

# CLOSING SESSION — SÉANCE DE CLÔTURE

*McGill University, August 28, 1971*

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ASSOCIATION,  
NATIONAL PROFESSOR OF INDIA IN HUMANITIES

PROFESSOR SUNITI KUMAR CHATTERJI

Monsieur le président,  
Chers collègues,  
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Acceptez les salutations d'un délégué venu de l'autre côté du monde, de l'Inde lointaine, qui est un berceau ancien de la science phonétique que nous, venant de tous les pays du monde entier, avons étudié et discuté dans ses développements mondiaux et actuels, ici dans la ville de Montréal, pendant la semaine passée. Acceptez les salutations d'un délégué qui représente aussi l'Association Phonétique Internationale, une organisation fondamentale qui, il y a presque une centaine d'années, a été créée par des savants et des chercheurs européens, et particulièrement de France et de Grande-Bretagne. Je suis heureux de constater qu'ici on honore également deux langues parmi les grandes langues de la civilisation moderne du monde: le français et l'anglais. Je considère comme mon devoir, même s'il est faible et incomplet, comme ancien élève de l'Université de Paris, d'exprimer mon hommage, au début, au bon sens et à l'esprit civilisateur de la France, et à la gloire de la langue française et de la science, de la pensée et des lettres qu'elle a illustrées.

Avec votre permission, j'ajouterai quelques mots en anglais qui, je l'espère, seront considérés à propos pour cette séance solennelle de clôture.

We have met and discussed seriously for the past week some of the varied topics and problems of the Phonetic Sciences which mostly have a permanent value. We have formed contacts among colleagues and fellow-workers, which will be a source of fruitful inspiration and incentive in our work. Through language, which is the most characteristic expression of man's nature as a thinker and as a creator, we can feel the fundamental unity of the human species. A sense of this unity is now vital for the integration of man, otherwise civilisation will go to pieces and will become

futile. Our science of linguistics, with phonetics as one of its wings, gives equal honour to all forms of human speech, as worthy of study, and in their proper context, as worthy of conservation and improvement. I am tempted to quote the sentiment expressed in Sanskrit by way of benediction by a medieval grammarian from Karnataka in South India.

sarvajñaṃ tadahaṃ vandē  
parañ jyōtis tamōpaham:  
pravṛttā yan-mukhād dēvī  
sarva-bhāṣā-sarasvatī.

‘I adore the Supreme Light, Which knows everything, and Which dispels ignorance, From the Mouth of Which has come out THE SACRED STREAM OF ALL SPEECH’.

We cannot, particularly in a solemn gathering of scholars like this, while considering speech as a human phenomenon which is within the purview of science, lose sight of the mystic in speech — the sense of the power and beauty that are in speech as a most important source of light in the mind of man, the thinker and the creator, — a light which is a fragment of the Intelligence that is behind the cosmos. And with these sentiments spoken out by the Seer in the Veda in India, I close —

mahō arṇaḥ Sarasvatī  
pra cētayati Kētunā:  
dhiyō viśvā vi rājati.

‘The mighty flood of the stream of Speech, in which there is a gathering of many pools; may it brighten us, with its light: for Speech, as a Goddess, shines in every thought’.

ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHONETIC SCIENCES

PROFESSOR MARTIN KLOSTER-JENSEN

Monsieur le président,  
Chers collègues,

Il est l’heure où l’on se dit au revoir. C’est aussi l’heure où, de la part de la Société Internationale des Sciences Phonétiques, j’ai l’honneur de souhaiter la bienvenue à tous les nouveaux membres, et aux organisations qui ont exprimé le désir de s’affilier à notre société et de s’associer ainsi à nos efforts pour établir un organe de contact étroit et utile, et pour faciliter la réalisation des divers projets qui serviront à faire avancer nos études et nos recherches.

Le fait qu’un représentant direct de l’Unesco n’a pas été à même de vous dire ici ces mots-là, ne nous empêchera nullement de croire à nos fortes chances d’entrer prochainement en relation consultative avec l’Unesco, l’une des quinze institutions

intergouvernementales au sein de l’Organisation des Nations Unies, et qui se consacre à l’éducation, à la science et à la culture.

Permettez-moi de vous rappeler que si vous pouvez fonder maintenant dans vos pays des sociétés nationales des sciences phonétiques, celles-ci auront la protection directe des Nations Unies.

On behalf of the President of the International Society of Phonetic Sciences, I would like to thank you for the interest you have shown in developing and strengthening our International Society. As was said by the Secretary General of this congress at the opening, it is up to you to work now.

We have every hope that the success of this congress will encourage the continued growth, welfare, and importance of our phonetic family in the scientific world.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

PROFESSOR DENNIS B. FRY

Mr. President,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the closing session of the Congress it is the custom to give the members some report of the meeting of the Permanent Council and of the actions taken at that meeting, and I shall indeed confine my remarks largely to this matter, so that I shall not detain you very long.

It is with deep regret that I have to report the loss through death of a number of our members: they are one of our Vice-Presidents, Professor Bohuslav Hála, two of our Honorary Members, Professor Daniel Jones and Professor A. de Lacerda and two Members, Professor Pierre Delattre and Professor Felix Trojan. We are very sad to have lost so many of our distinguished colleagues since our last congress.

Turning now to action taken by the Permanent Council, I have to report on the matter of new members of the Council and on the arrangements proposed for our next congress. With regard to the former, the Council members are united in inviting Professor S.K. Chatterji to become a Vice-President and we are very happy indeed that he has agreed to accept that invitation. It has been a great privilege and a pleasure to have him here with us at this congress.

The Council has also appointed four new members whose help we shall value most highly and whose nomination we are confident you will all welcome as warmly as we do: they are Professor Arthur Abramson of the University of Connecticut, Professor René Charbonneau of the University of Montreal, Professor Peter Ladefoged of the University of California at Los Angeles and Professor Milan Romportl of the Charles University of Prague.

With regard to our Eighth International Congress, the Council were of the opinion that an interval of four years was a suitable one and the next congress will therefore

be held in 1975. We were very pleased to receive an invitation from the University of Leeds to hold the congress there and we gratefully accept that invitation. We would ask the delegate of the University of Leeds to convey our very warmest thanks to his university and to say how much we look forward to the pleasure of meeting in Leeds in 1975.

That concludes the report of the business transacted by the Permanent Council and I have already undertaken to be brief in my remarks, but I know you would not wish me to end without expressing our thanks to our colleagues in Montreal. It is inevitable that words used to convey gratitude in public and on even semi-formal occasions should lose some of their weight, should become as it were somewhat devalued. However as we have now spent a week in the company of Professor Charbonneau, Professor Rigault and their helpers, I believe they know us well enough to realize the absolute sincerity with which we offer them our very warmest thanks.

This congress has been enormously successful from every point of view, as regards the high standard of the papers and discussions, the social arrangements and above all the organization and smooth running of our meetings. Indeed in all these respects, our Canadian friends have set a standard so high that it may well be hard for the organizers of future congresses to excel it. We offer them our heartiest congratulations on the success of all their efforts. We shall certainly never forget our visit to Montreal and this is due above all to the warmth of the welcome and the hospitality that they have extended to us; their city may well be called Montreal for we have been royally entertained. To Professor Charbonneau, to Professor Rigault and to all their colleagues who have helped to ensure the success of our Seventh Congress, we offer our most sincere thanks.

#### ALLOCUTION DU PRÉSIDENT DU VII<sup>e</sup> CONGRÈS

M. LE PROFESSEUR RENÉ CHARBONNEAU

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the formal opening of the Congress, last Monday, the Secretary General mentioned that the Seventh International Congress of Phonetic Sciences was in your hands, and that the dice were cast. *Alea jacta est!* Indeed, the dice were most skillfully cast.

The week is now over; in fact, it went by much too quickly, and we have now come to the last hours of meetings which, I hope, will linger in your minds as happy memories.

Grâce à vous, ce congrès s'est déroulé comme je le souhaitais, et l'on peut dire que les phonéticiens qui sont des gens méthodiques, précis, méticuleux dans le bon sens du terme, ont manifesté un sens de la discipline fait de sérieux et de bonne humeur. Je vous remercie donc de votre excellente collaboration.

The kingpin of the Congress, on whose shoulders lay the burden of its operation,

is most certainly its Secretary General. I would not like to give offence to his modesty, but I can declare before this assembly that Professor Rigault has done the most towards the success of the Congress. I wonder how many hours he has slept in the last few weeks, for he had to be in turn typist, steno, and all around secretary, mail agent, programmer, and through it all, as a genuine phonetician, he kept smiling and joking. I will ask the assembly to give, once again, a warm hand to the Secretary General of the Congress.

Merci à Mlle Suzanne Edwards, la secrétaire exécutive du congrès, à son équipe de 'Executive Suite', à M. André Clas, secrétaire, ainsi qu'à toutes nos jolies hôtesse et nos distingués étudiants qui ont marqué ce congrès par leur travail empressé, leur aide efficace, leur jeunesse dynamique et infatigable.

Allow me to mention two other names, two gentlemen I feel proud to thank. They went by unnoticed, quiet and almost invisible, whilst they kept things running: Mr. André Marti of l'Université de Montréal and Mr. John Chlumsky of McGill University, whose devotedness and competence contributed to the smooth and brilliant performance of our meetings.

Mesdames, mesdemoiselles, messieurs, c'est avec un profond regret que je vous verrai quitter Montréal et le Canada. Nous avons appris à nous mieux connaître, à échanger nos points de vue, nos inquiétudes comme nos joies, sur des sujets d'ordre scientifique. Tous ensemble, nous devons souhaiter, aux dernières minutes de ces assises, pouvoir nous rencontrer le plus tôt possible et même avant le VIII<sup>e</sup> Congrès.

Come and see us here again; we will also go and see you. I am sure phonetics will fare all the better for it. Who knows? The world itself might profit by it. Our mutual understanding, which, after all, lies within the realm of human communication, cannot but help give this world of ours a little more peace, hope and happiness.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as President, I now pronounce officially closed the Seventh International Congress of Phonetic Sciences.

Le président déclare officiellement closes les assises du VII<sup>e</sup> Congrès international des sciences phonétiques.