

DR. HARDER HONORED



NEW EXECUTIVE POST: Dr. Kelsie B. Harder recently was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the American Name Society.

English Professor Appointed Sec'y-Treas. of Name Society

**World-Wide Association, Founded by Scholars;
Dedicated to Study, Classification of Names;
Linguists, Geographers, Among Few in Group**

By Rosemary Hackett
(jambar staff writer)

Professor Kelsie B. Harder, Youngstown University, has recently been appointed Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the American Name Society. The Society is devoted to a study of all types of names, geographical, personal, scientific, commercial, and popular.

The Society publishes *Names*, a quarterly journal in which articles from both members and others interested in names are published. The journal prints both scholarly and general articles, with the stipulation only that the articles contribute to the knowledge of names.

Although the Society was founded by a group of scholars as late as 1951, the membership has grown fast and now includes members in all countries of the Western world and many in the Eastern world. Several libraries in Russia subscribe to the journal. The journal was begun in 1953 and was immediately successful as a scholarly venture. At first the journal was subsidized by the University of California, but since 1955 the journal has survived without benefit of a subsidy, due in part to the wide interest in names from people of different occupations.

Many Scholars Are Members

The membership includes linguists, teachers of English, geographers, anthropologists, psychiatrists, geologists, publishers, physicians, and people interested simply in names. Mr. Meredith F. Burrill, Chief of the United States Board on Geographical Names, Department of Interior, has been a member of the board of the Society since its beginning. The Controller of Surveys of Canada also maintains a membership. Many internationally known scholars are among the directors and members of the Society.

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Professor Appointed

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One recent article in the journal was given wide recognition. "Integration and Name Changing among Jewish Refugees from Central Europe in the United States," written by Ernest Maass, received wide publicity in European newspapers to such an extent that the issue is now out of print.

Many of the articles deal with the psychology of names. Some deal with Indian place names in the United States. George R. Stewart, a well-known novelist and former president of the Society, has discussed at length in one issue the names in the Book of Genesis, "And Adam Gave Names." "Sputnik and some of its Offshootniks" was also a recent article. Two articles have dealt with names in Ohio. Professor David Lindsey has written an article on place names in Ohio's Western Reserve, while Professor H.F. Raup has an article on the names of Ohio's streams.

Has Written On Various Subjects

Professor Harder first became interested in names while working on a paper for his doctorate degree. His primary interest is names of literary characters in novels, especially the

names selected by the authors to illustrate some type or situation in the novels. He has written articles on Thomas Dekker, Charles Dickens, and William Faulkner, in which he shows that the authors seem to name their characters with some purpose in mind.

The business office of the Society has been moved to Youngstown University and the future direction of the Society will be in the hands of Professor Harder. He points out that requests for specific information about names will be handled by him. The requests will sometimes be forwarded to members who are specialists in such areas as personal names, place names, etc. and answers are usually given within two or three weeks after a request has been made.

Professor Harder, a teacher of literature and logic at the University, has written articles on folk-lore, literary criticism, American speech, literary history, advertising, and dialect.