

Titel: BREV TIL: Charles Ernest Bazell FRA: unsure (1957-06-07)

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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Louis Hjelmslev og hans kredse,

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Dear Daze11,

Thank you for your letter from May 5 - When I read my last letter before sending it, I noticed that the tone sounded offended, but I did not bother to change it, since there was no reason for such feelings. By the way, I never feel offended, I simply do not care. Holt's content-analysis would be quite all right if Hjelms had begun, right in maintaining (in earlier writings) that the content consists of things. In this case the content-analysis best in the case bull, cow' etc. should take place in the Veterinary High School.

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I have just made a funny blunder myself. In a report for "Fop's survey of phonetic laboratories I wrote the following; "Finalement on possède un nombre de valses phonographiques." (Danish valse, French cylindre)) - I managed to correct it in the last proofs, it was almost a pity. - I advise you to "read the report from Strasbourg in this volume (which is going to appear soon). It appears that in the laboratory in Strasbourg they have such rare instruments as; "du coton hydrophile, de la vaseline, une casserole" etc. you may also find a really amusing article in Orbis by Gerhardt Schmidt, - we returned it recently to him, when he wanted to publish it in Acta Linguistica. - He suggests e.g. that assimilations are more common in hot climates, since the heat makes the sounds ruse. - I should be very interested in seeing Haas's article, particularly as I am going to write a review myself. But I am afraid I have been so long in answering, that you have not got it any more.

I have read Jakobson's Fundamentals. The book is better than Preliminaries, but, as you write, he has not proved, that everything must be binary, and, by the way, I wonder whether the binary description is always the most economic. - J's mathematical argument p. 46 presupposes that there is no system at all, so that all distinctions are of different nature, but p-t-k or i-e-æ are ordered according to one quality, and why should p-t-k be more complicated than „k. « b-d-g

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The "constant" feature is also a dubious thing. - In the phonetic description he hosierts out the worst things from Preliminaries, but his description of tense-lax and of jounding are still wrong. By the way Raman Jakobson passed, here some weeks ago. - invited to participate in the

on his way to Russia, where he was planning of the next Slavic congress. It was the first time in 40 years that he was going to Russia, and of course he very excited about it.

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Best wishes

Yours sincerely