

Titel: translation, [Lectures] 113-0040

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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heard, but sense is ascribed to them. The black marks are dissolved and arising themselves into various visible units, the smallest of which are letters; and tones and noises are dissolved and arising themselves into various audible units, the smallest of which are linguistic sounds. This phenomenon I propose to call the expression of expressional sense. The marks, noises, and tones give sense, they are arranged into independent and interdependent groups. But not even this is an exhaustive description of what really happens. The substantial sense is ascribed; certain thoughts and conceptions come into existence which constitute a certain reality. This expression of an expressional sense and a substantial sense is not made arbitrarily by the reader of the document; the text before him compels him to put a certain sense into it; and from this it must necessarily be inferred that the sense itself is an inherent component of the text exactly as the black marks or the tones are inherent components of the text.

When two different grammophon records of the same text are heard, a comparison will bring out that these two texts are certainly different, but that the expressional sense and the substantial sense are the same in both. The two trial persons have different pronunciations, but it is evident that they intend to pronounce identical Danish linguistic sounds; their ways of thinking may be somewhat different, as may be their spheres of ideas, but there is every indication that the reading is based on the same interpretation; expressional sense and substantial sense seem to be identical. A comparison of the printed text and the two spoken ones will bring out that the substantial senses are identical, but the expressional senses are not. The English translation displays a great difference as to expressional sense whereas the substantial sense is the same, at any rate, in the somewhat narrow sense of the term substantial sense (the substantial sense may display some difference).

All these four different appearances of the text may be regarded either as four different texts or as one text four times as long as each of the four. The two views are reconciled by the assertion that what is here the object of examination is one text with four different forms of appearance, for in all

of the words of the text depend on the communication. The text has, as a whole, been written for the purpose of being read.