

GONZALEZ, ANDREW B., FSC and DAVID THOMAS, eds. 1981.

Linguistics across continents: Studies in honor of Richard S. Pittman.
LSP Monograph Series No. 11. Manila: Summer Institute of Linguistics
(Philippines) and Linguistic Society of the Philippines. Pp. x, 234.

Reviewed by AUSTIN HALE, Summer Institute of Linguistics

This volume is a well edited, beautifully printed tribute to the work of Richard S. Pittman on the occasion of his 65th birthday, in recognition of forty years of fruitful work as linguist, administrator, and ambassador at large for the cause of linguistic research and for the benefits such research makes possible through the teaching of reading and Bible translation. In addition to a biographical sketch and a list of his publications, the volume contains sixteen contributions organized geographically into four parts: I. Mexico, II. Philippines and Indonesia, III. Papua New Guinea and Australia, and IV. Vietnam and Thailand. The contributions give well-deserved recognition to the recipient's broad range of interests, and to the beneficial stimulus he so unstintingly afforded to his fellow linguists in Mexico and throughout Asia.

The success of a Festschrift can be measured in terms of the long-term value of the contributions and in terms of how well these contributions serve to honor the dedicatee. Ideally a Festschrift is a lasting tribute. Failing this, one may hope for an appropriate bouquet. What one dreads (and what the editors of this volume have certainly been successful in avoiding) is the bibliographer's nightmare consisting of otherwise unpublishable articles by friends of the dedicatee. This volume contains much that is beautiful and much that is of lasting value. Let us consider each contribution briefly.

Part one contains two contributions from Mexico. The first of these, written in Spanish¹ by Gonzalo Aguirre Beltran, deals with the history of SIL in Mexico, focussing in a very positive way upon the contributions to the teaching of reading that were made possible through the results of phonological research carried out by Pike and those he worked with, and through the pedagogical methods pioneered by Townsend and developed by Gudschinsky and others. This rose has its thorn, however, as Beltran also gives considerable prominence to political developments in Mexico that have limited the contribution SIL has been allowed to make there in recent years. Beltran's perception of the problems involved are very clearly stated and are not lightly to be dismissed, though they can hardly be expected to bring much pleasure to the dedicatee.

The second contribution from Mexico is of quite a different sort. Rather than highlighting revolutionary animosities, Viola Waterhouse points out that Pittman consistently sought to instill a love for things Mexican in his North American colleagues, and her study of Mexican Spanish nicknames exemplifies this kind of interest. The study deals with some 212 nicknames heard by the author, mainly among the Chontal Indians of Oaxaca, classifying them according to the phonological processes by which they are derived from their full counterparts. She finds that the favorite process for nickname formation in Mexican Spanish differs from that of American English in that American English tends to preserve initial syllables (*Robert* becomes *Rob* or *Bob*) whereas in Mexican Spanish nicknames more commonly are formed on the medial or final parts of the full name (*Roberto* becomes *Beto*).

¹The reviewer wishes to express his appreciation to Dr. Charles Peck for providing a translation of Beltran's article.

Part two is entitled 'Philippines and Indonesia' with reference to Pittman's long-term interest in and association with these countries, but the articles included deal primarily with the Philippines, Malaysia, and Hawaii.

In a lucid and well-exemplified article entitled 'Tagalog accent revisited: some preliminary notes', Andrew Gonzalez reviews previous approaches to the problem and formulates a set of rules in which vowel length (viewed as an inherent characteristic of verb and noun roots) is the contrastive phonological parameter from which the placement of accent is predicted. Accent is taken to have two phonological manifestations, pitch rise (which is primary) and loudness (which is secondary). The two most general rules are: (43) '1) The accent falls on any long vowel of an open syllable 2) Otherwise it falls on the ultima'. To make these work in specific cases, Gonzalez adds rules which take the effects of inflectional and derivational morphology into account, and which distinguish sets of homophonous affixes on the basis of their influence both upon the semantic interpretation and upon the placement of accent. Building upon earlier work by Blake (1950) and Lopez (1981), Gonzalez emphasizes the tentative nature of his findings, since he felt that more extensive testing of the rules against lexical forms was necessary. Nonetheless, this article is likely to be one of the best and most frequent reasons for consulting this volume in years to come or at least until Gonzalez comes out with a more definitive formulation.

Sabah is represented by two papers, one in which Hope Hurlbut describes the morphophonemics of Labuk Kadazan, and one in which Asmah Haji Omar gives a thumbnail sketch of the phonology and morphology of Paitan. Both are basic descriptive statements to be valued for what they tell us of the languages concerned and for the clear, well organized and exemplified mode of presentation which they both employ.

Hawaii is represented in an article by Howard P. McKaughan entitled 'Science in Hawaii'. Originally prepared for the *Encyclopedia of Hawaii* which for financial reasons appeared only in microfilm, this article is presented as a tribute to the dedicatee's wide range of interests in all aspects of science. McKaughan traces the history of research in various fields through parallel stages: establishing the basic units, organizing these units taxonomically, and searching for explanations and rules. Though this is not primarily a linguistic article, the stages highlighted in the history of science in Hawaii betray something of a benign linguistic starting point.

The art of establishing and maintaining good personal relationships with great and small alike is a characteristic of Richard Pittman that this reviewer will always remember. In this respect the article by Emy M. Pascasio, 'How value orientations affect social relationships through language use' is especially appropriate. Building on the insights of Lynch, Hollnsteiner and others, Pascasio shows how the language used to perform various tasks in dialogue reveals crucial differences in the hierarchy or ranking of values governing interpersonal relations in the U.S. and those governing them in the Philippines. Based upon a corpus of 125 tape-recorded conversations this is a most insightful study of the ways in which values governing the quality of interpersonal relationships within a culture find expression in the language of dialogue. It also warns us that an alien ranking of values constitutes a significant barrier to cross-cultural communication. The kind of cross-cultural sensitivity made explicit in this article should certainly be a delight to the dedicatee.

Part two concludes with a contribution by Lawrence A. Reid entitled 'Proto-Austronesian genitive determiners', a tantalizing article which follows earlier attempts by Reid to account for the development of the nominative determiners by positing historical processes such as the loss of the nominative determiner, and a demonstrative to determiner shift in which the ligature that previously joined head and attribute appears as a frozen form attached to the end of the determiner. Parallel processes are shown to be at work in the development of genitive determiners.

Part three, 'Papua New Guinea and Australia', contains three contributions: one phonological, one comparative, based on morphology, and one syntactic. In the first of the three George Huttar and Jean Kirton present evidence that Yanyuwa, an Australian language, is one in which the feature, DISTRIBUTED, not only distinguishes apico-dental consonants from apico-alveolars and lamino-alveopalatal consonants from apico-dentals, but is in the process of extending the use of this feature to distinguish palatovelars from velars. Yanyuwa thus joins certain dialects of Malayalam as a language exhibiting clear contrasts among seven oral points of articulation, exceeding the previously posited universal maximum of six.

Karl Franklin's '*Bilong* as a copula in Chinese Pidgin English' deals with two claims by other authors involving this construction. Naro (1978:430) made the claim that the Chinese Pidgin comparative violates Greenberg's universal since on Naro's analysis of a single example, nouns precede adjectives while at the same time the language makes use of prepositions rather than postpositions. Franklin shows that Naro's example is incorrectly analyzed and incorrectly translated. In the light of Franklin's analysis of the copula and in the light of clear examples of modifier-noun constructions, it can be seen that Chinese Pidgin conforms to Greenberg's universal, having only a pre-head position for adjectives which modify nouns. As for the second claim, Ferguson (1971:147) lists a number of conditions under which a copula is likely to be omitted as a result of pressures toward simplification inherent in pidginization. Franklin shows that Chinese Pidgin fails to support Ferguson's hypothesis.

Stephen Wurm's 'Notes on nominal classification systems in Aiwo, Reef Islands, Solomon Islands', gives extensive morphological evidence that Aiwo languages, though heavily influenced by Austronesian, were originally Papuan, belonging to the East Papuan Phylum. Having dealt with the evidence provided by the personal possessive class system and the construct possessive class system in previous publications, Wurm gives the evidence from noun class systems in this article. The classes presented include some thirty variable noun classes and some eight fixed noun classes. Five of the variable noun classes are regarded as genders and are compared with the gender prefixes of other Papuan languages of the area. Nine of the variable noun class prefixes also exist as independent nouns.

The final part, 'Vietnam and Thailand', consists of five articles, within which the geographic limits are extended to include Tibetan and Chinese.

Paul Denlinger in a highly programmatic article entitled 'Tibetan and Mon-Khmer: a short communication' points out that while not all dialects of Tibetan have tone, they all have the same 'tone' classes. In dialects lacking contrastive pitch or intonation as tone class markers, other features such as contrastive classes of initial consonants, final consonants, or vowel type are employed to mark the same phonologically defined lexical classes. Denlinger feels that it is these tone classes that are crucial in establishing linguistic relationships, and on this basis Denlinger expects to be able to prove in the near future that Mon-Khmer is a branch of Sino-Tibetan.

Mantaro Hashimoto in a fascinating article entitled 'A phonological characterization of syllabic intonations in the so-called tone languages' argues against the current practice of classifying Chinese lexical items according to the tones they manifest as citation forms pronounced in isolation. He supports his case with an analysis of Dunganese as reported by Dragunow and Dragunowa (1936) and an analysis of a variant of the Baoding dialect reported by Yang (1960). In both instances he shows that the variants of tone manifested in nonfinal position within the phonemic phrase provide closer approximations to the underlying tones required by optimal rules than do the phrase-final tones. He concludes his article with a sketch of the reanalysis of modern standard Chinese entailed by this approach.

Suriya Ratanakul's 'Transitivity and causation in Sgaw Karen' is a clearly written, profusely exemplified account of how Sgaw Karen manages to express degrees of transitivity in the absence of morphologically derived causatives and passives. She argues that Sgaw Karen has no passive. Patients can be made prominent by fronting (with or without the auxiliary *ba?*) but agents cannot be deleted, and when the patient is made prominent through fronting with *ba?* it is not only the patient that is in focus but the action as well.

There are four sets of auxiliaries that serve to causativize or increase the transitivity of clauses: factive auxiliaries, instrumental auxiliaries, benefactive auxiliaries, and delegative auxiliaries, each of which is exemplified in detail. In addition to this, Sgaw Karen permits serialization of verbs with up to eleven verbs occurring in sequence without an intervening noun phrase. Such sequences of verb forms refer to actions occurring in sequence within a single proposition, and the final verb of such a sequence can be used to produce a causativizing effect. The article concludes with a brief discussion of cause-effect sentences in Sgaw Karen.

The last two contributions deal with languages of Vietnam. Kenneth Smith's 'A lexico-statistical study of 45 Mon-Khmer languages' builds upon the work of Thomas (1966), Thomas and Headley (1970), and Huffman (1976) and arrives at a classification that in general supports that of Thomas and Headley. This is the third in a series of successively more comprehensive papers by Smith dealing with the classification of Mon-Khmer languages. While recognizing the shortcomings inherent in the lexico-statistical approach, the study is exemplary in its handling of sources, in its statement of method, and in its presentation of results. Furthermore, the author has stated his willingness (193, fn 8) to expand the study to include more languages from the poorly represented branches of Mon-Khmer as the appropriate word lists are made available. Until Smith supersedes himself with something more comprehensive yet, this is likely to be a standard reference for Mon-Khmer classification.

David Thomas's 'The Vietnamese preverb auxiliary system' presents the constraints on cooccurrence and the structural system in one idiolect of Vietnamese. Preverb auxiliaries are defined as the system occurring between the subject and the main verb. Within this stretch Thomas examines 32 preverbal auxiliaries and divides these into 17 position classes, which are numbered from right to left starting with the verb. The 17 position classes are grouped into three main categories. The first of these, category C, includes positions 17 through 11 and the auxiliaries in this category tend to indicate time or frequency, to have limited cooccurrence possibilities with respect to one another, and can frequently be reversed. Category B includes position 10, filled by prohibitives and negatives which are mutually exclusive with one another. Category A runs from position 9 through position 1 immediately preceding the verb. It tends to indicate modality and manner, tends to have relatively strict order and relatively few limitations upon cooccurrence. A chart of pair-wise cooccurrences is given, and for each posited pair there is a sentence in the appendix exemplifying it. The article contains a wealth of data, well organized and discussed in detail. Thomas makes no claim of having solved all the problems involved. The wish for some underlying regularities to integrate the complexities described here is one that Thomas shares with this reader and this article is likely to be indispensable for anyone who attempts to discover them.

The editors and contributors are to be commended on having produced such a truly fitting tribute.

REFERENCES

- BLAKE, FRANK R. 1950. Tagalog noun formation, *JAOS* 70.271-91.
 DRAGUNOW, ALEXANDER, and KATHARINA DRAGUNOWA. 1936. *Über die dunganische Sprache*, *Archiv Orientalni* 8.1.34-48.

- FERGUSON, CHARLES A. 1971. Absence of copula and the notion of simplicity: A study of normal speech, baby talk, foreigner talk, and pidgins. In *Pidginization and creolization of languages*, ed. by Dell Hymes, 141-50. Cambridge University Press.
- HUFFMAN, FRANKLIN E. 1976. The relevance of lexicostatistics to Mon-Khmer languages. In *Austroasiatic Studies, Part I. Oceanic Linguistics Special Publication No. 13*, ed. by Philip N. Jenner, Laurence C. Thompson, and Stanley Starosta, 539-74. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- LOPEZ, CECILIO. 1981. A grammatical comparison of Malay and Tagalog, ed. by Ernesto Constantino. Quezon City: Cecilio Lopez Archives of Philippine Languages and Philippine Linguistics Circle.
- NARO, ANTHONY J. 1978. A study on the origins of pidginization. *Language* 54.314-47.
- THOMAS, DAVID. 1966. Mon-Khmer subgroupings in Vietnam. In *Studies in comparative Austroasiatic linguistics*, ed. by Norman Zide, 194-202. The Hague: Mouton.
- THOMAS, DAVID. 1966. Mon-Khmer subgroupings in Vietnam. In *Studies in comparative Austroasiatic linguistics*, ed. by Norman Zide, 194-202. The Hague: Mouton.
- YANG, PAUL F.-M. 1960. Hotei tooryo hoogen no seichoo (Tones of the Donglyu dialect of Baoding). *Chugoku Gogaku* (Bulletin of the Chinese Linguistic Society of Japan) 97.9-13.