

Editor's Page

Topographic Generics is the first instalment of a fundamental essay on generic names used in the geography of the United States. Our former president, for many years executive secretary of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names, is in a rather unique position to write such an article.

Our charter member and frequent contributor, Jack Dabbs, of the Texas A & M College, is represented twice in the current issue. His article is the elaboration of a paper read at our 1954 meeting in New York. His Latin American bibliography brings the subject up to and including 1955. The completed bibliography will be indispensable to all students of toponymy south of the Rio Grande. See *Names*, December 1953 and September 1954.

Audrey R. Duckert's article is a study in place name euphemism and brings into focus an interesting American generic place name. The essence of the article was read at our New York meeting in 1954. The author is on the editorial staff of the G. & C. Merriam Company.

It is to be hoped that Professor Rogers' article will be an incentive for others to undertake similar regional studies. The frequency or infrequency of Indian geographical names in certain regions and the reasons for it are most significant for our national history. P. Burwell Rogers is professor of English at Bucknell University.

The article by Elsdon C. Smith, our former president, was written in response to an inquiry in the March, 1956, issue of *Names*.

Nick names and slang names are definitely a phase of our study. In fact such names have played a more important role in the historical development of names than many people realize. Hence our readers will welcome the article by our charter member and frequent contributor, C. Grant Loomis, giving references to recent American literature of the many terms used for what we properly call money, currency or cash.