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The Arabic Language Academy of Jordan

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On July 1st, 1976 a royal decree published in No. 2634 of *al-Jariida rrasmiyya,* Jordan's official gazette, established by law the Arabic Language Academy of Jordan (ALAJ). The initiative for ALAJ came from the Jordan Committee for Arabization, Translation, and Publication (JCATP), a minor language-planning agency created within the Ministry of Education in 1961. After a number of attempts by JCATP at the establishment of a full-fledged academy, the Jordanian cabinet finally agreed in 1973 to send three delegations of JCATP members to the three Arab capitals which already had academies of their own. The delegations visited the academies of Damascus (established in 1919), Cairo (1932), and Baghdad (1947). JCATP then submitted to the Minister of Education (ME) a detailed report which included a request for the establishment of an academy in the country. This request, which was referred by the ME to the cabinet, was approved in principle. Discussions continued until the Academy was officially decreed in 1976. The law which established the Academy stipulated that JCATP would undertake all the duties of the Academy for the first three months, after which JCATP would be automatically annulled. During this same period, the ME was to recommend to the cabinet the first five members of the Academy. Four of these five members were professors from the University of Jordan and the fifth was a senior official from the Ministry of Education. The first official meeting of the Academy, attended by the five members and chaired by the ME, was held in the Minister's office on October 1st, 1976. In that meeting the conferees elected their president, vice-president, and secretary-general. After this meeting, the Academy was on its own and the election of new members became an internal matter.

Although the Law gives the Academy financial and administrative autonomy, it nevertheless makes the Academy nominally subordinate to the ME, which serves as liaison between the Academy and the cabinet and chairs the Academy's annual meeting. The ME also approves the appointment of honorary members. The Academy is financed almost exclusively by the government.

According to the Academy Law, there are three categories of members: (i) a maximum of 20 active members who must be Jordanian nationals between 30 and 70 years of age; and an unspecified number of (ii) corresponding and (iii) honorary members. An active member becomes automatically honorary upon reaching the age of 70. At present, the Academy has decided not to appoint any new active members for the time being "until there have appeared new talents capable of participating in the Academy's activities".[1] Of the other categories of members, 13 honorary members, including two prominent orientalists from Italy and Hungary, have been appointed. No corresponding members have been appointed yet.[2] Of the 13 active members, only two have had all of their education in the Arab countries. Of the remaining 11, nine studied and obtained a degree in an English-speaking country, one in France, and one in Italy. Nine members have a Ph.D. degree and the

(Continued on page 2)

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other four have other university degrees. Eight are or have been university professors, two bankers, and five are or have been members of the cabinet. As for their fields of specialization, five are specialists in Arabic literature, three in education, and one in each of the following fields: Islamic studies, economics, history, mathematics, and English. Conspicuously absent from among even the honorary members are specialists in philosophy and linguistics.

There is nothing unusual in the aims of ALAJ. Article 4 of the Academy Law lists the following three broad objectives: (i) to safeguard the Arabic language and make it amenable to modern arts and sciences; (ii) to unify terminologies in the various fields and to compile terminological glossaries and dictionaries; (iii) to revive the Arab and Islamic heritage in language, the sciences, and the Arts. ALAJ itself states explicitly that its aims and objectives, as well as its methods for the realization of these aims and objectives are those of the other Arab academies.[3]

When ALAJ was established, many individuals in the country questioned the need for, and even the wisdom of, such an undertaking since there were already some problems arising from the existence of 3 Arab Academies. In many cases, there exist in Arabic three different equivalents for the same scientific term, each word being the product of a different academy. Some people saw the possibility for more confusion in this area with the establishment of a fourth academy. In response to such doubts and reservations, ALAJ has pointed out that it intends to work in conjunction with the other Arab academies. Through the Association of Arabic Language Academies (AALA), of which ALAJ is now a member, the Jordan Academy hopes that the co-ordination of efforts, particularly in the field of terminology, will eventually lead to the unification of terms adopted in all fields.[4] ALAJ has also justified its existence by the fact that it is "essential for the spread of linguistic consciousness, and for safeguarding the Arabic language, which is fundamental to the national entity."[5]

ALAJ has been in existence for less than three years now, an extremely short period for making major contributions. Yet, the record of ALAJ is already impressive. First, the Academy has committed itself to the highly sensitive and complex issue of Arabizing science education in Jordanian universities. To be sure, this problem, common to all Arab countries except Syria, has been under discussion even before Jordan had any universities. It has also been the subject of several regional and pan-Arab conferences, including two by the Association of Arab Universities. The issue is still being debated and the questions discussed range from the most theoretical, such as whether it is necessary to Arabize university education or not and why, to the most practical, such as whether Arabization should be effected abruptly or gradually. But so far, little has been done by the countries concerned apart from paying lip service to Arabization. ALAJ, however, chose to do more work than talking and over a year ago, it appointed three committees from staff members at Jordan's two national universities to work under the supervision of some Academy members. The committees were charged with the task of selecting and translating standard freshman textbooks written in English. The fields covered so far include mathematics, chemistry, biology, physics, and geology. In addition to these fields, English is the language of instruction in agriculture, engineering, medicine, and nursing. These fields will presumably be tackled at a later date once the Arabization of the other fields has been completed. Except for the three-volume physics book, which was added to the list late in the translation project, books in the other fields have all been translated and are being printed. They are scheduled for publication before October 1979 when the new academic year begins.[6]

In addition to this practical effort, the Academy has also announced a competition with cash prizes for the best essay on the subject of Arabizing university education. A three-man team from the Damascus Academy, headed by the President of that Academy, was invited by ALAJ to Amman for a public discussion of the same topic. The invitation of the Syrian team was not without good reason. Damascus University was the first Arab university to use Arabic as the language of instruction in *all* subjects. Today, the Syrian universities are still the only universities in the Arab countries with a fully Arabized educational system.

Another project which ALAJ has launched and successfully accomplished is a terminology project. Soon after its establishment, the Academy wrote to all government departments and many private enterprises to ask them about their terminological needs. The Academy received several lists of foreign words for which Arabic equivalents were wanting. These lists were in the fields of transport, commerce, industry, military affairs, security, meteorology, banking, standards and specifications, and education. For each field, a committee of Academy and non-Academy members was set up to draft a list of Arabic terms needed in that field. All draft lists have been completed and are now being discussed by the Academy. In what seems to be a sincere effort on the part of the Academy to avoid possible conflict with terms adopted by other Arab academies, ALAJ plans to refer its terminological lists to AALA, after which

(Continued on next page)

Language Planning/Treatment Research

Language Decline and Nationalist Resurgence in Wales—Colin Haslehurst Williams, University of Wales, Swansea, Wales 1978.

This dissertation adopts a spatial perspective on language decline and nationalist resurgence. The early chapters present a discussion on the process of nationality-formation and assess the utility of current approaches to the study of nationalism. The study then focuses on the main social and spatial changes which have affected Welsh culture in the period 1891-1971, using multivariate analyses to measure the pattern of variation of the key variables, to construct distinct ecological contexts and to suggest the processes of change operative at the national scale. Other chapters discuss the political response to culture decline in an analysis of nationalism and the development of the Welsh Language Society. The final three chapters adopt a behavioral approach to test whether the processes inferred from the multivariate analyses could be demonstrated to occur at the microscale. Practical policy suggestions relating to education and to Welsh language planning are included, along with other implications from the findings, in the conclusion.

Dr. Williams, Lecturer in Geography and Ethnic Relations, North Staffordshire Polytechnic, Beaconside, Stafford, ST 18 OAD, England, also reports that he is currently working on a study designed to delimit Language Planning Regions within Wales. He would be interested to hear from others who are involved in the spatial delimitation of Language Zones and Bilingual Districts.

Guide to Information Resources in Language Planning: Addendum

In the "Guide to Information Resources in Language Planning" by Thomas Reese and Jonathan Pool published in the May, 1979 issue of *LPN* the following corrections and changes should be noted:

The address for correspondence with the authors should be corrected to: Jonathan Pool, Program in Comparative Studies in Ethnicity and Nationality, DO-30, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, U.S.A.

In paragraph A-1, the address of the Center for Applied Linguistics should be corrected to: 1611 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209, U.S.A.

The journal *Language Problems and Language Planning,* described in paragraph A-2, will move from Mouton to the University of Texas Press (Austin) beginning in 1980. The current subscription price should be corrected to 42.30 DM or $26.05. As of 1980 (vol. 4), the price will be $12.00 for individuals and $20.00 for institutions.

Langues et sociétés: Bibliographie analytique (1978 edition), described in paragraph A-3, has been published and can be purchased from Éditeur officiel du Québec, 1283 ouest, boul. Charest, Québec, Québec GIN 2C9, Canada. It has 5063 entries.

LLBA, described in paragraph A-4, has improved its indexing system. More headings related to language planning have been added. Each issue's index has now been made a complete index of topics and subtopics, making retrieval of desired articles much easier than before. (Jonathan Pool).

The Arabic Language Academy of Jordan

(Continued from page 2)

the terms will be approved and adopted.[7]

No information is yet available on how the Academy operates exactly or how terminology lists are compiled and from what sources they are drawn. However, in the light of the Academy's stated policy, it can be safely assumed that the pattern here will not be significantly different from that of other Arab academies.[8]

ALAJ is also concerned about the deterioration of Arabic in schools and the problems besetting the teaching of Arabic to Arabs. In addition to public discussions and lectures organized by the Academy on this topic, ALAJ has completed a relevant vocabulary project and hosted a general conference by AALA towards the end of 1978 which was devoted to this problem.

The Academy publishes a semi-annual journal which, so far, has appeared on schedule. ALAJ occupies temporary offices in Amman. The building of its permanent quarters is already underway on the campus of the University of Jordan. The Academy can be reached at its permanent address, P. O. Box 13268, Amman, Jordan.

Notes

1. *Annual Report of ALAJ* (in Arabic), 1978, p. 8.
2. *Ibid,* pp. 9-10.
3. *The First Year of ALAJ* (in Arabic), 1977, p. 14.
4. *Annual Report,* p. 8.
5. *The First Year,* p. 11.
6. *Annual Report,* pp. 5-6.
7. *Ibid,* p. 8.
8. cf. M. R. Hamzaoui, *L'Académie Arabe de Damas et le problème de la modernisation de la langue arabe* (Leiden, 1965) and R. Hamzaoui, *L'Académie de langue arabe du Caire* (Tunis, 1975).

LANGUAGE PLANNING JOURNAL MOVES TO U.S.A. — SIZE GOES UP, PRICE GOES DOWN

Language Problems and Language Planning, the only international scholarly journal devoted to the language planning field, has announced that the University of Texas Press will publish the journal starting in 1980. The Austin-based press, which specializes in the social sciences and humanities, will publish volume 4 and subsequent volumes of the journal, as well as distributing back issues. The first three volumes of *LPLP* were published by Mouton Publishers in The Hague, Netherlands.

Simultaneously with the journal's move to Texas, an almost unheard-of pair of additional changes will take place: the number of pages per issue will be increased by at least 25%, while the subscription price will be reduced. The current price of $26.05 per volume will be cut to less than half of that amount for individuals — $12.00 — and the institutional rate will be reduced to $20.00 per volume.

Language Problems and Language Planning is published three times a year. It has published recent articles, reviews, and review essays by such scholars as Björn H. Jernudd, Lachman M. Khubchandani, Moshe Nahir, Paul R. Brass, Christina Bratt Paulston, Einar Haugen, Lieuwe Pietersen, and Paul Lamy. *LPLP* is a multilingual journal and has a distinguished international Editorial Board. It is edited by Richard E. Wood (U.S.A.).

Information about subscriptions and back issues is available from Journals Department, University of Texas Press, P. O. Box 7819, Austin, Texas 78712, U.S.A. (Jonathan Pool).

STREET NAME PLANNING IN CALIFORNIA

From the June 22 issue of the San Francisco Chronicle, we learn that the county of Santa Cruz has ordered a study of the need for some street name changes. A new county-wide emergency service has run into difficulty because there are a large number of roadways with identical names. Before the new emergency system was installed, the problem of duplication was not as great a problem because fire and rescue services were handled on a community-wide rather than on a county-wide basis, hence, the number of possible duplications was less. A couple of examples illustrate the problem: A report to the fire department said the address was on "Pine" but unfortunately there are 3 of them in the county: Pine Street, Pine Place and Pine Avenue. So three groups of firemen were sent off in three directions! Another problem is that the county's most popular roadway name is Redwood and there are 29 drives, lanes or avenues in the county with this name. It is estimated that the proliferation of sameness could lead to the renaming of some 20 percent of the county's streets. As can be expected, there is some resistance among citizens to the change since they don't want *their* street name changed. The planning commission was charged with studying the problem and making a report to the county supervisors.

NEW JOURNAL—FACHSPRACHE

A new journal, *Fachsprache,* an international journal of language for special purposes issued its first number in 1979. It will be published quarterly by Wilhelm Braumüller at A-1092, Vienna, Austria. A year's subscription costs: öS 380 or DM53. The editorial group includes many persons known in the language planning world: Wolfgang U. Dressler, Helmut Felber, Ján Horecký, Heinz Ischreyt, Dieter Möhn, J. C. Sager, Heinz Rudi Spiegel, Erich Weis. The first issue contains several articles of interest:

Ján Horecký "On the Relation between Concept and Name"

Helmut Felber "Theory of terminology, terminology work and terminology documentation"

Karl-Heinz Brinkmann "Der Einsatz von Terminologiedatenbanken zur Lösung von Übersetzungsproblemen im fachsprachlichen Bereich"

COURSE IN LANGUAGE PLANNING

Responding to an editorial request for reports of language planning courses, Prof. David L. Gold of the University of Haifa, Israel, indicated that in the 1979-80 school year he will give a course entitled: Language Planning (With Emphasis on Yiddish, Hebrew, and Dzhudezmo). Other readers are encouraged to report courses they are giving or are planning to teach relating to language planning.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE ROLE OF LINGUISTIC BARRIERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—held October 1-5, 1979.

The International Symposium on the "Role of Linguistic Barriers in the Development of Science and Technology" in the Andres Bello Countries was held in Trujillo, Peru, on October 1-5, 1979. (This conference was mentioned in LPN, May, 1979). Among the several objectives discussed at this conference were: (1) suggest models, methods and techniques to analyze and evaluate the flow of information from one language to another; (2) analyze the possible effects which language barriers may have in diverse sectors of a developing country; (3) clarify what the situation in the Andres Bello countries is in

(Continued on next page)

Books and Articles

NOW AVAILABLE—Review of Ranier Lang, *A Plea for Language Planning in Papua New Guinea,* by Richard E. Wood, in *Language Problems and Language Planning,* 22 (1978), 117-119.

Papua New Guinea is linguistically the most complex country in the world and language planning is deperately needed. English is the official language, and Tok Pisin and Hiri Motu are categorized as national languages. Tok Pisin is the now partially creolized reflex of an English affiliated pidgin, and Hiri Motu is a partially creolized vehicular form of an indigenous vernacular, Motu; it was previously called Police Motu. Tok Pisin is spreading into areas where Hiru Motu was formerly dominant, but it is also breakup under pressure from English, creating a post-creole continuum. Many speakers are stigmatized and a loss of efficiency and development potential is felt due to the stylized use of English in fields where it is not understood. (Richard E. Wood).

NOW AVAILABLE—*Multiple and Varying Criteria for Membership in a Linguistic Minority in Metropolitan Helsinki* by Erik Allardt, Johan Miemois and Christian Starck. Research Group for Comparative Sociology, University of Helsinki, No. 21, 1979, 95 pp.

This is a report in English of a survey of the language behavior, subjective identification and commitments to language-based institutions of the Swedish speaking population in the metropolitan region of Finland's capital Helsinki. The survey is part of a larger study of the predicament of the Swedish speaking population in Finland. This study is particularly interesting because it discusses a serious problem for language planners; namely, the identification of language groups. A major part of this volume discusses the fluidity of boundaries and the multidimensionality of membership in ethnic groups. A 79 item questionnaire is listed in the volume. This study was carried out by Finnish scholars looking at the Swedish minority in Finland; the book listed below is a study by a Canadian interested in the lessons of Scandinavian major groups in a minority situation similar to the two founding peoples of Canada. Readers concerned with this type of situation may find both books relevant.

NOW AVAILABLE—*Die Entwicklung never germanischer Kultursprachen seit 1800* by Heinz Kloss. Düsseldorf: Pädagogischer Verlag Schwann. 2nd, expanded edition, 1978. 463 pp. (Sprache der Gegenwart. Schriften des Instituts für deutsche Sprache. 37).

The distinguished sociolinguist Heinz Kloss, at age 75, gives us a strikingly revised, up-to-the-minute, magnificently documented and footnoted new edition of his modern classic, first published in 1952. "The Development of New Germanic Cultivated Languages" deals with no less than 32 languages of Germanic or partially Germanic (e.g., English- and Dutch-based creoles) origin. They include Afrikaans, Frisian, Nynorsk, Lëtzeburgesch, and Faroese; and among the creoles, Tok Pisin, Bislama, Krio and Weskos. Kloss is an outstanding theoretician of language status and degree of language standardization. Students of language planning will therefore be interested in examining his treatment of such typologically problematical cases as Black English, Scots (Lallans), Swiss German, Aukan and Limburgish.

Comprehensive appendices provide addresses of language planning agencies and academies; statistics on language teaching, broadcasts, numbers of speakers, etc. Since the publication of the first edition in 1952, several languages, unrecognized or undescribed then, have emerged, several spelling reforms have taken place while another is currently underway (Frisian), unwritten languages have become written, planning of several hitherto unplanned languages has begun. Kloss suggests German glottonyms for several languages which have not hitherto had them, or whose names have been unclear or unsatisfactory. In sum, a *magnum opus* of the first rank. (Richard E. Wood).

(Continued on page 6)

Language Planning/Treatment News
(Continued from page 4)

regard to this problem; (4) identify the ways in which Andres Bello have addressed this problem; (5) suggest a global strategy to reduce language barriers; (6) suggest ways to standardize technical terms in the Andres Bello countries in particular and in Spanish-speaking countries, more generally; (7) suggest a cooperative model among the Andres Bello countries to try to reduce the negative effects of language barriers; and (8) suggest a cooperative model to use among Andres Bello countries and other international organizations to reduce the negative effects of language barriers. For further information write:

Prof. Rene Medina Tello
Jefe del Departamento de Idiomas y Lingüística
Universidad Nacional de Trujillo
Apartado 315
Trujillo, Peru

NOW AVAILABLE—*References for Students of Language Planning* by Joan Rubin and Björn H. Jernudd, 1979, Culture Learning Institute, East-West Center. University Press of Hawaii (2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822). Price: $3.50. 96822). Price: $3.50.

This is an annotated selective bibliography of over 300 items in the field of language planning especially as represented in the English language literature. There are two basic purposes to the volume: (1) to try to challenge and stimulate the kind of detailed study language planning deserves and (2) to make available to students of language planning references which might otherwise be difficult to identify and to provide them with an orientation to the existing literature. The authors try to provide an approach to the field by the grouping of existing literature. The system of categorization is, to some extent, open-ended; merely exemplifying the kinds of categories which should be included. There are 14 sections into which the references are divided: Introduction to Planning, Theory of Language Planning, Discipline of Language Planning, Relationship of Language Planning and Linguistics, Language Planning Bibliographies, Planning the Language Corpus: General, Planning the Language Corpus: Purposes, Planning the Language Corpus: Linguistic Aspects, Allocating Language Use: General, Allocating Language Use: Purposes, Implementation: Who Does Language Planning, Implementation: How is Language Planning Done, Implementation: Providing Information and Feedback for Language Planning (Evaluation), and Language Planning in Some Countries.

NOW AVAILABLE—"Language of Instruction in a Multi-Cultural Setting," Special Number of the *International Review of Education*, 1978, XXIV:3, 436pp. edited by Conrad M. B. Brann. 17.50 Guilders. Martinus Nijhoff, Lange Voorhout 9-11, P. O. Box 442, The Hague, Netherlands).

Two articles of especial interest to language planners are:

T. La Belle and P. White "Policy and Planning: Education & Colonial Language Policies"
Z. Zachariev "Droits Linguistiques et Droits a L'Education"

NOW AVAILABLE—Language Planning and Identity Planning edited by Paul Lamy. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, vol. 20, 1979. 112 pp. (Walter de Gruyter & Co., P. O. Box 110240, D-1000 Berlin 11, Germany).

Jonathan Pool "Language Planning and Identity Planning"
Paul Lamy "Language and Ethnolinguistic Identity: The Bilingualism Question"
Jacques A. Lefevre "Nationalisme linguistique et identification linguistique: le cas de Belgique"
Bud B. Khlief "Language as an Ethnic Boundary in Welsh-English Relations"
Joseph M. Spina "Adolescent Attachment to Canada and Commitment to Bilingualism"
E. James Lieberman "Esperanto and Trans-National Identity: The Case of Dr. Zamenhof"

NOW AVAILABLE—*Language Reform in China Documents and Commentary* ed. by Peter J. Seybolt and Gregory Kuei-ke Chiang. 1979. 410 pp. M. E. Sharpe, Inc., 901 N. Broadway, White Plains, N.Y. 10603. ($25.00).

This book of documents traces the history of the language reform movement in China from 1950-1978. It records the major reform proposals and examines the controversies that they have generated. In selecting documents the authors have attempted to highlight the political process of language reform as well as to examine the problems, both technical and cultural, that make the transformation of the written language, and the unification of the spoken language, so difficult. Only two of the 48 documents have been translated into English before.

NOW AVAILABLE—"De Vaste Commissie voor Taaltoezicht. Opzet, werkwijze en rezultaten." [The Permanent Commission for Linguistic Supervision. Purpose, operation and results] by Raf Renard. *Ons Erfdeel*, 22-3 (May-June, 1979), 347-360. (Published by Stichting Ons Erfdeel vzw, Murissonstraat 160, B-8530 Rekkem, Belgium).

The Honorary Chairman of the Permanent Commission for Linguistic Supervision, the lawyer Raf Renard, presents the history, purpose, structure and achievements of his commission, whose only close counterpart elsewhere in the world is the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages in Ottawa, Canada. The Belgian Commission, however, is almost forty years older, being founded in 1932. Renard begins by tracing the policy of French unilingualism, implemented one year after the Napoleonic occupation of Belgium in 1803; the period of the restoration of Dutch rule and Dutch linguistic rights, 1815-1830; the foundation of the Kingdom of Belgium, again as a unilingually French state, in 1830; and the slow, stubborn struggle of the Flemings for their language rights, including such milestones as the establishment of the principle of the regional language as the language of local administration in 1921, and the setting up of the Commission in 1932.

Belgium has moved from a unitary state toward a

federal structure. This is reflected in the structure of the Commission, which now has a double structure, with five Netherlandophone and five Francophone permanent members, appointed for life on the basis of a strict apportionment among political parties. Each language group within the Commission elects its own chairman; joint meetings are held. The work of the Commission was hampered in the past by minority boycotts, and the power of minority members was built into a new statute in 1969, limiting the efficiency of the Commission, whose powers are also severely cramped by its lack of a language inspectorate (in this way, it is weaker than corresponding bodies in Canada and Ireland). The principal activities of the Commission include answering requests for information, chiefly in drafting legislation; the answering of complaints on alleged infringements of language rights and infraction of language laws; the setting of language exams, chiefly in the public service; supervision of the application of the language laws to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (long considered by Flemings as a stubborn bastion of the old Francophone élite); the issuing of an annual report (similar to that of the Canadian Commissioner of Official Languages); and the drawing up of a *code of language laws*. Renard's article provides statistics on the number of complaints received from each language group, and refers in detail to some famous linguistic *causes célèbres*, such as the protracted crisis in the municipal building of Schaerbeek, a Brussels suburb, in which the mayor set up seven windows serving the public in French, two for foreigners (speakers of third languages or allophones, in Canadian terminology) but only one for Dutch-speakers, leading to a government crisis. (Richard E. Wood).

NOW AVAILABLE—*Problems of Language Policy in South Africa* by Heinz Kloss. Wilhelm Braumüller, A-1092, Vienna, Austria. 67 pp. (öS 120) Part of *Ethnos* (number 16).

This book is an outcome of the author's visit in 1974 to the South African Republic and Southwest Africa to participate in a workshop and to obtain first-hand a view of the South African language scene. The author provides support for the mother-tongue policy which has been severely criticized and attempts to provide some solutions for problems arising from the second-language policy in non-Bantu schools and Bantu schools. Although the editor has not seen the next item mentioned below, it sounds as though anyone interested in South African language policy could benefit from reading both, one written by a renowned language policy scholar from an outsider's point of view and the other, written by two concerned and knowledgeable South Africans.

NOW AVAILABLE—*Language and Communication Studies in South Africa* edited by L. W. Lanham and K. P. Prinsloo. Cape Town: Oxford University Press, 1978. 259 pp.

The emergence of Afrikaans is one of the better-known instances of language development and the growth of language identity, and work on the standardization of Afrikaans in various fields is among the more significant areas of language planning in the last hundred years. Of the articles in this volume, the most directly relevant to LP is the annotated table of "Institutions presently conducting research and inquiry in the field of language in South Africa," which includes lexicographical and terminological boards, translation agencies, linguistic atlases, psycholinguistic projects, language teaching and testing agencies. 53 useful addresses are given. (Richard E. Wood).

NOW AVAILABLE—*La Finlande et la Suède. Une grande minorité, les Suédois de l'Est.* [Finland and Sweden. A large minority: the Eastern Swedes]. By J. E. Havel. Sherbrooke, Québec: Editions Naaman, 1978. 175 pp. $12.00, paper.

J. E. Havel of Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario, one of the very few bilingual universities in an officially bilingual country, was attracted to the topic of the Swedish minority in Finland and the Finnish minority in Sweden by the evident similarity between these ethnolinguistic groups and the two founding peoples of Canada, a similarity strengthened by the northerly location and similar climates of both countries. This volume reports on his study of these similarities. (Richard E. Wood).

(Continued on page 8)

NOW AVAILABLE—"Language Planning Functions in Modern Hebrew," by Moshe Nahir, in *Language Problems and Language Planning,* 22 (1978), 89-101.

Nahir establishes five language planning functions in Modern Hebrew: Purification, Revival, Reform, Standardization, and Lexical Modernization. He breaks Modern Hebrew into three periods and identifies the functions represented in each of them, in major or minor degrees. The periods are dated 1890-1918; 1918-1948; and 1948 to the present. (Richard E. Wood).

NOW AVAILABLE—*Andrés Bello. Philosopher, Poet, Philologist, Educator, Legislator, Statesman* Rafael Caldera, translated by John Street. London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd., 1977. 165 pages. 8.50 pounds (G. Allen & Unwin, Ruskin House, Museum Street, London).

The biography of the Venezuelan grammarian and reformer of the Spanish language, written by a former President of the Republic of Venezuela, is now available in English. Caldera presents Bello's proposed "Reform of Spanish Spelling," with a clear list of specific proposals, and a commentary. Caldera notes "Usage, the prime rule of Bello's *Filologia,* has proved stronger than his most powerful arguments, but there are hopeful signs leading to the possibility of reform." (p. 90). Some of Bello's orthographic reforms were in fact implemented in certain South American countries, notably Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, in the late 19th century, but, primarily in the name of tradition and the unity of the Spanish language, they went into decline in this century, being abandoned by the Chilean Academy, for example, in the 1920s. Bello's proposed syllabification of Spanish, on the other hand, has been accepted. In Caldera's words, "The rules which he proposed in this respect have been accepted, and they have been extended to cases which the Venezuelan philologist, basing himself on the usage of his time, considered exceptions. Caldera's book is recommended to those interested in the forerunners of modern language planning and language treatment, and to students of orthographic reform and of Spanish. (Richard E. Wood).

NOW AVAILABLE—*Språkarbete. En rapport från byråkratiutredningen.* (Language work. A report from the commission on bureaucracy.) Kommundepartementet, Allmänna Förlaget, Stockholm 1979. Pp. 83. (Ds Kn 1979:1).

This report accounts for efforts by national and local government agencies in Sweden to correct Swedish Bureaucratese/Officialese. Measures taken are found to range from arranging one or two training sessions in writing and document drafting for an agency's employees, to hiring language experts to routinely screen texts produced within the agency, to assign roles as language advisor and resource person to agency employees, and to organize courses in language correctness and good usage, the latter by the Government Accountancy Office (Statskontoret). The report also accounts for a number of case studies of intervention at government offices with language critique and training for writing so that the general public can understand what has been written. (Björn H. Jernudd).

NOW AVAILABLE—Språknytt, 6-3 (1978). (Organ of *Norsk språkråd,* the Norwegian Language Council, Postboks 8107 Dep, Oslo 1, Norway).

Almost entirely a language planning issue. Contents include (titles translated from Norwegian): Lars S. Vikør, "Can Language be Directed and Planned?," Ståle Loland, "Nordic Language Secretariat: Aims and Duties," Jostein Soland, "The National Foundation for the Teaching of Norwegian," "The Foundation for Linguistic Equality in the State," "A Common Orthography for Northern Såmi [Lappish]," and "A Nordic Language Year?"

Vikør's paper presents general language planning t a Norwegian readership, with emphasis on work in th U.S., the Third World, and the theories of Valter Tauli. The proposed Nordic Language Year would, if adopted, be 1980. Much attention is being devoted in all Nordic countries to the linguistic impact of Nordsat, a Nordic television satellite. (Richard E. Wood).

Copies are available free of charge. Changes of address and requests to be placed on the mailing list should be addressed to:

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