

## Book Notices

*Från Adam Till My: ett Färggrant Knippe Namn.* (From Adam to My: a Colorful Bunch of Names.) Edited by Marianne Blomqvist. Meddedelanden från Institutionen för nordiska språk och nordisk litteratur vid Helsingfors universitetet B: 20 (1999). Pp. 290.

This book consists of twelve essays, mainly on personal names among Swedish-speaking Finns. One section deals with the Finland-Swedish almanac and name-day celebrations, the other is devoted to different aspects of forenames, surnames, and animal names. Its title indicates the great range of names discussed in the volume, from Adam, as one of the oldest names in the world, to My, the name of a character in the Moomin troll tales of the Finland-Swedish author Tove Jansson, which has entered the nomenclature of human beings and will appear in the almanac on February 4. The contributors to the volume are mostly recent graduates of the Nordic Department of the University of Helsingfors/Helsinki, and their essays cover a great variety of topics, from the editor's short history of the Finland-Swedish almanac and its names and Rauni Kanerva's survey of name-day celebrations, to an essay by Satumari Perttunen, an analysis of fashionable names given to Finland-Swedish girls born in the 1960s, and an examination by Joana Jokinen of a group of names given by Selma Lagerlöf to animals in her famous novel, *The Wonderful Journey of Nils Holgersson*. The book has a brief English summary.

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*Morgendagens Modenavne.* (The Fashionable Names of Tomorrow.) By Eva Villarsen Meldgaard. Copenhagen: Aschehoug, 1999. Pp. 129.

This book successfully updates the author's earlier study of the fashionable names of the 1990s, published in 1997. In addition to lists of names of children born to Danish citizens between 1985 and 1996, and of well-known "legal" names permitted by an announcement of the Ministry of Religion, in conjunction with the Institute for Name Research at the University of Copenhagen in November 1990, it contains detailed commentaries on 150 names. All entries indicate the number of their bearers. Particularly fascinating, though somewhat speculative, is

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a list of boys' and girls' names likely to be fashionable in the near future (50). For more details see the reviews of the author's *Den Store Navnebog* in *Names* 47 (1999) and *Navnemode og modenavne* (Name Fashions and Fashionable Names) in *Names* 40 (1992).

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*Den Store Navnebog*. (The Large Name Book.) By Eva Villarsen Meldgaard. 4th ed. Copenhagen: Aschehoug, 2001. Pp. 292. Dkr. 169.

This is the fourth, revised and updated, edition of Eva Meldgaard's compendium of about 1000 of the favorite names of Danish boys and girls. It reflects some of the changes in the popularity of names, as well as the adjustments made to the official legal name list in response to the recent influx of members of other nationalities, ethnic and religious groups (see, for instance, p. 112, under *Mohamed*). This book continues to be the best compendium of its kind. A more detailed review of an earlier edition appeared in *Names* 47 (1999).

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*Romania-Germania. Die Bedeutung von Ortsnamen für die Sprachgeschichte im Grenzgebiet zweier Sprachen*. (Romania-Germania: The Importance of Place Names for the Linguistic History of Border Areas Between Two Languages.) Edited by Friedhelm Debus. Beiträge zur Namenforschung, Beiheft 52. Heidelberg: Winter. 1999. Pp. 63.

The essays in this slim volume derive from the papers read at the award ceremony of the Henning-Kaufmann Foundation for the promotion of German onomastic research on a historical-linguistic basis, held in September 1997 in Weimar. Kaufmann, who would have been 100 years old on October 14, 1997, was one of the foremost German name scholars of his time. In the first essay Friedhelm Debus honors Kaufmann as "Teacher, Researcher, and Founder." The second essay is Stefan Sonderegger's laudatio on the recipients of the two awards, Wolfgang Haubrich (1996) and Max Pfister (1997), while the final two essays are Pfister's and Haubrich's responses within the framework of the central theme of the ceremony, as indicated in the subtitle of the published account, with special emphasis on the onomastic contact between Germanic and Romance languages.

*Svenska ortnamn: Estland, med estniska motsvarigheter.* (Swedish Place Names in Estonia, with Estonian Equivalents). By Marianne Blomqvist. Skrifter utgivna av Svenska folkskolans vänner 158 (2000).

This is an extremely user-friendly book, consisting of four identical parts in four languages: Swedish, Finnish, Estonian, and English. English-speaking readers have only to turn to pp. 119–55, and the two appendices containing references to sources and an index of place names to reap the benefit of this study of more than 200 Swedish place names in Estonia. They will be guided by the author's preface and a brief account of the historical background. The Swedish place names are primarily relics of the Swedish presence in Estonia, beginning with the medieval colonization and later settlement movements and migrations across the Baltic from regions such as Mälaren, Roslagen, and Gotland in Sweden, and Nyland in Finland. The Swedish era effectively came to an end in 1710 and was followed by two hundred years of Russian rule. As a result of the turmoils of World War II nearly 8000 Estonian Swedes left their homeland, some returning since Estonia became independent in 1991. Reflecting the various historical strands, the dictionary presents Swedish, Estonian, and German name forms (if appropriate). While the German names appear to be largely based on, or adaptations of, the Swedish names, the relationships between Swedish and Estonian names seem to show the several onomastic permutations which one expects to come across when languages come into contact. Many Swedish place names have no Estonian equivalent.

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*Place-Names in the Rhinns of Galloway and Luce Valley.* By John MacQueen. Stranraer: Stranraer and District Local History Trust. 2002.

The Rhinns of Galloway and the neighboring Luce Valley form the southwestern-most part of Scotland, directly opposite northeast Ireland. After an introductory survey of "Stranraer and Environs," the author explores in separate chapters English and Scots names and their dates, the dating of Gaelic names, and Scandinavian (Norse) and British (Welsh) names. As these topics indicate, southwest Scotland has had a checkered and complex linguistic history and prehistory for which the place names of the region provide important (sometimes the only) evidence: one of the intriguing questions concerns the potential early arrival of Gaelic speakers from Ireland, depending on the dating of such names as Slewdown, and

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Slewlee (containing Gaelic *sliabh* 'hill, hill-slope'). MacQueen argues for an early date, and this reviewer would certainly agree that at least some of them belong to an early period rather than a late contact across the Irish Channel. Another challenging category includes names like Kirkbride, Kirkcoln, and Kirkdryne which show Celtic word order but contain Norse *kirkyá* 'church'. They are clearly to be traced to a Gaelic environment but their Scandinavian connections are just as obvious. John MacQueen, former Director of the School of Scottish Studies, is well equipped to tackle these and other challenges. His book is a welcome addition to a growing array of regional studies of Scottish place names. The many photographs, though sometimes of poor quality, contribute to an understanding of the names and the features they designate.

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*Stednavne: Vestsjællands Amt.* (Place Names in West Zealand County.) Danmarks Stednavne 23 and 24. By Bent Jørgensen. Copenhagen: C. A. Reitzel, 1997 and 2001, respectively. Pp. 150 and 251. Dkr. 150 and 200 (together Dkr 275).

The definitive series of monographs on Danmarks Stednavne (Danish Place Names), begun in 1922, has been significantly extended by the recent publication of two volumes devoted to the place names of West Zealand county, on the island on which also Copenhagen is situated. The author, Bent Jørgensen, is a member of long-standing of the team of scholars in the Institut for Navneforskning (Name Studies Institute) in the University of Copenhagen and earlier published, in the same series, a monograph on the place names of the county of Copenhagen (Vols. 19 [1988] and 20 [1990]). The layout of the volumes follows the established pattern of the series: lists of elements, abbreviations, phonetic transcription, and related information precede the actual text, which in turn is succeeded by indices of names and elements, with references to their actual occurrence in the text. Vol. 23 covers Sorø, Ringsted, Alsted Herred, and Ringsted Herred, and vol. 24 covers Slagelse, Skælskør, Slagelse Herred, Vester Flakkebjerg Herred, and Øster Flakkebjerg Herred (with parts of Størstrøms county). A full account is given of each name, including its early spellings, sources, etymology and history, providing comprehensive and authoritative information.

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