

General Editor of *Glottodidactica*, Professor L. Zabrocki. Among the subjects entrusted to the care of particular editors one notices Applied Linguistics, Programmed Learning, Technology, Speech and Hearing Science, the Teaching of Culture. A predominance of material from English-speaking countries is apparent. The periodical brings authoritative abstracts written by the authors of the articles themselves and it informs its readers of international research and opinions concerning the teaching of Modern Languages from the primary stage to the level of academic study. The abstracts are written mainly in English and only occasionally in French and German as well. Each abstract is provided with a number and Annual Indexes contribute to the per-

spicuity of arrangement and facilitate use. *MLAbstracts* is a periodical destined to fulfil the needs of all those who wish to keep up with the literature on Modern Language Teaching.

The quarterly ought to be read by every language teacher, not only teachers of English. Theoreticians of the methodics of teaching will also be very grateful for the information contained in the quarterly. It is a most timely periodical. It definitely helps the reader towards full orientation in the current literature of methodics and of cognate subjects. The more so, as it is increasingly difficult to follow the articles scattered in a great number of special-istic periodicals as well as in those from affiliated disciplines.

MIECZYSLAW KOBYLAŃSKI

Langenscheidt's "English Monthly" — "Mozaika"  
(A Review)

Learning of foreign languages has recently become very common. For there are not many professions now where the knowledge of a foreign language is, if not indispensable, then very useful. The methods of learning are various according to the aim and the stage of advancement in a language. On the advanced level special magazines are very popular. Their purpose it not only to enlarge the vocabulary and to present more difficult and rare grammatical structures, but also to give some information about culture (in the broadest meaning of this word) without knowledge of which full understanding of any language is not possible.

„English Monthly”, edited in West Germany, is one of such magazines. It includes articles from various branches of human activity; for example, in No. 3 (March) 1962 there are articles about jazz, aircraft industry, glass fabrics history of Britain, clubs; stories from every-day life, conversation, humour, and quiz. The permanent sec-

tions are: conversation, history, London diary (culture and nowadays problems of English society), chit-chat (the office of Justice of the Peace, lifeboat service), and humor. Difficult words and constructions with pronunciation in IPA symbols are explained by giving German equivalents. A special mark (AE) is given to the words used only in American English. The magazine has no separate grammatical section.

Variety of texts and forms like story, conversation, chat are the advantages of „English Monthly” Pointing out Americanisms is useful. The lack of grammatical section is due to the high level of advancement. Humour helps the reader in better understanding English people as well as the language itself. Conversations, on the other hand, are full of idioms and grammatical structures, and therefore they sound artificially. There is one more serious objection. In conversations there are sometimes given wrong and unidiomatic phrases, which are after-

wards corrected. From the methodological point of view it is a serious mistake.

In sum, „English Monthly” is a good guide for those who want to know English language better.

Similar<sup>1</sup> in its purpose and design is a Polish magazine „Mozaika”. It enables the reader not only to master English language, but also gives some knowledge of history, literature, and every-day life. There are passages from books of the best classical and modern writers, articles about English customs and institutions, history and current problems, common idioms used in typical situations. In the grammatical corner difficult language problems are explained. Anecdotes, humour, puzzles, songs with texts and notes give amusement and relaxation. New words and structures are explained in Polish. In

a number of articles basic differences between British and American English in pronunciation and usage have been discussed. But the simplification of phonetic transcription does not seem to be justified, especially where the quality of vowels is in question.

Finally, I would like to draw attention to one important methodological point — the mechanization. If a word or a structure appears for the second or the third time, it should be explained each time. In this respect „Mozaika” is more consistent than „English Monthly”. That speaks in favour of the former, but it does not mean that „Mozaika” is better than „English Monthly”. They both are good and interesting magazines and give the readers opportunity to make a progress in their knowledge of English language.

WIESŁAW AWEDYK

THE FINITE STRING. Newsletter of the Association for Machine Translation and Computational Linguistics,  
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Diese Blätter der Association for Machine Translation and Computational Linguistics erscheinen monatlich — 10 Hefte pro Jahr — ausser Juli und August. Sie werden von Dr. A. Hood Roberts — Department of English, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, 44106 — herausgegeben. Sie berichten über die neuesten Ereignisse auf den im Titel genannten Gebieten; der Leser wird über die Arbeit bestimmter Institute, über die Tätigkeit verschiedener Wissenschaftler, über Publikationen und über Angelegenheiten der Association informiert.

In der vorliegenden Nummer z.B. erstattet Prof. Victor H. Yngve — Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Modern Languages and Research Laboratory of Electronics, Cambridge 39, Mass. — einen Bericht über die laufenden praktischen und theoretischen Arbeiten im M. I. T. Die Aussicht auf eine praktische und adäquate maschinelle Übersetzung ist, seiner Meinung nach, noch nicht so nahe; dennoch ist er optimistisch. Die Nummer bringt weiter kurze Berichte über die Unternehmungen von Prof. Anthony G. Oettinger, Dr. Sally Y. Se-

<sup>1</sup> „Mozaika” is for advanced learners. Beginners have their „Mała (Little) Mozaika”. Both the magazines appear in four languages: English, French, German and Russian.