

## Book Reviews

### GALE RESEARCH ORIGINALS AND REPRINTS: XXV

This survey of publications by Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226 is the twenty-fifth in the series of notices giving prominence to books of interest to readers of *Names*. Titles and bibliographical information follow:

Alkire, Leland G., Jr., compl. and ed. *Periodical Title Abbreviations: By Abbreviation (PTA-A)*. 3rd ed., Vol. I. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1981. Pp. xix + 709. \$75.00.

Crowley, Ellen T., ed. *Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary*, 7th ed., Vol. I. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1980. Pp. xvi + 1,330. \$70.00.

Filby, William P., and Mary K. Meyer, eds. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*, Preliminary vol. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1980. Pp. xv + 324. Paper cover. (Preliminary volume is free with all orders for the complete set of three volumes, \$180.00/set).

Herbert, Miranda C., and Barbara McNeil, eds. *Biography and Genealogy Master Index*, 2nd ed., 8 vols. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1980. Pp. approx. 6,000. \$575.00/set.

Mossman, Jennifer, ed. *Pseudonyms and Nicknames Dictionary*, 1st ed. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1980. Pp. xviii + 627. \$48.00 *New Pseudonyms and Nicknames*, Issues Nos. 1 and 2, 1980 and 1981. \$45.00/set.

U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, original publisher and editor. *Foreign Versions of English Names, and Foreign Equivalents of United States Military and Civilian Titles*. Detroit: Grand River Books, 1980. Pp. vi + 227. \$22.00.

The editors at Gale Research Company continue to update old compilations and compile new ones with accuracy, speed, and perhaps frenzy, for in this batch of books (a small number from the Gale list) published during 1980 and part of 1981 appear approximately 3,770,000 items in glossaries that not only boggle minds but also drift us toward the unimaginable both in cost and in numbers. Somehow, the editors will find a subject to encompass all names in existence, plus those which have passed beyond the pale of currency but not far enough to avoid burial in computer memories where almost Lazarus-like they will be resurrected time and again in list after list, but if of relatively mediocre importance—a small flicker—they will appear in only one little list, tucked away carefully but there shining in fixed abstractions nevertheless, for no name shall be lost. These panoramic and almost inexhaustible lists sometimes

make me wish for the early Gale publications of 19th-century nostalgia and poorly received folklore texts that filled a tribal need in older readers and gave younger maybe-readers an insight into the old-oaken-bucket days. Times change. The age of lists rises above the buzz of computers, distributing a locust-storm of names, acronyms, pseudonyms, initialisms, and abbreviations upon the land.

*Periodical Title Abbreviations* contains some 35,000 abbreviations, three times the number in the first paltry listing but does not take the place of *American Standard for Periodical Title Abbreviations* or usurp the work of the National Clearinghouse for Periodical Title Word Abbreviations. *PTA-A*, rather, is intended as a "record of the myriad ways in which commonly used indexing and abstracting services abbreviate periodical titles," a synchronic instead of a diachronic listing, with each new edition containing more and more abbreviations, sometimes listing two or more for the same periodical. Different languages do different things to shortenings. Still, most of the major sources are in English and mostly American at that. The Englishing of the foreign abbreviations posed many problems in orthography and in reproducing something that suggested diacritical marks which for spatial reasons were omitted: "Thus, the German word *fur* [sic!] becomes fuer." Abbreviations from *Chemical Abstracts* have for the most part not been included because of "complicated serial and monographic entries." Users who are interested in such abbreviations need to supplement *PTA-A* with *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index*. Some curiosities appear throughout, for seemingly a magazine exists for almost everything: *Worlds of If* (WIF), *Cirpho Review* (Cirpho), *City Invincible* (CI), *Dairy Goat Journal* (Dairy Goat J), or "Association Men" (*Rural Manhood*) abbreviated to Assn. Men. Volume 2 will list the 35,000 entries by title, while the two softbound supplements to be published in 1981 and 1982 will add several thousand more abbreviations.

The 7th edition of *Acronyms* contains 211,323 entries, somewhat up from the first edition (1960) of about 12,000. No end is in sight, nor need there be, for apocoptation, syncope, back formation, and reduction to initials are endemic to humans, temporally speaking. Indeed, the American penchant for clipped spellings and abecedisms in speech has rapidly spread throughout the world where print space and speech seconds are economically valuable; after all, print and air have become commodities costly beyond all possibility in this pseudo-efficient world that always attempts to genuflect before the goddess of efficiency. Well, abbreviomania probably has its place, for this madness "is convenient, speedy, and well-suited to the highly technical modern world." Probably, everyone who can speak or write or both use abbreviations—a term occurring more and more to cover all the technical terms like acronyms, initialisms, abbreviations, short titles, and abecedisms of any kind—in daily language processes. I doubt that anyone would now, no matter how conservative or old-fashioned, would ask someone to turn on the television receiving set. How many viewers really know what CBS, NBC, ABC stand for? Surely, *radar* and *laser* have become semantic units apart from their originally being initialisms. Further, problems of definition exist that need careful treatment. Pronunciation of these abbreviations needs clarification; for instance, CAFE (Corporate Average Fuel Economy) probably is not homophonous with *café*, a kind of restaurant. Some discussion of these matters appear in the front matter (see "Slight Distinction among Terms"). Volume 2 will be the annual supplement, while Volume 3 will be the reverse dictionary.

The preliminary edition of *Passenger* contains about 75,000 names of persons who

came to parts of North America (now Canada and the United States) and the West Indies during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The three projected volumes will list about 300,000 passengers' names abstracted from arrival and naturalization records. Although these names (and source references) will be of value primarily to genealogists and persons seeking, for whatever reason, information concerning an individual or a family, they can also be used for incidence of names, linguistic forms of names, cultural and ethnic studies, and the like. The bare entry includes the name, alphabetically listed, age, place of arrival, year of arrival, code that refers to the source book, page number of the source book, and beneath the name all accompanying passengers, if any.

No doubt, the last word has not been written on the reasons why persons choose pseudonyms, pen names, aliases, or stage names, nor has Mossman done much to help us understand such usages. Nicknames can be seen as more manageable, since usually they are not chosen by the ones who answer or refuse to answer to them. The editor of *Pseudonyms* has compiled a dictionary of 21,433 names, assumed or otherwise, of "17,129 real persons." A problem with the definition of "real" exists here, but such a philosophical tangle will have to be unknotted elsewhere. Mossman says that "authors, entertainers, and athletes account for ninety-five percent of the entries." When we look about us and follow current publications (*Time*, *Newsweek*, *Sports Illustrated*, *The Sporting News*, especially), we can see that the first edition of *Pseudonyms* barely touches the vast territory of nicknaming that exists. These, however, could be called nonce nicknames, ones that apparently appear only at the whim of hip editors who are felicitously as well as condescendingly *au courant*. Whether these should be recorded in such a compilation as *Pseudonyms* or left to the obscurity of discarded ephemera is a matter of choice if not debate. I would like to see them recorded; however, such careful collecting may lead to more and perhaps continuous demagogic coining of epithets by journalists to apply to persons fortunate or unfortunate enough to be "in the news." Generally, nicknames appearing in news magazines are epithetical as well as eponymous in disparaging ways. One glaring shortcoming in *Pseudonyms* is the appearance of only one "other" name. While this is true in some cases, such as in stage names, many "real" persons have more than one nickname, witness the many that accrue to athletes and politicians. This compilation, however, is a good beginning toward glossing a language phenomenon that is more commented upon than studied.

Size has its importance, as does inclusiveness. The 2nd edition of *Biography and Genealogy Master Index* contains "more than 3,200,000 citations," about four times the number in the 1st edition and extends four more volumes making the total now eight. Its cost is prohibitive for most individuals, but library centers can certainly make good research use of it. Small town and village libraries probably will not stock it, despite its usefulness and ready-reference and cost-saving availability. The copy before me, Vol. 3, F-H, weighs five pounds, measures 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> × 8<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches × 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches, with green covers, and yellow lettering set in yellow and orange-red borders. The book, as befitting its price, is, as we say in the trade, handsome and exudes strength. Names appearing in "over 600 editions of more than 350 sources" have been alphabetized into these eight volumes. Among the sourcebooks appear some strange biography-fellows: *Book Illustrators in Eighteenth-Century England*; *Civil Rights: A Current Guide to the People, Organization, and Events*; *Directory of Library Consultants*; *Encyclopedia of the Third Reich*; *Greek and Latin Authors, 800 B. C.—A. D. 1000*;

*Indiana Authors and Their Books, 1917-1966; Minnesota Writers; and Mug Shots.* Since some persons' names will appear in more than one source, with different dates and forenames, such persons may appear more than once in the index, as indeed former President Ford does. Each name is keyed to a source where a biography can be found. Names are listed exactly as they appear in the source, which accounts for the variations in spelling, full names, and dates of birth and death. This major index covers just about all specialized fields as well as general areas wherever "thumbnail" biographical sketches occur.

*Foreign Versions of English Names* was originally prepared and published by the USDJIN, M-131, rev. 1973, and is now published in hardcover by Grand River Books, a branch of Gale Research. Apparently, the text is of some use to immigration officials in that it gives foreign equivalents in "16 language groups representing 24 nationalities or language sources, . . ." About 1,800 English names are indexed to equivalents in "Bulgarian, Czech and Slovak, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Estonian and Finnish, Italian, Latvian and Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Rumanian, Russian, Serbian, Croatian and Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish and Norwegian, Ukrainian, and Yiddish." Most of the equivalents are obvious, but a few could cause some searching, for instance Gyozo (*Hungarian*) for Victor; Nadezida (*Czech*) for Hope; or Vidor (*Hungarian*) for Hilary. Much is wrong with this text, first being the left column listing the English names, which means that whoever uses it must know both the foreign name and its English equivalent. Next, it has no index so that, say, a name like Orazio (*Italian*) can be referred to pp. 86-7 where it appears as equivalent to English Hiram. Still, for the limited number of names, the text can be helpful. As an added bonus, "57 diplomatic and military titles of the U.S., plus 29 professional designations and 5 courtesy styles are listed with equivalents in 34 language groups." This section may be more worthwhile and valuable than is the section on name equivalencies. Everyone will want to check through the social titles of Miss, Mister, and Mrs.

Gale Research Company has established itself as a publishing company with high standards and with reliable editors. The books that have appeared in recent years have contributed substantially to many areas of research. Perhaps most important is Gale's making available enormous amounts of material, often raw, that can be interpreted by those seeking some kind of coherence out of what at first seems to be the chaos of language. We can look forward to the continued publication of satisfying and usable texts:

Kelsie B. Harder

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*Anglo-American and German Abbreviations in Environmental Protection (Anglo-Amerikanische und deutsche Abkürzungen für den Bereich Umweltschutz).* By Peter Wennrich. Munchen: K. G. Saur, 1980. Pp. vii + 624. No price listed. Can be obtained from K. G. Saur Pub. Inc., 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

The title is somewhat misleading in that the abbreviations go beyond what we

would consider the purely protective in the environment and move into such related areas as biology, chemistry, agriculture, medicine, and physics. The index serves as a complement to the "more comprehensive edition of *Anglo-American and German Abbreviations in Science and Technology*," also published by K. G. Saur. *Environmental Protection* contains approximately 40,000 abbreviations used both in German and in English. This figure compares well with those published by Gale Research Company, whose editions can also be used to complement the ones published by K. G. Saur. A comparison indicates that some overlapping occurs, as well as some differences in abbreviations. The listing is alphabetical, with no distinction made between the German and English abbreviations.

The entries are strictly technological, with not even PhD. or DPhil listed, although other doctorates in scientific areas are noted, such as Dr F/Doctor of Forestry, Dr phy/Doctor of Physics, or D Phy/Doctor of Physics, with duplications occurring according to different usages. As expected, acronyms occur and apparently are used as such: SALT/Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, SAP/Serum Alkaline Phosphatase, NEST/Naval Experimental Satellite Terminal, NET/Nuclear Effects Test, CAR/Cloud Altitude Radiometer, CATCH/Computer Analysis of Thermo-Chemical, CAVE/Consolidated Aquanauts Vital Equipment, BUN/Blood Urea Nitrogen, BUSS/Biomedical Urine Sampling System, and GAS/Giant Attribute Survey or GAS/Giant Air Shower. Some curiosities, not always acronyms, appear: CARP/Citizens Concerned about Radiation Pollution, KIND/Kindness in Nature's Defense, SAUCERS/Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society, OrJ and OJ/Orange Juice (separate entries), HOPE/Help Organize Peace Everywhere, ft H<sub>2</sub>O/Foot of Water, FTD/Fails to Drain, BM/Before Marriage (but not BM/Bowel Movement), BO/Body Odour (Boiled Oil), IQ of Pigs/Iowa Quality of Pigs, IQ/I Quit (Smoking), NZW Mouse/New Zealand White Mouse, and FTB/for the Birds.

This compilation of abbreviations will be a valuable tool in helping to decipher technological documents at the international level, for outside of Russia most such material appears in either English or German, with the latter being the traditional language for scientific papers, although English is probably superseding it. The two texts, *Abbreviations in Environmental Protection* and *Abbreviations in Science and Technology* amply cover the technical fields for the two languages. Still, each is noted as a first edition, indicating or hinting that future editions will incorporate and update terms as they are coined or changed. As we know, these abbreviations grow faster than ants appear at a picnic.

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*A Pronouncing Dictionary of English Place-Names.* By Klaus Forster. Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 9 Park St., 02108, 1981. Pp. xxxvi + 268. \$30.00.

Forster has listed the pronunciations of some 12,000 names "of English counties, towns, villages, farms, fields, rivers, mountains, islands, and even street-names of

of some major English cities (such as Bristol, Leeds, and London).” A major undertaking and overall a successful one in its published form, the text definitely is a needed and valuable contribution to the studies of place names in England, and, by extension, to studies of English place names that appear elsewhere, especially in the major English-speaking countries, such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Further, the pronunciations listed here can be compared with those given to place names in other areas where English influence has been strong historically, such as India, portions of Africa, and islands in the Pacific Ocean and in the Caribbean area.

The pronunciations recorded cover those in use for the past 100 years, give or take a few years. Forster believes that it is possible that all the pronunciations have occurred in this century. Because of spatial limitations, the dictionary does not include *all* standard, local, and archaic pronunciations, a task that certainly would be impossible for a work of this restricted scope and by an onomastician working alone. Still, the entries have variants noted when they differ according to regional dialectal pronunciations. For instance, Neatishead has three listed: [ni:tstid], [ni:tshed] (British Broadcasting Company). [ni:tshed]. All pronunciations appear in modified broad phonetic symbols, with a key noted in the front matter. To American-English ears, some of the pronunciations will be strange, for, I suspect, we are more attuned to “spelling pronunciations” than are the English who retain—if that is the correct word—historical pronunciations. On the other hand, the English have the same trouble with the American pronunciation of so-called Indian names.

Places whose pronunciations exhibit linguistic changes and principles include Auburn (metathesis), Afton, Aughton, Claughton-on-Brock, Clive, Cleobury, Cholmondeley, Cholmondeston, Cirencester (19 variants), Newnham, Stiffkey, Ulgham, and Idrighay. The list could, of course, be extended. Forster has attempted to give the local pronunciation, along with the one recommended by the BBC, the latter depending abstractly more on a spelling pronunciation. For the BBC recommendations, Forster relied on G. M. Miller, *BBC Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names*, 1971, noted in the bibliography. The BBC preferences have been indeed strongly influenced by stilted pronunciations learned in voice training usually associated with stage diction. Possibly for this reason, the BBC pronunciations differ from the local ones.

Forster’s is the only dictionary available for the pronunciation of English place names, but for local names it needs to be supplemented by the publications of the English Place-Name Society, which will give the pronunciations of many names not listed in Forster. Following the practice of English place-name texts, the bibliography appears in the front matter and seems to be exhaustive. Entries are keyed to the bibliography and to the county or city. Finally, this text is indispensable to anyone concerned with English place-name pronunciations anywhere. It should also be of value to those doing fieldwork for the place-name survey of the United States. Perhaps it will also stimulate a more comprehensive work on pronunciations in England. This excellent contribution to place-name study is strongly recommended.

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The Place—Names of Roman Britain. By A. L. F. Rivet and Colin Smith. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1979, pp. XVIII + 526, figs. 33, Price \$100.

Once in a while a book appears which makes one ask why nobody had ever thought of doing this kind of thing before, because it appears so natural, so worthwhile, so inevitable. *The Place—Names of Roman Britain* is such a book. Perhaps the fact that the volume has two authors is at least partially responsible for the successful completion of a project which no individual scholar might have been willing to tackle. Team-work has always been a good approach to undertakings the sheer size of which might easily make the individual flinch, and complementary expertise, together with mutual encouragement, is likely to see something through in a reasonable amount of time, when one person, however well qualified, might well have given up in the early stages of a seemingly endless task. A. L. F. Rivet and Colin Smith have obviously been such an effective team. The former, Professor of Roman Provincial Studies at the University of Keele (England), has not only brought his excellent knowledge of Roman Britain to this joint effort but also has long experience as an Archeology Officer for the Ordnance Survey, whereas the latter, Professor of Spanish at the University of Cambridge, has contributed his skills in the Romance languages as well as his keen interest in Vulgar Latin, especially as found in the British Isles. This is a happy combination and the resulting volume a joy to review.

As is to be expected, more than half of the over five-hundred pages of the compendium are devoted to an alphabetical listing of the place names of Roman Britain, from *Aballava* to *Zerdotalia*. Each entry lists the sources in which the name in question is recorded, provides its variant spellings, discusses suggested derivations, and supplies an identification wherever this is possible. There is inevitably some speculation but never any rash commitment to unproven or unprovable theories. Each entry therefore becomes a model both in format and in trustworthiness, bringing together information from widely disparate sources, both primary and secondary. If, in such a praiseworthy procedure, one can detect any flaw at all, it is perhaps a tendency toward linguistic conservatism which sometimes values caution beyond all reasonable expectations. The result is that, from the point of view of linguistic stratification, the strong possibility that at least some of the names recorded in one way or another for the period of Roman occupation in Britain may be pre-Celtic is hardly taken into account. Naturally, all such names, especially those of water courses, would have been heard by the Romans from speakers of Celtic but there seems to be every reason to believe that the Celts themselves inherited a sizable group of river names from a pre-Celtic population of the British Isles whose language may also have belonged to the Indo-European family of languages. Reluctance to face such a possibility squarely sometimes leads to a somewhat misleading reference, as when after a detailed discussion of possible etymologies for the *Alauna* (p. 244), especially Pokorný's suggestion that it might mean 'shining' or 'brilliant' one, the reader is alerted to an article by the reviewer through the phrase "See also W. Nicolaisen in BZN, VIII (1957), 227–28." What the conscientious reader, following up the hint, will find there is indeed a long discussion of the name *Alauna* but with a completely different linguistic ascription. This is not the place to argue the merits of the various proposals,

nor should a very personal gripe obscure the fact that otherwise the numerous alphabetical entries are models of presentation and scholarship. Probably a slight opportunity has been missed but, then, caution is always preferable to wild speculation.

While the systematic presentation and investigation of the corpus of the actual onomastic material is obviously the most important and most welcome feature of the volume, the remainder of the book is by no means less significant. As so often happens, when scholars have to come to grips with the background to the material which they are about to study and subsequently feel that the reader, too, should be acquainted with the various aspects of this context, the resulting discussion in print takes on an almost independent function of its own. Certainly Part I of *The Place—Names of Roman Britain* makes as fascinating and as rewarding reading as Part II and might well be considered to be the most up to date, most informed, and most judicious introduction to a number of questions concerning Roman Britain. This is particularly true of the chapters dealing with the texts—from *Acta Concilii Arelatensis* (A.D. 314) to *Zosimus* (flourished A.D. 500)—and with such important sources as Ptolemy's Geography, the *Hineraries*, the *Ravenna Cosmography*, the *Notitia Dignitatum* and the *Inscriptions*. Anybody who wishes to become acquainted with the latest and most authoritative views of Ptolemy's work, for example, cannot do better than consult pp. 103–147 of the volume under review, and the same is true of the other sources, too. The scholarship is not only up to date but also impeccable.

Here, then, is a volume which, even at a seemingly exorbitant price of \$100.00, no library and, dare one suggest it, no scholar interested in these matters can afford to miss. It is certainly one of the milestones of onomastic research in Britain, this century. We all have much to learn from it, and it is likely to remain the most reliable authority on the subject for a long time to come.

W. F. H. Nicolaisen

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*San Juan Island: Coastal Place Names and Cartographic Nomenclature.* By Bryce Wood. Published for Washington State Historical Society by University Microfilms International. Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1980. Pp. xii + 268. Price \$20.75. (Order directly from University Microfilms International, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.)

San Juan Island, although second largest in the San Juan Island group in Washington State, is only nine by thirteen miles in area. It has about 2,000 permanent residents. Today some 90 place names apply to features on the island and to the waters immediately surrounding it. At first glance a place this small and this remote would offer scant material for an important place names study. But using it as a laboratory specimen Bryce Wood has produced a work that will be of value to all who have a serious interest in place names and naming practices.

The author does devote some pages to the origin of current San Juan Island names (pp. 83–122) and to names applied in the past but no longer used (pp. 123–193).



This comprises the most complete study of place names in any area of Washington State.

Of wider importance are Mr. Wood's chapters on naming practices—a scrutiny of the way in which names have been placed on the map, whether by explorers, surveyors or settlers. A large portion of the book is devoted to a consideration of this aspect of naming. And here Bryce Wood breaks new ground. His presentation is based on a thorough study of the history of the region and detailed research in public and private archives in the United States and Britain. His book is replete with quotations regarding naming practices, all serving appropriately to illustrate his thesis. He examines British customs in naming and those of Americans—recent practices as well as those followed in the past. He presents instructions on naming issued by the Admiralty as early as 1888 and revised in 1915, 1933 and 1970. Also included are instructions published by the United States Coast & Geodetic Survey in 1908, revised in 1921 and (by NOAA) in 1975.

The volume closes with a list of 108 charts that have been researched, a 23 page bibliography and a detailed index. In short: here is a notable contribution to place names literature and a well prepared, scholarly presentation worthy of attention.

Robert Hitchman

Member, Washington State Board on Geographic Names

*Die Ortsnamen im Kreise Pinneberg.* Vol. II of *Kieler Beiträge zur Deutschen Sprachgeschichte*, ed. Friedhelm Debus and Wolfgang Laur. By Wolfgang Laur. Neumünster: Karl Wachholtz Verlag, 1978. Pp. 209 with map. Price DM 20.

Wolfgang Laur is for any time or place a constantly productive placenames scholar. Born and bred in Riga, the capital of Latvia, this German "Balt" is not only in every way an educated man in Latvian and in his German mother tongue. As the authority in the field of the toponymy of the West German *Land* of Schleswig-Holstein, he lectures, publishes, and reads papers in Danish as well. Like the Schleswig or northern half of Schleswig-Holstein itself, which is on the whole toponymically more Danish than Frisian or Low German, Dr. Laur, who works at the *Landesarchiv* of Schleswig-Holstein in the city of Schleswig (Danish Slesvig, early twentieth-century English Sleswick), stands as a bridge between Denmark and the Federal Republic.

The *Kreis* or District of Pinneberg lies on the right or northern bank of the Elbe in the Holstein or southern half of Schleswig-Holstein. Its eastern neighbor is for the most part the Hanseatic City *Land* (*Hansestadt*) of Hamburg. The *Land* of Lower Saxony lies across the Elbe to the southeast. Some 140 Kilometers from Pinneberg, the chief city of the *Kreis* of the same name, lies the Frisian Island of Helgoland, or Heligoland in British English. It is an administrative part of the District of Pinneberg and puts that district far downstream in the North Sea, far beyond its position on the ribbon-like Elbe Estuary. (Laur presents an exhaustively documented, up-to-date article on "Helgoland" on pp. 166–170.) The author complied with the desire in the

district to have him include Garstedt and Friedrichsgabe, detached from *Kreis* Pinneberg in 1970.

On the whole, the area covered by Laur's work enters history around 1300 as a separate county or "earldom" in the west of the *Gau* (Medieval subtribal settlement area) of Stormarn. Hamburg, the capital of Stormarn, lay to the east of the county (or *Grafschaft*), with the Elbe to the south, the *Gau* of Dithmarschen to the west and the *Gau* of Holstein to the north. Helgoland's political association with Pinneberg began under the Weimar Republic in 1932.

Following the *Einleitung* or introduction (pp. 5–28), of which a substantial portion is devoted to regional Low German (pp. 16–28) and drawn from the literature and from private correspondence, the body of the author's work is made up of 1. *Die Ortsnamen* (the placenames, pp. 45–160). Next come 2. *Die Raumnamen* (the areal names, pp. 161–172) and 3. *Die Gewässernamen* (the water or hydrographic names, pp. 173–181). Since the primary classification of the placenames is on the basis of administrative divisions, the index of names dealt with in the District of Pinneberg, pp. 195–199, is something the book could not well have done without. Immediately following is a two-page index of names dealt with by Laur that are from beyond the District of Pinneberg.

A list of frequently represented "roots" (*Grundwörter*) and of names put together with them, is found on pp. 183–193. The individual articles are unencumbered by an abundance of superfluous details. The article on *Kuhle*, however, could do with some hint on the etymology of *Kuhle*. We are only told that it designates a 'hollow' or 'depression' (*Ein-, Vertiefung*). *Bullenkuhlen*, *Lehmkuhle* and *Syltkuhle* are the examples given. In discussing *Syltkuhlen* (p. 133) the author remarks that Sylt, as High German *Schwelle* (swell), and *Kuhle* are at bottom mutually exclusive topographical designations. For elucidation here see the article on *kuil l* in Jan de Vries' *Nederlands etymologisch woordenboek* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1971).

*Koog* (Old Frisian *kâg*) (pp. 189–190), another word for polder, is traced back to *\*kaugaz* as a variant of Proto-Gmc. *\*haugaz* 'high.' It is pointed out that the word originally referred to higher lying land adjacent to the sea before there were any dikes as such. Along with Hans Kuhn, who is named, Maurits Gysseling must also be given credit for calling attention to such phenomena as an un-Gmc. *k* in the Low Countries and northwestern Germany. Unlike Laur, who obviously sees this as part of an incomplete process of consonant change from an Indo-European state to Proto-Germanic, Kuhn interprets it as one of many examples of a pre-Germanic substratum of an Italic-like subfamily of Indo-European between Celtic and Germanic.

Gert B. Droege

Frisian Information Bureau

*Last, First, Middle and Nick—All About Names.* By Barbara Shook Hazen. Englewood. Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 07632, 1979. Pp. vii + 131. Price \$7.95.

Here is a book that will educate young children on the subject of personal names, a subject that will be of importance during their entire lives.

In fourteen chapters, lavishly illustrated by cartoons drawn by Sam Weissman and jokes about names, the reader is fully informed on the subject. The author is clearly not an onomastic expert but she has compiled a well-rounded textbook that will arouse the interest of young children.

Elsdon C. Smith

*Place-Names of Great Britain and Ireland.* By John Field. Totowa: Barnes & Noble Books, 81 Adams Drive, Totowa, NJ 07512, 1980. Pp. 208. Price \$15.00.

Here is a dictionary which interprets and discusses a selection of place-names from Great Britain and Ireland, a book for the general reader or ordinary traveller, not intended, the author says, for the specialist. Starting with an investigation of the origin of the word from which the name is derived, the earliest spellings are noted, the language identified, and the history and meanings are given. Other interesting information about many of the names is included.

After a short, but interesting, Introduction the author sets out his dictionary of place-names in 173 pages. The largest towns are all, of course, included together with the names of counties and other large territorial units. Other names are chosen because the places are historically important or otherwise interesting. Some very small places are included because of some special features of the names themselves.

Following the dictionary is an important glossary of common place-name elements. An appendix listing the regions, counties and districts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland followed by a short bibliography completes the work. Really, for the casual reader, the itinerant traveller, this is a valuable book for daily use.

Elsdon C. Smith