

Shorter notices

Response to Nelleke Oostdijk's review of *Apposition in contemporary English*

Charles F. Meyer
University of Massachusetts at Boston

A book review, whether it is positive or negative, should provide an accurate summary of the work under review, and should contain criticism or praise based on ideas either developed in the review or drawn from relevant external sources. Nelleke Oostdijk's (1994) recent review of my book on apposition, *Apposition in contemporary English* (Meyer 1992 [hereafter simply *ACE*]), fails on both counts. It neither accurately represents my approach to apposition nor adequately presents a credible argument against it.

Oostdijk's main objections to *ACE* are stated in the opening section of her review. Before beginning a chapter by chapter review of the book, she contends that the "descriptive notions" presented in the book are not "explicitly defin[ed]," that the "linguistic argumentation" is unconvincing, and that the statistical analysis is flawed (p. 83). A careful examination of each of these objections demonstrates that much of the evidence that Oostdijk provides to support her case is inadequately developed and unmotivated.

Descriptive notions

Apposition is not a topic that has been widely discussed. As Matthews (1981:240) notes, "Treatments of apposition are few while interesting treatments are fewer." Because of the scarcity of descriptive treatments of apposition, *ACE* took as a starting point the treatment of apposition in Quirk *et al.* (1985:1300ff.), which at the time that *ACE* was written

contained the most detailed descriptive study of appositional constructions.¹ *ACE* differs from Quirk *et al.* (1985) in that it views apposition as a grammatical relation realized by constructions having specific syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic characteristics. For instance, the construction *my friend Sue* is appositional because it consists of two juxtaposed NPs that are coreferential, and the second unit adds new information about the first unit.

Oostdijk takes issue with this definition of apposition, claiming that it is an “implicit” definition that does not explicitly specify “what the relationship amounts to,” and that this inexplicitness makes the arguments against other treatments of apposition in *ACE* “confusing” (p. 84). It is not clear exactly what Oostdijk’s objection is here. Does she want an explicit definition in *ACE* of a grammatical relationship, something done in innumerable articles and textbooks on linguistics?² Or does she want the opening chapter to contain a full exploration of this definition of apposition, something done in considerable detail in subsequent chapters of the book? In particular, Chapter 2 contains an extensive discussion of how the relation of apposition differs from other grammatical relations, such as modification, complementation, and coordination (*ACE*, pp. 40–54).

In addition to taking issue with the view that apposition is a grammatical relation, Oostdijk finds unmotivated the objection in *ACE* to Matthews’ (1981:220ff.) characterization of apposition as a type of *juxtaposition*. Matthews’ (1981) view of apposition as a type of juxtaposition is challenged on two grounds. First, not all appositions are juxtaposed:

Three people attended the meeting: *Dr. Smith, Professor Jones, and Mr. King.* (*ACE*, p. 5 [quoted in Oostdijk 1994:84])

Second, viewing apposition as a type of juxtaposition obscures the fact that there are a variety of different constructions realizing the relation of apposition, and that the heterogeneity of the class of apposition warrants positing apposition as a separate relation rather than as a daughter of the relation of juxtaposition.

Oostdijk criticizes this reasoning on the grounds that it “hardly qualifies as a [sic] sound linguistic argumentation,” that it confuses “juxtaposition” with “adjacency,” and that “while the noun phrases [in the example above] can be said to be juxtaposed, they are not adjacent,” (p. 85). Matthews (1981:220f.) is quite inexplicit in his definition of juxtaposition, pointing out that it is an “undifferentiated” relation (p. 223) and devoting

considerable discussion to boundary problems between juxtaposition and the other grammatical relations he posits (pp. 224–36). Because Matthews (1981) includes apposition and correlative constructions as types of juxtaposition, one can conclude that by juxtaposition he means simply constructions that have little in common other than that they are placed next to one another (the common meaning of juxtaposition in linguistics). Now, Oostdijk's distinction between juxtaposition and adjacency is an interesting one, but she neither provides references to studies that make the distinction nor devotes any of her own discussion to motivating the distinction. Perhaps *ACE* contains bad linguistic argumentation, but the burden of proving this is Oostdijk's and she fails to provide any credible evidence to support her distinction between adjacency and juxtaposition, or to demonstrate the fault of the logic employed in *ACE*.

Linguistic argumentation

A more serious criticism of Oostdijk's is that *ACE* fails to provide "linguistic motivation" for the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic treatment of apposition argued for in the first chapter. In particular, Oostdijk calls into question the problem-oriented tagging procedure used to tag appositions, arguing that there is no "linguistic motivation" for the tags assigned to each apposition, and that the tags are "merely" catalogued in an appendix "without any comment whatsoever" either in the introductory chapter or in subsequent chapters (p. 85). Responding to this criticism would be easier if Oostdijk more clearly defined what she meant by "linguistic motivation." For instance, does she mean by this that it was necessary in *ACE* for there to be some discussion "motivating" a descriptive study of apposition rather than a theoretical one? Or did she want each of 143 tags posited to describe the linguistic characteristics of the appositions occurring in the corpora "motivated" either in the introductory chapter (where the tagging procedure is described) or in the appendix (where the tags are listed)?

It should be pointed out that most of the appositions that the tags in Appendix 1 describe are illustrated and discussed in Chapters 2–5 of *ACE*. Oostdijk does mention that "a number of tags get explained along the way" but she is ultimately "disappointed" with these explanations (p. 85), largely because she finds fault with some of the linguistic explanations provided. For instance, she finds confusing the classification of appositions containing proper NPs (p. 87), the analysis of syntactic functions of appositions (p. 88), the treatment of appositions consisting

of units that are synonyms (pp. 89–90), and so forth. In criticizing the treatment of these types of appositions, Oostdijk makes a number of valid points, but a larger question she fails to address is whether the individual failings she finds in *ACE* seriously undermine the argument that apposition is a grammatical relation with realizations having specific syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic characteristics. Nowhere in her review does Oostdijk demonstrate that the linguistic characteristics of appositions presented fail to accurately characterize an apposition, that there exists, for instance, an apposition whose semantic structure cannot be characterized by the semantic relations proposed: coreference, cataphoric reference, synonymy, hyponymy, part/whole relations, and attribution. In essence, Oostdijk's illogic is that there are confusions here and there in the treatment of various types of appositions; therefore, the entire approach to apposition is invalid.

Statistics

In a number of sections of her review, Oostdijk takes issue with the statistical analyses presented in *ACE*. In one section, she criticizes *ACE* for containing only frequency counts of the various types of appositions discussed in the book, and for not exploiting “the full resources of SPSS”, the statistical package used to analyze tag frequencies (p. 85). Unfortunately, as is the case repeatedly in the review, Oostdijk makes a potentially interesting point but fails to follow through on it: she offers no specific suggestions on what particular features of SPSS should have been used to analyze the data. One can only guess that Oostdijk wants a statistical analysis more in the social science tradition. Judged purely by these standards, *ACE* would definitely not pass muster: it contains no analyses of variance, chi-square tests, etc. But including these types of analyses in the book would have placed more attention on the statistics than is necessary, and deflected attention from the primary focus of the book: a descriptive study of appositions in English. Consequently, in *ACE*, frequency counts were considered relevant only if they could be functionally motivated.

The importance of functionally motivating frequency differences becomes especially relevant when evaluating Oostdijk's assertion that there were more differences between the use of appositions in British and American English than is noted in *ACE*. Oostdijk challenges the claim in *ACE* that most variation in apposition usage occurred between genres rather than between British and American English. To support this

assertion, she uses tables in *ACE* to calculate the absolute frequency of appositions in the three written genres studied in *ACE* – fiction, press reportage, and learned writing – and finds frequency differences in these genres in the samples of British and American English. For instance, while 42.6% of the appositions occurring in written British English occurred in the genre of learned writing, only 30.4% occurred in this genre in American English. Oostdijk uses frequency differences such as this to conclude that “the variation by genre [in the samples of British and American English] is considerable” (p. 92). Ultimately, however, such differences are only significant if they have some motivation. Why, for instance, should learned writing in British English have more appositions than learned writing in American English? Oostdijk provides no answer to this question. Moreover, Oostdijk ignores the fact that a genre can contain considerable internal variation (Biber 1988: 170f.) – variation that can, in fact, explain the frequency differences in the learned genre that Oostdijk finds. In particular, as is noted in *ACE* (p. 129), one of the samples within the learned genre of British English contained a disproportionate number of appositions consisting of second units that were linguistic citations, as in the first part of the example below:

The words ‘stand for’ and ‘about’, then, will not carry the explanatory weight which Geach’s definitions require them to carry.

The high number of this type of apposition in this sample increased the number of appositions in the learned genre of British English and thus skewed the frequencies. Consequently, the frequency differences between British and American English in the learned genre are meaningless.

Oostdijk concludes her review of *ACE* by noting that “All in all, in light of the criticisms I have made I find it impossible to judge what insights Meyer has provided us with. Apposition remains a complex notion which I doubt will be understood in full before long” (p. 93). Apposition is indeed a complicated grammatical relation, and *ACE* may have flaws in its treatment of these complexities. But when Oostdijk’s objections to *ACE* are carefully scrutinized, most are found to be inadequately thought through – a rhetorical weakness that occurs throughout her review of *ACE* and that seriously undermines her ultimate conclusion about the book.

Notes

1. Since the publication of *ACE*, a dissertation on apposition has been written: Fariña 1994.
2. See, for instance, Palmer's (1994) recent study of grammatical relations.

References

- Biber, D. (1988) *Variation across speech and writing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Fariña, J. (1994) *On so-called appositive structures in English*. Doctoral dissertation, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela.
- Matthews, P.H. (1981) *Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Meyer, C.F. (1992) *Apposition in contemporary English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Oostdijk, N. (1994) "Review of *Apposition in contemporary English*." *ICAME Journal* 18: 83–93.
- Palmer, F.R. (1994) *Grammatical roles and relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Quirk, R., S. Greenbaum, G. Leech, and J. Svartvik. (1985) *A comprehensive grammar of the English language*. London: Longman.

**The Fifteenth ICAME Conference in Århus,
Denmark (18 – 22 May 1994)**

Henk Barkema
University of Nijmegen

After the 14th ICAME conference in mountainous Switzerland it must have been quite a challenge for Karen Lauridsen and Ole Lauridsen of the Århus School of Business to organize a 'high-level summit' in a

country as flat as Denmark. But they exceeded our expectations: the only thing that was a down-hill experience (and a wonderful one at that) was the sun-drenched walk down the *Himmelbjerget* (Sky Mountain) on Thursday afternoon, followed by the only deep waters Karen and Ole led us into: the lake we crossed on an idyllic boat-trip to a restaurant museum, where we had coffees and cakes, and a chat with a Danish version of the Swedish Chef.

It is clear that Denmark is as small and as flat as the Netherlands. But the motto of us small and flat countries is: make sure you become a container handling champ! From then on it will be plain sailing: if you don't have it – import it! Not surprisingly Århus is winner, with Rotterdam finishing second.

And this merry month of May it was containers full of corpus-linguistic expertise that were imported into Århus and transported to the *Kong Christian d. X* hotel, where corpus linguistics thrived and flourished for five days, where a total of 11 posters were mounted to the boards and where 27 paper presentations were chaired by Karen Lauridsen, Nancy Belmore, Sylviane Granger, Matti Rissanen, Sidney Greenbaum, Jan Svartvik, Udo Fries and Gunnel Tottie. In addition there was a workshop on diachronic corpora (organized by Matti Rissanen and Merja Kytö) as well as the yearly ICE meeting and several software demonstrations to make the list of ICAME ingredients complete.

During the conference many corpus-linguistic matters were discussed in spontaneous meetings in nooks and crannies of the building, during informal chats over (excellent) meals, during games of pool and walks in the open. In other words: for five days we lived in the best academic climate one can imagine; or, to put it differently: this conference too lived up to the standards of ICAME.

Despite this excellent quality, however, I think we should be careful not to let conference fees rise too high, because it has become more and more difficult for corpus linguists from less prosperous countries to come to ICAME meetings.

To give some statistics of the conference: 57 people came from the following 13 countries: Belgium (1), Canada (1), Denmark (6), England (13), Finland (6), Germany (6), Hong Kong (1), The Netherlands (4), Northern Ireland (1), Norway (6), Sweden (9), United States (1) and Switzerland (2). Nearly half of the participants (27 out of 57) were from Scandinavia. From the European Union came a total of 31; 17 people were from English speaking countries; of the 57 participants 34 were men and 23 women.

Papers, posters and software presentations

In this section I will try to sketch some developments in the three fields of corpus-linguistic activity reported on during the conference: compilation, enrichment and exploration.

For those of you who are interested in the proceedings of the conference: Karen and Ole Lauridsen have published the papers in the *Hermes Journal of Linguistics*, Århus School of Business. (See p. 144.)

Compilation

As regards the compilation that is going on, there are firstly large balanced synchronic corpora, such as the British National Corpus, the International Corpus of English and the Bank of English — spelt, incidentally, as Bank of *England* in Eric Atwell's abstract (naughty, naughty). Secondly, various parallel corpora are being compiled, such as the English-Swedish Bilingual Corpus (Lund), the English-Norwegian Parallel Corpus (Oslo, Bergen) and, thirdly, a number of single-genre corpora are being built, such as the Corpus of London Teenager Language (Bergen, Modern English), the Zürich English Newspaper Corpus (Middle English) and the Helsinki Corpus of Early English Correspondence.

Enrichment

Two contemporary English corpora were reported to be enriched: the British National Corpus is being tagged with CLAWS by the Unit for Computer Research on the English Language (UCREL) in Lancaster (Elisabeth Eyes and Nicholas Smith), while the London ICE corpus (ICE-GB) has been tagged with the ICE tagset and parsed with the TOSCA-ICE parser (London team, Sidney Greenbaum *et al.*).

At the same time historical corpora are being enriched: the Helsinki Corpus of Older Scots is being tagged (Anneli Meurman-Solin and Keith Williamson) and the Helsinki Corpus of Early English has been put to the ENGCG parser — an extremely fast syntactic tagging system with an underlying constraint grammar (Merja Kytö and Aro Voutilainen). The same system has been applied to the Bank of English.

Also, taggers can be used to detect mistakes made by learners: for example, the CLAWS tagger has been applied to the Hong Kong Corpus of English Learners' Writing as an error-flagging device (John Milton).

As so many groups have created different tagsets and syntactic analyses, the Leeds team have conceived the excellent plan to develop tagset

translation tools (plans for parse translation tools have been made for a later stage). In addition, John Hughes of the same team has used tagged corpus data to evaluate automatically inferred classifications of words.

Types of enrichment other than word-class labelling and syntactic analysis were reported on during the conference: the Machine-Readable Spoken English Corpus (MARSEC) is being transcribed both phonetically and prosodically (Gerry Knowles), while the TOSCA team has made plans to distinguish between two fundamentally independent but related descriptive layers during the parsing process, namely syntax and discourse (Jan Aarts and Nelleke Oostdijk).

The final type of enrichment, reported on by Louise Guthrie and Willem Meijs, is that of electronic dictionaries: bilingual and monolingual dictionaries can be enriched when information from bilingual dictionaries is used to establish links between synonyms and near-synonyms in both types of dictionary.

Exploration

As so many different papers on exploration were presented, I will sketch this part briefly.

Exploration of parallel corpora

The various parallel corpora listed in the previous section have been used for exploration. Hilde Hasselgård reported on a comparison of word order in English and Norwegian. Jane Norre Nielsen discussed the semantic category of obligation in English and German on the basis of subsets of the Aarhus/Copenhagen corpus of English and the Preston corpus of German, both consisting of contract law texts. The English-Swedish corpus is being explored: Karin Aijmer (epistemic modality), Bengt Altenberg (discourse connectives), Mats Johansson (grammatical focusing devices) and Anna-Karin Ekström (overlapping speech).

Spoken English

Bryan Mosey reported on nuclei in spoken English (Spoken English Corpus), while Carita Paradis discussed intensity modifiers (compromisers) in the London-Lund Corpus and Anne Wichmann tackled prosodic phrasing in prepared speech.

Shorter notices

Contemporary English

John Kirk's kilt-flash on the catwalk distracted us so much that we had to read his poster to be able to discover what he was talking about. At the moment everyone was staring at his knees: the poster explained to us the way in which modal auxiliaries can be examined with the factor analysis package VARBRUL. Sidney Greenbaum and Gerry Nelson reported on clause relationships in spoken English and Jürgen Gerner discussed the discourse function of emphatic *do*. Henrik Holmboe and his colleague presented an intricate four(!)-dimensional poster. Again the show was very entertaining (and why not: the poster presentations should not be mini-talks: they should attract people's attention and stimulate everyone to read the various posters, and this one certainly did that): it turned out to be about 'terminometry: how much of a term is a term'. Eva Grabowski had a poster on a corpus-based learning list of irregular verbs in English. Gerhard Leitner discussed the syntax and semantics of verbs like *begin*, *start*, etc. while Josef Schmied elaborated on cognitive structures.

Historical English

Gunnel Tottie and Jean-Claude Raemy had a poster on zero-relatives in the Helsinki Corpus of Old and Middle English. Terttu Nevalainen and Helena Raumolin-Brunberg discussed sociolinguistics and language history for which they had used the Helsinki Corpus of Early English Correspondence.

Single-genre corpora

Magnus Ljung's paper was about syntactic compression in newspaper language. Anna-Brita Stenström and Vibecke Haslerud introduced us to the surprising world of teenager English in London.

General

Jürgen Esser discussed the relation between spoken and written English, Göran Kjellmer the relation between lexical rank order and corpus size, while Alex Collier went back to basics to present us with 'fundamental facts arising from the study of large-scale corpora'.

Guest appearance

Jørg Asmussen talked about the text corpus that has been used for the Danish dictionary.

Tools

John Milton's presentation was about a corpus-based on-line grammar and writing tool for EFL learners. Antoinette Renouf and Alex Collier reported on software tools for diachronic studies and on ACRONYM, which is a tool that can be used for expanded searches by means of keywords. Clive Souter talked about natural language identification and compared the success of various corpus-based models. Ole Lauridsen and Kjær Jensen had a poster on machine-readable corpora and FOLIO VIEWS.

Finally, Nick Porter sketched the way in which the development of (corpus) linguist-friendly software should proceed.

Conclusion

In relation to the 27 papers and 11 posters that were presented during the conference, three things were evident: historical corpus linguistics, set into motion with the compilation of the first set of Helsinki corpora some years ago, has come of age; a total of three papers, three posters and a workshop were devoted to the topic. Furthermore, contrastive corpus linguistics is teething: six papers were devoted to parallel corpora, and a computer program which is tailored to parallel corpora was presented during the software demonstrations. Finally, spoken English has emancipated: seven papers were exclusively devoted to this topic.

A number of things were absolutely clear to me: the standards of ICAME are high, the division between papers and posters is a useful one, the contributors take their presentations seriously and the yearly conferences present the participants with an ideal environment for cross-fertilization. A good example of this is the Leeds initiative to develop software to translate one type of tagging or parsing into another (see Eric Atwell's paper).

From archive to beehive

When ICAME was set up in the 1970s, the various teams cooperated to compile an *International Computer Archive of Modern English*. Since

then the group has developed into an international beehive buzzing with corpus linguistic research into many different varieties of (Early, Middle and Modern) English on the one hand and into the relation between English and various other languages on the other, with the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities functioning as an excellent clearing-house providing many excellent services, such as for example the Corpora bulletin board and corpora and software, such as can be found on the ICAME CD-ROM. The way in which ICAME has grown – and is still growing – into various (new) directions shows how much alive the association is.

In earlier conference accounts, Christian Mair (on ICAME 13th) and Anne Wichmann (on ICAME 14th) pondered over the final two letters of the ICAME acronym, so I guess it is my turn to follow suit in this review by doing Part Three: the ‘C’ and the ‘A’ (to be continued?).

It is a fact that the acronym of ICAME is well-established within the linguistic community and that we should keep it for this very reason. However, in my opinion ICAME has developed from a ‘Computer Archive’ into a ‘Corpus-linguistic Association’. Furthermore, it is evident that its scope has broadened from Modern English to English of all ages: Modern, Middle and Early and, finally, that although parallel corpora have been compiled, the pivot of all our corpus-linguistic research is, and should be, English.

Perhaps it is time for an ‘upgrade’ of our acronym, although we should be careful to remain as recognizable as possible. But how about: *International Corpus-linguistic Association for Many Englishes (ICAME)?*

For those of the ICAME community who had not packed their containers for the Århus conference: next year’s conference will be organized in Toronto. After that we will meet again in Stockholm (1996) and Liverpool (1997). One more thing to wind up: this may be a coincidence, but then again it may not; all of them are container handling cities too!

Papers from the Fifteenth ICAME Conference in Århus, Denmark (18 – 22 May 1994)

Papers from the Fifteenth ICAME Conference are available in the *Hermes* journal of linguistics, vol. 13/1994, published by the Aarhus School of Business, Faculty of Modern Languages. The one volume costs DKK 80 and may be obtained from:

The Aarhus School of Business
Elin Madsen/ Faculty of Modern Languages
Fuglesangs alle 4, DK 8210 Aarhus V
Fax: (+45) 86 15 77 27. E-mail: kal@hdc.hha.dk

Subscription to the journal is also possible. Two volumes per year cost:

DKK 300 for institutions – DKK 150 for individual subscribers
DKK 80 for students – DKK 80 for one volume only

Karen M. Lauridsen, ICAME 15 organizer & editor of the HERMES volume special corpus section.

English historical corpora: Report on developments in 1993–94

Merja Kytö and Matti Rissanen
University of Helsinki

The first International Colloquium on English Diachronic Corpora was held in March 1993 at St Catharine's College, Cambridge. The organizers

were Susan Wright, Merja Kytö and Matti Rissanen. The conference volume edited by the organizers, *Corpora Across the Centuries: Proceedings of the First International Colloquium on English Diachronic Corpora* (Amsterdam & Atlanta, GA: Rodopi), came out at the beginning of 1994, with reports on twelve historical corpus projects, five historical thesauruses or atlases and three reports on software developments.

At the Cambridge Colloquium, it was decided that the English Department of the University of Helsinki should be responsible for collecting and distributing information in the fields covered by the Colloquium. Consequently, Merja Kytö and Matti Rissanen have organized historical corpus workshops at two subsequent ICAME Conferences: Zurich (1993) and Aarhus (1994).

The purpose of the present report is to supplement – not repeat – the information given in *Corpora Across the Centuries*. We would like to thank the scholars working on corpus studies and methodology for sending us the news for this report.

CORPORA COMPLETED

The Corpus of Late Modern English Prose is completed!

The Corpus of Late Modern English Prose was released by David Denison (University of Manchester) in 1994. The corpus consists of 100,000 words, sampled from informal private letters and journal entries by British writers from 1861 to 1919. The text is stored in 8-bit ASCII in 7 files ranging from 4 to 133 Kb, in all about 570 Kb. Textual parameters are coded in the database along the principles introduced in the Helsinki Corpus of English Texts. The Corpus of Late Modern English Prose is available from the Oxford Text Archive. It is also available from the Department of English, University of Manchester, on one disc containing the ASCII files plus a list of abbreviations and non-standard spellings, as well as a single text file and index for use with WordCruncher Viewer v. 4.5.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 7–16)
David Denison: d.denison@man.ac.uk

NEW CORPUS PROJECTS

The Helsinki Corpus of Early English Correspondence

In 1993, Terttu Nevalainen and Helena Raumolin-Brunberg (Helsinki) launched a project called Sociolinguistics and language history. The project investigates the extent to which modern sociolinguistic models and methods are applicable to diachronic linguistics. It traces the progress of linguistic change in social interaction in Late Middle and Early Modern English.

For the project, a socially representative corpus of early letters is being compiled. Supplementing the general-purpose Helsinki Corpus of English Texts, this corpus of personal letters – ‘The Helsinki Corpus of Early English Correspondence’ (HEEC) – is designed specifically with socio-historical methodology in mind. The key variables considered include the writer’s provenance, social and family status, education, social mobility, age, gender, and relation to the recipient. The time period is from 1420 to 1680, and the size of the corpus will be c. 2 million words.

At present, about two-thirds of the material has been keyed in. At the completion of the project, the corpus will be made available to the research community in electronic form.

Terttu Nevalainen: tnevalainen@cc.helsinki.fi

Helena Raumolin-Brunberg: raumolinbrun@cc.helsinki.fi

A new corpus of Modern English Texts

Dr Catherine Emmott and Dr John Corbett of the Glasgow University English Language Department have received a grant to develop a Corpus of Modern English Texts (COMET). Ms Ann Gow has been appointed as Research Assistant. The initial focus of the project is on 19th and 20th century novels and drama. The intention is to develop an on-demand corpus, including the accessing of corpora and text banks via World Wide Web, etc., which will be responsive to both research and teaching needs. The work began in summer 1994.

John Corbett

EARLIER PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

The ARCHER Corpus

The ARCHER Corpus, in preparation under the supervision of Douglas Biber (Northern Arizona University) and Edward Finegan (University of Southern California), aims at a c. 1.7 million-word collection of English texts representative of written and speech-based registers from 1650 to the present. The texts have now been stored in magnetic format, and a round of proofreading and copyright settlements is underway. The corpus will be available in ASCII format from the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities (Bergen) during 1995.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 3-6)
Douglas Biber: biber@nauvax.ucc.nau.edu
Edward Finegan: finegan@mizar.usc.edu

Steady progress with ZEN

The Zürich English Newspaper Corpus is a collection of texts taken from English (London) newspapers from the mid-1660s to the end of the 18th century.

More than 600,000 words have been keyed in; the texts chosen so far appeared between 1671 and 1791. These texts have been collected in 10-year intervals: there were no newspapers in 1661, and 1791 was found a useful date to stop the collection. *The Times*, which is easily available all over the world (on microfilm), started publication in 1785; there is thus a small overlap.

The largest part of our collection will be texts from *The London Gazette* – the only paper which appeared throughout the period. But the Corpus will also include a fair selection of most of the other London newspapers of the 18th century, many of which were, however, only very short-lived. The work on assigning parameter values to individual texts has started. The labels we use at the moment are <foreign news>, <home news>, <ship news>, <crime>, <births>, <deaths>, <advertisement>, <address>, and <letter>.

Students working on ZEN have also begun to look into several aspects of the language of these texts, in particular into spelling conventions, morphological variants, use of foreign names, and the internal structure of articles.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 17-18)
Udo Fries: ufries@es.unizh.ch

Half of the Irish English Corpus stored

The Corpus of Irish English will contain texts from the 14th to the 20th century. The medieval section, until the 17th century, has been completed; it consists of poems of various hands along with some prose pieces. The glossaries for the early modern period are also completed. For the drama section, some of the early modern plays are now entered and the entire works of Synge and O'Casey are also in the computer. From the point of view of the volume, about half of the corpus has been entered.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 23-31)
Raymond Hickey: lan300@vm.hrz.uni-essen.de

***Among the Pilgrims and Puritans:
The Helsinki Corpus of Early American English***

The Helsinki Corpus of Early American English is in preparation under the supervision of Merja Kytö; a good deal of the data from the New England area (1620-1720) has been keyed in.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 33-40)
Merja Kytö: mkyto@cc.helsinki.fi

***Play the bagpipes:
The Helsinki Corpus of Older Scots soon available***

The Helsinki Corpus of Older Scots is nearing completion, under the supervision of Anneli Meurman-Solin (see the article in this issue of the *ICAME* Journal). The corpus will be in distribution during 1995. For software developments linked with the corpus, see below.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 53-63)
Anneli Meurman-Solin: meurmansolin@cc.helsinki.fi

The Century of Prose Corpus

Information on the author of the text, genre and other textual properties will be added to the Century of Prose Corpus, designed by Louis Milic (Cleveland State University). The compiler is also preparing a list of the changes made when the texts were normalized for the version currently available. The corpus is hoped to appear in CD-ROM format, accompanied by a paper copy of the documentation. A detailed description of the corpus will appear in *Computers in the Humanities*.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 65-71)

Louis Milic: r0097@vmcms.csuohio.edu

ICAMET (Innsbruck Computer Archive of Middle English Texts)

After running for just over two and a half years, the project has compiled some 100 books, mostly EETS editions, of Middle English prose. Right now we are hoping for the allowance of another two years of financial support by the Austrian Forschungsfonds (FWF). It must be admitted that the complete full-text database after its completion will probably not comprise more than 250 texts and is bound to remain a fragmentary selection.

A list of the 100 books is available on request. It mainly contains religious texts (in particular, homilies), but in the near future we would like to balance it to some extent by taking into account more texts of the rarer text types. While the compilation, crunching and correction of the texts has kept us busy in the past, we have planned to tackle the question of automatic regularization and normalization, on the one hand, and of oral markers of the texts, like accent and other prosodic features, on the other. For the first question we are cooperating with Raymond Hickey (University of Essen), for the latter with Gerald Knowles (Lancaster University).

Due to too many obligations at home I had to give up the idea of considering manuscript texts as well, at least for the time being. The inclusion of manuscript illuminations, if only to the extent of a few illustrative examples, has also remained a dream.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 41-52)

Manfred Markus: manfred.markus@uibk.ac.at

The Helsinki Corpus will have Old and Middle English parts tagged and bracketed

A team consisting of Susan Pintzuk (Brooklyn), Ans van Kemenade, Willem Koopman and Wim van der Wurff (Amsterdam) and Eric Haeberli (Geneva) are glossing, tagging and bracketing the Old English section of the Helsinki Corpus. The Middle English part is being bracketed syntactically by Anthony Kroch and Ann Taylor (University of Pennsylvania). For details, see Software Developments, below.

The Helsinki Corpus has been included in the CD-Rom disk containing English corpora. The disk can be ordered from the Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities.

The typescript of the second volume of studies based on the Helsinki Corpus is completed.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 73-79)

Matti Rissanen: mrissanen@cc.helsinki.fi

Merja Kytö: mkyto@cc.helsinki.fi

The Lampeter Corpus

The Lampeter project, funded by the German Research Association (DFG), aims at compiling a one-million-word corpus of Early Modern English texts published between 1640 and 1740. The corpus that is being developed at the Technical University of Chemnitz-Zwickau (Germany) takes its name from the Tract Collection at the Founders' Library of University of Wales Lampeter. Most of the texts used in the corpus can be associated with the Bowdler family whose interest in current affairs makes the collection most comprehensive for the period in question. The texts have not been used for linguistic analyses so far (only for a few literary analyses by scholars associated with SDUC), so that they will be made available to a wider public for the first time.

Several criteria are used to select publications out of the vast number of 11,395 separate pieces found in the library. To be able to study regional variation in Early Modern English, the collection is to represent texts both printed in and outside London. To avoid genre-related bias and to serve as a basis for (socio-)stylistic research, a variety of topics is covered by the tracts selected, e.g. science, politics law, travel and other matters of contemporary interest. To pursue questions of discourse

analysis or textlinguistics, only complete texts will find their way into the corpus.

After its compilation, the corpus will be made available both in the original orthographic form and in a modernised version, thus enabling researchers to study aspects of the original spelling and punctuation as well as allowing for the application of modern annotation and retrieval tools. The computerised corpus will provide valuable data for studies not only of grammar and style of Early Modern English but it will also make possible analyses of language change, especially in comparison with other corpora, such as those on this server, compiled and annotated according to similar criteria.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 81-89)

Josef Schmied: josef.schmied@phil.tu-chemnitz.de

The Cambridge-Leeds Corpus of Early Modern English

The Cambridge-Leeds Corpus of Early Modern English is still in preparation under the supervision of Dr Susan Wright (Cambridge University) and Dr Jonathan Hope (Leeds University). This corpus will include Early Modern English texts from c. 1600 to 1800, and will enable the alteration, adaptation and refinement of the canonic description of Early Modern English.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 91-93)

Susan Wright: sw29@cus.cam.ac.uk

Jonathan Hope: j.r.hope@leeds.ac.uk

HISTORICAL THESAURUSES, ATLASES AND DICTIONARIES

Progress on the Historical Thesaurus of English

The Historical Thesaurus of English project is progressing steadily. The future is secure for the next three years, since major funding has been received from the Leverhulme Trust as well as a further grant from the British Academy. New sections continue to be added to the database: Feelings (12,500 records); Funerals (1677); Medicine (10,948); Volition

(6556); Work (7929); Tools (4127); Materials (6882). Work has begun on The Animal Kingdom, Reputation and Thought, as well as on transferring material on Love/Hate and Expectation from databases compiled by Julie Coleman and Louise Sylvester. (The latter has just been published in book form under the title *Studies in the Lexical Field of Expectation*, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1994, ISBN 90-5183-608 2, price Hfl 120.) Sections which have accumulated a lot of material since they were first classified, notably Food, Agriculture and Biology, have been updated. The keying in of the data is more than 50% complete and the team hopes to achieve the target date of 1997 for a pre-publication level of completion.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 111-120)
Christian Kay: cj kay@human.glasgow.ac.uk

Old English Thesaurus nearing completion

The Thesaurus of Old English is practically completed. Its 18 categories are a collapsed version of the Historical Thesaurus, for which it is a pilot study: (01) The Physical Universe; (02) Living Creatures; (03) Matter and its Properties; (04) Material Needs; (05) Time, Space and Movement; (06) Mental Activities; (07) Value Judgements; (08) Feelings; (09) Language and Communication; (10) Possession; (11) Activity; (12) Social Relationships; (13) War and Peace; (14) The Law; (15) Property; (16) Religion and the Supernatural; (17) Work; (18) Leisure.

The Thesaurus of Old English is considerably larger than calculated at first. The 52 working tables of the database occupy 37 megabytes of disk space. The last step in the completion of the Thesaurus is to add an integrated index which will list forms and finding numbers – and remind the user of the many variations in spelling under which some words masquerade. To be published in King's College London Medieval Series. Orders to Professor D. Hook, Department of Spanish, King's College, Strand, London WC2R 2LS.

The Thesaurus of Old English materials provide a springboard for new work being undertaken at King's in Old and Middle English vocabulary.

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 155-161)
Jane Roberts: udle020@bay.cc.kcl.ac.uk

***Institute for Historical Dialectology:
A Linguistic Atlas of Early Medieval English***

Possible sources for LAEME, i.e. English texts written between c. 1150 and 1300, are being transcribed onto disk and tagged for form, meaning and grammatical function so that selected variants may then be mapped. The methods employed are described in Margaret Laing, 'The linguistic analysis of medieval vernacular texts: two projects at Edinburgh' in *Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 121-141).

The corpus at present comprises the following texts (unless otherwise stated the texts listed have been transcribed and tagged in their entirety):

- Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum, McClean 123, fols. 115r-120r: Poema Morale
- Cambridge, St John's College A.15, fols. 72r; 120v: lyrics including Candet Nudatum Pectus
- Cambridge, Sidney Sussex 97 (D.5.12), fol. 111r: Candet Nudatum Pectus Cambridge, Trinity College 335 (B.14.52), (a) fols. 2r-9v: Poema Morale; (b) pp. 1-157: Trinity Homilies (34 Homilies, three hands) Cambridge University Library Ff.II.33, fols. 20r-v, 22r-24r, 27v-28r, 45r-47r, 48r-50r: 48 Documents from Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk Durham, Dean & Chapter Library A III 12, fol. 49r: the lyric Candet Nudatum Pectus Herefordshire Record Office AL 19/2, Registrum Ricardi de Swinfield fol. 152r: Bromfield Writ London, British Library, Additional 11579, fols 35v-36v; 72v-73r: lyrics including Candet Nudatum Pectus
- London, British Library, Cotton Caligula A ix, (a) fols. 233r-239v l 13; 240r l 6 -241v l 24: The Owl and the Nightingale, language 1 (first 300 lines only tagged); (b) fols. 239v l 14 - 240r l 5; 241v l 25 - 246r: The Owl and the Nightingale, language 2 (transcribed but not yet tagged)
- London, British Library, Cotton Titus D xviii, (a) fols. 14r-40r: Ancrene Riwe (part of language 1); (b) fols. 40ra1-40vb6, 52va17-55ra25, 56va7-61rb22, 67rb17-68ra2, 69ra2-70ra1: Ancrene Riwe (language 2); (c) fols. 105v-112v: Sawles Warde; (d) fols. 112v-127r: Hali Meidhad (transcribed but not yet tagged); (e) fols. 127r-133r: Wohunge of ure Lauerd
- London, British Library, Egerton 613, (a) fols. 7r-12v : Poema Morale (E); (b) fols. 64r-70v: Poema Morale (e) London, British Library, Stowe 34, pp. 1-95: Vices and Virtues (two hands)

- London, Lambeth Palace Library 487, fols. 59v-65r: Poema Morale
- London, PRO, Patent Rolls 43 Henry III, m. 15.40: Huntingdon redaction of the Proclamation of Henry III of 18 October 1253
- Maidstone Museum A.13, (a) fol. 93r: Proverbs of Alfred; (b) fol. 93v: Death's Wither-Clench; (c) fol. 243v: Three Sorrowful Things
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodley 34, (a) fols. 52r-71v: Hali Meidhad; (b) fols. 72r-80v: Sawles Warde
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodley 42, fol. 250r: lyrics including Candet Nudatum Pectus
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Digby 4, fols. 97r-110v: Poema Morale
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Digby 45, fol. 25r: the lyric Candet Nudatum Pectus
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Digby 55, fol. 49r: lyrics including Candet Nudatum Pectus
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Rawlinson C 317, fol. 89v: the lyric Candet Nudatum Pectus
- Oxford, Bodleian Library, Tanner 169*, p. 175: Stabat iuxta crucem Christi

- Oxford City Archives, Town Hall, St Aldates, H 29: Oxford redaction of the Proclamation of Henry III of 18 October 1253
- Oxford, Jesus College 29, (a) fols. 156r-168v: The Owl and the Nightingale (first 300 lines only tagged); (b) fols.169r-174v: Poema Morale
- Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare Birthplace Library, DR 10/1408, Gregory Leger-Book, pp. 23-24: Coventry Writ

Margaret Laing
Institute for Historical Dialectology
University of Edinburgh
School of Scottish Studies
24 Buccleuch Place
Edinburgh EH8 9LN

Important conference on historical dictionaries

Prof. Ian Lancashire, who is the director of the project collecting the Early Modern English Dictionaries Corpus, co-hosted with T. Russon Wooldridge a CCHWP (Centre for Computing in the Humanities Working Papers) a conference on historical dictionaries on 8-9 October 1993 at University College, University of Toronto.

There were sessions on Manuscript dictionaries, Renaissance dictionaries, Perspectives on computerizing early dictionaries, Dictionariness, 17th/18th-century dictionaries, and Publishing electronic early dictionaries.

Selected papers have been published as *Early Dictionary Databases*, ed. Ian Lancashire and T. Russon Wooldridge, CCH Working Papers 4 (University of Toronto: CCH, 1994), 262 pp. This contains essays by Bernard Quemada, Richard Bailey, Antonette diPaolo Healey, Anne Grondeux, Brian Merrilees, Vincent P. McCarren, Patrick Reidenbaugh, Douglas A. Kibbee, Raymond G. Siemens, Fredric Dolezal, Isabelle Leroy-Turcan, Nina Catach, Anne McDermott, Philippe Caron, Louise Dagenais and Gerard Gouffroy, Laurent Catach, Alex Collier, Alain Auger and Claude Poirier, Antoinette Renouf, Dominique Estival and Dominique Petitpierre, and the editors. Vol. 4 costs \$50 (Canadian) or \$45 (US) and may be obtained from the CCH, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont. M5S 1A1.

The Conference was supported by SSHRCC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada), which has also supported the early dictionaries research of Brian Merrilees (medieval French), T. R. Wooldridge (Renaissance French), and Ian Lancashire (Renaissance English).

(*Corpora Across the Centuries*, pp. 143-149)

Ian Lancashire: ian@epas.utoronto.ca

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENTS

The Brooklyn-Geneva-Amsterdam-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English

The corpus project aims at a glossed, morphologically and syntactically tagged and bracketed version of the Old English section of the Helsinki Corpus. The annotation will, eventually, be extended to cover the entire Toronto Dictionary of Old English corpus.

Two groups of scholars from three countries are collaborating on the project. The first group includes Ans van Kemenade, Willem Koopman,

Wim van der Wurff and Frank Beths (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), and is responsible for the morphological tagging of the corpus; the second group includes Susan Pintzuk from Brooklyn (New York, USA) and Eric Haeberli (Geneva, Switzerland), and is responsible for glossing, syntactic tagging and bracketing, and the information retrieval and data manipulation programs. Pintzuk's work is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency.

The morphological tagging system completed in Amsterdam is being used to produce tagged versions of the data. The programs to gloss the tagged data have been completed, and the programs for syntactic tagging and bracketing are under development. The corpus is expected to be in distribution within five years.

Susan Pintzuk: pintzuk@babel.ling.upenn.edu

The Penn-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Middle English

This corpus project, carried out by Anthony Kroch and Ann Taylor (University of Pennsylvania), contains over half a million words of syntactically annotated Middle English made up from the Middle English prose section of the Helsinki Corpus plus some additional texts. The annotation consists of labelled brackets which indicate a combination of function and form making automatic searching of syntactic constructions possible. Subcorpora of a number of other Germanic languages are also under construction. A preliminary version of the Middle English corpus is now available for testing by interested scholars. Ideally, testers should have a solid knowledge of Middle English and be able to access a computer system which runs the computer language Perl.

Anthony Kroch: kroch@change.ling.upenn.edu

Ann Taylor: ataylor@linc.cis.upenn.edu

Tagging the Helsinki Corpus of Older Scots

Experiments have been made by Keith Williamson (University of Edinburgh) and Anneli Meurman-Solin (University of Helsinki) to tag some working files of the Helsinki Corpus of Older Scots (in preparation). The texts were converted into a version suitable for the Edinburgh tagging program devised by Keith Williamson, and the tagging program

Shorter notices

was applied to the texts. The resulting output files were then checked, corrected and converted back into the Helsinki Corpus format.

Anneli Meurman-Solin: meurmansolin@cc.helsinki.fi

Keith Williamson: esen02@castle.ed.ac.uk

Applying the Constraint Grammar Parser of English to the Helsinki Corpus

By way of a pilot study, the ENGCG (Constraint Grammar Parser of English), was applied to six texts of the Helsinki by Merja Kytö and Atro Voutilainen. For the report, see this issue of the *ICAME Journal*.

Merja Kytö: mkyto@cc.helsinki.fi

Atro Voutilainen: avoutila@ling.helsinki.fi

The Newdigate Newsletters

Philip Hines, Jr.
Old Dominion University

This is an electronic version of the first 2,100 manuscript newsletters (of a total of 3,950) in the Newdigate series. Most are addressed to Sir Richard Newdigate (d. 1710), Arbury, Warwickshire; they date from 13 January 1674 to 29 September 1715 and are at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D. C. They were issued on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays by the Secretary of State and were usually written on three sides of a bifolium. Those in this corpus come up through 11 June 1692.

Aside from their linguistic value, the letters are primary sources, with much matter on the Stuart courts and those of most of Europe (they have much court and political gossip); on social, diplomatic, and military

history; parliamentary news; commercial and maritime relations, especially with the colonies in North America and the Indies, West and East. They report at length on events like the Popish Plot and the Great Frost of 1683–84. They cast light on the early history of the press in England and cover nearly all the time from the Restoration to the Hanoverian succession, when newsletters began in Britain on a regular basis and became the most important medium for domestic news.

Here the qualities of the newsletters speak for themselves; I change as little of the original spelling and punctuation as possible so as to preserve content, style, tone, and linguistic integrity. This edition, in fact, began as an aid to readers of the unedited letters; it is readable and clear in this form. I have thus made a good road through the often difficult, crowded, and faded “terrain” of the several (20 to 24) handwritings, enabling readers to examine far more letters per day than they could with the originals. If until recently few scholars could find a sufficient number of newsletters to study, this edition makes such a collection accessible and easy to read.

Since sentences in the letters often lack terminal punctuation, I leave two spaces between them; I omit the address to Newdigate on the second verso and the salutations (usually “Sr” or “Sir”) from the relatively few letters that have them. My other editorial rules are to:

- Indent the first line of paragraphs as the scribes do – 3 spaces or 5 – and regularize larger indentations at 5 spaces.
- Use the plus sign (+) to mark a new paragraph when the scribe does not indent.
- Note, usually at the start of letters, changes in handwriting.
- Omit catchwords and words repeated in error.
- Note the size of the omission when it is necessary to omit a blotted or illegible word or phrase.
- Note and omit a whole letter, paragraph, or sizable part (usually 3 or more lines) when it is identical with or very similar to an earlier such part.
- Omit hyphens often placed beside written numbers (e. g., “-2-,” “-5-”).
- Regularize when in doubt that a letter is upper or lower case.
- Place editorial notes in the text and only when necessary.
- Regularize (and omit punctuation marks under) superior letters.
- Omit the few circumflexes over vowels (e.g., “thô,” “thrô”) and print dates in this form – “Sept. $\frac{12}{22}$ ” or “Dec. $\frac{20}{30}$ ” – that the scribe writes “Sept. 12” or “Dec. 20.”

Shorter notices

Dates on the letters are old style. I number them with the Folger Library's system, from L. c. 1 to L. c. 2,100. Of the handwritings, one prevails through L. c. 250; another clearer hand prevails from L. c. 548, November 1677, to L. c. 962, July 1680, and from L. c. 1,467, December 1683, to L. c. 2,070, March 1690, almost half the letters in this edition.

Also, these letters have 5 gaps of at least a month: 22 May–23 June 1674, 11 December 1684–18 February 1686 except for one letter, 24 March–23 October 1688, 26 September 1689–10 November 1691 except for 4 letters, and 7 January–4 June 1692. They, of course, have dozens of smaller gaps.

The first sample below, from the letter for 3 October 1678, has the first notice in the series of the infamous Popish Plot; the second, from the letter for 4 November 1686 (in James II's reign), has typical matter and two stories, one of them from the streets of London:

Sample 1

You will without Doubt heare from all hands of A Plott that hath been discovered against the Kings prson & Exspect to have An Account of A thing of that Importance, All I Can tell you is That the Lds of the privy councill upon the Informations that have been Given have Caused severall persons to be Apprehended & Committed to Newgate, for High Treason in Conspiring against the life of the King And that their Ldpps sate on satureday forenoon & afternoon to Examine the prisoners Informations &c The Chiefe actors In this horrid designe were according to the Informations to have been Certain priests & Jesuits of whome some are apprehended & others not yet found

The K parted this morning very early for Newmarket

It seems her Royall High: The Lady Ann & the dutchesses of Monmoth Richmond & Buckingham are going to make A step over for Holland to give the princesse of Orange A vissitt

Wee had yesterday o[u]r letters of this day seavennight They tell us that the Next day was to be the greate day of Rejoyceing at the Hague for the peace That the Minesters of the Allies because they would Not be present at it were gone out of Towne, That the D of Luxemburgh Continued to Allarme the Lower part of Germany & Even the Citty of Cologne to whome he had sent to demand 40000 Crownes seized there by the Imperiallists when the treaty of peace was Kept In the Citty & they feared he would follow himselfe some thinke he may have An Eye Upon Liege neer which place he was with his Army when the last letters Came from those quarters

Sample 2

This day Came on the tryall between the d of somerset & mr Perry for the mannr of Petworth but not makeing out his descent to be from the Right line of Northumberland he was nonsuited

This day was A heareing in Chancery between the Ld Hamsden & mr Lenthall for the office of Marshall of the Kings bench The Ld Chancellr ordered A farther heareing of it & mr Lenthall to put in his plea Positively within A fortnight

A Dutch ship Arrived in the Isle of Wight says he was chased 6 houres by A Turks man of warr who had taken A dutch merchantman & was in Chase of Another but Espying 2 greate ships which he supposed to be dutch men of warr sayled away with his Prize & Its supposed was the same as lay so long at Harwich being An Extrary swift saylr & wee have a report shee is since taken by the dutch

Yesterday morning Abt 3 A Clock one Capt Merlin & 2 others of the horse guards being on the Patrole & Passing out of Leicester feilds Into St Martins Lane A Blunderbusse went off out of A house & with 7 bullets killed the Captains horse & wounded him soe that Its thought he will not live The other 2 got Imediately into the house & found Coll Culpepper Br to the Ld Culpepper Comeing up the cellar stayres they seized him & searched the Cellar & found the Blunderbuss warme & the Pan smoakeing & he is Comitted to the Gatehouse Tis said he knew not the Captain or what he did it being done in his sleepe & that the Noyse of the peece awaked him

The corpus has a READ file, a file for the introduction, and 19 files of newsletters, over 750,000 words, altogether over 7,600,000 megabytes.

For further information, contact:

Philip Hines, Jr.
Department of English
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA 23529 USA

Tel: 804 423 1028
Fax: 804 683 3241
E-mail: sph100h@oduvm.cc.odu.edu

Computer-aided studies of German

Evelyn S. Firchow
University of Minnesota

The Computer Clearinghouse Project for computer-aided studies in all areas and periods of German Language, Literature, and Language Pedagogy and in Medieval Scandinavian invites all colleagues working in these fields to list ongoing, completed and/or projected work with the Project Director, Professor Evelyn S. Firchow, Dept. of German, Scandinavian and Dutch, University of Minnesota, 223 Folwell Hall, 9 Pleasant Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455-0123, USA.

Only projects using the computer for calculations and research can be included – not word processing. All projects will be listed in the *International Annual Newsletter for German Computer Research* published in the first annual issue of the *Germanic Notes and Reviews* (Bemidji, Minnesota). Yearly subscriptions to this journal are U.S. \$10 domestic and U.S. \$11 international. All checks or inquiries should be sent to the Project Director at the above address.

An abbreviated version of the *Newsletter* appears in the first yearly issue of *Germanistik* (Niemeyer, Tübingen). This list does not include projects in German Language Instruction or the Items of Interest sections.