
[29] *European general linguistics and semantics in the 1910's*

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This paper is to focus on the general linguistics and semantics by the Swiss linguists in 1910's, who influenced the whole world in those days: Anton Marty (1848 - 1914) and Ferdinand de Saussure (1857 – 1913). They both completed influencing considerations in the 1910's in general linguistics and semantics. Anton Marty's main works are compiled in *Gesammelte Schriften* (1916). There, we can assume that his main concern was on the semiosis. The first point of primary importance is the concept of bifurcation of the linguistic activities such as follows:

Communication, meaning -- Primarily and indirectly intended attachment of semiosis
Announcement, expression – secondarily and directly intended attachment of semiosis

The primary intention of the human linguistic activities is to influence other people's mental lives. Marty defines the function of linguistic means as the influence on the hearer's mental phenomena. Seen from the hearer's viewpoint, meaning is the content of the mental status if the linguistic expressions are exactly understood. The meaning which the hearer understood is NOT the judgment that there is a book, but an image of the judgement of the content. Finally, against the critical comments that the above observations are too much based on the communicative aspects. Ferdinand de Saussure (1857 – 1913) is also a Swiss linguist, but his first language was French. It is insightful that the translation of his *Cours de linguistique générale* (henceforth referred to as CLG) into Japanese was officially done in 1928, but actually in 1927. This translation was earlier than in any other languages. The translator was Professor Hideo Kobayashi, who revised the whole book until the third edition in 1972. I hypothesize that in the first half of the twentieth century, the influence of the European linguistics on that of Japan was larger than the American counterpart. This is based on the fact that the first translation of CLG was made into Japanese, and the acceptance of Marty linguistics by Professors Chikahira Kobayashi, and Fumio Nakajima. In the American linguistics, on the other hand, *Language* by Sapir was published in 1921, and the same title by Bloomfield in 1933. Toward the middle of the twentieth century, more focus had been put on syntax than ever before, leading to the emergence of Generative Grammar. With this transition, linguistics in Japan was more influenced by the American linguistics than by the European counterparts.