

Report

THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ONOMASTIC SCIENCES

After the sixth congress in Munich in August 1958 (see *Names* 8 [1960], 102–108), the Seventh International Congress of Onomastic Sciences was held in Florence, Italy, April 4–8 (in Pisa on April 6), 1961, organized under the direction of Professor Carlo Battisti of the University of Florence.

At registration of the participants a plastic briefcase was given to each member of the congress containing the pocket-sized program, printed reports, and reprints of members. The program included all names and addresses of the members and a synopsis of each communication to be presented orally and to be discussed. There were nine separately printed reports by Paul Aebischer, Pier Maria Conti, Louis Deroy, Henri Guiter, Mauritz Gysseling, Mate Hraste, N. Lahovary, C. A. Mastrelli, Dante Olivieri. Pamphlets were offered to the members by G. Alessio, C. Battisti, P. Fronzaroli, V. Georgiev, G. B. Pellegini, J. B. Rudnyčkyj, Y. Slavutyeh, C. Tagliavini, and reprinted materials (from *Studi Etruschi* 28 [1960] 3–67) by C. Battisti, G. Devoto, and Gabriella Giacomelli. In the materials was included a circular invitation of the Editor of *Names* to the congressists telling them of the tenth anniversary of the American Name Society and of a planned tenth anniversary issue and inviting papers from them to be included in it. In the meantime, volume 10 of *Names* is planned as a tenth anniversary volume.

The congress was well attended. Four hundred five members attended and ninety-six persons accompanied them. The representatives of individual institutes and countries were as follows:

Argentina 1	France 11	Malta 1	Sweden 7
Austria 5	Germany 25	Norway 3	Switzerland 8
Belgium 18	Greece 1	Poland 3	Turkey 1
Bulgaria 2	Holland 8	Portugal 3	United States 5
Canada 5	Hungary 2	Roumania 1	Yugoslavia 5
Czechoslovakia 3	Ireland 3	Spain 12	
Denmark 5	Italy 40		

The papers and reports, a total of 105, were grouped in three sections, *viz.*

- I: *Toponomastics* 58
- II: *Personal names* 29
- III: *Toponomastics and cartography* 18

The actual numbers, however, may have been slightly different than are given above, for there were many cancellations and additions during the course of the congress. From the United States and Canada the following attended the congress and read papers:

Meredith F. Burrill, Washington, D.C.
 Demetrius J. Georgacas, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
 (temporarily: Athens, Greece)

Erik Hamp, Chicago

Jaroslav B. Rudnýkýj, Winnipeg, Man., Canada

Yar Slavutych, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

George R. Stewart, Berkeley, Calif.

all except Hamp members of the American Name Society.

The *Acta and Memoires* will appear in four volumes, each of about 320 pages:

- I. *Acta and Memoires of the toponomastic section* (from *Aquilina to Laurenzi*);
- II. *Memoires of the toponomastic section* (continued);
- III. *Memoires of the anthroponymy section*; and
- IV. *Memoires of the cartographic section*; *indices*.

The printed *Acta*, I, pp. 3–50, were to reach the members in the summer 1961, according to Professor Carlo Battisti; the first volumes were to be available by the end of 1961 and volumes 3 and 4 in 1962. The price of these volumes is not known yet.

Resolutions. — A resolution proposed by Professors Bruno Migliorini and C. A. Mastrelli and passed is as follows (in translation):

The Seventh Congress of Onomastic Sciences recommends that a toponomastic center and an anthroponymic center be created to provide for methodical collections and to serve as a place of support for the researches of Italian and foreign scholars.

A second proposal was introduced by Dr. Meredith F. Burrill and passed. The text follows here:

Whereas the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences has for more than a decade interested itself in international standardization of geographic names, and

whereas the basic elements of a realistic international standardization program, on which many countries have agreed, were worked out at the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences in 1955, and whereas the findings and recommendations of the Group of Experts on Geographical Names set forth in the United Nations Economic and Social Council document E/3441 are consistent with those elements and program, and whereas the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences recognizes that it can aid the program further and in turn be aided by it, now therefore be it Resolved that the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences, assembled at Firenze, endorses the recommendations of the Group of Experts set forth in the United Nations document E/3441, and be it further resolved that the International Committee and the International Centre of Onomastic Sciences hold themselves ready to cooperate in such ways as may be found appropriate with anybody set up by the United Nations to promote international standardization of geographic names, and be it further resolved that the International Congress of Onomastic Sciences commends to its members, to toponymists everywhere, and to governments, the aforesaid document for study and implementation and be it further resolved that the Economic and Social Council be urged to publish the report in such form as will make it readily available to toponymists as well as to others concerned.

The *International Committee of Onomastic Sciences* (*Comité International des Sciences Onomastiques*, abbreviated *CISO*) held its fourth statutory meeting before the assembly meeting in the Aula Philosophica of the University of Florence under the chairmanship of H. J. van de Wijer, Secretary General of CISO, on Saturday, April 8, 11:30–12:20 p.m. Twenty nine members of CISO representing twenty-two countries attended, among them Meredith F. Burrill and Demetrius J. Georgacas (United States) and Jaroslav B. Rudnykýj (Canada). The chairman, Mr. van de Wijer, welcomed the members of the Committee and thanked them for their collaboration in *Onoma*, paid tribute to the memory of four effective members who had died since 1958, M. Schönfeld (Netherlands), M. Triandaphyllidis (Greece), O. Larusson (Iceland), and Sever Pop (Roumania), and of two honorary members, J. Vendryes and A. Carnoy; he reported on the activities of CISO since the Munich congress and announced the publication of volumes 7 and 8 and of the first number of volume 9 of *Onoma*, and the printing and preparation of retrospective bibliographies of Poland (in the press) and of Latin America, Africa, and Spain (in preparation).

The assembly elected the following eminent onomatologists to the list of honorary members: G. Rohlfs, J. Lindemans, Bruce Dickins, J. Vannérus, and A. Vincent.

One of the customary resolutions proposed by this Committee and passed by the plenary assembly is about the place of the next congress. The eighth international congress will be held in Amsterdam in 1963 to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first Congress organized by Albert Dauzat in Paris in 1938, the ninth was set tentatively to be held in London in 1966, and the tenth in Vienna in 1969.

The American Name Society was represented in the meetings, as said above, though Mr. and Mrs. Elsdon C. Smith, who had made arrangements to come, were, because of the sudden illness of our book review editor, unable to realize their trip. The attending *ANS* members had a pleasant informal dinner get-together at the Hotel *Minerva* one evening, where the three past presidents, Meredith F. Burrill, George R. Stewart, and Jaroslav B. Rudnýkyj, met with the editor of *Names* and Mrs. Georgacas and had the opportunity to discuss informally matters of the Society and of the journal. One of the matters brought up was Dr. Burrill's thought that the Library of Congress may be interested in establishing a research chair of Onomastics and Mr. Burrill took it upon himself to present the matter to the officials of the Library.

The congress in Florence and Pisa was certainly a useful meeting of onomatologists from twenty-five countries. Naturally each of the over one hundred papers presented was attended by those interested in the special field concerned. The finest spring weather of Easter week and the cultural setting of Florence and Pisa were most pleasant indeed. The organized social affairs were an obvious display of Italian hospitality enjoyed by all. The local committee under Professors Carlo Battisti, chairman, and C. A. Mastrelli, secretary, did a great deal of work to coordinate the meetings and the social affairs for the comfort of the participants. Our thanks are due to them.

For some information I am indebted to Professor Carlo Battisti and Professor H. J. van de Wijer, who promptly offered their help.

Demetrius J. Georgacas