

Preface

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/cilt.21.01pre>

Pages vii–ix of

**Papers from the Fifth International Conference on
Historical Linguistics, Galway, April 6–10 1981**

Edited by Anders Ahlqvist

[*Current Issues in Linguistic Theory*, 21]

1982. xxix, 527 pp.

© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



PREFACE

Having started in Edinburgh in 1973 and become established at biennial intervals in Tucson, Hamburg and Stanford, the International Conference of Historical Linguistics came to Galway for the week before the Easter one of 1981. For the benefit of those readers who were not with us at the time, it may be mentioned the Conference was favoured by exceptionally good weather, which contributed very much towards creating a congenial atmosphere, as did the generosity of our sponsors. Thus, Messrs. Arthur Guinness & Sons provided beer, lager and stout for the informal get-together during the registration session on Sunday 5. iv. 81, Kenny's Bookshops organised a fine reception on Monday 6. iv. 81 and the Bank of Ireland gave a generous grant towards the production of the volume of abstracts for the Conference: I should like to thank all who were involved, and especially Mr. Aidan O'Hanlon and Mr. Jimmy Ward of Guinness's, Mr. Tom Kenny, and Mr. Antoine Ó Bruadair from the Bank, for their most valuable help in this regard. Thanks are also due to Mr. Peter McEvoy of the U.C.G. Students' Union and his helpers for providing our infusion beverages etc. during breaks with such cheerfulness and efficiency as well as for all the work in connection with the College reception on Thursday 8. iv. 81. In this regard, thanks are also due to Mr. Markku Kauppinen, who is the Finnish diplomatic representative in Dublin and, naturally, last but not least, to the authorities of University College, Galway for a subsidy towards this.

On the academic side, Dr. Colm Ó Eocha, President of U.C.G., must be thanked for his opening address to the Conference.

My fellow members on the Local Committee¹ worked very hard with a view to making the Conference a success: ba mhaith liom

¹ It consisted of Anders Ahlqvist, Gearóid Mac Eoin, Seán Mac Íomhair, Séamus Mac Mathúna, Áine Ní Bhaoill, Síle Ní Mhurchú, Máirtín Ó Briain, Ruairí Ó hUiginn and Leslie Owen.

traoslú leo as ucht a gcuid oibre agus buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil leo uiliug. As their work was not immediately visible to participants, a special mention must be made of how my colleagues Professor Mac Eoin and Mr. Mac Íomhair helped out with much indispensable supportive action behind the scenes. Also, I wish to thank all my colleagues on the International Committee,¹ without exception, for much sound advice before, during and after the Conference. Again, I cannot refrain from giving special thanks to Professor Elizabeth Traugott, who placed at my disposal much vital information from her highly successful chairmanship of 4. ICHL and to Professor Martin Harris, who helped enormously by answering innumerable queries and solving many problems during the weeks before and after the Conference. I should also like to thank these two scholars for their valuable help in preparing this volume for publication, as well as Professor Henning Andersen, Mr. Liam Breathnach, Mr. Songmoo Kho, Professor Gearóid Mac Niocaill and Dr. Nigel Vincent. Also, the staff of the Officina Typographica must be thanked for dealing efficiently and intelligently with occasionally rather difficult manuscripts.

The papers printed represent a majority of those presented at the Conference. Some others will be published elsewhere,² mainly because their authors so wished. Some idea of the discussions after communications is given by the list of speakers after the title of each paper; the complete proceedings of the Conference have been put on tape and are preserved in the Sound Archives of the Language Centre (An Teanglann) of University College, Galway. In the case of the special session on Philology and Historical Linguistics, I have printed such comments as were returned to me, following a request to all speakers in the session to send me an edited version of a rough transcript of what they said during the session. The three indices have been prepared on the basis of information supplied by

¹ It consisted of Anders Ahlqvist (Galway), Henning Andersen (Copenhagen), Lyle Campbell (Albany), Jacek Fisiak (Poznań), David Lightfoot (Utrecht), Martin B. Harris (Salford) and Elizabeth Closs Traugott (Stanford).

² At the time of going to press, the following information had been received; the name of contributor is followed by the name of the journal and (if known) the volume number and publication date: Bradley: *Melbourne University Working Papers* 7 (1981); Coates: *IF*; Hamans: *Spektator* (1982); Ihalainen: *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia*; Kortlandt: *Ériu*; McCone: *Ériu*; Sen: *Historiographia Linguistica*.

the authors, who have indicated what material they wished to have included. The *index fontium et nominum* incorporates all the bibliographies supplied by authors; note the use, in the case of some reasonably well-known items, of abbreviations from *BL*,¹ and that, as in the other indices, the numbers in italics at the end of each entry give the page reference to mentions² in the volume. The *index linguarum et uerborum* gives a list of languages mentioned, arranged alphabetically according to the name of the language in question in the language of the communication; when cited in such a context, linguistic forms are added in italics between the names of languages and the page references. In spite of various efforts, I was not able to secure proper financial support towards preparing camera-ready copy for the volume: I should like to place on record my sincere gratitude to all authors both for submitting papers and for acceding so readily to my distasteful request for financial help to this end.

Finally, it is my sad duty to record the sudden death, not long after the Conference, of David Greene, Senior Professor in the School of Celtic Studies of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. He had contributed enormously both to Celtic Studies and to Historical Linguistics and very many of us were looking forward to much more from him in the years to come. Since 5. ICHL was, to my knowledge, the very last international conference he was allowed to enjoy, I feel that it is appropriate that I should dedicate³ this volume to his memory.

Anders Ahlqvist

Organising Secretary of the
Fifth International Conference
for Historical Linguistics

Galway, November 1981

¹ See e.g. *Bibliographie linguistique de l'année 1977 et complément des années précédentes*, The Hague-Boston-London: Nijhoff (1980) XX-XX.

² In cases, where there seems to be no specific reference to a given bibliographical item in the text of a paper; reference is made to its first page.

³ Cp. p. v. above.