FRED WALTER HOUSEHOLDER

Linguistics and classical studies suffered irreparable loss on January 4, 1994, with the death of Fred W. Householder. He died at the age of eighty in Bloomington, Indiana, where he had lived since 1948 as a member of the faculty of Indiana University (hereafter IU).[1] He was vice president of the Linguistic Society of America in 1980 and president in 1981. Linguists will probably best remember him for his urbane and apt reviews, classical scholars for his work on Apollonius Dyscolus. In the introduction to his translation and commentary on Apollonius's *Syntax,* he said that he thought his whole life had been a preparation for that project, adding modestly that he hoped he was up to it. Here for the record we recount some of the events in his life he may have had in mind.

He was born February 1, 1913, in Wichita Falls, Texas, son of Fred W. Householder Sr. and Myrtle Smith Householder, but his earliest memories were of Chepachet, Rhode Island, where the family moved during his first year in search of a better climate for his mother's health.[2] The house on their farm burned down when Fred was two; the ice house was refurbished to serve as their home until they moved to another house nearby in 1917, and into the village in 1918. Fred was next to youngest of four children, and the family lived in relative poverty while his father studied engineering at Brown University in the winter, and his mother taught school in a one-room schoolhouse (where Fred first sat in at age four).[3] The family followed Fred's father to Maryland, where he did a brief postarmistice stint in the army, to Weymouth, Mass., where he worked as a riveter in a shipyard for two years, and finally to Essex Junction, Vt., when he was appointed to the mathematics faculty at the Univer-

[1] He was survived by his wife, Clarice Bagley Householder, and daughters Alison Householder Prindle of Delaware, Ohio, and Lynn Householder of Boulder, Colorado; his sister, Beverly Bartell of Ashland, Oregon; and three grandchildren. Clarice Householder died just over a year later, on February 13, 1995.

[2] My task in writing this obituary has been made much easier by having had available several documents. One that focuses on his earliest recollections (Householder 1992c) was written especially for his daughters at their suggestion, when it had become clear that his days were numbered. He called it 'Stills from childhood', because as he said, 'When I try to remember early events in my life, they always come to me like single snapshots, not videotapes or films'. It conveys much of the flavor of life in rural New England in the second decade of this century. The second, also in his own words, is 'A sketch of how I came to be in linguistics' (Householder 1980). Of at least equal importance are the bibliography and appendices compiled by Salman H. Al-Ani (1984) upon the occasion of his retirement, and a set of personal memoirs by some of his former students compiled under the title 'For Fred W. Householder, to mark his 65th birthday' (Quinn 1979). Especially invaluable is the set of reflections shared with me via e-mail in 1994 by Nancy Quinn, longtime department secretary at IU, and the person who arranged the sixty-fifth birthday commemoration.

[3] Reflecting on Christmas 1917, Fred said later, 'I can see now that we were really poor that year. I know we made all the decorations for the Christmas tree, including little candle-holders made from tin cans by my father' (Householder 1992c:1–2).

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sity of Vermont in nearby Burlington. Still, the family continued to travel the two hundred miles back to their Rhode Island farm each summer until 1926, when they bought a farm near Burlington.

Thus it was in Vermont that Fred completed the eighth grade, high school, college (AB, University of Vermont, 1932), and a year of graduate study. As a lad, he was fond of spending time at the library browsing in dictionaries, reading grammars of various languages, and journal articles that dealt with classics or linguistics—a practice that was to become a lifelong habit. Although he did not then know what a linguist was, he was later to say that, 'I think that's what I wanted to be, right from the beginning. I don't think there was any doubt in my mind' (Householder 1980:193). He also read Sapir, Jespersen, and Vendryes—the only general books on language that were available. He studied Latin and French in high school, and in college he majored in Greek, learning also German, Danish, Gothic, and Old and Middle English. He learned Modern Greek from newspapers obtained from the proprietor of the local shoeshine parlor.

In 1933 he entered Columbia University, which provided him fellowships in classics from 1933 to 1936, and lectureships from 1938 to 1946. He received the MA degree in 1934 and the PhD in 1941. In 1935, he married a classmate, Clarice Bagley, and the newlyweds spent the following year at the American School of Classics in Athens, where Fred acquired some knowledge of classical archaeology, focusing on the terminology of doors, measuring and photographing doorsills all over Greece (Al-Ani 1984:19). In 1937–38, between academic appointments, he taught mathematics at the Tutoring School in New York. In his words, 'If I hadn't gone into classics, I would have gone into mathematics, [which] I studied all through high school and college. [Mathematics] kept me alive during this one year when I was between fellowships and jobs' (Householder 1980:196).

He took a linguistics course at Columbia from Louis Gray (who used Bloomfield 1933 as the official text, but read to students the manuscript of his *Foundations* [Gray 1939]), and also studied Sanskrit with Gray. From two office neighbors who were working on New York City dialects, he first learned of the story of Arthur the Rat and listened to version after version that they had recorded from different speakers,[4] and of what oscillograms could show one about sound waves—activities that were precursors to his later supervision of the collection of Indiana dialect atlas records and his use of the sound spectrograph (from the time it first became available in the fifties) in phonetics courses at IU. He credits Victor Oswald as having had the strongest influence on his linguistic education, 'He was an enthusiast at this time for Trubetzkoy; he had gone through the *Grundzüge* and made an annotated version of it, and I went through it, page by page, with him . . . Around this time the Linguistic Circle of New York was organized, and I read a paper . . . at an early meeting of the society. Jackobson gave some seminars at Columbia in this era, too, which I

[4] This story under a different name was used in the Phonetic Transcription department of *American Speech* 1933–38.

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took part in' (Householder 1980:197–98). During this period he rubbed elbows with other linguists employed on the army language project that was based at 165 Broadway, being assigned eventually to the Modern Greek desk where he worked on a military dictionary. Charles Hockett was in the group that interviewed him when he was hired there; others he mentions as interesting people with whom he took coffee breaks include Bill Austin, Henry Lee Smith, Morris Swadesh, Thomas Sebeok, and Allen Walker Read. This is when he broke into print, having been given a book of Mario Pei's to review for *American Speech,* and also when an article of Robert Hall's on Latin declension in *Classical Philology* stimulated him to write a reply, which eventually appeared in *Word* (1947). It is an IP-style description of Latin declension that employs base forms for stems and suffixes, plus a set of phonological rules for their joining.[5]

In 1946 Fred and family left New York City and moved west, spending two years at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, before settling in Bloomington. Among the courses he taught at Allegheny was a Great Books course similar to one he had taught at Columbia. This he continued to teach in the early years in the IU Classics Department as well as courses in Greek and Sanskrit. Hired in 1948 as assistant professor of Classics, he was promoted to associate professor in 1951, and to full professor in 1956. He helped establish the committee that oversaw the graduate program in linguistics, together with C. F. Voegelin, Harold Whitehall, Thomas Sebeok, and Harry Velten, and he was the last person to chair this committee before a full-fledged department was formed in 1964. From then on, he held a joint appointment in classical studies and in linguistics, and served as acting chair of both departments at different times in the sixties. He was named Research Professor of Classics and Linguistics in 1965, and he chaired the Department of Linguistics from 1974 to 1980.

For those of us who were members of the first cohort of graduate students in the linguistics program, there was not a great wealth of textbooks available beyond Pike's *Phonemics* (1947) and Nida's *Morphology* (1949). Fred taught us a basic phonetics course that used Heffner (1949) but we also worked our way through Pike 1943 and Jones 1950. We learned to use an early model of the sound spectrograph and participated in various of his research interests of the moment. Thus in a way we helped to write his reviews of the Jones book (Householder 1952a) and of Harris's *Methods in structural linguistics* (Householder 1952b), and we were the subjects for his 1956 paper 'Unreleased ptk in American English'. His teaching and research were truly a seamless web. Many of us took and retook his repeatable seminar on classical linguistics, where we did distinctive feature analyses of the Greek and Latin sound systems, IP analyses of Greek noun declension (paralleling his own of Latin [Householder 1947]), and semantic feature analyses of Latin complementizers (to mention only those

[5] It is the same model used by Jakobson for Russian conjugation in an article published the following year in the same journal, one that we as students of Householder's at IU later learned to employ in similar descriptions—in many ways a forerunner of early generative phonology. Although he was not given to name-dropping, we ascertained somehow that it was an approach he had picked up in the seminar work with Jakobson.

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that I participated in). Thus in many ways, quietly and unobtrusively, he enriched for us the usual diet of American structuralism with strains of European and more traditional origin from out of his own background. This was typical of linguistic education at IU in the fifties. There was a minimum of dogma, and we were well prepared for the paradigm shift to come, thanks to Fred and to other members of the original committee that oversaw the program: Carl Voegelin could trace direct intellectual lines to Boas and Sapir; Thomas Sebeok, Harry Velten, and Harold Whitehall all had European roots.

We worked our way through Trubetzkoy and Jakobson, among others, under Fred's tutelage, and we learned how to uncover more of the empirical correlates than were sometimes revealed in the published presentations, the sorts of connections made in his 1962 *Lingua* paper 'The distributional determination of English phonemes' and in Ch. 12 of *Linguistic speculations* (1971), where he leads the reader through a semantic analysis of the English prepositions. This latter is unique in the literature, as best I can determine, in its detailed explication of an approach that can be followed in determining the *Gesammtbedeutungen* and the distinctive features that separate them in closed subsystems. There was never any doubt in our minds as to whether Fred's view of language was of the hocus-pocus or God's truth variety, even though he outlined them to us in strict impartiality (see his review of Harris 1951).

In 1952 Thomas Sebeok asked Fred to oversee the teaching of Turkish and Azerbaijani as part of an Air Force project at IU. Fred undertook to learn both languages, and to produce daily lessons in the latter with the help of an educated native speaker, culminating in the publication of a *Basic course in Azerbaijani* (Householder 1965a). This led to his eventual supervision of dissertations on not only Azerbaijani, but Hungarian, Finnish, Korean, Japanese, Classical Mongolian, and Classical Manchu as well, and to his being given the additional title of Professor of Uralic and Altaic Studies at IU in 1968.

The first LSA institutes he attended were those held at IU in 1952 and 1953. He later attended those at Michigan in 1958 and Hawai'i in 1977. For the latter he was named LSA Professor. He served the Society in a number of ways before assuming its presidency: as member of the executive committee (1966–69) and nominating committee (1973–77), as chair of the *Language* Review Committee (1977–78). As vice-president and president (1980–81), he was the Society's delegate to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (Section H: Anthropology), where he is credited as being a prime mover in urging a separate section for linguistics.

He felt privileged to be local support person for two visitors to the LSA institutes at IU, who he says influenced him greatly; Y. R. Chao, and Martin Joos. 'In those days anyone who bought a Sona-Graph always called Joos in to rewire it because of various improvements that he could make. That was a fabulous experience; I spent many hours with him for several days . . . I also attended a series of lectures by Zellig Harris, from whom I first learned of transformations . . . These were terrific years. At one of these Institutes I heard Louis Hjelmslev. I (along with many other linguists) listened to him read his *Prolegomena*. Shortly after that . . . Ed Stankiewicz lent me the first three

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chapters of the *Logical Theory of Linguistic Structure* by Chomsky. That really got me excited . . . It was around this time that Zellig Harris gave his Presidential Address (on transformations) at the LSA meetings in Chicago'.

As a student in the late fifties reports, 'Householder's office was always a center of interest for linguistics students. He invariably had a lot of interesting projects going on. When I arrived to work on the Reverse Greek book, other students were on the Azerbaijani project. Later, someone would be transcribing Linguistic Atlas tapes in one corner; in another, students would be analyzing data to help the Indians sue the government; the spectrograph would be humming along in another, churning out strips of Pima or Cheremis intonation. And in the inner office, Fred was there to talk to. Always full of ideas, he would get everybody going happily, then sit at his desk, totally absorbed in his work—with the door open. He never intruded until he was asked. But he was always able—not just able, seemingly glad—to turn his mind to any of these activities as soon as anyone needed help. He could stop at a moment's notice and instantly meet you where you were, whether your problem was a messed-up tape or the principle of biuniqueness. He defined the word unflappability. Why all this in the past tense? Though we're not in very close touch today [in 1978], I still feel that I could phone or write him at any moment and get that same kind of clear, cogent help that was always available then. Could—and have done it more than once'.[6]

Over the years Fred held a number of visiting appointments: Cornell University (1955–56), London University (1958–59, as Guggenheim Fellow, working on Linear B and Menander), University of Hawai'i (1965–66), Harvard University (summer 1968), University of Colorado (1970). In his visit to Hawai'i he gave a yearlong course on transformational grammar that received a record turnout of students and faculty from linguistics and related disciplines. It included a careful explication of *Aspects* and the writing of phrase structure rules and transformations in that model for a wide variety of the languages included in the then current edition of the Elson and Pickett workbook used in the training of SIL fieldworkers. Ironically, it was during this same year that Chomsky and Halle's (1965) rejoinder to his 'On some recent claims in phonological theory' (1965b) appeared. All too many younger linguists remember him simply as the 'heavy' in this particular exchange, and as waging some sort of structuralist rearguard action to the paradigm shift that was then taking place, while nothing could have been further from the truth.

His lifelong habit of grammar-browsing was easily adapted to the mentoring of student writing. As dissertation chair, he was able to bring out the best in a wide range of students, giving their drafts careful and critical attention, but always finding somehow a word or two of encouragement that kept the process going and the words flowing.[7] At the time of his retirement in 1983, he had

[6] Mary Sleator Temperley in Quinn 1979:2.

[7] Says Robert Cheng, professor of Chinese and Japanese at the University of Hawai'i,

> I first met Professor Householder at Bloomington in the summer of 1963. This was also the first time I was away from my own country and studied in a foreign country. In spite of the tremendous pressure of life due to drastic differences in culture and climate, I was able to

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already chaired (or cochaired) more than ninety dissertations, including (in addition to my own), those of the following Society members and/or linguists who have otherwise distinguished themselves: Marvin Carmony, Robert Cheng, Sang-Buom Cheun, James M. Coady, Ernesto Constantino, Heles Contreras, John Daly, Scott DeLancey, Anwar S. Dil, Benjamin Elson, Walburga von Raffler Engel, Beverly Hong Fincher, Richard L. Gunter, Nancy P. Hickerson, Feng-sheng Hsueh, Dell Hymes, Frances Karttunen, Lauri Karttunen, Kostas Kazazis, John H. Koo, George Lakoff, Tokuichiro Matsuda, Daniel N. Maxwell, Ernest C. Migliazza, Arthur Palacas, Joe J. Ree, David A. Reibel, Lester Rice, George Sakellariades, Robert Scholes, Matsuo Soga, Seok Choong Song, James Tai, Mary Sleator Temperley, Gerald J. Tullai, Linda Waugh, James L. Wilson, and Dong-Whee Yang. And in addition to the Uralic and Altaic languages already mentioned, the languages treated in such dissertations included Afrikaans, Albanian, Amoy, Arabic, Chinook, Dutch, French, Ilocano, Kalagan, Kannada, Mandarin, Marshallese, Mixteco, Modern Greek, Modern Persian, Old English, Polish, Tongan, Shawnee, Sierra Popoluca, Somali, Rappang Buginese, Tamil, Thai, Usarufa, and Vietnamese.

Fred's associations with scholars elsewhere were quiet ones, and only occasionally received attention. When Dwight Bolinger gave a talk at IU in 1950, it was clear to us as students that he was someone Fred already knew. Bolinger's writing in the years to come often included footnotes mentioning personal communications from FWH, especially on the subject of phonesthemes. Another

> concentrate on my study during my two years at IU. Professor Householder always kept me busy, not so much because he assigned very much reading or other types of work, but because I felt he had special interest in his students' individual work, and he had a penetrating power to understand the process of my growth and how I reacted to concepts and approaches that were new to me. He was most tolerant toward different ways of looking at the same 'fact' or of expressing one's own ideas. It is most enjoyable to see my ideas understood and appreciated in spite of my peculiar ways of expression. When my ideas were wrong, he often examined what was the reasoning behind my views. He was often very accurate in tracing the line of my thoughts. His manner of pointing out my errors was indeed most thoughtful and often very amusing. It was always a joy and a source of amusement to find why I had got confused. I found myself in a position to see things through in a new way . . . He helped me to find my way through as an independent scholar rather than as a follower of a specific school of linguistics . . . He seemed to have no taste for conformity to the mainstream of development, but would [rather] see scholars make use of their own experience and intuitions in their work with specific languages so that our science would not suffer from any possible single-mindedness in direction, approach, assumptions, or scope and area of interest and inquiry.
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> I wrote my dissertation at the pace of a chapter a month. Each time I handed a chapter to him, he gave it back to me the very next day or the day after. He would ask me to sit down with him and then he would give me comments and suggestions according to his notes on my drafts. My first year of teaching at the University of Hawai'i was very busy, as could be expected. I finished my dissertation before the year came to an end. I often wondered why I was able to complete it so fast—being a slow worker by nature. The main incentive to carry on my work was not so much because of the pressure I felt to complete it while Professor Householder was in Hawai'i but it was more that I was curious as to how he would look at the data I presented, the description I proposed . . . This busy and exciting and fruitful year has been the most memorable during my life. I named my second boy after him. (Quinn 1979: 23–4).

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scholar Fred sometimes mentioned in later years with friendly approbation was John Lyons, who spent a year at IU in the early sixties working on one of Fred's projects. At least one scholar who knew them both then feels that Lyons was much influenced and supported by Fred's willingness to consider semantic questions in a day when they were still thought to be improper by many American linguists.[8]

His colleagues and students arranged a special dinner for his sixty-fifth birthday, at which memoirs from his former students were read and presented. The Al-Ani (1984) publication marked his actual retirement in 1983, at age seventy. Five years later he was honored by a reception held at the University Club in the Indiana Memorial Union upon the occasion of the unveiling of his distinguished professor gallery portrait that hangs there. He was always a committed supporter of the IU Linguistics Club, serving as faculty adviser over a period of years, and donating many of his books and journals to the department's reading room. He acquired a nickname at IU in the sixties. Nancy Quinn relates (e-mail correspondence, 1994),

> When Fred Householder was chair of the department, we hired Fred Eckman on a one-year appointment. Obviously, some distinction needed to be made between the two of them, so Fred Householder became 'Big Fred,' and Fred Eckman was 'Little Freddie.' Householder's nickname stuck; I don't know if he ever minded it, although I suspect not. After his two-term tenure as chair, the students and I decided to hold a small surprise thank-you party . . . I put the phonetic symbol for the click that Fred used to do . . . when he'd point his finger like a gun . . . and THANKS, BIG FRED on the cake. We lurked in the seminar room on the fourth floor of Lindley Hall. I'd simply told him to show up at 11:00 a.m. that day. The students were all being very quiet while I watched from the hallway to give advance notice of his arrival. I heard whoops and laughter from the Seminar Room: he'd come up the fire escape stairs. It might have been a toss-up as to who was the more surprised, Fred or the students . . .
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> I explained Fred's basic personality to people by saying that most of his behavior fit "a straight line is the shortest distance between two points." His memo-writing style influenced me greatly for the good. But it could cause problems, too, as most people do not believe that someone has simply said what they meant . . . He responded to our Office of Research and Graduate Development's request for a review of a faculty grant proposal by writing: "His mind's first-rate. This is a very good proposal. Give him the money." They wrote back saying they needed an *analysis* of the grant proposal. His response was that he could say the same thing four or five different ways, but it would still be the same thing, and, after all, what more did they need to know?
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> He had an unusual view of himself vis-à-vis his position in the field. He thought of himself as "seasonal" in terms of student interest in his work and ideas. He felt that sometimes students were interested and excited by his work, and other times he just sort of lay fallow . . . I know he never had a concept of himself as being a big deal. When he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he seemed slightly harassed by all their requirements: he filled out the form for them, and, because they'd asked for a picture, he'd had Clarice take a snap of him squinting into the sun under a tree in their backyard. He brought in this gem for me to send off. I said I felt they were hoping for something a little more formal than a Hawaiian shirt in the backyard. He said it'd be fine. And it was.

Quinn also tells of a departmental colloquium he gave on *kyriolexia*.

> 'It was *very* well attended, especially since he hadn't given a talk on this campus in many years. The room held 50, and the overflow stood all along the sides and back. Well, he got

[8] Leonard Newmark, personal communication.

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through (I think) about seven of the criteria he felt were appropriate for determining just what was the "right word," and then he turned to the audience and said, 'That's as far as I've gotten—I'd like to hear what you think I ought to do now.' Stunned silence. No one in that audience was going to tell Fred Householder what to do next—they'd come to hear the sermon. Finally, when no one had any suggestions for him, he spoke about some other related issues, and ended the talk. On the way back from Ballantine to Lindley Hall, he told me they hadn't liked the talk. 'Yes, they did.' 'No, they didn't—when they like things, they ask a lot of questions.' [Quinn ended up giving him a few comments of her own, and] 'Later, after his election as President of the LSA, he used the *kyriolexia* talk, with later revisions, as his presidential address. In the title footnote, he thanks those who have helped him with earlier versions, and he thanks me first. In all the years I have been associated with academia, I have been acknowledged for many things, but never like that. It takes someone with a rare self-confidence to publicly acknowledge input from the department secretary. The signed copy of the offprint he gave me is one of my true treasures.

One of *his* greatest treasures was his old Buick convertible, which had a make-out knob on the handle (you know, one of those things that let you steer with one hand so you could keep your arm around your girlfriend), and the front license plate that said, 'GRRRR.' I think he used to drive it in local parades. He also used to love fireworks. He'd bring some in to the office for the staff, and he'd just set them off in the backyard for himself. [She tells of an office party in which various faculty played in a rewritten *A Christmas Carol*.] I spent months trying to find just the right moment to ask Fred to play the part of Tiny Tim . . . His only lines in the play were, 'God bless us, every one,' but he did them with style . . . I try to imagine how many members of the AAAS would play Tiny Tim; perhaps I do the organization an injustice, but I suspect the number is small.'

Actually, drama was one of his lifelong interests. According to his daughter Lynn, 'he was . . . an actor—in a great many plays at the University of Vermont, and then with my mother in a couple of amateur groups in Bloomington. I remember as a teenager when they finally let me come to a performance being surprised that he was actually even better than my mother, who was the one who was more dramatic around the house.' More than one contributor to Quinn 1979 comments on his love of squash playing. Says Art Palacas, 'When I was a graduate student [he] brought me refreshment as a squash partner. He wielded a worthy racquet and gave me the vigorous game of squash I needed to clear the clutter of studies from my mind. He was a particularly good partner because he had a special tenacity at the telephone to get through for a court reservation—no mean feat' (26).

Fred remained close to nature throughout his life. His daughters remember 'long walks and hikes, picnics, bird-watching, stargazing, and even stalking the wild asparagus long before that had become fashionable! It was one of the many joys of my childhood,' says Alison, 'to share in his comfortable relationship to woods and fields: . . . he was particularly quick at hearing, spotting, and identifying birds. I remember long country drives around Bloomington; even while driving his quick eyes would spot a meadowlark, an Indigo bunting, or a red-tailed hawk. I am sure you have your own memories of how much he loved Hawai'i's plants, hills, and beaches.'

Music was clearly an important part of Fred's life, too. One of his earliest memories was of standing alone singing 'Brighten the corner where you are' at the local Baptist church. He played clarinet in the Essex Junction Boy's Band, and in his high school band in Burlington, as well as in a Sunday School

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orchestra. He later owned and played soprano, alto, and tenor saxophones, but his main instrument was the clarinet. While in college, he and several fraternity brothers paid for their passage on a trans-Atlantic steamer with their nightly musical entertainment. Those of us who met him annually at LSA meetings in later years remember him as always searching out the best jazz spots at night, especially in cities such as New York, Chicago, San Antonio, and New Orleans. At Bloomington, there was a group who gathered regularly at the Householders' to listen to jazz. Fittingly, at the memorial held for him in The University Club at IU on March 20, 1994, the tributes from colleagues and former students were punctuated with selections such as 'Out of nowhere', 'Cherokee', and 'Perdido', and 'I got it bad, and that ain't good' on piano and bass.

One of my most poignant memories of that ceremony is of meeting there—in a wheelchair—Herman B Wells,[9] a native son of Indiana who was already president of IU when Fred was hired, and who, over the years, as president and later as chancellor, through his leadership qualities and deft dealing with state leaders, has been credited with making IU the strong and stable institution that it is today—one that has supported, through thick and thin, both area studies from the other side of the world, and disciplines as seemingly esoteric as linguistics. It was fitting and natural, and at the same time remarkable, that Herman B Wells should be present at the memorial held at IU that day for a scholar like Fred Householder.

The IU Bloomington Faculty Council notes in the memorial resolution, prepared by Linda Schwartz, that 'for all his impressive achievements, Dr. Householder was never impressed by himself; rather, he remained always an honest, plainspoken, and willing colleague, who never complained about the frustrations of academic life and who never lost his enthusiasm and capacity for intellectual inquiry. His own words on the nature of scholarship reflect his philosophy and his life: "An intelligent and literate man, whether he be philosopher or engineer, literary critic or astronomer, should be able to think about the problems of linguistics and follow arguments about such of them as are not concerned with technicalities . . . My ordinary language may not be shiny bright, but it is not entirely covered with rust . . . I have always rated clarity high among stylistic virtues, second only (I suppose) to the duty of avoiding dullness" (Householder 1971:xiii)'.

Finally, concerning FWH as scholar, I think Victoria A. Fromkin summed it up well in her contribution to the bibliographic volume presented him upon his retirement (Al-Ani 1984), under 'Fred W. Householder and the Linguistic Society of America': 'Since linguistics and the LSA covers all fields or subdisciplines concerned with human language, it is fortunate to have been led by a scholar such as Fred Householder. He has a deep appreciation for the work of both seasoned and young scholars whatever their particular interest, and in his disdain for dogma in any form has been able to unite and provide leadership for linguists of all theoretical views. Perhaps even more important for the Soci-

[9] He was intent on meeting me after the memorial as someone who had been introduced as having traveled the furthest in order to be present that day.

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ety has been his overview of the field, gained from his own broad research interests, which cover such diverse fields as phonetics, semantics, syntax, the history of linguistic theory, and classical and modern languages'. She closed by saying that the Society had already gained a great deal from Householder's devotion to it and its members, and expressing the hope that his membership in the Council of LSA Presidents would insure his continuing contribution to the science of Linguistics. This obituary marks the end to that active involvement.

I see from my notes that my own reflections at the IU memorial, under the title 'FWH as mentor', credited him with instilling in us, his students, an openness to new ideas and a respect for the work of others, including the traditional grammarians, with teaching us to look for the systems inhering in language data rather than superimposing those of our own, and with exemplifying in his own life of scholarship that linguistics can be intellectually a most challenging and rewarding calling. [BYRON W. BENDER, University of Hawai'i]

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* A complete listing of Professor Householder's publications through 1984 can be found in Al-Ani (1984). Several titles with more recent dates are given here. I wish to thank Linda Schwartz for her help in gathering them.

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