hesion and coherence of a text can only be examined by making use of an 'integrative' approach, an approach which does not focus on isolated linguistic levels (such as syntax or lexicology), but, instead, analyzes the synergistic working of all linguistic means, in order to seek out the structural and functional unity of a text.

The innovative character of the present collection of articles, however, is neither due to the turning away from a mere analysis of isolated linguistic levels nor to the focusing on the overall architecture of the text: it has been a long time since these methodological prerequisites became common place in the science of language. As major innovation should be considered: the linguists' wish to no longer confine themselves to description and interpretation; the striving to derive recommendations from the results of linguistic research, i.e., to formulate standards for the future composition of LSP texts. The title of Lothar Hoffmann's preface, "Von der linguistischen Beschreibung zur bewußten Gestaltung wissenschaftlicher Texte" (From linguistic description to conscious composition of scientific texts, p.523-24), should be read as a signpost.

Various dangers loom on the road taken by the Leipzig linguists. Of course, it may be tempting to gain means of an efficient and economic, regulated and standardized textual progression of information by the results of text linguistics. And I suppose that most abstractors and librarians will be glad to hear the suggestion that "the main isotopy chain should be ... represented in the title of the publication" (p.564). But most recommendations given by the authors (cf. especially p.363-65) seem to be rather dubious. Will the authors of LSP-publications really take the linguist's advice, that

> LSP texts of the same function and the same subject should follow a uniform intellectual structure (which will allow of a limited number of possible complements) which – from a formal point of view – should also be easily recognizable? (p.564)

To our astonishment we also learn that LSP texts should "make conscious and economic use of syntactical-lexical binding means such as ... conjunctions" (p.564). Very often conjunctions are the very parts of speech praised as an aid in the creation of syntactical inambiguity, a support which is indispensable to LSP communication (1). The reviewer is also sceptical about the somewhat naive suggestions that it would be possible to "submit ... proposals for the compression of information and thereby to contribute in a decisive way to the damming of the steadily rising information flood" (p.575). Equally irritating are tendencies towards a two-cultures-theory based on the macrostructure of text production: Science, medicine and technology are praised for their "well-considered austerity", whereas "some social sciences" are accused of "careless generosity" (p.556).

Applied linguistics, especially LSP research, as a standardizing force of text production? As a science striving to adjust language usage to scientific 'progress' pressing for the abridgement and compression of scientific texts? Applied linguistics as a critic of language and, at worst, as a stern judge of the composition of texts? The history of linguistics clearly shows that prescriptive and normative tendencies tend to be detrimental to the cautious analysis of texts.

The criticism of the prescriptive, normative and standardizing tendencies of the collection under review should not blind us to its enormous strong points. Let us put emphasis on the strong points reminiscent of the major publications of the so-called 'Leipzig School' (2): A highly sensitive methodological consciousness; an empirical and detailed account of language based on ample data collections; a liking for statistics; terminological precision; the endeavour to understand the structural and functional complexities of language; the concentration on the communicative and pragmatic aspects of language; the evaluation of language as a social phenomenon.

There are many observations on the creation of information compression useful to all those compressing texts, reading compressed texts or teaching the know-how of text compression: indexers, abstractors, documentalists, librarians, even editors and translators, and, of course, all members of the scientific community as authors of LSP texts. This welcome collection offers no directions for use, but the raising of awareness among the practising profession is one of its major strengths.

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RIGGS, Fred W. (Ed.): **Ethnicity. Intercocta Glossary. Concepts and Terms Used in Ethnicity Research.** (Pilot edn. published under the auspices of the Intern.Social Science Council. Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA), with the financial assistance of UNESCO. Available from INDEKS Verlag, Frankfurt. = Int.Conceptual Encyclopedia for the Social Sciences. Vol.1. 1985.

The early development of the INTERCONCEPT Programme of Unesco has already been described in this journal by Pal VASARHELYI (1), and much of the work of organising the INTERCOCTA Project for the ISSC has been carried out by Professor Fred W.Riggs at the Department of Political Science, University of Hawaii, Honolulu. In many articles and other contributions Riggs has been expounding his views on the problems and difficulties facing social science documentation. His approach is "the Onomantic Solution", which differs from the conventional dictionary definition approach to the identification of the meaning of terms, and instead "requires us to define a concept by means of words before we can identify the best terms for it"(2). That article brings us up to date with the latest work on the Project.

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The book before us here consists of two main parts with several subsections. Part I: The parameters of ethnicity research, describes Intentional levels, Content dimensions, Paradigmatic framework, and is by Dr.Eric S.Casino. This gives a General Introduction to the whole scheme. Part II contains the Glossary itself, divided into 6 major facets: I General Concepts: II Activities; III Properties; IV Ethnic Entities; V Fields of Application; VI Milieu, Resources, Methods. The resemblance to faceted classification theory originally deriving from the work of Ranganathan is clear, and is not accidental.

The INTERCOCTA Encyclopedia will consist of two distinct forms of approach: The subject field glossaries of which Ethnicity is the first, and a number of text volumes of essays, reports, and similar discourse material around the subject field. Some volumes have already appeared.

The very laudable intention of the organisers is an attempt to overcome the hindrances to communication and indeed some woolly thinking in the social sciences, due to the lack of internationally accepted definitions of terms. Unlike natural scientists, social scientists have traditionally been rather reluctant to coin new terms or even to give precise meanings to existing terms. In our own field, we can point to the utter confusion surrounding us of the terms "data", "information", and "knowledge". I have myself made a modest effort in the second option (3). A maturing science demonstrates its maturity by exercising control over its use of language, its process of conceptualising, and its procedures and criteria for verification, on this view.

The way of INTERCOCTA is explained by Dr.Casino in Part I, where he describes the three terms, Intentionality, Contents, and Paradigmatic. This is illustrated further by a three-dimensional diagram, the Methodological Framework, with one way for each of the three sections, with their several subdivisions. The explanation which follows illustrates the difficulty: how to distinguish Ethnic Actors from Ethnicity as Politics, for example, in dealing with works about such recalcitrant areas as the religious conflicts which occurred with the ending of the British Raj in India. Also, to say just "the ideological differences between Marxist and non-Marxist schools of thought", *tout court*, drastically over-simplifies the whole question of ideology, even by onomantic standards; Marxian analysts may indeed, on occasion, restrict their concept of ethnic communities to mean simply oppressed classes, but they do not, in that role, express the full range of Marxist ideology, as Engels' *Origin of the family* makes clear.

However, it is fair to point out that Dr.Casino recognises the limitations of his section, in that he does not pretend to deal with aspects such as legal, medical, economic, etc. He does claim that these can be subsumed under the various divisions of "Content", which may well be the case, and it will be interesting to see how these particular areas are treated in later works in this series.

It would be tedious to describe in full the Glossary itself, Part II, and readers of this review are invited to peruse it for themselves. Much of it remains to be completed, in this Volume at least. The Glossary is classified, as noted above, with a semi-expressive mixed notation. The marking of the terms has three basic features: UT = unequivocal term, one with only one meaning; ET = equivocal term, one likely to be ambiguous in this field; ST = suggested term, where all the available terms are considered to be either ET, or UT and awkward to use. STs, however, must not be quoted and used on the authority of the INTERCOCTA Glossary: anyone can advance his own. I confess that I did not quite follow this line of argument, especially as the text goes on to hope that STs will grow into UTs.

This Project presents a determined attempt, well supported internationally, to bring some consistency and general acceptance in the use of terms and concepts into subject areas that notoriously exhibit neither. In our era of growing awareness and uneasiness about forces tending to destroy our planet, we must applaud all efforts, like this one, to develop an "earth-centric" point of view, even if it is a pardonable exaggeration to call it a "Copernican Revolution in sociability". I, for one, will wish it well.

D.J.Foskett

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COLING 90, The 13th International Conference on Computational Linguistics

From August 20-25, 1990 COLING 90 will be arranged at the University of Helsinki. An invitation to submit topical papers on some critical issue in computational linguistics or a project note with software demonstration has been sent out. Participants are requested to indicate their interest to the Conference Bureau by Jan.15, 1990. Deadline for registration will be May 1, 1990. Registration fee will be 750 FIM, late registration 1100 FIM. For further information turn to: Riitta Ojanen, Kaleva Travel Agency Ltd., Congress Services. Box 312, SF-00121 Helsinki. Phone: +358 0 602711, FAX: +358 0 629019, Telex: 122475 kleva sf.

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