
Varia

International Society of Phonetic Sciences

Auf dem 6. Internationalen Kongreß für Phonetische Wissenschaften vom 7.–13. September 1967 in Prag werden nach den vorliegenden Anmeldungen vertreten sein – die Anzahl der Teilnehmer in Klammern –: Sowjetunion (80), USA (80), BRD (75), England (45), DDR (35), Frankreich (30), Niederlande (25), Polen (25), Dänemark (20), Jugoslawien (20), Rumänien (20), Schweden (20), Belgien (15), Kanada (15), Norwegen (15), Australien (10), Finnland (10), Italien (10), Japan (10), Österreich (10), Schweiz (10) und 14 weitere Staaten (60).

M. Romportl, Generalsekretär

International Society of Phonetic Sciences

ISPhS, Australian Branch, 2nd Meeting, Canberra, 25 May, 1967

Minutes

Mr. *McCarthy*, Principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, outlined the aims of his institute in sponsoring the collection and investigation of all aspects of Australian aboriginal life, particular stress being laid upon their languages and music. The Institute keeps copies of all tape recordings made by its field-workers and this year will begin publication of tape catalogues which will indicate the language or dialect spoken, tribe, area, informant, field-worker, contents, existing texts and technical details of the recordings. There are now some 2,000 hours of tapes in the collection. Participants in the workshop were invited to visit the Institute of Aboriginal Studies. In the subsequent discussion it was proposed to specify place-names by the co-ordinates of the geographical grid in order to facilitate orientation. Mr. *B. Jernudd* (Monash) offered his good services to investigate the problem and make recommendations to a later meeting.

Mr. *C. Ruhle* (Sydney) proposed to collect data on tape material for teaching and research purposes that is available in Australian universities and similar institutions. The meeting entrusted Mr. *C. Ruhle*, Mr. *B. Jernudd* and Dr. *H. Bluhme* with the preparation of a questionnaire and further preliminary work on a catalogue of such tape material*.

Dr. *G. Bonnín* (Brisbane) spoke on behalf of MGATA (= Monumenta Germaniae Acustica in Terra Australiensi), a collection of more than 5,000 tape recordings of conversational German and of German dialects. These recordings, each of 10 to 15 min in length, are free conversations with either few or even no eliciting questions by the dialectologist-interviewer. These recordings were made in Western Germany based on a grid system resulting from the intersection of longitudinal lines at an interval of 10 min resulting in grid squares approximately 17×17 km in extent in the German language area in Europe. In each grid three recordings represent native speakers of three different age groups and another three recordings give the voices of new German settlers originally from eastern territories. The recordings were made by dialectologists familiar with the area and with the assistance of a sound technician, who took care of the technical side of the recording outside the homes of the informants in the recording van. [For details of the procedure see *E. Zwirner*: A Guide to Linguistic Tape Recording, pp. 9–47, in

* N. B. At a later meeting of the AULLA Workshop on Language Laboratories a similar proposal was put forward by Mr. *H. Siliakus* (Adelaide).

New Trends in Linguistic Research (Education in Europe), 1963.] The recordings are housed in Brisbane and can be made available to investigators at the sponsoring MGATA institutions in Australia, for teaching and research, covering all aspects of the scientific investigation of language.

Dr. *Bluhme* welcomed Mr. *Cochrane*, Mrs. *Platt*, Dr. *Goldstein*, Mr. *Paul* and Miss *Cunningham* as new members of the Society.

In the business section of the meeting Dr. *Bluhme* took up Dr. *D. Laycock's* proposal to change ISPhS into ISPS consistent with English usage. It was agreed to urge the international executive of the ISPhS to change the name, but not to break uniformity with the general usage. No objection was raised against the changing of 'Australia Branch' to 'Australasian Branch' to allow for the fact that some members are from New Zealand.

Members agreed that the main criterion for membership is an interest in phonetics plus the formal requisites of being proposed and seconded by members of the ISPhS (or ISPS).

Dr. *Bluhme* said he would circulate the constitution of the ISPhS – in addition to the already circulated rules of its Australasian Branch – as soon as it become available.

As membership fees will be fixed at the Sixth International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences in Prague in September this year, any payments will be postponed until after that date.

During the meeting Dr. *Bluhme* was elected to serve as national secretary for two terms, i. e. for 3 years. In conformance with the rules governing the Australasian Branch it will be necessary to elect another secretary after this period. Dr. *Bluhme* was also elected as ISPhS representative on the executive of the Linguistic Society of Australia; other members of the executive of LSA are: Dr. *S. Wurm* (president), Dr. *Susan Kaldor*, Mr. *R. Cochrane*, and Mr. *B. Żatorski* (vice-presidents), Mr. *B. Jernudd* (secretary), Mr. *E. Flint* (treasurer), Dr. *A. Capell* was chosen as patron of the Linguistic Society of Australia.

Another informal ISPhS meeting will be held at the AULLA conference in Sydney in August.

H. Bluhme, Canberra