A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF
GENERAL SEMANTICS

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[Editor's Note: John C. Condon compiled this bibliography as part of his work towards a Master of Arts degree at San Francisco State College. It soon became clear that the completed study would be of interest to those concerned with the development and application of general semantics. Because of its length, the bibliography is to be published sectionally in successive issues of ETC. The preceding introduction by Dean C. Barnlund and the preface by the author are presented as a general introduction to the entire bibliography. This issue also contains the first major section of the bibliography concerned with the development of general semantics as a specific subject matter. The following organization is used:

I. General Semantics

A. General
B. Background and Development
C. Teaching of General Semantics
D. Analyses and Illustrations
E. Critiques of General Semantics

Included in future issues of ETC. will be items concerned with the application of general semantics to the following topics:

1. Language and Logic
2. Natural Science and Mathematics
3. The Individual

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4. Interpersonal Communication
5. Societal Communication
6. Cultural Communication

In addition, a section on communication theory with applications to each of the above areas will be included in the final section of the bibliography. Eugene Rebstock.

One of the problems created by the rapidly accelerating expansion in human knowledge has been that of keeping abreast of new discoveries on many different intellectual frontiers. In the case of general semantics this is a singularly difficult task for it is by nature the most "marriageable" of disciplines, constantly seeking to relate itself to neighboring academic areas. The sophisticated scholar of general semantics finds his curiosity leading him inevitably into the literature of cultural anthropology, psychology, sociology, psychotherapy, linguistics, literary criticism, and more recently, communication theory. It seemed that some codification of such widely scattered and divergent materials would be helpful to the expert and essential to the novice in keeping up to date on findings and theories concerning the character of man's symbolic experience. It was with this purpose in mind that the following bibliography was undertaken.

Alfred Korzybski published his first major work, The Manhood of Humanity, in 1921. Hence it seemed fitting to prepare an index to the literature on general semantics which spanned the forty years between the appearance of this germinal book and the present time. The very extensiveness of publications appearing during this period, however, made further criterial refinements necessary. The following test, therefore, was employed in distinguishing between major contributions to symbolic theory and minor or peripheral writings that might better be omitted from this bibliography or indexed elsewhere: If the publication, regardless of its department of authorship, touched upon the role of communication in modern society, concerned the connection between language and thought or action, or contained useful
prescriptions concerning the improvement of communication, within and between men, it was included. If it touched upon other aspects of communication, or did not focus upon the connection between symbols and behavior, it was excluded. No implication of merit or demerit is intended by inclusion in or exclusion from the bibliography. Lines of relevance had to be drawn in order to keep this index manageable. No unpublished materials were included.

The difficulties in preparing such a bibliography are almost—but not quite—insurmountable. The problem is not one of inclusion, but of exclusion. What, for example, in psychology, sociology, psychotherapy, or group dynamics is not relevant in some way to our habits of talking? To try to be “complete” proved impossible. To be “representative” would require credentials in every discipline of man. Some compromise had to be made. No map includes all the territory.

I. GENERAL SEMANTICS

A. General


Eldridge, Francis Reed. General Semantics (based on a series of lectures by Capt. J. A. Saunders at the Dept. of Agri-
culture Graduate School as well as on the study of *Science & Sanity*). Washington, 1949.


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__________ (ed.). Papers From the Second American Congress on General Semantics. Chicago: Institute of General Semantics, 1943. A collection of 80 papers dealing with the application of general semantics in various fields. (Individual titles arranged in this bibliography under appropriate headings.)


__________. "How Extensional Can One Be?" ETC., X (Spring 1953), 209-212.


__________. "Fate and Freedom," Mathematics Teacher, XVI (May 1923), 274-290.

__________. "Foreword" to Language Habits in Human Affairs, by Irving J. Lee.


__________. "Introduction to The Second Edition of
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separately printed by Institute of General Semantics, Lakeville, Connecticut.


*Time*, "Always Either-Or," LIV (August 1, 1949), 51.

———, "Always the Etc.?” LIII (February 14, 1949), 68 ff.

———, "New Kind of Sense," XXXVIII (August 11, 1941), 32.


"What Do You Mean—?" (editorial), *Scholastic* XXXII (February 19, 1938), 2.
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B. BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT


Bunzel, Joseph H. Review of Essays in Historical Semantics, by Leo Spitzer, ETC., VII (Summer 1950), 297.


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Kelley, Douglas M. "His Breadth of Vision was Tremendous" (on Korzybski), General Semantics Bulletin, No. 3 (Spring 1950), p. 22.


Powell, Sumner C. "Charles S. Peirce, Semiosis, and the 'Mind,'" ETC., X (Spring 1953), 201-208.


Read, Allen Walker. "An Account of the Word 'Semantics,'"
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Read, Charlotte Schuchardt. "Mira Edgerly Korzybska" (a biographical sketch), General Semantics Bulletin, Nos. 16 and 17 (1955), pp. 53-56.


C. TEACHING OF GENERAL SEMANTICS


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Cogan, Herbert J. "General Semantics in Educational Practice," ETC., IV (Spring 1947), 220-223.


"General Semantics in Child Training and Family Relations: Reports, Suggestions, Discussions by Five Mothers," General Semantics Bulletin, Nos. 6 and 7 (Spring-Summer 1951), pp. 58-68.


D. ANALYSES AND ILLUSTRATIONS


__________. "Daddy, How Much Do You Know?" *ETC.*, X (Summer 1953), 311-315.

__________. "Why Do Frenchmen?" *ETC.*, X (Winter 1953), 127-130. Also in S. I. Hayakawa (ed.). *Language, Meaning and Maturity*.

__________. "Why Do Things Have Outlines?" *ETC.*, XI (Autumn 1953), 59-63.


Corsini, Raymond J. "The Blind Men and the Elephant: Three Ends to One Tale," *ETC.*, XII (Summer 1955), 245-247. Also in S. I. Hayakawa (ed.), *Our Language and Our World*.

Dery, Charles F. "You Know Me Et Al.," *ETC.*, XV (Summer 1958), 243-245.


E. CRITIQUES OF GENERAL SEMANTICS


Ferguson, O. Review of Language in Action, by S. I. Hayakawa, New Republic, CV (December 1, 1941), 741-742.


"Institute of General Semantics," *Mental Hygiene*, XXIV (April 1940), 329-332.

James, Martin S. "Why Am I Always the Bridesmaid?" *ETC.*, XIV (Autumn 1956), 47.


Kelly, Fred C. "Do Words Scare Us?" *Saturday Review of Literature*, XXIV (November 22, 1941), 11.


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Sabre, Mel R. "Myths by Dunham," ETC., V (Summer 1948), 276-282.
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