

HARRAP'S NEW STANDARD FRENCH AND ENGLISH DICTIONARY

by

J. E. MANSION, M.A.

Revised and Edited by

R. P. L. LEDÉPERT, *Licencié-ès-Lettres, Licencié en Droit, ❷*

and

MARGARET LEDÉPERT, M.A. ❷

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A—I

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**HARRAP'S NEW STANDARD
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Preface

THIS work is a completely revised and greatly enlarged edition of *Harrap's Standard French and English Dictionary* and represents research work carried out over many years by a whole team of collaborators. As the card index of the original edition was destroyed during World War II, a new one was compiled after 1945 by the wearisome task of cutting up copies of the 1940 edition and pasting each headword on a separate card. These cards already formed an index of considerable dimensions, but it did not remain static, and in a very short space of time thousands of new cards had been added, representing words not appearing in the original dictionary and new acceptations of existing words. The new material was derived from a number of sources: the examination of the most modern unilingual dictionaries; the reading of periodicals and recently published books; suggestions sent in by users of the dictionary; and words or expressions gleaned quite fortuitously in the course of conversation. Our friends are no longer astonished to hear, "*What did you say? I don't think we have that in our dictionary. Do you mind if I make a note of it in my little book?*" In fact our research has gone much beyond the existing dictionaries in both languages.

By 1950 enough material had been gathered to publish a supplement, of which the second and third augmented editions appeared in 1955 and 1961. It was then evident that the additional material being collected was too extensive to make the publication of a fourth supplement a practical solution, so activities were directed towards the preparation of a completely new edition of the French-English part of the dictionary, which should not only incorporate the 1961 supplement and include further additional words and expressions, but should also comprise a complete revision of existing articles. Both the English and French languages have evolved rapidly over the last thirty to forty years, but not always in the same direction or at the same pace, so it stands to reason that what in 1934 was the best translation of a given expression is not necessarily the best translation today. In particular, many expressions which in the inter-war years were Americanisms have now become the standard English of the British Isles, and have superseded the expressions currently used in the twenties or thirties. Moreover, the French used in some of the examples relating to everyday conversation now appears stilted or old fashioned, so in these cases the more current expression has been substituted.

This must not be taken to mean that all words or expressions (including colloquialisms or even slang) no longer in current use have been deleted. This dictionary is intended not only for the user who requires an extensive vocabulary of modern French, but also for one who may be reading literature or scientific or technical works published in the past. Purely literary words or expressions are consequently marked *Lit.*; obsolete or archaic ones *A.*; and obsolescent ones, used currently largely by the older generations, *O.*. It is also important to point out the distinction between *A.* preceding a category indication and *A.* following one; for example, the name of a ship no longer used (e.g. *galion*, *s.m.* *galleon*) would be labelled *A.Nau.*, while an expression indicating a nautical operation which has now been replaced by a more modern expression would be labelled *Nau. A.*

No dictionary can contain a complete word list, and it has been difficult at times to know where to draw the line in order to produce within a reasonable space of time a work of manageable dimensions and of wide scope. The new material added pays particular attention to modern technical and scientific developments, including the fields of atomic physics, space travel and data processing, together with recent terms in connection with industries such as aircraft, automobiles, civil engineering, etc. The natural sciences, economics and finance have not been neglected; and a large number of colloquialisms (marked *F*;) and widely used slang expressions (marked *P*;) have been added. There is now a substantial list of French Canadianisms, and also words in use in French-speaking Switzerland and Belgium. It would, however, not have been practical to add all the compound words or combined forms deriving from prefixes such as *auto-*, *mono-*, *psycho-*, *sous-*, etc., so a broad representative selection has been included of the most widely used or those the translation of which presents difficulties.

Selection of words which may be described as *franglais* has been a difficult problem; we have included those which appear to be firmly established in the French language (e.g. *un parking*, *le pipeline*), though the user will note that we have used the symbol *F*: in many cases where purists might cast some doubt on their authenticity as wholly French words.

As far as the French word list is concerned widely used variants in spelling have been given, the variants appearing in their correct alphabetical place. For the English translations alternative spellings would not have been practicable, so the orthography used is that which appears to be the most current in the British Isles. Nevertheless, the American translation has been given alongside the British one (e.g. *essence*, *s.f.* *petrol*, *U.S.*: *gasoline*; *voiture*, *s.f.* *car*, *U.S.*: *automobile*), in cases where the usage differs considerably. And the attention of the North-American user or the Frenchman requiring, or more conversant with, the American form of spelling is drawn towards a few salient differences:

- (a) the English use of *-our* in words where American usage is *-or* (e.g. *Eng.*: *colour*, *favour*; *U.S.*: *color*, *favor*);
- (b) the English use of the final *-re* where American usage is *-er* (e.g. *Eng.*: *theatre*, *kilometre*, *centre*; *U.S.*: *theater*, *kilometer*, *center*);
- (c) the doubling of the *l* in English usage before an ending beginning with a vowel, irrespective of accentuation (e.g. *Eng.*: *woolien*, *travelling*; *U.S.*: *woolen*, *traveling*);
- (d) the single *l* in English usage before a final syllable beginning with a consonant, where American usage is *ll* (e.g. *Eng.*: *skillful*, *enrolment*; *U.S.*: *skillful*, *enrollment*);
- (e) the use of *c* in certain words in which American usage is *s* (e.g. *Eng.*: *defence*; *U.S.*: *defense*);
- (f) the greater use in scientific words of *æ* where American usage prefers *e* (e.g. *Eng.*: *anaemia*, *U.S.*: *anemia*);
- (g) the English preference for *ph* in scientific words such as *sulphur*, *sulphuric*, in contrast to the American use of *f* (*sulfur*, *sulfuric*).

It should also be noted that for words with the alternative suffixes *-ise* or *-ize* and *-isation* or *-ization* the forms *-ize* and *-ization* have been adopted throughout, as English usage is about equally divided between the two, and American practice favours the *-ize*, *-ization*.

The general principles of layout as explained in the *Plan of the Dictionary* that accompanied the original edition (see p. xviii) have been maintained, though a few minor modifications have been made for the convenience of the user. Participial forms used as independent adjectives or nouns figure in their correct alphabetical position, and no longer follow the verb from which they are derived. The use of capital letters in the text has been abandoned except, naturally, in cases where they are essential, so that the user shall no longer be in doubt as to which word requires a capital. For reasons of space economy headwords appearing in examples in exactly the same form are not repeated, but are represented by the initial letter; in this way we estimate that we have saved probably some 150,000 words, which is the equivalent of a large book. Separate entries for feminine forms of adjectives and verb conjugations have also been largely suppressed, as it is considered that the users of *Harra's New Standard French and English Dictionary* are sufficiently familiar with them to know without hesitation which headword to consult. In this way further space saving was achieved.

As far as the arrangement of the material under each headword is concerned, we have continued Mr Mansion's plan of using the subdivisions 1., 2., 3., etc. to denote important differences in the meaning or use of a word, and (a), (b), (c), etc. to show differences of lesser importance. In general the divisions (i), (ii), (iii), etc. are used to show different meanings of the same phrase, though in the longer articles they sometimes occur as subdivisions of (a), (b), etc. In addition to this the divisions I, II, etc. are sometimes used for very long articles when the word in question has several different grammatical functions, e.g. the word *sortir*, which is both an intransitive and a transitive verb and also a noun.

Two variants of the translation of a word or an expression are separated by a comma if the meaning is virtually identical; the semi-colon normally indicates a slight difference in meaning, but it is sometimes used to break up a complicated entry which might otherwise be confusing.

The use of the hyphen in the English translations has presented many problems as there is no hard and fast rule about it. As North-American usage seems to have to a large extent rejected the hyphen for compound nouns, and we in the United Kingdom are following this practice more and more, we have endeavoured to be forward-looking, and have printed most compound nouns either in two separate words or as one single word. Compound adjectives, however, are still presented with a hyphen, as this appears to be the general rule in both American and English practice. This will explain to the user the apparent contradiction of entries such as a *rolling mill* (two words) and *rolling-mill equipment* (hyphenated).

We have somewhat reduced the number of general cross references appearing in the dictionary. Cross references can at times be irritating to the user, particularly in a work of two or more volumes, so we have to an appreciable extent limited them to the longer references, where the inclusion of the examples under more than one headword would add too much to the bulk of the dictionary. Shorter examples usually appear under each of the main headwords concerned, though it must be pointed out that some idiomatic phrases appear only under the headword which to us seems to be the key word of the phrase.

We have maintained Mr Mansion's principle of giving the phonetics of every word listed, using the notation of the International Phonetic Association. The task has not been an easy one, particularly in view of the fact that we have had to supply the phonetics for a far longer list of words than any that has yet been published with phonetic transcription. Moreover, this work is not primarily a phonetic dictionary, and the phonetics are supplied to give the user a general guide to the most current way of pronouncing the words in question—of the way in which the average educated Frenchman pronounces them. We have therefore given relatively few alternative pronunciations, and have dispensed with nuances such as the introduction of the half-length sign [·], denoting a half lengthening within a phonetic group. We should also add that our task has been complicated by the fact that on certain points there is controversy among expert phoneticians as to what is the most usual pronunciation of certain words. We should like to take this opportunity of thanking M. B. Quémada for the help he has given us with the phonetic transcription.

The mechanics of the composition of a dictionary of this size is no small task. By the spring of 1967 it was felt that the research work had reached a sufficiently advanced stage to justify the preparation of the manuscript for the press, and work was started on letter A. As each letter (or part of a letter where the longer letters were concerned) was completed, the manuscript was sent to the printers, who duly supplied us with galley proofs. Their job was not easy as the copy, with many additions and amendments in handwriting, was by no means straightforward. This probably explains some of the amusing misprints we came across in the galleys, such as: *urine chargée*, clouded wine (for urine); *binoclard*, person who wears gloves (glasses); *arséniate diplomatique* (for *diplombique*); *écarts de régime*, overheating; *chien dressé à la propreté*, horse-trained dog; *voir grand*, to have pig ideas; *mouchoir de con* (cou), scarf; *l'industrie de la chaussure*, the boat and shoe industry; *pistolet*, bed wind (for urinal); *phantasme*, official illusion (for optical); *engager qn à l'heure*, to empty (for employ) s.o. by the hour; etc. We hasten to repeat that we blame our handwriting, not the printers, for these errors, for anything may be expected in a dictionary that lists extraordinary expressions such as the data-processing term 'eight-bit byte'; we can but express the hope that they helped our proof readers by bringing a little light relief to a most exacting task.

All the galley proofs were read by four or five readers, and when their corrections had been collated the work was set up in page proof, letter by letter. From that time onwards only minor amendments could be made, and additions were possible only if some existing item of lesser importance were deleted. In order to be able to publish the dictionary by 1972, the final version of letter A had to be passed for press early in 1970; it is therefore evident that any word beginning with A which appeared in the language for the first time in 1970 or 1971 could not be included. It is a matter of regret to us that the first volume (A-Cippe) of the 6-volume *Grand Larousse de la langue française* appeared too late in 1971 for us to be able to make use of it; we have, however, examined it, and are happy to be able to say that there are few words contained in it which we have not listed, and that the *New Standard* contains a number of words which do not appear in the *Grand Larousse*.

Our work necessitated the consultation of a vast number of dictionaries, books and periodicals. While it is impossible to list all the works to which reference has been made, we should like to acknowledge the considerable assistance offered to us by the following:

- Dictionnaire alphabétique et analogique de la langue française* (with supplement). P. Robert. (Société du nouveau Littré)
Le Petit Robert
Grand Larousse Encyclopédique (and supplement)
Petit Larousse
Dictionnaire du français contemporain (Larousse)
Dictionnaire Encyclopédique (Quillet)
Dictionnaire usuel Quillet-Flammarion
Encyclopédie internationale Focus (Bordas)
Le Bon Usage. M. Grevisse (J. Duculot, S.A.)
Dictionnaire des difficultés de la langue française. A. Thomas (Larousse)
Dictionnaire de la Prononciation française. L. Warnant (J. Duculot, S.A.)
Webster's New International Dictionary (second and third editions)
Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary
The Random House Dictionary of the English Language
The Penguin English Dictionary
Chambers's Twentieth Century Dictionary (with supplement)
The Penguin Dictionaries of Biology, Building, Civil Engineering, Electronics, Geography, Psychology and Science
Chambers's Technical Dictionary
Dictionnaire des termes techniques de médecine. Garnier et Delamare (Librairie Maloine, S.A.)
Stedman's Medical Dictionary (E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd)
Butterworth's Medical Dictionary
Dictionnaire technique des termes utilisés dans l'industrie du pétrole. Moureau et Rouge (Technip)
Vocabulaire franco-anglo-allemand de Géomorphologie. H. Baulig (Société d'édition: Les Belles Lettres)
Geological Nomenclature. J. Noorduyn en Zoon & N. V. Gorinchem (Ed. A. A. G. Schieferdecker)
A Dictionary of Geography. Monkhouse (Edward Arnold)
A Glossary of Geographical Terms. L. Dudley Stamp (Longmans)
Dictionary of Data Processing/Dictionnaire de l'Informatique. Camille & Dehaine (Harrap)
Dictionnaire d'Informatique. M. Ginguay (Masson, Paris)
Harrap's French-English Dictionary of Slang and Colloquialisms. J. Marks.

In this context we should like to express our thanks to the British Aircraft Corporation who made available to us their *Glossary of Aeronautical Terms*, French to English; and to Captain H. G. Sherwood (retired airline captain of B.O.A.C.), who was always ready to give us the benefit of his advice on aeronautical terms.

Our task would have been impossible without the assistance of the large army of helpers working in the Harrap offices and in all parts of the globe who have assisted us in our research work and in reading the proofs. We would like to pay a special tribute to M. Marcel Ferlin, whose association with the dictionary dates back to 1912 when, as a young *assistant* in Edinburgh, he began working with Mr Mansion in the early days of its conception. M. Ferlin continued his contributions to the dictionary throughout the years, sending in his *glanures* and correcting proofs until the time of his death in September 1970. It is a matter of great regret to us that he did not live to see the completion of the new dictionary, and in him we have lost not only a valuable helper but a great friend.

Another link with the original dictionary was provided by Mr H. R. Elphick, who was a member of Mr Mansion's office team. After the war he spent a number of years in New Zealand, and when he returned to England on his retirement he agreed to read the proofs of the new dictionary, and we are most grateful to him. In particular, his knowledge of the plan of the dictionary has enabled him to give us much valuable assistance in the matter of classification of the material in the longer articles.

Though in the later stages some of the preparation of the manuscript for the press was done in the office, much of it we did at home, with the indefatigable assistance of Miss Muriel Holland Smith. But we could not have accomplished it without the work of all the members of the office team who over the years have been responsible for research work and collation of material from outside sources, and we would like to express our sincere thanks to them. Some of them were with us for only a comparatively short space of time, others were able to give longer service, and among them we wish to mention particularly Mr P. H. Collin; Mrs Françoise Collin (*née* Laurendeau), who supplied us with French Canadianisms; Mrs E. A. H. Strick; Mrs A. Smetana-Thieberger; Mrs Valerie Deane; Mlle Christine Fontan; and Miss Vivien Flynn.

Apart from those mentioned in the prefaces to the Supplements (see p. xxii), outside contributors to whom we owe special thanks include MM. J. Bétesta, Michel Ginguay and Roland Ginguay, whose assistance, especially in the military and technical fields, has been of inestimable value; Mr H. T. Porter, who made a most valuable contribution on the names of European birds; Mrs Patricia Forbes, who was responsible for important additions to the vocabulary of natural history and the petroleum industry; and to Dr Feldblum, who supplied us with medical terms.

The assistance afforded to us by Professor L. C. Harmer did not cease with his contributions to the supplements, and we wish to thank him for continuing to help us with valuable additions and amendments and for reading some of the proofs. We also thank Dr Reginald Bowen, Mrs Patricia Forbes, Mr F. G. S. Parker, Mrs E. A. H. Strick and M. Michel Boutron for their help in reading the proofs.

Finally we should like to express our gratitude for their encouragement and for the help that they so frequently gave us, often unconsciously, in finding the word we were looking for, to all our friends living in and around Holyport, where we have our permanent home, and Les Pilles, the village in southern France where we have a house that was the scene of much of our labours.

RENÉ LEDÉSERT
MARGARET LEDÉSERT

December, 1971.

Préface

CET ouvrage est une édition complètement révisée et très agrandie du *Harrap's Standard French and English Dictionary* et représente le travail fait au cours de nombreuses années par toute une équipe de collaborateurs.

Le fichier rassemblé pour la préparation de la première édition a été détruit pendant la guerre mondiale. Il a donc fallu en créer un nouveau à partir de 1945, et ce travail fastidieux a été effectué en découpant des exemplaires de l'édition de 1940, et en collant chaque mot-clé sur une carte. Ces cartes formaient déjà un fichier très important, mais nous y avons travaillé sans relâche, et bientôt des milliers de nouvelles cartes y avaient été ajoutées pour les mots nouveaux et les sens nouveaux de mots qui figuraient déjà dans le dictionnaire. Nous avons réuni cette nouvelle documentation de toutes sortes de façons: la lecture des dictionnaires unilingues les plus récents, de revues et journaux, de livres récents; les usagers du dictionnaire nous ont envoyé de multiples suggestions; et des mots et expressions rassemblées par hasard au cours de conversations. Nos amis ne s'étonnent plus de nous entendre demander: "Qu'est-ce que vous dites? Je ne crois pas que ce soit dans le dictionnaire. Permettez-moi d'en prendre note dans mon calepin." En fait nos recherches ont de beaucoup dépassé les dictionnaires du français ou de l'anglais.

En 1950 nous avions déjà la documentation qui nous a permis d'éditer le premier supplément, suivi par une deuxième édition très augmentée de cet ouvrage en 1955, puis par une troisième en 1961. A cette date il était déjà évident que nous avions trop de nouveaux termes et expressions pour que la publication d'un quatrième supplément soit chose possible. Nous avons donc dirigé nos activités vers la préparation d'un nouveau texte du dictionnaire français-anglais qui comprendrait non seulement le supplément de 1961 mais la révision complète du texte original, ainsi que des milliers de mots et d'expressions supplémentaires. La langue française et la langue anglaise ont évolué rapidement au cours des trente ou quarante dernières années, mais cette évolution n'a pas toujours été parallèle. Il en résulte parfois que ce qui en 1934 était la meilleure traduction pour une expression donnée n'est plus la meilleure traduction aujourd'hui. Beaucoup d'expressions qui, entre les deux guerres, étaient des américanismes sont maintenant l'anglais standard des Iles Britanniques, et elles ont souvent remplacé des expressions courantes dans les années vingt ou trente. En outre, le français de beaucoup d'exemples de conversation courante était devenu guindé ou périmé, et chaque fois nous avons substitué l'expression courante.

Ceci ne signifie pas que tous les mots ou expressions (y compris expressions familières et argot) qui ne sont plus usités ont été supprimés. Ce dictionnaire est destiné non seulement à ceux qui veulent avoir accès à un vaste vocabulaire du français contemporain, mais aussi à ceux qui lisent des ouvrages scientifiques ou autres publiés dans le passé. Nous avons par conséquent indiqué les mots et expressions usités littérairement par l'abréviation *Lit.*; les mots anciens ou archaïques par *A.*; les mots qui vieillissent, mais qui sont toujours dans la bouche des générations nées vers 1910 par *O.*. Il faut noter d'autre part la distinction faite entre *A.* précédant l'indication d'une classification et *A.* suivant une classification. Par exemple, le nom d'un navire qui n'existe plus (*galion*, *s.m.* *galleon*) a l'étiquette *A.Nau.*, mais une expression indiquant une manœuvre navale qui a été remplacée par une expression moderne est mise dans la catégorie *Nau. A.*.

Il est impossible de faire un dictionnaire qui contienne tout le vocabulaire d'une langue. Il nous a été souvent difficile de décider où nous arrêter de façon à faire assez rapidement un ouvrage maniable et de portée universelle. La masse de nouveaux mots et expressions reflètent notre préoccupation d'expliquer l'évolution des techniques et des sciences, y compris les domaines des sciences atomiques, des voyages intersidéraux et de l'informatique, sans négliger les mots nouveaux d'industries plus anciennes, telles que l'aviation, l'automobile, ou le génie civil. Nous n'avons pas oublié les sciences naturelles, l'économie politique ou le monde de la finance. Et le lecteur verra que nous avons ajouté beaucoup d'expressions familières (*F.*) ou argotiques (*P.*). On trouvera aussi de nombreux *canadianismes* et des mots usités en Suisse et en Belgique. Il aurait été impossible d'inclure tous les mots composés formés à partir de préfixes comme *auto-*, *mono-*, *psycho-*, *sous-*, etc.; nous avons donc choisi les mots les plus courants, et ceux dont la traduction présente des difficultés.

Il nous a été difficile de faire le choix des mots que certains appellent *franglais*, mais nous avons noté ceux qui semblent fermement enracinés en France, comme par exemple un *parking*, ou le *pipeline*, et nous avons averti le lecteur quant à leur droit de cité dans le vocabulaire français en leur donnant l'étiquette *F.*

Nous avons noté dans leur ordre strictement alphabétique les variantes orthographiques des mots français. En ce qui concerne les traductions anglaises, nous avons donné l'orthographe la plus couramment usitée dans les Îles Britanniques. Cependant la traduction américaine accompagne la traduction anglaise quand l'usage est différent: par exemple *essence*, *s.f.* *petrol*, *U.S.* *gasoline*; *voiture*, *s.f.* *car*, *U.S.* *automobile*. D'autre part, nous attirons l'attention des Américains et Canadiens, ainsi que des Français qui veulent choisir l'orthographe américaine, sur une série de différences primordiales:

(a) l'usage en anglais de la terminaison *-our* alors que l'américain se sert de *-or* (par exemple, on écrit en anglais *colour*, *favour*, et en américain *color*, *favor*);

(b) la terminaison anglaise *-re* est remplacée par *-er* en américain (en anglais: *theatre*, *kilometre*, *centre*; en américain: *theater*, *kilometer*, *center*);

(c) dans l'usage anglais la lettre *l* est doublée quand la dernière syllabe comprend une voyelle, sans se préoccuper de l'accentuation (en anglais: *woollen*, *travelling*; en américain: *woolen*, *traveling*);

(d) l'usage anglais met un seul *l* devant une syllabe terminale commençant par une consonne alors que l'usage américain demande *ll* (en anglais: *skilful*, *enrolment*; en américain: *skillful*, *enrollment*);

(e) dans certains mots l'anglais met un *c* là où l'américain veut un *s* (en anglais: *defence*; en américain: *defense*);

(f) l'usage plus généralisé dans le vocabulaire scientifique de *ae* en anglais, alors qu'en Amérique on préfère *e* (en anglais: *anaemia*; en américain: *anemia*);

(g) dans le vocabulaire scientifique encore l'usage anglais est de mettre *ph* dans, par exemple, *sulphur*, *sulphuric*, alors que l'orthographe américaine est *sulfur*, *sulfuric*.

Enfin, il y a lieu de noter que dans le cas des suffixes *-ise* ou *-ize*, et *-isation*, *-ization*, nous avons retenu les formes *-ize* et *-ization*, car l'usage anglais hésite entre les deux orthographes, alors que l'usage américain préfère *-ize* et *-ization*.

Nous avons conservé la disposition typographique expliquée dans *Plan of the Dictionary* (p. xviii) de l'édition originale, mais nous avons fait quelques changements d'importance secondaire pour faciliter la lecture: les participes qui ont indépendamment fonction d'adjectifs ou de substantifs paraissent à leur ordre alphabétique et ne sont plus placés à la suite du verbe dont ils dérivent; nous avons supprimé l'usage des lettres majuscules dans le texte, sauf dans les cas où elles sont essentielles, afin que le lecteur sache immédiatement quels mots doivent commencer par une majuscule ou une minuscule; afin de réduire typographiquement la longueur du texte, les mots-clés qui sont utilisés dans les articles sont représentés seulement par leur lettre initiale lorsque leur orthographe ne comporte pas de variante, et nous avons ainsi économisé l'espace typographique d'environ 150.000 mots, ce qui est l'équivalent d'un livre de taille respectable; les entrées qui traitaient séparément des formes féminines

des adjectifs et des formes de la conjugaison des verbes ont été supprimées dans la plupart des cas, car nous avons considéré que les usagers du *Harrap's New Standard French and English Dictionary* ont suffisamment de connaissances grammaticales pour savoir immédiatement quel mot-clé ils doivent consulter. Nous avons ainsi réalisé une autre économie d'espace typographique.

Nous n'avons pas changé la classification établie par M. Mansion pour la présentation du texte: les différences importantes du sens ou de l'usage des mots sont indiquées par les numéros 1., 2., 3., etc., tandis que (a), (b), (c), etc. montrent des différences moindres. D'une manière générale (i), (ii), (iii), etc. marquent seulement les différents sens d'une locution, mais dans les longs articles nous nous en sommes servis parfois comme subdivisions de (a), (b), etc. Pour les très longs articles nous avons conservé les subdivisions I, II, etc., quand le mot expliqué a plusieurs fonctions grammaticales, comme par exemple *sortir*, qui est un verbe intransitif, un verbe transitif et un substantif.

Nous avons séparé par une virgule les traductions dont le sens est identique, mais le point et virgule indique généralement une petite différence de sens. Nous avons aussi utilisé le point et virgule pour décomposer les entrées trop compliquées qui auraient pu prêter à confusion.

Dans les traductions en anglais l'usage du trait d'union a présenté de nombreuses difficultés car il n'existe pas de règle absolue à cet égard. Comme l'usage américain semble avoir d'une manière générale abandonné le trait d'union pour les noms composés, et comme cette pratique est suivie de plus en plus dans le Royaume-Uni, nous avons écrit la plupart des noms composés soit en deux mots, soit en un seul. Les adjectifs composés ont cependant conservé le trait d'union car cela semble être la règle suivie à la fois en Amérique et dans l'usage anglais. Ceci explique la contradiction apparente d'entrées comme *rolling mill* (en deux mots) et *rolling-mill equipment* (avec trait d'union).

Nous avons diminué le nombre de renvois, qui peuvent être exaspérants pour l'usager, en particulier lorsqu'il s'agit d'un ouvrage en deux volumes. Ceux qui restent se réfèrent à des exemples assez longs afin d'éviter leur répétition sous plusieurs mots-clés. Les exemples plus courts paraissent généralement à chaque mot-clé, mais dans certains cas ils ne sont mentionnés que sous celui des mots-clés qui nous a semblé le plus important.

Nous avons suivi M. Mansion en donnant la notation phonétique de chaque mot selon les principes de l'*Association phonétique internationale*. Ce travail n'a pas été facile. En effet nous avons dû écrire la notation phonétique d'une multitude de mots pour lesquels cela n'avait jamais été fait. En outre cet ouvrage n'est pas un dictionnaire de phonétique, mais les transcriptions que nous avons données sont simplement un guide quant à la prononciation la plus courante des Français instruits. Nous avons par conséquent donné peu de variantes, et nous avons mis de côté des nuances telles que le signe [·] qui se réfère à une voyelle demi-longue. Notre tâche a été d'autre part compliquée parce que les phonéticiens ne sont pas d'accord sur la prononciation usuelle de certains mots. M. B. Quémada nous a guidés dans cette jungle et nous voudrions lui exprimer ici nos remerciements.

La composition typographique d'un dictionnaire de cette taille représente un travail considérable. Au printemps de 1967 nous avons suffisamment de matériaux pour nous permettre de commencer la rédaction du nouveau texte pour l'imprimerie, et nous avons commencé tout bêtement par la lettre A. Au fur et à mesure du travail, nous avons envoyé aux imprimeurs tout ou partie du texte de chaque lettre, et nous avons reçu en temps voulu les placards. Leur tâche a été difficile, car 30% de notre texte était écrit à la main. Ceci explique sans nul doute un certain nombre de coquilles amusantes que nous avons relevées dans les premières épreuves, par exemple: *urine chargée*, clouded wine (urine); *binoclard*, person who wears gloves (glasses); *arséniate diplomatique* (diplombique); *écarts de régime*, overheating; *chien dressé à la propreté*, horse-trained dog; *voir grand*, to have pig ideas; *mouchoir de con* (cou), scarf; *l'industrie de la chaussure*, the boat and shoe industry; *pistolet*, bed wind (urinal); *phantasme*, official (optical) illusion; *engager qn à l'heure*, to empty (employ) s.o. by the hour; etc. Nous insistons sur le fait que ces coquilles sont dûes à notre écriture, et non pas à la négligence de l'imprimeur qui interprétait ce qu'il croyait lire sur notre texte, car on peut s'attendre à tout dans un dictionnaire qui comprend des expressions bizarres comme, par exemple, le terme d'informatique 'eight-bit byte'; nous espérons que nos amis qui ont bien voulu lire les épreuves auront souri de ces écarts à la vérité linguistique au milieu de leur travail fatigant et fastidieux.

Quatre ou cinq lecteurs ont lu ces placards, et quand leur corrections ont été collationnées, l'ouvrage a été mis en pages lettre par lettre. A partir de ce moment-là seuls des changements d'importance typographique minime ont pu être effectués et lorsque nous avons fait quelques additions, cela n'a été possible que quand nous avons pu les mettre à la place d'entrées moins importantes. Pour nous permettre de publier le dictionnaire en 1972 nous avons dû donner le bon à tirer pour le texte final de la lettre A au début de 1970. Il en découle que les mots qui ont fait leur apparition dans la langue depuis cette date n'ont pas pu être ajoutés. Nous avons regretté que le premier volume (A-Cippe) du *Grand Larousse de la langue française* en six volumes ait paru trop tard en 1971 pour que nous puissions nous en servir. Mais nous l'avons étudié et nous sommes heureux de pouvoir dire que la plupart des mots et expressions qu'il contient figurent dans le *New Standard* alors que ce dernier comprend un vocabulaire important qui ne se trouve pas dans le *Grand Larousse*.

Notre travail nous a fait consulter une grande quantité de dictionnaires, de livres et de périodiques. Nous ne pouvons pas en donner une liste complète, mais nous voudrions mentionner l'aide précieuse que les ouvrages suivants nous ont apportée :

- Dictionnaire alphabétique et analogique de la langue française* (avec supplément). P. Robert (Société du nouveau Littre)
- Le Petit Robert*
- Grand Larousse Encyclopédique* (avec supplément)
- Petit Larousse*
- Dictionnaire du français contemporain* (Larousse)
- Dictionnaire Encyclopédique* (Quillet)
- Dictionnaire usuel* Quillet-Flammarion
- Encyclopédie internationale Focus* (Bordas)
- Le Bon Usage*. M. Grevisse (J. Duculot, S.A.)
- Dictionnaire des difficultés de la langue française*. A. Thomas (Larousse)
- Dictionnaire de la Prononciation française*. L. Warnant (J. Duculot, S.A.)
- Webster's New International Dictionary* (deuxième et troisième éditions)
- Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*
- The Random House Dictionary of the English Language*
- The Penguin English Dictionary*
- Chambers's Twentieth Century Dictionary* (avec supplément)
- The Penguin Dictionaries of Biology, Building, Civil Engineering, Electronics, Geography, Psychology and Science*
- Chambers's Technical Dictionary*
- Dictionnaire des termes techniques de médecine*. Garnier et Delamare (Librairie Maloine, S.A.)
- Stedman's Medical Dictionary* (E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd)
- Butterworth's Medical Dictionary*
- Dictionnaire technique des termes utilisés dans l'industrie du pétrole*. Moureau et Rouge (Technip)
- Vocabulaire franco-anglo-allemand de Géomorphologie*. H. Baulig (Société d'édition: Les Belles Lettres)
- Geological Nomenclature*. J. Noorduijn en Zoon & N. V. Gorinchem (Ed. A. A. G. Schieferdecker)
- A Dictionary of Geography*. Monkhouse (Edward Arnold)
- A Glossary of Geographical Terms*. L. Dudley Stamp (Longmans)
- Dictionary of Data Processing* / *Dictionnaire de l'Informatique*. Camille et Dehaine (Harrap)
- Dictionnaire d'Informatique*. M. Ginguay (Masson, Paris)
- Harrap's French-English Dictionary of Slang and Colloquialisms*. J. Marks.

Nous voudrions aussi remercier la British Aircraft Corporation qui nous a permis de consulter son *Glossary of Aeronautical Terms* (French-English) et le Capitaine H. G. Sherwood (B.O.A.C.) qui nous a toujours donné son aide pour les termes d'aéronautique.

Notre tâche n'aurait pas pu être menée à bien sans l'assistance de tous nos collaborateurs, aussi bien ceux qui travaillent dans les bureaux de Harrap que ceux qui de tous les coins du globe nous ont aidés dans nos recherches et en lisant les épreuves. Nous voulons tout d'abord rendre hommage à M. Marcel Ferlin, qui lorsqu'il était Assistant à Edimbourg a commencé à travailler au dictionnaire avec M. Mansion en 1912, dès le début. Au cours des années, M. Ferlin a continué sa collaboration, avec ses 'glanures' et en corrigeant les épreuves jusqu'à sa mort en septembre 1970. Nous regrettons du fond du cœur qu'il soit mort avant que ce nouveau dictionnaire paraisse. En lui nous avons perdu non seulement un collaborateur de premier ordre mais aussi un très grand ami.

M. H. R. Elphick a lui aussi formé un lien direct avec le dictionnaire original car il travaillait immédiatement sous les ordres de M. Mansion jusqu'à sa publication. Lorsqu'il a pris sa retraite, après un long séjour en Nouvelle-Zélande, il a accepté de lire les épreuves, ce dont nous lui sommes très reconnaissants. Sa connaissance intime de la structure du dictionnaire nous a été d'une aide très considérable en ce qui concerne la classification du texte des longs articles.

Une partie du travail de préparation du manuscrit a été faite au bureau, mais nous en avons fait une très grosse tranche chez nous avec l'aide infatigable de Mlle Muriel Holland Smith. Nous n'aurions cependant pas encore terminé si nous n'avions pas eu l'aide au cours des années de tous les collaborateurs qui ont fait un gros travail de recherches et de vérification du matériel de provenance extérieure, et nous tenons à les en remercier. Certains ne sont restés que peu de temps avec nous en raison de circonstances personnelles, mais d'autres ont passé plusieurs années avec nous. Parmi eux nous voudrions mentionner tout particulièrement M. P. H. Collin; Mme Françoise Collin (*née* Laurendeau) qui nous a fourni les canadianismes; Mme E. A. H. Strick; Mme A. Smetana-Thieberger; Mme Valerie Deane; Mlle Christine Fontan; et Mlle Vivien Flynn.

Outre les collaborateurs extérieurs mentionnés dans les préfaces des Suppléments (voir p. xxii), nous voulons remercier tout particulièrement MM. J. Bétesta, Michel Ginguay et Roland Ginguay, dont l'aide dans les domaines militaires et techniques nous a permis d'inclure des quantités de termes qui ne se trouvent dans aucun autre dictionnaire; M. H. T. Porter, qui nous a procuré la liste des oiseaux européens; Mme Patricia Forbes, qui a ajouté des listes importantes dans les domaines de l'histoire naturelle et de l'industrie du pétrole; et le Dr I. Feldblum qui nous a aidés pour le vocabulaire médical.

L'aide du Professeur L. C. Harmer ne s'est pas tarie avec son travail sur les Suppléments, et nous tenons à le remercier de ses conseils, et d'avoir lu une partie des épreuves. Nous voulons aussi remercier le Dr Reginald Bowen, Mme Patricia Forbes, M. F. G. S. Parker, Mme E. A. H. Strick et M. Michel Boutron d'avoir bien voulu nous aider à la lecture des épreuves.

Nous voudrions enfin exprimer notre gratitude pour leur encouragement et pour l'aide qu'ils nous ont donnée —souvent inconsciemment—pour trouver des mots que nous cherchions à tous nos amis qui vivent à Holyport (Berkshire) où se trouve notre demeure permanente, et aux Pilles, le village du Midi de la France où notre maison a vu se dérouler beaucoup de nos travaux.

RENÉ LEDÉSERT
MARGARET LEDÉSERT

31 Décembre 1971.

Preface to the 1934 (Original) Edition

“THERE is not a satisfactory French Dictionary on the market.” This constant reproach of the last thirty years renders less than justice to much excellent work done in the past by Elwall, Bellows, Boiello, Tarver, and others; it is none the less true that no French and English dictionary hitherto available has proved adequate to the needs of the serious student.

The just grounds of complaint may be brought under the following heads. In the first place, existing dictionaries are, and always have been, a full generation behind their day in their content, and most of them are too small to be of any ‘real use.’ The range of human knowledge and invention has extended so greatly during the last two generations that it is materially impossible to cover it in any work of small bulk.

In the next place, bilingual dictionaries are not scientific in their treatment of words, and have not kept pace with the progress in philology that has been so notable in recent years.

Lastly, the mind of the lexicographer seems invariably to be anchored in the past; French phrases in current use are translated into early Victorian English, if not into that of Queen Anne, while a modern English or American colloquialism is rendered, *tant bien que mal*, in the language of Molière. This archaism of phrasing has become glaringly noticeable since the World War. In the vocabulary and phraseology of the peoples involved the reactions have been as violent as in the spheres of sociology and economics, and both French and English have been permanently affected to a degree that can no longer be ignored.

Messrs Harrap & Co. had already before the War laid their plans for the preparation of a new French and English dictionary that should mark a step in advance of what had been achieved up to that time. Material that had not been available to dictionary makers of the last century was at hand to facilitate the task. In France the publication of Hatzfeld and Darmesteter’s *Dictionnaire Général* had been nothing short of epoch-making; in Britain the New English Dictionary was approaching completion; in Germany Plattner had finished the compilation of his *Ausführliche Grammatik* and of its Supplements.

In 1919 it was felt that the time was opportune for making a start, and a staff was brought together, whose first task it was to inventory the material ready to hand and to prepare some experimental pages of the French-English part. At the same time the general lines of the work were laid down, what it was proposed to include and what must be considered as lying outside our province.

In the first place this must be a dictionary of the present day, as far as it was possible for any work of reference ever to claim that it is up to date; and this must involve the clearing away of a large amount of archaic lumber still persisting in most dictionaries, echoes of short-lived fashions and of outworn technics that had their day and passed out of our civilization, without leaving any permanent mark on our phraseology. At the same time a modern work of reference must continue to provide a key to the great treasure-houses of French and English literature, within limits and dates which we had to fix.

With regard to France this is a matter of little difficulty. The great bulk of the educated classes live in full enjoyment of the patrimony handed down to them from their ‘Grand Siècle’; their acquaintance with Montaigne and Ronsard may be scrappy and superficial, but they are nurtured on the 17th-century dramatists and moralists, on La Fontaine and Mme de Sévigné; in this school their style is formed; their literature of today is full of an allusiveness that takes for granted intimate acquaintance with the great works of this period, and not a few present-day writers, in a full-dress article or speech, will revert to a severely ‘classical’ French as their medium of expression. Thus no dictionary of the French language, however ‘modern,’ can leave out of account the vocabulary and syntax of the seventeenth century.

Where to draw the line in English is a question more controversial. Broadly speaking, and for all that the Bible, Shakespeare, and Milton are so ‘full of quotations,’ the language of the centuries preceding the nineteenth has aged much more than is the case with French; our school acquaintance with Fielding, Richardson, Burke, and Pope is negligible in comparison to the *lycéen*’s intimacy with his great classics, and does not condition our present-day idiom to nearly the same degree. At the same time the vocabulary of English is so extensive that considerations of space make the elimination of unessentials even more imperative than for French, and it was deemed wise to remain, broadly speaking, within the limits of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

In neither language, of course, is it possible to lay down hard and fast rules. A dictionary, as opposed to a word-list, must be a record of the diction, of the phrasing and idiom, peculiar to the languages under consideration, and much of this idiom enshrines words and phrases now forgotten, but which must of necessity be noted in order that a surviving use may be understood.

The next point to be decided was: what classes of readers and students we proposed to serve by the publication of this work. The aim was to supply the needs of ‘everybody’; not only the general reader and the ‘man in the street’—with his wife, but also the historian; the professional man, lawyer or physician, banker or stockbroker, architect or schoolmaster, soldier or sailor; the technician, builder or engineer, printer or binder.

The preparation of a few pages on this ambitious scale led to an early realization that a project conceived on these lines was impracticable; the work must assume the proportions of an encyclopaedia, and defeat its object through sheer wealth of material and the resultant laboriousness of consultation. In order therefore to keep within the limits of a volume easy to handle and reasonable

in cost, we decided that we should aim at helping 'everyman' to read, understand, and even translate, his foreign newspaper, from the leaders to the advertisements. This in itself is a very large undertaking. The better-class newspapers of today, whether French or English, reflect the whole of our daily life and activities, and cater for the most varied interests. Politics, literary and dramatic criticism, law and market reports, and advertisements of sales, constitute only a fraction of their daily contents; new inventions and scientific developments form the subject of articles by specialists who are no longer required to express themselves in strictly 'non-technical' language. For in an age of private motor cars, home-built wireless sets, and electricity 'on tap' for domestic purposes, we are all more or less engineers. Our interests are further taken up with flying displays, watched with critical appreciation of loops and zooms; with movies and talkies; with racing and gracing and the tote. We rely on our paper to keep us up to date regarding the quantum theory, relativity, and the ether-drift; we expect guidance from the same source on the psychics of bidding in the evening's game of bridge.

It has been our endeavour to build up a dictionary that shall deal, if not exhaustively, at any rate adequately, with all these things. Further on will be found a list of encyclopaedias and reference books that have been laid constantly under contribution; special mention should be made of the new and recast editions of Chambers's Encyclopaedia and the *Grand Dictionnaire Larousse*; most of the latter publication appeared in time to allow us to scan its pages. But from the start it was obvious that we could not hope to obtain immediate touch with the times we live in by means of textbooks and dictionaries alone, and that to supplement these we must collect and 'card' our own material. For ten years we have accumulated words and phrases from current works of fiction, from the daily press of both countries concerned, and from periodicals such as *La Science Moderne* and 'Nature.' We enrolled as unconscious collaborators many translators of French into English, of English into French—not all translations are bad, as is too frequently assumed. The number of cards thus collected approximates to 200,000. To establish translations of all these entries was not always an easy task. It entailed correspondence with specialists at home and abroad, and in a number of cases several years have elapsed before a card on the 'waiting list' was duly translated and filed. Most of this material was used in the first place in drafting the French-English section of the Dictionary, and then redistributed under an English head-word.

Thus, when we started on the preparation of the English-French section, a large amount of material lay ready to our hand; but every day produced its quota of English words and phrases that had not come under notice in the first part of the work, and for which renderings must be established. The latter were carded back under a French head-word, and utilized in due course for the revision and completion of the first draft of the French-English section. It is owing to this method of work that we flatter ourselves that in our renderings of much of the idiom of the two languages there will be found a breadth of vocabulary and a raciness that mark an advance on what has been achieved hitherto. In actual number of words we have not widely exceeded the range of the dictionaries already in common use. Under the French letter A, for instance, a count shows only three to four hundred new entries. As a matter of fact, new coinages in a language, of the type of *arpette*, *aspirine*, *paravane*, are of rare occurrence; more frequent as neologisms are compounds or derivatives of elements already in established use, such as *amérir*, *aéroflotte*, *accumètre*, *affût-trépied*, *autobus*, *autocar*, and the English 'aerobatics,' 'to entrain,' 'to detrain'; borrowings from dialect or from a foreign idiom, such as *braderie* and *batik*; the 'commonizing' of proper names: *un decauville*, or derivation from proper names: *bauxite*. Any new word, when well established, may generate a number of derivatives: the newly popular *braderie* has already given the back-formation '*Ici on bradera*'; *amérir* gives *amérissage*; from *batik* has been formed a verb *batiker*, and there is no reason why *batikage*, *débatiker*, *rebatiker*, should not come as readily to the tongue or from the pen.

The sum total of these additions to our store of words in the course of a generation is comparatively small; the real accretion to the vocabulary comes from the extension of the semantic range of the words already in common use. The manifold developments of the last fifty years, telephony, motoring, flying, cinematography, radiology, 'wireless,' psycho-analysis, and what not, have all been made to 'fit in' to the existing vocabulary. We steer a car with a wheel: French has extended the use of *volant* to meet this emergency; we emit and receive our broadcasts through a wire or wires stretched aloft: we have called into service the word 'aerial,' French has extended the range of the word *antenne*; we fire our motor engines with 'plugs,' the French use *bougies*; where at tennis we 'lob' a ball, the French play it *en chandelle*.

This enormous development in the uses of familiar words will be found more adequately mirrored in this dictionary than in any work hitherto available.

Another matter that required more care than is generally vouchsafed to it was the indication of the syntactical relations of the word, as a unit of speech, with its environment. Sentences are knit together by links—prepositions, phrases, conjunctions, concords, uses of tense and mood—according to a mechanism of which the grammar expounds the general principles; but it is the part of a dictionary to indicate the actual links required by, or commonly associated with, any given noun, pronoun, adjective, or verb. This we have done more fully, and more methodically, than has been heretofore attempted. For English syntactical uses we were able to found upon the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* and Mr H. W. Fowler's *Dictionary of Modern English Usage*, with reference, when this was needful, to the *New English Dictionary*. For French our chief source of reference has been Plattner's *Ausführliche Grammatik*, largely supplemented by material gleaned and carded from our own reading, and by that accumulated by Mr G. H. Clarke in his *Manuel-Lexique*.

In our range of words we have gone far beyond the *Dictionnaire de l'Académie*; and, besides technical terms, have admitted very freely what is commonly known as *argot* or 'slang,' at least such part of it as is well established in French and English, and indispensable to an understanding of the 'réalistes' and 'naturalistes' who have bulked so largely in modern literature. How far it is permissible to go in recording these lower strata of the vocabulary is, with regard to such a free-spoken language as French, a question of some delicacy; we established our own censorship, too strict, no doubt, from a French point of view, somewhat lax, perhaps, for Mrs Grundy.

We have extended a wide hospitality to Americanisms; many of these, indeed, have already taken out papers of naturalization; many more are old acquaintances, and by way of becoming intimate friends; they have qualities of terseness and breeziness that give them a value all their own. As regards the hundreds of English words that are current in French today, these are left unrecorded if they have been taken over unchanged in spelling and meaning (e.g. 'durbar'). But if they have been adapted (*doper*, *knockouter*, *turfiste*, *schampooing*), or mutilated (*un drop-goal*, *un shake-hand*), or contracted (*un dancing*, *un shaker*, *un skating*), or taken over with a change or extension of meaning (*carter*, *five-o'clock*, *flirt*, *footing*, *groom*, *mail-coach*, *snob*), we have thought them worthy of inclusion.

Two classes of words offer special difficulties to the dictionary maker: those pertaining to law and administration on the one hand, on the other those that cover the field of natural history.