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# NEWS LETTER

no. 30

June 2002

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## 1. SLIN Conferences and Seminars

§ The Eleventh National Conference of SLIN headed *Historical linguistic studies of spoken English* will almost certainly be held in early June, 2003 (presumably on 5-7) in the premises of the University of Pisa or in a nearby locality celebrated for its summer resorts. The organization is entrusted to Professor Antonio Bertacca, assisted by the SLIN National Committee. Two guest speakers of outstanding renown are being contacted and more details connected with this aspect will be provided in the next issue of this Newsletter along with a call for papers. Possible topic areas for paper proponents to choose were suggested by Richard Dury as follows:

1. *Historical Phonology*: reconstruction of past phonetic forms and phonological systems; sound changes; grapho-phonological correspondences and evolution.
2. *Historical Dialectology*: linguistic variation within speech-dominated dialects; interdialectal contact and the spread of change; non-standard forms in speech-based texts such as private letters and dialogues.
3. *Historical Sociolinguistics*: diffusion of sound changes; morpho-syntactical variation and change in non-standard, speech-dominated dialects.
4. *Historical Pragmatics*: linguistic forms and discourse structures influenced by the rules and strategies of face-to-face interaction.
5. *Linguistic Historiography*: early attention to spoken rather than written forms in grammars and dictionaries; attempts to write histories of the spoken language; early collectors of spoken forms; transcribers of dialogues.

All this was decided upon during the SLIN Rome workshop held on 3-4 April last (see below).

§§ The usual biannual **SLIN Seminar** was in fact hosted in Rome at the Linguistics Department on April 3 and 4 under David Hart's accurate supervision. The focus of the meeting in which some twenty colleagues participated was the guest orator's - our good friend Matti Rissanen - lecture on "Grammaticalization of concessive prepositions: the cases of *despite*, *in spite of*, *notwithstanding*" which basically consisted of a fascinating journey through a very large number of tokens statistically arranged into historical subperiods from Middle English to Present English. The issue was investigated by referring to a remarkably vast set of electronic linguistic-historical corpora which included, among others, apart from the *Helsinki Corpus* 'created' by Matti himself and his clever Finnish team, the *Lampeter Corpus of Early Modern English Tracts* (1640-1740), the *Corpus of Early English Correspondence* (1410-1681), the *Corpus of English Dialogues* (1560-1750), *A Representative Corpus of Historical English Registers* (ARCHER) (1650-1990). A number of synchronic data collections such as LOB, FLOB, COLT, Brown, Frown and the British National Corpus were also exploited for the purpose of as accurate as possible tracing and recognition. A rich and fruitful discussion has followed particularly on the methodological premises and the prospective developments of the research.

Antonio Bertacca's scheduled communication on problems connected to teaching and research in SLIN was in fact transformed into a discussion of the contents of the next national Conference of SLIN, which has eventually introduced the usual **business meeting** conducted by him who writes. Information on the Conferences of Pavia (2001) - evaluation and proceedings, see below - and Pisa (2003) (see above) was given and debated and special attention was drawn on the SLIN Newsletter for whose 'survival' a number of section responsible collaborators was suggested and the opportunity of distributing it electronically was envisaged.

§§§ The **proceedings** of **10 SLIN Conference** held at Pavia University in September, 2001, are being prepared for print by the host of the Conference Professor John Meddemmen. The seventeen contributions

received by the editor and being scrutinized by the scientific committee will make up a volume to be published in a prestigious series included in the official publications of the University of Pavia.

## 2. HEL and other (English) linguistics conferences and seminars

### *Reminders and datings*

§ The **12<sup>th</sup> ICEHL (International Conference on English Historical Linguistics)** will be held at **Glasgow University** on **21 to 26 August, 2002**.

The Conference will start with an evening informal buffet on Wednesday, 21 August, and conclude on the following Monday (late morning).

Please contact John Anderson at [J.Anderson@arts.gla.ac.uk](mailto:J.Anderson@arts.gla.ac.uk)

Further general information is provided at the following websites:  
[www.gla.ac.uk/general/index.html](http://www.gla.ac.uk/general/index.html)

The complete list of speakers and draft programme is now up on the following website:

[www.arts.gla.ac.uk/SESL/EngLang/ICEHL/programme.html](http://www.arts.gla.ac.uk/SESL/EngLang/ICEHL/programme.html)  
(you will find it attached to this Newsletter)

§§ **ESSE 6 - 2002** to be held in **Strasbourg, 30 August - 3 September**. The venue is the Mark Bloch University where the Conference will start at 10.30 on Friday and conclude with the Conference Banquet on Tuesday, 3 September.

The guest speakers are Mr. Neil Kinnock, vice-President of the European Commission, and Prof. Richard Holt, The Monfort University of Leicester, speaking on *Amateurism: The Rise and Fall of a British Ideal*. Ten plenary lectures, 51 Seminars, 13 Panels, and 3 other major

Academic events make up the rich menu of the Conference. The definitive programme of the Conference was divulged in the Spring issue of *The European Messenger*, p.14, and may alternatively be found on the Conference site: <http://www.mshs.univ-poitiers.fr/esse/esse6.html> The Conference fee is € 150; late registration (after 1 July): € 185. Registration and booking may be effected through links created on the ESSE websites.

Any further information may be obtained from Prof. Albert Hamm, on behalf of the Organizing Committee, Dept. of English, Marc Bloch University, 22 rue Descartes, 67000 Strasbourg, France. Fax: +33 (3) 8860 7661. E-mail: [esse2002@umb.u-strasbg.fr](mailto:esse2002@umb.u-strasbg.fr)

§§§ Organization in Discourse II: the Historical Perspective (Turku, Finland, August 7-11, 2002), organized by Risto Hiltunen., Department of English, University of Turku.

This international conference for historical text, discourse, and pragmatic studies is hosted by the 'Discourse Perspective on Early English' Project. Contact Prof. Hiltunen at [oid2002@utu.fi](mailto:oid2002@utu.fi)

Please consult the Conference website at [www.utu.fi/hum/engfil/oid2002.html](http://www.utu.fi/hum/engfil/oid2002.html)

§§§§ International Conference on Historical Lexicography and Lexicology, University of Leicester, 15-17 July 2002

Please also consult the Conference site: [www.le.ac.uk/ee/jmc21/hll.htm](http://www.le.ac.uk/ee/jmc21/hll.htm)

§§§§§ 10<sup>th</sup> International conference on Scottish Language and Literature, Middle Ages and Renaissance will be held at Rolduc in the Netherlands from 13 to 19 July, 2002.

Details about the conference, registration, prices, accommodation, registration form, etc., are available on the conference website: [www.let.rug.nl/scotconf](http://www.let.rug.nl/scotconf)

The address for correspondence is: Scotconf, English Department, University of Groningen, P.O. Box 716, 9700 AS Groningen, The Netherlands.

§§§§§§ 11th International Meeting on Methods in Dialectology, University of Joensuu, 5-9 August, 2002.

For any enquiry contact Professor Markku Filippula through e-mail [markku.filippula@joensuu.fi](mailto:markku.filippula@joensuu.fi)

#### *New entries*

§ 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Societas Linguistica Europea to be held in Potsdam 22-25 July, 2002. Please look into

[www.unipotsdam.de/u/dekanat.philfak/sle/index.htm](http://www.unipotsdam.de/u/dekanat.philfak/sle/index.htm)

§§ CamConf 2 (International Conference on Corpora and Discourse), Camerino (Ancona, Italy), 27-29 September, 2002.

This Conference is proposed as a contribution both to the field of corpus linguistics and that of discourse studies to examine, in particular, how it is possible to use concordance technology and the detailed linguistic evidence available in corpora to enhance the study of the discourse features of particular genres of the language and of the communicative strategies used by speakers and writers to pursue their designs. The three-day conference will consist of a highly intensive series of seminars and workshops. The meeting will be attended by a maximum of 30 scholars all of whom will be speakers and/or workshop chairs. Suggested areas for papers are:

- ways of expressing attitudinal stance/evaluation/appraisal/point of view;
- ways of constructing consensus or shared worlds;
- ways of hiding information, of emphasizing information;
- ways of evaluating other points of view, including reformulation of questions (by interviewees), of responses (by interviewers);
- the rhetorical structure of texts shown for example in clause relations; discourse boundaries and what they mean;
- rhetorical exploitation of the system of transitivity;

- rhetorical exploitation of the system of modality,
- hedging and politeness,
- tactical use of humour;
- tactical choice of metaphor,
- footing and the exploitation of shifts of footing.

Papers will be 20 mins with 10 mins for questions. The closing date for abstracts is July 1, 2002.

Organising Committee:

Alan Partington, Faculty of Political Science, University of Camerino ([partington@libero.it](mailto:partington@libero.it));

Louann Haarman, Faculty of Political Science, University of Bologna ([haarman@lingue.unibo.it](mailto:haarman@lingue.unibo.it));

John Morley, Faculty of Political Science, University of Siena ([morley@unisi.it](mailto:morley@unisi.it))

Website: <http://web.unicam.it/ceiat/camconf2002.htm>

### §§§ ICEHD 1 (First International Conference on English Historical Dialectology), University of Bergamo (Italy), 4-6 September, 2003

The aim of the Conference is to bring together scholars working on geo-historical variation in English. To this end, invited lectures, workshops and panels will be organized in such a way that change in the development of varieties may be discussed from different perspectives simultaneously; not only diachronic and diatopic, but also diastratic (that is, how variation in time and place was in fact also influenced by the social milieu of speakers/writers and their interlocutors). Methodological issues are also expected to be highlighted and may include those developed for the study of historical vernaculars other than English. Our aim is to have a focused programme, albeit relatively small (approx. 25 papers). This will also allow us to set up a schedule that grants individual presentations a slightly longer time than the 20 minutes normally allotted, with plenty of time for debate. Keynote Speakers: Professors Roger Lass (Cape Town) and Michael Benskin (Oslo). International

Scientific Committee: Michael Benskin, Markku Filppula, Margaret Laing, Anneli Meurman-Solin, Keith Williamson, Maurizio Gotti, Richard Dury and Marina Dossena. Organizing Committee: Maurizio Gotti, Richard Dury and Marina Dossena. Further information is available in the conference website:

<<http://www.unibg.it/anglistica/slin/ehd1-home.html>>.

Address for correspondence:

Prof. Marina Dossena

Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere

Università degli Studi di Bergamo

Via Salvecchio, 19

24129 Bergamo (Italy)

### 3. Conference Reports

Here follows a brief report on Professor Matti Rissanen's lecture on linguistic variation in the Salem Witchcraft Papers, previously announced for the SLIN Seminar, which was delivered for the Doctorate in English for Specific Purposes in Naples at the request of its coordinator Professor Gabriella Di Martino. For its intrinsic interest for all students of diachronic English it seems apt to provide it with thanks to the reporter.

The doctorate in English for Specific Purposes held at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Naples Federico II coordinated by Prof. Gabriella Di Martino has always been a meeting point of research projects developed within different subject areas ranging from law to politics, from business to medicine though still pertaining to the comprehensive field of linguistics. The seminars which are offered to doctoral students testify to this remarkable variety of interests and at the same time encourage the exploration of new scientific ground.

The lecture and workshop offered on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April by Prof. Matti Rissanen from Helsinki University, well renowned specialist of the

history of the English language and leading scholar of the corpus linguistics current, have represented a most fruitful opportunity for reflection and debate on such stimulating and apparently unrelated topics as the Salem Witchcraft Papers and the use of concessive linkers in a diachronic and synchronic perspective.

The lecture given in the morning on "The evidence of linguistic variation through the Salem Witchcraft Papers" was a very lively account of the change in language documented by the records of the infamous trials held in 1692 against ordinary people charged with witchcraft. The subject (which has inspired Arthur Miller's play *The Crucible*) seemed highly emotional because of the deadly outcome of most of the interrogations and appeals, and Prof. Rissanen succeeded in highlighting the dramatic element by focusing on discourse strategies which could decide on matters of life and death. The pragmatics of the Salem Papers truly shows the power of language and how seemingly irrelevant perlocutionary acts and stylistical choices can affect the course of one's life.

The corpus of official documents, depositions and examinations, exemplified through various text type samples (warrants, appeals, interrogatories, etc.), represents a reliable source of information on Early American English and, in particular, on the officialese register both in written and spoken language. Moreover it provides useful insight into the use of modal auxiliaries such as can and may, and on the expression of futurity and volition conveyed by shall and will.

The lecture proved highly stimulating to ESP doctoral students and to the guests coming from other universities as we all had the opportunity to examine instances of highly interactional language and to take into account the significance of style and rhetoric in the examinations of the accused, while becoming more familiar with an important episode in the history of American civilization.

(Cristina Pennarola)

#### 4. Reviews and bibliographical information

Here are two contributions by affectionate reviewers on recently published books which deserve attention for the contents as well as the thematic fields concerned. They are followed by Nicholas Brownlees' bibliographical updated news and an interesting description of Manfred Görlach's latest publication on Anglicisms in a number of European languages, reprinted from *Linguist* and kindly submitted by Marija Dossena:

**A note on *The Syntax of Early English*, by O. Fischer, A. v. Kemenade, W. Koopman, W. v.d. Wurff, Cambridge, C.U.P. 2000**

The application of formalised models of grammar to earlier stages of English has recently produced several interesting contributions. It is less common, though, to find volumes primarily aimed at a student audience based on such an approach. This is the case of *The Syntax of Early English*, a book published in 2000 within the Cambridge Syntax Guide Series, and jointly authored by four well-known scholars working in the Netherlands: Olga Fischer, Ans van Kemenade, Willem Koopman and Wim van der Wurff.

Within a field where too much seems to rely on the accidental nature of evidence preservation, and in response to the thriving of pragmatic and sociolinguistic approaches to the study of earlier English, the authors make it clear right from the start (Chapter 1, 'Language Change and Grammar Change') that their efforts will be devoted to an attempt at clarifying what happens in the human mind rather than what happened to the materiality of English.

Avoiding excessive complications and technicalities, and without any pretence at a complete outline of models such as Principles and Parameters and the Government and Binding Theory, the authors try to demonstrate that rival approaches are not satisfactory, through examples of well-known and much-studied phenomena within historical English grammar, such as the development of modal auxiliaries and the Verb-

Second constraint.

Chapters 2 and 3 are devoted to an outline of Old English and Middle English syntax respectively, covering topics such as the loss of morphology, impersonal verbs, and various phenomena related to word-order in both main and subordinate clauses, which are illustrated with a wealth of examples and, again, avoiding unnecessary complications or obscurity.

The ensuing chapters (4-5-6-7-8) focus each on an individual phenomenon that is discussed in depth; these are all topics that have been dealt with by the single authors, who have therefore drawn from their ongoing research. Chapter 4 is a discussion of the V-2 constraint and its loss, including evidence on what elements can take sentence-initial position in Old English. Chapter 5 deals with the loss of OV word-order, including a review of the debate on the actual existence of an OV order in Old English (the authors argue that SVO is the only possible underlying order). Chapter 6 is about verb-particles in Old English and Middle English, and tries to explain the changes in their position that occurred from one phase to the next. Chapter 7 deals with changes in infinitival constructions, which have become more and more frequent as predicate objects as compared to *that*-clauses, also thanks to some construction-borrowing from Latin, with *to*-infinitive gradually replacing plain infinitive. Chapter 8 focusses on the *easy-to-please* construction, a favourite topic of much research within the Generative paradigm because of the difficulties to explain it formally.

The last chapter also presents two case-studies, concerning changes in the system of negation and the development of the *have to* periphrastic construction. These examples are used to discuss grammaticalisation processes in general. Studies on grammaticalisation start from premises that are incompatible with the approach taken in the book, since they have a more variationist perspective, deal with gradual long-term changes, and take discourse factors into account. In this chapter, the authors try to show that the two approaches are not really incompatible. In spite of the fact that semantic factors do seem to play a role in the two phenomena analysed, as claimed by grammaticalisation theorists, the authors show that it is possible to explain both phenomena as successi-

ve, discrete stages of grammar acquired by successive generations of learners, or as the product of reanalysis of former grammars into successive grammars, as postulated by the Generative perspective that is their theoretical standpoint.

As far as such formalised accounts go, and no matter how little sympathy the historian of the facts of language may have for them, this book has at least the assets of being clear and of taking other approaches into account. It is often the case that such contributions do not even include bibliography that is of a different orientation (one was about to type 'of a different creed') from theirs: here there is a first step towards a possible integration of different perspectives, that will hopefully allow us and our students to gain further and further insight into syntactic change in the history of English (both of English language and of English grammar!).

(Gabiella Mazzon)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Pinnavaia, Laura, *The Italian Borrowings in the Oxford English Dictionary: a lexicographical, linguistic and cultural analysis*, Bulzoni, Roma 2001, pp. 319.**

In this book Pinnavaia offers a very detailed account of the presence, nature and role of the Italian borrowings in the English language starting from the most complete record of lexical data the English language has ever had: the second edition of the Oxford English Dictionary (on Cd-Rom). Aware of the importance the Oxford English Dictionary has in documenting the history of the English language and in constituting an official record for English speakers, Pinnavaia sets out to retrieve all the Italian borrowings listed within it in order to carry out a linguistic and cultural analysis that will uncover whether the lexicographical treatment of these borrowings truly reflects the very nature of the influence Italy and Italian have had on the English language and world.

Divided into three parts, part one - consisting of two chapters - opens

with a theoretical exploration of the lexicographical and linguistic studies on the linguistic phenomenon of borrowing and the critical literature on Anglo-Italian relations in the twentieth century, followed by an outline of the objectives and then by a description of the methodological procedure pursued in order to carry out the lexicographical, linguistic and cultural research. Part two, entitled "The results", constitutes a sequence of six chapters that slowly unveil the interesting findings of the research as well as the difficulties encountered by the researcher. The greatest difficulties – explains Pinnavaia – lay undoubtedly in the retrieval of the Italian borrowings. Although she used the electronic form of the dictionary, Pinnavaia in fact reveals in the first two chapters of this second part the technological and the lexicographical limits owned by the OED that made the selection of the borrowings a very tricky and elaborate task that was ultimately based upon a sound theory of lexical formation. Having selected the borrowings, Pinnavaia proceeds in chapter three to analyse the typology of Italian borrowings in the OED, examining whether the majority of these borrowings belong to the category of loanword proper or calque and why. Chapter four is then dedicated to analysing the various types of phonetic, morphosyntactic, lexical and semantic adaptations the borrowings have undergone, first in their transfer from Italian into English, and then during their use in English. Chapter five instead analyses all the borrowings' semantic functions (as defined by Halliday) in order to find the principal motivations that determined their being adopted by the English language as well as those that caused many of them to fall into disuse. Lastly, the sixth chapter, based upon two types of data, draws an intricate picture of the cultural relations between Italy and England: looking at the number of borrowings and the semantic categories introduced into English in every half century from the year 1400 to 1985 circa, Pinnavaia defines the periods in which Italian cultural influence in England was greatest; while through a close analysis of the literary sources listed in the OED, she pinpoints the authors and works that have best represented the Anglo-Italian link and been the most representative vehicle of transfer for Italian lexical units. In her conclusions, Pinnavaia admits that, despite a number of weaknes-

ses, the OED is a faithful lexicographical testimony of the linguistic and the cultural history that has related Italy and England. The third part dedicated to two long appendices, in which all the Italian borrowings found in the OED are arranged first in alphabetical order and then in semantic and chronological order, close this work which might be classed as conceptually consistent and methodologically clear. The information it provides is stimulating and well-managed. It is a book that in its clarity and precision may be suitable for both the university student and the scholar.

(Maria Luisa Maggioni)

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#### Some published novelties

Andersen, Henning (ed.), 2001. *Actualization: Linguistic Change in Progress*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

(Papers from a workshop held at the 14th International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Vancouver, B.C. 14th August 1999)

Baugh, Albert C & Thomas Cable. 2002. (5th edition). *A History of the English Language*. London: Routledge.

(Revisions include: revised first chapter ('English present and future'); new section on gender issues and linguistic change; updated material on African Vernacular English.)

Chambers, J.K., Trudgill, P, & N. Schilling-Estes (eds.). 2001. *The Handbook of Language Variation and Change*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.

(Among other things the book examines: the methodologies employed by linguists working in linguistic variation and change; views of linguistic variation in the diverse contexts that give it meaning and significance - across generations, social strata, and domains of social interaction.)

Gotti, M., Heller, D. and M.Dossena (eds.). 2002. *Conflict and Negotiation in Specialized Texts*. Bern: Peter Lang AG.

(This volume contains a selection of papers presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> CERLIS Conference in Bergamo in October 2001. The contributions discuss different theoretical and methodological issues relating to the issues of conflict and negotiation in the language of specialized texts. Textual domains analysed include legal, economic, scientific, academic and political discourse.)

Hickey, Raymond. 2002. *A Source Book for Irish English*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

(This is primarily a bibliographical tool for researchers working in Irish English. Also included is a detailed introduction to the history of Irish English, and an overview of the themes in Irish English which have occupied linguists working in the field.)

McClure, J. Derrick. 2002. *Doric: the dialect of north-east Scotland*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

(After placing the dialect in its historical, geographical and social context, the author focuses on the dialect's distinctive characteristics of phonology and grammar. Also included is an annotated selection of written texts, dating from the eighteenth century to the present day.)

Williams, Jenny & Andrew Chesterman. 2002. *The Map: A Beginner's Guide to Doing Research in Translation Studies*. Manchester: St. Jerome Publishing.

(This is a practical guidebook introducing the basics of research in translation studies for students doing their first major research project in the field.)

(Nicholas Brownlees)

\* \* \* \* \*

Görlach, Manfred, ed. (2001) *A Dictionary of European Anglicisms: A Usage Dictionary of Anglicisms in Sixteen European Languages*. Oxford University Press, xxv+352pp, hardback ISBN 0-19-823519-4.

## INTRODUCTION

European languages have influenced one another in a number of ways throughout their history. In discussing the present-day influence of English on other languages, one should keep in mind that English has always been open to foreign influences. From its beginnings and during its spread over the British Isles, English has borrowed extensively from other languages, notably Latin, Scandinavian, and Norman French. Since the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the establishment of English-speaking colonies in North America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and elsewhere has led to the emergence of numerous "world Englishes". The enormous spread of English was accompanied by extensive borrowing of many indigenous terms, which were integrated into its lexicon to be passed on to other European languages. Today, the influence of English as the global language has grown on an unprecedented scale. Since no language in history has been so widely used, it is difficult to foresee the linguistic consequences. In any case, it is a phenomenon of central importance, offering vast possibilities of study.

The influence of English as an international language today is immense, in fields ranging from electronic communication to pop music. Some countries, especially those with strong purist traditions, have tried to stop the inflow of anglicisms, but the results have not been very impressive. Due to the prestige of the Anglo-American civilization, the English impact is noticeable in most European languages.

During the various stages of integration of English loanwords, the resources of the borrowing language come to the fore in the process in which they are adapted to its morphological and phonological structure.

It is interesting to follow the development of word meanings in borrowing languages, which sometimes considerably diverge from the meanings of the model. Besides, many new words are formed from English elements in European languages which do not exist in the donor language (pseudoanglicisms). Some of the pseudoanglicisms can pass the boundaries of the language in which they were coined and spread into other languages. In this way, the English elements acquire a life of their own in their new linguistic surroundings.

#### DESCRIPTION

A Dictionary of European Anglicisms documents the spread of English in Europe, providing an exhaustive account of English loanwords in sixteen European languages: Icelandic, Norwegian, Dutch, German, Russian, Polish, Croatian, Bulgarian, French, Spanish, Italian, Romanian, Finnish, Hungarian, Albanian, and Greek. So far, a number of dictionaries have been published recording anglicisms in individual national languages. This dictionary, however, is the first lexicographical work giving a comparative overview of English loanwords in several European languages. The Dictionary of European Anglicisms provides a systematic description of the lexical input of English into sixteen European languages from different language families, excluding those in close contact with English (e.g. Irish, Welsh, and Maltese). Data have been collected for four Germanic languages (Icelandic, Norwegian, Dutch, and German), four Slavic (Russian, Polish, Croatian, and Bulgarian), four Romance (French, Spanish, Italian, and Romanian) and four other languages (Finnish, Hungarian, Albanian, and Greek) This selection allows the analysis of a number of contrasts "purist vs. open speech communities, Western vs. Eastern countries, regional comparisons (Scandinavia, the Balkans), and the impact of mediating languages (French and German in particular). Since the influx of Anglicisms into European languages is constantly growing, it is important to set the time limits. Thus the dictionary documents the lexical input of English into European languages up to the early 1990's. Earlier loans are included, but contributors have focused on the modern lexis imported after World War II.

Criteria for determining the status of an anglicisms are not always easy to establish. A word is included in the dictionary if it is recognizably English in form (spelling, pronunciation, morphology) in at least one of the languages tested. This excludes most internationalisms coined with Latin or Greek elements (administration) and many words from other languages transmitted through English (avocado, anorak). The principle allows the inclusion of words which, although clearly derived from English, are not themselves English words, or which are used in a non-English way as a member of a different word class (assembling) or in un-English compounds (antibaby pill). Words not known to the general educated reader, such as various specialized terms, have been omitted.

Each entry includes a variety of information in a fixed sequence and in a greatly condensed form. The English etymon, as a headword, is followed by appropriate part-of-speech labels and all the meanings recorded for loanwords in the various languages, which is very important for additional, non-English meanings which a word has acquired in the course of its semantic adaptation. The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English (9<sup>th</sup> ed., 1995) is used as a point of departure for definitions. For the more significant items, the data on the word's history and its spread across Europe are summarized in a few sentences, providing very interesting socio-cultural information. Grids showing distribution patterns across Europe accompany many of the entries. A complete grid thus provides the reader with an instant visual summary of the degree of acceptability of a particular anglicism in individual languages, language-group specific patterns, and regional clustering of traits.

The final section gives information for each individual language in which the loanword occurs, including spelling and pronunciation, gender and pluralization (in nouns), approximate date of adoption, and, where relevant, the mediating language. Each entry also provides data on the degree of integration in terms of currency, style value and acceptability. A native equivalent is given especially for loan translations or other forms of a calque. Non-English derivatives are included in the same

entry; derivatives which are also English words have separate entries.

The information concerning the pronunciation of anglicisms in various languages is especially valuable, especially since it is rarely found in national dictionaries. As a rule, pronunciations of English loanwords are difficult to record because of their variability. The information on gender offers ample opportunities for comparative analysis, since the English natural gender has to be adapted to the grammatical gender in most of the borrowing languages involved.

A list of abbreviations and symbols used in the Dictionary is included, as well as a map of languages covered within the Dictionary. I must admit that the map is not quite clear in some respects, since some of the borders (notably, those of Croatia) do not correspond either to the state or language borders. A list of references containing at least the most important national dictionaries of anglicisms would be useful, but it is not provided in the book.

#### CRITICAL EVALUATION

A Dictionary of European Anglicisms is the result of an impressive research effort across Europe. This dictionary, meticulously recording the forms, meanings, usage and history of individual Anglicisms in various European languages offers a wealth of information and is a valuable tool for further research on the subject. It is an important resource for comparative analysis and the study of linguistic variation and change. The data will also be of interest to the compilers of bilingual dictionaries for the evidence they contain about faux amis, for instance. Besides, the dictionary will certainly be of interest to linguists and all those who are interested in the new development trends in European languages resulting from their extensive contact with English.

However, I must disagree with the author's introductory remarks that although "the influence of English on other languages has been noticed (...) there has never been an exhaustive treatment of the phenomenon"

and that "no dictionary of the type has ever been attempted". I would like to mention that a similar project, entitled "The English Element in European Languages", was launched in 1970's by Rudolf Filipovic in Zagreb, Croatia. The aim of the project was to provide a theoretical basis for the study of language contact phenomena, and apply the results in compiling a large dictionary of anglicisms in twenty European languages. Methods for the analysis of anglicisms in European languages have been elaborated and a large multilingual corpus of anglicisms has been collected. Since this ambitious project has not been brought to completion yet, Görlach's dictionary is a pioneer in this relatively little-studied area of lexicography.

Since new anglicisms enter European languages almost daily, while some fall out of use, it is to be hoped that the work on this valuable dictionary will continue and that new editions will be produced in years to come.

#### ABOUT THE REVIEWER

Lelija Socanac is a research assistant at the Linguistic Research Institute, The Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Zagreb, Croatia. Her research interests include contact linguistics, sociolinguistics and lexicography.

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## 5. A (provisional) list of updated e-mails

It was requested (and immediately offered) by some colleagues participating in the Rome SLIN Seminar. The list of Italian subscribers will be completed in the next issue of SLIN NL.

- Ambrosini Richard: [richard.ambrosini@unimi.it](mailto:richard.ambrosini@unimi.it)
- Bertacca Antonio: [beran@ec.unipi.it](mailto:beran@ec.unipi.it)
- Brownlees Nicholas: [n.brownlees@dada.it](mailto:n.brownlees@dada.it)
- Cattaneo Silvana: [cattaneo@unive.it](mailto:cattaneo@unive.it)
- Del Lungo Gabriella: [dellungo@cce.unifi.it](mailto:dellungo@cce.unifi.it)
- Di Martino Gabriella: [dimartig@unina.it](mailto:dimartig@unina.it)
- Dossena Marina: [marina@unibg.it](mailto:marina@unibg.it)
- Dury Richard: [richard@interac.it](mailto:richard@interac.it)
- Hart David: [hart@uniroma3.it](mailto:hart@uniroma3.it)
- Iamartino Giovanni: [giovanni.iamartino@unimi.it](mailto:giovanni.iamartino@unimi.it)
- Kermas Susan: [susankermas@hotmail.com](mailto:susankermas@hotmail.com)
- Maci Stefania: [stefmaci@tin.it](mailto:stefmaci@tin.it)
- Maggioni Maria Luisa: [marial.maggioni@mi.unicatt.it](mailto:marial.maggioni@mi.unicatt.it)