

Book Reviews

ITALIAN SURNAMES TODAY (A Review Article)

Emidio De Felice is presently professor of linguistics at the University of Genoa and is the author of several books in this general area. In the *Dizionario dei cognomi italiani* (Milan, Mondadori, 1978), he adopts the pattern set by the popular Dauzat *Dictionnaire étymologique des noms de famille et prénoms français*, the tenth edition of which was published in 1951. The Italian repertoire covers more than 14,000 surnames listed alphabetically according to their surnominal bases followed by their variants, derivatives and compounds. Frequency is noted for the country as a whole, for northern, central and southern Italy, as well as departmental divisions and provinces. Except for geographical surnames, the other appellations are provided with etymologies or, if not, with definitions. Within these categories, a heavy concentration of a particular surname in certain towns and cities is mentioned wherever it occurs. Historical data is freely inserted.

In order to round out his perspective, Prof. De Felice has taken special pains to add the most common and characteristic names in Sardinia, the Neo-Greek names in the Salentino and other southern Italian sections, German names in the Alto Adige, Friuli and Venezia Giulia, Slovene and Croatian names in Friuli and Venezia Giulia, Provençal names in Val d'Aosta, and the surnames prevalent among the Italian Jews.

Thirty-seven percent of the names in his inventory represent personal names, 15 percent nicknames and 48 percent "nomi aggiunti," 37 percent of which consist of ethnic and topographical names, ten percent of office and occupational names and one percent of patronymics and metronymics limited by definition to personal names employing the particles *D'*, *De*, *Di*, *Del*, *Della*, *Degli*, the articles *Lo* and *La* and the endings *-ich*, *ic*, *ig*.

The most difficult decision that every compiler of a dictionary of surnames must make is how to deal with those based on personal names. These, we all agree, were once first names that have survived as patronymics and metronymics. It is also clear that virtually every one can be duplicated by a religious name. In the Christian and especially in the Catholic world with its saints and martyrs, there has always been a name-giving tradition intimately linked with the Church so much so that it would be tantamount to a commonplace to affirm that it is the paramount source of our personal *cognomina*. Should the onomatologist systematically indicate this linkage? There is obviously no need in the case of Biblical names and the names of some of the most revered of the holy men. Yet, even though we were drastically to cut down our citations, we should still be plagued with an *embarras de choix*. Nevertheless, if I were compiling an annotated list, I should make my mentions considerably more inclusive than Prof. De Felice has done. My comments, restricted to the personal names that he cites, will, in part, show how an extra light can be cast on them. He mentions saint names in connection with Bernardo, Clemente, Giusto, Paolo, and Vittorio, but not for Alberto, Berto, Carlo, Rinaldo and Ugo, which also recall the names of saints. What is

significant for us about these ten appellations is that they have produced new saint names through their derivatives containing the diminutive *-ino*, e.g., Bernardino, Bertino, Carlino, Giustino, Paolino, Rinaldino, Ugolino—everyone of which has furnished its quota of font and last names.¹

When parents bestow upon their offspring augural, gratulatory or other desirable names, it cannot be proven that they invariably do so because of the literal meanings that they convey. We must also take into account the fact that they frequently represent votive names, names of venerated saints, patron saints and name day names, thereby functioning as alternative sources. I refer to Amato, Amico, Amore, Benigno, Desiderio, Diodato, Fedele, Fortunato, Onesto, Onorato, Regina, Vivenzio. Even animal names which are usually associated with nicknames—Agnello, Aquila, Aquilino, Bovone, Lupino, Lupicino, Orso, Ursino—have often been drawn from the saints' calendar.

Aside from being informed that the surname Adriano enjoys a moderate frequency from the north to Campania, we are told that it refers to an inhabitant of Adria. But, in view of its European spread, its popularity can best be explained by positing a religious provenance: there are six saints and four popes by that name. The revival of illustrious *nomina* and *praenomina* during the Renaissance, in this instance that of Hadrian, the emperor, has probably had a minimal effect as made evident by the absence of the initial H in non-Romance countries. Most of the Barbato are apt to be descendants of one or more bearded progenitors. Yet there must be some who owe theirs to the font name Barbato taken from the sainted archbishop of Benevento. Since Saint Ercolano was bishop of Perugia during the sixth century, it may be assumed that the name has survived chiefly through him. A Humanistic coinage from Ercole, Hercules, seems to be unattested. San Ferruccio, a martyr from Mainz, is a competitor of Ferruccio, from *ferro*, a metonym for smith. Only a very casual Renati can go back to the small town of Renate in Brianza. This source is patently overshadowed by Renato, from San Renato, moderately employed as a first name. Cf. Renato Fucini. The influence of French René is apparent. For Boccadoro, listed under Bocca, I should have included a gloss to the effect that it might refer to San Giovanni Cristostomo in order to distinguish him from other Johns as has been done in the cases of Battista for San Giovanni Battista and Evangelista for San Giovanni Evangelista.

Professor De Felice quite properly cites instances of the cult of certain saints in various towns, provinces and regions that help to explain why surnames drawn from them are densely clustered there. Other unmentioned saint cults that serve the same purpose elsewhere are Agnello (Aniello), Naples, Bertoldo, Venetia, Giusto, Venezia Giulia, Lanfranco, Lombardy, Prospero and Valeriano, Emilia, Romolo, Tuscany, Vitaliano, Capua.

I shall now call attention to a number of names which do not owe their diffusion primarily to the fact that they are saint names. Some, like those of Spanish origin, can be discussed as one unit. Here, too, the recordings in the *Dizionario*. . . are sporadic. In view of the long Aragonese-Spanish domination of Southern Italy and Sardinia, which, although broken at intervals, lasted from the end of the thirteenth to the

¹It should be taken for granted that all but a few of the *-o* names that I list also reappear with the *-o* replaced by *-i*. This is the prevailing pattern in central and northern Italy.

beginning of the eighteenth century, we naturally anticipate meeting with a substantial number. Hence, whenever we observe a concentration of names in this territory that correspond to names that are identical or nearly identical in spelling to names of high frequency in Spain, we can arrive at the pretty safe conclusion that the bulk of them are surnominal vestiges of those borne by ancestors from the Western Mediterranean. This includes individuals named Alonso (S. Italy), Corona (S. Italy and Sardinia), Costa (E. Sicily), Esposito > Expósito (S. Italy, esp. Naples), Ferrando (Naples), Ferrera, Ferrero (Sicily), Guerrera (Sicily), Infante (Naples, Palermo), Miranda (Catania), Oliva (E. Sicily), Pastore > Pastor (Campania), Reale > Real (S. Italy), Scudero > Escudero (S. Italy, esp. Catania).

Pinto (S. Italy) is a place-name in the province of Oviedo and Madrid and a nickname signifying speckled. The prolific Portuguese Pinto can also put in its claim as a source. Spina (S. Italy) recalls Espina which exists both as a saint name and as a place-name. Spinozza from Espinosa, Espinoza, is self-evident. The forefathers of some of the Amoroso, Amoruso (S. Italy, esp. Bari) may be descendants of the numerous Catalan Amorós. We may likewise conjecture that Rosiello, Rossiello (S. Italy, esp. Bari) are echoes of the equally abundant Catalan Rosell, Rossell. For Tafuri (Sicily) and Liguria), Professor De Felice has evidently accepted the etymon proposed recently by G. B. Pellegrini in his paper on "Onomastica e toponomastica araba in Italia." Vol. II of the *Atti e memorie della sezione antroponomica*, Florence, 1963, p. 463, namely the Arabic Tayfūri, seller of crockery. It is just as likely, notwithstanding, that the real source is Spanish *tafur*, a nickname signifying gambler. Cf. the name of the world traveller and writer, Pedro Tafur (1410-1484).

Although Battaglia, De (Di) Leone, Gagliardo Guerra, Molina, Moro, Pardo, Periz, Pino, Reina, Vergara have been found to have an all-Italy spread we cannot, if they are current in the southern part of the country, overlook the impact of Spanish names of high frequency such as Batalla, Gallardo Guerra, Molina, Moro, Pardo, Pino, Reina and Vergara. Amaro (Sicilian) can, together with Amara, be of Basque origin. There is a Sant'Amaro. Vasco (Sicily) has to be from the term for Basque not Guascone, an inhabitant of Gascony. Mazzamoro, which is rare, is an Italianization of Matamoros. In both Spanish and Italian it is a synonym for a bully. Another clear Italianization of a Hispanic name is Zapatta from Zapata.

Sicilian Gusmano, Cusmano, Cusimano, Cusumano hark back to one of the oldest Spanish names, Guzmán, var. Gusmán, which derives from the Gothic Godsmann. The presence of the unvoiced velar *c* in place of the voiced velar *g* does not offer any difficulty, since, in parts of the island, especially in the Province of Syracuse, it is a regular phonological change. Cf. J.W. Ducibella. *Phonology of the Sicilian Dialects*, p. 254. The *i* of Cusimano and the second *u* of Cusumano are plainly the result of epenthesis. Incidentally, these *-ano* names together with Cosmano and Cosimano are grouped by Professor De Felice under the heading of Cosma. Inasmuch as they can be found in Venetian coastal areas, I prefer to see in them an extension of Germanic Gottsman, Gutzman and their variants Cotsmann and Cotesmann. At the same time, I should not dismiss the penetration of the Sicilian forms just mentioned. In the discussion of Cusimano the unusual suggestion is made that it might represent a fusion and contraction of the names of the two brother martyrs Cosma and Damiano. There is no documentation to prove it.

The separation of personal names from their place-name homographs has always been troublesome. The choice of the first is so logical that we now and then are led to neglect the second as possible surnominal substitutes. This has occurred in the list under consideration, for instance with reference to Adami in the province of Catanzaro, Amelia, near Perugia, Doria, the Valsolda summer home of Fogazzaro, Grimaldi in Calabria and Grimaldi di Ventimiglia, Russi, between Bologna and Ravenna. Other place-name surnames that might escape notice are Bassanello, Falco, Falchi, Falcone, Tioli, from Tiola or Tiolo, Vermiglio and Zaccarello.

Different or alternative solutions can be proposed for a small batch of other surnames. One can query whether Aliso is always a variant of Aloiso. It could be an apheretic form of Fiordaliso, fleur de lis, which exists as a metronymic. Aquilante, Aymone and Rizzieri might have been remembered as hero-worship names emanating like some of the others mentioned from the romances of chivalry, in this case the three of them coming from the *Reali di Francia*. Azzo can represent one of the single theme Germanic names. At the same time, there is nothing against its being an apheretic form of Galeazzo. Azzopardo, which is Maltese, cannot be considered a compound of *Azzo* and *pardo*, hence it should be removed from the group. I believe that there is a valid reason for maintaining that N. Italy Barbanti, Barbantini refer to former residents of Brabant, once a duchy of the Netherlands. Here we have a metathesis of *a* and *r*. Confirmation can be found in the *Orlando Furioso*, Canto XXII, 7, where Ariosto in mentioning the peregrinations of Astolfo tells that he

Per la selva d'Ardena in Aquisgrana
Giunse e in Barbante, e in Fiandra al fin s'imbarca. . . .

Barbosa, probably not related to *barba*, beard, came into Italy from Portugal. It is one of the oldest as well as one of the most influential families in that country. Bonomo, like its English equivalent, Goodman, highlights virtuous qualities. Even so, when we note that in the second half of the thirteenth century in Florence the term was officially applied to a councilor, we can conclude that at least in this restricted area it could have developed into an occupational surname. We take the plural Bonomini to be a confirmation of this. Bonsignore is not just a nickname; it is still used in folk parlance to designate an archbishop. Filpi, under Filippi, is indicated as current in the extreme south. It would probably be more exact to say that it is an Italo-Albanian name with its focal point in La Piana degli Albanesi. As for Guzzetta which circulates in the same precinct, I have some doubts that it ought to be classified under Gucci. As personal surnames Mazzetto, Mazzello, Mazzino, Mazzolo, Mazzone, Mazzotto and Mazzullo can, as stated, all be derivatives of Matteo through Mazzeo. But, since Mazzo is a normal apheretic reduction of Dalmazzo, it can with its derivatives also lead to the formation of these same names. Although Pasquariello in S. Italy, esp. Naples, is a clear derivative of Pasquale it should not be forgotten that it has been used to designate a well-known buffoon in the *Commedia dell'arte*. As a nickname surname it should hence be bracketed with Pulcinella (i), Pagliacci(o), Pagliazzo, Buffone, Buffoni. Coviello, another buffoon, is mentioned in the *Dizionario*. . . . Pellicano is explained as a euphemistic deformation of Pelacane in order to hide its derogatory connotation, dog-skinner. This is pure guesswork. The bird name carries with it its own autonomous justification as one of the mystic names for Christ, the Divine Pelican. Cf. Dante's allusion to John the Evangelist in *Paradiso*, XXV, 112-13. Scorzone, a regular S. Italian term for viper, calls for a special gloss under Scorza. It is a nickname surname synonymous with Biscia, Biscione, Serpe, Serpente and Vipera. Perhaps Scarpellino

should be given specificity in the sense of stone-cutter. Zecco and its derivatives are rightly classified as apheretic forms of Francesco with reference to Emilia-Romagna. As for central and southern Zecchino, Professor De Felice leaves us with a general statement that it has a different etymon. It can be identified with *zecchino*, a coin name, sequin. Elsewhere he cites S. Italian Tornese, another coin name. It is only one of a dozen or more coin names that are currently still in circulation, among them Baiocco, Bisante, Petacco, Parpagliolo. Cf. my *Our Italian Surnames*, pp. 227-28.

I do not intend to dwell upon Professor De Felice's omissions in his repertoire, primarily because he makes it clear in his introduction that he has been both subjective and selective in his choices. He further tells us that, although the work on his volume has been limited to the time he has been able to devote to its preparation, two years, the number of names he has assembled is far greater than the printed space he has been allotted. Finally, he invites comment and criticism (p. 22) implying the eventual publication of a second edition. He realizes, as indeed we all do, that the greater the mass of material the greater the number of problems that still call for solution. My small contribution is one response to his invitation. The fact that his compilation is the largest ever put together for Italy is a considerable feat, but over and above that it stands as the work of a highly trained and extremely well-grounded linguist. The *Dizionario*. . . is the kind of book that we can enthusiastically recommend to students of onomastics.

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The History of Fond du Lac County As Told By Its Place-Names. By Ruth Shaw Worthing. Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Globe Printing Company, 1976. Pp. 1+118. Price \$4.

As a former resident of the Badger State, I found Ruth Shaw Worthing's book on the place-names of Fond du Lac County informative and entertaining. Mrs. Worthing includes the names of geographical features, political units, schools, streets, churches, cemeteries, and important historical sites (houses, post offices, convents) in an alphabetical list which frequently contains much valuable information about how and why these names were given. Some of her entries (*Fond du Lac, military road, Northwestern System, schools*) are miniature essays. Current as well as past names are included. Thirty-one pictures and illustrations (the latter by Ray Thornton) adorn this handsome volume. Three appendixes on the land company, schools, and cemeteries are also included.

Fond du Lac, one of Wisconsin's original counties, has a rich heritage which is reflected in its place-names. Located in the eastern section of the state, northwest of Milwaukee, Fond du Lac is situated at the foot of Lake Winnebago, whence comes its name. Its place-names pay tribute to the original inhabitants of the region as well as to its later settlers. The influence of the local Indians—the Menominees, the Ojibwas, the Winnebagos—is, as one would expect, prevalent. So, too, are the names of the early pioneers—Mason C. Darling, Edward Pier, and Nathaniel Tallmadge—whose trials and triumphs are memorialized in the place-names Mrs. Worthing studies. Another

important influence on the names of this region is the church, especially the Roman Catholic Church. In a playful vein, settlers called the northeastern part of the county the Holy Land because so many communities there were "named for their churches." And Eden township came into existence through puns on the name of Adam Holliday and Eve Rand; Holliday suggested Eden "after the garden where Adam and Eve dwelt and where there were many Holy Days (Hollidays)." Other less prominent though still interesting influences on naming in this County are the classics (*Ceresco*, for the Goddess of Grain), literary names (*Horicon Marsh* [from James Fenimore Cooper], *Rienzi Cemetery*), and geographical features (*Six Points*, *Seven Mile Creek*). Even the South has left its indelible mark; *Dixie Street* is so named because blacks brought to Fond du Lac during the Civil War lived there. Fond du Lac County also has some very colorful names, all of them carefully glossed by Mrs. Worthing: *Dutch Gap* (because the ditch constructed here benefited the German community), *Temperance Prairie* (once dry), and *White Bosom's Village* (the name of an Indian community in 1830).

As helpful and important as it is, this small book could have been improved if Mrs. Worthing had supplied a longer introduction than her skimpy one and one-half page foreword. She should have transferred the information in such entries as *Birthplace of the Republican Party* and *schools* to an introduction where the historical background they furnish would have been more appropriate and useful. It would have also been valuable to have some explanation of the origins for the names no longer on the land, e.g., *Bothelle Post Office*, *Nanaupa*. And I would have liked to have some statistics on current and past populations. But these criticisms in no way detract from this worthy (pun intended) and happy achievement. This work can proudly stand next to Frederic Cassidy's exemplary *Place-Names of Dane County, Wisconsin*.

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The Place-Names of Westchester County, New York. By Richard M. Lederer, Jr. Harbor Hill Books. Harrison, N. Y. 1978. Pp. 190. Price \$9.75.

Mr. Lederer has composed an interesting and valuable book and, with his wife's artwork, an attractive one to boot. He does not analyze or agonize to any great extent, but he provides enough information for the deeper kinds of studies of trends and movements in place-naming. The prevailing mood would seem to be one of pure pleasure; he enjoys his subject and he performs with great gusto, despite the occasional drudgery and frequent frustration which inevitably accompany this type of project. He tells his story in the text rather than in footnotes, though every entry is followed by a number or a series of numbers composed of one to three digits, signifying the source. These are in the usual place, at the end of the book, but they are presented in a most unusual, ingenious, and, probably, original arrangement. Most of the entries are offered in an easy-flowing, friendly sort of prose as if he were chatting with the reader rather than lecturing to him. Nor does this detract from or dilute the scholarship in any way. He tells the whole story when he has it, makes his educated guesses when the last pieces of the puzzle are missing, and admits flat out when he has no clue: "How it became Tin

Ball Hill from an iron mine is unknown,” or “I wonder who Forbes was.” (Forbes Rocks).

Mr. Lederer keeps his readers on the brink of a chuckle throughout the book. Here are two small samples from the C's:

CRANE ISLAND, Lewisboro. In Lake Katonah, probably for the birds.

CROOK BROOK, North Salem. Having nothing to do with a bishop, a shepherd or a thief, this stream runs from Whatmore's (a family name) Lake through land that was owned by R.

L. Crook into the Titicus Reservoir at Salem Center.

He is infatuated with biblical names (Enoch, Ebenezer, Epenetus, etc.). He relishes topographical redundancies such as COTSWOLD, BRYN MAWR HEIGHTS, KILL BROOK, TOWN NECK POINT (a contradiction rather than a repetition?) and many others. Two minor complaints: 1) He gives altitudes and distances in meters and kilometers rather than in feet, yards, and miles; 2) One would expect a discussion, even a “definitive” solution to the question of the origin of the word “Yankee.” The word appears nowhere in the book. This was doubly disappointing inasmuch as he consistently and vividly illustrates the mingling of the English and Dutch names. It would have been a natural accompaniment to his demonstration that “East Village” was the same place as “West Village” (Oostdorp and Westchester) depending on whether one spoke English or Dutch. He handles the other major source of Westchester place-names very wisely, merely citing his authorities and leaving to the reader how “aboriginal” names are to be pronounced and what they signify.

The book features the most nearly inclusive “Names by Category” that this reviewer has ever had the pleasure to examine. Under “Descriptive” the following subcategories: Condition (Appearance), Activity, Buildings and Things in Proximity, Size, Direction, Color, Pejorative and Euphemistic, Flora, and five kinds of Fauna. Under “Organization”: Indian Tribes, Religious, Business, Other. The remaining categories: People (the largest group, of course—over 400 names), Legends and Incidents, Commemorative, Other Places, Coined, and Unknown. Classification of place-names for purposes of extracting maximum understanding has long been a subject of some controversy among leading onomatologists. Here too, Mr. Lederer might have several worthwhile suggestions. Following these ten pages, he has “Places by Category.” These too are known by many names, but more often than not as “generics” or “generic designators.” He is not likely to have omitted anything from this list either.

Designator	Examples
Expanses of Land	Common, Downs, Oblong, Wood
Groups of Habitation	Camp, Colony, Riding
Natural Landmarks	Crossing, Crotch, Wading Place
Man-Made Landmarks	Circle, Chapel, Gate, Station
Elevations	Crest, Knolls, Nose
Depressions	Alley, Bogs, Flats, Vale
Water Bodies; Water Courses	Arm, Gut, Reach; Branch, Rivulet, Run
Protruberances from & into Water	Clump, Hook, Knob, Shoal
Parks, Recreation, & Conservation	Conservancy, Marina, Sanctuary

All in all, this is a most satisfying book for the “general reader” or the more serious student of onomastics. Mr. Lederer does not talk down to his reader; he leads him to the point of the matter with a minimum of scholarly involvement. He gives the facts as

he sees them and he offers an impressive list of references for anyone wishing to dig more deeply. (I can see this book generating such studies as Mary R. Miller produced for *Names* in March, 1976—"Place-Names of the Northern Neck of Virginia: A Proposal for a Theory of Place-Naming.") Lastly, congratulations to the proofreader or editor; the book has only four "typos."

Arthur Berliner

History in Asphalt, The Origin of Bronx Street and Place Names. By John McNamara: Published in collaboration with The Bronx County Historical Society, by Harbor Hill Books, Harrison, N.Y., 1978. Illustrated, Pp. 522. Price \$20.

This book is an incredible achievement! Talk of a "lifetime of research" or "dedication"; *History In Asphalt* embodies all such laudatory expressions. It is also onomastics in what some of us take to be its best sense: that is, it is not destined to collect dust on library shelves, but to serve in the coming Bronx renaissance—to promote a sense of community pride, a feel for historical continuity, a restoration of self-respect in the Borough. (Most Bronx émigrés and current residents are fed up with Outlander sneers and scorn; this book will undoubtedly help to set the counter-trend in motion.) Incidentally, *HIA* is already trickling into school libraries. In addition, how many books of this type actually sell and create a profit for their authors and publishers?

As most book reviews must, this one will point out what the reviewer sees as flaws, and most of these are personal, perhaps even trivial matters. Scattered among an estimated 4,000 entries, we find approximately ten "typos," two omissions, two minor disagreements, one major complaint, and about five items somewhat lacking in detail, e.g., the Bristow story, Indian Rock, etc. The complaint is about Mr. McNamara's approach to the matter of "Co-op City." He should have told the story of this planned community in one separate section, rather than interspersing the names of the streets in the general listing. (This shortcoming is being addressed and will be made good at a forthcoming onomastics conference.) The minor disagreements have existed for the last 15 years. The reviewer feels that McClellan Place ("Street" in this instance, I think, is a "typo") is not named for the general, despite the fact that it intersects Grant, Sheridan, and Sherman Avenues. On the other hand (and on another side of town) Rawlins Avenue, he believes, is named for the Civil War era person of that name precisely because it is near other military names. If you want the whole story, write to the author; he is a member of ANS. And lastly, for this section, at least, the two omissions are 1) the old tree that stood in asphalt for the last 40 years of its life on the northwest corner of Stebbins Ave. and Chisholm Street. It had no name, of course, but it was a very well known landmark. It disappeared in the early '60s and is probably documented somewhere in Borough records. And who is better qualified to dig out this sort of information than John McNamara? 2) The Boston Road Theatre showed movies clear into the '50s then was converted to a groceries warehouse. On our next visit to the old homestead, we will see what is there.

Much more and far better than a mere listing of names, *History in Asphalt* is history, sociology, anthropology, psychology, linguistics—onomastics, in short. The names of the Bronx roadways and locations reflect all the onomastic patterns and tendencies discernible in our more profound (and occasionally stuffy) studies. They include most of the illustrious ones of the nation's past, numerous near-greats, many locally prominent people and, of course, the permanently obscure. I do not believe that, years ago, when he started this compilation, Mr. McNamara was aware that what he was doing would one day become "significant" or "important." How could any of us have foreseen that his hobby could be valuable to people on all levels of scholarly endeavour? He knew it was interesting, of course; everybody (well, almost everybody) enjoys reading of the origins of names. Accordingly, he composed scores of columns for New York area newspapers and other publications over the years, including one article for *Names* (March, 1965). The realization of the potential value of this sort of material seems to have developed somewhere around the late '60s and, I suspect, helped him sustain his faith in the eventual publication of what appears to be an outstanding success in its field.

Five hundred pages (522, to be exact) of Bronx street names! The book is as nearly comprehensive as time and enterprise could have made it. In all likelihood, he does indeed have every street and village name, every movie house (exception noted above), every beer hall, every amusement park and picnic area ever to bear a name in the Bronx. We cannot help wondering though, why the Bronx is not called "the Borough of theaters" rather than "Borough of Universities." Oh yes, you can certainly learn why the place has been called the Bronx, though that question is not taken up separately. Among topographical features, he has missed only one to my certain knowledge—the great tree, also noted above. Among categories of personal names: U.S. presidents; military figures from all our wars, 1637 through Vietnam; poets and scientists; musicians and brewers; governors, mayors, bankers, ball-players, *et al.* It is too bad that Co-op City could not have honored some of our more recent literary figures—Clifford Odets and Herman Wouk, to name only two Bronxites. But these "categories" have been enumerated elsewhere (the Names Institute, Bronx County Historical Society *Journal*, several high school and undergraduate college term papers, and at least one M.A. thesis).

History In Asphalt is illustrated with 14 fine photographs (a great nostalgia trip for the Bronx émigrè) and Hufeland's excellent map of the Bronx in 1776, and it is divided into two main sections: "Current Names" and "McNamara's guide to the old Bronx," with exactly 244 pages to each section—all in handy alphabetic order. And we mean all street names! Even our numbered streets had names (and many named streets had numbers). One hundred years ago, this reviewer's home address might have been Arcularius Place East. And wouldn't you rather live on Waverly St. (E. 159), Columbine Ave. (E. 183), or Primrose St. (W. 192)? But you get the idea by now.

There is a good deal of wit, very dry, of course, most of which I fear will elude the browser. Several of Mr. McNamara's citations, for example, are ironic and amusing. He quotes another so-called authority (initials A.B.) and the Municipal Reference Library. What he does not say is that much of this other expert's information came from his own files. When he quotes Frank Wuttge, Jr., however, he is on solid ground.

New York State Place-name Survey, take notice! This book will become one of your major tools, a primary resource, not just for the Bronx or New York City, but for the whole state. And there are hundreds of potential articles and papers for students at all levels.

We waited a long time for this book and our patience and faith have been vindicated; it has everything we had hoped to see and more. Thank you, John McNamara. Now we have to get you back into harness and start re-vitalizing the good old "North Side."

Arthur Berliner

Nicknames: Their Origins and Social Consequences. By Jane Morgan, Christopher O'Neill, and Rom Harre. Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 9 Park St., Boston, Mass. 02108, 1979. Pp. 153. Price \$14.25.

This socio-psychological study of nicknaming moves away from the traditional listing and identification to a theoretical analysis of the influence of such bestowed names on the character of persons and on their reaction to the way others see him. Nicknames, in this context, can be mirrors as well as other fixtures. The one nicknamed becomes victim, sometimes the object of vicious "sound" assaults that have more impact than some of the more serious, traumatic events that occur or are likely to occur. As the authors note, managing a nickname can be a fateful social problem. The skill with which we handle what others call us indicates our character, personality, and grasp of environment.

Nicknames occur in social contexts, probably beginning with the first phase, when the child still has close contact with adults, in most cases the mother. Such nicknames as Sweets, Bugsie, Bobble Head, Poopsie, usually affectionate ones, seldom survive beyond the first phase which ends when the child begins to move into age-group circles. This phase, around five years of age, marks the beginning of the ritual stage maintained by cultural convention which subordinates the emotional ties of the first phase. Here, too, "personal qualities, both of appearance and behaviour, become a serious issue." Distinct personalities appear, and then, almost inevitably, nicknames of a more serious intent and descriptive reality.

Before discussing the effects of nicknames, the authors grapple with the problem of the actual name, the one given by parents or others who have such power. Obviously, names, for various and too-often irrelevant reasons, have meaning in at least one sense, that of their influencing what others think of the person named. Several studies of reaction to names have proved beyond any doubt that "stereotypical significance" attaches to what we think of Gloria because of her name, or to James, Nicolas, Percy, Mary, Alexandra, Billie, Elsie, Fred, or Jane ("always plain," despite contrary conditions). Strangely, parents seem to continue naming children such names regardless of the cultural implication. In a survey of why they gave a specific name, parents responded as follows: sound, perpetuation of an ancestral name, inspiration name, famous person (also inspirational), or a model name "evocative of type of person favoured by the parents." Parents also look for "good" meanings and actually do consult books and such that give "meanings" of names. Books by Partridge, Smith, Rule and Hammond, Nurnberg and Rosenblum, and Woulfe, and plagiarisms from these, are widely consulted, especially by parents with education or pretensions to

such. Then, some parents delight in such names as Beverley Hills, Sunshine Ray, and the like, but not many. In English, both a forename and a middle name usually have to be considered, complicating matters and, by aware parents, eliminating embarrassing names: Albert Samuel Smith, Robert Andres Morgan, or Samuel Allen Peters. Names deriving from given names cannot properly be called nicknames, for they do not necessarily reflect personal characteristics of peer reaction. Windston, for example, often is shortened to Win, but no connotation of victory needs be attached. Ann to Annie occurs, but the diminutive has "pet name" qualities, not that of a nickname. Occasionally, a pet name becomes a nickname if the person has some resemblance to the object or quality, as a relative innocently—or not so innocently—saying of a cute, squat boy, "Oh what a lovely little toad!"

Systematic nicknaming begins with the interaction of children. The authors distinguish between internal naming, modifications along linguistic formations, such as Judykins, Smithbug, Trish (from Patricia), Cow (from Ramow), and Chilly, derived from Chirs Old (C. Old). Rhyming names occur often: Cranky Franky, Susie Woosie, Billie Sillie, or Freddy Ready. Linguistic changes occur often in spellings, conditions arriving from dissatisfaction with the "plain" spelling of the given name: Jane to Jayne, Aleen to Alyne, Jean to Jeanne, Mary to Marye, or Linda to Lynda. These, of course, cannot come under the rubric of nicknames. The authors note that boys seldom modify the spelling of their names.

External formations generate from "history, appearance, family relationships, local culture and so on." Five basic principles seem to be at work here: (1) "The recognition of qualities: physical, intellectual and characterological attributes can be the basis of the created name." Being common, such derived names appear as Fat, Fatso, Kiki (for a teacher who looked "like a frog"), Crow, Twiggy, Red, Bean, Prof, Ape, Fudge, Rabbit (protruding teeth), Rocky (either pejorative or ameliorative), Splinter, and Speedy. (2) A striking incident: Homer (from baseball), Snake (from an event in which the person killed a poisonous snake, Spastic (broken arm), or, one noted by the authors, Coop because the young boy's voice broke while he was reading the French word *coupable*. (3) Partially external and partially internal: Jackie Amos to A mosquito to Flea. (4) Cultural stereotypes, as Dennis to Menace, Donald to Duck, Gordon to Flash, and Rhodes to Dusty (sometimes in combination, for all Rhodes are Dusty—men only). (5) Traditional names, ones always associated with certain names, as Dusty Rhodes, used in another category: Nobby Clarke, Tug Wilson, and, perhaps, those with "discernible" physical anomalies, as Hook (arm with hook), Peg (peg-leg), Crip (usually patronizing, if not pejorative), or Quasimodo ("humpy," humpback).

Once the nickname attaches itself, it persists, unless the person moves away from the environment in which it occurred first. A good example of this is John Wayne, who carried the nickname Duke from early childhood, the name having been a transfer from the name of his dog. Nicknames perpetuate themselves through a continuing characteristic, tattletales, inheritance of a family name, self-selection, and coincidence. A change in occupation can eliminate a nickname. A fat person usually sheds Fatty when he becomes the dean of a college. A corporation head is no longer Fuzzy. The bright student who becomes a plumber is still bright, probably more intelligent than most persons, but no longer is known as Prof.

After working through the theory of nicknaming, the authors follow with chapters on the "creation and maintenance of social classes," promulgation and enforcement of norms," insult names and their uses, character sketches, name-givers, "nicknaming in

other cultures,” “name autobiographies,” teacher nicknames, and miscellaneous practices. In the schools, teachers inevitably have nicknames, although they may not know what they are called: Doc (usually reserved for a “respected” teacher), Prof (the same), Squeaky, Slaybell (Maybelle), Buggy, Easy, Flat Ass, Slobber, and so on. Easy comes in two connotations, which I leave to the reader. In college, Prof and Doc are not really nicknames, merely back-formations. Others include Head, Sexy Remy, Rats, Bats (the latter two being researchers), Psycho, Kinky, Ass Rider, Prunes, Gazer (looks out window when lecturing), Letch, Old Man Clit Litter (for the teacher of literary criticism), Boobs, Alky (drug studies teacher who always lectures on alcohol), and some that can as well be imagined.

Nicknames as insults appear often among young persons, although through continuous usage custom mitigates the connotative force: nevertheless, antagonism forms the basis of such naming as Toothy, Fatso, Piggy, Snot, Four Eyes, Dumbo, Icky, Stinky, and such that appear often in playground action and leave their psychological scars. In fact, the ones noted here can be extended to others that point to parts of the anatomy or to characteristics that debase the person so named. Most of us recall such “operative epithets” being slung with viciousness at us or by us. Name calling is indigenous to everyone, anywhere.

Nicknames seems to be the first serious, long study of the subject in existence. A scholarly and investigative production, it must take its place as a major contribution to the study of personal names and to the process and effect of naming. Not much can be found wrong with such a study, but a sharply written conclusion, drawing together the suggestions for further study and codifying results, would certainly be appropriate. The bibliography lists books and articles recently published in which naming discussions and results or research appear. Members of the American Name Society may be astonished at the amount of research that has been performed since the mid-1960s by psychologists, psycholinguists, sociologists, and educational researchers in an area often shunted aside. This text is onomastics at its highest level.

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Understanding English Surnames. By Sir William Addison. London: B. T. Batsford, Ltd., 7 Fitzhardinge Street, London W1H 0AH, 1978. Pp. 176. Price \$5.50.

Here is another book on family names, engendered by our modern craze for genealogy, the desire to find something good in one’s ancestry. The author, who also published *Understanding English Place-Names* the same year, has searched all the old English books on onomastics for his information.

After an Introduction there are eight chapters, each devoted to a section of England where the author discusses the more important or unusual surnames that came about through the history and economic status of the region. The interchange of vowels and the addition or duplication of consonants in the surnames derived from the early Old

English words is frequently recognized. Actually the book is more about people than about surnames, although after many of the names are given meanings.

Although the author here provides a bibliography, he is often not clear as to which authority he has in mind on any particular point. In one place he refers to "Richard Blewett, who made a study of Cornish surnames in 1953," but does not list him in the bibliography. The author makes many interesting comments about some surnames but often leaves the reader up in the air.

A comprehensive and most useful Appendix is added, presenting by counties a topographical list of peculiarly local surnames, a great help to the student. An index of surnames completes the work.

I started reading this book thinking that it was dull and of little value, but soon I found that it provided accurate information about some surnames that I had not thought of before. It was most interesting and of considerable value.

Elsdon C. Smith

Connecticut Onomastic Review, 1. By Arthur Berliner, ed. Mansfield Center, Conn. 06250: Connecticut Onomastic Conference, 1979. Pp. 94 (paperbound), Price \$4.50.

A new publication, the *Connecticut Onomastic Review* will surely take its place alongside the other collections that are now appearing with regularity, a situation much to be applauded, encouraged, and sanctioned. Arthur Berliner, with the help of his wife Gina, selected some of the better papers that have been read at the Eastern Connecticut State College Onomastic Symposium during the past five years. Unfortunately, some papers were not available, but the ones that did make their appearance have their cheering aspects. All papers read at the past conferences are listed by program, beginning with 1974, the first time the Symposium was held.

No effort will be made here to judge the quality of the articles or to make discriminations among them, for each has merit and right of existence, and something can be found to appeal to the sensibilities of readers, most of whom will have interests in onomastics, some eclectic, some narrow. A slight glance at each article must suffice, although obviously longer ones may get more attention. "New England Looks Like Olde England in the Place-Names of Connecticut," by Leonard R. N. Ashley, currently, at this writing, President of the American Name Society, has the lead article, the printed version of a paper read at the first Symposium in 1974. The date has importance, for Ashley did not have Arthur H. Hughes and Morse S. Allen, *Connecticut Place Names* (Hartford: The Connecticut Historical Society, 1976), pp. 907, available to him. Consequently, the research in the article commanded much time and effort. Nevertheless, Ashley furnishes, as is his wont, copious examples of transfers from England to the now-Connecticut area. Although familiar to most historical buffs, the names take on some new characteristics when discussed by Ashley, whose wit and learning grace both the text and the footnotes, which cover almost as much space as the text and furnish tidbits that cannot be called just fugitive. They pertain. Concerned only with English names, Ashley, however, notes other sources:

piety (biblical), as Bethany, Bethel, Bozrah; Indian, including the state name, of course; transfers from other European countries, as Berlin, Poland, Lisbon; and "suburban" names which have not yet been sufficiently analyzed.

Articles about names in literature (literary onomastics) have become almost an industry, whether or not fully accepted by so-called "literary critics," and two articles appear here, one by Kathleen McGrory, "Names as Clues: The Medieval Romances of the Holy Grail," and Modine G. Schramm, "Character Models in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*." The former shows, through onomastic evidence, that the Middle High German *Parzival* has affinities with "Hispanic literary and oral traditions." The latter characterizes *Gatsby* and other characters Fitzgerald created in light of their background and possible originals.

Thomas L. Bernard, "Pejorative Onomastics, Or—It's O. K. to Insult These People," moves properly into sociological onomastics in his discussion of Hong Kong flu, Mongolian idiot, cretin, Indian giver, Dutch courage, yellow period, tawdry, scotch, young Turk, and other names that have connotations that insult persons and countries. Bernard takes no side in "linguistic reform" that, according to some, such terms should be phased out of language. Robert A. Fowkes, "First Names of Germans In Russia and the Soviet Union," makes an undeniable point that many first names of former German settlers still remain, despite attempts to change them, although such could not have been applied with much consistence. In this valuable article, Fowkes refers to Karl Stumpp, *Die Auswanderung aus Deutschland nach Russland in den Jahren 1763 bis 1862* (Tübingen, 1972), who managed to compile 24,084 names of individuals, with "about 127 different first names," 9,812 of them John, or variations. The names can be analyzed many ways, as Fowkes suggests.

Carl Gersuny, "Industrial Toponymy and Territorial Division of Labor," diverges from the usual (personal and place-names) to an area, though still involved with place, that has been either slighted or not noticed. For instance, "park" no longer simply designates a recreational area, for now it has come to mean a work area also, as Industrial Park. Industrial toponymy has been around for a long time: Ironmonger Lane, Roper Street, Fish Street, Showmaker Lane, Saw Mill Road (Sawmill Road), Depot Street, and the like. Some recent names include Industrial Drive, Technological Drive, Posturepedic Drive, or Plastics Way. Gersuny lists one that has more hope than reality, although it may serve as a prototype of future landscape syntax: Narragansett Oceanics Industrial Research Park. Eugene Green, "The American Revolution and the Names of Towns in Massachusetts," contributes original material to historical interpretation and to the use of onomastics as a device to show change in attitudes and influences. During the colonial period, English names prevailed, but sources for names changed after 1776 and after 1861; for instance, only one name for a place has an English ring, Avon, but it commemorates Shakespeare. Gosnold "recalls the early explorer of Cape Cod." The others have sources in American persons, Indian names, descriptions, established places, fancies, utopias, and plain fancy.

Another historical study, Murray Heller's "Black Names and Black Prejudices: Perceptions of Reality," explores and examines attitudes toward black Americans by both whites and blacks. Heller concludes that black names "exist primarily as psychological realities rather than as [a] verifiable onomasticon." An example of the forces that shape or can shape a name can be seen in one that most of us know: "He begins as Malcolm Little and progresses through life as Homeboy, Detroit Red, Big Red, Satan, Malcolm X and completes his destiny as EL-Hajj Malik El Shabazz." Except for a few

names that came into being during the late 1960s and early 1970s because of nationalistic and religious reasons, the names of black persons cannot be distinguished from those of whites.

Vivian Zinkin, whose place-name studies have become models, provides some insights into difficulties encountered in such projects. Her directions need to be heeded: (1) The inquirer must define limits, both geographically and physically, of the study; (2) He must gather a corpus of pertinent names, which may entail learning carefully the local history of the area covered; (3) He must make a selection between conflicting accounts of a naming, although all accounts need to be documented. Zinkin furnishes many examples of problems, including those that cross languages; for instance, in West Jersey (New Jersey), names are recorded in Dutch, Swedish, English, and also in what we now call Indian.

The editor must be commended for bringing together the collection, dedicated to Wallace and Marian McMullen, founders and directors of the Annual Names Institute. The Editorial Board consists of Leonard R. N. Ashley, Gina Berliner, Walter P. Bowman, Allen Walker Read, and Dean A. Reilein. The *Review* shows some haste in editorial work, something unavoidable in this instance, but such a small matter will certainly be amended in future compilations.

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What's In Shakespeare's Names. By Murray J. Levith. Hamden, Conn.: Archon Books, The Shoe String Press, 995 Sherman Ave., 1978. Pp. 147. Price \$12.50.

The opening chapter of this book, whose title is inspired by Juliet's famous question, sketches the surprisingly late development of the study of literary names in English literature, and in Shakespeare's plays in particular. The author, an English professor at Skidmore College, finds the first notice of interest in the meaning of Shakespeare's names worthy of mention made in side remarks by John Ruskin in *Fraser's Magazine* (1862-63) and in his *Munera Pulveris* (1872). How Shakespeare's characters are enriched by the different kinds of names they are given is then discussed. There follow analyses of the significant names in all 37 plays, taken one play at a time, the histories first, followed by the tragedies, the comedies, and the romances. Allusions, implications, and relationships to the personalities or actions of individual characters are pointed out. Passages where characters allude to or play on the meaning of their own names or those of others are quoted.

Names favored by Shakespeare for more than one character are mentioned and speculated upon (five Antonios, four Balthazars, two Claudios, three Demetriuses, two Emilias, two Franciscos, two Gratianos, two Helenas, two Juliets, two Moths, two Sebastians, and others). A final chapter deals with Shakespeare's own name. After the text come several pages of pictures, the notes, and a good index. The printing is attractive. The wide page margins at the left and right carry in small capitals the names being discussed at those points in the text, an excellent idea for quick reference.

It seems incredible, considering the infinity of books about Shakespeare, that a full treatment of this subject has not previously appeared. Theodora Irvine's *Shakespearean Proper Names* (1919 and following) and Helge Kökeritz's *Shakespeare's Names: A Pronouncing Dictionary* (1966) only incidentally mention the meanings and implications of the names of Shakespeare's characters.

A trifling envoi: on page 119 the author speaks of Shakespeare appearing in a certain engraving as "a youngish man with rather large jowels" [sic]. Could he have been thinking of *bowels* of compassion, perhaps? But it is a bit cheeky to suggest this.

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Ichthyological Terms for the Sturgeon and Etymology of the International Terms Botargo, Caviar and Congeners (A Linguistic, Philological, and Culture-Historical Study). By Demetrius J. Georgacas. Athens: Academy of Athens, 1978. Pp. 330, paperbound, large format. Price approx. \$30.

It was F.A. Wolf, Professor of Philology at Halle and "father of the Homeric question," who, in the latter part of the eighteenth century, declared that any scientific enquiry must satisfy two criteria if it is to be called scholarship: it must investigate the truth to its origins and it must present its findings in systematic arrangement and organization. (An investigative work evidencing the one criterion without the other will more than likely be dilettantism, not scholarship.) I thought of this more than once as I read Professor Georgacas' impressive monograph on the sturgeon, with its faithfulness to phonological and morphological principles, to semantic content, and to the cultural components of the terms under study (these being the three *Grundsätze* to which he subscribes, p. 284, quoted from H. Kahane, *The Etymologist as Transformationalist* [1975]). The study is divided into a Preface and seven major parts: after his acknowledgments, Professor Georgacas includes as Part I an annotated bibliography (pp. 25-80), indispensable to anyone who would attempt to evaluate the investigation and conclusions that follow. Part II considers the sturgeon family *Acipenseridae*, with maps showing its distribution, and the Latin and Greek names for "sturgeon." Part III is primarily a discussion of fish products and their processing, concluding with caviar and the Greek term *χαβιάριον*. Then, in Part IV, is a presentation of various etymologies and a new interpretation of the term *caviar*. Part V deals with the caviar industry in the middle ages and with the diffusion of the term *χαβιάριον*; Part VI, somewhat tangential, is concerned with *Engraulidae* (anchovies) and contains its own short, critical bibliography, and Part VII includes a brief excursus on the study of etymology, indices (*rerum et verborum*) and a summary or *περίληψις* of the entire work in Greek (pp. 311-330).

The *Acipenseridae*, or sturgeons, are distributed in three genera (*Huso*, *Acipenser*, *Pseudoscaphirhynchus*) and 25 species all over Europe and northern, central and eastern Asia, and occur also in North America. The Black and Caspian Seas, however, are their original and true home, and it is to these areas that Professor Georgacas

continually returns in his linguistic search for *etyma*: in Part II, three maps illustrate the sturgeon's distribution, then five Greek and Latin names for *sturgeon* are considered: ἀντακαῖος (first in Herod. 4.53: κήτεά τε μεγάλα ἀνάκανθα, τὰ ἀντακαίουσ καλέουσι [sc. οἱ Βορυσθενίται]. . .), possibly from ἄντα + ἀκή, "pointed in front," and probably, as Chantraine observes, a Greek adaptation of a non-Greek loan-word; ὀξύρρυγχος, "sharp snouted," of which a variety in the Nile is alluded to in Strabo 17.1.40 and elsewhere, and most probably a sub-species of the white sturgeon, *Huso huso* or *Acipenser huso beluga* of the Black and Caspian Seas, reaching a length of six meters; *acipenser* (the last element most probably being from *ac-* "sharp," but otherwise with no safe *etymon*: Professor Georgacas rejects the etymology recently advanced by Palombi and Santarelli of *axis* "point" and *penta* "five"), which probably designated the *Acipenser sturio* or common sturgeon, highly prized at Rome from the second century B.C. to the fifth century A.D. (cf. Pliny, *N.H.* 9.60: apud antiquos piscium nobilissimus habitus acipenser. . .); ἔλοψ, perhaps *Acipenser ruthenus* or the sterlet; and ἀνθίας, thought by some to be the same as ἔλοψ (although the author tentatively identifies it as the tunny-fish, *Thunnus thynnus*). Concerning βερζίτικον, in the discussion of post-classical synonyms for "sturgeon" which follows, Dr. Georgacas points out that, while ancient Greek β was a voiced bi-labial occlusive /b/, in the first century A.D. it changed into a voiced labio-dental /v/ except in the combination μβ; when Slavic speakers came into contact with Greek-speaking peoples a few centuries later, the same equivalence was valid: Slavic *b* and *v* = Greek β/v/ (p. 125ff). Because this has a bearing on much of his data, about 15 examples are given to illustrate its importance.

Part III treats of fish products and terminology such as *botargo* from derivations of ἄλ- (Lat. *sal-*), τάριχος ("salted, pickled") and παστός ("sprinkled, salted"), and offers an emendation for the earliest attestation of caviar, Diphilus' ὠμοσάριχον "pickled flesh of the tunny's shoulder" to ὠσοτάριχον "fish roe" or salted, pickled egg (which makes eminent sense to me). Professor Georgacas rejects the derivation of Arabic *baṭārix* from Coptic *pi* + τάριχιον on the grounds that there is no parallel. The terms χαβιάριν (first in the Prodic poems, twelfth century A.D.) and χαβιάριον (mid-ninth century A.D. in the *Book of Dreams*; cf. p. 190, sec. C) for "caviar" are attested, but the mediaeval forms καβιάριον, καβιάριν and καβιάρει are distortions and never existed in Greek; the Italian *caviaro* derives directly from Greek.

I read Part IV with much interest, for here is where Professor Georgacas discusses and passes judgment on six etymologies of *caviar* attempted during the last 90 years: 1) that χαβιάριν is a foreign word (cf. preceding paragraph); 2) that it derives from the place-name *Kafa*, a Pontic port-city (this fails to account for the *-iar* suffix); 3) that *caviar* comes from ἀνγάριον, diminutive of Greek ἀνγόν, and Cyprian ἄβκον "egg" (but Cyprus does not produce or trade in caviar, and the word has never had a diminutive suffix); 4) that *caviar* stems from Iranian *xaviyar*, which would have to mean "sturgeon" or "roe fish" (i.e., "fish that produces roe"), not "fish roe," and this makes no sense; 5) that a connexion exists between Ossetic *kæf* "fish millet, caviar" and *xav-* of Osman *xavjar*, and 6) that Osman *xavjar* is the ultimate source of *caviar* (Professor Georgacas calls this simply "erroneous," with rather unusual restraint). Some pages further on, he concludes the case against a Turkish origin with the reasoning of Dr. Andreas Tietze:

1. Turkish does not have initial *h-* or *kh-* and the other phonological features of the word do not fit into Turkish.

2. The word cannot be etymologized in Turkish; neither *khav* nor *yar* can be connected with anything.
3. The word is recorded only in Ottoman (Turkish); the terms for caviar in all the other Turkish languages and dialects are completely unrelated.
4. Dr. Tietze has no records of it previous to the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries.
5. The entire terminology of fish consumption in Istanbul is Greek, and the trades connected with it used to be in the hands of the Greeks.

We are then given a new interpretation of the word *caviar* with the concept “eggs of fish” ever before us: from ancient Greek *ῥόν* (Cappadocian *ῥβόν* < ancient Greek *ῥFόν*) to middle Greek *ἄβγόν* and *ἄβγιόν*; thence to middle Greek **ἄβγιάριν* on the model of Lat. *ovarium* “ovary,” and finally to *χαβγιάριν* < **ταριχαβγιάριν* by syncope:

Within the framework of the foregoing examples we may include as a parallel *χαβγιάριν*, syncopated from the fuller *ταριχαβγιάριν*. The latter form obviously did not survive simply because it was cast into oblivion as the shorter form *χαβγιάριν* won prevalence; and this circumstance occurred probably in that spot of the Byzantine area where caviar was prepared and from which it was commercially distributed. Actually, a medieval text (12th cent.) possibly provides us with an additional example of a shortened word: *τάραχον* from *ἄβγοτάραχον*.

In his concluding remarks on the origin of the term *caviar*, Professor Georgacas admits that the links **ἄβγιάριν* and **ταριχαβγιάριν* are unattested. “Yet,” he says, “the solution here proposed is to me very probable for two cogent reasons: (a) it does not violate the facts, and (b) it fits neatly the semantics as it contains the term for the ‘pickled eggs of the fish’ as its basis, because that is what is characteristic about caviar.”

In Part VI is a particularly interesting investigation of the Greek *χαψίν* for the Black Sea anchovy: one scholar (Andriotis in 1951) proposed to link *χαψί* with classical Greek *χάμψια* “crocodile”—cf. Herod. 2.69: *καλέονται δὲ οὐ κροκόδειλοι ἀλλὰ χάμψια* [*sc. ὑπὸ τῶν Αἰγυπτίων*]. The fact is, however, that Herodotus’ *χάμψια* is not a fish; therefore, an Egyptian etymology is impossible. Professor Georgacas then proposes a derivation via **χαψογαύριν* “the anchovy that gulps down,” noting that the naming of fishes for their mouth-formation is widely attested in Germanic as well as Greek parallels. He rejects the derivation of *χαψί* from Turkish *hamsi* (Andriotis in 1967).*

If I have discussed the contents of Professor Georgacas’ monograph in more than the accustomed detail, it serves only to illustrate the almost unbelievable completeness and painstaking care of its author: no stone is left unturned, no evidence ignored in the search for *etyma* which can in any way be supported by the realia at hand (as far as technical errors of any consequence are concerned, I noted only three: a reference to Leo Beg [p. 95] should be to Leo Berg, *batāix* should be *batārix* [p. 184], and Map C [p. 106]

*Professor Georgacas tells me (per letter dated July 30, 1979) that the term *χαψίν* (his monograph, p. 259ff.) goes back to early mediaeval Greek, since that word and derivatives occur in documents of the Pontic monastery of Vazelon: τὸ *Χαψίν* place-name, anthroponym *Χαψέας*, andronymic (Σεβαστή ἡ) *Χαψάβα*, and the surname *Χαψάς* and its (Pontic) plur. *οἱ Χαψάντοι* are attested in documents of the thirteenth-fifteenth centuries; cf. Ouspensky et Bénéchévitch (eds.), *Actes de Vazélon* (Leningrad, 1927), in which 190 acta are published and two indices are offered.

was accidentally reversed). Professor Georgacas has once again produced a work of lofty erudition and scholarship.

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Places in the Sun: The History and Romance of Florida Place-Names. By Bertha E. Bloodworth and Alton C. Morris. Gainesville: The University Presses of Florida, 1978. Pp. 209, plus 32 unnumbered index pages. Price \$12.50.

A great deal of careful research and organization has gone into this attractive and readable volume. Both authors were longtime professors of English at the University of Florida, and both are authorities on Florida folklore. Professor Morris, who founded the *Southern Folklore Quarterly* in 1936, was its editor for 30 years. In addition to facts, the book offers unauthenticated stories and legends about place-names, clearly labeled as such. Six chapters of entertaining discussion are followed by two considerable appendixes of classified listings. The large index, printed on vivid yellow stock, is bound near the center of the work, a happy idea. A map of the counties, with a listing of the county seats, follows the contents page, and a fascinating sixteenth-century map of Florida decorates the endpapers. The book is fittingly bound in bright yellow, for, after all, its subject is the Sunshine State.

The half dozen chapters consider the name of the state and those of the counties and county seats, names recalling the Indian, Spanish, French, British, and American inhabitants of the state, names given for plants, trees, reptiles, insects, animals, birds, and fishes, names showing saltwater and freshwater connotations, and names for landscape and climatic characteristics. Extra names in each of these categories are listed without discussion in the generous appendixes. There is a short bibliography.

Several minor points might be mentioned. Guesses are made about the name *Cudjoe* (pp. 116-17). One suggestion is that it may be a colloquial pronunciation of *kudzu*, the name of the Japanese vine used for erosion control. It is worth remembering that this vine does not date back all that far in the south, only about 45 years. Another suggestion is that *Cudjoe* is named after one of the last Seminole chiefs. Perhaps so, but a further thought is that it well could be named for the children's antislavery novel, *Cudjo's* [sic] *Cave* (1864), by John Townsend Trowbridge (1827-1916), a book long popular. When I was a boy my grandmother gave me a copy, which I read with delight. The cave was in Tennessee. . . . *Saint-Cloud*, the French town (p. 172), is wrongly placed in southern France. It is in northern France; indeed, it is a suburb of Paris. Although a few Floridian pronunciations are given (*Oviedo*, p. 174; *Ponte Vedra*, p. 174), a few others would have been desirable for out-of-state readers (*Grenada*, p. 170; *Devon*, p. 171; *Berlin*, p. 172; *Genoa*, p. 172).

In sum, this book offers sound scholarship and yet has popular appeal. Would that each of the other states had at least one so good and so handsomely presented.

Eugene B. Vest, emeritus

University of Illinois, Chicago Circle

- A Directory of Genealogical Periodicals*, 3rd ed. By J. Konrad. Munroe Falls, Ohio, 44262: Summit Publications, P.O. Box 222, 1979. Pp. 89. Price \$5. Paper covers.
- Genealogical Societies & Historical Societies: A Comprehensive Listing*. B.J. Konrad. Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262: Summit Publications, P.O. Box 222, 1978. Pp. 55. Price \$3.50. Paper covers.

The American Name Society has generally steered clear of genealogy, except in some articles published in *Names* that have historical importance and have relied upon some information about ancestors. Nevertheless, the Society has throughout its history kept close connections with the Genealogical Department of the Church of Latter-Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah. During the past few years, many requests for genealogical information have come to the Society, most of them as a result of columnists who list the American Name Society in their newspapers. The result is that the request is usually referred to the facility in Utah, but all such requests are answered, with a statement of the purpose of the Society. Seldom do those who make genealogical requests become members; if they do, they usually drop the membership or never send dues. Still, some members of long standing and of great scholarly ability maintain an interest in genealogy, which definitely can claim a methodology that onomatologists can with justice envy.

The two publications noted here are among ten that have been published by Summit Publications since 1974. The others include materials for research into family backgrounds of the German, Irish, Scotch, Polish, and English, a separate booklet devoted to each. In the series are also directories of census information sources, newspapers and periodicals with genealogical query columns, and hereditary organizations which contain members involved in ancestral research.

The directories of genealogical periodicals and of genealogical societies and historical societies seem to be complete and current, zip codes supplied. The latter omission in some publications leads inevitably to frustration and sometimes to cantankerousness in those involved in research, whether genealogical or not. Of particular interest is the listing of historical societies, for these are mines of information for research into place-names. For this reason alone, members of the American Name Society should obtain a copy. Some historical societies are not listed; the St. Lawrence County, New York, Historical Association, a very much active organization in folklore, place-names, and genealogy, does not appear. I suspect that a majority of the counties in the United States do have historical societies. Here all state historical societies and associations are listed, places that will or should supply addresses of such local organizations that are active.

These materials have value to specific areas of onomastics and also may be absolutely necessary for those who need information concerning specific families or places. Although not as ambitious or as costly as the Gale Research genealogical series, they provide sufficient coverage for anyone to begin genealogical study.

Kelsie B. Harder

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Bronnegids vir toponimie en topologie. Source Guide for Toponymy and Topology. Compiled by P. E. Raper. Naamkundereeks/Onomastics Series 5. Pretoria: S. A. Naamkundesentrum, Raad vir Geesteswetenskaplika Navorsing/ S. A. Centre of Onomastic Sciences, Human Sciences Research Council, 1976. Pp. xix, 478 p. Price R15, US \$17.50. (Obtainable from the President, Human Sciences Research Council, Private Bag X41, Pretoria 0001, S. Africa).

The Chief Research Officer of the South African Centre of Onomastic Sciences has excelled himself in this masterpiece of bibliography. Dr. Raper has presented the definitive work in the field, one which, unlike many bibliographies, can be read straight through for pleasure and profit. The *Source Guide* is a valuable contribution to *Kulturgeschichte*, settlement history, political science, linguistics (with particular application to studies of language contact, bilingualism and linguistic politics), geography and other disciplines.

The *Guide* comprises some 14,000 entries and is based upon consultation of some 260 periodical and newspaper titles. The three major sections are a subject index and two author indexes, the first for books and related publications, the second for periodical and newspaper articles. The treatment is strictly bilingual, although in the majority of instances subjects with bilingual names are see-referenced under the English version but actually listed under the Afrikaans variant. The subject index is composed chiefly of toponyms, but there are numerous broader headings; toponymic categories listed include diamond fields, gold fields, famous houses, hospitals, game reserves, national parks, dams, highways and airports. Useful subject headings of a different kind are, e.g., name changes, spelling, biblical place-names.

Many of the listings, as they stand, reveal no obvious connection with onomastics. As it is not an annotated bibliography, we cannot tell the reason for their inclusion. But it is well to err on the side of inclusion, rather than exclusion, of a marginal item. Speaking of exclusion, one politically controversial name is conspicuously absent—Namibia—although there are many listings for the Namib desert. South-West Africa, on the other hand, actually has more pages of listings than South Africa (eight as against seven). One newspaper not listed as having been consulted, but which ought to have been, for better coverage of South-West, is the *Allgemeine Zeitung* of Windhoek, the only German-language newspaper in Africa.

As in most other countries, there are amusing and whimsical names in South Africa. They include Bloedsmaak “taste of blood,” Fort Mistake, Hell—as so often elsewhere, Moneysworth, Hole in the Wall, Hottentots Holland, Pofadder “puff adder,” Jaloerskop “jealous hill or mound,” and Vergenoeg “far enough.” Unlike Belgium or Finland, where bilingual names can be totally dissimilar and of disparate origins, most South African bilingual names are identical in meaning and similar in form, e.g. Cape Town/Kaapstad. Some, though similar, are not direct translations, e.g. Skeleton Coast/Seekus van die Dood “sea coast of death.” The listings attest to a general bilingualization of street names in the 1930s; other listings point to the replacement of names bequeathed by the British Empire by new names honoring the Afrikaner past, e.g., Roberts Heights to Voortrekkerhoogte, Munster to Voortrekkerstrand (in 1959). Apparently there were a few changes in the other direction, though less politically charged, e.g., Leeukloof to Loch Lomond (if this is so, then Loch Lomond should have

been entered as a subject heading as well as Leeukloof—the only such omission found by this reviewer in an admirably cross-referenced list). Within individual subject-headings, arrangement of items is chronological (undated items first).

Echoes of the U.S. are found in such names as Philadelphia and Brooklyn (the latter, in New York, being of Dutch origin; it would be interesting to see whether the South African Brooklyn represents a parallel linguistic anglicization of the same Dutch original, or a later American borrowing). As in Quebec with its mixed French-English compound names there are abrupt juxtapositions of Englishry and Afrikanerdom, e.g. in Henley on Klip. A parallel with another former Dutch colony, Surinam, is South Africa's Joden Tempel; cf. Surinam's Joden Savanne.

Raper's book is highly recommended, the price reasonable for a well-bound volume.

Richard E. Wood

Southeast Missouri State University

Taaltrouw. Nieuwe en oude glottagogische overwegingen. By C. A. Zaalberg. Culemborg: Tjeenk Willink/Noorduijn, 1975. Pp. 180. Price Nfl. 27,50, paper.

On the occasion of C. A. Zaalberg's retirement as professor of Netherlandic studies at the Rijksuniversiteit te Leiden, this delightful volume of linguistic studies old and new was published. It has much of onomastic interest, both *passim* in the majority of articles, and specifically in a number of chapters on onomastic topics.

Zaalberg's main concern is the development and maintenance of the Dutch language, neologisms good and bad, spelling reforms, loanwords, language policy and linguistic politics generally. He has a sharp eye for contemporary trends, especially in the mass media, and comments on them with acerbic wit and in a flowing, finely-honed style. As Dutch and English are closely related languages, and, as English-language influence is stronger in The Netherlands than in any other continental country, the book is of constant interest to the English speaker luckily able to read it.

The most important single chapter is perhaps "De taalleraar als taalpoliticus," pp. 27-46 ("The Language Teacher as Linguistic Politician"). In this, Zaalberg faces up to a topic "where angels fear to tread" in The Netherlands, the question of official language rights for the Frisian minority, and its implications for separatism elsewhere. Citing onomastic examples, he expresses misgivings about the Nynorsk movement in Norway, mentioning how the Nynorsk innovation *Nidaros* for *Trondhjem* (present *Trondheim*), though introduced, was dropped again in 1930. He expressed fears of the establishment, with German support (he was writing in 1960) of a separatist linguistic standard in the eastern provinces of The Netherlands, under the name "Saxon" or "Eastern." As writers on A.B.N. (Algemeen Beschaafd Nederlands) including Zaalberg have pointed out, the eastern provinces are separated from the phonology and lexicon of standard Dutch by a notable bundle of isoglosses. Zaalberg remarks that it would only take a half-educated village schoolmaster to throw together some features of several eastern dialects and write a standard grammar. The new language would then

become the vehicle of a political movement. Involuntarily, the reader imagines Zaalberg muttering to certain other unnamed groups "If the shoe fits, wear it."

A land of roughly equal Catholic and Protestant population groups, with strongly organized social and political institutions for both, The Netherlands provides some interesting shibboleths of religious affiliation. Children, says Zaalberg, who have been taught *Christus* "Christ" or *Noë* "Noah" should not be forced to say *Kristus* or *Noach*. In this regard one thinks of the shibbolethic use of the latter form on the national monument of Flanders, the Isère (IJzer) Memorial, which is set out in the form of a giant cross formed from the letters:

V
A V V
K

standing for Alles voor Vlaanderen / Vlaanderen voor Kristus ("Everything for Flanders / Flanders for Christ"). The effect of the *K* spelling on Belgium's franco-phones is predictable.

The next major onomastic section in *Taaltrouw* is "Straatnaamgeving," pp. 47-53, the keynote address to the Society of Dutch Letters in 1965. He sets forth the terminology of the field and proposes *therionymy* for the study of the naming of animals and *hodonymy* for that of streets.

In current street-name giving, Zaalberg points to a tendency to group names according to semantic field, e.g. a *Julianaplein* will be near a *Bernhardlaan*. While such examples are obvious and easily memorable, names of people and things in abstruse fields are a strain on the public's memory. Zaalberg would prefer to group adjacent streets alphabetically, starting with, e.g., *Achterbergstraat*, *Amsterdamstraat*, *Alvastraat*, etc., continuing with *Bloemgracht*, *Bleiswijkstraat*, etc. An observer of spoken as well as written language, Zaalberg notes the Dutch people's treatment of excessively long bureaucratically assigned street-names, especially those which have been "servilely" given honorifics such as *Doctor*, *Professor*, *Master*; the people lop them off and reduce lengthy strings of titles and names to a single element: *Jhr.* [i.e. *Jonkheer*]-*C.-Wesselman-van-Helmontlaan*, in the town of Helmond, is reduced to *Wesselmanlaan*—not to *Helmontlaan*, we assume, because that would produce a homophone with the name of the town in which the street is found.

He notes foreign or learned names which the Dutch people are likely to deform: *Tannhäuserstraat* in The Hague, *Vespucicstraat* in Amsterdam and *Amoebastraat* in Landsmeer, home of the famous Avifauna park, where several streets received whimsical names.

Dutch has a hyphenation rule similar to that of French, under which compounds whose first element is formed from more than one element require a hyphen between them. Thus *Witte-Kruislaan* "White Cross Lane." But, Zaalberg notes, in most Dutch communities other than The Hague and Utrecht, street sign makers ignore the rule. Thus Amsterdam's *Kromme Mijdrechtstraat* "Crooked Mijdrecht Street" may refer to the crookedness of the gentleman named Mijdrecht (assuming that the hyphen has, as usual, been omitted) rather than of the street itself.

The new national highways, says Zaalberg, have officially received numbers or numbers and letters. But the people have begun to name them. They are a new category. What generic should they be given? The usual *-weg* or *-straatweg* is not

distinctive, while *-baan* would be thought too Germanic. He suggests the eponymic usage of the name of the person honored, in an absolute construction without generic, but with the definite article, e.g. *the Piet Hein* (for "Piet Hein Highway"). Zaalberg does not mention it, but there are American parallels to this (in New York: *the Major Deegan* [Expressway], *the Van Wyck* [Expressway]). Once again, the common linguistic drift of English and Dutch comes through.

Zaalberg points, p. 55, to the paradox of the German name of the intensely Dutch queen, Wilhelmina. He says he understands it was chosen as the feminine of *Wilhelmus*, "but no stadhouder or king was so called." The point he is presumably making is that the Dutch national liberator and hero was both legally and popularly called *Willem*. True. But it is undeniable that the Dutch national anthem, a song of William of Orange, begins "*Wilhelmus van Nassouwe ben ick. . .*" For the late Queen, Zaalberg prefers *Willemien*. And he balks at the Dutch royal family's acceptance without phonological change of the German princes' names *Bernhard* and *Claus* when they married into the House of Orange. (This article was written in 1965; later, Zaalberg must have saluted the action of Queen Margarethe of Denmark when, on her marriage, she Danicized the name of her French-born consort Henri to Henrik.)

The next onomastic paper is "ont-vande schrijvers her-vand," a title which is an untranslatable word-game. The topic is the restoration of the element *van* to names of Dutch traditional, chiefly mediaeval, writers who had lost them in earlier editions of literary histories. When a Dutch literary historian restores the *van*, "he is undertaking a welcome de-Germanization" (pp. 62, this reviewer's translation). In Zaalberg's words, "A German has very little trouble dropping *von* before a name" (p. 62-3). The whole argument is based on this one-line assertion. But what are the facts of German usage of the *von*? Zaalberg's examples are taken mainly from the Dutch middle ages, and based upon the apparent influence of German naming practices in earlier Dutch literary histories, and then a counter-swing. "Are German researchers responsible for Hendrik van Veldeke's so generally being called *Veldeke*?" he asks (p. 63). Zaalberg's case is, for this reviewer, not proven. Firstly, when the leading German poets of the middle ages are given a single name it is not *Vogelweide*, but *Walther* [scil. von der Vogelweide]; not *Eschenbach*, but *Wolfram* [scil. von Eschenbach]. Heinrich von Veldeke—the bidialectal poet who straddled the sound-shift line—is a less conclusive case, but Zaalberg gives no examples. Otto von Habsburg takes delight in calling himself Dr. Otto Habsburg; but how often was the later Wernher von Braun referred to as plain *Braun*? A pilot study of actual usage on this point, to shed more light and less heat, might start by examining the recent obituaries for Dr. von Braun in the German press.

The piece on *van* before the names of Dutch poets is published for the first time in *Taaltrouw*, but undated. It probably dates, however, from before the mid-70s, when the legal dropping of *van* by certain Dutch poets and public figures made headlines in The Netherlands, not long after the Hon. Anthony Wedgwood-Benn turned into Tony Benn to the accompaniment of plaudits and brickbats from the British press.

As a language planner, Zaalberg makes a number of terminological suggestions. Names do change and must change. *Batavia* is totally obsolete for *Jakarta*, and the old names *Indië*, *Nederlands-Indië* for the country whose capital Jakarta is. Good, says Zaalberg. Let us shift the reference of *Indië* to the country which continues to bear that name internationally and legally. In the days of the British raj, India was known in Dutch as *Brits-Indië* "British India, the British Indies." Upon independence, the

dubious form *India* was borrowed from English, setting up the marginal, strained phonemic minimal pair *Indië/India* and perforce creating the adjective *Indiaas* "Indian, of the Indian Union," which Zaalberg considers a monstrosity. He recoils at a radio announcer's use of "Indiase Oceaan" instead of the traditional "Indische Oceaan." The time has come, says Zaalberg, to dump *India* and *Indiaas* and return to the traditional *Indië* and *Indisch*, but with the new geographical referent. There would be no confusion. At a particular historic juncture, the selection of (Nederlands-)Indië vs. Indonesië was a political shibboleth, as South-West Africa vs. Namibia are today and South Africa vs. Azania may soon become. Zaalberg quotes, p. 90, a Belgian linguist as claiming that, around the time of the independence of what is today Zaïre, the choice between *de Kongo* and *Kongo* was sufficient to label the user as a colonialist or anti-colonialist, respectively (cf. parallel Ukrainian attitudes toward *the Ukraine* vs. *Ukraine*, in English).

For anyone who loves language, and in particular names, and has a particular fascination with the politics of names, Zaalberg's book is worth learning Dutch just to read, though the reader will have to be a master of Dutch to follow Zaalberg's every nuance.

Richard E. Wood

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The Place Names of Sumter County, Alabama. By Virginia O. Foscue. Publication Number 65 of the American Dialect Society, published for the Society by the University of Alabama Press, no date. Pp. 74, paperbound, no price given.

Virginia Foscue, the present director of the *Alabama Place Name Survey*, has issued one of the best county surveys to come off the pike since Cassidy's *Dane County Place-Names*. Derived from her masters thesis (University of Alabama, 1959), part of which was published in the *Alabama Review* in 1960, it lists alphabetically and describes briefly, with some exceptions, all the names "used within the present boundaries of the county" since its establishment. The omissions, she points out in her comprehensive and useful introduction, were those names not considered distinctive, merely having been derived from those of existing settlements or features. Further, in her introduction, which also includes a brief history of the county, she mentions that hers is essentially a descriptive study, a presentation of raw data in dictionary form, and any comparative analyses must await the accumulation of additional information. For both the names and the information about them she consulted all available historic and governmental references and maps and interviewed county residents, while visiting as many of the places as she could. A particularly useful part of her introduction are the local definitions of the generic and designator terms and the brief notes on some linguistic aspects of the names themselves with illustrations from her sample.

The entries follow essentially the model in Cassidy's *Dane County Place-Names*. In each entry the compiler gives the generally accepted spelling of the name and, if any, the spelling variations; the local pronunciation, if known and where not obvious,

according to a modified IPA system (for which she unfortunately fails to provide a key); the location by section, township, and range (which does not help an outsider equipped with only his AAA road map); the kind of place; when known the date the name was given or the date of its earliest use on a map, document, or other source. The etymology of non-English names and any English-language names “that require explanation” are given. Otherwise, origins are merely “traced back” to the immediate source of the name, that for which the place or feature was named. When known, the circumstance of the naming and the identities of the person or persons involved are presented. Other names borne by the place or feature are cross-referenced and discussed independently “in [their] alphabetic place in the dictionary.” Sources of all information are given with each entry.

This, in the proverbial nutshell, is Mrs. Foscue’s book. There is only one inexcusable defect. Since the map presented in her introduction identifies only the principal communities and rivers in the county, location by section, township, and range rather than by direction and distance from the more or less centrally situated county seat is not very helpful. The non-obvious names that are not pronounced are preceded in the text by an asterisk, indicating that they are no longer in use. Would I be correct in assuming that local informants when asked about these names could not give accurate pronunciations?

Overall, this is a useful volume. I am delighted that Mrs. Foscue is pursuing further her interest in Alabama place-names by directing their systematic study for the U.S. Place Name Survey.

Robert M. Rennick

Even More Remarkable Names. By John Train. New York: Clarkson N. Potter, Inc., One Park Avenue, New York 10016, 1979. Pp. 64. Price \$4.95.

When one compiles a work on odd and unusual names, every reader thinks of that person with a funny name with whom he is acquainted. Thus, after Mr. Train’s book on *Remarkable Names of Real People* (reviewed in *Names* 26:2 [June, 1978], p. 200), correspondents came up with many outstanding examples, and a further book had to be published.

In a foreword Brendan Gill, looking backward, outlines a fanciful, fabricated, future biography of the author and his work. Some of the names in the book are wonderfully illumined by the illustrator, Pierre Le-Tan.

Most of the interesting names are listed with the cities in which their bearers lived, many also with their occupations, and some accompanied by pertinent documentation, all designed to emphasize the authenticity of the names. Since the entries are listed alphabetically by first names, an index of surnames gives some aid to the curious. Anyone interested in personal names could not spend a better time than one perusing this small book. No, I will not repeat some of the queer names. You really must study the entire list.

Elsdon C. Smith

Choosing a Name, An A to Z of First Names and their Meanings. Compiled by Moyna Kitchin. London: The Hamlyn Publishing Group Limited, Astronaut House, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 9AR, England, 1979. Pp. 255. Price £1.99.

Many books containing a list of Christian names and their meanings are published and most of them are so poorly done that a review of them would just waste valuable space. But here the author Kitchin has listed about two thousand given names, as a practical guide for one who wishes to select a suitable name for a baby, supported by some knowledge of present-day use, origin, and meaning. A brief introduction stands as a valuable essay on the subject.

The author has included both common and unusual given names with identification as to sex and a short sketch about the name and its variants. Where authorities differ as to origin and meaning the author merely gives each. A short bibliography of books on the subject published in England is included.

The principal thing that gives one pause as to the ability of the author is her inclusion of a calendar of birth signs given at the conclusion of the work and evidence of her limited belief in them.

Elsdon C. Smith

NECROLOGY

The Secretary-Treasurer regretfully announces the death of George B. Pace on May 16, 1979 at Columbia, Missouri. Dr. Pace, a professor of English at the University of Missouri, was a specialist in mediaeval English language and literature and co-edited a text on Chaucer. In recognition of his excellence as a teacher and a scholar, he was awarded the first Catherine P. Middlebush Chair in English at the University of Missouri in 1977.