Because the terminological data banks serve different purposes one may assume that this list of data will not be sufficient to stress the purpose of each bank, but that complementary terminological and general data will be necessary to adapt them to their own purposes.

In order to ascertain the characteristics of each bank, the list with the common data and the specific terminological and general data of each bank are studied.

The author presumes that the classification systems reflect the purposes of the banks.

An analysis of the major differences between DANTERM and the other terminological data banks has been made.

The following conclusions have been reached:

- the terminological data banks answer their purposes
- the capacity for exchange of data between the terminological data banks varies very much.
- it is necessary to harmonize the data in order to improve exchangeability

The report closes with a survey of the future possibilities of developing the terminological data banks. In Vienna, Austria, the meeting of Experts on Terminological Data Elements 24th-26th September 1980 recommended a list of mandatory and optional data elements.
latest developments. Book reviews and information about events will be included. Contributions will be in any of the Community languages, with abstracts in English, French, German and Italian. This first issue features an article by Ben Patterson, MEP, on "Multilingualism in the European Community". The author admits the magnitude of the problems pertaining to maintaining, without linguistic prejudice, a multilingual régime, and the cost of solutions and inevitable compromises. Advances in computational linguistics are hailed as a potentially valuable ally. Loll Rolling writes on the EEC's plans for improving inter-lingual information-transfer. Dieter Mönch discusses the problems of mutual access to specialized information between EEC memberstates, with specific reference to DIANE (Direct Information Access Network for Europe) which provides access to 300 databases.

M. King and S. Perschke present EUROTRA, projected EEC machine translation system with a run-down of aims and objectives.

D. Seleskovitch outlines a theory of meaning employed in the training of translators and interpreters at the University of Paris III: "that the meaningful units of utterances transcend the linguistic value of signs, but can be understood and expressed in their entirety in another language".

J. Coveney reviews the training of translators and interpreters currently offered in the United Kingdom.

The first issue of MULTILINGUA includes, in addition, notes on lexicography, terminology, machine translation, and current research.

MULTILINGUA should be hailed with alacrity by all with an interest in the multi-lingual society and its problems; if it continues to live up to its aims, it will, as its editor claims, fill a gap between quasi-contiguous fields-informatics and telematics, and natural language acquisition and performance. It is just this kind of gap which, if allowed to develop, leads in the long run to misunderstandings, breakdowns in communication and schism. The mutual distrust and not-always-latent hostility which characterize linguist/applied linguist and computer expert/translator relationships, is a case in point.

For this reason alone MULTILINGUA deserves a place in any multilingual context.

JENNIFER DRASKAU

+++++