesus, Jew, Job, Jupiter, and Judaism*.

Loanwords Dictionary is a listing and glossing of more than 6,500 words and phrases that are encountered in English writing. Urdang claims, "What distinguishes the loanwords ... and allows treatment of them, as a subset of the English lexicon, is that despite their use in English contexts, they still *seem* or *feel* foreign." Usually, the careful writer will italicize the terms as they are inserted into the text. Of course, some writers drop a foreign term just to be precious or pretentious. Good writers avoid such cute practices and will probably italicize any term or phrase. Weaker writers who know a smattering of some European language tend to act as though they are bilingual. But, as Urdang notes, English is a borrowing language, and English users have "freely and copiously borrowed terms from foreign tongues...." Actually, when such terms as *apparatchik, deja vu* (without the grave and acute symbols), *Festschrift, mythos*, and hundreds of others appear within English structures with English inflections, governed by English functions, they have become naturalized in English.

Categories of onomastic material appear: religious (*Adoni, Agnus Dei, Allah, Deus Misereatur, Deus vobiscus, Sanctus, in nomine Domini*); censorship (*Index Expurgatoris* and *Index Liborum Prohibitorum*); wine and alcoholic beverages (*Palomin Fino, Rioja, Valpolicella, Vernaccia, Vesuvio, and Galliano*); academics (*Artium Baccalaureus, Baccalaureus Artium, Cantabrigiensis, Doctor Divinitatis, Juris Doctor, Litterarum Doctor, Magister Artium, Medicinae Doctor, and Philosophiae Doctor*); and many others listed in the categories.

Another type of dictionary, *Confusable Words*, produced by Urdang, "gathers together terms that are related in form, meaning or classification and concisely explains the ways in which the words can be distinguished." Often, such terms relate to common or ordinary phenomena: *perfume/cologne; constant/variable; corporation/partnership; or open shop/closed shop/nonunion shop*. For those who believe their "grammar" is shaky, Urdang enters *lie/lay; its/it's; like/as; or main clause/subordinate clause*. For the layman, whatever the profession, a lesson in linguistics is

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provided: *phonetics/phonemics; linguistics/philology; neologism/nonce word; or grammar/syntax.*

Again, many entries have onomastic content: *North/East/South/West*, with different geographical designations, such as *New England, Northeast, Middle Atlantic States, Middle West, South, Deep South, Southeast, Southwest, West, Northwest, Pacific Northwest, Sunbelt, the Coast, and Panhandle.* Another set is *Old Kingdom/Middle Kingdom/New Kingdom.* The supercontinents that existed more than two hundred million years ago, according to geological findings, have been named *Pangaea/Gondwanaland; Laurasia/Arctogaea; Neogaea/Notogaea.* The difference between the *QWERTY* keyboard and the *Dvorak* keyboard (after August Dvorak, who developed it in the 1930s) are explained, with the prediction that the *Dvorak* will replace the *QWERTY*. One cluster of confusing names is *England/Scotland/Wales/Ireland/Britain/United Kingdom/Commonwealth.* Those who confuse religions may be entertained by the notion that Buddhism has three large divisions, plus many lesser sects: *Hinmayana, Mahayana, and Theravada.* Many other such items help make this dictionary most useful and informative.

No major studies of slang have appeared. What we call slang is an attitude that originates from the labeller, not the speaker, and ordinarily reflects a prejudice or bias against the speaker. Actually, *slang* is a label whose time should have passed, but the prejudice is too strong and its connotations too primitive and basic for lexicographers to take a chance on omitting the label. The compilers of *The Thesaurus of Slang* have entered some 150,000 "uncensored contemporary slang terms" under categories or subjects in "formal" English. An example will be helpful: Under *Abstruse* adj. appear "*clear as mud, clear as dishwater, it beats me, Greek to me.*" The method of entering can cause some confusion, but perseverance and persistence should help find the "formal" entry. Also, definitions are omitted, except insofar as the term is listed under a synonym or near-synonym (the main entry). Hence, the text is not a dictionary, but a thesaurus and as such is probably the first slang thesaurus in print.

The onomastic content is obvious, since names move into the category of slang when used in certain prejudicial contexts, especially in racial slurs, nicknames as slurs, cute names of private body parts, etc. Examples, without reference to connotation are *the real McCoy, French leave, Christer, Skag Jones, from Mount Shaster, George* (used in many contexts), *POTUS* (President of the United States), *Annie Oakley, Big Ben, Clausish, Chair City, Mr. Happy, John Thomas, Rumplesforeskin, Big*

Pretzel, Yuppie, Bill Shears, Zelda. San Quentin quail, East Street, Charley, Cape Horn, Venus flytrap, Baker flying, Mickey Mouse, dumb Dora, Reno-vation, Mexicancel, the many names for the devil, and a thousand or so additional ones. A thorough study needs to be made of the way onomastic items are used in slang contexts.

Laurence Urdang, as he has indicated to me, always includes strong onomastic content in his dictionaries and wordbooks. The ones noted here point up his concerns and interests in the study of names, and the Society is the more fortunate to have these works in existence and owes a great debt to the editor and compiler.

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Nordiska Namnstudier: Festskrift till Harry Ståhl 22 September 1985.
 Edited by Thorsten Andersson. Uppsala: Lundequistska
 Bokhandeln, 1985. Pp. xx + 430.

*mange bække små: Til John Kousgård Sørensen på tresarsdagen
 6.12.1985.* København: C.A. Reitzels Forlag, 1986. Pp. 287.

Studia Onomastica: Festskrift till Thorsten Andersson 23 Februari 1989.
 Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell International, 1989. Pp. xxiv +
 454.

It is one of the most pleasant of academic customs to honor respected scholars through a *Festschrift* on some suitable occasion, like their retirement from full-time teaching or the attainment of a certain age measurable in fives or tens. I have, over the years, on several such occasions had the personal pleasure of being invited to contribute to volumes of this kind and I can think of no better way to show gratitude and pay homage to someone who has helped to shape a discipline, has published seminal works and has devoted a lifetime to the nurturing of younger scholars now following in his or her footsteps. Generally speaking, this happy tradition seems to be more widespread in Europe where publishers appear to be more willing to include in their offerings (often as overruns of periodicals or series) collections of essays in celebration of individual scholars than in this country where the lauding of scholarly achievement is more frequently

confined to dedicatory or introductory ascriptions in special issues of journals and the like.

In the world of Scandinavian academe in particular, the *Festschrift* is a well established act of recognition and gratitude, and the field of name studies is no exception in this respect; our Scandinavian colleagues have the knack of paying homage to the living rather than honoring the dead. One of the drawbacks of publishing important ideas or materials in a *Festschrift* is their relative inaccessibility; they therefore often fail to have the impact on, or consideration by, fellow scholars that they deserve. It would certainly be useful to have the tables of contents of such *Festschriften*, as well as of journals in the field, published in the *Newsletter* of this Society in order to keep North American name scholars up to date with regard to their field of study and expertise.

Naturally, a review cannot do this job, especially when it attempts to do justice to three recently published *Festschriften* in the field of Scandinavian onomastics. The three worthy recipients are the Swede Harry Ståhl who was eighty in September 1985, the Dane John Kousgård Sørensen who celebrated his sixtieth birthday in December 1985, and the Swede Thorsten Andersson who reached the same age in February 1989. All three have been closely associated with extensive onomastic archives and important national name institutes that are the envy of those laboring under less fortunate circumstances — Ståhl and Andersson in Uppsala and Sørensen in Copenhagen. They are therefore being honored in the first place by colleagues and fellow workers in their own institutions but also, in the case of the two Swedish *Festschriften*, by others in that closely knit community of name scholars in the Nordic countries as a whole, and beyond. The combined lists of contributors (over one hundred, with some overlaps) reads like a “Who’s Who in Onomastics” in Northern Europe. In all three volumes, readers not familiar with Scandinavian languages have initial access to their contributions through welcome English summaries.

As it would be impossible to do all these essays full justice in a seriatim review, let us look to these celebratory offerings — and one could easily add Kristian Hald’s *Festschrift* of 1974, published in Copenhagen, and the one for Sven Benson of 1983, published in Uppsala — as potential indicators of current trends in, and the present range of, name studies in the Nordic countries (excluding outside contributors, of course). Are there any major discernible themes which point toward certain scholarly preoccupations in the second half of the 1980s, bearing in mind that *Festschriften* are usually severely limited in the extent of their contributions and tend to contain what might most please or be appropriate for the honoree?

The first observation one makes, which is perhaps not surprising but nevertheless worth stating, is that Nordic name scholars appear to be mostly, if not exclusively, concerned with onomastic issues in their own countries. By that I mean that, apart from a certain interest in bilingual nomenclatures beyond their borders, Swedes write about Swedish names, Danes about Danish names, Icelanders about names in Iceland, etc. This may well be due to the fact that many of them work in institutes dedicated to the collection, sifting, and analysis of national and local names. Similarly, the relative dearth of essays on personal names may have been caused by the central concern of such institutes with names of places, although the fact that these particular honorees are primarily place-name scholars may also have contributed to this lopsidedness (After all, the journal *Studia Anthonymica Scandinavica*, founded in 1983, is flourishing, carrying substantial articles on personal names). Perhaps more significant is the realization that the keen interest so often displayed by amateurs in the meaning of individual names or name clusters is shared by many modern professionals. Naturally, the tight format of a contribution to a *Festschrift* lends itself to the treatment of such circumscribed topics, but that cannot be the sole explanation. Undeniably, the satisfactory interpretation—linguistically, morphologically, semantically—of individual names is the very basis of onomastic research, but the reader is struck with the earnest delight, the ludic seriousness, the skillful application of one's acquired knowledge, the intense scrutiny of minute details, the searching provision of comparative material, the whole business of arguing felicitously and persuading fully that have gone into these examples of the scholarly detective at work toward a satisfying answer to a difficult question. Such individual, sometimes very local, topics are particularly common in the Ståhl *Festschrift*.

Many of the articles dealing with them do, however, attempt to go beyond the single name, offering generalizations or establishing categories, whether it be names of mines, parishes, rivers, or the distribution and function of certain morphological elements. In addition to this deductive approach, there is also inductive argumentation which underpins certain principles or ideas with the help of appropriate onomastic illustrations. This is especially a feature of the volume dedicated to John Kousgård Sørensen in which questions concerning the concept of partial placename change, the boundaries between lexicographical onomastics and onomastic lexicography, and the relationship among etymology, dialect, and norm are discussed, among other subjects.

Whether deductive or inductive, particular or general, etymological or

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classificatory, these over one hundred essays convince through their painstaking thoroughness. Here are people who have fun with names because they take names seriously; here are scholars who are well trained and knowledgeable; here are researchers who prove over and over again that the study of names is a rigorous discipline with many facets and a substantial corpus of secondary literature; here are members of a community of scholars celebrating together. Long may it continue to be possible to publish onomastic *Festschriften* so that, while honoring those who deserve to be honored, some of the best minds in our field can focus on some of the most challenging problems, establishing new research strategies and conceptual models on the way. Our friends in Scandinavia are showing us how to do it, and how to do it well.

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Das Kleine Vornamenbuch. [The Little Book of Given Names] Edited by Horst Naumann, et. al. Leipzig: Karl Marx University, 1984. Pp. 121. Price not listed.

This is a rather comprehensive list of names prepared mainly as a tool for prospective parents in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). Accurate etymologies accompany each name. Actually, there are two alphabetically arranged lists, one of masculine and one of feminine names; the phonetic spelling is given to assist with the pronunciation of some names of foreign origin; all variants and short forms are listed. There is a key for the phonetic symbols, which is not quite complete (omitting, for instance, the closed *o*) and, finally, there is a handy list of second elements of names and their possible first elements. The editors state that their work lays no claim to completeness, rather limits itself to those names documented most frequently by their clearly limited sources. They define the function of the book as advisory rather than directive and explain that it is supplemented by the periodical *Sprachpflege*, which publishes a column on names; these names are not repeated in the book. The editors also mention *Vornamen Heute*, which functions as a supplement to this volume and is also published by the Bibliographisches Institut in Leipzig.

According to the preface written in 1980, this is a new edition of a popular work. (It had appeared in ten editions between 1966 and 1976, under the editorship of Karl Paul. After Paul's death, the editors published a new edition in 1978 which had appeared in three printings by 1980.) The work avails itself of the results of research by students at the Teacher's College in Zwickau and also of the services of two onomastic consultant groups, the Section on Theoretical and Applied Linguistics at the Karl Marx University in Leipzig and the Academy of Science of the German Democratic Republic in Berlin; its raw material comes exclusively from the registries of Borna, Berlin-Friedrichshain, Bernau, Calau, and Zwickau.

A brief but highly informative essay on the history of "our" indigenous first names contains the following information: like most Indo-European names, ancient Germanic names tended to have two components, e.g. *Adalbert* 'noble and famous.' These components came from war, peace, daily life, friendship, and strong animals, e.g., *Eberhard*. The approximately two thousand first names transmitted from the Carolingian age show that the usual names appear in very contrasting combinations without having a meaningful semantic relationship, e.g., *Friedhelm* 'peace helmet.' Short forms appear early which omit or shorten the second element, e.g. *Ada*. Men's names tend towards different second elements from women's. Words referring to weapons were not used as second elements of feminine names. Through diminutive formations, the meaning of the second element tended to pale more and more, which made possible the use of other suffixes than *-o* (m) and *-a* (f). The addition of a feminine suffix to a masculine name occurs early, e.g., *Karl-a*, etc. German Romanticism later revived these names. Since the eighth century, foreign names appeared with increasing frequency. Various religious names are found in the eighth to tenth centuries. At first, these were Old Testament names only. During the second half of the twelfth century, saints' names became popular. Literary and cultural influences played a part as well; ancient names like *Achilles* appear as early as the twelfth century. French names appeared especially in the seventeenth century, probably because of the Thirty Years' War, although the authors do not say this. At the same time, again because of political events, German names began to appear in other cultures, e.g., *Henri* from *Heinrich*. Presently, film, popular songs, the press, TV, and radio influence the choice of first names: *Mike* (Hailwood), *Peggy* (Fleming), *Daniel*(Boone), etc.

While first names often appear as family names, family names are

not used as first names in German. There is a historical explanation for that. Family names came into being only from the twelfth century on; by then, first names were already well defined. Finally, a two-name system evolved, in which the hereditary family name was the more important. There are several sociohistoric reasons for this. Increasing population, especially in the developing cities, meant a decreasing number of choices of first names. Meanwhile, the administrative demands of the state grew; with them, the need for definition and clarification of relationships in legal matters increased. In the past, only the privileged classes had had family names, e.g., the Carolingians. Now, the hereditary name moved down to the bourgeois and, finally, to the peasant class. The lowest servant class continued with first names only, for some of its members, into the nineteenth century.

The use of two elements, the origin of short forms or nicknames, and the penetration of foreign names are still going on. The second name is often already in the family while the first name is new. Another recent phenomenon is to give two first names joined with a hyphen, e.g., *Hans-Ulrich*; without the hyphen, double names are against regulations in the German Democratic Republic since they complicate the clear determination of the first name. Usually, the first name is underlined but, double names stand as equal. Some have fused, e.g., *Karlheinz*; masculine names tend to be hyphenated, while feminine names tend to be written as one. German as well as foreign nicknames occur, e.g., *Chris*, *Nancy*; most of these nicknames are not officially recognized in their native lands. They come into the German language area through cultural contacts. Many variants exist because there are so many different influences; some names are used for either sex, e.g., *Chris*, *Tony*, *Ronny*. For the sake of the child, the editors recommend that a name clearly denoting the sex of the child be added with a hyphen so that the unisex name will be clarified. They also urge parents to choose names which their children will not have to spell constantly for others. Don't forget, they admonish, a name and its spelling last a lifetime. Arbitrary phonetic spellings are not acceptable for official registration. Foreign names must be spelled as they are in the foreign language. The editors refuse to get into the special problems of names from languages with different alphabets.

The next section of the introduction gives some pointers to prospective parents as to when they must register the children (within forty-eight hours after birth); who must do the registering (anyone knowing of the birth first-hand). Also, we learn that one's name cannot be changed in

the German Democratic Republic except when it is intolerable to the principles of the socialist community, difficult to write or pronounce so that the change would serve the interest of the citizen, or, finally, if the person finds out his real name later in life. Documents are needed for any change of name. Changing a name is not easy, and, if the parents choose a first name responsibly, will be not be necessary.

The parts of the book here summarized point to its additional usefulness as a source of sociological and legal information with which informed scholars and government regulations guide the naming of children in the German Democratic Republic. For this reader, they added a special dimension to this slim though richly useful volume.

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Stadnamn in kystkulturen: Rapport från NORNAs fjortande symposium i Volda 4.-6. mai 1987 [Coastal Toponyms in their Cultural Setting: Report from NORNA's Fourteenth Symposium at Volda (Norway), May 4-6, 1987]. Edited by Peter Hallaråker, Arne Kruse, and Terje Aarset. NORNA-Rapporter 41. Uppsala: NORNA-Förlaget, 1989. Pp. 158. Paper, price not listed.

This NORNA report includes summaries in English, which is praiseworthy. Arne Kruse has taken care of these. However, he has omitted a summary of Oddvar Nes's "Placenames from Volda to Runde." The reason is obscure; it cannot be that the article is in New Norwegian, for Arne Kruse has not shown any prejudice elsewhere against that variety of Norwegian. As a matter of fact, this article contains some placenames of great interest: for instance, *Dimna* ("originally a loan from Old Irish, meaning 'with two mountain peaks'") and *Flö*—Old Norwegian *Fljóthar*—from the root **fljóth-* 'inundation,' etc. Oddvar Nes says that names with that root are unknown elsewhere in Scandinavia; this is surprising, considering the frequency of other names with meanings similar to "area often flooded."

There are four articles in Swedish, two in Danish, and two in Norwegian.

In the first Swedish article Stefan Brink deals with river names, etc., along the coast of northern Sweden. He concludes that most of the oldest names are Proto-Scandinavian, judging from the suffixes, and not Proto-Germanic.

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Sigurd Fries discusses some toponyms along the coasts of Finland and Sweden: are they comparison names or migratory names? *Bonden* ("The Farmer") is perhaps the most fascinating of the names mentioned; it should be compared to the south Swedish names *Kullabonden* and *Kinnebonden*, which sailors used instead of *Kullen* and *kinnekulle*, which were taboo.

Peter Hallaråker has a useful article on methodological problems in connection with the collection of placenames.

The land elevation in the northern part of the Baltic (Gulf of Bothnia) is a central theme in the articles by Lars-Erik Edlund and Else Britt Lindblom. Many names ending in -ö 'island' show that even today's city centers may once have been islands.

On Danish islands a number of names are probably of Slavic origin. In his article on the Funen (Fyn) littoral atlas Bente Holmberg mentions *Fribrödredå*. There – on northern Falster – a Slav (Wendish) shipyard is being excavated. There may even have been a Slav settlement, for the main part of the name (where *d* is "Scandinavian" for *river*) seems to be a corruption of a Slavic name *Prirod* (*pri* 'situated on' plus *rod* 'ford'). The meaning is therefore "on-the-ford"; there *was* a ford nearby.

In the discussion Holmberg points out that too little attention has been paid to Slavic placenames in Denmark: "we lack experts." This is also a problem in Norway and Sweden. For instance, few scholars writing on the name *Møre* seem to be aware that there are names meaning "on-the-sea" in both present-day Poland (*Pomorze/Pommern*) and in Russia from the Norwegian border eastwards (*Pomorje*).

The final article is by Rob Rentenaar, a Dutchman who seems to have a good command of "Scandinavian." He deals with the influence of Dutch sailors and cartographers on littoral toponymy in Scandinavia. As early as the fifteenth century, Dutch – and German – sailors made notes about their routes along these coasts. Nautical charts based on those notes were printed in Holland from the sixteenth century onwards.

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Book of Irish Names: First, Family & Place Names. By Ronan Coghlan, Ida Grehan, and P. W. Joyce. New York 10016: Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 387 Park Ave., South, 1989. Pp. 128. Paper \$8.95.

"Since the publication in 1923 of Father Patrick Woulfe's *Irish Names for Children*," writes Ronan Coghlan, "no work on Irish first names has appeared in print." In 1985 Appletree Press published Coghlan's *Pocket Guide to Irish First Names*, and now the forename material is combined with Ida Grehan's *Pocket Guide to Irish Family Names* (1985) and to this added a summary of Irish toponymics drawn from *The Origin and History of Irish Names of Places* (3 vols., 1914) and other work of Patrick Weston Joyce, who began with *Irish Local Names Explained* (1870) and became the leading Irish authority on this subject.

This paperback therefore conveniently combines three smaller works, all of which have been seen before but are worth having all together in an inexpensive paperback.

While the origins of many Irish names are disputed and Joyce often makes guesses that some more recent scholars are not prone to accept, there is little use of etymologists battling like the proverbial Kilkenny cats.

The forename section contains many old names that Gaels may wish to revive. The surname section contains the arms and history of the names of fewer than eighty Irish families, but of course this enables Grehan to include, for these, more detail than a massive compilation (such as Edward McLysaght's [1970], reviewed earlier in this journal [18:313-18]) can offer. The placename section needs some updating.

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Publication Notes

Rudnyckiana is a yearbook sponsored by the International Committee of Friends of Jaroslav Bohdano Rudnyckyj, noted Ukrainian scholar, student of names, and former President of the American Name Society. Six volumes have been published so far by the Ukrainian Language Association, Inc. (911 Carling, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada). No. I covered bio-bibliographic data from 1910 to 1985; No. II contained well wishes on Professor Rudnyckyj's seventy-fifth birthday (1985); No. III contained his contribution to multi-cultural policy in Canada, with documentation (1963-71); No. IV recounts activities in regard to the millennium of Baptism of Ukraine (988-1988); No. V contains tributes and bibliographical materials; and No. VI is a celebration of the eightieth birthday of Professor Rudnyckyj. Copies of the yearbook can be obtained from the publisher. Onomastic references are scattered throughout.

In addition to *Rudnyckiana*, other recent publications relate to his work: "J. B. Rudnyckyj's Etymological Materials at the Public Archives in Ottawa" (*Scripta Manet* 4 [Ottawa, 1983]: 1-24). Also, he is the author of "Multiculturalism and Multilingualism in Canada" (*Canada Ethnica* 1 [Ottawa, 1983]: 1-84). Ol'ha Woycenko has written a biographical sketch, *J. B. Rudnyckyj - Septuagenarius* (Ottawa, 1980, Pp. 32). All can be obtained from the Ukrainian Language Association.

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Two recent works by Paul Dickson contain many items pertaining to onomastics. *The Dickson Baseball Dictionary: 5,000 Terms used by Players, the Press and People Who Love the Game* (New York, NY 10016: Facts on File, Inc., 460 Park Avenue South, 1989. Pp. xx + 438. Cloth \$35.00) was well received by the popular press and sports publications. Some entries that have onomastic content are *Abner Doubleday Field*, *National Agreement*, *AIRC* (All-Important Loss Column), *AK's* (Short for ant-killer, a term for hard hit ground balls), *Grapefruit League*, *Jawn Titus* ("a spectacular catch"; *CIRCUS CATCH*), *Jesse James* (player's term for an umpire), *Syracuse Car* ("the Pullman in which the rookies and substitutes ride"), *The Wacks Museum* (nickname for Ebbets Field), *Weaverism* (a saying by Earl Weaver, manager), *Wheeze Kids* (nickname for the 1983 Philadelphia Phillies which included several older players, the name based on the 1950 *Whiz Kids*, a team of young Phillies), *William*

Tell ("An easy bounding ball"), and *Zamboni* ("Trade name for a machine used to clean Astroturf and other artificial surfaces"). An excellent bibliography rounds out the volume. The text is outstanding and is definitely an item that baseball fans should own and also quite appropriate for anyone interested in American language.

Dickson's other recent text is *The New Official Rules: Maxims for Muddling Through to the Twenty-first Century* (New York, NY 10003: Addison-Wesley, 101 Fifth Avenue, 1989. Pp. 265. Cloth \$16.95). Actually, this is the third collection of restatements and corollaries of the basic Murphy's Law. A compilation of 1,500 principles, proverbs, rules, and definitions, the entries bear the names of the coiners and contributors. A few of the names indicate the flavor and content: *Trudeau's Discovery* (by Garry Trudeau, the cartoonist): "This is the only country in the world where failing to promote yourself is widely regarded as being arrogant"; *Hepburn's Distinction* (by Katherine Hepburn): "I don't want to be alone. I want to be left alone"; *Gomme's Law*: "A backscratcher will always find new itches"; *DeVault's Razor*: "There are only two laws: (1) Someday you will die. (2) If you are reading this you are not dead yet."

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Ascending the Prufrockian Stair: Studies in a Dissociated Sensibility, by Robert Fleissner (New York, NY 10036: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc., 62 West 45th St., 1989. Pp. 224. Cloth \$37.30) is a study in Eliotian criticism and a very good one. Professor Fleissner, a member of the American Name Society, entitles the first section, "Nomen Prufrock: Onomastics." In fact, Chapter 1, "Anent Prufrock," was published in a somewhat different form in *Names 25* (1977): 206-12, and also, with revisions, in *Names and Their Varieties: A Collection of Essays in Onomastics* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1986). 223-29. In it, he searches for all possibilities in the name *J. Alfred Prufrock*, as well as its origin. An article in the present issue of *Names* continues this inquiry.

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The Council for Name Studies in Great Britain and Ireland has published Volume 12 of *Nomina*, dated 1988-89, for the second year in a more compact format (the same as that of *Names*) and packed with a variety of articles on names, especially placenames. *Nomina* publishes onomastic material relating to Great Britain and Ireland only. This issue has twelve major articles, ranging from ANS member Breandán Mac Aodha's "Lake-names on Mercator's map of Ireland" through Victor Watts' "Scandinavian settlement-names in County Durham" to Joy Jenkyns' "Computing in name studies: the charter bounds." Fortunately, the delightful section formerly called *Nugae Onomasticae* and now called *Nugae de nominibus eligendis* is still here, written by a very witty person veiled in anonymity but mousquerading as "Souris," of the Institute of Socio-Onomastics, University College of Muritania. For further information, contact the Subscriptions Secretary, Gordon Anderson, 13 Church Street, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1DT, United Kingdom.

TJG