

Book Reviews

Diccionario etimológico comparado de nombres propios de personas

By Gutierre Tibón (Mexico: Unión Tipográfica Editorial Hispano Americana, 1956. PP vii-x, 565, with 233 illustrations.)

The publication of this work is a major event in the advance of onomastics in general and of Spanish name-study in particular. In the large number of books and shorter studies that have dealt with names, place-names and family names have predominated, and the proper names or "Christian" names have gone begging. This *Diccionario etimológico* will therefore fill a considerable gap in such knowledge and at the same time furnish a useful reference work.

The book contains an alphabetical list of over 2,800 first names (author's figures), each with a discussion showing the etymology and earlier forms in other languages, mainly Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. Reference then often follows to well-known bearers of the name — predominantly saints of the Church. In some cases there appear other data, such as occasion in connection with which a certain name may be given, *e. g.* *Corpus*, or circumstances that help explain the diffusion of a name, *e. g.* *Corina*. At times the corresponding forms in English, French, Italian, and other languages are given. Notations in many entries tell us the confines of a given name (Moctezuma, confined to Mexico; Zaragoza, used in Coahuila; Lesbia, a common name among the women of Tehuantepec; Lautaro in South America, etc.).

The title does not limit the author's purpose to the Spanish language; and the volume can also serve as a reference work for the study of names in other languages which have cognates with the Spanish, since they are the common stock of all nations of the Occident.

While over 2,800 names appear, the author warns us that he has omitted some Biblical, classical, and historical names no longer used or rarely, some saints' names, and a few oddities. Indeed, a check against my own studies reveals no omissions that can be called common. There is no way to tell from the entries in the book which names are more popular than others, although intimations appear for the most common names. This treatment of the entries

comes partly from the fact that very little statistical information exists, although the broad outlines are clear. A good many of the names are quite rare; hence I suggest some names (attested in 19th century Mexico) which do not appear but for which provision could well be made: Alocino, Alsabrán, Areo, Asencio, Eurelio, Felice, Frontanza, Isio, Lucón, Marcel, María (for males), Melgares, Murgario, and Polanco, and the variant forms Eulario, Matildo, Tibercio, and Valdemiro.

Essentially, however, this book is just what its title suggests, an etymological dictionary. The easiest names to etymologize are those of Latin origin, and the first impression for a linguist on examining the etymologies is the disharmony between the Latin-to-Spanish development of names and the "regular" Romance development of other words. For Latin *Crispus* we would "normally" anticipate **Criespo* instead of *Crispo*, for Donatus we look for *Donado* instead of *Donato*, and for Plautus we look for **Llodo* but find *Plauto*. Some other names show the normal development (*César*, *Nieves*, *Paciente*, *Socorro*, etc.) or a continuation of the same form (*Tecla*, *Digna*, *Elvia*, *Fortuna*, *Fosca*, *Gloria*, etc., mostly feminine forms). But all of these names presumably were a part of the original Spanish patrimony and not the "learned" or "late" Latin words that re-entered the language at a late date, thereby escaping the standard sound changes. Obviously we need a separate study for the diachronic development of this type of word. In most histories of Spanish phonetics the proper names receive scanty treatment, possibly because of the relatively small number of names of purely Latin origin. It seems that far more names are of Greek or Hebrew origin than of Latin. This impression is further strengthened by an examination of a few pages of the names themselves in the present work. They show a wide divergence from the Spanish norms, with a high incidence of oxytones, proparoxytones, and consonantal clusters that in the rest of the language have a low frequency.

Many illustrations, reproductions of art works picturing persons whose names are discussed nearby, furnish a welcome relief. The book is well-printed, has an attractive cover, and the contents show a careful work of proof-reading. The only mis-print noted appears in the last line of the last page — Heidelberg.

Jack Autrey Dabbs

Nuovi Studi di Antroponimia Fiorentina. I Nomi meno Frequenti del Libro di Montaperti (An. MCCLX). By Olof Brattö. (Stockholm, Almqvist & Wiksell, 1955. Pp. 246.)

In his *Studi di Antroponimia Fiorentina. Il Libro di Montaperti (An. MCCLX)*, Göteborg, 1953¹, Professor Brattö discusses the names of most common occurrence in the Montaperti book, specifically those that have a frequency of five or more. These constitute 80% of the total list. In this continuation he considers those that have a four to one frequency, or the other 20%. They amount to 771. Diachronic and synchronic criteria are used in both volumes but application and procedure differ radically. Professor Brattö recognizes the fact that he is confronted with numerous difficulties particularly since rareness in the occurrence of a name is apt to make knotty tasks of attempts at explanation. Some of the interpretations which I have queried in whole or in part are the following:

- p. 12. *Acconcius*, derived from the verb *acconciare*. The name of the Roman martyr *Acontius* should have been added as a source.
- p. 21. *Altieri*, from the common noun *altero*, *altiero*. Possible derivation from Germanic *Althar*, *Altheri* is omitted (cfr. E. Förstemann, *Altdeutsches Namenbuch*. Erster Band, Personennamen. 2nd ed. Bonn, 1900, p.61).
- p. 31. *Baldera*, from a place name or *Baldissera*. But Germanic *Baldheri*, *Balthere* (see Förstemann, op. cit. 231) also deserve consideration.
- p. 43. *Bonasco*, from *buono* or a place name. The second explanation is definitely to be preferred. Bonaschi is a common surname in use today.
- p. 46. *Bonavaccius*, from *buono* + *avaccio* (adverb). The combination is awkward. Why not derive the name from *bon* + *avo*, *avaccio* (grandfather)?
- p. 56. *Canci*, from *Cancellarius*. One thinks of *St. Canzio* as a more likely prototype.
- p. 58. *Cappiardinus*, from *cappia*, *ferro di cavalli*, or *cappio*, *corda*, *funicello*. The difficulty here is the combination of a common noun with *-ard*, a theme common in Germanic proper names. The source is probably Germanic.
- p. 63. *Cavatorta*, possibly a person living in a *cava torta*. In Neapolitan a *cavatorta* is a wryneck. I see nothing against a recently arrived immigrant retaining the dialectical form of his nick-

¹ Cfr. my review in *Names*, II, 1954, 67-68.

- name. There has always been a certain amount of migration to other lands.
- p. 74. *Ciore*, a short form of a name in *-ciore*. An unmentioned possibility is *Melciore* through French *Melchior*. That the name *Melchiore* had already entered Tuscan territory is attested by the existence of a Cardinal Melchior who died in Pisa in 1198.
- p. 78. *Convveneole*. As an example of the persistence of this name in the 14th century, the famous rhetor Convveneole da Prato could have been cited.
- p. 89. *Desta*, from *destare*. If feminine I see in the same a curtailed form of *Modesta* = *Desta*.
- p. 111. *Gerbinus*, from a common noun or Germanic short form of *Gerbaldus*. However, Bongioanni, *Nomi e Cognomi*. Torino, 1928, 109, more plausibly derives the name from Germanic *Garoino*, *Gerwin*, *Gervinus*.
- p. 121. *Giovanomus*, from *Giovanni* + *uomo*. The combination is most unusual. I should guess it comes from *giovan* + (young) *uomo*.
- p. 122. *Goccia*, from *goccia*. *Arrigo* + *-occia*, shortened to *Goccia*, seems just as convincing to me.
- p. 137. *Imbonus* is compared with a hypothetical *Torna-imbonus*. A current name which is a closer source is Belliboni. The variant *bellin* + *bonus* could lead to *imbonus*. Cfr. also *Imbonati*.
- p. 139. *Laffus*, from *Landolfus*, *Lanfrancus*, *Lanfredus*. However, it is pretty safe to assume that it derives from *Ordelauffus*. The Ordelaffi were lords of Forli in the late Middle Ages. Ordelafo, the founder of the family, lived c. 1170.
- p. 167. *Nomma*, augurial. *Nonmai* is listed in my *Our Italian Surnames*, p. 66. It is still current.
- p. 168. *Nuvolone*, from *nuvola* or Germanic *Nivolus*. It might be recalled that *Nuvolone* is the name of a pagan king in *Uggero il Danese*, a romance of chivalry.
- p. 196. *Scagnus*, from *scagno* = *scanno*. Derivation from *Ascanius* would be equally acceptable.
- p. 203. *Tantinus*, from *tantus*. I see in the name a short form of *Costantinus*.
- p. 217. *Vante*, a short form of a name in *-vante*. *Fioravante*, famous knight in the *Reali di Francia*, might have been cited along with *Chiaravante*, *Ottavante*, *Passavante*, *Renovante*.

Other queries and suggestions can, of course, be added to those I have listed, but considering the number of names studied, the percentage remains small. That Professor Brattö has been able to acquit himself so well is a tribute to his excellent linguistic background and untiring diligence.

Joseph G. Fucilla

A Provisional Gazetteer of Florida Place-Names of Indian Derivation Either Obsolescent or Retained Together with Others of Recent Application. By J. Clarence Simpson. Edited by Mark F. Boyd. (Tallahassee: Florida Geological Survey, 1956. Pp. x, 158; 5 sectional maps. One copy (only) is given upon direct request from individuals.)

This is a fascinating volume in spite of its deficiencies, many of which undoubtedly occurred because it was posthumously published and also because the editor receiving the provisional manuscript is not a linguist, as he himself freely admits (p. ix). Students of American Indian terms, local historians, and persons generally interested in Floridiana will profit from the information brought together in this work. Mr. Simpson's book will serve particularly well as a handy guide for anyone doing research in the early literature of exploration and pioneering attempts pertaining to Florida.

The editor, Dr. Mark F. Boyd, an eminent local historian and collector of Floridiana in his own right, has done a creditable job entailing the alphabetical rearrangement of the entries, the alteration of the form for citing references, and the expansion of the bibliography to include all the published Seminole vocabularies known to him. At the same time, although he has left unchanged Mr. Simpson's etymological data and opinions, he has enlarged some of the historical discussions, which, by the way, contain perhaps the liveliest parts of the volume. (In this connection see the stories of Tampa and Blountstown — the latter under Lafarka, the Indian name of John Blount.) As Dr. Boyd points out (p. x), the best single feature of the work is that Simpson compiled the translations of the various names for identical localities from literature and maps rather than the dictionaries. In so doing the author increased the degree of authenticity of his work, and also pin-pointed the location of many obsolete variant names which would otherwise remain unknown to most readers of the earlier

accounts in this field. In this respect the cross references of variants and synonyms are very good, but not exhaustive.

According to the brief introduction to the gazetteer itself, "Entries are limited to names of undoubted aboriginal origin. Names of non-aboriginal derivation are recognized only in synonymy as cross entries, which call attention to the aboriginal names which they have superseded." Yet the gazetteer includes the following names as main entries with discussions: *Cowhouse*, *Hicks' Island* (the Indian chief Tokose Emathla was known to the whites as John Hicks), *Hog Master's Lake*, *Old Town*, and *Watermelon Pond Lake*. (Incidentally, on page 60 we are informed that in 1830 Gainesville was called "Hogtown.") Although these terms have a historical value and are related to the principal task of the author, they belong either in the general introduction or in a supplementary list.

Mr. Simpson's work is quite scholarly in some ways, and unscholarly in others. His investigation does seem to have been thorough — so exhaustive, in fact, that he includes obsolete and prehistoric names along with the current terms. The bibliography appears to be adequate, but it does not include the two volumes on *Indian Affairs* in the *American State Papers*. On the other hand, the rather lengthy cartography, which is given separately from the bibliography, will be helpful to anyone desiring to locate the maps on this subject.

This volume has no footnotes, a feature which will appeal to the general reader; instead, certain authorities are cited in the etymological discussions. However, it seems to me that the work of other scholars are insufficiently cited: I refer in particular to William A. Read's *Florida Place-Names of Indian Origin* (Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University Press, 1934 — *Louisiana State University Studies* Number 11).

Simpson's volume also is deficient in other respect. For example, although the sectional maps on which most of the Indian names are located are very good, they do not show the non-Indian names of the present-day counties by which many of the terms in the gazetteer are identified. The cross-reference system should have been exhaustive, and included all of the variant names: thus, the reader would miss a term like *Slippery Log Creek* unless he looked under *Fenhalloway*, or *Rio de Lagna*, which is under *Ochlockonee*.

Another very desirable feature would be a list of the common Indian elements which occur in Florida names, such as *hatchee* (creek; small river), *halpata* (alligator), Hitchiti *oki* and Choctaw *oka* (water), *emathla* (leader), *chee* (little), *talofa* (town), *chubi* (big), and *we* or *wewa* (water).

Nevertheless, aside from these shortcomings, students of place names will find much that is interesting in this gazetteer. To illustrate, according to Simpton *Califonee* is a Seminole word meaning "Home Camp," and is applied to *Califonee slough*; and *California*, which "at least in local application, is perhaps a variant" (p. 34), being found twice each in the forms *California Creek* and *California Swamp*. Other selected terms of interest are *Chunky Pond* (*Chunky* was the name of a Creek gambling game); *Eto-Isallee-Howeth-Ta* (*Eto*, tree; *Estelle*, foot; and *Honleta*, twisted together, or the trees with twisted feet, i. e., red mangrove trees), a name applied to a stream (now called "Broad River") on whose banks are forests of red mangroves — a term with a picturesque quality often hidden or lost in English names; *Hatchee Thlako* (now *Hurricane Creek*) ("This name is from the Creek *Hatchee*, creek, and *Thlako*, big. The present name is also of Indian origin, *hurricane* being derived from *Huracan*, the name of the Storm God of the Quiche Indians, one of the Mayan tribes of Guatemala. Thus it is an introduction [*i. e.*, importation]."); *Hialea* (? Miccosukee-Seminole *Hiatlee*, prairie), said to mean "pretty prairie"; *Lake Hickpochee* (*Hiyakpo*, prairie; *Chee*, little); *Kanyuksa*, the Seminole name for Florida (*Ekan*, land; *Yuksa*, end of it, or point — *i. e.*, "land's end"); *Lokosee* (*Lokose* — Seminole form of Creek *Nokose*, bear); Lake Okeechobee (*Oki*, water; *Chubi*, big); *Okeelanta* (*Oki*, water; Read's suggestion *Lanta* is a contraction of *Atlantic* is cited here); *Okefenoke* (Hitchiti *Oki*, water; Creek *Fenoke*, trembling); *Opal* (Creek *Opa*, owl); *Lake Sampala* (Indian corruption of *San Pablo*); *Tallahassee* (*Talwa*, town; *Ahassee*, old; the variants, *Tallassee* and *Tulsa* occur elsewhere in former Creek territory); *Thlath-To-Popka-Hatchee*, possibly the longest entry in the gazetteer (*Thlathlo*, fish; *Apopka*, place for eating; and *Hatchee*, creek), now Fish-Eating Creek; *Tsalopopka Hatchee* (*Tsala* [*Chalo*]), trout; *Papke*, eating; *Hatchee*, creek; the first element in *Charlie Apopka Creek* is a corruption of *Chalo*, trout); *Wakka Pilatka* (*Wakka*, cow or cattle, from Spanish *Vaca*; *Pilotiketa*, ferry, the

Indian name for Jacksonville, formerly called *Cow Ford*, a misinterpretation of the Indian term because the water at that particular place is too deep for fording; *Weekiwachee* (*Wekiwa*, spring; *Chee*, little); *Weohyakapka* (*We*, water; *Ayakapeta*, to walk in), Lake Walk in the Water, a lake in eastern Polk County — further explanation of this term not given. The names of two extinct Indian tribes, the Timucuan and the Yamassees, are preserved in *Tomoka Creek* and *Yamasee Point*.

Some of the etymologies are of particular interest: *Chuluota* ("The word may signify pine tree, from the Creek *Chule*, pine, and *Eto*, tree. However, I believe the second element is from the creek *Ote*, island. From earliest times in Florida an open area of pine surrounded by hardwoods of other dissimilar vegetation has been called a pine island. The usage is still prevalent among hunters and woodsmen" [p. 44.]); *Lake Okaheepie*, now Lake Jackson ("Lake Jackson is one of Florida's disappearing lakes . . . *Okaheepie* is a Hitchiti word signifying disappearing water, and is derived from Hitchiti *Oki*, water, and *Hiepus*, to go." [p. 80.]); *Seminole* (which Simpson says is of uncertain origin [p. 98], in spite of Read's opinion; and *Suwannee River* (possibly from Spanish *San Juan* which became *Seguana*, or from Creek *Suwani*, echo. "Good echos are a feature of this stream." (p. 201)).

Included in the wealth of historical information published in this volume are brief biographical sketches of some of the better known Indian chiefs like *Emathla* (leader), or (here) Charley Emathla, and *Osceola* (*Asi*, leaves; *Yaholo*, singer; the leaves referred to were used in the preparation of the "black drink").

E. Wallace McMullen

Dictionary of American Family Names. By Elsdon C. Smith.
(New York, Harper & Brothers. XXXIV and 244 pp. \$4.50).

Since the philological sciences, a century and a half ago, were placed on a solid scholarly basis, the study of the origin, meaning and development of our family names has been carried on assiduously. But this study has been very uneven: in some countries we have more than a dozen dictionaries and other books covering the entire field within its linguistic borders, in others not even serious attempts at breaking the ground have been made. Under these circumstances it requires great courage and self-confidence to

undertake the writing of a dictionary of American family names, for such a task falls only a little short of writing a dictionary of the family names of the world. Elsdon C. Smith has had this admirable courage and self-confidence.

It would be an easy task for anyone slightly familiar with the etymology of family names to point out thousands of mistakes. But it would not be right to do so. No such book can approach even a fair degree of accuracy. I am familiar with most of the dictionaries of family names of limited areas and I have not yet found one about which I could not (if put to the task) write a severe and often devastating criticism. In this category I include recognized standard works such as Heintze-Cascorbi, *Die deutschen Familien-namen* and Dauzat, *Dictionnaire étymologique des noms de famille et prénoms de France*. Hence one must be extremely careful in reviewing a book, which includes most European and many other names transplanted to the soil of the United States, and which is based on limited and often doubtful sources. The effort and patience required to create such unique pioneer work deserves praise and consideration.

Now that the book is on the market and published by one of our oldest firms, we are obliged to point out its merits as well as its shortcomings. I shall not go into details but view the book as to its approach to the subject, its method and style, its principles of inclusion and exclusion, and its usefulness to the general reader and to the scholar. In view of the importance of the publication I believe the pages of *NAMES* should be open to other commentators and reviewers who wish to express their opinion.

★ ★ ★

The space allotted to the author by the publisher is entirely inadequate. Dauzat uses 604 pages to list the names of France alone (including Christian names, to be sure). Smith had to limit himself to 244 pages for his list of world-wide compass. The result is that the entries had to be very terse. This extreme condensation often leads to interpretations which the author had probably not intended:

- Kivi (*Finn.*) From residence near a stone.
- LaBelle (*Fr.*) The handsome man.
- Morgenthau (*Ger.*) Morning valley.

Maple, Maples, Mapel, Maypole (Eng.) Dweller at, or near, a maple tree, or at the sign of the Maypole.

Maslanka (Ukr.) One who had some characteristics of buttermilk; one who sold buttermilk.

Another shortcoming caused by this exaggerated economy of space is the necessity of lumping together in one entry names which are of entirely different origin. For instance:

Brody, Brodie (*Ir., Scot., Ger., Rus.*) The son of Bruaideadh (fragment); one who came from the barony of Brodie (muddy place), in Moray; one who had an unusual beard; one who came from Brody, in Russia.

Raines, Raine, Raynes, Rains, Reynolds (*Eng.*) Descendant of Rain, a pet form of one of the old names beginning with Regen, or Ragin (counsel), or of Rayner (might, army); dweller at a boundary line; dweller at the sign of the frog; one with froglike characteristics.

The author is fully aware of the lack of logic in this method: "This is an incongruity that must be accepted because of limitations of space." Valid as this reason may be, it is doubtful if Mr. Brody or Mr. Raynes learned much about "their names and their national origin." Future editions could easily be improved by untangling such clusters. In many cases this could be done at the expense of other names. Wojciech, Wojciechowicz, Wojceichowski, Wojcik, Wojtas could easily be given in one entry because all five names are Polish and are from the same root.

Finally, this economy of space has made it necessary to omit many names that are familiar to all Americans and some of which loom large in the history and development of our country. By just checking names in my memory against the list in the book I notice the following omissions: Brentano, Cunard, Dana, Debs, Fremont, Goethals, Eichelberger, Gruenther, Halleck, Havemeyer, Milhaud, Monteux, Mooney, Nimitz, Rosecranz, Seaborg, Sealock, Spaatz, Spreckels, Villard, Wedemeyer. A careful checking would doubtless multiply this list manifold. A second edition could supply many of these names, again, if necessary, at the expense of names less well known, like Marangopoulos, Mroz, Ptacek, Xaverius, Yee, Zmuda.

The second great objection which will be raised against the book is the identification of names not by linguistic but by national origin. Elsdon Smith was fully aware of the difficulties which would arise by this method and he tries to explain it in his Intro-

duction: "Some of the difficulties attendant upon designating nationality could have been avoided by merely noting the language from which the name was derived. However, this would not have satisfied many who wished to learn about their names and their national origin." If more space had been allotted to a book which bears such an imposing title, the author would doubtless have used the easy way out by giving both the nationality of the original immigrant as well as the origin of his name. As it is now, the system breaks down completely and more harm than good is done by the author's good intention. This is especially true in the case of international names, biblical and classical names, or names which are alike or very similar in any group of the Indo-European family of languages, and even names from different language groups which by accident look alike or are similar.

The impossibility of giving the correct information about a name by assigning it to "nationality" rather than to etymological origin is further brought out by the fact that "nationality" and linguistic entity are often in complete disagreement. There is no Swiss "nation," much less a Swiss language or a Swiss nomenclature. There are German, French, Italian, and Romansch names in Switzerland, but there are no "Swiss" names except possibly a few dialectal variants. And then there are the many European "nations" which have disappeared and have left nothing except their language or — their names. Many of these, the Basques and the Frisians, the Estonians and the Letts, are fighting for the preservation of their languages and of their personal and geographical names. Many of our American family names come from these sturdy peoples, but since they are not "nations" their names are listed as of the "nationality" within whose political boundaries they live.

A few examples, again based on cursory checking, may illustrate my contention.

The name *Gudde* is given as German with the meaning "dweller near a bush, or at the sign of the bush." As far as "national" origin is concerned the name might as well be assigned to Dutch or Polish "nationality," but in none of the three "nationalities" does the word have anything to do with a bush or the sign of a bush. Even in the language of its origin, the old Pruzzian, the name does not signify "dweller near a bush," but "dweller in the bush," i. e. in the woodlands.

The name Astor is assigned to English "nationality" with the meaning "descendant of Easter (name given to a child born at Eastertide)". I believe that every American who reads the name will think of the old American family which reaches from John Jacob I, who landed in New York in 1783, to John Jacob VIII or IX, who was recently sued for alimony in a California court. The first Astor came to New York via England and might even have been an English citizen. But he was born in Waldorf, Germany, and his name was Italian: *astore*, 'hawk'. The Astors were one of the many Italian families who crossed the Alps in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and settled in southwest Germany.

The name Moses is assigned to Welch origin and its meaning is "descendant of Moses (saved from the water)." Aaron, Aaronson, Aarons are assigned to English "nationality" and the meaning is 'lofty mountain,' and in the same manner most Biblical as well as classical names are assigned to European nationalities. There are a few exceptions: Katz is of Hebrew "nationality" although the majority of individuals bearing the name are of German "nationality."

Another shortcoming of the book must be recorded. No sources or references are given. The Introduction explains the reasons for this omission. Elsdon Smith is justified in his reasons because the book is chiefly intended for the general reader and not for the scholar. Yet, an onomatologist cannot help feeling somewhat frustrated when he sees the explanation of a name differing completely from what seems to have been established beyond doubt.

A layman will be surprised at the translations of old names: Richard means 'rule, hard'; Hubert: 'mind, bright'; Liubheri: 'dear, army'; Leofsig: 'dear, victory'; Lobau: 'dear, meadow'; Humbold: 'Hun, brave'; Louis: 'hear, fight.' To be sure the Introduction, explains this as follows, "*William*, from *vilja* 'resolution' and *helma* 'helmet,' means 'resolution, helmet' and not 'the resolute helmet' or 'helmet of resolution.' There is no relationship between the two elements; they are merely combined to make a new concept, a man's name." The student of Germanic names will know what the author means by combining two words to form a name "with little or no attention . . . to the meaning of the combined name." But what can the general reader do with such information? Fuller explanations and references to standard works would here be

most welcome. But again the limited space doubtless prevented the author from explaining when and where the French name Louis could have meant 'hear' and 'fight,' or why the word 'dear' is variously spelled *liub*, *loef*, *lob*.

Finally it must be mentioned that there are two groups of family names. which may be called "American" in the narrower sense. Indian names, either in the original or in an English version are not mentioned in the Introduction and I could find no example of such names in the dictionary. Since this group is exceedingly small its omission is probably justified. Another group of truly American names, those coined here or adapted to American usage, seems to deserve some space, however. Some of the large number of Pennsylvania German names are listed — but as of German "nationality." Names like Cronkhite, Hoover, Yerkes never existed in Germany.

I repeat, *Dictionary of American Family Names* is a pioneer work, the like of which has never been attempted on such a scale, and errors and shortcomings are naturally unavoidable. With Elsdon Smith's wide knowledge of the subject and his capacity for intellectual work they will become less with each new edition. The best solution, to be sure, would be a thorough revision and a generous allotment of space.



After making another check of American family names in my memory against the names listed in the book, I believe that Mr. Smith's *Dictionary* could easily be improved (at least in this respect) without making fundamental changes. A check against *Who's who in America*, the *Dictionary of American Biography*, and similar reference works would serve to supply all of the "many unusual but famous and well-known names" which are said to be included and explained. Names like Andrzejewski, I, Kabilunas, Lustgarten, Mraz, Oudheusden, Przyby'ski, Szczepanski doubtless exist in the United States, but they are not common or famous enough to exclude such names as Anhaeuser, Bierce, Bierstadt, Bonwit, Bryce, Cather, Denver, Dreiser, Fruehauf, Grether, Guggenhe'm, Herkimer, Kuchel, Knopf, Riesel, Rickenbacker, Rittenhouse, Schoonmaker, Selznick, Studebaker, Sutro, Weyerhaeuser, and many others not listed in the *Dictionary*.

Erwin G. Gudde