Most dictionaries define homograph in terms of words taken from the same language, saying nothing about words from two different languages involving partially overlapping alphabets (e.g., the English Latin alphabet and the Russian Cyrillic alphabet). For example, in their Dictionary of Linguistics (Littlefield and Adams, 1969), Mario Pei and Frank Gaynor define homograph as "a word identical in written form with another given word of the same language, but entirely different in origin, sound, and meaning". In contrast, this paper, in considered conformance with the etymology of the word from the Greek, defines an interlingual homograph to be one of two or more words which are identically written regardless of their meanings, derivation, pronunciation, language membership or alphabet constituency.

This non-discriminatory definition enables one to thwart any literary derogation of this kind of study in that it includes the following literary uses of Russian-to-English homographs. The first such usage may be found in the November 1973 Intellectual Digest (pp. 10) in an interview of the Russian poet, Andrey Voznesensky, by Herbert R. Lottman. This interview mentions that, in his collection of experimental visual poetry, Maga, Voznesensky presents the English words ECHO WHEN with another given word of the same language, but entirely different in origin, sound, and meaning". The second usage involves the Russian letter 'I' (phonetic 'n') which Agatha Christie's detective hero, Hercule Poirot, found embroidered on the corner of a handkerchief in Murder on the Orient Express. At first, of course, this vital clue was disregarded since it was assumed that the letter was an English 'H'. A third, more critical, literary usage of Russian-to-English homography may be found in a scholarly article entitled "'P' or 'R': Who wrote the Mnemosyne review?" (Russian Literature TriQuarterly, No. 10, pp. 274-278) in which Antonia Glasse mentions the fact that a letter 'P' written in signature after the review in question could be either Latin 'P' (standing as an initial, perhaps, for 'Pushkin') or Cyrillic 'P' (phonetic 'r'), standing as an initial for 'Ryleev' or, more likely, an abbreviation of 'redaktor', the Russian word for editor).

With these literary usages in mind, S. I. Ozegov's 53,000 word Slovar' russkogo jazyka ("Dictionary of the Russian Language"), published in Moscow in 1960, was scanned to see if any other Russian-to-English homographs could be found. The first problem was to decide which of the 33 letters of the Russian Cyrillic alphabet would be allowed as A, B, E, K some of the Cursive variation which may be counterpart unlearned. In the case of the (that) or not excluded as an abbreviation and reflected.

In the following list, is given, so English meanings them up in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>English Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AH</td>
<td>'but'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY</td>
<td>'he'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AX</td>
<td>'ac'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOH</td>
<td>'c'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOP</td>
<td>'t'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOT</td>
<td>'l'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAK</td>
<td>'t'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT</td>
<td>'t'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>'x'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEX</td>
<td>'x'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| MOT | '
| HAP | 'g' |
| HEM | 's' |
| HET | 't' |
| HOC | 'c' |
| HOT | 'g' |
| ATOM | |
| BATE | |
| BOCK | |
| MAKE | |
| MAMA | |
taken from different lan-
ding in English:

The second

In scanning the Russian dictionary, one has to keep in mind not only the form cited, but also the many possible inflectional variations which may occur. For example, Russian POK (fate) has no English counterpart until one recalls the prepositional case ending -E which then yields POKE, and the Russian CHOCA (footnote) has no counterpart unless one uses the genitive plural zero ending which yields CHOCK. Also, a word may have more than one counterpart as in the case of the English TOM which, in Russian, is either prepositional (that) or nominative (volume). In addition, one-letter words are excluded as are Russian words which are homographic with English abbreviations: Russian HY (well), past tense verb POC (he grew), and inflected forms PTA, PTE, PTY of POT (mouth).

In the following lists, an English translation of each Russian word is given, sometimes with bits of grammatical information. The English meanings of the words are left to the reader who can easily look them up in Webster's. The lists follow the Russian alphabetical order.

```
AH 'but'   HA 'on'   OH 'he'
AY 'hello, hi'   HE 'not'   OX 'ouch'
AX 'ach!'   HO 'but'   TO 'this'

APT 'art'
BAP 'pitch, wax'
BAT gen. pl. 'weddings'
BOH 'over there!'
BOP 'thief'
BOT 'here is' .
MAK 'poppy'
MAT 'check' (in chess)
MAX 'stroke, blow'
MEX 'fur'
MOP 'pestilence'
MOT 'squanderer'
HAP gen. pl. 'slat bed'
HEM short adj. 'dumb'
HET 'no'
HOC 'nose'
HOT gen. pl. 'notes'

ATOM 'atom'
BATE prep. 'wadding'
BOCK 'wax'
MAKE prep. 'poppy'
MAMA 'mama'

AHO 'it'
PAM gen. pl. 'frames'
PAH gen. pl. 'wounds'
PAC gen. pl. 'races'
POM 'rum'
POT 'mouth'
CAM 'himself'
CEP short adj. 'grey'
COB gen. pl. 'owls'
COM 'small fish'
COP 'litter, trash'
COX gen. pl. 'wooden plows'
TAM 'there'
TAP gen. pl. 'packings'
TOM prep. 'that', 'volume'
TOP gen. pl. 'Torahs (?)'
TOT 'that'

MACK gen. pl. 'masks'
MATE prep. 'check' (in chess)
MOPE 'sea'
MOTE prep. 'squanderer'
HATE 'to these'
```
As it turns out, no homographic Russian verb forms were found despite the likely inflectional endings -ET (3rd singular), -EM (1st plural), -ETE (2nd plural) and -YT (3rd plural). (Note that the 3rd plural -AT is precluded by the possible range of preceding Russian letters.) There are no legitimate homographs of more than five letters in the list. The English counterpart of the Russian TAP'TAP (Tartar) is hyphenated, and Webster's doesn't include the possible (?) English counterparts of BEPECK (heather) or PEAK'TOP (reactor). Analogously, there appears to be no Russian counterpart to the English word PECTATE, mentioned in the February 1973 Word Ways as the longest English word written entirely with Cyrillic characters. ATOM, MAMA and TOTEM are the only homographs which have the same meaning in both Russian and English.

A FREE BOOKLET
"3000 Pictures Classified", a 50-page booklet published by National Library Publications, Box 73, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234, is a photo-offset reproduction of an appendix in the First Edition of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary which groups pictures of objects according to various general classifications (agriculture and horticulture, ichthyology, musical instruments, mythology, ornithology, modes of punishment, ships and nautical affairs, heraldry, etc.). However, one should note that later printings of the First Edition contain a somewhat larger number of pictures than this booklet (the 1929 printing contains 70 pages). William Sunners has 100 extra copies of this booklet, and will supply Word Ways readers copies for only 25 cents apiece (to cover the costs of mailing); write to the address given above.

Several readers asked for comments about received up to that issue.

Several readers asked for comments about received up to that issue.

Several readers asked for comments about received up to that issue.

Several readers asked for comments about received up to that issue.

Several readers asked for comments about received up to that issue.