Editor's Page

Professor I. J. Gelb's article is an important contribution to a phase of onomatology that has been repeatedly discussed in *Names*: the study of names in the mythology of ancient and primitive peoples (animism magic, charms, etc.). It opens a wide and little cultivated field, and we hope that Mr. Gelb's article will stimulate research in other regions, including the Americas. Mr. Gelb is the well-known orientalist at the University of Chicago and the editor of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary. The paper was read at the meeting of the *ANS* in Chicago, December 26, 1955.

Two articles, "Knickerbocker" and "House Nicknames" deal with one of the most interesting groups of non-Indian American names—the early Dutch. J. Lamberts is a member of the faculty of Northwestern University; C. A. Weslager has written extensively about geographical names on the Atlantic Coast (see Names, December, 1954).

Harold Allen's article on nicknames in Egypt is one of the fruits of his year in Egypt as a Fulbright lecturer. He was a linguistic consultant for the Ministry of Education and a lecturer at 'Ain Shams University and the University of Cairo. He is associate professor of English at the University of Minnesota and director of the Linguistic Atlas of the Upper Midwest.

Correction. I wish to correct an error in my "Personal Message" on the Editor's Page of the March 1956 issue. Instead of "head of my department" it should read "former head of my department."

E. G. G.

AMERICAN NAME SOCIETY

Founded Detroit, Michigan, December 29th, 1951 Incorporated under the Laws of the State of Illinois, 1952

The purposes of the American Name Society are:

The study of the etymology, origin, meaning, and application of all categories of names — geographical, personal, scientific, commercial, popular — and the dissemination of the result of such study;

to make the American people conscious of the interest and importance of names in all fields of human endeavor and in all subjects taught in our schools and colleges;

to act as a clearing house for American nomenclature and as an advisory agency for government offices, organizations, and individuals concerned with the application, changing, spelling, and pronunciation of names. The media to attain these purposes will be:

The publication of a quarterly devoted to the study of names; the publication of books and monographs in the fields of onomastics, and the support and encouragement of such publications;

the eventual publication of standard reference dictionaries in the various categories of names;

contributions to the daily press and popular lectures on the subject by members of the Society;

annual national and, if there is sufficient interest, regional meetings of the Society.

The annual dues for active and library members are \$5.00; for sustaining members \$25.00. An individual or an organization may become a patron of the Society by a single payment of \$1,000.00. Membership includes the privilege of purchasing at cost books and pamphlets published by the Society.

Officers 1956

Kemp Malone, President
George R. Stewart, First Vice-President
Margaret M. Bryant, Second Vice-President
J. B. Rudnyckyj, Third Vice-President
Elsdon C. Smith, Attorney
Fritz Kramer, Treasurer
Erwin G. Gudde, Executive Secretary

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Henry E. Abt — Francis W. Bradley — Meredith F. Burrill — Levette J. Davidson — William Saroyan — Walter Yust