A special expression of gratitude is due to my research assistant, Darien Howe, for helping me with the translation of summaries into French and for a variety of other incidental office chores, especially sending out form letters to anyone who wrote me during my extended absences.

There is another matter that I'd like to bring up on this occasion. When launching this journal some twelve years ago, I had no reason to expect that *Diachronica* would develop into a periodical that receives an ever-growing number of submissions, at times from places and areas of linguistic research I had hardly an inkling of at the time. True, it was my intention from the start to open up the field of historical linguistics much wider than had been the case traditionally, but, as everyone knows, running a journal is always a question of supply and demand, and I could not venture a prediction of the outcome at the time. In the meantime, *Diachronica* has grown encouragingly, indeed so much so that it has developed a healthy backlog of excellent papers. In order not to keep many of them on file for too long, it has been agreed in negotiations with the publisher to increase the size of each issue by about 50 pages to accommodate, ideally, two well-rounded papers more each time, as of volume XIII (1996), at a modest increase of the private subscription rate (i.e., from US$40 to $48 per annum for 100 additional pages). I very much hope that this decision will be welcomed by many, if not all, readers, authors, and subscribers alike.

Hull, Quebec, 24 August 1995

Konrad Koerner

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**PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED**

**OUVRAGES REÇUS**

**EINGEGANGENE SCHRIFTEN**

**Note:** This listing acknowledges the receipt of recent writings in the study of language, with particular attention being given to those concerned with the history and the mechanisms of language change, comparative-historical philology, and language typology. Only in exceptional instances will a separate acknowledgment of receipt be issued; no book can be returned to the publisher after it has been analyzed in this section. It should be pointed out, moreover, that by accepting a book, no promise is implied that it will be reviewed in detail in *Diachronica*. Reviews are printed as circumstances permit, and offprints will be sent to the publishers of the works reviewed, including those items briefly commented upon in the present section.

Andersen, Henning, ed. 1995. *Historical Linguistics 1993: Selected Papers from the 11th International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Los Angeles, 16–20 August 1993.* (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory, 124.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, ix, 460 pp. [The 34 contributions are presented in alphabetical order by authors (from Andrew Allen to Nigel Vincent, with many regular ICHL participants in between, such as Kate Burridge, Andrei Danchev, Jadranka Gvozdanovic, Dieter Kastovsky, Silvia Luragl, Jaap van Marle, and others). Topics range from ‘regrammaticalization’ and ‘functional renewal’ to reconstruction, word-order change, clitic placement, and ‘genetic congruence’ vs ‘areal congruence’ as well as more ‘run-of-the-mill’ subjects devoted to a particular language or language family. Full indexes of names (449-456) and of languages (457-460), but no index of subjects. — KK.]

Askedal, John Ole & Harald Bjorvand, eds. 1995. *Drei Studien zum germanischen in alter und neuer Zeit.* (= NOWELE Supplement Volume, 13.) Odense: Odense University Press, vi, 146 pp. [This volume, a supplemental issue of the journal North-Western European Language Evolution, contains three substantial contributions on old and modern Germanic, all by members of the faculty of the Germanic Institute of the University of Oslo: "Nominale Stammbildung des Germanischen, Maskuline Verbalnomina: a-Stämme oder i-Stämme?" (Harald Bjorvand), "Über die Herkunft der Kringoten und der Goten der Völkerwanderungszeit: Eine sprachlich-kritische Beurteilung der Gotenfrage" (Ottar Grønvik), and "Geographische und typologische Beschreibung von Verbalkonstruktionen in den modernen Germanischen Sprachen" (John Ole Askedal).]

Berkenbusch, Gabriele & Christine Bierbach, eds. 1994. *Sociolinguistik und Sprachgeschichte: Querverbindungen: Brigitte Schlieben-LANGE zum 50. Geburtstag von ihren Schülerinnen und Schülern überreicht.* (= Tübinger Beiträge zur Linguistik, 398.) Tübingen: Gunter Narr Verlag, 266 pp. [Recognizing the range of scholarly interests of Professor Schlieben-Lange, this *hommage* contains 13 papers treating topics as diverse as the vocabulary and iconography of the French Revolution, Romance linguistics, rhythm, language and cultural identity, and native Latin American languages. The volume contains bio-
graphical notes on each contributor, though there is no index; each article has its own bibliography.)

Bibliographie Linguistique de l’année 1992, et complément des années précédentes / Linguistic Bibliography for the Year 1992 [...]. Edited by Mark Janse & Sijmen Tol [with the assistance of a number of international contributors — see pp.v-vi, for their listing]. Dordrecht–Boston–London: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1994. Pp. lxxv, 1,314 pp. [The total number of pages and the coverage (23,015 entries) constitutes the largest annual volume of the BL in the more than 45-year history of this most important bibliographical sourcebook in the field, representing an increase of over 50% if compared to volumes appearing as recently as 1985. As in previous years, the amount of secondary sources for readers of Diachronica is vast, especially in the individual sections of “Indo-European languages” (pp.361-917) covering the work, but most specifically in the “Historical and comparative linguistics” (335-340) and in part in the “Linguistic typology [...]” (341-343) sections. The section on “Pidgins and Creoles” (1158-1168) too contains contributions of importance to historical linguistics. — KK.]

Bomhard, Allan R. & John C. Kerns. 1994. The Nostratic Macrofamily. A study in distant linguistic relationship (= Trends in Linguistics, Studies and Monographs, 74). Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter, xi, 926 pp. [In this massive work, B & K present the evidence for their particular view of a Nostratic macrofamily, taking in, in their conception of the group, Indo-European, Kartvelian, Afroasiatic, Uralic-Yukaghir, Elamo-Dravidian, and Altaic, and quite possibly also Sumerian, Chukchi-Kamchatkan, Eskimo-Aleut, Gilyak, and Etruscan. After a brief introduction with a statement on methodology, a critique of the Moscow view of Nostratic, and an overview of the Nostratic languages (1-50), and longer discussions of comparative Nostratic phonology (57-140) and of Nostratic morphology and syntax (141-190), K’s work, an enormous (191-714) comparative Nostratic vocabulary is given, covering 601 reconstructions and putative cognates in the various languages. An exhaustive 150-page bibliography, and word and subject indices round out the volume.]

Borrelly, Jean-Alexia. 1994. Histoire sommaire et philosophique de la langue française (1784). Considérations sur le questionnement de la langue allemande, contrairement par Leibnitz (1792). Mit einer Einführung und Anmerkungen versehen von Jurgen Storost. (= Lingua et Traditio: Beiträge zur Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft, 12.) Tübingen: Gunter Narr Verlag, x, 162 pp. [This volume provides a reprinting of two works by B from the 18th century. B, a Frenchman living in Berlin, addressed issues of concern to the Berlin Academy of Sciences regarding the universality of French, and later became involved in a project suggested by Leibnitz on the development of a German dictionary. To the texts of the works, S adds an extensive introduction and annotations.]

Burnley, David & Matsuji Tajima. 1994. The Language of Middle English Literature. (= Annotated Bibliographies of Old and Middle English Literature, 1.) Cambridge: D. S. Brewer, viii, 280 pp. [In this work, B & T provide a listing of over 1200 articles and books, as well as an additional 128 doctoral dissertations, which have been published since 1865 and which deal with linguistic aspects of Middle English usage in extant texts of all types. The authors give an annotation as to content for each article and book cited, and arrange the entries chronologically by date of publication, to allow the user to discern trends in scholarly interest. Entries are cross-referenced in the annotations where appropriate. Indices for scholars and for authors and works, and a introduction providing an overview of the distribution of the works by topic increase the usefulness of this volume.]

Cameron, Deborah. 1995. Verbal Hygiene. London & New York: Routledge, xiv, 247 pp. [Defining “verbal hygiene” informally as “the urge to meddle in matters of language...” (p.vii), and working from the observation that “humans do not just use language, they comment on the language they use” (p.1), C treats here various popular forms of prescriptivism, such as editorial regulation of style, the use and promotion of politically correct language, and grammar as taught in schools. She is particularly concerned with the attitudes toward language that such prescriptive practices reveal on the part of their proponents, and ultimately argues that popular evaluation of language in this way serves a useful purpose. The volume has both subject and name indices.]

Campbell, George L. 1995. Concise Compendium of the World’s Languages. London & New York: Routledge, x, 654 pp. [A shortened and somewhat revised edition of C’s two-volume Compendium of the World’s Languages (1991), this work presents information on nearly 200 languages and a dozen major language families or subgroups. Inclusion was determined by “number of speakers [and] socio-political interest and importance” (p.vii), with dead languages being excluded. Each article gives information on the external setting for the language, its writing system, its phonological inventory, its morphology (with representational paradigms where appropriate), and its syntax, and provides a sample text (usually the Gospel of John, chapter 1, verses 1-8), though without glosses. Each article should be used with some caution, though, since (inevitably) there are errors or potentially misleading statements about the languages. C adds a useful appendix of scripts and references on each of the languages discussed.]

Crystal, David. 1995. The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, vii, 489 pp. [In this innovatively organized work written for a popular audience but with much of interest to the language professional, C covers in 24 chapters the various stages in the history of English, the sound structure of English vocabulary, English grammar, the English sound system and writing system, variation in the language itself, its acquisition, and methods of studying and analyzing it. Appendices have a glossary of linguistic terms, lists of symbols, references and suggestions for further reading, and various indices close out this most interesting volume.]

Cypionka, Marion. 1994. Französische “Pseudoaanglisismen”. Lehrformen zwischen Entlehnung, Wortbildung, Form- und Bedeutungswandel. (= Tübinger Beiträge zur Linguistik, 401.) Tübingen: Gunter Narr Verlag, 288 pp. [C here examines the phenomenon of French creations that are based on English without being loans from real English words, such as an training for “sweat suit”. After discussing the notions of “language” and “speakers”, and giving some general observations on borrowing and the formation of loanwords, C has an extended consideration of numerous case studies showing compounding, derivation, clipping, semantic shifts, morphological alteration, and the like in the borrowing process: a bibliography and index of words cited round out C’s work.]

Drinka, Bridget. 1995. The Sigmatic Aorist in Indo-European: Evidence for the space-time hypothesis (= Journal of Indo-European Studies; Monograph 13.) Washington, D.C.: Institute of Indogermanic Studies of the University of Maryland, vii, 226 pp. [D here examines the evidence in the various branches of Indo-European for an aorist formation with the suffix *-s-, with an eye to determining the extent to which it can be reconstructed for the proto-language. She concludes that “the s-aorist as a unified temporal-aspectual category cannot be claimed for the earliest stages of Proto-Indo-European” (p.141). Rather, D feels that “an incipient, unsystematic s-preterite” (p.142) existed in early-middle IE, utilizing Meid’s “Raum-Zeit Modell” (translated as the “Space-Time Hypothesis”) for the unfolding of the proto-language between the 5th and 2nd millennia B.C.; later this s-preterite was incorporated into the aorist system in the eastern group of languages, surviving only in remnants in the western...
group. Substantial appendices provide the full range of established s-aorist formations in Indo-Iranian, Old Church Slavonic, Latin, and Greek.)

Dutton, Tom & Darrell T. Tryon, eds. 1994. Language Contact and Change in the Austronesian World. (= Trends in Linguistics: Studies and Monographs, 77.) Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter, x, 674 pp. [The expaso covered by the Austronesian languages in the Indian and Pacific oceans is, as the editors point out (p.ix), "linguistically one of the most diverse areas in the world", and thus "provides excellent opportunities for studying language contact and change." The 21 contributions cover contact between Austronesian and Papuan languages, the (relatively) recent contact between Austronesian and European languages, and contacts between languages or language groups within Austronesian (e.g. Micronesian and Polynesian). The contents are: "The classification of the Tanimanic languages" (K. Alexander Adelaar), "Language change on Umboi Island" (Robert D. Bugenhagen), "The Polynesian Outsiders as a locus of language contact" (Ross Clark), "Old Javanese influence in Balinese: Balinese speech styles" (Adrian Clynes), "Moto-Koiarian contact in Papua New Guinea" (Tom Dutton), "Linguistic evidence for the Tongan Empire" (Paul Geraghty), "Coves and nutmeg, traders and wars: Language contact in the Spice Islands" (Barbara Dix Grimes), "Named speech registers in Austronesian languages" (Charles E. Grimes & Kenneth R. Maryott), "Linguistic evidence for Polynesian influence in the Gilbert Islands" (S. P. Harrison), "The mechanisms of language change in Labu" (Susanne Holzknecht), "Contact-induced language change in present-day Indonesian" (Anton M. Moeiioni), "The relationship between the languages of the Barrier Islands and the Suwawesi-Philippine languages" (Bernd Nothofer), "Manado Malay: Product and agent of language change" (Jack Prentice), "Unravelling the linguistic histories of Philippine Negritos" (Lawrence A. Reid), "Early European influence on the languages of Polynesia: The Gambier Islands" (Karl Rensch), "Contact-induced phonological complexity in New Caledonia" (Jean-Claude Riviere), "Iaian loanwords and phonemic changes in Fagauvea" (Francoise Ozanne-Riviere), "Areal phonological features in north central New Ireland" (Malcolm Ross), "Renovation and innovation in the languages of north-western New Britain" (William R. Thurston), "Language contact and contact-induced change in the Eastern Outer Islands, Solomon Islands" (Darrell T. Tyron), and "Contact-induced change in the non-Austronesian languages in the north Moluccas, Indonesia" (C. L. Voorhoeve). A modest index, covering mostly language names, closes the volume.]

Edwards, John. 1994. Multilingualism. London & New York: Routledge, xiv, 210 pp. [Starting from the observation that "multilingualism is a powerful fact of life around the world" (p.1), E proceeds in this interestingly conceived study to document and discuss "the course of multilingualism, through individuals and societies, with a view both to understanding it and appreciating its influence upon human life" (p.14). Taking a multidisciplinary approach, E discusses linguistic diversity, psychological and social perspectives on bilingualism, variation, conflicts in language use, language in relation to national and ethnic identity, prescriptivism, language and education, and language and culture. Name and language indices, as well as a thin subject index, close out the volume.]


Fox, Anthony. 1995. Linguistic Reconstruction: An introduction to theory and method. (= Oxford Textbooks in Linguistics.) Oxford: Oxford University Press, xviii, 328 pp. [This work is a textbook that focuses on the guiding principles and methodology of reconstruction, rather than on the theory of language change. In it, F discusses the comparative method, giving first an historical survey of the comparative method, and then an explication of the method step-by-step, with examples from phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexis, and then treats internal reconstruction, the reconstruction of language relationships, the relationship between typology and reconstruction, the use of quantitative methodology in reconstruction, and finally cultural reconstruction from linguistic evidence. A bibliographic and subject and name, and language indices add to the book's usefulness as a textbook.]

Hayes, Bruce. 1995. Metrical Stress Theory: Principles and case studies. Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press, xiv, 403 pp. [H lays out here the principles of his metrical stress theory, "a branch of the theory of generative phonology that deals with stress patterns" (p.1). It sees "stress [as the linguistic manifestation of rhythmic properties] and posits that "the special phonological properties of stress can be explicated" on such a basis (p.1). Specific applications of the theory to various language particular problems are included throughout, with one three chapters (6-8) being devoted to language-language cross-linguistic information about attested stress patterns. Although primarily interested at elucidating synchronic issues in metrical stress and prosody more generally, H does make occasional references to a few synchronic matters, e.g. in Algonquian, Arabic, Cayuga, Central Alaskan Yupik, Estonian, Hindi, Latin, and Winnebago. Name and language indices, and a detailed subject index, close the work.]

Hinton, Leanne, Johanna Nichols & John J. Ohala, eds. 1994. Sound Symbolism. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, x, 373 pp. [This long-awaited volume brings together 22 papers, mostly from a 1986 Berkeley conference, all dealing with some aspect of sound symbolism, especially in its cross-linguistic manifestations, from a variety of perspectives, including typological, historical, experimental, biological, anthropological, and stylistic. Besides an introduction on "Sound-symbolic processes" by the editors, the contents are: "Symbolism in Nez Perce" (Haruo Aoki), "Nootkan vocative vocalism and its implications" (William H. Jacobsen, Jr.), "Relative motivation in denotational and indexical sound symbolism of Wasco-Wishram Chinookan" (Michael Silverstein), "Symbolism and change in the sound system of Huastec" (Terrence Kaufman), "Evidence for pervasive synesthetic sound symbolism in ethnozoological nomenclature" (Brent Berlin), "Noise words in Guaraní" (Margaret Langdon),... "Tone, intonation, and sound symbolism in Lahu: loading the syllable canon" (James A. Matyszczak), "An experimental investigation into phonetic symbolism as it relates to Mandarin Chinese" (Randy J. LaPolla), "Palatalization in Japanese sound symbolism" (Shoko Hamano),... "Yidiny ideophones" (Barry Alpher),... "African ideophones" (G. Tucker Childs),... "Regular sound development, phonosymbolic orchestration, disambiguation of homonyms" (Yakov Malkiel),... "Modern Greek is: beyond sound symbolism" (Brian D. Joseph),... "On levels of analysis of sound symbolism in poetry, with an application to Russian poetry" (Tom M,...]
S. Priestley, "Finnish and Gilyak sound symbolism — the interplay between system and history" (Robert Austerlitz), "Phonosyntax" (Joan A. Sereno), "Aural images" (Richard Rhodes), "Inanimate imitatives in English" (Robert L. Oswalt), "Some observations on the function of sound in clinical work" (Peter R. Ostwald), "The frequency code underlying the sound-symbolic use of voice pitch" (John J. Ohala), and "Sound symbolism and its role in non-human vertebrate communication" (Eugene S. Morton). The volume closes with a subject index.

Hudson, Richard. 1995. Word Meaning. London & New York: Routledge, xii, 81 pp. [Another in the publisher’s series of Language Workbooks, this short volume is intended as “a guide for an intellectual journey” to encourage beginning students “to understand how ordinary words ‘work’, and to be able to think analytically about them” (p.xi), partly by tapping the knowledge that native speakers of a language already have about word meanings. One of the short chapters treats the matter of change in a lexeme’s meanings through time, and the chapters on kin terms touch on the effects of technological advances in treating infertility as part of the discussion of the meaning of parent. Each chapter closes with exercises, and references for suggested readings are given.]

Katzner, Kenneth. 1995. The Languages of the World. London & New York: Routledge, x, 378. [This volume contains a quick overview of major language families of the world, primarily organized geographically, followed by brief descriptions of the external setting (location, national status, number of speakers, etc.) and, where appropriate, writing system of 195 major languages, with a sample text (with translation) for each one. K includes as well a survey by country of which languages are spoken there.]

Keller, Rudi. 1994. On Language Change: The invisible hand in language. Translated by Brigitte Nerlich. London & New York: Routledge, xii, 169 pp. [K frames two ways of asking a basic question: “Why does language change? [and] Why do speakers change their language”, referring to the first way as “the organismic version, the second the mechanistic one” (p.8). He then suggests problems with each version, saying the organismic version “is too reifying, as if language were a thing with some vital inner force” and the mechanistic version “sounds too active, too intentional, as if they had planned it and then set out to execute their plan; as if language were a man-made artefact” (p.9). K ultimately opts for an ‘invisible hand’ explanation, in the sense of the 18th century philosopher Adam Smith, that is, “a conjectural story of a phenomenon which is the result of human actions, but not the execution of any human design”. In the rest of the book, K elucidates further the philosophical underpinnings of this type of explanation, especially with regard to language, giving some specific applications to linguistic phenomena. A bibliography and index round out the volume.]


Lima, Susan D., Roberta L. Corrigan & Gregory K. Iverson, , eds. 1994. The Reality of Linguistic Rules. (= Studies in Language Companion Series, 26.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xxii, 465 pp. [This volume brings together 19 papers from a 1992 conference at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on the realism of linguistic rules. Though language change does not figure prominently in the discussions, diachronic matters are discussed explicitly in Michael Barlow & Suzanne Kemmer’s “A schema-based approach to grammatical description” (regarding the development of Romance se) and Richard D. Janda, Brian D. Joseph, & Neil G. Jacobs “Systematic hyperforeignisms as maximally external evidence for linguistic rules (regarding one effect of borrowing and language contact). Also, analogy and lexical associations are treated in “Productivity and the English past tense: Testing Skousen’s analogy model” (Bruce L. Derwing & Royal Skousen), “The dinosaurs and the ring” (Brian MacWhinney), “Regular and irregular morphology and the psychological status of rules of grammar” (Steven Pinker & Alan Prince), “One system or two to handle regulars and exceptions: How time-course of processing can inform this debate” (Alan H. Kawamoto), and “Finnish nominal inflection: Paradigmatic patterns and token analogy” (Ann Thymé, Farrell Ackerman, & Jeff Elman). An author index and modest subject index are included as well.]

Lippi-Green, Rosina. 1994. Language Ideology and Language Change in Early Modern German. (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory, 119.) Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xiv, 388 pp. [The author here addresses the question of “how to interpret the relationship between variation in written texts and language change”, and more particularly, “how much of the graphemic variation observed in the written texts is noise, and how much of it has meaning — linguistic, social, or stylistic” (p.1), with specific reference to 16th century Nuremberg. She is also concerned with the relation between the language standardization process, with its ideological overtones, and textual variation. Employing a computerized corpus and computational analytic tools, L-G finds that variation in the writing of consonants in the texts examined was not random, but rather there is a variation between the writing of a form/genre distinction in stops and the writer’s “commitment to the emerging ideology of standard German”, a language with an obstinate system different from that native to Nuremberg (p.103). Appendices with the demographics of 16th century Nuremberg, coding used in the corpus, primary sources, and raw data L-G collected, a detailed list of references, and a very modest index end the volume.]

Matthews, Peter H. 1993. Grammatical theory in the United States from Bloomfield to Chomsky. (= Cambridge Studies in Linguistics, 67.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, xiii, 252 pp. [M surveys here the history of linguistics, and especially the development of grammatical theory, in North America, starting with Leonard Bloomfield’s An Introduction to the Study of Language (1914) and continuing on up into the 1990s. M focuses considerable attention on Bloomfield and his impact and Noam Chomsky and his impact. In addition, he traces the development of the notion of constituency structure, of the grammatical study of nominalism, of the grammar and semi-segmented and of the view that linguistics as its goal the examination of a universal grammar that is genetically transmitted. A bibliography and index close out the volume.]


Matras, Yaron, ed. 1995. Romani in Contact: The history, structure and sociology of a language. (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory, 126.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xvii, 207 pp. [The editor’s introduction (ix-xvii) provides an interesting historical background to the study of the language of the Gypsies, beginning with J.C.C. Rüdiger’s 1782 identification of their language as coming from India, but, curiously enough, leaving out any mention of A. F. Pott’s important contribution to the field. From the contents: “On typological changes and structural borrowing in the history of European Romani” by Vit Bubeník; “On the migration and affiliation of the Domba” by Ian Hancock, and “Notes on the genesis of Calo and other Iberian Para-Romani varieties” by Peter Bakker. No index. — KK.]

Mayrhofer, Manfred. 1994. Etymologisches Wörterbuch des Alindoarischen. II. Band, Lief­ferung 16. (= Indogermanische Bibliothek II. Reihe. Wörterbucher, [unnumbered,)] Heidel­berg: Universitätsverlag C. Winter, 80 pp. [The next in the series of fascicles in which M is reworking his own earlier Kurzgefasste Etymologisches Wörterbuch des Alindoarischen, this fascicle covers pages 401–480 of volume II and runs from yamad- to lok-. As with each fascicle, all the entries are of considerable interest and provide judicious summaries of the relevant literature on each word. Among the particularly important words and roots included herein are yamad- “young”, yoj- “yoke”, rahta- “chariot”, rayl- “possession”, raj- “king; govern”, rudhi-dhriti- “red”, roth- “grow”, inter alia.]

Moulin-Fankhänel, Claudine (unter Mitarbeit von Ursula Götz). 1994. Bibliographie der deutschen Grammatiken und Orthographielehren. I: Von den Anfängen der Überlieferung bis zum Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts. (= Germanische Bibliothek, Neue Folge, 6.Reihe: Bibliographien und Dokumentationen, 4.) Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag C. Winter, 246 pp. [With a foreword by Rolf Bergmann, this volume provides a complete listing, by author, of works from the 15th and 16th centuries (the earliest author having been born in 1410) that treat German grammar and orthography. Each entry gives biographical information on the author, information on his work or works (full title, current locations, and relevant secondary literature), and, where possible, a plate of a page from one of the manuscript versions. A full bibliography of secondary references, a listing of libraries in which the catalogued works are to be found, and several indices round out the volume.]

Müller-Lancé, Johannes. 1994. Absolute Konstruktionen vom Atitaten bis zum Neufranzösi­schen: Ein Epochenvergleich unter Berücksichtigung von Mündlichkeit und Schriftli­chkeit. (= ScriptOralia, 64.) Tübingen: Gunter Narr Verlag, 390 pp. [In this work, based on M-L’s 1993 Freiburg dissertation, the development of absolute constructions from Latin into French is traced. Starting from Proto-Indo-European and the Latin ablative absolute, M-L considers the status of the construction at each stage from Old Latin through Late Latin, Old French, and on into Modern French. M-L provides a detailed, corpus-based analysis of the function and semantic characteristics of the absolute construction, and considers also the relation between oral and written expression and the occurrence of this construction type. A substantial amount of references and abbreviations is included.]

Niederehe, Hans-Josef. 1994. Bibliographia cronológica de la lingüística, la gramática y la lexicografía del español (BICRES) desde los comienzos hasta el año 1600. (= Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, 76.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, iv, 457 pp. [Here catalogues 985 sources bearing on Spanish linguistic analysis (in particular, grammar and vocabulary) from before 1600, starting in the 10th century with early Arabic translations and commentaries, but mostly from the 16th century. He gives the full title, the current location of the (generally unique) volumes, and relevant secondary litera­

ture. A substantial bibliography of secondary sources and several indices (covering titles, place of publication, current whereabouts, and authors) enhance the utility of this work.]


Ritt, Nikolaus. 1994. Quantity Adjustment. Vowel lengthening and shortening in Early Middle English (= Cambridge Studies in Linguistics, Supplementary Volume). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, x, 188 pp. [In this work, based on his Vienna doctoral dissertation, R proposes a unified account of several changes in quantity that affected the stressed vowels of Early Middle English that have heretofore resisted unification: Homorganic Lengthening, Shortening before Consonant Clusters, Trisyllabic Shortening, and Open Syllable Lengthening. R takes a statistical approach, in which sound changes are not ex-
ceptionless “laws” but rather are statistical tendencies, and looks to Natural Phonology for the theoretical foundations of the tendencies he postulates. Substantial appendices give the full range of data for each of the changes examined, as well as relevant information for determining the factors conditioning each change.)

Stevenson, Patrick, ed. 1995. The German Language and the Real World: Sociolinguistic, cultural, and pragmatic perspectives on contemporary German. Oxford: Oxford University Press, xviii, 406. [S collects here 14 papers focusing on different aspects of the use of contemporary German language by its speakers. A broad range of “real world” issues is covered, including the relevance of German to the cultural and political identity of its users, German as an international language, and language and television, but the contributions that are more specifically relevant to matters of language change are “Directions of change in contemporary German” (Helmut Glück & Wolfgang Werner Sauer), “After the Wall: Social change and linguistic variation in Berlin” (Helmut Schönfeld & Peter Schlobinski), “Language in intercultural communication” (Martina Rost-Roth), and “Jugendsprachen: Speech styles of youth subcultures” (Peter Schlobinski). A detailed index rounds out the book.]

Terasawa, Jun. 1994. Nominal Compounds in Old English: A metrical approach. (= Anglistica, 27.) Copenhagen: Rosenkilde & Bagger, x, 138 pp. [This work, based on T’s 1989 Brown University dissertation, examines the constraints on nominal compound formation in Old English, specifically addressing the question of why some potential combinations of compound members are absent from Old English poetry. T proposes that compound formation is metrically constrained, with compounds of the prosodic shapes -x-x and -x-x being systematically excluded in most forms of verse. T also posits genetically related differences in the extent to which these constraints are observed, with heroic and elegiac poetry being stricter than religious poetry. Extensive appendices with a complete listing of the compounds in Old English poetry with hilde- or bead- as first members and of the exceptions to the proposed metrical constraints, together with a bibliography, and indices of compounds and texts cited, round out this interesting study.]

Tichy, Eva. 1995. Die Nomina agentis auf -tar im Vedischen. (= Indogermanische Bibliothek: Reihe 3: Untersuchungen, [unnumbered].) Heidelberg: Universitätsehr. C. Winter, viii, 416 pp. [In this richly documented work, T explores the differences in the two agentic noun formations in Vedic Sanskrit with the suffix -tar, one with root accent and one with suffixal accent. After reaffirming that these continue two formally differentiated types inherited from Proto-Indo-Iranian and reflecting a Proto-Indo-European distinction, T exhaustively surveys the occurrences of both types in the Vedic corpus by way of establishing their use and function. The extensive textual citations and detailed discussion, along with indices for passages, words, authors, and topics cited, make this work an invaluable resource.]

Van Coetsen, Frans. 1994. The Vocational of the Germanic Parent Language: Systemic evolution and sociohistorical context. (= Untersuchungen zur vergleichenden Grammatik der germanischen Sprachen, 4.) Heidelberg: Universitätsehr. C. Winter, 230 pp. [In this work, the author’s purpose is “to reconstruct and describe the evolution of the vowel system starting from (Proto-)Indo-European (PIE) and ending with the permanent fragmentation of Germanic (Gmc) around the beginning of our era” (p.17). In addition, V presents the vowel system at different stages in the unfolding of what he calls the “Germanic parent language” (= pre-Germanic and Proto-Germanic). He then places this parent language in its socio-historical context, with special attention to describing its users sociohistorically, examining contact influences they encountered, and more generally speculating on the relationships between society and language and social stability and language change. In an appendix, V matches “the diachronic reconstruction of the vocalism with that of other components of the German Parent Language” (p.189). The volume ends with a substantial bibliography and word-, author-, and subject-indices.]


Volkart, Marianne. 1994. Zu Brügmanns Gesetz im Altdänischen. (= Arbeitspapier, 33.) Bern: Universität Bern, Institut für Sprachwissenschaft, iv, 68 pp. [In this concise but thorough study, V reviews the evidence bearing on the validity of Brügmann’s Law, the lengthening of PIE *o in open syllables in Indo-Iranian, with special attention to the appearance of long vowels in causative forms with the suffix -aya. Her findings generally reaffirm the standard view of the correctness of Brügmann’s Law, as further clarified by Kuryłowicz.]

Willinsky, John. 1994. Empire of Words: The reign of the OED. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton Univ. Press, x, 258 pp. [W explores here the history of the Oxford English Dictionary, paying special attention to “the selection of citations and the particular contribution of that process to the comprehensive authority of the OED” (p.3). W found that “the citations in the OED often misbehave. They can very easily testify against the dictionary’s definition, thereby disturbing the very resolution of meaning that is at the heart of the dictionary” (p.4). W’s interest is also in the ways in which the OED has influenced the development of English, in part by the standard it has come to represent. W adds several tables in an appendix charting various measures of the range of authors cited. The book includes an index, mostly of names.]

Wind, Jan, Abraham Jonker, Robin Allott & Leonard Rolfe. 1994. Studies in Language Origins. Volume 3. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xx, 344 pp. [This volume contains 19 papers, all presented at one of the last three meetings of the Language Origins Society, which seeks to approach the question of the origin of language from an interdisciplinary perspective, drawing on not only the humanities but also anthropology, neurology,

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ERRATUM

In Mieko Ogura’s paper, “The Development of Middle English i and ïː: A reply to Labov (1992, 1994)” (Diachronica 12:1:31-54, Spring 1995), the two figures on page 41 were accidentally inverted in their order by the production man mounting them above the legends provided by the editor. Sincere apologies for this oversight are offered to both the author and the readership.