ANS Notes

The *ANS* regrets the loss of two men who are inseparably connected with modern American culture.

Henry Louis Mencken died in his seventy-sixth year after a long illness. It does not behoove us here to enlarge upon his achievements. Whatever people may think of his literary activities, his name is an important factor in the evolution of American culture of the nineteenth century. In the field of onomatology he was a pioneer, as he was in the field of the American language. He was one of our sponsors when the American Name Society was formed in 1952, and he would have become an active leader in our Society had not his unfortunate illness forced him to curtail his activities.

The other great American whose death we deplore was our member Wheeler Sammons, who became a victim of heart failure in his sixty-seventh year. For several decades he was the publisher and editor of *Who's Who in America*, a reference book without which we can not imagine the American scene. He perfected this reference book to such an extent that it became the model for similar works. As long as *Who's Who in America* will be published the name Sammons will be reverently mentioned in connection with it.

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The Society held a successful and encouraging annual Meeting in Chicago on December 28, 1955, in conjunction with the Modern Language Association. The eleven papers on the program were read in two sessions before audiences of forty to fifty persons and were followed by lively discussions. Reports by the president and the treasurer were presented at the business meeting following the first session.

The following papers were read:

First Session

1. "Names in Everyday Speech," Margaret M. Bryant, Brooklyn College.
2. "Canadian and American Slavic Namelore," J. B. Rudnyckyj, University of Manitoba.
3. "The Names of Ex-voto Objects in Ancient Mesopotamia," I. J. Gelb, The Oriental Institute, University of Chicago.
4. "Slavic Terms and Place-Names in Peloponnesus (Greece)," Demetrius J. Georgacas, University of North Dakota.
5. "The Name Chicago," Edward Taube, University of Wisconsin.

Second Session

1. "Geographical Distribution of the Term *Prairie* in the United States," E. Wallace McMullen.
2. "Names of Soviet (Russian) Celebrities," John P. Sydoruk.
3. "Egyptian Nicknames," Harold B. Allen, University of Minnesota.
4. "Names for Delaware Before the Period of the Revolution—and After," A. R. Dunlap, University of Delaware.
5. "Street Names in Mexico City," Jack Autrey Dabbs, A. & M. College of Texas.
6. "The Significance of Street Names," Levette J. Davidson, University of Denver.

The highlight of the meeting was Allen Walker Read's scholarly and witty address on *The Criticism of Numerical Naming*, at the informal annual dinner attended by about thirty. The president and Professor Rudnyckyj also reported on the recent International Congress at Salamanca. At the close of the meeting the group requested that the appreciative thanks of the Society be conveyed to Secretary—Editor Gudde for his devoted and efficient services to the Society, and to Mamie Meredith and Elsdon C. Smith for arranging the excellent program and meeting facilities.

The next annual meeting will be held December 27 or 28, 1956, at Washington, D. C. The president has appointed Meredith F. Burrill as chairman of the local committee of arrangements and Margaret M. Bryant as chairman of the program committee. Members who wish to read papers or who have suggestions to make should communicate with Professor Bryant, 1 Montague Terrace, Brooklyn 2, N. Y.

Our Treasurer.—Henry Karpenstein, charter member No. 1 of the *ANS*, retired as treasurer of the organization after three years of faithful service. Much of the success of the Society is due to his conscientious work. His successor is Fritz Kramer of the Department of Geography, University of California, author of *Idaho Place Names*.

The new officers.—The nominating committee consisting of Elsdon C. Smith, C. Grant Loomis, and Thomas Pyles announces the election of the following officers for 1956:

Kemp Malone, President
George R. Stewart ⎫
Margaret M. Bryant ⎬ Vice Presidents
J. B. Rudnyckyj ⎭
Erwin G. Gudde, Executive Secretary
Meredith F. Burrill ⎫ Board of
Levette J. Davidson ⎭ Managers

Fritz Kramer, Treasurer ⎫
Madison S. Beeler ⎪
Demetrius J. Georgacas ⎪
Atcheson L. Hench ⎬ Editorial Board
Albert H. Marckwardt ⎪
Mamie Meredith ⎪
Allen Walker Read ⎭

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1955

INCOME

Balance carried forward	$ 565.27
Dues and subscriptions	2664.55
Other income	243.05
	$ 3472.87

EXPENDITURES

Printing of *Names*	$ 2109.00
Mailing, Stationery, Clerical assistance, etc.	474.96
Goethe Prize	100.00
	$ 2583.96

Income for 1955	$ 3472.87
Expenditures for 1955	2583.96
Brought forward to 1956	$ 888.91

Respectfully submitted

Henry Karpenstein, Treasurer

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