

# K I V U N G

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KIVUNG, the journal of the Linguistic Society of the University of Papua and New Guinea, is published three times a year in April, August and December.

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Applications for membership, subscriptions to KIVUNG, and orders for back numbers should be sent to the Secretary, Andras Balint, c/o University of Papua and New Guinea, P.O. Box 1144, Boroko, T.P.N.G.

Manuscripts of articles and monographs, and books for review or listing should be sent to the same address.

The editor of the journal is responsible for its contents. Authors of articles and of reviews are allowed 6 reprints gratis. They may receive additional copies at cost.

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Journal of the Linguistic Society of the  
University of Papua and New Guinea

Editor

Andras Balint

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## ARTICLES

- English Supersententials . . . Francis C. Johnson 3
- The Role of the Computer in  
Linguistic Research . . . Maxwell H. McKay 8
- Cultural Conflicts in the Time  
Concepts of New Guinean Speakers
- An Educational View . . . John R. Prince 18
- A Linguistic View . . . Andras Balint 29
- There Are No Subjective Dialects . Björn Jernudd 38
- A Note on the Study of Socio-  
linguistics, with Particular  
Reference to Papua-New Guinea  
    . . . . . Andrew J. Taylor 43
- Problems of Emphasis and Contrast  
in English Nominal Con-  
structions . . . . . Donald S. Stokes 53
- CONTRIBUTORS 60

## Editorial comment

New Guinea must be one of the most exciting natural language laboratories in the world. The number of distinct languages and dialects is still uncertain and linguists are only in the initial stages of describing the complexity that exists; a complexity that includes several hundred indigenous languages, a New Guinea dialect of English, and Melanesian Pidgin, more than halfway towards becoming a creole language, possibly the national language

Kivung, the Linguistic Society of the University of Papua and New Guinea, was formed in October 1967 with the aim of promoting research in English, Melanesian Pidgin, in indigenous languages, and in general and applied linguistics.

In this first issue of what we hope to be a quarterly publication we present a selection of papers given at the first annual conference. Francis C. Johnson, Foundation Professor of English and President of the Society, discusses English "supersententials". The use of the computer in linguistic research is described by Maxwell H. McKay, Foundation Professor of Mathematics. Two papers, given by John R. Prince, Warden of the Preliminary Year, and by Andras Balint, Senior Lecturer in English, Secretary of the Society, present contrasting views of the time concepts of Papuans and New Guineans. A new approach to dialect study is suggested by Björn Jernudd, Lecturer in Linguistics, Foreign Languages Department, Monash University, Secretary of the Linguistic Society of Australia. Andrew Taylor, A. N. U. Research Scholar, gives a socio-linguistic view of the language situation in a Papuan village. Problems of emphasis and contrast in English nominal constructions are analysed by English Lecturer, Don Stokes.

Future issues of Kivung will include, in addition to papers presented at the monthly meetings, articles and book reviews.

We hope this newest linguistic journal from the lonely mountains and steamy rain forests of a developing country will find its place in the already large family of linguistic publications

Andras Balint