



## CRYPTO-LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

NOVEMBER 1980

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

IT IS A GRATIFYING EXPERIENCE FOR ME TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU IN THIS FIRST ISSUE OF THE CLARION--THE NEW BULLETIN OF OUR CRYPTO-LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION.

THE CLARION WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT CLA ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, FOR EXAMPLE, WILL BE A REGULAR FEATURE.

THE CLARION WILL ENDEAVOR TO REPORT ON EVENTS, DEVELOPMENTS, AND PROJECTS IN THE CRYPTOLOGIC WORLD OF LANGUAGES, LINGUISTICS, AND LINGUISTS.

THE CLARION WILL REACH BEYOND "THE FENCE." ARTICLE I (PURPOSE) OF OUR CHARTER BY-LAWS STATES THAT TO ACCOMPLISH OUR PURPOSE, WHICH IS "TO PROMOTE A GREATER DEGREE OF EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL LINGUISTIC ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE CRYPTOLOGIC COMMUNITY," WE WILL CARRY OUT A PROGRAM DESIGNED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO PROVIDE THOSE SERVICES WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO INFORM THE MEMBERSHIP AND NSA PERSONNEL IN GENERAL OF LINGUISTIC ACTIVITIES (ACADEMIC, GOVERNMENTAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND IN THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS) WHICH MAY BE OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO THEM AND ARE BEING CARRIED ON IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

THE CLARION WILL PROVIDE A FORUM FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VIEWS AMONG CLA MEMBERS AS WELL AS NSA AND SCE LINGUISTS. THIS IS ADMITTEDLY A HIGHLY AMBITIOUS SET OF GOALS. TO ACHIEVE THEM, WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP. THE CLARION ITSELF WILL BE ANOTHER CLA ACTIVITY IN WHICH YOU CAN PARTICIPATE BY VOLUNTEERING TO JOIN THE STAFF OR BY CONTRIBUTING ITEMS OF INTEREST.

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO [REDACTED] FOR CONSENTING TO SERVE AS THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE CLARION.

THE BIRTH OF THE CLARION IS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF OUR ASSOCIATION. I AM FRANKLY EXCITED ABOUT ITS PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE. A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION WORTHY OF ITS NAME SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN PUBLICATION. THE AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION HAS THE ATA CHRONICLE; THE CRYPTO-LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION NOW HAS THE CLARION.

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PRESIDENT, CLA

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THE CLARION IS PUBLISHED APERIODICALLY  
BY THE CRYPTO-LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION.

STAFF: [REDACTED]

## THE FORUM

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It is traditional for a new editor to introduce himself and give the readers some idea of the editorial policy they can expect from him in the future. By some curious coincidence I have also assumed the editorship of the Journal of the Theatre Historical Society and have had to write the same kind of introduction for that publication. Both of these jobs are formidable tasks and I approach them with some trepidation. I hope that they will complement each other, now, if I can just keep them apart.

The concept of The Clarion is exciting. [REDACTED] has pointed out its importance. As now envisioned, each issue will include a potpourri of features especially designed for the CLA member. Some of these features are: Forum - a place for my editorials, guest editorials, and letters. You and I can sound off here. Inside the Fence - news from within NSA. Outside the Fence - news from the world outside NSA (our assistant editor has volunteered to take on this job). Features - articles on any topic of interest to CLA members. The Bookshelf - book reviews and notes.

I would also like to see a place in The Clarion where linguists can ask questions of other linguists. A place where we can ask advice on how best to translate some pesky term. There are many other possibilities, and I defer to you; let me know your suggestions. We will need help on the editorial staff. I would like to hear from volunteers.

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## NOTES FROM CLA BOARD MEETINGS

CLA Board of Governors meetings in June, July, and August covered the following areas of interest:

- The revised list of Essay Contest winners was made available. A new Third Prize winner was named for his article on former Yugoslavian President Tito;

- The Russian Institute reported that its 18 June presentation by Professor Vera S. Dunham of Queens College had been very successful. Professor Dunham spoke on "The Soviet Poet and Social Change";

- CLA Board member and Program Chairperson [REDACTED] met with the Special Interest Group chairpersons on 2 July to discuss programs for the coming year. Among those mentioned was a possible presentation by the National Cryptologic School Commandant to the African Institute in December and a Russian Institute program presenting Gregory Guroff of the University of Maryland speaking on "Soviet Perspectives on America";

- CLA membership has been an important topic at each meeting. The Membership Chairperson reported that the current membership is approaching 250, an all-time high for the Association. President [REDACTED] has suggested that all newly-certified linguists be

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## THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

A CLA Library Committee has recently been formed. A preliminary list of its functions include:

1. Compiling and disseminating to the Association membership through The Clarion information on new publications on languages and linguistics which may or may not be available in the NSA library.

2. Coordinating and submitting to the NSA Library recommendations of the Association membership for the acquisition of new publications on languages and linguistics.

3. Arranging for book reviews prepared by NSA linguists to be published in The Clarion.

4. Procuring books for presentation to guest speakers at programs and activities of the Association or its special interest groups.

If CLA members would like to join the Committee and assist in performing the above functions, particularly in writing book reviews in their fields of specialization, please contact the Committee's chairman, [REDACTED] 8240s. Please contact him also if you would like to examine one or more of the books which appear in the Books Received list for possible review. There is, of course, no obligation.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| P147<br>F96     | 1. Allerton, D.J. (ed.), et al. <u>Function and Context in Linguistic Analysis</u> , Cambridge Univ. Press, 1979. |
| PG2112<br>R92   | 2. <u>Cesko-ruský slovník</u> , Statni Pedagogicki Nakladatelstvi.  |
| PL914<br>G76    | 3. Grant, Bruce K., <u>A Guide to Korean Characters</u> , Hollyn International Corp.                              |
| P381.S57<br>L26 | 4. Lanham, L.W., et al., <u>Language and Communication Studies in South Africa</u> , Oxford Univ. Press, 1978.    |
| TX7804<br>M41n  | 5. Mataix, Mariano, <u>Diccionario de Electronica, Informatica y Centrales Nucleares</u> , Boixareu Editores.     |

PG2112  
R92  
PG1376  
R24  
1976  
PL523  
Su9E

P126  
T97

6. Русская грамматика, ТТ. I-II, Academia Praha.
7. Standardni Recnik nemacko-srpskohrvatski, srpskohrvatsko-nemacki, Beograd-Zagreb.
8. Suzuki, Takao, et al., Japanese and the Japanese, Words in Culture, Kodansha International Ltd., 1978.
9. Tyler, Stephen A., The Said and the Unsaid, Mind, Meaning, and Culture, Academic Press, 1978.

## THE BOOKSHELF

## THE WELL-EQUIPPED TRANSLATOR OF FRENCH

The Agency Library recently acquired two French-English/English-French dictionaries published in 1978: The Collins Robert (A) is a reference work that should be available to every serious translator of French; the Larousse (B) should be ignored.

Although the 1972 Harrap's remains the basic tool for translation from French--indispensable for its Caudine Forks, the ringing of the many changes of VOULOIR, the sheer range of its content--; the fact is that its format within headwords is cluttered and difficult to scan quickly, spelling and punctuation (hyphenations) are mainly British, and, of course, it has not kept up with the evolution of the languages since 1972.

The Collins Robert, which contains a respectable 100,000 headwords, has a more open format than the Harrap's, which seems to facilitate scanning for specific phrases, more care is taken to give American English equivalents, and many new terms (or old terms used in new ways) are defined. POLITIQUE DU PIRE is clearly explained; CONCERTATION, VALORISER, and LAXISME are defined as they are often currently used. The overall impression given by a semi-random reading of the Collins Robert is that a thoroughly professional effort has been made to present an accurate, current, well-rounded picture of the two living languages.

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Regrettably, the same cannot be said of the Larousse; not only is its content more spare (it has none of the French terms mentioned in the paragraph above), but it is apparently carelessly edited. One word "not in decent use" is defined as "twerp; U.S. juk" (jerk), and no clue is given as to why the French equivalent of the innocuous "twerp" is indecent. Then the English noun JERK is defined as VIANDE DESSECHEE; most of us would prefer to munch on jerky. ANORAK, defined in all three dictionaries discussed in this review as "anorak" (parka or windbreaker would be the U.S. equivalent), is further defined by the Larousse as "wind-cheater, wind-jacket". (Webster III has the definition, "windcheater, chiefly Brit.: WINDBREAKER". "Wind-jacket" is to be found nowhere.) FIN DE NON-RECEVOIR, besides the legal usage "exception, demurrer" which also appears in the Collins Robert, is "mere put-off" in the Larousse compared to the Collins Robert figurative usage "blunt refusal". None of the above shenanigans inspires confidence in the mind of this reviewer. Doubtless the Larousse is not entirely without merit (it does have ADHESION with its most common current definition; the others do not), but the usefulness of the Collins Robert is immediately visible; it is a worthy and necessary supplement to the Harrap's. T1212 has selected the Collins Robert as a "desk copy"; 50 are on order. Get yours while they last.

Bob Fowler

- A. Collins Robert French-English/English-French Dictionary. Beryl T. Atkins et al. 1978. Collins Publishers, 2080 W. 117th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. \$22.00.
- B. Modern French-English Dictionary. Marguerite-Marie Dubois, 1978. Librairie Larousse, 17, rue du Montparnasse, et boulevard Raspail, 114, Paris. \$25.00

Review of Woerterbuch der Aussenpolitik und des Voelkerrechts, 1980. Dietz Verlag, Berlin.

The Woerterbuch der Aussenpolitik und des Voelkerrechts (Dictionary of Foreign Policy and International Law) is both a dictionary and a handbook of international relations. It provides the reader with a wealth of information on foreign affairs, international jurisprudence, and international economics. In addition to defining numerous general and diplomatic terms, e.g., FLOATING, MENSCHENRECHTE, LEGAT, from a Marxist-Leninist perspective, the dictionary provides explanations and commentary on selected precepts and organizations common to foreign affairs, e.g., the Monroe Doctrine, the London Club, synopses of major treaties and a creditable list of abbreviations. This reference work has provided our technical analysts as well as other linguists with valuable insights on the interpretation of terms and a quick reference to lesser-known treaties and agreements for a number of years and will undoubtedly continue to do so in the future.

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(continued from p. 2) granted a free, one-year membership as an incentive to join CLA permanently. Our Membership Chairman is researching this proposal for future discussion. Another suggestion was made by Treasurer [redacted] who recommended that all memberships received after 1 September 1980 be credited through December 1981. This motion was approved unanimously by the Board at its August meeting.

[redacted]  
Secretary

The CLA Board of Governors will have its next meeting on 19 November at 11:00 in room [redacted]

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## OUTSIDE THE FENCE

[The following extract from the JPRS Newsletter for East Asian Translators expresses some of our thoughts on translations]

Wherever documents are translated, whether here or abroad, and irrespective of the languages involved, rhetorical flourishes are in evidence to mask errors of omission and commission. Fortunately, although we detect errors in various guises, most of the errors of omission we spot seem to be inadvertent. This is particularly true when long, complicated sentences and clauses are involved. On other occasions, we note that something is "lost in translation" because of liberal renditions, or, conversely, that a translation is too literal to be readable. Thus, the translations may be strong on form but weak on substance or vice versa. A balance between the two, i.e., an accurate but readable translation is the ultimate product sought.

Translator techniques may vary, but our own rule of thumb is to read the text of anything to be translated beforehand to identify the subject of each sentence. Moreover, inasmuch as cryptic phrases made up of a few Chinese characters are used in both Japanese and Korean to express major themes or concepts, thereby adding an unexpected dimension to some of the materials to be translated, we also try to account for abbreviations as well as unstated assumptions ahead of time. These can be a vexing problem, so if you cannot resolve some of them we ask that you flag them in your translation so we can check them out.

Accuracy in the translation of industrial and economic facts and figures is of course of paramount importance. But we also want to stress that in the realm of political reporting, where the slightest change in tone and content of policy is significant, precise and consistent translation of certain terms

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and concepts expressing "political intentions is equally important....

[Ed. note I think that this selection is an excellent statement on how to take a PQE. Aspiring professional linguists would do well to take its advice.]

## MORE TRANSLATORS NEEDED

The above-mentioned issue of the JPRS Newsletter also contained a note that there is a continuing need there for qualified translators of East Asian languages.

## INSIDE THE FENCE

## DR. GUROFF TO SPEAK HERE IN NOVEMBER

Dr. Gregory Guroff of the International Communications Agency will give a talk on "Soviet Perceptions of the U.S." in the Friedman Auditorium on 12 November. Dr. Guroff's lecture is sponsored by the CLA/Russian Institute.

## AFRICAN INSTITUTE SPONSORS LOGO CONTEST

The African Institute, the CLA special interest group on African languages, literatures, and cultures, in its concern for Africa's search for identity, is celebrating Somali Revolution Day (October 21) and the Ivory Coast National Holiday (7 December) with a logo contest. Entries are limited only by one's imagination and creativity (not by national boundaries), and may be submitted to [redacted] or [redacted] by COB 8 December. A cash prize of \$25 will be awarded to the winner. In true African spirit, all CLA members are encouraged to participate, and disputes will be settled by a specially-appointed Good Offices Committee. Sabotage and guerrilla warfare on the part of contestants are to be discouraged.

Following the logo contest, the African Institute plans a winter/spring agenda featuring speakers and special programs treating subjects such as travel in Kenya and cross-currents in African linguistic development. Should you wish to share your expertise and interests with the Institute, or would like to share those of someone else, please contact [redacted] or [redacted]



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HAIL TO THE ((BRANCH)) CHIEF

WE CLOSE THIS FIRST ISSUE OF THE CLARION WITH THE FOLLOWING POEM COMPOSED  
BY [REDACTED] IT EXPRESSES SOME THOUGHTS THAT WE'VE ALL FELT.

WHEN LOOKING UP FROM DOWN BELOW,  
AT THE LADDER MANAGERIAL,  
IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND OR KNOW,  
HOW LEVELS SO IMPERIAL,  
CAN THINK AND ACT THE WAY THEY DO,  
AND BE INCOMPREHENSIBLE,  
WHEN IN YOUR HEART YOU ALWAYS KNEW,  
THAT THINGS SHOULD BE MORE SENSIBLE

NOW, TO BE SURE, THOSE FOLKS ON TOP  
WHO SEEM SO INSCRUTABLE,  
PURSUE THEIR TASKS, WITHOUT A STOP,  
WITH REASONS IRREFUTABLE,  
THEY KNOW THE INS AND OUTS AND SUCH  
OF POLITICS AND BUDGET;  
THEY GET THE FACTS AND KNOW SO MUCH  
THEY NEVER HAVE TO "FUDGE IT."

HAVING GOTTEN, THEN, SO FIRM A BASE  
ON WHICH TO MAKE DECISIONS,  
THEY SEEM TO FEEL A LOSS OF FACE  
WHEN ASKED TO MAKE REVISIONS,  
THE WORKFORCE, ON THE OTHER HAND,  
HAS ITS OWN ASPIRATIONS,  
AND TENDS TO WANT, TO CRAVE, DEMAND  
MORE LOGICAL EXPLANATIONS.

THE WORKER HAS HIS OWN AMBITIONS  
WHICH HE CLINGS TO DEARLY,  
AND WHEN HE MEETS WITH PROHIBITIONS,  
HE STATES HIS CLAIMS QUITE CLEARLY,  
HE WANTS HIS RIGHTS AND HIS REWARD  
AND KNOWS WHEN HE HAS EARNED IT,  
AND CRITIQUES ACTION UNTOWARD  
THE MOMENT HE'S DISCERNED IT.

AT THE POINT WHERE PUSH MEETS SHOVE,  
AND INTERESTS TEND TO CLASH,  
IT TAKES A BIT OF GALL AND LOVE  
AND SOMEWHAT OF PANACHE,  
TO RUN THE SHOP AND GUIDE THE WORK  
WITH SMOOTH ADMINISTRATION,  
AND FACE THE YOUNG AND ANGRY TURK  
AND AVOID DEFENESTRATION.

AND SO TODAY, TO LET YOU KNOW  
THE WORKFORCE UNDERSTANDS,  
ALL THE TRIALS YOU UNDERGO,  
AND WHAT YOUR JOB DEMANDS,  
WE SET BEFORE YOU WHAT YOU SEE,  
TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE,  
IT SAYS IT ALL AND SO FROM ME  
THERE'LL BE NO FURTHER PLATITUDE.

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