

Laycock, Donald C. and Werner Winter (eds.). **A world of language: papers presented to Professor S.A. Wurm on his 65th birthday.** Canberra: The Department of Linguistics, A.N.U., 1987. [*Pacific Linguistics C-100*]. xxii + 761pp. AU\$70.00.

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Laycock and Winter have done excellent work in the selection and editing of the materials published in *A world of language* (hereafter *AWL*). It is rather like a Guinness Book of Records for linguistics: the contributors represent 26 Universities and 10 Institutions of various sorts in 15 countries; there are 292 entries in Professor Wurm's bibliography; *Pacific Linguistics (PL)* has published 334 issues in their A-D Series; there have been 34 (actually 35, including the author) post-graduate students in Wurm's department; Voorhoeve has published one of the longest sentences in linguistic history (p.709) and Pike one of the shortest poems (p.53); and so on.

The contributions are generally in the historical and comparative vein, with AN and Australian languages receiving the most attention. Papuan languages, i.e., non-Austronesian in New Guinea (PNG and Indonesia), with which Wurm has made the greatest classificatory advances, are mentioned, but in much less detail. The main theme running through the volume relates to sociolinguistics: language planning, change, contact, and use. There are very few analytical articles, viz. those which examine the structure of a particular language closely, or theoretical articles.

The book is laid out as follows: after the forward, list of contributors, and the *tabula gratulatoria*, Laycock gives a number of personal and professional comments about Wurm. Carrington follows with an excellent bibliography of Wurm and a history of *PL*. There are then 9 personal comments and observations about Wurm by a number of people and, following this, we come to the main part of the book, some 61 articles, arranged alphabetically according to the surname of the author. There is, unfortunately, no index and bibliographies occur separately for each

article, leading to considerable reduplication of the entries. (In summarizing the following articles I will in most cases shorten the titles to save space.)

Articles concerning the languages of Australia deal with specific features that are real, such as subordination in four Pama-Ngungan languages (now extinct) by Barry Blake, language preservation in Western New South Wales by Tamsin Donaldson, noun-class prefixes and their reflexes as human vs. non-human markers in Arnhem Land by Jeffrey Heath, language diffusion in the Birdsville area by L.A. Hercus, word order in Wik-Mungkan by Christine Kilham, lative and translative in Ungarinyin by Alan Rumsey, coreference in Warrungu discourse by Tasaka Tsunoda, number systems by C. Yollop, and the origin of monosyllabic roots in E. Pama-Nyungan by G.N. O'Grady.

Yallop raises questions about the universal concept of numbers and the importance of duality in Aboriginal languages. Tsunoda gives a set of preferred grammatical patterns in Warrungu, one of the few descriptive papers in the volume. Kilham shows that in Wik-Mungkan word order has constraints that are relative to case marking, new vs. given information, and the use of pronominalization for marking themes. Rumsey also examines how the markers of intransitive subjects are secondary grammatical functions that result from local case markers.

Austronesian, particularly comparative-historical studies that relate to Proto-Austronesian, figure prominently in AWL. Rennell-Bellona, as Polynesian Outliers in the southern Solomon Islands, are described by Robert Blust and Samuel Elbert. Blust outlines some of the substratum influences and Elbert shows how outside influences influence migration and must be considered in the recognition of etymons for the area. I. Dyen and S. Tsuchick propose a new PAN phoneme and P. Jen-kuei Li describes the preglottalised stops in Bunun of Formosa. Also studied from a comparative view are the dialects of the Marquesas Islands by D.T. Tryon, old Javanese sentence patterns by E.M. Uhlenbeck, and the AN apicals by R. David Zorc.

There are also comparative-historical studies that do not involve AN or Papuan languages. These are: the study by Blake on Pama-Ngungan that we have mentioned; Germanic dialects and Proto-Indo-european by A. Capell; phonetic features of the Mongolian dialects in Quinghai Province by Dob and Chaghanhada;

the glottal stop in Tagalog by A. Gonzalez; a further study of Mongolian, but this time of an ancient text, by Junast; a fascinating hypothesis and data supporting the relationship of Uralic Altaic and Japanese by L Kazar; and a classification of dialects and languages within the Rai group East Nepal by W. Winter.

Papuan languages are discussed as well, with a very intricate re-assessment of the pronoun sets established by Wurm. This is done by C. Vorhoove, who supports many of Wurm's reconstructions and observations, but adds some new ones of his own. The most recent hypothesis is that the West Papuan Phylum and the Torricelli Phylum are related in some way and that the TransNewGuinea movement was not a one time migration from the west to the east. A. Chowning also takes a look at the TNG Phylum especially in the light of the supposed AN content and questions the conclusions of McElhanon and Voorhoeve on AN loans. She calls for a reexamination of the TNG Phylum in relation to AN.

There are other articles that deal with problems of language classification as well. K.A. McElhanon examines the use of Tok Pisin (TP) in eliciting basic vocabulary, commenting on the pitfalls which can lead to skewing when establishing language groups. S. Holzknacht likewise cautions the use of small word lists in her study of smoke (as a result of fire on the one hand and tobacco on the other) in the Markham Family.

Theoretical aspects of classification are discussed as well. G. Grace in his article 'Genetic classification revisited', allows now the concept of mixed languages and G. Hammerstrom gives some thoughts on socially motivated and deliberate language change. U. Mosel looks at the subject in Samoan to show how the syntax of a language can be used to provide clues in language classification and P. Mühlhäusler shows that the status of structural indicators are important in considering mixed systems, with special reference to the Reef-Santa Cruz situation. K. H. Rensch examines the methodological adequacy of the tree model in Polynesian in his study of E Uvean and shows that there have been repeated bi-directional contacts with are not reflected in migration theories on Nuclear Polynesian. An interesting position on the homeland of PAN is taken by U. Sirk, who considers it to have been South China, although this is complicated and obscured by the back and forth movements throughout the AN area.

By far the largest group of articles deal with language planning, contact, change and use. D. Bradley writes of the planning going on in China for various minority languages; P. Bwakolo is grateful for the assistance of Prof. Wurm in alphabet and dictionary work in his language of the Reef Islands, Solomon Islands; M. Clynes describes the interaction of national identity, class and pluriglossia in German dialects; A.M. Moeliono recounts the policy on the functional allocation of languages in Indonesia; W.N. Glover sums up the status of Sind in Pakistan and outlines what medium of instruction can best be used for the tribal minorities; and W.E. Tomesetti relates how he went about translating '*Road Belong Cargo*' into TP of PNG.

Language change is always going on. Some articles deal with it historically, such as: B. Hong-Fincher on the restructured domains of women's status in Chinese gender; B. Hooley on the borrowing of TP into Central Buang of PNG; Liang Min on a particular phonetic change over two generations in a minority language of China; and D. Lithgow on the mixing of some features in Tubetube and some related AN languages. The work by J.J. Fox also demonstrates change, but in terms of kinship terms that are socially motivated among the group living between Savau and Rote' in E. Indonesia.

S.A. Wurm has written regularly on TP and pidgins in general. AWL reflects this interest as well, with articles dealing with language contact, such as K. Hosokawa's description of the Broome (Western Australia) pearling pidgin, which was a kind of simplified Malay; R.M. Keesing's account of pidgin substratum influences in the Solomon Islands language called Kwaio; R. Langdon's sketch of benevolent invaders among Hawaii's aborigines (some Portuguese loans are evident); J. Lynch's tracing of French loans into Bislama; J. Platt's outline of a number of substratum influences in basilectal Singapore English; E.C. Polome's record of Dutch words with Indonesian origin, but coming from various routes; M.D. Ross' delineation of certain morphosyntactic changes in the AN languages of the Bel group, which again were substratum interference; T.E. Dutton's historical interpretation of just how well Europeans interacted with the people of the Pacific Islands; and J. Siegel's comments on the influence of Fijian on TP and Tolai, as far as the missionaries involved were concerned.

Three articles of general sociolinguistic notice are the use of English in broadcasting throughout the world by Bjorn H. Jernudd; N.D. Liem on language proficiency testing in those languages which have 'low enrollment', such as Chinese and Vietnamese; and the use of TP at the University of Technology at Lae, PNG by John Swan and D.J. Lewis. The attitude to TP is strong and 28% of the students use TP regularly at the University, despite the fact that all instruction is in English.

Several authors give descriptive accounts: Pittman on the re-interpretation of the two tones of Navajo, which reflects a voice register language; G.L. Renck presents a Yagaria fairytale (Eastern Highlands, PNG); W.A.L. Stokhof outlines the features of a short Kabola text from Alor, E. Indonesia; and J.M. Charpentier sets forth the complex numbering systems, including their syntax and semantics for the S. Malakula in Vanuatu. Finally, and in a somewhat different vein J.A. Z'Graggen recounts some of the myths of origin in the Madang area of PNG.

Taken in all, AWL is an impressive collection of articles, reflecting as it does the interests of Professor S.A. Wurm and those who contributed. Many contributors mention the influence and encouragement of Wurm on their research. It is also a fitting finale for D.C.Laycock, the senior editor of AWL, who died not long after it was completed.