

Titel: Addition, [5-61] 115-0070

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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Glossematics and Contemporary Linguistic Theory

To Prof. Haden Rbl. 3, 461.

Addition to Tape Record of Second Lecture (and)
(transferred from First Lecture)

Glossematic theory (in accordance with the theory of the Linguistic Circle of Prague) (and in contradistinction to certain modern linguistic theories) recognises syncretisms as such. A syncretism ("neutralization") is the result of a suspended commutation; in Danish, p and b are commutables, witness paere 'pear, bulb'; baere 'wear, carry': this commutation is suspended at the end of a syllable, resulting in the syncretism p/b, as in the word which in orthography is written kop 'cup', but may be pronounced with /-p/ or /-b/. A syncretism of this particular kind is in glossematics terminology known as a coalescence. A different kind of syncretism is implication, where not both syncretised elements, but only one of them (at a time) ~~is an obligatory representative of the syncretism: English kts with -s, dogs with -s. It can be seen from this ending occurring in free position (after a vowel), e.g. ais ("eyes"), that its "ideal form" is -s, and so the ideal form of "cats" is kats, "actualised" as kcts.~~