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LES OUTILS DU TRADUCTEUR

¶ BUECKEN, Francisco J., *Vocabulário Técnico : Português-Inglês-Francês-Alemão*. 3rd ed. xlii + 1028 pp. São Paulo, Edições Melhoramentos, 1958 [\$10.00].

¶ DENTI, Renzo, *Dizionario Tecnico Italiano-Inglese, Inglese-Italiano*. 4th ed. 1225 pp. Milan, Hoepli, 1958 [\$10.00].

In technical bi- and polylingual dictionaries there are no bargains: by and large, either they are more or less exhaustive in their coverage (and correspondingly expensive), or they are hit-and-miss. The librarian, the translator or the technician is advised, therefore, to save up or, as the case may be, manipulate the budget and purchase the dictionary of choice — sooner or later he will have to, anyway, if he wants results from his investment. Though each of the above works has its merits and will be of some utility to those who, willy nilly, cannot afford, for Portuguese, the large work by Sell, or Medeiros' 8-volume *Dicionário Técnico Poliglota* (Ptg.-Sp.-Fr.-It.-Engl.-Germ.), or, for Italian, besides Medeiros, Giorgio Marolli's *Dizionario Tecnico Inglese-Italiano, Italiano-Inglese* (Florence, 1954), both serve to illustrate the *multum in parvo* fallacy. Buecken's work, first published in 1946, revised in 1952 and now reprinted with an appendix of automotive terms not previously included, is a very highly abridged lineal descendent of the venerable Schlo-mann polyglot series, adjusted to include (Brazilian) Portuguese as one of the languages. The German terminology seems to have the greatest ring of authority and was surely the point of departure. The English terminology is basically British (the sin is not in this, but in the tendency to omit American equivalents, e.g., 'transmission' besides 'gear-box', 'hood' besides 'bonnet', to cite a pair of lay examples). Compilation by reversing entry and definition often leads to absurd results, as in the case of "pouco manejável/unwieldy.../peu maniable/unhandlich", all, it is safe to say, the outgrowth of the wish to interpret "unhandlich". But what Frenchman, one may ask, would think to look up this concept under "peu..."?! Similar shortcomings can be cited for Denti bilingual dictionary (including the British bias), although its coverage of English is comparably far more thorough, reliable and extensive, due, no doubt, to the fact that the editor could concentrate on juxtaposing a mere two language. To the 4th edition "major additions" have been made. B. Hunter Smeaton, New York.

B. Hunter SMEATON

¶ Dr G. CARRIÈRE, *Recueil des termes techniques de l'industrie des produits de lavage*, 5e éd., Unilever N. V., Rotterdam.

La revue *Oléagineux*¹ a publié dans son numéro d'octobre 1959 la cinquième édition du *Recueil des termes techniques en anglais, allemand et français de l'industrie des produits de lavage*, du Dr G. Carrière dont les quatre premières éditions (la 1re datant de 1958) avaient paru dans diverses revues.

L'auteur y offre à peu près 475 mots, groupés sous les rubriques suivantes : généralités; le détergent; les textiles; la peau; la souillure; l'eau; le lavage, l'évaluation de la détergence; le moussage; le blanchiment.

D. FORTIN

¹ 14. 10 : 595-605. 13, Square Pétrarque, Paris-16e.