

### Lispers and tongue thrusters

**Lisping and tongue thrusting (The evaluation and retaining of orofacial muscle behaviour)** by Gladys Reid Jann (sponsored by the Department of Speech, State University College, Brockport, New York; third edition, 1972). The pamphlet is available for \$1. from the author who is a professor at the State University College in Brockport.

Reviewed by Marie Crickmay, MA

This informative and practical booklet could be a valuable aid to the speech therapist working with children in a public school setting. Dr. Jann rightly points out, the great majority of speech defects present in children in the elementary schools fall into the category of articulation deviations, in which the distortion of the *s* and *z* sounds are the most frequent. Thus most speech therapists working in the public schools spend a large proportion of their time working with lispers.

Traditionally the aim with these children was to teach them to produce the correct sound and then help them to introduce it into their speech until it became habitual. In the last decade, however, the problem of lisping has been approached from a different angle.

The material in this booklet has been developed with a three-fold purpose: (1) to re-assess lispers in the light of the total orofacial muscle behaviour of the child; (2) to focus the attention of the speech therapist, dentist, and orthodontist upon the

total dynamic syndrome; and (3) to present methods of evaluation and retraining of orofacial muscle patterns. This latter section includes the correction of faulty swallowing patterns, thumb-sucking, and dental occlusion. These aims are clearly met, and this modestly priced booklet offers the speech therapist a great deal of practical information (including an excellent bibliography) which may well enable him to give more effective therapy to these children.

### The Canajan language, as heard in Tronna

**Canajan, eh?** by Mark M. Orkin, with illustrations by Isaac Bickerstaff (General Publishing Company, Limited, Don Mills, Ontario, 1973; 126 pages; \$7.95). Dr. Orkin is a lawyer, and Mr. Bickerstaff a writer and illustrator; both live in Toronto.

Reviewed by Avril A. Samis, MA

It is somewhat pretentious to attempt a serious review of what is meant to be a humorous book. *Canajan, eh?* is meant to be funny, and (like the curate's egg) parts of it are excellent.

The way we speak in Canada could be the subject of a very funny book, and perhaps a book of great interest to a profession whose membership in Canada has such a large infusion of Britons, Americans, and (forgive me) Australians. And Mark M. Orkin should be a candidate to write such a book. He is already well known for

two serious books. *Speaking Canadian English*, and *Speaking Canadian French* (written in English), as well as for lectures, articles, and books in his own profession, the law.

We often find things funny when we realize that they are not only ridiculous but true. The principal short-coming of *Canajan eh?* is that many of its dictionary-like entries are only ridiculous.

The word list seems to be filled with voicing assimilations ("Grade Lakes," "Ardic," "sins" for since, "leck shire" for lecture), and omitted syllables ("Skatchewan," "horble," "harya t'day"), as well as re-spelled words ("melk" for the beverage, "Grake Up" for the football game, "Prayer ease" for the Western provinces). Many of these are witty, but I doubt that they represent the speech of Canada any more than that of Great Britain or the United States.

Dr. Orkin has listed a few genuine Canadianisms. Both "gradge" and "grodge" appear. So do "bodaydo" (the vegetable) and "on-" for "un-" (as in "onsuccessful") . . . I do not think these two are widespread, but then the author says as much in his introduction. Some fairly obvious Canadian pronunciations are omitted (such as "the mouse ran out and about the house" vowels), and occasional rather non-Canadian sounds ("worsh" for wash, "Kail gree" for Calgary) sneak in.

But then Dr. Orkin does not pretend that this is a book of

scholarship. He admits his debt of originality to the lexicon of Strine, the language of Australia, published a few years ago.

Many of his entries have headings like "Arsey Em Pee," "Fray Trates," "Lora C. Cord," and "Sir John, Eh?" and these are undoubtedly distinctive Canadian content if not distinctive speech.

The design of the volume is excellent, and the illustrations by Isaac Bickerstaff, whose real name is Don Evans, are refreshingly deft.

*Canajan, eh?* is not a bad book, just a bit disappointing because it might have been funnier. But it is not likely to be a useful gift for any newly-arrived, foreign-trained clinicians you may happen to know.

### Books received

**The kindergarten teacher's handbook** by Elizabeth S. Meyers, Helen H. Ball, and Marjorie Crutchfield (Gramercy Press, Box 77632, Los Angeles, California 90007, 1973; 99 pages)

The booklet has five major sections: (i) introduction, (ii) kindergarten testing instructions, (iii) prescriptive teaching, (iv) building foundations for logical thinking, and (v) behavior management in the classroom. Section iii includes material on language development and auditory discrimination.

**Word analysis for teachers** by John M. Ewing (The Interstate Printers & Publishers, Inc., Danville, Illinois 61832, 1973; 103 pages).

The introduction describes the booklet as "lesson exercises . . . [which are neither] programmed nor . . . a textbook . . . [their] foundation rests on both the phonic and linguistic research used in reading and spelling instruction.