
The present dictionary represents a welcome second edition of the original publication, which preceded it by sixteen years. The appearance of the first edition was significant beyond the importance of the etymological information contained in its pages. Etymological information till then available only to the specialists who could closely follow the progress of the Historical Dictionary of Modern Greek compiled by the Academy of Athens was there rendered generally accessible. According to the author, his dictionary owes its existence to his desire to serve Modern Greek studies, at home as well as abroad, and to provide teachers as well as students with a handy etymological dictionary while everybody is waiting for the Academy to complete its task.

The view, expressed by some reviewers of the first edition, that the publication of such a dictionary should have been postponed until after the completion of the dictionary of the Academy, is misguided on two grounds. On the one hand, the educational needs that Professor Andriotis sets out to serve with his dictionary cannot be ignored ad infinitum. On the other hand, the dictionary of the Academy, because of its monumental nature, is a long-range project, comparable to the OED. It is perfectly natural that as the work at the Academy progresses, new areas of the Greek lexicon are being investigated, while old ones are being re-investigated, in view of new inroads made by scholarship in the history of the Greek language. Furthermore, the format of the investigation is constantly revised as the underlying philological assumptions are reoriented and linguistic science makes its influence more pronounced upon etymology and lexicology. Thus, as all these forces of change have their accumulative impact upon the work of the dictionary of the Academy, it becomes quite obvious that by the time the last volume is available to the public, the early volumes will be in great need of revision. However, no one can wait that long for a desk-size etymological dictionary of Modern Greek. The only claim we can make at this point in the development of Greek scholarship is that Professor Andriotis' dictionary not only serves the needs of educators involved in the teaching of Modern Greek, but also serves as a precursor to the
dictionary of the Academy by stimulating interest in the history and etymology of Modern Greek.

Concluding the foreword of the first edition (1951) of this dictionary, Professor Andriotis wrote:

Because this is the first complete etymological dictionary of our common language and because it was written away from the inexhaustible source of linguistic wisdom, namely, the archives of the Historical Dictionary of the Academy, it will exhibit many imperfections and weaknesses. At the present time, however, I am looking forward to a second edition. In addition to the correct material it now contains, it will then incorporate the valuable suggestions and corrections proposed in the reviews of those wiser than I. Weaknesses will then be restricted to those which are due to the level of scholarship of our times and those which are inevitable in any product of human labor.

In the above quotation the author predicted a second edition and promised an improved dictionary.

In the second edition Professor Andriotis has preserved the main features of the original edition; however, the second edition represents a distinct improvement over the first edition in terms of size, references and documentation, and high quality printing, with notably few misprints listed at the end of the book.

The first edition contained approximately eleven thousand entries. There are about nine thousand additional entries in the second edition. In its majority the set of new entries consists of three subsets: a) derivatives, b) loans from earlier periods of Greek, and c) loanwords from foreign languages.

Thus, we list here some random but representative entries which appear in both the first and the second editions, while we underline the new entries which are part of subset (a) and which appear only in the second edition: ἀρθρώνω - ἀρθρωση / ἀρκώ - ἀρκοῦμαι / βαθμός - βαθ-μηδόν, βαθμαίος, βαθμολογία / βάθος - βαθούλιος, βαθούλισμα, βαθούλων / γεμίζω - γέμισμα, γεμιστός / καθαρίζω - καθαρά, καθάρισμα, καθαριστής / καθαριστής / παράγω - παράγωγος, παραγωγός / σηκώνω - σηκώμα, σηκωτός / τουρισμός - τουρίστας / τραγουδώ - τραγουδιστής, τραγουδιστός / φθόγ-γος - φθογγολογία / ψώρα - ψωριάρης. We also list some characteristic examples of the second subset of new entries which are abundant in the second edition. Most of these are technical words related to different
periods of the Greek lexicon. They were borrowed or created by the learned tradition and have been assimilated into the general vocabulary of Modern Greek: ἄρθρίτιδα / βιομηχανία / βιοτεχνία / βλήμα / βολίδα / γοτθικός / ἱνό / ἱσοζύγιο / ἱσοπεδώνο / καθοδήγησή / καραδόκε / λαβεῖν / λαμπητόμος / ληξιαρχείο / πινακοθήκη / προγεφύρωμα / σημιωματάριο / σημιωτό / τομέας / υποσιτισμός / φθογγολογία. Finally, we list some characteristic entries of loanwords from foreign languages with which Modern Greek culture has been in relatively close contact. It is interesting to note that the majority of loanwords are technological, and that even loanwords of a non-technological nature, have a highly technical semantic content: ἀργκό (French) argot, βαζελίνη (French) vaseline, βολτάζ (French) voltage, βολτάρω (Italian) volare, γρανάζι (French) engrenage, ἰμπεριαλίστης (French) impérialiste, καλοριφέρ (French) calorifère, καμπαρντίνα (Spanish) gabardina, καραμπόλα (Italian) carambola, λανολίνη (French) lanoline, μαγκιόρο (Italian) maggiore, ντονέρι (Turkish) döner, παρκάρω (Italian) parcare, πεντάρσατο (English) transistor.

One of the outstanding features of this dictionary is the comprehensive coverage of morphemic processes, both derivational and inflectional, and morphophonemic rules of Modern Greek. Thus, synchronically functioning bound morphemes (prefixes, infixes, and suffixes) are entered under single or multiple letter entries. Furthermore, homophonous morphemes are entered separately. Finally, phonologically identical bound morphemes of diverse diachronic origins are also entered separately. Such entries are also well documented with ample references to the literature. Entries exclusively related to the morphology of the language are more than doubled in this second edition.

In conclusion it can be said that this dictionary is comprehensive in scope and meticulous in execution. It constitutes a sine qua non for the teacher and the student of the history of the Greek language. We can be confident that it will fulfill its purpose by advancing significantly the rising scholarly interest in Modern Greek studies.

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