

A SUPPLEMENT TO
THE OXFORD ENGLISH
DICTIONARY

VOLUME I A-G

PREFACE

THE present volume is the first of three which together will replace the 1933 Supplement to the *O.E.D.* It is hoped to publish the remaining two volumes at intervals of not more than three years. The second volume will end at P, and the concluding volume, in addition to words in the range Q to Z, will contain an extensive Bibliography of works cited in the new Supplement.

The vocabulary treated is that which came into use during the publication of the successive sections of the main Dictionary—that is, between 1884, when the first fascicle of the letter A was published, and 1928, when the final section of the Dictionary appeared—together with accessions to the English language in Britain and abroad from 1928 to the present day. Nearly all the material in the 1933 Supplement has been retained here, though in revised form.

Dr. Johnson said in the Preface to his dictionary (1755) that he would admit 'no testimony of living authours':

My purpose was to admit no testimony of living authours, that I might not be misled by partiality, and that none of my cotemporaries might have reason to complain; nor have I departed from this resolution, but when some performance of uncommon excellence excited my veneration. . . . So far have I been from any care to grace my pages with modern decorations, that I have studiously endeavoured to collect examples and authorities from the writers before the restoration, whose works I regard as the wells of English undefiled, as the pure sources of genuine diction.

By such reckoning the terminal date for this new Supplement of modern English words should be certainly not later than the end of the nineteenth century. Sir William Craigie took a similar view in the Preface (1938) to his *Dictionary of American English*:

The end of the nineteenth century has been selected as a fitting point at which to terminate the admission of new words, however common some of these may have become in recent use. The illustration of those already current before that date, however, is frequently carried into the first quarter of the present century.

A Supplement based on such a premise would, however, have been of restricted value. In the present work we have endeavoured to give shape and historical outline, graced necessarily with 'modern decorations', to a large body of the most recent accessions to the English language. In doing this we have kept constantly before us the opposing concepts of permanence and ephemerality, retaining vocabulary that seemed likely to be of interest now and to future generations, and rejecting only those words, phrases, and senses that seemed transitory or too narrowly restricted in currency.

It is fitting that we should here pay tribute to the Editors of the 1933 Supplement, Dr. C. T. Onions and Sir William Craigie. The replacement of the volume they produced must necessarily mean that copies of it will in future descend, along with other rarely consulted works, into the vaults of the larger libraries. But we feel that neither of these two great scholars would lament this course of events: it is the normal fate of a supplementary volume to vanish into the body of the reference work to which it is for a time annexed, or else to make way for a larger, more recent supplement. The enduring monument to the work of these two great lexicographers, and of their colleagues, remains the *O.E.D.* itself.

The Editor wishes also to record here his personal indebtedness to the late Dr. Onions, who first guided him into the field of lexicography; to Professor Norman Davis and Professor E. G. Stanley, whose assistance on many matters has been deeply appreciated; to numerous transatlantic

friends, including Professor Raven I. McDavid Jr. and Mr. Clarence L. Barnhart; to Dr. G. W. S. Friedrichsen, the principal etymologist of the Oxford dictionaries; to Miss Marghanita Laski (Mrs. John Howard) for her devotion to the Dictionary; to innumerable colleagues in the University of Oxford (especially in St. Peter's College) and the Oxford University Press (especially Mr. C. H. Roberts, Mr. D. M. Davin, and the late Kenneth Sisam) for their friendly advice and helpfulness over a period of many years; and most particularly to his colleagues and assistants on the Dictionary staff itself.

EDITORIAL STAFF

FULL-TIME STAFF

ELIZABETH BROMMER	1959-	J. P. BARNES	1969-72
A. J. AUGARDE	1960-	SANDRA RAPHAEL	1969-
E. C. DANN	1963-	M. W. GROSE	1969-
VERONICA M. SALUSBURY	1966-	DEIRDRE MCKENNA	1969-
ADRIANA P. ORR	1966-	W. H. C. WATERFIELD	1970-
A. M. HUGHES	1968-	DEBORAH M. COWEN	1970-

PART-TIME STAFF

L. B. FIRNBERG	1962-	PEGGY E. KAY	1967-
ANNE WALLACE-HADRILL	1967, 1971-2	FRANCES M. WILLIAMS	1968-
JELLY K. WILLIAMS	1967-	J. B. SYKES	1971-

Miss Brommer and Miss Salusbury (based in London), Mrs. Orr (in Washington), and Mrs. Kay (in Oxford) were mainly concerned with research (especially for 'first uses') and with the verification of quotations; Mr. Hughes and Mr. Waterfield with scientific terms; and Miss Raphael with plant and animal terms. Mrs. Cowen dealt with terms in Psychology. Mr. Grose was responsible for the collation and assembly of bibliographical information. Miss F. M. Williams assisted with the reading of the proofs. All others named above undertook general editorial work.

Among those who assisted at various stages with editorial work or with bibliographical verification as part of the regular staff were the following: R. C. Goffin (1955-60), E. A. Horsman (1956), Jennifer Dawson (1957-8, 1959), Sally Hilton (1958-60), Joyce M. Hawkins (1958-67), N. van Blerk (1961, Associate Editor of *Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal*), Marjorie Purdon (1962-5), Phyllis Trapp (1964, New Zealand words), Elizabeth Price (1969), and R. J. Dixon (1968-70).

Members of the Editorial Staff received valuable part-time assistance from the following outside helpers: Grace M. Briggs (1959-), Betsy Livingstone (1963-6), N. C. Sainsbury (1963-6, establishment of bibliographical card-index), R. Hall (1963- , philosophical terms), Rita G. Keckeissen (1968-), Dr. J. B. Sykes (1967-71, scientific terms; from 1971 Editor of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*), and Daphne Gilbert-Carter (1968-9).

Secretarial and Clerical Assistants: Caroline Webb (1958-60), Betty Jennison (1958-60), Jill Cotter (1963-6), Joan Blackler (1966-), Pamela Bendall (1968-), Joyce Harley (1970-), and others. Miss Jennison and Mrs. Cotter also assisted with general editorial work, and Miss Harley with research and the verification of quotations.

CONTRIBUTORS

THIS list contains the names of the principal readers (excluding present members of staff, who have also made substantial contributions) between 1957 and 1971. The main period of reading was between 1958 and 1961 and the material contributed during this period formed the nucleus of the collection of quotations on which the Supplement is based.

A. The following four readers contributed altogether approximately 250,000 quotations:¹

R. A. Auty	1958-†1967	Miss Marghanita Laski	1959-
W. Kings	1959-71	Mrs. Stefanyja Ross	1959-

B. The following readers supplied between 3,000 and 20,000 quotations each:

D. J. Barr (Canadian sources, etc.)	Miss Alison Megroz (<i>Discovery</i> , etc.)
R. L. Cherry (Thoreau, Mark Twain, etc.)	G. B. Onions (World War II sources, etc.)
C. Collier (Australian newspapers)	The Revd. H. E. G. Rope ² (Religion, etc.)
†P. T. J. Dudley (<i>Daily Telegraph</i>)	D. Scott (Australasian sources)
Mrs. Margaret Gordon (Ornithology, etc.)	Mrs. Gereth M. Spriggs (Antiquarian sources, Arts and Crafts)
Miss Joyce M. Hawkins (P. G. Wodehouse, etc.)	F. J. Tidd Pratt (General literature)
F. M. Henry (Aeronautics)	†Sir St. Vincent Troubridge (Theatrical sources, etc.)
V. W. Jones (Music, <i>Punch</i> , etc.)	Miss E. G. Withycombe (Forestry, etc.)
Dr. D. Leechman (Canadian sources)	

C. Other readers³ were:

Mrs. J. M. Addenbrooke	Mrs. Gwynneth Hatton	N. Sabbagha
N. S. Angus	Dom Sylvester Houédard	Miss Ruth C. Salzberger
†Dr. E. de Barry Barnett	Dr. M. D. W. Jeffreys	J. C. Sharp
Dr. E. H. Bateman	Emrys Jones	Professor G. Shepherd
†G. Bennett	H. L. Jones	D. Shulman
Rowland Bowen	Mrs. Jeanne Lindley	Mrs. Valentine Sillery
Mrs. Ruth C. L. Boxall	†J. P. Lloyd	Mrs. B. M. D. Smith
P. J. N. Bury	R. H. T. Mackenzie	Mrs. Miemie W. Smith
The Revd. R. M. Catling	W. S. Mackie	†C. Nelson Stewart
G. Chowdhary-Best	J. C. Maxwell	C. P. Swart
Mrs. Norah Day	Mrs. Joan Morgan	Miss Eleanor Symons
G. W. Dennis	J. L. Nayler	D. Halton Thomson
A. H. Douglas	Mrs. Patricia Norton	Dr. T. R. Thomson
Professor Sir Godfrey Driver	Mrs. Elinor Owen	The Revd. A. F. Thorpe
Mrs. Elsie Duncan-Jones	M. B. Parkes	Mrs. Cynthia Walton
†E. H. Fathers	Miss E. Penwarden	Dr. M. West
P. Ferriday	W. S. Pierpoint	E. W. Whittle
Mrs. A. S. R. Gell	W. S. Ramson	J. D. A. Widdowson
W. Granville	Mrs. Cherry Record	H. W. B. Wilson
D. Gray	Miss Alison Redmayne	Dr. L. S. Wittenberg
Miss M. Gregory	Miss F. E. Richardson	A. M. Wood
†G. Griffith	Miss Louise L. Ross	

¹ The late Mr. Auty read some 900 books including most of the works of T. S. Eliot, D. H. Lawrence, James Joyce, and W. B. Yeats, and runs of many periodicals (e.g. *Times Literary Supplement* 1930-8, *The Times* 1958-67, *Scrutiny* 1932-8, *Penguin New Writing* (all issues)), works on Linguistics, Cricket, Bridge, etc. Mr. Kings read many scientific books and journals. Miss Laski's reading included, for example, almost all the works of some twentieth-century authors (e.g. G. B. Shaw, Max Beer-bohm, Virginia Woolf, Aldous Huxley) and numerous modern crime novels. She read extensively in the literature of the nineteenth century, both novels (e.g. Dickens, C. M. Yonge) and letters (Mrs. Gaskell, George Eliot, G. M. Hopkins). She also

read widely in the general field of the domestic arts (old catalogues, books on gardening, cooking, embroidery, etc.) and various modern newspapers and journals (*Guardian*, *Vogue*, etc.). Mrs. Ross made a systematic reading of *Notes and Queries* from 1930 to 1959, *The Listener*, *S.P.E. Tracts*, *American Speech*, and a wide selection of twentieth-century fiction.

² At the age of 90 (in 1971) probably the oldest contributor: his name appears among the list of those who contributed to the *O.E.D.* itself.

³ In the nature of things this list cannot be exhaustive: we hope that no important contributor has been overlooked.

† = deceased.

PROOF-READERS

THE following list contains the names of those who, in addition to the dictionary staff, rendered valuable help by regularly reading the proofs and making suggestions and additions. Proofs of individual items were also submitted to many of those whose names appear in the list of Outside Consultants.

Professor Audrey R. Duckert, PH.D.
Dr. B. Foster, M.A., Docteur de l'Université de Paris
Professor Atcheson L. Hench, A.M., PH.D., LITT.D.
Miss Marghanita Laski, M.A.

Mrs. Marguerite Y. Offord, M.A., B.LITT.
Mrs. Lai-ngau Wong Pauson, PH.B.
Mrs. Stefanyja Ross, B.A.
Professor E. G. Stanley, M.A., PH.D.

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS

THIS list includes the names of some of those who helped us in the formative years immediately after 1957 as well as specialists to whom the editorial staff have turned repeatedly in more recent years for comments and advice. A great many others have given advice on single words and on subjects in which there have been few new terms: they are too numerous to be named here but their assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

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INTRODUCTION

1. *History of the Project.* In 1933 the *O.E.D.* team, its work done, dispersed, and the two surviving Editors, Dr. C. T. Onions and Sir William Craigie, and their assistants, turned to other matters. The *O.E.D.* library was broken up and quotation slips that had not been used were crated and stored, some later to be dispatched to the United States for use in the preparation of the *Middle English Dictionary* and of the projected dictionary of Early Modern English.¹

After the conclusion of the 1939-45 war the Delegates of the University Press decided to re-establish a headquarters for the Dictionary and to embark on the preparation of a revised version of the 1933 Supplement to the *O.E.D.* In 1955, as a first step, they invited R. C. Goffin, formerly Deputy Publisher of the Oxford University Press, to establish an office in a private house, No. 40 Walton Crescent, close by the printing-works and the Clarendon Press, and to prepare the way for the editorial staff to arrive. He was joined for a few months by E. A. Horsman, on leave from Durham University. In 1957 the present writer, at that time Lecturer in English Language and Literature at Christ Church, Oxford, accepted the invitation of the Delegates to edit the revised Supplement, and the appointment took effect from 1 July 1957.

There is a passage in the Historical Introduction to the Dictionary describing the 'crowded scene to the eye of the visitor' presented by Sir James Murray's Scriptorium in the garden of his house at 78 Banbury Road:

If John Baret had been able to look into it, he would have hailed it as another *Alvearie*, with a swarm of workers as busy as those who helped him to compile his own volume.

It was at 78 Banbury Road that Sir James and his staff carried out much of their work in the preparation of the dictionary. Since 1957 No. 40 Walton Crescent has become 'another *Alvearie*'. After some initial disappointments, largely occasioned by the impossibility of finding experienced staff at that time, the preparations for the Supplement proceeded steadily. Useful practical advice was obtained from Dr. Onions, and valuable contacts were made with former members of the dictionary staff who were still alive, among them Dr. L. F. Powell, Dr. G. W. S. Friedrichsen, and Mr. P. T. J. Dudley.

The first phase in the preparation of any dictionary on historical principles is the reading of sources. Since 1957 our readers have extracted about a million and a half quotations from works of all kinds written in the period from 1884 to the present day. The sources included all important literary works (in both prose and verse) of the period, a wide range of scientific books and journals, and large numbers of newspapers and periodicals, ranging from *The Times* to those publications that emanate from the so-called 'underground'. Numerous works containing multiple lexicographical information, for example, articles in *American Speech* and in *Notes and Queries* and the whole of Eric Partridge's *Dictionary of Slang*, were also converted into the form of dictionary slips. Among the material submitted to the Press since 1933 there were three valuable private collections, and these were also added to the quotation files: a set of several thousand quotations assembled from theatrical and other works by the late Sir St. Vincent Troubridge, and a similar number (mostly written on the backs of envelopes or on any scrap of

¹ A description of the work so far undertaken at the University of Michigan on a dictionary of the Early Modern English period is printed in A. Cameron et al., *Computers and Old English Concordances* (Toronto 1970), pp. 94-102. This dictionary

and other period and regional dictionaries were first proposed by Sir William Craigie in 1910 ('New Dictionary Schemes Presented to the Philological Society, 4th April, 1910', *Transactions of the Philological Society*, 1925-1930 (1931), pp. 6-11).

paper that conveniently lay to hand) from the Revd. H. E. G. Rope and from the late Dr. R. W. Chapman. In 1958 Mr. Clarence L. Barnhart sent to us from his files in New York a set of some 4,500 slips drawn from 1955 issues of *The Times*, *Science News Letter*, and other sources. Some time later Mr. H. W. Orsman presented to us his unique collection of some 12,000 quotations from New Zealand works of the period from the rediscovery of New Zealand by James Cook until about 1950. At a still later stage specialized collections of terms in Archaeology and Forestry respectively were given by Professor C. F. C. Hawkes and Mr. F. C. Ford Robertson. Among the material left behind by the editors of the 1933 Supplement there was also a collection of quotations, numbering about 140,000, from which they had made 'only a restricted selection' (*O.E.D. Suppl.*, Preface), including illustrative examples of words excluded from the dictionary in 1933 because they were not fully established at the time (e.g. *canned* (of music), *usherette*).

Easily the most ambitious reading programme undertaken by any one reader was that of Miss Marghanita Laski. By 1971 her contribution amounted to more than 100,000 quotations, obtained (and copied by hand by Miss Laski herself) from a wide range of sources. Miss Laski described her experiences as a reader in a series of articles in the *Times Literary Supplement*, beginning with the issue of 11 January 1968.

The sifting of sources, the appointment and training of the first members of staff, and other necessary preliminaries were completed by 1964. In that year we turned to the preparation of 'copy' for press and the first instalment, *A-alpha*, was delivered to the University Printer on 27 May 1965. Since then members of the dictionary staff have been engaged simultaneously on two fronts, preparing 'copy' for press from *alpha* onwards, and dealing with the proofs. At a later stage, beginning in May 1970, material in the range E to G was sent to a second printer, Messrs. William Clowes & Sons Ltd., Colchester, leaving the University Press to deal with A to D inclusive.

It will be apparent to users of the Supplement that one result of this method of sending 'copy' to press in instalments as they became ready is that the earlier letters of the Supplement are not quite as up to date as the later ones. For example, it proved possible to add the word *Biafran* to the corrected galley (though the civil war in Nigeria had not ended when this word was read in the galley) but not *Anguillan* (to which attention was drawn by events in 1969). Similar considerations apply to numerous other words that readers may hope to find treated in the Supplement. The following table, which shows the dates of dispatch to press of the 'copy' for Volume I of the Supplement, is a useful guide in this connection:

1965 May A-alpha	1969 Jan. cruiser-cursus
Aug. alpha-antibiosis	Apr. curtain-dash
Nov. antibiotic-end of A	Thereafter in small consignments
1966 Feb. B-Benthamism	at regular intervals:
May benthonic-bond	1969 (remainder) dash-board-devil
Sept. bonded-bucket	1970 devil-end of D
Oct. bucket-end of B	E-flathead
1967 Feb. C-chain	G-get
May chain-city	1971 flat-headed-end of F
Sept. city-conditioned	get-end of G
1968 Feb. conditioner-Crimean	
Dec. Crimean-cruiser	

The final instalment of the letter G was sent to press in May 1971.

Other important stages¹ in the preparation of Volume I included the publication in the 1958-61 issues of *The Periodical* (the house magazine of the Oxford University Press) of lists of words, with dates attached, for which earlier, or later, or additional quotations were needed;² the building up of our reference library of some 7,000 volumes; the appointment of permanent members of staff in London and Washington, thus giving us access to the great reference libraries in those two cities; the establishment of links with language centres (e.g. at the University of Sydney) and with overseas libraries (e.g. in Wellington, New Zealand, where Miss M. Walton and other members of staff of the Turnbull Library have verified local items for us); the appointment to the editorial staff in 1968-9 of some graduates in scientific subjects, a radical departure from the policy adopted by the editors of the main Dictionary;³ and the creation of a panel of outside consultants, who read and commented on individual items in specialized subjects in galley-proof, and of another group of scholars and writers who read through instalments of galley-proof with a critical eye. Since 1968 we have also received direct and valuable assistance from Dr. Philip B. Gove and his associates at the G. & C. Merriam Co., publishers of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, in the form of quotations of earlier date than those in our files for words, such as those in *-ly*, *-ment*, and *-ness*, which elude the most diligent search by research assistants. About one-third of the items of this kind submitted to Dr. Gove were antedated from Merriam-Webster's extensive citation files.

2. *Editorial Policy.* The famous dictum stated in the Introduction to the Dictionary that 'the circle of the English language has a well-defined centre but no discernible circumference' is only partially applicable to the vocabulary contained in this Supplement. The perimeter remains as undefinable as ever. But in any supplementary volumes the domain of new 'common words' known to all English speakers is bound to be somewhat less evident than the scientific, technical, slang, dialectal, and overseas words which have passed into common use in the academic or technical fields, or in the geographical areas, to which they belong. Our aim has been first and foremost to ensure that all 'common words' (and senses) in British written English of the period 1884 to the present day (of those not already treated in the Dictionary) are included. Then, whereas the *O.E.D.* adopted a policy of total literary inclusiveness for the earlier centuries, with the result that all the vocabulary, including *hapax legomena*, of such authors as Chaucer, Gower, and Shakespeare, was included, we have followed a somewhat more limited policy, namely, that of liberally representing the vocabulary of such writers as Kipling, Yeats, James Joyce, and Dylan Thomas. The outward signs of the working of this policy may be observed in entries like those for the following words: *apatheia* (a medical word used by Beckett), *athambia* (*hapax legomenon* in Beckett), *Babbitt* (name of a literary 'hero'), *bandersnatch* (a 'Lewis Carroll' word), *bang*, *sb.*¹ 2 (used allusively after T. S. Eliot's line), *barkle*, *v.* (dialectal use in D. H. Lawrence), *baw-ways* (dialectal use in James Joyce), *ectomorph* (anthropometric term adopted by R. Fuller, C. P. Snow, W. H. Auden, etc.), and *elf sb.*¹ 6 (further illustrations in Walter de la Mare, J. R. R. Tolkien, etc., of obvious combinations). Thirdly, we have made bold forays into the written English of regions outside the British Isles, particularly into that of North America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, and Pakistan. It is already and will remain impracticable for any general

¹ Account of the progress of the Supplement may be found in articles by the Editor in *Essays and Studies*, 1961, pp. 35-51, and in the *Oxford Magazine*, 21 Nov. 1969, pp. 68-9. One of our outside consultants, Professor Bernard Lennox, contributed a series of articles entitled 'Reflections of a Lexicographer' to *The Lancet*, beginning with the issue of 8 May 1971.

² This necessary exercise brought the detailed needs of the Dictionary to the notice of many people who would otherwise have been unreachable. The response was remarkable and for years afterwards contributions continued to arrive. Among the

most devoted of outside helpers reached by this means were Mr. David Shulman (New York) and Mr. D. J. Barr (Almonte, Ontario), who both submitted numerous antedatings and other contributions.

³ By 1968-9 some scientific words in the earlier pages of the Supplement were already at too advanced a stage of printing for it to be possible to revise them further. Except for these items all scientific words and senses were prepared or revised by the scientific staff of the Supplement in the period between 1968 and the publication of the present volume.

dictionary of English, wherever it is prepared, to absorb all the contents of the great historical dictionaries of regional forms of English that have appeared¹ or are in preparation.² In practice we have drawn some items from these dictionaries, and have supplemented them with fresh examples and also with an entirely original vein of words and senses from the same areas. Readers will discover by constant use of the Supplement that the written English of regions like Australia, South Africa, and India has been accorded the kind of treatment that lexicographers of a former generation might have reserved for the English of Britain alone. Fourthly, we have endeavoured to extract from textbooks and journals the central and enduring vocabulary of all major academic subjects, including newish disciplines like Sociology, Linguistics, Computer Science, and the various branches of Anthropology and Psychology. Fifthly, whereas in 1957, when we began our work, no general English-language dictionary contained the more notorious of the sexual words, '*nous avons changé tout cela*', and two ancient words, once considered too gross and vulgar to be given countenance in the decent environment of a dictionary, now appear with full supporting evidence along with a wide range of colloquial and coarse expressions referring to sexual and excretory functions.

In the 1933 Supplement the Editors included a large number of 'Earlier U.S. examples'. These have not normally been retained in the revised Supplement since they have subsequently been absorbed, along with a mass of other material, in the large historical dictionaries of American English. It was also decided to exclude, in the main, pre-1820 antedatings of *O.E.D.* words or senses from general English sources, since the systematic collection of such antedatings could not be undertaken at the present time. Nor have we added later examples to words and senses whose illustration ends in the Dictionary with nineteenth-century examples. In the earlier letters of the alphabet such a policy would have entailed the addition of later-nineteenth-century or of twentieth-century examples for virtually every word and sense listed in the Dictionary. Our policy depends upon the realization by users of the Dictionary that any word or sense not marked '*Obs.*' or '*arch.*' is still part of the current language.

A great many words and senses can be traced to their first appearance in print and we have studiously endeavoured to trace all such 'first uses'. But it should be pointed out that the earliest examples presented here for some other words and senses must necessarily represent merely the first appearance of such words in the printed sources read for the Supplement.

The Main Words, and cross-references, are arranged in a single alphabetical series, as in the Dictionary, but the bold-type head-words are here printed with a lower-case initial letter, except for proper names (in the *O.E.D.* itself all head-words, whatever their status, were given capital initials). The *O.E.D.*'s distinction of Main Words and Subordinate Words has been abandoned and in consequence all head-words appear in the same size and darkness of type. As in the Dictionary, Combinations are normally dealt with under the Main Words which form their first element, and are printed as the concluding section of the article. The asterisk often used in such sections in the Dictionary to draw attention to the word illustrated is here abandoned since the asterisk has other functions in the Supplement (especially preceding cross-references to a word or sense found elsewhere in the Supplement). No substantive changes have been made in the structuring of articles except that an asterisk *, or if necessary a double ** or triple *** asterisk, placed after a sense number indicates a new sense or senses which has to be inserted within the existing

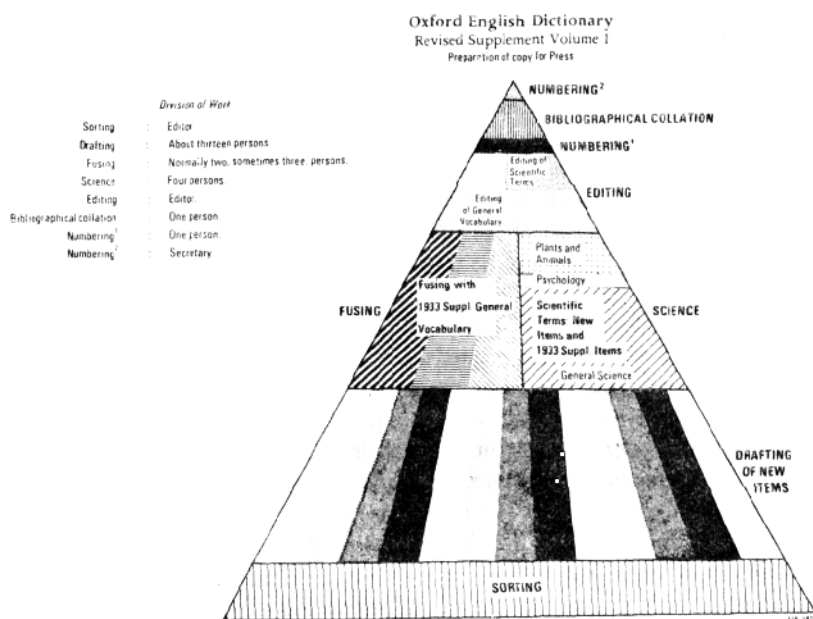
¹ *A Dictionary of American English* (4 vols., 1938-44), edited by W. A. Craigie and J. A. Hulbert; *A Dictionary of Americanisms* (2 vols., 1951), edited by M. M. Mathews; *A Dictionary of Canadianisms* (1967), edited by W. S. Avis and others; and *A Dictionary of Jamaican English* (1967), edited by F. G. Cassidy and R. B. Le Page.

² *A Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue* (1931-), edited by W. A. Craigie and A. J. Aitken (*A-Mony* published by 1971); the *Scottish National Dictionary* (1931-), edited by W. Grant and D. D. Murison (*A-Selkirk* published); and the *Middle English Dictionary* (1952-), edited by H. Kurath, S. M. Kuhn, and J. Reidy (*A-Lef* published).

numerical sequence because of the custom in the Dictionary of placing the Combinations at the conclusion of each article. To accord with the practice of the Dictionary the ligatures *æ* and *œ* have been retained, although the use of these runs counter to the 'house style' of the Oxford University Press.

The system of labelling is unchanged. Thus, for example, the status labels *Obs.* (obsolete), *arch.* (archaic or obsolescent), *colloq.* (colloquial), *dial.* (dialectal), and *slang* are retained notwithstanding the practice in some modern dictionaries of replacing *colloq.* (and sometimes also *slang*) by the label *informal*. Whatever the merits of *informal* it would have been inappropriate to have a different system in the Supplement from that used in the Dictionary itself. The label *N. Amer.* has been used to mean 'recorded in (part(s) of) the United States and Canada'. The Pronunciation Key is in all main particulars unchanged, again in the interests of consistency with the Dictionary. The list of Abbreviations and Signs has been substantially expanded. In the etymologies the characters of all foreign languages except Greek have been transliterated (where necessary) into the roman alphabet.

3. *The Editorial Process.* The various stages involved in the preparation of the material of Volume I for press can be represented diagrammatically:



The divisions within the triangle are proportional: they show the amount of 'effort' that was involved at each stage, estimated on the basis of the relative amounts of time expended and the number of people concerned. A brief explanation of the terminology follows.

Sorting: The removal of quotation slips illustrating words and senses that lay outside the terms of reference of the Supplement (pre-1820 antedatings of words and senses already treated in the Dictionary, ephemeral items, etc.), and the rough grouping of quotations into parts of speech and senses.

Drafting of New Items: The preparation of dictionary articles in handwritten form on 6" x 4" slips by editorial assistants. Each editorial assistant was expected to draft complete entries, i.e. to ascertain the pronunciation and etymology of each word, to add a definition, and to select and (with the assistance of people specially appointed for the purpose) verify the quotations to be used.

Fusing: The collation of new items submitted by various drafters and the 'fusing' or merging of new items with the words and senses of the standing matter of the 1933 Supplement. Those responsible for 'fusing' also revised the material in the standing matter.

Science: Articles for new scientific words and senses were drafted and scientific items in the standing matter were revised by the scientific staff.

Editing: The bringing together and revision of all material by the Editor.

Bibliographical collation: The process of establishing that the titles of illustrative examples were consistently presented in respect both of the date and spelling, etc., and of the formulaic 'short title' used. For this purpose a very large card-index of verified book-titles, made up of all the works cited in the Supplement, has been compiled and will form the basis of the Bibliography in Volume III.

Numbering: Two stages of numbering of the slips to ensure that the compositors could set the material from the handwritten 'copy'. When the numbering of each instalment was completed the 'copy' was sent to press.

4. *Size of the Supplement.* It is estimated that the Supplement, when completed, will contain some 50,000 Main Words. Volume I contains between 17,000 and 18,000 Main Words divided into some 30,000 senses. There are just under 8,000 defined Combinations within the articles and a similar number of undefined Combinations. The illustrative quotations number 130,000.

R. W. BURCHFIELD

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONVENTIONS

QUOTATIONS are normally taken from the earliest available printing of a work; where a later text has been used its date is given in parentheses after the title. Intentional exceptions can be found in often quoted works whose first editions are rare (Joyce's *Ulysses* is simply dated 1922, but quotations are taken from the Random House edition); fuller details will be shown in the Bibliography.

Unverified quotations from secondary sources have an attribution in parentheses after the citation (e.g. Morris, Pettman, etc.), except for quotations from the *Dictionary of American English* and the *Dictionary of Americanisms*, which are silently accepted.

Date The bold-face date is the date of first printing except for posthumous works. It is sometimes qualified by *c* (*circa*) or *a* (*ante* = before, not later than). The date of delivery of a lecture or production of a play is not normally accepted: the spoken word is dated by its first appearance in print. The date of composition is accepted, however, for dated letters, journals, and the like (of those which have not been written up for publication), but only exceptionally in other cases and only when there is good evidence for the date. Items in collections (e.g. of short stories) which were published earlier elsewhere are given this earlier date when it is known. It should be noted that our criteria are more severe and produce more conservative datings than those of many other reference works.

Author and Title. This part of the citation is used first to identify the user of the quoted word, and secondly to identify the work from which a quotation is taken. Usually there is no conflict, but where there is the identification of the work takes precedence. Monographs are cited either by author and title or by title alone. Corporate authorship is not recognized: the names of institutions, business firms, etc., are not used in place of a personal name, but are added in parentheses at the end of titles. Periodicals and serials are cited by title (usually in abbreviated form); the authors of articles in periodicals are not usually named unless the quotation contains the first use of a word. The information given should be enough to identify the work, but occasionally it is not possible to give an unambiguous indication in the space available; in these cases the Bibliography will give a fuller account. There are also a few quotations which have been accepted from usually reliable readers even though it has not been possible to verify the author and title.

Shortened titles are used throughout: the expanded forms of the titles most often cited in the Supplement will be listed in the Bibliography.

Form of Name. Some frequently quoted authors are cited by surname alone; for most others the title-page of each work is the main authority, with deviations to allow for the standardization of initials where an author's own practice varies or for the purpose of avoiding ambiguity. Pseudonyms are indicated by single quotation marks (except that a few well-known pseudonyms like Geo. Eliot stand without the quotation marks), and authors who have changed their names are cited by the appropriate name for each work. Anonymous works are cited by title, but by author where the authorship has been established and is recognized in common practice. Small capitals usually denote the author of the quotation. The name of an editor of a work, who is not also the author of the actual quotation given, is normally printed in lower case. But quotations from many composite works have been attributed to the editors alone.

SCIENTIFIC TERMS

LEXICOGRAPHERS are now confronted with the problem of treating the vocabularies of subjects that are changing at a rate and on a scale not hitherto known. The complexity of many scientific subjects is such too that it is no longer possible to define all the terms in a manner that is comprehensible to the educated layman. Some indications follow of the policy adopted in this Supplement for the treatment of scientific terms.

Subject Labels. The use of subject labels has been extended somewhat, but relatively broad labels have normally been preferred, e.g. *Geol.* rather than *Stratigraphy*, *Astr.* rather than *Astrophysics*, *Bot.* rather than *Plant Anat.*

First Uses. The first use of each word and sense has been ascertained whenever possible and appears as the first example in the set of illustrative quotations. By 'first use' the compilers of historical dictionaries meant 'the first use traced in a printed source': a word or phrase may have occurred in oral use at an earlier date. If a word was first coined in some other language before being adopted into English, details of the foreign coinage (when traceable) are provided in the etymology. All such foreign coinages have been verified at source since it sometimes happens that the details provided in specialized bibliographies and reference works are inaccurate.

Details of the coinages of plant and animal names are provided in the normal way. When, however, the first use of a term preceded the date accepted as the starting-point for the valid nomenclature of the group involved, a reference to the first valid use is added in the etymology.

Illustrative Quotations. These are not designed as guides to 'further reading' and it is not implied that the works from which they are taken are (or were) necessarily the most authoritative works on the subject, though they often are. The quotations illustrate the sense or senses being treated and amplify the definitions in a way that could not be done as usefully by mere extension of the definitions themselves. Consistency with the principles of the Dictionary obliges us always to include the 'first use' of each word even though it may sometimes appear to present a somewhat archaic or misleading use of the word or sense when judged by later developments.

Words already in the Dictionary. Although with the passage of time the definitions of many basic scientific words in the body of the Dictionary are now out of date or old-fashioned in varying degrees, they have not in general been revised. Such a process would have involved a more radical revision of scientific terminology, necessitating a reconsideration of several centuries of scientific activity, than has been attempted in this Supplement for the general vocabulary.

Systematic Names of Plants and Animals. The inclusion of Latin generic names of plants or animals has depended on the quantity of evidence found for the use of the word in an English context as the name of an individual and not as the name of a genus. Names of groups above generic level have been included only in their anglicized forms, when sufficient evidence for the use of these forms has been traced: thus *dytiscid* has an entry but *Dytiscidae* has not. Obsolete terms or senses have been included when evidence for their use over a fairly long period was available, e.g. *fossor* (sense 2).

Nomenclature of Plants and Animals. The International Codes of Botanical and Zoological Nomenclature have been taken as guides to taxonomic terms, supplemented by similar codes for more limited groups and authoritative lists of recommended terms and names. An attempt has been made to comply with official changes in the Latin names of plants and animals. The name most recently adopted has been used when a choice was necessary, sometimes with the addition of a common alternative.

The printing conventions now generally accepted for taxonomic literature have been followed, so that only Latin binomials or generic names alone are printed in italics, and specific epithets are not given initial capitals.

KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION

THE pronunciations given are those in use in the educated speech of southern England (the so-called 'Received Standard'), and the keywords given are to be understood as pronounced in such speech.

I. Consonants and Semi-Consonants

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual English values

g as in go (gōʷ).	p as in <i>thin</i> (pin), <i>bash</i> (bap).	(FOREIGN AND NON-SOUTHERN)
h ... <i>hol</i> (hōʷ).	θ ... <i>then</i> (θen), <i>bathe</i> (bāθ).	ā as in French nasal, <i>emvirod</i> (advirod).
r ... <i>run</i> (rən), <i>terrier</i> (te-ri-az).	ʃ ... <i>shop</i> (ʃop), <i>disk</i> (dif).	iv ... It. <i>serraglio</i> (serrā'vō).
s ... <i>her</i> (hāz), <i>farther</i> (fā-θōs).	tʃ ... <i>chop</i> (tʃop), <i>duck</i> (ditʃ).	nv ... It. <i>signore</i> (min'ō-re).
s ... <i>see</i> (sē), <i>success</i> (səkse-s).	ʒ ... <i>vision</i> (vi-ʒən), <i>déjeuner</i> (deʒōne).	χ ... Ger. <i>ach</i> (ax), Sc. <i>loch</i> (lɔχ), Sp. <i>frijoles</i>
w ... <i>wear</i> (wēz).	dʒ ... <i>judge</i> (dʒɔdʒ).	(frt-xoles).
hw ... <i>when</i> (hwen).	ŋ ... <i>singing</i> (si-ŋŋ), <i>think</i> (piŋk).	xʷ ... Ger. <i>ich</i> (ixʷ), Sc. <i>nicht</i> (nixʷt).
y ... <i>yes</i> (yes).	ŋg ... <i>finger</i> (fi'ŋgas).	γ ... North Ger. <i>sagen</i> (zā-yən).
		γʷ ... Ger. <i>legen</i> , <i>regnen</i> (lā-γʷən, rē-γʷnən).
		kʷ ... Afrikaans <i>baardmanneŋie</i> (bā-rtma-nakʷi).

The reversed *r* (*ɹ*) and small 'superior' letters (pe-ẽmptari) are used to denote elements that may be omitted either by individual speakers or in particular phonetic contexts.

II. Vowels

The symbol $\bar{}$ placed over a vowel-letter denotes length.

The incidence of main stress is shown by a raised point (ˈ) after the vowel-symbol, and a secondary stress by a double point (ː) as in *callithumpian* (kæ:lɪθˈmpiːən).

The stressed vowels a, æ, e, i, o, u become obscured with loss of stress, and the indeterminate sounds thus arising, and approximating to the 'neutral' vowel ə, are normally printed ä, ê, î, ô, û.

A break , is used to indicate syllable-division when necessary to avoid ambiguity.

ORDINARY	LONG	OBSCURE
a as in Fr. <i>à la mode</i> (a la mod').	ä as in <i>älms</i> (ämz), <i>bär</i> (bär).	ä as in <i>amöbe</i> (ämí-bä).
ai ... <i>aye</i> = yes (ai), <i>Issiah</i> (izai-ä).		ä ... <i>accept</i> (äke-pt), <i>maniac</i> (mä-niäk).
æ ... <i>man</i> (män).		
a ... <i>pass</i> (pas), <i>chant</i> (tʃant).		
au ... <i>loud</i> (laud), <i>now</i> (nau).		
ø ... <i>cut</i> (køt), <i>son</i> (søn).	ø ... <i>curl</i> (kørl), <i>fur</i> (fjör).	ø ... <i>datum</i> (dä-tøm).
e ... <i>yet</i> (yet), <i>ten</i> (ten).	ē (ē) ... <i>there</i> (tēer), <i>pear</i> , <i>pare</i> (pēer).	ē ... <i>moment</i> (mō-mēnt), <i>several</i> (se-vēräl).
e ... Fr. <i>attaché</i> (atʃe).	ē (ē) ... <i>rein</i> , <i>rain</i> (rēn), <i>they</i> (tē).	ē ... <i>separate</i> (adj.) (se-pär-tē).
e ... Fr. <i>chef</i> (ʃef).	ē ... Fr. <i>faire</i> (fjēr).	
e ... <i>ever</i> (e-vø), <i>nation</i> (nä-tʃən).	ē ... <i>fir</i> (fjör), <i>fern</i> (fjörn), <i>earth</i> (ærþ).	ē ... <i>added</i> (æ-død), <i>estate</i> (æt-ʃt-ē).
oi ... <i>I, eye</i> (oi), <i>bind</i> (boind).		
ø ... Fr. <i>tour de force</i> (tjørdsfors).		
i ... <i>sit</i> (sit), <i>mystic</i> (mistik).	I (je) ... <i>bier</i> (bjer), <i>clear</i> (kljer).	i ... <i>vanity</i> (væ-niti).
i ... <i>Psyche</i> (sai-ki), <i>react</i> (ri-æ-kt).	i ... <i>thief</i> (tjif), <i>see</i> (sē).	i ... <i>remain</i> (ri-mæ-n), <i>believe</i> (béli-v).
o ... <i>achor</i> (ä-kor), <i>morality</i> (møræ-liti).	ō (ō) ... <i>boar</i> , <i>bore</i> (bōer), <i>glory</i> (glō-ri).	ō ... <i>theory</i> (tjē-ōri).
oi ... <i>oil</i> (oil), <i>boy</i> (boi).		
o ... <i>hero</i> (hjer-ø), <i>zoology</i> (zo-olödgi).	ō (ō) ... <i>so</i> , <i>sow</i> (sō), <i>soul</i> (sōl).	ō ... <i>violet</i> (vai-öl-ët), <i>parody</i> (pær-ödi).
q ... <i>what</i> (hwot), <i>watch</i> (wotʃ).	ō ... <i>walk</i> (wøk), <i>wart</i> (wört).	ō ... <i>authority</i> (ö-pö-riti).
o, ø ... <i>got</i> (gøt), <i>soft</i> (søft)*.	ō ... <i>short</i> (ʃört), <i>thorn</i> (tjörn).	ō ... <i>connect</i> (kønne-kt), <i>amazon</i> (æ-mæzøn).
ö ... Ger. <i>Köln</i> (köln).	ö ... Fr. <i>cœur</i> (kör).	
ø ... Fr. <i>pau</i> (pø).	ö ... Ger. <i>Goethe</i> (götē), Fr. <i>jeune</i> (jøn).	
u ... <i>full</i> (ful), <i>book</i> (buk).	ū (ū) ... <i>poor</i> (pūr), <i>moorish</i> (mūr-riʃ).	ü, ü ... <i>verdure</i> (vø-üdiü), <i>measure</i> (mæ-ʒüü).
iu ... <i>duration</i> (diür-ien).	iü, ü ... <i>pure</i> (piür), <i>isre</i> (iür).	ü ... <i>altogether</i> (öltäge-öer).
u ... <i>unto</i> (e-ntu), <i>frugality</i> (frw-).	ü ... <i>two moons</i> (tö münz).	iü ... <i>circular</i> (sö-iküüü).
iu ... <i>Matthew</i> (mæ-piu), <i>virtue</i> (vø-itiu).	iü, ü ... <i>few</i> (fjü), <i>late</i> (lät).	
ü ... Ger. <i>Müller</i> (mü-lër).		
ü ... Fr. <i>dune</i> (dün).	ü ... Ger. <i>grün</i> (grün), Fr. <i>jus</i> (ʒü).	

* (see *l*^o, *ē*^o, *ō*^o, *ū*^o) } see Vol. I of Dict., p.
l^o = (see *ā*^l, *ō*^u) } xxxiv, note 3.

' as in able (*ə^h·b^h·l*), eaten (*ɪ·t^h·n*) = voice-glide.

* Words such as *soft, cloth, cross* are often still pronounced with (ʃ) by Southern speakers in England but the pronunciation with *θ* is now more usual.

|| Only in foreign (or earlier English) words.

THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

SUPPLEMENT

A. Add: From A to Z: see Z 3.

II. 6. Designating a first-class road.
1921 *Advertiser* 29 Oct. 85/12 Those roads, however, which have already received numbers are all of the first, or A, category and it is by no means probable that their numbers will suffer any change after once being fixed. . . Six boundary roads radiating from London are taken as the basis. Road A1 is that from London to Edinburgh; A2 runs from London to Dover; A3 London to Portsmouth.

7. Used of a type of blood.
1927 *Jrnl. Amer. Med. Assoc.* LXXXVIII. 1422/1 Dr. Karl Landsteiner has suggested the substitution of the well known letters O, A, B and AB for the Janaki numbers I, II, III and IV and the Moss numbers IV, II, III and I. The letters will, . . . express the actual constitution of the blood corpuscles with respect to iso-agglutination, as far as it concerns the separation of the groups. 1928 *Jrnl. Exper. Med.* XLVII. 757 They separate the human bloods into four sharply defined groups designated as O, A, B, and AB.

III. (All abbreviations given here with the full stop are frequently used without it.) A, adult, designating films suitable for exhibition to adult audiences; A., a., ampere; A, atom(ic); A, in *GA*, Australian; Å., Ångström; A.A., A.-A., anti-aircraft; A.A., Automobile Association; A.A.A., Amateur Athletic Association; A.A.F., Auxiliary Air Force; A.A.M., air-to-air missile; A and R. (see *quots.*); A.B., Bachelor of Arts (U.S. examples); A.B.C., Aerated Bread Company; A.B.C.A., Army Bureau of Current Affairs, an organization which provided troops with information about current affairs during the 1939-45 war; A.C., A/C, aircraftman; A.C., a.c., alternating current; A.C.C., anodal (or anodic) closure contraction; A.C.S., antitreticulatory cytotoxic serum; A.C.T., Australian Capital Territory; A.C.T.H., adrenocorticotrophic hormone; A.C.W., aircraftwoman; A.D.C., aide-de-camp, hence A.D.C.-ship, aide-de-campship; A.D.F., automatic direction finder; A.D.G.B., Air Defence of Great Britain; A.D.P., automatic data processing; A.D.(S.), autograph document (signed); A.F., a.f., audio frequency; A.F.C., Air Force Corps; A.F.M., Air Force Medal; A.F.S., Auxiliary Fire Service; A.F.V., armoured fighting vehicle; A.H., *Anno Hegiræ* (see *HEGIRÆ*); A.I., Air Interception; A.I., A.I.D., A.I.H., artificial insemination (by donor, husband); A.I.D., Aeronautical Inspection Directorate (in *quot.* 1918 Department); A.I.F., Australian Imperial Force; A level, Advanced level (of the General Certificate of Education examination); A.I.(S.), autograph letter (signed); A.M., Albert Medal; A.M.G., Allied Military Government; A.N.(S.), autograph note (signed); A.P., Associated Press; A.R.P. (see *‘AIR-RAID’*); A.S.M., air-to-surface missile; A/S.R.S., Air-Sea Rescue Service; A.S.V., air(craft) to surface vessel; A.T.A., Air Transport Auxiliary; A.T.C., Air Traffic Control; A.T.C., Air Training Corps; A.T.C., Automatic Train Control; A.T.S., animal tub-sized; A.T.V., Associated Television; A.U., A.U., Ångström Unit; A.V.H., initials of Hungarian secret police, also A.V.O.; A.V.M., Air Vice-Marshal; A.W.O.L., absent without leave (orig. U.S.).

1914 *Times* 16 Feb. 6/2 Since the inception of the board [British Board of Film Censors], 627 have been passed for 'public' exhibition with the 'A' certificate. 1935 *Ld. Macmillan Local Gov. Law & Admin.* III. 166 It is the practice of the Board of Film Censors to distinguish between films suitable for universal exhibition ('U' films) and films suitable for exhibition to adult audiences ('A' films) which by implication are unsuitable for children. 1936 *Sunday Express* 13 Dec. 14/1 Cinema Theatres. Academy, Ox.-st. Finnish Epic 'Fredlos' (A). 1889 *S. R. Borrowes Electric Bells* ii. 36 Or if we like to use the initials of volts, amperes, and ohms, we may write $\bar{R} = A$, or Volts = Amperes. Ohms.
1937 *Rep. Joint Comm. Chem. Soc. Faraday Soc. etc.* 11 Ampere (in sub-units) = a. 1948 *Daily Mirror* 8 Aug. 1 (headline) Jap Radio says Evacuants - Warn A-Bombs. 1954 *Britannica Bk. of Year* 637/2 A-test, a test explosion of an atomic bomb. 1956 *Whitaker's Alman.* 1957 870/2 Total Imports, 1955-56. (A104,687,000. 1914 *Times Book of Navy* 145 The abbreviations used in the lists are as follows: . . . A.A., Anti-aircraft guns. 1917 *Contract Airman's Out-ings* 157 The A.A. batteries have only worried us to the extent of half a dozen shells. 1943 *N. & Q.* CLXXIV. 107/2 A.A. barrage was audible from twenty miles away. 1905 *Aisicor* 12 Oct. 443/1 Common-sense precautions taken with regard to villages, and at dangerous points, do not concern the A.A., for therein it is considered lies the duty of the policeman. 1937 *Discovery* July liv/2 (Adv.), Victoria Hotel, A.A. H. & C. Electricity. 1888 *Advertiser* XL. 1450, *Railways* Laws to be observed at every electric Meeting held under the sanction of the A.A.A. 1955 *Times* 30 July 3/5 B. S. Hewson, the A.A.A. mile champion. 1925 *Flight* 15 Jan. 32/2 The designating numbers of the A.A.F. units will start with 500. 1955 *Aero-Space Terms* 1/1 A.A.M., Air-to-air missile. 1958 *Times* 26 May 7/6 A and R men, dee-jays, pluggers—to use the abbreviated titles by which artists and recording managers, disc jockeys and exploitation men are known. 1959 *TV Times* 14 Aug. 12/1 It all revolves around someone known as an 'A' and R man'. The common translation of 'A' and 'R' is Artists and Repertoire—and it is for these two items that the A and R man is responsible. 1773 *Roscoe News-Let.* 29 Apr. 1/2 Last Friday departed this life. John Alden, A.B., aged 22. 1824 *Kocherbocher* XIX. 419 A man may write A.B. after his name, and even A.M., and be no great things either. 1809 *Rep. to Harvard Club of Chicago* 2 (D.A.E.), Educational qualifications equivalent to the Harvard A.B. 1804 *Punch* 13 Dec. 285/1 I pass an A.B.C., Where I purchase two or three cakes and scones. 1941 *E. Bunford Thomas Hardy* 10 Afterwards we went to a Lyons tea-shop, at which he [Hardy] was a little alarmed, being used only to an A.B.C. 1943 *Rep. Comm. on Amenities in Women's Services* (Cmd. 6584) 44 ABCA came into existence in September, 1941, to remedy this ignorance and to mitigate boredom. 1889 *E. J. Houston Dict. Electr. Words* 8 A.C.C.—An abbreviation used in medical electricity for *Anodic Closure Construction*, or the contraction observed on closing the circuit when the anode is lying over the anode. 1803 *Dunlopian Dict. Med. Sci.* (ed. 2) p. vii. A.C.C., anodal closure contraction. 1938 *Official Year Bk. Australia* 390 A.C.T. 1948 *S. J. Evans Austral. Lang.* 2, 189 We use A.C.T. or P.C.T. to denote the Australian or Federal Capital Territory where Canberra is situated. 1837 *Edinb. Rev.* 28 Oct. in *Up the Country* (1866) i. 1. 9 The A.D.C.'s are very apt to assemble over our cabins at night. 1888 *Rippling Plain Tales* fr. *Hills* 10 In the A.D.C. in *Walden*. 1896 *Punch* 4 Jan. 5/1 Permitted to retain his A.D.C.-ship after promotion from field-rank. 1948 *Shell Aviation News* No. 123, 10/2 When homing on a ground station with the ADF the passage of the aircraft over the station is indicated by a 180° reversal of bearing within a few seconds. 1908 *Flight* 6 May 27/2 The Fighting and Wessex Bombing Armes are under the A.O.C.-in-C. A.D.G.B. 1944 *Times* 1 Mar. 4/5 Sir Archibald Sinclair disclosed for the first time that the organization responsible for the air defence of this country is now known as A.D.G.B. (Air Defence of Great Britain). 1958 *Engineer* 24 Apr. 44/1 Automatic data processing (for ADP) is the modern nervous system of corporate bodies. 1861 *Saturday & Wilkinson Catal.* 1 July Tenison Mss. 36 A. signifies *Autograph* S. signifies *Signed* L. signifies *Letter* D. signifies *Document*. *Ibid.* 50 *Coburn*, A.L.S. to *Cavalier* Bernini, 1665 —Permitted the architect of the Louvre! A.D.S. with portrait. 1912 *F. K. Walter Abbrev. & Techn. Terms Book*

Catal. 1 A.D., Autograph document. A.D.S., Autograph document signed. 1919 *Whitaker's Alman.* 144/1 *The Air Force Corps*. 1918—A.F.C.—Instituted for acts of courage or devotion to duty when flying, although not in active operations against the enemy. 1919 *London Gas* (Suppl. 3) 13 Dec. 15/40/5 Actg. Sergeant Elmo O'Neal Boarder, A.F.M. (South Russia). 1921 *S. C. Johnson Medal Collector* 137 A.F.M.—As for the A.F.C., but the width of the stripes is 3 of an inch. The D.F.M. and A.F.M. ribbon will show at the top corner nearest to the left arm a triangle of white. 1909 *War Weekly* 1 Dec. 166/1 Flying Officer R. C. Graveley, O.B.E., receiving congratulations from members of a Leytonstone A.F.S. station. 1940 *New Statesman* 21 Dec. 642 Most of its best workers are busy on A.R.P., or A.F.S., or evacuation, or some other emergency job. 1939 *War Illustr.* 18 Nov. p. 11/1 War-time Abbreviations: A.F.V., Armoured Fighting Vehicle. 1924 *Wardens' Bulletin* (City of Oxford Civil Defence) No. 53, 18 June 3 Vehicles. Very dark dull grey with dark brown disruptive design. A.F.V.'s have black cross outlined in white. 1968 *Ginsow Dict.* 6 F.V. III. 418 The foundations of Baghdad were laid A.C. 145, A.D. 769. 1940 *P. Sykes* *Warrior in Arabia* iv. 25 14 (in the wooden minbar) belonged to the year A.H. 603 (1203 A.D.). 1945 *Electronic Engin.* XVII. 663 With the Battle of Britain by night must be associated the use of A.I. or Air Interception. 1948 *Flight* 21 June 66/4 Later on came airborne interception equipment (A.I.), which comprised a radar set in the aircraft by means of which the target objective could be registered, stalked and attacked. 1928 *C. Bright Telegr., Aeronaut. & War* ix. 291 Steps should be taken to introduce into the Aeronautical Inspection Department (A.I.D.) more who have had a training that would especially fit them for the work in a technical sense. 1931 *Flight* 16 Jan. 56/2 Those who occupy those front offices such as the A.I.D. and the Meteorological Office staff. 1928 *Official Year Bk. Australia* XI. 109 Little difficulty was experienced in obtaining and training horses for the mounted units of the A.I.F. 1940 *War Illustr.* 16 Feb. 121 The Second A.I.F.—Australian Imperial Force—consisting of men who have volunteered for service either at home or abroad. 1921 *Joint Marine Board Gen. Exam.* Reg. 6 1/2 A language is to be specially approved at the A level. 1955 *Jrnl. Educ.* May 220/1 The award of an 'O' level pass on the 'A' level papers. 1881 *Pitt-Rivers & Simpson Catal.* 29 July, Autograph Letters 1, Letters autograph and signed are thus marked. A.L.S. 1928 *Times* 6 Sept. 3/2 It is notified in Army Orders that officers who have been awarded the Albert Medal are now entitled to add the distinctive letters 'A.M.' after their names. 1922 *F. K. Walter Abbrev. & Techn. Terms Book Catal.* 1 A.N.S. Autograph note signed. 1879 *Chicago Tribune* 4 Mar. 5/4 Now, the A.P. may be a very wicked institution, but a 'Monopoly' it is not. 1947 *Hum. Evidence Subm. to Royal Comm. on Press* 1. 14 The full A.P. service is provided to Press Association and a selection of items is distributed to subscribers in this country. 1958 *Aero-Space Terms* 4/2 ASM, air-to-surface missile. 1944 *U.S. War Dept. Techn. Manual* TM 11-687 35 A.S.V. 1945 *Flight* 23 Aug. 210/1 A centimetric A.S.V., the device carried in Coastal Command aircraft which directed them to the surfaced U-boat. 1949 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut.* Sec. LIII. 959/2 The inefficiency of A.T.C. (Air Traffic Control) procedures and patterns. 1934 *Railway Mag.* Apr. 290 A telegraph diagram of Signal A.T.C. system. 1958 *Engineering* 14 Mar. 356/1 Before the Second World War, in general, the Great Western railway had A.T.C. and the other British railways did not. 1912 *Spalding & Hoag's Paper Terminol.* i. 1 Animal Tub-sized, or A.T.S., a telegraph diagram of Signal A.T.C. system. 1958 *Engineering* 14 Mar. 356/1 Before the Second World War, in general, the Great Western railway had A.T.C. and the other British railways did not. 1912 *Spalding & Hoag's Paper Terminol.* i. 1 Animal Tub-sized, or A.T.S., a telegraph diagram of Signal A.T.C. system. 1958 *Engineering* 14 Mar. 356/1 Before the Second World War, in general, the Great Western railway had A.T.C. and the other British railways did not. 1912 *Spalding & Hoag's Paper Terminol.* i. 1 Animal Tub-sized, or A.T.S., a telegraph diagram of Signal A.T.C. system. 1958 *Engineering* 14 Mar. 356/1 Before the Second World War, in 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regiment I would be an 'a-w-o-l'. 1929 *Amer. Speech* IV, 351 Absence without leave is a military offense designated by the abbreviation AWOL, usually written without periods and with small letters, in the pronunciation of which each letter is pronounced. 1949 *Woodsword* *Making Season* x. 98 Nothing sticks the *ad* into your chateleine more than a guest being constantly a.w.o.l. 1957 B. & C. Evans *Dial. Contemp. Amer. Usage* 912 AWOL. In World War I. was pronounced as four letters; in World War II, it was pronounced as a word.

|| **aa** (ā-ā). *Geol.* [Hawaiian 'a-ā.] A rough, scoriaceous lava, one of the two chief forms of lava emitted from volcanoes of the Hawaiian type, the other being ***PAHOEHOE**.

1899 R. C. HASKELL in *Amer. J. Sci.* 6. 4. 2 Ser. XXVIII, 90 We saw 'pahoehoe' or solid lava forming, and also 'aa' or clinkers. 1906 *Encycl. Brit.* XI, 531 The *aa* or spiky lava, which, on account of its extreme roughness and hardness, is carefully avoided by all travellers. 1883 C. E. DUTTON in *U.S. Geol. Surv. 4th Ann. Rep.* 93 The second form of the lavas is called by the natives *aa*, and its contrast with *pahoehoe* is about the greatest imaginable. It consists mainly of clinkers sometimes detached, sometimes partially agglutinated together with a bristling array of sharp, jagged, angular fragments. 1914, 1920 See ***BLACK** sb. 23, *black lava*. 1944 C. A. COTTON *Volcanoes* iv. 27 Cooling and solidification inevitably take a different course. In lava flows, producing the clinker-like 'aa' lava.

|| **aandblom** (āntblōm). *S.Afr.* Also 9 **aantblom**, **avondblom**. [Afrikaans, f. *aand* evening + *blom* flower; cf. *Du. avondblom*.] Any of several sweet-scented iridaceous wild flowers, esp. *Hesperantha falcata*. Also dim. **aandblommietje** (-akn) (earlier often written in *Du. form avondblommietje*).

182a BURCHELL *Trans.* I, 273, I here met with a remarkable species of *Avondblom* (*Hesperantha*). 1870 *Capit. Monthly Mag.* Aug. 108 The scent of the 'avondblommietje' is fragrant in the evening. 1904 A. MARTIN *Home Life Ostfriesland* 21 Another of our favourites was the *aandblom*, a kind of iris. 1925 R. MARLOTH *Flora S. Afr.* iv. 145 *H. falcata* (*Avondblom*), generally pronounced 'aandblom'. 1927 *Chambers' J. Bot.* 1901 Wild flowers, from the stately arum lily, to the modest *aandblom*, which at night perfumed the whole with its fragrance. 1927 *Farming S. Afr.* 171 How often does one see, the beautiful 'painted ladies' or 'aandblommietjes' adding scent to the garden in the evening. 1923 V. BUCHANAN-GOULD *Heritage* v. 80 Here the flowers had no perfume except for the rare *aandblom*.

|| **aaavogel** (ā-āvōgəl). Also **aaavōel**. [S. African Du., f. *aa* carrion (cf. *EES*) + *vogel* bird, Fowl sb.; Afrikaans *aaavōel*.] A South African vulture, esp. *Gyps holboeti*.

1838 W. C. HARRIS *Exped. S. Afr.* xix. 186 note, *Valtus Fulvus*, and *Valtus Auricularis*: White and Black *AA* v. 194, They would not be found till the *aaavogel* had picked their clean. 1909 *Kingsley's First Nations* 94 Well the *aaavogel* know it. 1910 J. BUCHAN *Frederick John* iv. 73, I thought it was an *aaavogel*, but another thought it was a baboon. 1924 R. CAMPBELL *Flaming Terroir* vi. 90 Great *aaavogel*, like beetles on a pond, veered in slow circles. 1939 S. CLYDE *Wild S. Afr. Du. Hist.* 154 'What are you looking for up there?' 'AAavogel, brother. Where there is death there are vultures.'

aba, **abba** (ā-bā). [Arab. *abā*.] A sleeveless outer garment, resembling a sack with openings for the head and arms, worn by Arabs.

1811 *tr. Niebuhr's Trav. Arab.* xxiii, in Pinkerton *Foy* X, 136 A blind tutor at Basra, who earned his bread by making *Abbas*. 1833 A. CAICHTON *Hist. Arabia* II, v. 19 A silk gown, over which is thrown a white abba of the finest manufacture of El Hassa. *Ibid.* viii. 350 The common abba is without sleeves, resembling a sack, with openings for the head and arms. 1860 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* viii. 496 Gallatians in his league, carrying short swords under their long abbas. 1934 F. STARR *Valleys Assassins* II, 74, I enveloped myself in the brown abba, slightly pinned under the chin. 1962 M. HONE *House of Shade* iii. 54 Over it was an abba, or sleeveless coat of fine linen.

abac (ā-bāk). [ad. Fr. *abaque*, ad. L. *abacus*; cf. **ABACK**.] An alignment chart, a type of nomogram, by means of which the value required is read off by placing a ruler or other straight edge across points representing known values.

F. *abaque* in this sense is used by L. Lalanne, *Description et Usage de l'Abaque* (1843); in an 1846 Eng. tr. of Lalanne, *abaque* is rendered by *abacus*.

1930 R. T. BEATTY *Radio Data Charts* 121 We have two variable quantities which we multiply together to obtain the third variable, that is, we have to draw scales for three quantities, a, b, c, so that a.b = c. Having thus ascertained the relative sizes of the scales, we can proceed to construct the abac. 1934 *J. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XXXVIII, 545 An abac is constructed to give rapid determination of exposure time in reference to time of year, state of sky, rapid method of circuit and transformer design is given in which a series of 'abacs' is used to evaluate the design constants.

abaca. (Examples.)

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III, 179 Fine timber is to be found in all the islands (Philippines); also, abaca, a kind of hemp. 1909 *Teachers' Assembly Herald* i. 431 Weaving with the

fine threads of abaka. 1925 in J. A. Hammerton *Countries of World V*, 32381 The staple abaca, or hemp, the product which first made the name of Manila known all over the world.

aback, *adv.* Add: 4. *aback of, aback of*: at the back of, on the back of, behind (cf. *back of*, *BACK*, *ad.* 14). *arch.*, *dial.* (see *E.D.D.* and *Sc. Nat. Dict.*), and U.S. (where *Obs.* or *dial.*).

1773 W. FLEMING *J. in Kentucky* 8 Jan. in Merceus *Trav. Amer. Col.* (1818) 663 Fern Creek is but in ponds and low flat land a back of the Falls. 1836 *EDWARD Hist. Texas* v. 79 Those districts. *aback* of the older settled ones. 1849 *Gloss. Prov. Words* 24 *aback*, prep. Behind; as, stand *aback* of me. 1876 *MORRIS Sigurd* II, 130 So he leapt *aback* of Greyell, and rideth the desert bare. 1894 *HALL CAINE* *Mantano* I, xi. 50 Just *aback* of the lighthouse. 1908 J. LUMSDEN *Down* i. *Loudons* 80 Be aff, ye limmer, unman men nae mair, A-back o' granny, is the post for you!

abaction. Delete †, for *Obs.* read *rare*, and add example.

1940 C. FRY *Lady's net for Burning* II He says he has also committed petty larceny, *Abaction*, persecution and incendiarism.

abalone (æbālō-ni). U.S. Also **abalone**, **avalone**, etc. [Amer. Sp. *abulón* (f. Monterey Indian *aulón*) in same sense.] A gastropod mollusc of the genus *Haliotis*, used for food; an ear-shell or sea-ear. Also *attrib.*

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* I, xvii. 174 The *abalone*, which is a univalve, fusing clinging to the sides of rocks, furnishes the finest mother-of-pearl. 1890 *Amer. Naturalist* III, 250 These shells are popularly called *Sea-ears*. In California the people call them *Abalones*. *Ibid.* 256 *Haliotis* or *Abalone* shells. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 728 They [cf. Chinamen in S. California] prepare the *abalones* meat and *avalonia* shells for their home market. 1920 *Encycl. Brit.* I, 6 The *abalone* shell is found, on the southern California coast, and when polished makes a beautiful ornament. 1936 RUSSELL & YONOR *Seas* (ed.) xvi. 350 Among the many shells used for decorative purposes we mention one, known in the Channel Islands as the Ormer and on the Pacific coast of North America as the *Abalone*.

abandon, *sb.*† Delete || and add earlier and later examples.

182a L. SIMON *Switzerland* I, 285 There was more *abandon* to what [sic: Mme de Staël] said, than in what she wrote. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III, 358 It is the heart alone which is surrendered to its 'abandon'. 1924 *Joyce Ulysses* 536 She also was Spanish or half so, types that wouldn't do things by halves, passionate abandon of the south. 1930 W. S. MAUGHAN *Gen. in Parlow* xxxix. 223 There was no abandon in their dance.

abasia (ābā-siā). *Med.* [mod.L., ad. F. *abastie*, f. A-14 + Gr. *basis* step: see -14.] Inability to walk, caused by lack of coordination of the muscles. Hence *abasic* a Cf. ***ASTASIA**.

1890 [see ***ASTASIA**]. 1896 P. C. KNAPP in *J. Nerv. & Ment. Dis.* XVI, 673 (*title*) *Abasia-abasia*, with the report of a case of paroxysmal trepidant abasia associated with paralysis agitans. 1909 *Gen. Med. Suppl.* *Abasia*, *abasia*, *abasia*. A. BRILL *tr. Freud's Traum & Taboo* 159 A motor inhibition, an *abasia* or an *agoraphobia*, becomes perfected and detailed.

abater†. (Earlier and later examples.)

1609 W. M. Man in the *Moone* sig. C1v, He (the Tobackonist, i.e. a smoker) is his own strength's enfeebler, his appetites abater, his reason's abater. (1772) At a Time, or necessity, the ordinary abater of all violent passions. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVII, 538 It is not... with the remotest intention of reflecting on the abaters of the dog-cart nuisance.

abat-jour. Add to def.: Also, a device for reflecting light downwards. (Examples.)

1890 in *Barrow's Dict. Archit.* 1863 J. W. CROKER in *Tr. Rev.* XCIII, 473 He was confined to a single room, it had one window, closely barred and blinded by an abat-jour, which admitted only a small degree of oblique light. 1926 *Burlington Mag.* July 31/3 Two candlesticks behind are formed of leaves; between them is a vertical metal post bearing on the upper part a movable canopy serving as abat-jour.

|| **abaton** (æ-bātōn). *Greek Antiq.* [a. Gr. *ābatōn*, neut. sing. of *ābatos* not to be trodden, f. *ā-* priv. + *batōs* accessible (*Batwey* to walk, go.) An enclosure attached to a temple of Asclepius, where patients slept.

1864 A. C. MASON *Amer. Antiquarian* VI, 304 The *abaton* sleep fell upon him, and a serpent issuing from the *abaton*, healed his toe with his tongue, and when he had done this he glided back again into the *abaton*. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 302 The patients were sleeping in the sacred enclosure or *abaton* of the temple. 1924 *Lancet* i. Oct. 689 In nearly all cases the patient comes to the shrine of Asclepius, sleeps in the 'abaton', has a vision or a dream.

abattoir. Delete || and 'public'. Add earlier and later examples.

1820 M. STARR *Trav. on Continents* i. 5 Among the most prominent improvements... during the late reign are the five slaughter-houses, called *Abattoirs*. 1833 *Forster's Cyc.* I, 812 The *abattoirs* of Paris are five in number; three being on the right bank of the Seine, and two on the left. 1866

Cycl. Useful Arts I, 213 *Abattoirs* have recently been erected in London. 1958 *Times Rev. Industry* Sept. 7/3 Economy installations in Sheffield Corporation abattoir's boiler plant will save the ratepayers £700 a year.

abaya (ābā-yā). Also **abei**, **abai**, **abaiya**, **abeya**, **abaye**, etc. [Arab. *'abdaya* = ***ABA**.] 1836 *LANE* *Mod. Egypt* I, i. 35 A kind of black woollen cloak, called *abdaya*. 1853 J. L. PORTER 5 *Yrs. Damascus* I, iv. 195 The ample folds of an *abey*. 1884 S. W. BAKER *Heart Africa* iii. 36 (Stanford) A white cashmere *abai*. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 358/3 A dazzling yellow 'ibba' covered by a red 'abaya'. 1904 F. STARR *Leit. from Syria* iv. 172 A man in a black 'abaya' galloped past. 1946 A. KORSTLER *Thieves in Night* II, iii. 144 Issa came in, his *abaya* hurriedly thrown over his underclothes.

abba†, see ***ABA**†.

Abbasid, *-ide* (ābē-sīd, æ-bā-sīd, -oid), a and sb. Also **Abbasid**, *-ide*. [f. name of *Abbas* (566-652) + patronymic suff. -ide.] A. *ad.* of or pertaining to the dynasty (750-1258) of caliphs of Baghdad claiming descent from Abbas, uncle of Mohammed. B. *sb.* A member of this dynasty.

1788 *Gibbon's Decl. & F. V.* iii. 431 The bloody conflict of Ommeiads and Abbasides. 1879 *Rev. & Ex. Rayer's God in His Works* iii. 54 The Omniad Caliphate of Damascus and the Abbasid Caliphate of Baghdad began and ended. When the thirty-seven Abbasids began to reign, Zacharias was in the Chair of Peter. 1920 H. G. WELLS *Outline Hist.* vi. xxiii 321/2 Another great Arab, the Abbas, the Abbas family, the Abbasids, had long been scheming for power. 1923 *Ibid.* vi. xxiii. 337/2 There was still an Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad. 1963 *Lancet* 14 Mar. 471/1 Under the Abbasid and Umayyad dynasties, Arab and Jew served as transmitters of arts and skills.

abbé. (Earlier and later examples.)

1330 *PALSGRAVE* *Lucubrations* II, i. lvi, For to the abbe. they say a *labbé*. 1701 T. MARWOOD *Dyary in Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1909) VII, 100, I walk out to y^e Abbe's a League & 4 off. *Ibid.* 108 And [we had] Abbe Villereville with us. 1712 *Swift's* *to St. John* (3 Dec. 1712), I must see the Abbe Gaultier. 1719 *Rev. & Ex. Rayer's* *Heuridia*, C^{tes} of Suffolk (1824) I, 34 A French marquis drove an abbe from the table by railing against the vast riches of the church. 1885 *LORD R. GOWER* *Old Diaries* 10 Apr. (1902) 20 Monsieur Floquet, is a grey-haired, little man, looking something between an actor and an abbe.

abbesa. Add: † *b. transf.* (See quot. 1785.) *Obs.* (See also *Farmer's Slang* (1890) I, 3/2.)

1749 J. CLELAND *Mem. Woman Pleasur* I, 59 Who should come in but the venerable mother Abbesa herself! handed in by a tall, brawny young horse-greaser. 1770 [see *Nus* sb. 1 c.], 1782 *GOSSET* *Old Vulg. Tongue*, *Abbesa* or *Lady Abbesa*, a bawd, the mistress of a brothel. 1793 'PETER PINDAR' *Poet. Epistle to the Pope* 33 So an old Abbesa for the rattling Rakes, A tempting diad of human nature makes. 1837 W. KIPPO *London & its Dangers* 36 The Internal wretches, who traffic in the souls and bodies of their helpless victims, are called—Lady Abbesas.

Abbevillian (æb-vi-li-ən). a. Also **Abbevillian**. [ad. Fr. *Abbevillien* (H. Breuil 1932, in *Préhistoire* I, 125), f. the place-name *Abbeville* (Somme), France.] = ***CHELLEAN** a. Also *absoi*.

1928 G. B. BROWN *Art of Cave Dweller* II, 36 The so-called early 'drift' period is generally called the 'Chelles' period... though in honour to Boucher de Perthes it might well have been named after Abbeville. 1924 L. S. L. KEAY *Adam's Ancestors* v. 101 L. Abbe Breuil, has suggested the substitution of the name Abbevillian for Chelles, since Chelles from which the latter name is derived is not a Chelles site. 1937 *Discovery* June 1972 The Sinanthropus [industry], belongs to the Lower Pleistocene and is attributed to the Abbevillian in the French palaeolithic sequence. 1947 J. C. & HAWKES *Prehist. Brit.* i. 12 Contemporary with the earliest Abbevillian was the Cromer flake culture.

abbey. Add: 4. *abbey-counter* (see **COUNTER** sb. 2 a), a medal presented to a pilgrim as a token of his having visited a shrine. (Cf. **PILGRIM**'s sign.)

1839-43 C. KNIGHT *Pict. Edition Works Shakespeare, Comedies* II, 231/1 Jettions, were commonly used for purposes of calculation, in abbeys and other places... From their being found among the ruins of English abbeys they are usually termed *abbey-counters*. 1868 *STEPHENS* *Runic Mon.* II, 535 There was also a class of jettons commonly called *abbey-counters*, with similar or cognate instructive stamps.

abbeyyed (æ-bīd), a. [f. *ABBEY* + -ED†.] Provided with an abbey or abbeys.

1828 [see *MANSIONED* Pp. 121]. 1864 A. JEFFREY *Hist. Roxburghshire* IV, i. 36 Bonny Teviotdale, abbeyyed, weaved and castled. 1864 E. CATER *My Father* III, 30 Now ancient Shrewsbury appears in sight. Fair-abbey'd formerly ere Faith's decline.

abbozzo (ābbō-tso). Also **abozzo**. [It.] A rough drawing or sketch (for a portrait, etc.); an outline or draft (of a speech, essay, etc.).

1849 [see ***ALLA PRIMA**]. 1890 *Monthly Diary*, *Novell*, (1917) I, 236 *Ad. Cater* *My Father* III, 30 Now ancient Shrewsbury appears in sight. Fair-abbey'd formerly ere Faith's decline.

1905 W. HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raphaelitism* I, xiii, 361 Another drawing abbozzo, said to be a portrait.