

Book Reviews

Discovering Surnames: Their Origins and Meanings. By J. W. Freeman. Tring, Hertfordshire, England: Shire Publications, 1968. Pp. 63. Price 4s/6d.

One of the most popular series of paperback booklets in Britain is the Shire "pocket guides," available not only at "main bookshops," as the publisher advertises, but also at stationery stores, souvenir shops, tube stations and elsewhere. They are of two kinds, dealing with both places and topics of popular interest. The booklet here reviewed is in the latter series, along with others dealing with canals, castles, country fairs, inn signs, windmills, historic houses, etc.

That this series should include a pamphlet of 63 pages on surnames is an indication of the remarkable degree of interest in names to be found in Britain. Thirteen chapters briefly – often necessarily too cryptically – discuss the typology and etymology of British family names. The author's classification is the usual four-fold one: surnames deriving from nicknames, occupational surnames, locality surnames, and "Surnames of Family Relationship." This phrase deserves comment, for the author rejects the "patronymic" designation, pointing out that this term applies only to names derived from the father's side of the family, whereas in fact many surnames were formed from women's names as well as from "other family sources." The author does not say so, but one might ask why do we not, therefore, call such names "familial" rather than "patronymic."

The author is especially interested in the non-British national origin of many British surnames, devoting two chapters to names of French, Saxon, Norman, and Scandinavian derivation. There are also three succinct chapters on the form and meaning of selected Irish, Scottish and Welsh surnames, many of which seem so strange and mysterious to the non-student of names. A short essay on "Transatlantic Surnames" deals with British surnames transplanted to the United States, but it is limited to a consideration of those British surnames that appeared as signatures to the "Mayflower Compact" of 1620. It is stated that some surnames that

have virtually disappeared from Britain are still used in America, but it is not indicated which names these are.

The style of the author is simple, direct, and clear. The dubious character of certain etymologies is made clear and alternative derivations are sometimes indicated. Adequate interpretations sometimes suffer from the brevity of the exposition. The essay is a reasonably successful attempt at semi-popularization.

Maurice A. Mook

Lycoming College

CAMBRIDGE REPRINTS OF THE
ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SOCIETY VOLUMES

- Mawer, A., and Stenton, F. M. *The Place-Names of Buckinghamshire*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. II. Cambridge: University Press, 1925. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Mawer, A., and Stenton, F. M. *The Place-Names of Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. III. Cambridge: University Press, 1926, \$14.50.
- Mawer, A., Stenton, F. M., and Houghton, F. T. S. *The Place-Names of Worcestershire*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. IV. Cambridge: University Press, 1927. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Smith, A. H. *The Place-Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. V. Cambridge: University Press, 1928. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Mawer, A., Stenton, F. M., and Gover, J. E. B. *The Place-Names of Sussex*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. VI, Pt. One. Cambridge: University Press, 1929. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Gover, J. E. B., Mawer, A., and Stenton, F. M. *The Place-Names of Devon*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. VIII, Pt. One. Cambridge: University Press, 1931. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Gover, J. E. B., Mawer, A., and Stenton, F. M., with Bonner, A. *The Place-Names of Surrey*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. XI. Cambridge: University Press, 1934. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.
- Reaney, P. H. *The Place-Names of Essex*. English Place-Name Society, Vol. XII. Cambridge: University Press, 1935. Reissued 1969. \$14.50.

The appearance of reprints of the great English Place-Name Society volumes is probably the most welcome event in onomastics to happen since they were published originally. Long out of print, these volumes serve to fill gaps in the series and also furnish an opportunity for libraries to stock complete sets. Since the readers of *Names* and members of the American Name Society are familiar with the series, I will do no more than comment cursorily on the volumes before us. So far, Volume I has not been reissued. Hopefully, it too will soon join the others, since, apparently, the Society plans to bring all volumes into print again.

One of the more valuable earlier volumes is *The Place-Names of Buckinghamshire*, which sets the scholarly tone for future studies. Certain historical and linguistic features of names in the shire point to early British habitation until the year 560 when Saxon invaders occupied the area. Nevertheless, British names are few, including Chetwode, Panshill, Brill, and Brickhill. The examples, however, come from the central and northern parts. In the Chilterns, the Saxons settled late, although some names "may go back to the seventh or even the sixth century." Numerous problems still remain in interpreting settlement names in the history of Buckinghamshire, with overlappings of British, Saxon, Anglian, Scandinavian, and Norman place-names adding to the difficulty in delineating precisely the movements of peoples. Furthermore, the Domesday Survey is inaccurate in recording forms of place-names. The significance of a few obvious personal names that have become place-names is still uncertain. For instance, it is not possible to prove that Shalstone and Shelswell came from the name *Sceald*, although the possibility exists.

This volume also sets the format that was to be followed in others. A short introduction gives the historical background and an account of some of the problems encountered in the compilation. Notes on the dialect also reveal linguistic changes which account for phonological forms that explain some of the spellings. These phonological variations relate also to language differences among inhabitants and invaders. A list of abbreviations of documents used adds to those from Part II, *Chief Elements of English Place-Names*, Vol. 1. Those who wish to use this volume will therefore need the first volume of the series. The body of the text contains all names, including those of rivers and hundreds. Elements other than per-

sonal names are listed, along with a distribution of them. The personal names compounded in the place-names are noted, as are feudal, manorial, field, and minor names. Each volume follows essentially this pattern.

The reprints look exactly like the originals, with only a reference in the front matter that they are reissues. The price, I must add, is considerably more than the originals and may preclude their being placed in many private libraries. Still, all volumes should be a part of any library collection and are indispensable to anyone who pretends to study place-names. In addition, these reissues should stimulate greater effort of place-name scholars in the United States to complete the survey of their own place-names, which, by the way, have problems that are not quite comparable with those met and seemingly conquered by the English.

Kelsie B. Harder

The State University College at Potsdam, New York

Minnesota Geographic Names. By Warren Upham. St. Paul, Minnesota: Minnesota Historical Society, 1969. Pp. XXIV, 788. Price \$10.50.

This large and attractive volume is a reprint of a very small edition of some 1,500 copies which first appeared in 1920 as volume 17 of the *Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society*. The original has long been out of print and exceedingly difficult to obtain. The purpose of the new edition has been to make available to a new generation of readers a book which, according to statements on the paper cover jacket, has stood the test of time and "has been praised as the best volume on place names for any state in the Union."

In addition to Upham's brief preface to the original edition, the book has an introduction by James Taylor Dunn, chief librarian of the society at the present time, in which biographical information about the original author is given as well as corrections and directly pertinent expansions on name origins by Upham after the original publication and also a few recorded by various members of the society over the years. In addition to those additions and slight changes (which cover only about five pages), there are new supple-

ments at the end of the book, one merely listing communities incorporated since 1920 together with the dates of incorporation, and a second of 46 pages giving a complete list of the 1,167 official decisions on the state's place-names handed down by the United States Geographic Board since 1890 and by the Minnesota Geographic Board from its inception in 1937 to July 1, 1969. The index of 18 large double column pages at the end of the old edition has been reprinted without revision or correction. To find information, therefore, a reader must consult not only the old index but also the new introduction and the two supplements at the end of the new edition.

Warren Upham, a native of New Hampshire, came to Minnesota in 1879, eight years after his graduation from Dartmouth College. He acquired an extensive and detailed knowledge of Minnesota's physical characteristics and places while working on the state geological survey, covering a large part of the state on foot and by horseback. He became a prolific writer, first in geology and later in history, his published works numbering 321, according to a bibliography compiled by Esther Jerabek. During his long life he served the Minnesota Historical Society in such various capacities as librarian, archeologist, and superintendent. He worked for 17 years on the research and writing of his place-name volume. James Taylor Dunn characterizes him succinctly as "a pedantic precisionist and a formalist of infinite old-world courtesy, . . . exactly the right man to compile a major contribution to American place-name literature."

The first chapter of the book deals with general features, as districts bearing topographical names, the state name and sobriquets, and the larger lakes and rivers. Eighty-six short chapters treat the place-names of counties in alphabetical order. An eighty-seventh county was created two years after the publication of the book when the northern part of Beltrami County was made a separate county named Lake of the Woods. The place-names of both these counties are treated under Beltrami. In each chapter the name of the county is rather fully discussed; next the townships and villages are treated in alphabetical order, preceded by due mention of books and persons supplying information for the county; and last are records of lakes and streams, hills, prairies, and, in some of the counties, Indian reservations, iron ore ranges,

state and national forests, state parks, glacial lakes, beaches, and moraines. The last three chapters of the 90-chapter volume deal with the streets, avenues, and parks in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth. Inside the front and back covers are state maps which show merely the counties and nothing else.

Admirable as a pioneer project, the book, from the point of view of modern place-name research, leaves much to be desired. Presenting most of the names of the state by counties is a cumbersome procedure. Since some of the same features apply to more than one county, there is considerable repetition. If all the names in the state had been presented in one strictly alphabetical list, much space could have been saved, and the bulky index might not have been needed at all. In some 39 counties all the names are listed under just two headings: *Townships and Villages* and *Lakes and Streams*. Thirty other counties have only one additional heading. Only four counties have more than five headings, the largest number, nine, being found under just one county. These county chapters are short, varying in length from three to 31 pages, with an average of seven pages per chapter. Thirty-nine chapters have five pages or less, and only one has more than 18 pages. When one compares this with the treatment in Cassidy's recent republication of his *Dane County Place Names* (Wisconsin), the dictionary portion of which alone covers 195 pages, one wonders about the completeness of Upham's work. The pages in Cassidy's book are smaller, to be sure, and he covers only one county instead of a whole state, but, even so, the very great difference in thoroughness of treatment between Cassidy and Upham is striking.

There are several other shortcomings besides brevity. For the great majority of places, the only reference to location is the county. A few section numbers are given, and now and then a place is located with reference to some other place. On the whole, information about precise location of places is very sparse.

Very little is said about the time names were given to places. About the only information concerning many names is a brief statement about the origin of the name, often not very satisfactory. For example, the following is the only information given about a township in Itasca County: "Inger township was named for one of its early settlers." Many of the entries are similar to this one and are only two to four lines in length.

Mr. Upham was obviously more interested in history than in language. When dealing with the name of Houston County, he devotes almost a whole page to a biography of Sam Houston – interesting material but having little or no connection with the naming process. Similarly he gives many facts about the life of Stephen A. Douglas (Douglas County), of Ulysses S. Grant (Grant County), and of many others. Mr. Upham cannot be blamed too much for not giving much information about names of Indian origin.

The last three chapters dealing with streets, avenues, and parks of Minnesota's three most important cities are so different from the rest of the book that they might well have been omitted. Because of the spectacular growth of these cities during the last 50 years, this material would need to be completely revised to give anything more than a historical account of the past.

This book has no bibliography. A few sources are given at the beginning of the *Townships and Villages* section of each chapter. To get anything like a comprehensive view of Upham's sources, a reader would have to go through all 90 chapters of the book!

In view of the expense involved in publishing a large book like this, one might wonder whether it would have been wise to revise and rearrange the material completely before publication rather than to reprint the early volume with all its shortcomings. Had such a procedure been followed, however, the many difficulties and tremendous labor involved in the task might have delayed publication indefinitely.

The unfavorable comments which have just been made may rightly be considered unfair. Mr. Upham should not be criticized for not doing things he could not possibly do. He did not have the background of place-name research which investigators have today. He worked alone without any guidelines except those he set for himself. By herculean efforts and prolonged personal labor he amassed a vast amount of firsthand information. He deserves unstinted praise and credit for his accomplishments. Likewise the Minnesota Historical Society deserves thanks for making easily available this storehouse of information which it is hoped workers in every one of the 87 counties will use as a beginning for much more thorough and detailed investigation of the geographic names of the state.

Silvio Pieri. *Toponomastica della Toscana meridionale (valli della Fiora, dell'Ombrone, della Cècina e fiumi minori) e dell'arcipelago toscano*. A cura del Dott. Gino Garosi. Riveduto dal Prof. Giuliano Bonfante dell'Università di Torino. (Accademia senese degli Intronati: Monografie di storia e letteratura senese, VIII). Siena: Accademia senese degli Intronati, 1969. Pp. xxiv, 471.

In 1898 Professor Pieri published his *Toponomastica delle valli del Serchio e della Lima* as a supplement to the *Archivio glottologico italiano*. It was reprinted in the *Rendiconti* of the Reale Accademia dei Lincei in 1937. In 1919 his *Toponomastica della valle dell'Arno* appeared. The present volume, which was to complete the series, was interrupted by his death in 1936. In recognition of its unquestionable importance, the Intronati Academy has now undertaken to bring it out under its auspices. Fortunately, before being committed to print, the compilation has had the benefit of a double revision, the first by Dr. Garosi, president of the Academy and a profound student of Tuscan topology, who has been able to amplify it with new names drawn from various sources, and the second by Professor Bonfante, holder of the chair of linguistics at the University of Turin, and one of the most learned and versatile of our contemporary linguists. Both he and Dr. Garosi have materially helped to enhance the value of the original investigation.

The first seven chapters of the volume under consideration are devoted to specific types of place-names: three to those derived from Etruscan, Roman and Germanic personal names, one to plants, one to animals, another to names derived from or made up of appellatives, and still another to names relating to the physical condition of the soil. Chapter eight is devoted to names of miscellaneous origin, and chapter nine and its appendix to names of uncertain origin. All the terms listed re-appear in the alphabetical index of toponyms.

It is obvious that the types just mentioned do not differ basically from those of most of the regions of Europe. This is particularly true of the geological and zoological place-names; hence, in spite of the significant role that they play in the natural history of the area, they tend to lose some of their appeal. This reader has been much more impressed by the personal name toponyms. The number of Etruscan names, upwards of 300, which have resisted the devastat-

ing tides of the centuries, is very striking. Names that came into existence during the Roman period number more than 750 and are indicative of a thorough Romanization. The Germanic personal name quota amounts to approximately 175 names. They predominantly represent landholders of the feudal period or their descendants and point to the high degree of penetration in rural communities on the part of this ethnic group.

The few comments that follow have occurred to me in the course of my perusal. The probable derivation of *Paganus* from the collective *paganus* (p. 78) can be further supported by the observation that it may formerly have been one of the coastal military stations established by the Arabs in the course of their piracies in this sector of the Mediterranean. It might be connected with localities on or near the coast such a *Paganello* (Leghorn) and *Paganico* (Massa Marittima). On the other hand *Saraceni* (p. 83) is less acceptable as a one-time settlement of infidels as far inland as the province of Siena. It could represent a botanical term referring to a field of *grano saraceno* (buckwheat). Both *Pagano* and *Saraceno*, incidentally, were common first names in the Middle Ages or they were once nicknames given to participants in religious pageants. *Tasso*, cited only in the botanical and animal sections (pp. 211 and 236) could very well be a Germanic personal name. See Förstemann, *Alt-deutsches Namenbuch*, Erster Band: *Personennamen*. 2d ed. Bonn, 1900, p. 405. For *Poggiobruno* (p. 248), though weaker than the adjective *bruno* as a source, *Bruno*, a common given name, should not altogether be ruled out. As for *paternum* and its derivatives (p. 267), at least one, *Paterno* (Massa Marittima), could hark back to a personal name. There are several *Paternos* in the calendar of saints. *Affrico* in the Volterra and Siena provinces (p. 325), for which no explanation is furnished, is very likely due to a first name: cf. St. Affricus. Though we may be dealing with a homonym, it is of interest to note that the Pisan *Miranda* (p. 349) is duplicated in a number of Spanish and Portuguese toponyms. Finally, since the usual meaning of *calamita* is a loadstone and the word is a part of the compound *Montecalamita* (p. 382), I should be disposed to grant it preference over *cala* in this particular instance.

More observations will no doubt be supplied by other reviewers. Nevertheless, the *Toponomastica della Toscana meridionale*... will

remain an outstanding contribution, an enduring tribute to Pieri and to his two supplementers, Garosi and Bonfante.

Joseph G. Fucilla

Northwestern University

Die Ortsnamen der Ainu. Beiträge zur Japanologie, IV. By Alexander Slawik. Wien: Institute für Japanologie an der Universität Wien, 1968. Pp. (i-iv) 210. Price 90 Austrian *Schilling*, or about \$3.50.

The Ainu are well known in the Western world as the hirsute, wavy-haired "white" folk of Northern Japan who practice a kind of bear ceremonialism. Photographs of Ainu reveal *Doppelgänger* among them of prominent Western "whites" like Darwin, Tolstoi and President Nixon. Although the bear reckons prominently in the naming of places in Ainu (pp. 109-112), it is inland fishing (pp. 97-105) that, more than anything else, may be demonstrated by toponymic evidence to be the number-one traditional economic activity of the Ainu. In this connection it is noteworthy that the word and place-name element *chep* can mean not only "fish," or regionally "lox," but "food" (in the sense of German *Nahrung*) as well (p. 97).

"Fish"/"food" was thought of by the Ainu as entering the *petpar* (etc.) (*pet* "stream, river" + *par* "mouth, estuary, opening") into what (following the work in Japanese of 1956 by the Ainu Chiri; see p. 19) was conceptualized, in typical Ainu anthropomorphic fashion, as analogous to one's own body: the main body of the stream. Building on this analogy, the intake of *chep* through the *petpar* means that a river would not be viewed as flowing upstream and "uphill." Ainu compound place-names bear out the rightness of this interpretation (p. 17): *Rikomán-pet* "higher lying areas" (*rik*) + "ascending" (*oman*) + "stream, river" (*pet*); *Sinomán-pet* "straight ahead" (*sin*) + "ascending" (*oman*) + *idem*.

Forty out of 45 of the sources making up Slawik's bibliography (pp. 205-210) are in Japanese. His work stands out as the one repository of information, in a Western language, of Ainu place-name knowledge and research from the sixteenth century onward.

On p. 5 he announces a forthcoming work on eighth-century evidence throughout Japan of apparently kindred place-names. In the present work (p. 39) we are told that Ainu is no longer a living language, which is the same as saying that Ainu place-name elements have ceased to be productive. The Ainu toponymic landscape, which the Japanese traditionally leave largely intact (p. 3), would therefore hold little etymological meaning except for the old among the Ainu (p. 5). And even they cannot provide us with all of the answers we seek; otherwise Chiri's attempt at reconstruction found in the preceding paragraph would not have been necessary.

When Slawik talks about the more marked assimilation of the Ainu in recent decades to the culture of their colonizing Japanese neighbors (p. 3), one would not question this for the "Ezo-Ainu" (p. 11) of Hokkaido. But what of the South Sakhalin (South Karafuto) and Kurile Island groups? Their homeland was ceded to the Soviet Union after World War II. On the nationality map of the U.S.S.R. in the 1951 edition of that land's official geographic atlas for secondary schools, the Kuriles are shown as solidly Russian, whereas much of the middle third of South Sakhalin, with the adjoining western coastline, is shown as Ainu in nationality.

Slawik's students' workbook-like reproduced typed manuscript gives a thoroughgoing and systematic treatment of every imaginable category in relation to Ainu place-names. It is hard to believe that much could have been left out. Some 12 diagrammatic and more detailed regional maps provide valuable illustrative material. Four toponymic case studies are appended to the work from pp. 175 through 203. Aside from an occasional syntactic Slavicism and more than one proofreading flaw, the reader should be ready for much Austrian German. For most English-speaking readers more than a pocket-sized German-English dictionary is advised.

Geart B. Droege

Capital University (Columbus, Ohio)

Scandinavian Personal Names in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire. By Gillian Fellows Jensen. Copenhagen: Akademisk forlag, 1968. Pp. CVIII + 374. Price 64 Dan. crowns.

For almost half a century we have been used to regarding the Scandinavians as pioneers and leaders in the field of Germanic name research. At one time it was even said that the center for English place-name research was not to be found in Great Britain, but at the Swedish universities of Uppsala and Lund, where for decades scholars like Erik Björkman, R. E. Zachrisson, Eilert Ekwall, and their disciples continued to put out important contributions. A comparison of those works with the one under review, which is a doctor's dissertation, published as volume 7, in a series edited by the Danish Institute for Name Research, does not turn out favorably for the latter.

The book begins with four introductory chapters devoted to the background of the Viking settlements in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and to the distribution of Scandinavian place-names and personal names in this area, the frequency of occurrence and chronological stratification of the personal names, and a discussion of orthographical and phonological characteristics of the forms in the English sources.

The major part consists of a dictionary of the personal names with source material and interpretations. Concluding the book are lists of first and second elements in the personal names, a place-name index, and a summary. The last-mentioned section is presented in the Danish language, which seems puzzling, since Scandinavian scholars are known to be well versed in English.

It goes without saying that, in order to carry out a project of this kind, the investigator must possess a thorough knowledge of Scandinavian philology. Also, since "information about the pre-Conquest Scandinavian names must be gleaned from place-names" (p. XVII), training in place-name research is a prerequisite. Unfortunately, the author is not sufficiently equipped in either field, and the consequences are very much evident. Even after a cursory reading, I have found scores of place-names and personal names that are incorrectly interpreted or should not have been included at all. One result of this deplorable state is that Chapter III, which contains statistics of the relationship between various groups of personal names and their occurrence in various types of place-names, is of doubtful value, since it lacks a safe foundation.

Unfortunately, space does not permit a detailed discussion of the numerous questionable statements and conclusions. The cardinal

mistake is the author's indiscriminate use of place-names as evidence of the occurrence of personal names. The first element in the place-name *Odelgateland* is offered as evidence of the personal name *Auðhildr*; instead, it is obviously Icel. *aðalgata*, "main road." *Flaxflet(e)*, later *Faxflet(e)* does not contain the name *Faksi*, but rather ME. *flax*, with dissimilatory syncope of the first *l*. *Catale-ala* does not contain a name *Kaða*, but is Scand. *katthale*, "cat's tail," which frequently has been used in a comparative sense about ridges, etc.; and *Catefos* is so named because cats were often drowned in streams. A personal name **Haukreiði* is derived from the place-name *Haukeraytheker* and translated "ready as a hawk," which cannot be correct, since Scand. *rede*, "ready," is a German loan. Obviously, the place-name contains a compound meaning "hawk's nest"; cf. OldDan. *rethæ*, OldIcel. *hreidr*, "nest." *Thuuewath* and *Wandewath* do not contain personal names but the noun *þúfa*, "knoll," and the adj. *vandr*, "difficult."

The name **Gufubeinn* (š) is explained as a combination of *gufa*, "smoke," "haze" and *bein*, "leg," but the meaning of such a byname is not easy to fathom; the Swed. dialect word *guvel*, "person with straggling gait," on the other hand, gives a good clue; (*bein* should be spelt with only one *n*). On p. 152 the author lists a "WGerm. **In-geldaR*" with a final *R* which never existed in WGerm. The name *Jarðarr* is said to be formed by the addition of "the neutral suffix *-arr*"; should be "masculine."

The number of orthographical errors and misprints is about average for a book of this size. The first name of the grand old man in Scandinavian place-name research is *Jöran* (Sahlgren), not *Jörn* (p. 44). Compounds are not separated in Scand., hence *Personnamnsstudier*, not *Personnamns Studier* (p. XI). In a book title, only the first word is capitalized, and a system like *Tomt Och Toft Som Appellativ Och Ortnamnselement* (p. XII) is an affront to a Scandinavian eye.

To conclude, this could have been a very valuable treatise, if the author had taken the precaution of having the ms. checked by some specialists before sending it to print. In its present form, it must be used with a great deal of discretion.

Gösta Franzén

The University of Chicago

Place Names of Southwest Peloponnesus. Register and Indexes. By Demetrius J. Georgacas and William A. McDonald. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1969. Pp. iv, 404. Price \$10.

The book under review is to my knowledge the first systematic and exhaustive analytical register of Modern Greek place-names found in a defined area which is up to the standards of accuracy that are now required in toponomastic studies and whose interest is not concentrated exclusively on the etymology of the particular names themselves. The area covered extends, very broadly speaking, from ancient Olympia in the north over Triphylia, Messene and Pylia to the westernmost promontory of South Peloponnesus. The authors collected more than 8,700 different place-names in this area, mostly by field trips; since different localities frequently have the same name, the number of particular localities identified by these names is approximately 20,000.

This mass of names is marshalled in an alphabetical general "Register of Toponyms" (p. 91-285). The authors use an ingenious system for the localization of the names. Since the area covered belongs to three administrative districts, the authors have chosen some 300 towns and larger villages, which they call "centers," giving an alphabetical list of these centers in which each center has its own number. The exact position of each of these numbered centers is then indicated on good map sketches. The localization of the single toponyms comprised by the General Register is indicated by a simple numerical reference to the center in whose vicinity the respective toponym is used. Thus, an indication like "'Αβανιά ἡ 168" means that the locality called 'Αβανιά is situated in the vicinity of center no. 168, which is (as we see in a special index of the centers) Μπούζι in the central district, i.e. in the eparchy of Triphylia; and the map of the district shows us the center Μπούζι in its uttermost northwest corner, near the coast of the Kyparissian Gulf. In the same way, a short entry in the General Register like "Γρούσπα ἡ 152. 224" tells us that two localities have this identical name, and that of one of them is situated in the vicinity of the center Μεσοχώρι in the Southern District, the other in the vicinity of the center Σελίβα in the Northern District; and these two centers can be found on the respective maps of the two districts. There is no doubt that this system is very good and allows the authors to convey much precise information in a very condensed way. It would

be too much to ask the authors to tell us, e.g., how far the respective locality is from the "center," and in which direction. The network of the centers has a sufficient density, so that additional information of the type mentioned would add only unnecessary bulk without a real purpose. (No need to stress that this remark is valid only in respect to a work like the one under review, where three whole districts are to be studied; a study dealing with a smaller area, let us say one on the scale of a single village or of several villages, would also require more detailed geographical information.) Excellent as the system is, I feel, however, that an improvement of it would be possible. The point is that the authors decided to number the centers as they are listed in their alphabetical sequence. This means that the numerical sequence has no relation at all to the geographical situation of the centers. Indeed, center no. 1 'Αγαλιανή is in the Central District, no. 2 'Αγατζίκι in the Southern District, no. 3 'Αγια-Κυριακ-ή in the Central District, no. 4 'Αγιαννάκης: Central District, no. 5 'Αελιάς: Northern District, no. 6 'Αλουποχώρι: Northern District, no. 7 'Αγρίλης: Central District, etc. And the consequence of this, in its turn, is that the reader who finds in the respective entry of the general register of toponyms, for instance, the indication "Βαμπακιά ή 6.8.9.101.126.136.138 etc." has no idea where the localities are situated and must search for each numerical item in the list of centers to find out that no. 6 is in the extreme northeast corner of the Northern District, no. 8 in the southwest of the Southern District, no. 9 in the center of the Central District, no. 101 close to no. 9 in the Central District again, and nos. 126 and 136 in the same district as well, but no. 138 in the coastal part of the Northern District, etc. In my opinion, the centers should have been numbered in their rough geographical sequence; for instance in such a way that the centers situated in the Northern District would have the number 1-100 (or 120, or so), 200-300 (or 320, or something) would pertain to the central district, and 400ff. would be reserved for the centers situated in the southern District. The numbers within the borders of the single districts could go roughly from north to south and from east to west. If this (or some similar) grouping were the organizing principle of the numerical sequence of the centers, a reader would immediately understand that an entry like, for instance, "*Αγνωστοχώραφι 15.38.90.220.274.327.465" shows that the toponym is equally distributed in all the three

districts, where as an entry of the eventual type “*Οὐχώρα 258.263.266.269” would immediately show the concentration of the toponym in the Central District. The alphabetical sequence adopted by the authors forces the reader to seek each numerical indication of the respective center, and thus its localization, in the list of centers again and again. But even as it is, the system is adroit and allows with its good maps a rather precise localization of the toponyms without long discussions.

Admirable work was put into the indications of the names themselves. Here we get the name as normally used (with its pronunciation if it is not fully predictable from the orthography), its variants, if there are any, its possible Katharewusa-form (e.g., Βρεστών for Βρεστό), and, also if need be, the new name of the place introduced by the puristic movement (e.g., Μηλέα for Σκλίβα). A very important feature of the book is the inhabitant-names (i.e., derivations of the type *New Yorker*, *Chicagoan*, *Texan*, *Utahn*). Since these ἐθνικά, as they were called in ancient times, have different forms (-αῖος, -ίτης, -ίσσα etc.) it is useful to have them listed. In many cases, good etymologies of the toponyms are added; of course, many of them do not need such an explication, because they are self-explanatory, e.g., “Αγι-Ἀντώνης “St. Anthony,” Δυό ρέματα “two creeks,” etc. As already stated, the work done is admirable; it must have been enormously difficult to find out, for instance, such nuances as the normal form of the different compound names beginning with ἅγιος “saint”: Ἄγιος, Ἄγιο-, Ἀῦ-, Ἀε-, etc. But it is not necessary to mention only such nuances: merely the amount of time and labour required for the collection of this enormous material by field trips must have been exorbitant. There may be some trifles which might have been eliminated, such as, e.g., in the entry no. 11: “Ἀβατώννα [see] Βατώννα”; but there is no Βατώννα in the book. Or we feel that a reader who is not much acquainted with certain official tendencies in the Greek nomenclature may be surprised to hear (no. 5437) that the place formerly called Ναβαρίνο has the “recent” name Πύλος, seeing that Πύλος goes back to Homer. A more detailed discussion of the antiquarian tendencies of the recent nomenclature (Ναβαρίνο was re-named Πύλος in the nineteenth cent.) than the one given in the preface would have been both useful and interesting.

There is, however, one point in which I regret the succinctness of the information given in the General Register. As we all know, the

term *place-name* has some difficulties of its own. In one acceptance, it is used in reference to any locality; names of forests, mountains, rivers, etc. are then included. The usual way in which the term is applied, however, is that it is used in reference to places where people live. But even this application hides some uncertainties. The name of a town or a village, even that of a hamlet, is clearly a place-name. So is the name of a farm or of a monastery standing alone. But what about places that are uninhabited but still created by man's activity and/or connected with it, such as a hut occasionally used to hide in in bad weather, different fields, orchards, cultivated forests, fords in rivers, ponds, significant, important crossroads of paths, rocks used for orientation, clearings in woods? One could continue for a long time. The authors know all these difficulties and also discuss (Foreword, p. 6) the terminological implications (the German terminology discerns *Ortsname* [place-name of the first type, i.e., towns and villages] and *Flurname*; in English, the distinction between *toponyms* and *microtoponyms* is sometimes made). It is highly laudable that the authors took the term *place-name* in the possibly broadest sense (i.e., toponyms plus microtoponyms, with names of bodies of water and of hills included); indeed, it is just this wealth of the toponymic material that gives the book its exceptional value. The authors inform us (p. 6) that "the vast majority of names... proved to be used to designate regional subdivisions of land and especially small farm plots," i.e., the *Flurnamen*, microtoponyms. As far as the information given in the General Register is concerned, we hear (p. 14) that a name referring to a spring, well, lagoon, river, bay or some other body of water is marked as such by the abbreviation (ν) (= νερό "water"); a mountain or a hill is marked by (β) (= βουνό); further abbreviations are: (χ) = χωριό, (town or village), (π) = πόλη (a larger town); and νησί marks an island. When we read the General Register, we find that only a small minority of the names is marked by one of these abbreviations. The big remainder will, then, be the microtoponyms, "regional subdivisions of land" and "small farm plots," as the authors have told us. But here our difficulties begin, because these microtoponyms can refer to so many different things that we are lost without a specific, concrete indication. Yes, these names are frequently self-explanatory: no. 2883 Κάτω ρούγα will be the "Lower quarter"; no. 2889 Κάτω χούνη will be the "Lower

gorge"; any name containing the word ἀγκορτσιά will refer to some orchard of wild pear trees, etc., etc. But, e.g., no. 5731 Ξερολιθιές: is it a configuration of stones, or rocks, or is it a stony field (not by meaning but by reference)? No. 2890 ὁ μύλος τοῦ Καυκᾶ must be "Kafkas' mill"; but no. 7705 στοῦ Τζαμῆ τό μύλο or no. 7682a στοῦ Τάση τό μύλο will be rather the tracks of fields, or a part of the territory adjacent to the respective mills of Τζάμης and Τάσης. Sometimes, there are conflicting possibilities of understanding the name: no. 1982 Δύο ρέματα must be "Two brooks (or creeks)," no. 1981 Δύο νερά must be "Two waters" (cf. also no. 3676 and others). The names seem to imply that they refer to bodies of water, but there is no abbreviation (v) in the entries. Is the abbreviation absent because the names were taken as self-evident, or do the names refer to, for instance, fields between two creeks, or around two ponds? Nos. 6797-6802: there are 22 occurrences of the name Πέμα or Πέματα "brook(s), creek(s)"; but in no case the abbreviation (v) is added. But here we suspect that Πέμα will really be used in reference to brooks or creeks, because we have στό Πέμα τ'ἀμπέλια "vineyards at the creek." But as already stated and as the authors tell us, the majority of these names refer to fields; they frequently contain the owner's name.

I think the authors must have had all this specific information in their files, at least in a rough form, and so I suppose that they could not give it in the book because of lack of funds. On the one hand, I do not wonder, because such detailed indications would have doubled the bulk of the book; on the other hand, it is a pity because with these indications the book would have been even better than it is now, the more so that it is well known that microtoponyms (contrary to the place-names in the stricter sense of the term) usually are not very old, and their interest is more sociological or sociolinguistic than (pre)historical. But even as it is, the book is a first class source of toponomastic information and makes excellent reading. The last remark may sound incredible, at least to the uninitiated, but since every reader of this journal knows that there is nothing like reading a telephone directory, or that a walk through the local cemetery (particularly in Europe, where people indicate their titles and status in life on the tomb-stones) reveals the national, religious, social development of the place itself, we can safely say it. Greek, Slavic, Turkish names of proprietors show

the different mixtures of population, Katharewusa and antiquarian recent coinages show what is being expelled, hagiological names show the local cults, and so on. The book is immensely valuable as a source for many further studies.

On p. 287–361, Professor Georgacas supplies us with a list of over 700 Albanian toponyms (nearly 1,200 single occurrences) collected by him in several Albanian enclaves of the area. The list is built on the same principles as the General Register. But in order to make sure that all these toponyms were Albanian special research was required on the part of Professor Georgacas. The explanatory and etymological part of it, however, is much more developed than that of the General Register, which enhances the value of this first-class source for Albanian toponymy.

The book contains several indices. Particular mention should be made of the Index of Non-Initial Elements (p. 365 ff. Greek, p. 397 ff. Albanian) which allows an easy study of the *uttarapadas* of compound names. These indices, an exhaustive bibliography of the subject, maps of the area covered and the general scholarly standard make of the book a model for further collections of Greek micro-toponyms.

L. Zgusta

Orientální Ústav, Prague