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PHONOLOGIC STUDIES OF QUANTITY IN SWEDISH.
Based on material from Stockholm speakers.
(Monografier utgivna av Stockholms kommunal-
förvaltning 27.)

CLAES-CHRISTIAN ELERT. Pp. xxx+xx. Almqvist & Wiksell,
Stockholm, Göteborg, Uppsala, 1964. Price Sw. kr. 30.

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This monograph consists of an Introduction, a linguistic part (Chapter 2), an acoustic part (Chapters 3-8), concluding remarks, a lengthy summary in Swedish, and a bibliography.

The acoustic data on the length of Swedish speech sounds that form the main content of the book were obtained from Sonograms prepared with filters of differing bandwidths supplemented by measurements on oscillograms, intensity, and pitch curves. The data so obtained are given *in extenso* on pp. 88-108. In the succeeding chapters, the author discusses the data. In Chapter 5, he reviews the effects on vowel duration of various factors such as vowel quality and the nature of the adjacent consonant. Chapter 6 summarizes the data concerning the duration of consonants, with special reference to the effects of consonant length of such concomitant features as voicing and place and manner of articulation, as well as the nature of the preceding vowel. Chapter 7 presents the data of vowel length as a function of the length of the immediately following consonant, and Chapter 8 contains information about the effects on length of speech sounds that are due to differences among speakers.

In all major points, Elert confirms the observations made by previous investigators. Thus, he notes that in Swedish as in many other languages low vowels such as [ae] are *ceteris paribus* longer than "high" vowels such as [iü], but that lip rounding and the front-back feature have no significant correlation with length. Similarly, he confirms the well-known effects on vowel length of following voiced and voiceless consonants.

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The author must be congratulated on the diligence with which he has gathered the data and organized them for further use. The book is beautifully printed and is remarkably free of printing errors. [The author lists p. 24, footnote) a 1956 paper by Chomsky, Lukoff, and myself among the works on English stress that recognize "no less than four phonemically distinctive levels." This is due to an oversight, since the point of this much quoted paper was that a single binary feature suffices to account for the more than four levels of stress that are (phonetically) present in English utterances.] It will be useful to future students of these problems. If any criticism comes to mind, it is that the author was perhaps a bit too conservative in restricting himself to questions that were quite straightforward and required little beyond persistence and attention to detail. But this amounts to wishing that he had written a different book from the one under review, and it is hardly fair to criticize an author for not doing what he never set out to do in the first place.

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