

A STUDY OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE
IN
THE WRITINGS OF ROGER ASCHAM



Thesis for the Degree of M. A.
MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
Dorothy Evelyn Hughes
1944

MICHIGAN STATE LIBRARIES



3 1293 01841 3348

A Study of the Subjunctive
in
the Writings of Loren Ascham

by
Dorothy Evelyn Hughes

A THESIS

Submitted to the Graduate School
of Michigan State College of
Agriculture and Applied Science
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

MASTERS OF ARTS

Department of English

1944

PREFACE

In 1932 the National Council of Teachers of English made possible the publication of a study by Sterling Andrews Leonard of the University of Wisconsin, Current English Usage, in which a collection of expressions which have been tabooed by grammarians was submitted to a group of 229 judges consisting of authors, editors, business men, linguists, and teachers for the purpose of being judged as to their acceptability for standard usage. Among the expressions included were two which dealt with the mood of the verb. The first one, If it wasn't for football, school life would be dull, would be considered incorrect by most grammarians because it uses the indicative where they would consider the subjunctive necessary, but it was accepted by sixty-three per cent of the judges as good colloquial English. The second expression under consideration, I wish I was wonderful, would call for the subjunctive in the noun clause in order to be approved by most grammarians, but it, too, was accepted by the judges as good English. Furthermore, this second expression was approved by ninety-three per cent. Leonard pointed out in his report that the decision of the judges is evidence that the inflectional subjunctive is gradually disappearing from the English language.

While it is true that there are few inflectional subjunctives left, it is also true that new subjunctives have come along to take their place. The development of these new subjunctives has naturally brought about controversies among scholars and text-book writers.

In an attempt to clarify the matter some scholars have investigated the subjunctive as found in the writings of authors of merit. They have frequently turned to the sixteenth century writers for their investigations because it was during this period that the inflectional forms of the subjunctive began to be replaced by the periphrastic forms.

William Kasten gathered citations from the writings of Shakespeare, Marlowe, Jonson, and Spencer for his treatise, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive in the Elizabethan Period. Bohumil Trnka made a study of the subjunctives in sixteenth century literature in preparing his book, On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden. Although H. Poutsma gathered most of his citations from eighteenth century writings, he turned frequently to the writings of Shakespeare for material.

It is regrettable that no studies of the subjunctive have been based on the writings of Roger Ascham, whose language offers an abundance of excellent material for such an investigation.

The purpose of this study is threefold: 1. to compare some of the treatments of the subjunctive that have been made by writers of school textbooks; 2. to investigate some scholarly treatments of the subjunctive; 3. to offer suggestions for a more systematic treatment, based on the subjunctives in the English writings of Roger Ascham.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Page</u>
I Roger Ascham.....	1
II The Problem of the Subjunctive.....	9
I Textbook Treatment.....	9
II Scholarly Treatment.....	16
III Suggested Treatment.....	32
III The Subjunctive in the Writings of Roger Ascham.....	38
IV Summary.....	83
Bibliography.....	69

Chapter I

ROGER ASCHAM

Before making a study of the subjunctive, the greater part of which will be based on the language in the writings of Roger Ascham, it is appropriate to consider his standing as a man of letters. Little has been written about him, but from the few meager biographies available we know that he was recognized as one of the finest writers and philologists of the sixteenth century.

In looking back over his life we find three factors which undoubtedly contributed to Ascham's success: 1) the general conditions in England in the sixteenth century; 2) Ascham's education; 3) Ascham's occupational experiences.

1) The general conditions which existed in England in the sixteenth century offered unlimited stimulation to an eager young scholar. The last great intellectual revolution was filling the mind of every academician with either ardor or anxiety. Following the fall of Constantinople England had become a place of refuge for the Greeks, who naturally took along with them their language and culture. The art of printing had made books available for those who desired them. The doctrines of Luther were causing much controversy throughout the churches and colleges.

We have evidence that the intellectual revolution left its mark on Ascham from such reports as:

Roger Ascham was not only a typical literary Englishman, but a notable representative of the New Learning as it took root in England.¹

Ascham became an enthusiastic student of the Greek language and philosophy and passed his enthusiasm on to the small boys in the town and to his classmates at college. We read that "he taught Greek, he wrote Greek, he talked Greek, no wonder if he dreamed in Greek."² On one occasion he wrote a letter to his friend, Robert Pember, in such excellent Greek that Pember replied, "Dearly beloved, - I render thee thanks for thy Greek epistle, which might seem to have been indited at ancient Athens, so exactly hast thou attained the propriety of Greek phrase."³ He testifies to the increased popularity of Greek at the college when he writes in 1542 to Brandesby:

Aristotle and Plato are now read by the boys in the original language,---, Sophocles and Euripides are now more familiar to us than Plautus was when you were here. Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon are more read now than Livy was then. They talk now as much of Demosthenes, as they did of Cicero at that time.⁴

1. Chambers, Cyclopaedia of English Literature, I, 144.

2. Education, 25.

3. Ibid., 25.

4. Ascham, Roger, The Whole Works of Roger Ascham, I, xxxvii.

In a letter to Sir W. Paget he refers to his appointment, at a "handsome salary" to "profess the Greek tongue in public."⁵ Ascham even entered into a controversy at one time concerning the correct pronunciation of the Greek language. He took great delight in teaching Greek to the Princess Elizabeth and makes reference in later years to Queen Elizabeth's proficiency in Greek.

The doctrines of Luther left their imprint on young Ascham, too, for at an early age he accepted the Protestant faith.

2) Ascham's education began when he was placed under the capable tutelage of R. Bond, who inspired in him a love for books from the very start. At a time when scarcely anyone in England was reading English the young boy showed a preference for books that were written in English.

His formal education began when at fifteen he entered St. John's College in Cambridge. This was a fortunate choice for two reasons; it was the most famous seminary in England at the time, and Ascham was placed under the guidance of two men who were to become outstanding teachers in later years. One was John Cheke, who afterwards became the tutor of Edward VI, and the other was John Redman, who was destined to be the first master of Trinity College.

John Cheke must have made a lasting impression on his pupil, for Ascham refers to him often in his writings years later. In a discussion of the value of Imitation in The Scholemaster, he wrote, "This matter maketh me gladly remember

5. Ascham, The Whole Works of Roger Ascham, I, xl.

my sweete tyme spent at Cambridge, and the pleasant talke which I had oft with M. Cheke and M. Watson,---"⁶ Later he refers to him again in these words: "My dearest frend, and best master that ever I had or heard in learning, Syr I. Cheke, soch a man, as if I should liue to see England breed the like again, I feare, I should liue ouer long."⁷

Ascham received his degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1531 and his degree of Master of Arts in 1537. However, his education was not limited to that which he gained from institutions of learning. His travels through Germany and Italy added to his linguistic and humanistic education and left their mark on his literary career.

3) Throughout his life Ascham engaged in remunerative work which contributed to his success as a writer. During his student days he spent much time tutoring the small boys in Greek. One of his masters made the remark that he would learn more by explaining one fable to a student than he would by listening to the lengthy explanation of a difficult passage made by someone else. No doubt his reputation as a philologist owes something to the training he received through this tutoring.

Following his graduation in 1537 he was appointed Mathematical Lecturer at the University. Nine years later,

6. Ascham, Roger, English Works, Edited by William Wright, 289.

7. Ibid., 297.

in 1546, he secured the position of Public Orator, in which capacity he had to write all of the public letters for the University. His experience as writing-master to Prince Edward, the Princess Elizabeth, and others helped to fit him for this post. Furthermore, his experience in the capacity of Public Orator helped fit him for his literary career.

The fact that he was chosen to teach members of the Royal family is an indication that his ability was held in high esteem. His years of service in this capacity must have contributed to his mastery of the language. Later his appointment as Secretary to Queen Mary offered him still more opportunity to perfect his style of writing.

In addition to the outside factors which contributed to Ascham's success, we must add one more factor - Ascham's own desire to perfect his English. He wrote the Toxophilus in English when, he explains in his Preface, it would have been "more profitable for his study and more honest for his name" to have written it in another language. He says that the language which is used by the best of the country should not be vile for him to write. He further writes:

And as for the Latin or greke tonge, euerye thyng is so excellently done in them, that none can do better: In the Englysh tonge contrary, euery thinge in a maner so meanly, bothe for the matter and handelynge, that no man can do worse. For therin the least learned for the mooste parte, haue ben alwayes moost redye to wryte. And they whiche had leaste hope in latin, haue bene mooste bouldes in englyshe: when surely euery man that is mooste ready to taulke, is not moost able to wryte. He that wyll wryte well in any tongue, muste folowe

thys counsell of Aristotle, to speake as the common people do, to thinke as wise men do: and so shoulde euery man vnderstande hym, and the iudgement of wyse men alowe hym.⁸

In the Retrospective Review for 1821 we find the suggestion that perhaps we owe more to Ascham for having set a successful example of a simple and pure taste in writing than for having cultivated the Greek language among us. Concerning his style we read:

Ascham is a great name in our national literature. He was one of the first founders of a true English style in prose composition, and one of the most respectable and useful of our scholars. He was amongst the first to reject the use of foreign words and idioms--a fashion, which in the reign of Henry VIII, began to be so prevalent that the authors of that day, by "usinge straunge wordes, as Latine, French, and Italian, did make all thinges darke and harde."⁹

Ascham's interest in clarity of expression and simplicity of style is revealed in The Scholemaster.

For what proprietie in wordes, simplicitie in sentences, plainnesse and light, is comelie for these kindes, Caesar and Livie---are perfite examples of limitation.¹⁰

He speaks of Plato, Isocrates, and others as "the purest and playnest writers, that ever wrote in any tong, and best examples for any man to follow whether he write, Latin, Italian, French, or English."¹¹

8. Ascham, Roger, English Works, Edited by William Wright, xiv.

9. Retrospective Review, IV, 76-77.

10. Ascham, Roger, English Works, Edited by William Wright, 285.

11. Ibid., 300.

He refers repeatedly to the importance of acquiring perfection in writing. In recommending the use of models in the study of language he mentions their helpfulness to the study of English.

And this is not onelie to serue in the Latin or Greke tong, but also in our English language---must we seeke in the Authors onelie of those two tonges, the trewe Paterne of Eloquence, if in any other mother tongue we looke to attaine, either to perfit utterance of it ourselves, or skilfull iudgement of it in others.¹²

His interest in words is revealed in such phrases as: "his [Varro's] wordes sometyme be somewhat rude"¹³ "In deed, our English tong, having in use chiefly wordes of one syllable which commonly be long,---."¹⁴ He speaks of Salust's "use of old words and new ones"¹⁴ and his "hard composition and crooked framing of his wordes and sentences, as a man would say, English talke placed and framed outlandish like."¹⁵

Ascham's published writings include one hundred sixty-five letters written during the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Queen Mary, and seventy letters written during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a few poems in Latin, and his three English works, The Toxophilus, A Report of the Affaires and State of Germany, and The Scholemaster. His correspondence includes

12. Ascham, Roger, English Works, Edited by William Wright, 283.

13. Ibid., 295.

14. Ibid., 289.

15. Ibid., 298.

letters to the rulers of Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Poland and Bohemia, to Queen Elizabeth, to the Pope, to Bishops, senators, dukes, and to former teachers, schoolmates, and pupils. As these letters are nearly all in Latin, they will be of no value in this study; therefore we shall turn directly to the three English writings which will form the basis for the study.

It is believed that the Texonophilus, written in 1544 during his residence at the University of Cambridge, was the only one of the three which was published during his lifetime. It was first published in 1845 by Edward Whitchurch. A second edition was published by Thomas Narayne in 1871 and a third by Abell Jeffes in 1889. The Report of the Affaires and State of Germany was written in 1553, but it was not printed until after Aschan's death, probably about 1870. The Schoolmaster was published by John Payne in 1870.

I have chosen these three English works as the basis for an investigation of the subjunctive mood because they were written during the period when the inflectional subjunctive was beginning to be replaced by the periphrastic subjunctive, because Aschan was considered a master of the English language, and because no studies of the subjunctive have been based on his writings.

Chapter II

THE PROBLEM OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE

I

Textbook Treatment

The subjunctive mood is always a controversial subject among the writers of textbooks. Some devote several pages to a discussion of it; others give it only passing consideration; while a few omit all mention of the subjunctive in their textbooks.

Charles Henshaw Ward in his book, What Is English?, which he wrote in 1925 and sub-titled "A Book of Strategy for English Teachers", gives the following advice to teachers of English concerning the teaching of the subjunctive: "Unless my principal or some state examining board obliged me to teach mood, I should never take up the subject in school. A statement or question of fact is indicative, and a command is imperative; those two moods English really has. And there are remnants of an undoubted subjunctive mood in a few formal or archaic uses like 'if it were', 'may it be', 'though he have'. These are real variations in form to show that the verbs express a mere mode of thought. Beyond this there is only a welter of subtleties, a flux of contradictory opinion. If left to your own devices, have nothing to do with anything but the few realities. If you are required to teach subjunctives, stick to one simple formula: Does it clearly indicate a mere condition

of thought? Many cases are debatable. There are fewer subjunctives than you suppose. Probably the following are indicative: 'I could have shot it with perfect ease' (the fact is that I have power to), 'I may be wrong about this' (the fact is that there is such a possibility), 'Perhaps you would like to stay' (the fact perhaps really is that). The following would usually be called subjunctive, because they clearly show, or the context shows, that the verb is not indicating a fact: 'If only I could have shot it.' 'I might have gone to bed sooner.' 'Wouldn't he have enjoyed that?' Few will ever object to your method if you limit subjunctives to: (1) real subjunctive by its form, (2) mere prayerful hope or exhortation that does not sound the least like fact, (3) a condition that is clearly a case of speaking about what would be true if the facts were otherwise. I cannot conceive why any teacher should ever need to mention optative or potential moods, for these are mere shades of meaning; they are not changes of form; they are phantoms imported from classical grammar."¹

E. A. Cross makes no mention of the subjunctive in his textbook, The Little Grammar, which has been widely used in

1. Ward, C. H., What Is English?, 186.

secondary schools throughout the country since its publication in 1922.

The Reed and Kellog grammar, which has been a stand-by ever since its publication in 1909, goes no farther than a brief definition of the subjunctive and potential modes.

"The subjunctive mode asserts the action or being as a mere condition, supposition or wish. The Potential mode asserts the power, liberty, possibility, or necessity of being or action."²

Mabel C. Hermans, Research Assistant in English at Los Angeles, California, includes instruction in the subjunctive in her text, Studies in Grammar, published in 1924. She defines the subjunctive as follows: "A verb is in the subjunctive mood when it is used in expressing a wish, a condition contrary to fact, or something that is uncertain."³ She then gives a conjugation of the verb "be" in the present and past subjunctive in the following form: "If I be there", "If you be there," etc. The immature student, learning the conjugation from her chart supposes, and with good reason, that the verb is in the subjunctive mood only when it is preceded by the word if. Yet the exercises which follow contain such sentences as: "I wish she were here now" in which the word if does not appear at all.

2. Reed, Alonso and Kellog, Brainerd, Higher Lessons in English, 318.

3. Hermans, Mabel C., Studies in Grammar, 136.

A Handbook of Grammar by Sidwell and Siegfried, published in 1926, lists five uses of the subjunctive:

1. Use the subjunctive to express an uncertain condition.
2. Use the subjunctive in a condition contrary to fact.
3. In wishes introduced by such words as would, may, etc., the subjunctive is sometimes used.
4. If a concession is contrary to fact, the past subjunctive is used to refer to present time and the past perfect to past time just as in conditions contrary to fact.
5. The subjunctive is used after such expressions as, as if, as though, had as lief, had rather, and had better.⁴

The only mention of the subjunctive in the college textbook, Composition for College Students, published in 1927 by Thomas, Manchester, and Scott, is the following definition: "The form which expresses a wish in the independent sentences (God grant this be true) and is used considerably in dependent clauses; e.g., in wishes, and in certain conditional and concessive clauses, expressing uncertain condition or condition contrary to fact. Ex. If this were your first offense, the case would be different. If this be treason, make the most of it."⁵

In A Brief English Grammar, by Fred Scott and Gertrude Luck, 1908, appears this definition: "Verbs which represent a state of things not as actually existing nor yet as imperatively demanded by the speaker, but merely as capable of existing, are said to be in the subjunctive mood. Under this

4. Sidwell and Siegfried, Handbook of Grammar, 110-111.

5. Thomas, Manchester, and Scott, Composition for College Students, 574.

head some verbs which represent a state of things as merely supposed, as possible under certain circumstances, or as wished for without the strong demand of the imperative mood." He lists other uses of the subjunctive as: "in making such wishes as 'God be with you,' 'Long live the King!' 'Sweet be thy sleep.', in subordinate clauses indicating a state of uncertainty, apprehension, deliberation, desire."⁶ In regard to periphrastic forms he writes: "The subjunctive forms of the verb are not, as we have previously noted, frequently employed in modern English. Instead of them we often use, to express a state of things which is possible or desired rather than actually present, certain so-called auxiliary or helping verbs in combination with the principal verbs of the sentence or clause.---Such auxiliary verbs as could, should, would, may, might, are thus used in combination with principle verbs of the sentence or clause in the place of the subjunctive forms."⁷

In 1927 George Krapp, in A Comprehensive Guide to Good English, which is a discussion of current American idiom, makes the following statements about the subjunctive in present day English:

The subjunctive mood in present day English is restricted almost entirely to the condition contrary to fact, as in If he were commander-in-chief, there is no question what he would do. In literary style a concession or supposition

6. Scott, Fred H., and Buck, Gertrude, ~~A Brief English~~
Grammar, 133.

7. Ibid, 134.

is sometimes expressed by the subjunctive, as in Were I to do that, I should never regain my self-respect; If I were to do that, etc., but the more usual form for expressing this idea would be, If I did that, I should never regain my self-respect. In literary style sometimes a high degree of doubt is expressed by the subjunctive, as in If climate be an important element in the formation of national character, the character ceases to be entirely a subjective creation. In colloquial speech, even in the condition contrary to fact, the forms of the subjunctive appear frequently only when the subject of the verb is a personal pronoun, I, you, he, she, we, they. But in these constructions also, colloquial speech ordinarily has the indicative, as If he was here, he would tell us what to do; Tottering as if he was about to fall; I wish I was in your place. These uses are now so general that they must be accepted as at least good colloquial English. The subjunctive is employed most frequently when it is employed at all, in forms of the verb to be. With other verbs, the subjunctive has a distinctly literary, often artificial color, as in If he believe honestly, a believer will readily make converts. But the more natural phrasing would be If he believes honestly, etc. ✓

Charles Fries, Professor of English at the University of Michigan, made a survey of American English, basing it on an examination of letters written by American soldiers during the World War of 1914-1918. Among other conclusions which he made as a result of this survey are the following concerning the use of the subjunctive.

1. In general the subjunctive has tended to disappear from use. This statement does not mean that the ideas formerly expressed by the inflectionally distinct forms of the verb called the subjunctive are not now expressed but rather that these ideas are now expressed chiefly by other means, especially by function words.
2. In these materials taken all together not more than one fifth of the instances of that clauses after such words as ask, request, command, suggest, order, etc. used the subjunctive, and only 22.6 per cent of the "non-fact conditions" used the subjunctive.

8. Krapp, George Philip, A Comprehensive Guide to Good English, 651-652.

3. The failure to use the subjunctive form in non-fact conditions, and in that clauses after words of asking, requesting, suggesting, etc., is not characteristic of Vulgar English only. The practices of Standard English and Vulgar English do not differ significantly in this respect.⁹

9. Fries, Charles, American English Grammar, 106-107.

II

Scholarly Treatment

A discussion of the subjunctive from the scholar's viewpoint may well begin with a statement made by Noah Webster, who might be considered America's first grammarian, because in 1784 he wrote a treatise entitled A Plain and Comprehensive Grammar.¹⁰ In 1789 he expressed the following opinion concerning the subjunctive: "by the construction of our language, no subjunctive mode is necessary - in most cases it is improper - and what is the strongest of all arguments, it is not used in the spoken language, which is the only true form of grammar."¹¹

Sixty-two years later Gould Brown wrote in his Grammar of English Grammars: "The Subjunctive mood is that form of the verb which represents the being, action, or passion, as conditional, doubtful, and contingent: as, 'If thou go, see that thou offend not' 'See thou do it not' Rev.xix, 10."¹² He further writes: "The subjunctive mood is so called because it is always subjoined to an other verb. It usually denotes some doubtful contingency, or some supposition contrary to fact. The manner of its dependence is commonly denoted by

10. Part of a 3 volume work, Grammatical Institute of the English Language.

11. Webster, Errors in English Grammar as quoted in Bevier, Thyra Jane, "American Use of the Subjunctive," American Speech, VI, 208.

12. Brown, Gould, The Grammar of English Grammars, 337.

one of the following conjunctions: if, that, though, lest, unless."¹² He criticizes grammarians Chandler, Frasee, Pisk, S. S. Greene, Conly, Ingersoll, E. C. Smith, Sanborn, Mack, Butler, Hart, Weld, Pinneo, and others for recognizing a "subjunctive mood in the indicative form", adding that "the suggestion which we frequently meet with, that the regular indicative or potential mood may be thrown into the subjunctive by merely prefixing a conjunction, is something worse than nonsense. Indeed, no mood can ever be made a part of an other, without the grossest confusion and absurdity. Yet, strange as it is, some celebrated authors, misled by an if, have tangled together three of them, producing such a snarl of tenses as never yet can have been understood without being ridiculous."¹³ On the following page he states: "The true subjunctive mood, in English, is virtually rejected by some later grammarians who nevertheless acknowledge under that name a greater number and variety of forms than have ever been claimed for it in any other tongue. All that is peculiar to the Subjunctive, all that should constitute it a distinct mood, they represent as an archaism, an obsolete or antiquated mode of expression, while they willingly give to it every form of both the indicative and the potential, the two other moods which sometimes follow an if."¹⁴

13. Ibid., 338.

14. Ibid., 339.

The views of these two grammarians show the disagreement that exists in regards to the subjunctive even among scholars. Some agree with Brown that the subjunctive should be left in its classic form; others are of Webster's opinion that it should be eliminated entirely; still others take a "middle-of-the-road" attitude.

In 1874 William Kasten submitted to the University of Boston for his dissertation leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy a study of the subjunctives as he found them in the works of Shakespeare, Johnson, Marlowe, and Spencer.

In his study, which he approaches from a grammatical angle, he first lists the uses of the subjunctive in principal sentences, subdividing them into five groups of present subjunctives and four groups of imperfect subjunctives. The subjunctives of dependent clauses he subdivides into substantive sentences, adverbial sentences, and relative sentences. Below are his categories, together with examples which he has taken from the above-mentioned authors.

PRINCIPAL SENTENCES

1. to express an action or state as merely supposed, whether realized or not:

Such men as he be never at heart's ease. (Sh. J. C.)

How chance the roses there do fade so fast. (Sh. R. E. D.)

2. in wishes, prayers, and commands:

His be the praise. (Spencer: Fairy Queen, 2.138)

"Thy love ne'er alter till they sweet life end." (Sh. M. N. D.)

"God save such a lord." (Chaucer: Knight's Tale.)

3. in a supposition upon which another statement depends:

"Be it so she will not consent---, I beg the ancient
privilege of Athens." (Sh. M. N. D. 1.1.)

4. in a concession:

"None can hear him, cry he ne'er so loud." (Marl. Jew.)

"Be thou a spirit of hell, bring with thee---"

5. in a principal clause partaking of the nature of a
conditional clause:

"If I do, mankind disclaim me ever." (Ben Jonson.)

Following these citations, he lists examples of the imperfect
subjunctive under similar headings.

1. uncertainty - (also politeness):

"What board were I best to play it in?" (Sh. M. N. D.)

"It were best he speak no harm of Brutus here." (Sh. J.C.)

"That were enough to hang us all." (Sh. M. N. D.)

2. in wishes implying possibility:

"I am the best of them that speak this language, were
I but where 'tis spoken."

3. in statements contrary to fact (inverted word order):

"O were favor so, yours would I catch." (Sh. M. N. D.)

4. uncertainty from the conditional clause:

"If the matter were good, I durst swear it were his."

There are several apparent inconsistencies in the above
classification. In his first example it is possible that the
verb, be, is indicative, since the subject is plural. In his

example under 5 of his first group, he attributes the subjunctive disclaim to its proximity to a subjunctive in the conditional clause. Would not the sentence, Mankind disclaim me ever, call for the subjunctive in its own right as an example of his second classification, i.e. in wishes, prayers, and commands? Is not that statement parallel to one of the examples he has used, "Thy love ne'er falter till thy sweet life end?" Furthermore, can concessive clauses be classified as principal sentences? In the citation, "None can hear him, cry he ne'er so loud", the subjunctive, cry, is in a clause which depends upon the principal clause, "None can hear him." Again, in the examples from the imperfect subjunctive he has included a citation from a dependent clause under his group of subjunctives in principal sentences, i.e., (3) in statements contrary to fact (inverted word order): "O were favor so, yours would I catch." In my opinion, O were favor so is a dependent clause in inverted word-order. It is only another way of saying, "O if favor were so, yours would I catch." Under the fourth heading, uncertainty from the conditional clause, he has given the following citation: "If the matter were good, I durst swear it were his." By classifying it thusly, he is claiming that the verb were is in a principal sentence and is subjunctive because of its proximity to the conditional, If the matter were good. First of all, the verb were is not found in a principal sentence, but rather in a noun clause used as a direct object. Second, it is subjunctive because it is expressing an uncertainty following the verb durst swear.

While his examples of the subjunctive in principal sentences are confined to formal subjunctives, it will be seen from the following citations taken from his discussion of the subjunctive in subordinate clauses that he has included periphrastic subjunctives as well as formal ones.

A. Substantive sentences

- "I told him, he were best to send it." (Marl. Jew., 4.5.)
- "They should swear hell were broken loose." (Ben J. Ev. M. 4.1.)
- "Do you think I would leave you." (Ben J. Ev. M. 1.3.)
- "I hope he be in love." (Sh. Much Ado. 3.2.)
- "I fear'd lest I might anger thee." (Sh. Temp. 4.1.)
- "Pray heaven it do." (Ben J. Ev. M. 2.3.)
- "But I beseech your grace that I may know the worst."
(Sh. M. N. D. 1.1.)
- "I'd rather it were a spaniard." (Ben J. Ev. M. 2.7.)
- "It was natural that he should unconsciously magnify their merits." (Prescott.)

B. Adverbial sentences

Temporal sentences:

- "If our father would sleep till I waked him." (Sh. K. L.)
- "Long ere it were day." (Chaucer, N. P. T. 131)
- "The canker galls the infants of the spring too oft
before their buttons be disclosed." (Sh. Ham. 1.)
- "Ere he do leave this grove, thou shalt fly him."
(Sh. M. N. D. 2.2.)

Conditional sentences:

- "If the proverb hold, that cannot be." (Ben J. Ev. M.)
- "Humor is nothing if it be not fed." (Ben J. Ev. M.)
- "Or, if there were a sympathy in choice, war did lay
seige to it." (Sh. M. N. D. 1.1.)

Concessive sentences:

"Though she be but little, she is fierce." (Sh. M. N. D.)

"However the world go I make sure for one."
(Marl. Jew. 1.1.)

Consecutive and intentional sentences:

"You would fright the ladies that they would shriek."
(Sh. M. N. D. 1.2.)

"Seek for him lest his ungovern'd rage dissolve his
life." (Sh. K. L.)

Sentences of modality:

("Subordinate sentences expressing the manner in which
something is done, in some cases, admits of the subjunctive
mood.")

"Yet even in beginners (It were best) to adhere so
moderately, as he be a man of the one faction which
is passablest with the other."

"Smile upon my speeches as if I were a fool." (Sh. Hml.)

C. Relative sentences:

Determinative.

"With power to excite all who in future time may
appear." (Webster)

Expletive.

"I hither come engaged by my oath (which God defend
a knight should violate." (Sh. R. II.)¹⁶)

Under substantive sentences he lists: "I fear'd lest I might
anger thee." His explanation for including it in this group
is that the word lest is sometimes substituted for the word
that in noun clauses. However, it would be feasible to include
this citation under condition of exception. It seems that he
has adopted the term sentences of modality to cover that use

16) Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 12-23.

of the subjunctive which expresses the manner of doing something. Is not this nomenclature apt to be confused with modal verbs? In discussing subjunctive in principal sentences he groups all periphrastic expressions under the heading: Verbs of modality; in discussing subjunctive in subordinate clauses he includes the periphrastics with the formal subjunctives and then uses the term modality in quite a different significance. Kasten closes his discussion with the following statement: "In the English of our days the differences between the indicative and subjunctive moods have almost entirely vanished in common prose; the subjunctive is seldom used in conversation except by pedants, however, in elevated language and poetry it is still found according to the rules prevailing in the Elizabethan period."¹⁷

Henry Sweet, in his New English Grammar, written in 1893, list two uses for the subjunctive in independent clauses: 1. to express wishes and commands; 2. to express fear of the future. He subdivides the subjunctive of dependent clauses in the following manner: 1. rejected condition; 2. hypothetical comparison implying rejection; 3. rejected fulfillment after a verb of wishing. His notion of the subjunctive is confined to inflectional forms, all periphrastic substitutes being classified under three additional moods: 1. conditional; 2. compulsive; 3. permissive.

¹⁷ Kasten, William, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive Mood in the English of the Elizabethan period, 23.

Otto Jespersen, a recognized authority on grammar and author of a five-volume study, "A Modern English Grammar," along with other dissertations, draws a definite line between formal subjunctives and their substitutes, referring to the latter as "imaginative use of tenses". According to him the subjunctive has been needlessly complicated by those writers who speak of combinations with auxiliary verbs as if they were subjunctive or subjunctive equivalents. In Essentials of English Grammar he writes: "The subjunctive is used in main sentences to express a (realizable) wish, chiefly in set phrases like:

"God bless you! God save the King!"
"Heaven preserve us!"
"The Lord have mercy on us!"
"Long live the King!"
"Money be hanged!"

Other related uses of the subjunctive are seen in:

"Far be it from me to depreciate such pleasures."
"Home is home, be it ever so homely."
"Suffice it to say that----"
"Know all men by these presents--" (in juridical parlance)

He is of the opinion that the subjunctive in expressions of uncertainty, hesitation, and diffidence no longer has the force it did at one time and may be considered a "literary trick to remove the style from everyday associations."¹⁸

Under "imaginative use of tenses" he asserts that in ninety-nine per cent of the cases in which the preterit of

18. Jespersen, Essentials of Grammar, 294.

imagination is used, it is impossible to tell from the form whether it is indicative or subjunctive. Is he not admitting that the forms which he labels as "preterit of imagination" might be true subjunctives? A few citations will suffice to show that his "imaginative tenses" are parallel to subjunctives of Kasten.

<u>Jespersen's "imaginative tense"</u>	<u>Kasten's subjunctive</u>
1. Would I could doubt it!	1. Would I could assure you.
2. I wish I had a cause---	2. I wish you could advance---
3. If one had but two heads---	3. If you were civil---
4. You might do me a favor [if you would.]	4. He could easily do it [if he tried.]

In his Philosophy of Grammar Jespersen suggests a possibility of eighteen moods of the verb which he terms: "notional moods": jussive, compulsive, obligative, advisory, precative, hortative, permissive, promissive, optative, desiderative, intentional, assertive, presumptive, dubitative, potential, conditional, hypothetical, and concessional.¹⁹ All of these suggested moods are subjunctive in nature, and many of them could be combined, thus reducing the number of categories. In my opinion the distinction between compulsive and obligative is too slight to warrant a double category. Likewise the terms advisory, precative, and hortative are synonymous. Since he did not give examples of these various categories, we cannot be certain of his exact meaning in some cases, but it is probable that some of the remaining terms could be combined to reduce the number.

19. Jespersen, Philosophy of Grammar, 320-321.

George Curme, who has given us a most usable textbook in College English Grammar, published in 1925,²⁰ maintains that any expression which is subjunctive in nature may be classified as subjunctive whether it is a verb with the subjunctive ending or a substitute for that inflectional form. His classification begins from the stand-point of usage, i.e. he lists volative subjunctive, subjunctive of wish, subjunctive of logical reasoning, etc. When he comes to the potential subjunctive in dependent clauses, he forgets that he was classifying from the stand-point of usage and turns to a grammatical classification: i.e. 1. noun clauses, 2. attributive relative clauses. At this point he returns to his classification according to usage, 3. conditional sentences, 4. clauses of result, 5. clauses of cause.²¹

Below is Curme's classification together with examples which he includes under each category.

OPTATIVE SUBJUNCTIVE

1. volative:

Let him come in!
We must go!
You shall do as I say!
You may go into the woods.
Would you tell me the time?
You might offer to help me.

2. subjunctive of wish:

God bless you!
May you see many happy returns.
Oh were he only here!
Might I see her just once!

²⁰ For fuller treatment see Curme, Parts of Speech and Accidence.

²¹ Curme, College English Grammar, 260-277.

3. subjunctive of logical reasoning:

Let figure a b c be an isosceles triangle.

4. action conceded:

Say what he will, he cannot make matters worse.
Let him say what he will, he cannot make----.
Though he make every effort, he cannot succeed.
However hard it rains (it may rain) we shall
have to go.
Even though he were here, I would say the same.

5. action desired:

a. in noun clauses:

She desires that he do (may do) it.
She begs that he will do it.
It is my wish that he come. (may come, shall come)
I wish I were dead.
I wish you would stay.

b. in relative clauses:

I desire only such books as shall instruct.
Envoys were sent who should sue for peace.
I am hunting a man who may take my place.

c. in adverbial clauses:

I'll go early that I may get a good seat.
He is so badly hurt that he shall (should) be
taken to the hospital.
Your father is going to wait till your uncle
shall come.²²

POTENTIAL SUBJUNCTIVE

In principal clauses: It may rain.
It cannot be true.
He could easily do it.
It might possibly be true.
It were wise to be silent.
He must have come by now.

In subordinate clauses:

1. noun clauses:

It seems quite probable that it may rain.
We doubt whether it be possible.
I fear that he may not recover.
I don't know what I should do.
Each was dreading lest the other suspect it.

22. Curme, College English Grammar, 260-266.

2. attributive relative clauses:

It is a book that may help.
I offer a reward to anyone who shall give me the address.

3. conditional sentences:

practical condition:

Let him go, so only he come home with glory.
If God so clothe the grass----
The slight, if there be one, was unintentional.

theoretical condition:

If it should rain, I wouldn't go.
If we missed (should miss, were to miss) the train,---

condition contrary to fact:

If we were here, I would speak.
If it had rained, I would not have gone.

elliptical condition:

He could easily do it if he tried.
I should say if I were asked that it were better to say nothing.

4. clauses of result:

He is so badly injured that he must die.
He is so badly injured that he may die.
He is so badly injured that he might die.

5. clauses of cause:

Let us not shrink for fear (or lest) our motives be misunderstood.
She was afraid to breathe lest she break (or should break) the magic spell.²³

Curme could have reduced his list of uses of the optative subjunctive by combining his second category, subjunctive of wish, with his fourth category, action desired. While the former deals with subjunctive in independent clauses and the latter with subjunctive in dependent clauses, he has made no such distinction in the headings, and therefore has no need for the two headings.

23. Curme, College English Grammar, 266-277.

In 1930 the Prague Linguistic Circle published a study by a Czech scholar, Bohumil Trnka entitled: On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden. In this study Trnka subdivides the subjunctive, (which he prefers to call the optative), into two moods: 1. wishing mood; 2. thought mood. Under wishing mood he gives such examples as: Blessyd maye he be! May it please you to let it passe. Long mayst thou live. O! that the slave had 40,000 lives!²⁴ Under thought mood he gives: How schal we defend the lyberty? When should I lose that handkerchieff? In his classification the subjunctive of subordinate clauses falls under the following categories: 1. that-clauses; 2. deliberative indirect questions; 3. temporal clauses; 4. concessive clauses; 5. consecutive clauses; 6. final clauses; 7. relative clauses; 8. conditional clauses; 9. comparative clauses.²⁵ It is evident from the above classification that Trnka, too, has vacillated between a classification from a standpoint of usage and one from a standpoint of grammatical structure.

H. Poutsma devotes 84 pages of his Mood and Tense of the English Verb to a discussion of the subjunctive and conditional moods. His treatment is cumbersome and confusing. In the Introduction he outlines the order in which he intends

24. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden, 67-69.

25. Ibid., 69-71.

to discuss the subjunctive and conditional moods. I repeat the outline, omitting the explanations and citations.

- a) principal sentences
 - 1. optative sentences
 - 2. hortative sentences
 - 3. consequent sentences
 - b) subordinate clauses
 - 1. subordinate statements
 - 2. subordinate questions
 - 3. adverbial clauses
- 26

It is apparent from this outline that he, too, confused two types of classification in his scheme. He is classifying the subjunctives in principal sentences according to use; he is classifying the subjunctives of subordinate clauses according to grammatical structure.

Only by careful examination is it possible to detect his general outline in the study, so misleading is his system of numbering.

His "Final Observations" are singularly limited in scope and not at all in proportion to his detailed study. They consist of three statements (with a number of citations under each).

- 1) It should be remembered that be as a finite verb is used not only as a subjunctive, but also as an indicative.
- 2) Shakespeare has a good many instances of be instead of is after to think and one after to hope, but, as he is anything but strict in the use of the subjunctive and indicative, we have no certainty that in these places we have to deal with an intentional subjunctive.
- 3) The use of the inflectional or periphrastical subjunctive or conditional in a given sentence or clause may entail the use of the same mood in clauses depending

on them, which would otherwise have the indicative.²⁷

Throughout his investigation Poutsma has recognized both the inflectional forms and the periphrastic forms and has given ample citations for each.

A few general conclusions may be drawn from the examination of the notions of the subjunctive mood according to Kasten, Sweet, Jespersen, Curme, Trnka, and Poutsma.

1. There is a general tendency to ignore the distinction between usage and grammatical structure in much the manner of the school boy who wrote in his essay, "Mankind is divided into men, children, fathers, women, bachelors, uncles, and girls."
2. The notion of uncertainty has been classified under many moods, including subjunctive, optative, compulsive, conditional, permissive, obligative, and imperative. (Not mentioning the eighteen moods which were suggested by Jespersen.)
3. Opinion is divided as to whether only those verbs should be considered subjunctive which have the inflectional form of the subjunctive or whether the periphrastic substitutes for the inflectional forms, i.e. should, would, might, may, etc. should be included under the category of subjunctive.

27. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 82-84.

III

Suggested Treatment

The New English Dictionary defines subjunctive as "Designating a mood the forms of which are employed to denote an action or a state as conceived (and not as a fact) and therefore used to express a wish, command, exhortation, or a contingent, hypothetical, or prospective event."²⁸

The Nouveau Petit Larousse Illustré defines the subjunctive as the "Mode du verbe, indiquant qu'une action est conçue comme subordonnée à une autre et, par conséquent, comme douteuse."²⁹

George Curme defines the subjunctive as the mood which "represents something as not actually belonging to the domain of fact or reality, but as merely existent in the mind of the speaker as a desire, wish, volition, plan, conception, thought; sometimes with more or less hope of realization, or, in the case of a statement, with more or less belief; sometimes with little or no hope or faith."³⁰

If we consider the subjunctive in the light of these definitions, a classification must include not only those verb forms which have a so-called "subjunctive ending" but any expressions used to denote uncertainty of action in all its variations.

The definitions given in Part I of this chapter are evidence that the writers of textbooks did not all agree as to

²⁸ Murray, A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles, IX Part II, 28.

²⁹ Augé, Claude, Nouveau Petit Larousse Illustré, 9.9.

³⁰ Curme, George, College English Grammar, 51.

what should be included under the term "subjunctive". The scholars whose notions are discussed in Part II disagreed on this point as much as did the textbook writers. Gould Brown and Otto Jespersen both maintained that only those verbs might be considered subjunctive which had the inflectional ending of the subjunctive mood. George Curme and H. Poutsma are of the opinion that the term subjunctive applies not only to verbs with the inflectional ending of the subjunctive, but also to all expressions which serve the same purpose. Bohumil Trnka and William Hasten take a middle of the road attitude, recognizing the inflectional forms and the periphrastic forms, referring in some instances to the periphrastics as "subjunctives" and in other instances as "substitutes for the subjunctive."

Before making a classification of the subjunctive, we must decide upon what basis we intend to make the classification. It is possible to classify from the standpoint of grammatical structure. Such a classification would fit into a general outline similar to the following.

- I. subjunctive in independent clauses
- II. subjunctive in dependent clauses
 - A. in noun clauses
 - B. in adjective clauses
 - C. in adverb clauses

It is also possible to classify from the standpoint of usage. (This is sometimes called a "notional classification".)

I have already pointed out in Part II that many of the scholars

have shifted their classification from grammatical to notional, and the result has been a classification which lacks clarity.

It seems to me that since a classification of the subjunctive involves a cataloguing of expressions which deal with various phases of uncertainty, the more logical approach is the one from the standpoint of use. I have therefore built my scheme on that basis.

After a careful study of the notions of the grammarians and an examination of the citations which they incorporated in their studies, I have evolved a scheme into which those citations will fit. The scheme consists of seven types of subjunctive, five of which are broad enough in scope to warrant sub-divisions. The seven types are: obligation, permission, emotion, condition, concession, supposition, and limitation.

The subjunctive of obligation expresses

(1) moral obligation:

It is necessary that he pray to God for help.
The Lord demanded that the stricken woman have
faith in Him.
We must follow the dictates of our conscience.

(2) legal obligation:

The law requires that he pay a fine.
The King ordered that every subject be questioned.

(3) logical obligation:

It is essential that he have fifty dollars for
traveling expenses.
We must work hard if we want to succeed.

The subjunctive of permission needs no subdivision.

Let him spend the money as he wishes.
He may spend the money as he wishes.

The subjunctive of emotion expresses

(1) desire:

Would that I could go to England now!

I wish I were in England now.

I wish they would take me to England with them.

I wish that I might spend the summer in England.

(2) prayer:

We shall pray that his health be restored to him.

He prayed that his child might be saved.

Let us pray that the war may end soon.

(3) hope:

He hopes he will be elected.

He hoped he might be elected.

It was their hope that he would be the next governor.

(4) fear:

The mother is afraid that the bear may bite her child.

She feared that he might be ferocious.

(5) regret or grief:

It is a pity that he be so stupid.

I regret that he should be so stupid.

The subjunctive of condition expresses:

(1) condition of present reality:

If he lack courage, he cannot undertake it.

(2) condition of potential reality:

If they would follow instructions, they could build it in a few hours.

(3) condition of unreality:

If I were you, I would call a doctor.

If I had lived five hundred years ago, I would have missed knowing you.

The subjunctive of concession needs no subdivision. It includes such expressions as: Though he huff and he puff, he can never blow it down. Although it should take another week, he must finish the book.

The subjunctive of supposition expresses

(1) possibility:

It is possible that she will arrive today.
It is possible that she may arrive today.
It is possible that she might arrive today.
She may arrive today.
She might arrive today.

(2) indecision:

They were undecided whether he were guilty or not.
They wondered if he were guilty.
He did not know if he would be acquitted.

(3) belief or hear-say:

I believe he will write to them.
I hear that he will write to them.
I understand that he may write to them.
I heard that he would write to them.
It is rumored that the invasion may start today.

The subjunctive of limitation expresses

(1) limitation of a person, object, or idea:

She is looking for a sleeping powder that do not harm the patient.
They wanted a chauffeur who would fulfill all of the qualifications.
He was working on an invention that would revolutionize the industry.

(2) limitation of cause, reason, or purpose:

She invited him weeks ahead lest he be unable to come.
That you may attend the meeting I am dismissing you early.

(3) limitation of time and distance:

The child has been asked to wait until his father comes.
The boy will walk out on the ledge as far as he dare.

(4) limitation of action:

He would sooner have failed the examination than he would have passed it dishonestly.
He spaded the garden as he might dig a grave.
He read as though he were accustomed to reading aloud.

(5) limitation of quality:

The dinner was as delicious as though it were
prepared by an experienced chef.

He is so clever with his hands that he might
be a magician.

(6) limitation of manner or degree:

He ran as quickly as he would if he were a
marathon runner.

I have omitted any detailed explanation of the classification and have given only a few examples at this point because each category will be considered in Chapter Three in connection with the subjunctives found in the writings of Roger Ascham.

Chapter III

THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN THE WRITINGS OF ROGER ASCHAM

I

My materials from Ascham represent some five hundred citations gathered from Toxophilus, A Report on the Affairs in the State of Germany, and The Schoolmaster. These citations include all words which express uncertainty whether they are formal subjunctives according to the notions of the classicists or not.

These materials I shall arrange and discuss according to the categories suggested in the preceding chapter and reviewed in the following outline.

1. the Subjunctive of Obligation
 - a) moral
 - b) legal
 - c) logical
2. the Subjunctive of Permission
3. the Subjunctive of Emotion
 - a) desire
 - b) prayer
 - c) hope
 - d) fear
 - e) grief
4. the Subjunctive of Condition
 - a) present reality
 - b) potential reality
 - c) unreality
5. the Subjunctive of Concession

6. the subjunctive of Supposition

- a) possibility
- b) indecision
- c) belief or hear-say

7. the subjunctive of Limitation

- a) of a person, object, or idea
- b) of an action
- c) of a purpose, cause, or reason
- d) of time or distance
- e) of action
- f) of quality
- g) of manner or degree

The categories used by grammarians in their discussions of the subjunctive, overlapping as they have been shown to be, give but a confused notion of its use. The bases for the present scheme are notional. In the case of each category I shall discuss the extent to which the means are formal or periphrastic, the extent to which the subjunctive occurs in dependent or independent statements, and the extent to which the traditional categories are amenable to the scheme.

II

The subjunctive of obligation occurs in statements of moral, legal, and logical obligation.

1. subjunctive expressing moral obligation:

- a) "Surely everye man ought to praye to God dayly." (T 28)
- b) "A Prince in his herte must be full of mercy and peace." (T 33)
- c) "and so true to his master as he should be." (G 151)

2. subjunctive expressing legal obligation:

- a) "Make proclamation to all men---that everye seare persone have howe and shaftes of his own." (T 47)

- b) "when Iames Stewart,---commanded under payne of a greete forfyte, that euerye Scott shoulde learne to shote." (T 51)
- c) "the first statute & lawe that euor David made after he was king, was this, that al ye children of Israel shulde learne to shote." (T 49)
- d) "and sayde unto the ambassadours, you shall comende me to Cambysea." (T 41)

3. subjunctive expressing logical obligation:

- a) "last of all howe it ought to be learned amonges men for the increase of it," (T 6)
- b) "naye sayeth he, you must take me as I meane:" (T 27)
- c) "declaryng in his Prologue iust causes why he should do so." (G 168)
- d) "Indeepe you be to well known, by the same token the last tyme you were here you tooke a gobblet away with you, & therefore when you have dyed you may go without farwell, and have leave to come awayne when ye be sent for." (G 158)
- e) "Let your souldyers have theyr weapons wel appoynted and tryed." (T 46)
- f) "and In the meane whyle let hym gyve thankes unto God,---" (T 41)
- g) "He that maketh perfitnes in the Latin tong his warke, must come to it by choice & certaine knowledge." (S 301)

In the first group we have expressions of duty to a divine power or to one's own sense of right. In the second group we have expressions of duty which result from legislation or royal decree. In the third group we have all expressions of obligation which are not of a moral or legal nature.

Of the sixty-five citations expressing obligation, only one employed the formal subjunctive, although obligation can be expressed as effectively with the formal subjunctive as with the expressions ought, must, and should. "It is necessary that

he ask God for help" is quite as effective as "He must ask God for help," and seems more obligatory than "he ought to ask God for help or "He should ask God for help." Likewise, it is just as effective to say "The law requires that he pay his tax" as to say, "He must pay his tax." In the statement "It is the order of the King that he be put to death" there is no doubt of the obligation involved.

It is interesting to note that while the word may is usually considered a word expressing permission, it is quite possible to use it at times to express obligation. The statement "when you have dyed you may go without farewell" expresses something stronger than permission.

Likewise, obligation is sometimes expressed with let, as in examples e) and f). "Let your souldyers have theyr weapons wel apointed and trimmed" implies more than permission; it implies obligation. Also the statement "and In the meane whyle let him gyve thanks unto God" involves more than mere permission and therefore fits into the category of obligation.

Of the 65 citations on the subjunctive of obligation, 36 used the word should, 13 used must, 7 expressed the obligation with ought, 2 with let, 1 with may, and 1 with the inflectional form of the subjunctive. Of the 65 expressions of obligation 40 were in independent statements and 25 in dependent statements.

Raston makes little mention of the subjunctive in expressions of obligation. His nearest approach is under the category of wishes, prayers, and commands in the citation "Thy

love ne'er alter till thy sweet life end " (Sh. M. M. D.) and this may well be classified as a wish. Under his discussion of Verbs of Modality we find the citation "I should enquire after Mr. E." which expresses a form of obligation.

Trnka classifies expressions of obligation under the imperative mood giving as a citation "Therefore sweet Richard you shall come and you shall not say me nay. (The Gentle Craft)".

Curne classifies obligation under Volitive Subjunctive. "He must go!" "You shall do as I say!" He uses the past tense to express a modest or polite volitive as in "You should go at once!"

Poustera gives a number of citations expressing obligation. "The necessity of the time demands that our people put aside all unnecessary things and stand united against such a place. - Heam. Gaz." "I shall give orders that my doors may no longer be open to you. - Fielding, Jos. Andrews" "A law passed in 1873 provides that eligibility to academic office shall not depend upon creed. - Daily Chron." "Our reader must now please to quit the woods and sea-shore. - Thack., Fend." "The kind reader will please to remember--- Thack., Van. Fair." His citations included inflectional subjunctives and periphrastic subjunctives in both independent and dependant statements.

III

The subjunctive of permission is found in statements which express any type of permission. This type of subjunc-

tive is not large enough to warrant more than the one category.

- a) "and therefore lette man when there is no warre,
use shootynge at home." (T)
- b) "let your scholar be neuer afraide, to ask you---"
(T 154)
- c) "Nor let no man say, if they be honestly used they
do no harme." (T 28)
- d) "All this while, by mine aduise, the childe shall
use to speake no latine." (S 155)
- e) "he shall not use the common order in common
scholes,--" (S)
- f) "where fooles chiefly, and flatterers may speake
freely what they will and wise men and good
men shal corronly be short,--" (S 158)
- g) "A man maye (graunt) syt on a brante hyll syde,--"
(T 25)
- h) "Suffer these bookes to be read,--" (S 251)
- i) "Two kindes of men---he will never long suffer
to be in his house." (S 154)

The classification of some of these citations may perhaps be open to question. Permission and obligation tend to shade into one another, and in the last analysis Ascham is the only one who can say which is which. Certainly may denotes permission; yet the citation listed under obligation is sufficient evidence that it can denote obligation. The same seems to be true of let. In the statement, for example, "and therefore lette man when there is no warre, use shootynge at home" the intention is not to require, but permit, man to use shooting at home. The statement "All this while, by mine aduise, the childe shall use to speake no latine" is more questionable.

I have considered expressions of permission as subjunctive for two reasons: 1. permission involves uncertainty. "You may go to the party if you like" leaves the "going" most uncertain; there is a possibility that you will not go. 2. permission is closely related to obligation. Since obligation is definitely a phase of the subjunctive, it is logical to classify also permission as such.

Of the 27 citations expressing permission 17 use let, 5 use may, 3 use shall, and 2 use shall. All but two were in independent statements.

Hasten, Tinka, and Poutsma do not treat expressions of permission in their studies. Curme has the following paragraph under Volitive Subjunctive.

A mild form of expression of will is found in permissions: "You may (or can) go into the garden," but "You may not (or here in negative form more commonly cannot) eat the fruit." If, however, the word may is used in a question, may is natural here in a negative answer: "May I go now?" - "No, you may not." In negative form must is used to indicate that permission is withheld because it is not advisable or proper to do the thing in question: "You must not go out into this wind. - You must not say such things. In questions we use may or can: "May (or can) I go now? "May and can are used in mild commands: "Johnny, you may (or can) run along home now."¹

His explanation and examples are further evidence of the tendency of permission and obligation to shade into one another.

1. Curme, College English Grammar, 261-262.

IV

The subjunctive of emotion expresses the action or state of being that results from such emotional stimuli as desire, prayer, hope, fear, and grief.

1. subjunctive expressing desire:

- a) "I would fayne be at home---" (T 50)
- b) "Would to God that these our men as they are ready to prayse hym were as willing to follow him." (S 128)
- c) "Therefore, I wold wishe, that---yong gentlemen shold use, and delite in all Courtelie exercise." (S 216)
- d) "To speake of shootinge Philologe, trulye I woulde I were so able,---" (T)
- e) "Surely I would you had your wishe." (S 134)
- f) "even so do I wysse c---that the lardalle castre of Englande---were not so decayed." (T)
- g) "Yea, I do wishe, that all rules for yong scholars were shorter than they be." (S 209)
- h) "onely hee desired Grandewell that the Emperour would geve him leave to go home to his owne." (S 149)
- i) "Yet this I woulde wysse, that all great men in Englande had red ouer diligentlye the Pardoners tale." (T 29)
- j) "The medicine is this, that woulde to God and the Kynge, all these unthriftille ydle pastymes--- were made felonge." (T 31)

From the twenty-three citations expressing desire 7 were in independent sentences and 16 in dependant clauses. All of the independent sentences contained would and expressed an unfulfilled wish. "would have the scholar brought up withall,"

expresses a wish that is still not fulfilled as does "I would have no flattery but wish for freedom." The following implies not only lack of fulfillment, but a possibility that there never will be a fulfillment: "procuring that to be two, which God, nature, and reason, would have one."

The dependent clauses are divided between inflectional subjunctives and periphrastic subjunctives, 6 in the first group and 10 in the second.

Kasten includes expressions of wish under Use of the Present Subjunctive in wishes, prayers, and commands:

"peace be with Burgundy;" (Sh. K. L.) "With half that view the wisher's eye be press'd;" (Sh. M. M. D.) and under Imperfect Subjunctive (Optative Mood), "I am the best of them that speak this language, were I but where t'is spoken;" (Sh. John.) "O, that I were a rocky King of snow;" (Sh. Rich. II)

Under the heading Verbs of Modality he gives examples of would used to express a wish: "Might I but live to see thee in my touch;" (Sh. K. L.) Concerning expressions of wish in subordinate sentences he writes, "When the principal sentence contains a verb which expresses a wish, a demand, an intention, a tendency or a concession, it is frequently followed by the subjunctive mood as its result is doubtful and merely demanded by our appetitive faculties, "But I beseech your grace that I may know the worst;" (Sh. M. M. D.)

2. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 6,9.

3. Ibid., 11.

4. Ibid., 13.

Curme, in his discussion of Optative Subjunctive, lists, as one of the three categories, the "Subjunctive of Wish" with the examples: "God bless you!" "May you see many happy returns of this occasion!" "O were he only here!" "Could we only look forward in life and see as we do looking backward!" "Might I see her just once more!" "I would rather go now." "O might I have known it in time!"⁵

He gives more examples of the subjunctive of wish in his discussion of subordinate clauses under Action desired: "She desires that he do (or may do) it." "It is my ardent wish that he come (may come or shall come) at once." "I wish I were dead!" "I wish you would stay a little longer!"⁶

Trnka includes the subjunctive of desire under "The Optative as Wishing Mood": "Long mayst thou live to wail the children's loss." (Frankz, Shakespeare Gram.) - "That I had been born a king!" (Massinger, City Madam) Under his heading Subordinate Clauses he lists subjunctives of desire as That-clauses depending on verbs denoting a wish, doubt, hope, fear, necessity, or desirability. He gives only three citations, none of which belong to this category. In his section on periphrastics we find expressions of desire: "They wolde gladly that he might escape." (Berners) "He desired it might be now read." (Burton, Diary)⁷

Regarding the subjunctive of desire Poutsma says - wishes are often expressed, especially in rhetorical English, by exclamations which have the form of subordinate statements

5. Curme, College English Grammar, 262.

6. Ibid., 264-265.

7. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden

introduced by that, or of adverbial clauses introduced by if, the principle sentence being understood or, to a certain extent, represented by the interjection Oh! or Ah! "O! that you could stay longer, dear Rebecca!" (Thack. Van. Fair) - "O mother! mother! that you were here!" (Thack. Land.) - "Oh for another glimpse of it!" (Murray) ⁸

2. subjunctive expressing prayer:

- a) "which, I praise God, kepe out of England, and send also those of oures better mindes,---" (S 213)
- b) "whom I pray God kepe long still upon the stage." (Q 159)
- c) "for whome al England dayly doth praye, yt he---
may set out and mayntayne goddes worde." (T 46)
- d) "but I truse Christe wyl so lychten and lift up Christen mennes eyes." (T 40)

The subjunctives in this category were equally divided between inflectional and periphrastic. All were in dependent statements.

Haston gives the following citations expressing prayer in principal sentences: "Some heavenly power guide us out of this fearful country" (Sh. Temp.) - "God save such a lord." (Chaucer, knicht's tale). These are listed in the category of "Wishes, prayers, commands." The citations in dependent clauses are included in the category of "a wish, a demand, an intention, a tendency or a concession." "Pray heaven it do." (B. Jons. H. T.) - "Pray God your voice be not cracked." (Sh. Titl.) - "God grant that we may come out with such a

pure heart." (Thackeray). It seems an inconsistency to include the word prayers in one category and omit it in a parallel category.⁹

Trnka gives one example under "verbs denoting a wish, doubt, hope, fear, necessity or desirability:" "Well, well, sayd he, I pray God some of us live not till that day." (Roper)¹⁰

In Poutsma's study we find "God grant you become a braver man than he" (Kingsley, Westw. Ho!) "Heaven send we be all alive this time to-morrow!" (Sher., Riv.)¹¹

Curme gives the following examples under Subjunctive of Wish: "God bless you" "The Lord have mercy on us" "Heaven forbid!"¹²

3. subjunctive expressing hope:

- a) "I trust that man,---will yet thinke, that he is not---" (S 300)

Although expressions of hope and desire are closely related, there is sufficient distinction to warrant two categories.

"I wished he would come" implies a desire; "I hoped he would come" implies more than desire; it implies expected fulfillment. I found no citation in Ascham employing the word hope. The nearest parallel was introduced by trust.

-
9. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 6, 13.
10. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden, 70.
11. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 25.
12. Curme, College English Grammar, 202.

Kasten writes, "Verbs expressing hope or fear or an affect sometimes govern the subjunctive mood. 'I hope he be in love' (Sh., Much ado)"¹³ This is evidence that he recognized a distinction between desire and hope.

Trnka includes hope in the group denoting "wish, doubt, hope, fear, necessity or desirability." He gives only three citations in this group none of which express hope.¹⁴

Curme does not discuss this category.

Poutsma believes that the subjunctive is frequent in clauses which express what is the subject of a hope, and he gives several citations: "I hope I may never set eyes on it again" (Thack., Van. Fair) "I hoped the time might come---" "She trusts that her mother will be found---" (G. Eliot, Dan. Der.) "I ventured to express a hope that she would not refuse to see him in his trouble" (Dick., Cap.)¹⁵

4. subjunctive expressing fear:

- a) "but ye be affrayd cosin (quoth ye Marches) lest this talke be to loud,---" (G 151)
- b) "but euermore kepes it under awe, that it darre do nothyng in the open face of the worlde," (T 23)
- c) "much fearyng, lest when he was absent in Germany, the Turke would be too nigh---" (G 130)
- d) "I feare, I should live ouer long." (S 297)

This category, too, had as many inflectional subjunctives as periphrastic ones.

13. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 13.

14. Trnka, On the Syntax of the Verb, 70.

15. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 26.

Kasten cites similar cases of the subjunctive expressing fear. "I fear it may be to take leave" (Shoridan) "I fear'd lest I might an er thee" (Sh. Temp.) "For fear lest day should look their shames upon---" (Sh. R. N. P.)¹⁶

Trnka lists this use of the inflectional subjunctive under "verbs denoting a wish, doubt, hope, fear, necessity, or desirability" but does not include an example. Under an identical heading for periphrastic subjunctives we find, "The kyng feared that he shulde scape hym" (Berners)

Poutsma writes:

In literary English occasional instances are met with of the subjunctive in subordinate statements introduced by lest which express what is the subject of an apprehension.¹⁷

He follows this with 21 citations of periphrastic subjunctives, all of which would fit into my scheme under subjunctive expressing fear. I quote a few to show the variety in phrasing. "I dreaded lest any stranger should notice me and speak to me" (G. Eliot, Dan. Der.) "I feared lest I should be deceived" (Bain, E. Gr.) "His terror was excited lest he might actually have seen his ancestor's ghost" (Miss Yonge) "There is considerable anxiety lest the evacuation may be in some way evaded or modified" (Westm. Gaz.)¹⁸

16. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 13.

17. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 40.

18. Ibid., 41.

Following these two pages of citations he concludes by saying, "The indicative is, however, distinctly the rule."¹⁹

Curme does not include this category in his treatise.

5. subjunctive expressing regret or grief:

a) "It were pitie truly Phililoge, that the thinge shoulde be neglected." (T 16)

b) "It is pitie, that those,---, be no more circum-spect herein, than they are." (S 230)

It is interesting to note that the first citation employs the formal subjunctive in the main clause and a periphrastic in the dependent clause, while the second citation which parallels the first in meaning employs the indicative in the main clause and the inflectional subjunctive in the dependent clause.

Kasten gives the following citations, "I am grieved it would be said" (B. Jons. Ev. M.) "I am loth such a pot of pottage should be spoil'd" (Marl., Jew.)²⁰

I found no mention of the subjunctive used to express regret or grief in Trnka, Poutsma, or Curme.

V

The subjunctive of condition is found in dependent clauses that express conditions of present reality, potential reality, and unreality.

19. Ibid., 42.

20. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 13.

1. subjunctive expressing condition of present reality:

- a) "and yf anye one be awaye, what so euer is done is done verye cleanly." (T 58)
- b) "if there be neuer so litle fault in it, everye man sceth it,---" (T 22)
- c) "but if you be borne or brought up in a rude countrie, ye shall not chose but speake rudelie." (S 285)
- d) "For if shoting be a medicine (as you say that it is) it maye not be used very oft, lest a man shuld hurt himselfe with all." (T 30)
- e) "yf he stande still in one facion, their mindes stande still with hym: If he thundre, they quake: If he chide, they feare: If he complayne, they sory with hym." (T 15)
- f) "If a manne lacke the first two, aptnesse and Cunnyng, Use can do lytle good, at all." (T 67)
- g) "If he have a wrentche, or have taken colde in his lyme, he may hang up his love (I warraunt you) for one season." (T 21)
- h) "For surely no Turkysshe power can ouerthrowe us, if Turkysshe lyfe do not cast us down before."
- i) "if a cunning man have it in handling, I will set forth that one verse in all three tonges," (S 284)
- j) "But if the childe risse,---, I would not have the master, either froune, or chide with him," (S 123)
- k) "And I trust no man will be discontent with my generall saying except conscience do prieke him of his owne private doying." (S 159)
- l) "The scholer shall winne nothing by Paraphrasis, but onelie, if we may belere Tullie, to choose worse wordes,---" (S 143)
- m) "What great men do, be it good or yll, meane men comynely love to followe," (T 27)
- n) "I will, God willing, go forward orderlie." (S 222)

The principal clause in each of these citations expresses a circumstance which is true or will be true provided the condition exists which is expressed in the dependent clause, i.e., provided the condition is a present reality. We find that this condition of present reality may be expressed by the present tense of the inflectional subjunctive, by may, or by an elliptical expression in which the verb is omitted, as in the last citation, which is another way of saying "If God be willing, I will go forward orderlie." The consequence of these conditions of present reality may be expressed by the present indicative, by the future, by would, or by may.

In citation k) we have a condition introduced by except. Some grammarians consider this a condition of exception.²¹ At first I had considered following the grammarians here and recognizing a fourth type of conditional subjunctive, but on further consideration it seemed unnecessary. I have come to the conclusion that conditions introduced by except are nothing more than negative expressions of conditions introduced by if. Is not "And I trust no man will be discontent with my generall saying except conscience do pricke him of his owne private doying" merely a negative statement of the condition "And I trust men will be discontent with my generall saying if conscience do pricke him of his owne private doying" or "And I trust no man

21. Kasten uses the term condition of exception and exceptive condition. Foutsma gives examples of this use as a condition expressed by "a word other than if."

will be miscontent with my generall saying if conscience
do not pricke him---".

2. subjunctive expressing condition of potential reality:

- a) "In very dedde, if children were brought up, in
soch a house,---surelie, then the dailie
use of speaking, were the best and readiest waye,
to learne the latin long." (S 185)
- b) "if one game were harde, he myght easelye learne
an other:" (T 21)
- c) "if it were turned into English it would leesse
the whole grace therof." (S 136)
- d) "And surely yf I knewe that I were apte, and yt
you woulde teach me howe to shoote, I woulde
become an archer." (T 53)
- e) "if I commaunded them to runne into the toppe
of this high castel, and cast themselves
downe backward upon these rockes, I am sure
the woulde do it." (T 34)
- f) "I feare yf your companions which love shotinge,
hearde you, they wolde thinke you made it
but a triflyng---" (T 12)
- g) "but surely yf a feaste beyng neuer so great,
lacked bread,---, all the other daynties
shoulde be unsavery," (T 44)
- h) "if the meaning and maners of some that do use them,
were somewhat amended, it were no great hurt,
neither to themselves, nor to others---"
(S 186)
- i) "For if but two or three noble men in the court
wold but beginn to shoote, all yong Ientlemen,---
wold straight waie exercise shooting." (S 221)
- j) "But if he would folowe his counsell, he myght
brynge to pass, that they shoulde neuer more
rebel a gaynst hym," (T 13)
- k) "If a Master woulde have a perfite example to folow,
let him read diligently--" (S 250)

- l) "And therefore, if ye would speake as the best and wisest do, ye must be conversant, where the best and wisest are." (S 264)
- m) "If I shuld rehearse the statutes---, I could be very long." (T 8)
- n) "If a man shoulde describe a greete feaste, he woulde not ones name bread, although it be mooste common---" (T 47)
- o) "If you can prove me that scholars and men gyven to learning maye honestlie use shatong, I wyll soone grant you that all other sortes of men maye not onely lefullie, but ought of dutie to use it." (T 10)
- p) "Therefore if you will nedes graunt scholars pastime and recreation of their mindes, let them use (as many of them doth) Musyke,---" (T 12)
- q) "If a man shoulde go to the myll or market with corne, and happen to spyll some in the waye, yet it wolde take roote and growe,---" (T 56)
- r) "surelie the disorder of apparell in mean men abrode, shall neuer be amended, except the greatest in Courte will order and mend them selves first." (S 221)

All of the above citations contain conditions which do not exist at present but which could exist at present or may exist in the future. Since these conditions have all of the potentialities for becoming realities, I have chosen to label them conditions of potential reality. Some are expressed by means of the past tense of the inflectional subjunctive, some by the future tense, some by would, should, or can. The consequence of the condition is expressed by would, should, will, shall, could, must, might, or let. Some of the consequences are expressed in the past subjunctive, as in

a) and h). One consequence was expressed by the indicative, "I am sure", but it will be noticed that the independent clause is followed by a dependent clause in would. In this category we find conditions introduced by except. The final citation might be expressed: "Surelie the misorder of apparell in mean men abroad, shall be amended, if the greatest in Courte will order and mend them selves first." Since the citation is merely an if condition expressed in the negative, it can be classified as a condition of potential reality.

3. subjunctive expressing condition of unreality:

- a) "yet I beleue, if that noble Prince, king Frances the first were alive, they shold have neither place in his Courte, nor pension in his warres, if he had knowledge of them." (§ 213)
- b) "Surelye if I were one of the parliament house, I woulde not faile, to put up a bill---" (T 16)
- c) "yea if I were .xx. scholars, I wolde thinke it were my dutie, both with exhortinge men to shote, and also with shooting my selfe to helpe to set forwarde that thing---" (T 11)
- d) "that surelie (if I were a rich man) I had rather have spent a crowne:" (T 4)
- e) "This face had bene more cunlie, if that his redde in the cheekes, were somewhat more pure sanguin than it is:" (§ 262)
- f) "yf he had had bowmen, surelye there shoote myghte peradventure have bene a litle hindered---" (T 49)
- g) "If Sulpitius had had Platos consideration, in right using this exercise, he had not deserved the name of Tragicus Orator,---" (§ 255)
- h) "If kynge Edward had lived a litle longer, his onely example had breed such a race of worthis learned gentlemen." (§ 219)
- i) "If Duke Maurice had had a Machiavels head or a cowardes hart, he would have borne a bloudyer sword than he did," (G 168)

j) "If the Emperour had kept faith with my master for Affrica, I would not have broken with them of Tripoly," (Q 131)

The above citations express consequences of conditions which do not exist at present, or did not exist in the past, or cannot exist at any time. They may therefore be classified as conditions of unreality. These conditions are expressed by the past tense or by the past perfect tense of the inflectional subjunctive. The consequence is expressed by past perfect of the inflectional subjunctive, as in d), e), g), and h), or by would, should, or might.

The 173 conditional sentences examined fall into the following groups:

inflectional subjunctive in present tense	83
inflectional subjunctive in past tense	36
inflectional subjunctive in compound tense	17
periphrastic subjunctive	37

Of the total number, forty-four contained the subjunctive of "to be". Fifteen of the 173 had an impersonal subject. Of the 37 citations containing periphrastic subjunctives, 15 used would, 8 used should, 6 used will, 2 used can, 2 used may, and 4 were elliptical.

Kasten makes this statement regarding the use of the subjunctive in expressing conditions:

Properly speaking the subjunctive mood does not serve to express a condition, it indicates merely a statement as being reflected on. In French we generally find the

indicative mood, the pluperfect subjunctive, however, has been preserved by a sort of caprice of the language. As to English the indicative and subjunctive seem to be indifferently used. Even in Aps we meet with a certain confusion, where, however, as it seems, the indicative occurs when a whole period implies certainty, whereas the use of the subjunctive mood is occasioned by subjective motives of the person speaking.²²

He follows this statement with over sixty citations which employ the formal subjunctive. An examination of his discussion of the subjunctive in expressing condition together with a few of the accompanying citations will show how his classification of conditional sentences corresponds with mine.

A I

1. A condition is known to be real, nevertheless, it is expressed in form of a supposition.

"If the proverb hold, that cannot be." (B. J. Ev. M.)

2. A condition, the content of which is wished for, contains the subjunctive mood.

"For if but once thou show me thy grey light, I'll find Demetrius." (Sh. M. M. D.)

3. In sentences expressing a condition which in the present moment may correspond with reality, we frequently find the subjunctive mood:

"If it be (written) give it re." (Sh. M. M. D.)

4. In condition which, at any time, when realized, have a certain consequence, the subjunctive mood is preferred in a sentential way of speaking:

"Humour is nothing, if it be not fed." (B. J. Ev. M.)

5. Conditional sentences referring to the future, imply in most cases a mere supposition, which is indicated by the use of the subjunctive mood:

"There is nothing done, if he return the conqueror."
(Sh. K. L.)

II

1. As to the imperfect subjunctive it is employed for the sake of politeness in conditions referring to the past which, in the present, exercise no influence:

"On Thursday, if he were in the house, why didn't he speak?" (Doug. Fables)

22. Kasten, Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 16.

2. The imperfect subjunctive is also used to denote a condition which may be realized in the present:

"If I were fair, I were only thine." (Sh. M. M. D.)

3. In most cases where we meet with the imperfect subjunctive a condition is considered contrary to reality:

"If I were Brutus now and he were Cassius, he should not humour me." (Sh. J. C.)

B

The conjunctions so, so that, provided that introduce restrictive conditions, these, as mere suppositions follow the common rule.

"Let 'em war, so we be conquerors. (Marl. Jew.)

C

An exceptive condition is expressed by sentences introduced by the conjunctions: but, but that, without that, save that, unless, except.

"Except it be to some choice spirits, I could not extend thus far." (B. J. Ev. M.)²³

His citations under 1, 3, and 4 of I fit into the category of conditions of present reality. Those under 2 and 5 fit into the category of conditions of potential reality. The first group under II might be considered as conditions of unreality. The citation "On Thursday, if he were in the house, why didn't he speak" implies that he was not in the house. Kasten admits the possibility of unreality in this condition, for he says, "Frequently the use of the subjunctive imperfect employed in this way, implies a doubt as to the truth of the assertion."²⁴ The citations in 3 of II are definitely conditions of unreality. Those in 2 fit into the category of present reality. If we consider exceptive conditions as negative statements of other conditions, his final group will fit into my scheme. This leaves only one group unclassified.

23. Kasten, Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 16-19.

24. Ibid., 17.

In my opinion they do not belong with expressions of condition at all, but rather with subjunctives expressing limitation of action.

Trnka lists six examples of conditional clauses which employ formal subjunctives and two which employ periphrastic subjunctives. He gives no explanations in connection with any of his citations. Each may be classified in my scheme.²⁵

Curme, as I pointed out in Chapter II, sub-divides conditions into: practical conditions, theoretical conditions, conditions contrary to fact, and elliptical conditions. Practical conditions may be conditions which exist in the present; if so, they may be classified as conditions of present reality. They may be conditions which do not exist at present but may exist at some time in the future; if so, they may be classified as conditions of potential reality. His citations "If annihilation shall end (or end) all our joys, it will also end our griefs"²⁶ may be classified as potential subjunctive. Although he gives no citation under practical condition which expresses a condition of present reality, there is no reason why practical conditions could not be present realities. "If he be hungry, let him eat bread" might be classified under his scheme as a practical condition and under mine as a condition of present reality. His examples under theoretical condition, "If it should rain

25. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb from Caxton to Dryden, 71, 73.

26. Curme, Collier English Grammar, 273.

tomorrow, I wouldn't go" and "If he should go away without speaking to me, I should be grieved" may be considered condition of potential reality.²⁷ Condition contrary to fact is parallel to my category, condition of unreality. The examples of elliptical condition may be classified in my scheme according to the nature of the conditional clause which is not expressed. "He could easily do it if he tried"²⁸ may be considered a condition of potential reality. "I should say if I were asked that it were better to say nothing about it"²⁸ admits of the same classification. If the sentence read "I should have said if I had been asked that it were better to say nothing about it" we could classify it as a condition of unreality, since it implies that the speaker was not asked.

Poutsma lists four uses of the inflectional subjunctive in expressing conditions:

- 1) to express doubt or diffidence on the part of the speaker or writer as to the action or state being in accordance with fact.
- 2) to express doubt or diffidence on the part of the speaker or writer as to a future action or state coming into fulfilment.
- 3) to express that the fulfilment of the condition is necessary for the action or state in the apodosis becoming matter of fact, if having the value of provided.
- 4) to express the fact that a case is assumed for argument or is put in a general way.²⁹

Among the citations under 1) are "It is not necessary to let other nations into all our secrets and expose all our weaknesses,

27. Curme, College English Grammar, 274.

28. Ibid., 276.

29. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 58-59.

if such there be" and "My friend should, perhaps, have taken you along with him. But the slight, if there be one, was unintentional."³⁰ Both citations admit of the category of condition of present reality. His second category corresponds with mine of condition of potential reality, as his citations prove: "If it assume my noble father's person, I'll speak to it, though hell itself should gape and bid me hold my peace."³⁰ The citations under 3), i.e., "I will come to-morrow, if the weather be fine" and "Ordinary verse may pass muster if its manner be finished,---"³¹ may be classified under condition of potential reality and condition of present reality respectively. The first two citations under 4), "If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out" and "If England be the heart of international and cosmopolitan finance and London be the heart of England, the City is the heart of London,"³¹ are both conditions of present reality. The last citation, "If the bill pass the second reading, the House proceeds to consider and vote upon each clause in the bill separately,"³¹ is a condition of potential reality. Further on he writes:

The inflectional condition is used, also in the ordinary language of the educated, 1) in hypothetical clauses expressing a supposition contrary to some fact known to the speaker,---³²

It is evident without listing citations that this category is parallel to condition of unreality.

30. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 58.

31. Ibid., 59.

32. Ibid., 65.

VI

The subjunctive of concession expresses the "circumstance in spite of which" the action or state of being expressed in the principle clause is true.

- a) "And though the Marches be free to say what he thinketh, yet he is both secret in purposing & close in working---" (Q 147)
- b) "if a man shoulde describe a greete feaste, he woulde not ones name bread, although it be most common---" (T 44)
- c) "and though a theefe come to the dore, and heavoth at it, to come in, and slaye hym, yet he lyeth in his bed,---" (T 47)
- d) "as one Falblins through blinde affection, preferred his lover before all other women, although she were deformed with a polypus in her nose." (T 12)
- e) "It although it were a fonde & chylidish thing to be to erdest in pastime & play, yet doth he affirme---" (T 2)
- f) "although al the worlde were gathered in an army together, yet without shotinge they can neuer come to theyre purpose," (T 38)
- g) "though he had lost will yet would he not leese his profite." (Q 161)
- h) "Much musike maketh monies manners, sayth Calen, although some man will saye that it doth not so," (T 13)
- i) "And although shooting maye be mete sometye for some scholars, and so forth: yet the fittest alwayes is to be preferred." (T 12)
- j) "And though,---they can follow, fawne, and flatter, yet commonlie they allie themselves with the worst Papistes." (S 233)
- k) "he can not stoppe though he woulde never so fayne." (T 20)
- l) "you may saye what you will for your pleasure, this I am sure---" (T 12)

Clauses of concession are usually introduced by although or though as in the case of the first eleven citations. The last sentence is evidence that a clause does not have to be introduced by one of these two words.

Of the 32 citations expressing concession 11 were expressed by the present inflectional subjunctive, 9 by the imperfect inflectional subjunctive, and 12 by the periphrastic subjunctive (3-may, 4-would, 2-will, 1-can).

Kasten, Trnka, Foutana, and Curme all include citations under the heading "concession." All are parallel to the citations from Ascham, and it would add nothing to the discussion to quote them at this point.

VII

The subjunctive of supposition occurs in expressions which express possibility, indecision, or belief. An examination of each category will show that they are closely enough related to be classified under one main heading, yet diversified enough to warrant sub-headings.

1. subjunctive expressing possibility:

- a) "And therefore the quickest wittes commonlie
may prove the best Foetes," (S 189)
- b) "And this to be most true, may easilie be gathered,"
(S 202)
- c) "And wise men may say it was ye wisest deede---"
(Q 165)
- d) "yet---may seeme to be the breeder of any false
reproch." (Q 148)

- e) "where truth in Religion might be fully tryed
in the hearyng of even and equal iudges---"
(G 156)
- f) "and therefore was glad when he saw the Marches
wight be made bys so easely." (G 151)
- g) "It might be either for the lacke of learnyng
and good bringing up---or else for his
bashfull nature in youth." (G 146)
- h) "Marches Marignan told some in this court---
Duke Maurice should become the greatest enemy
to the Emperour that ever the Emperour had."
(G 167)
- i) "I suppose it were better to make them of good
Asshe, and not of Aspe." (T 85)

In all of these instances there is a possibility that the action will take place, but there is no guarantee that it will. In a) there is a possibility that the quickest wits will prove the best poets, but there is no guarantee that they will; therefore the statement is uncertain and consequently subjunctive in nature. In example e) there is a possibility that the wise men will make a statement, but with it goes a degree of uncertainty. In g) the possibility is expressed by might instead of may. Had the statement read: "It ^{be}may either for lacke of learnyng and good bringing up---" or "There is a possibility that it be from lack of---" the general meaning would have been the same. The last citation expresses possibility by means of "should."

2. subjunctive expressing indecision:

- a) "And many menne doubtyng and fearyng whether they
shoulde dye or no, even for verye feare of
deathe, preventeth themselfe with a more bytter
deathe then the other death shoulde have bene
in deade." (T 15)

- b) "you shall se if swine will ete any Turkish fleshe." (Q 132)
- c) "lette us se if shoting be not hindered amonges all kyndes of men as moche otherwayes." (T 20)
- d) "A Lacedemonian taken prisoner, was asked of one at Athens, whether they were stoute fellows that were slayne, or no.---" (T 43)
- e) "it is not playne in Xenophon howe strong shooters the Persians were, what bowes they had, what shaftes and howes they occupied, what kynde of warre theyr enemies used." (T 38)
- f) "as when you be determined, whether ye will folow one or no, to know perfitlie, and which way to folow that one" (S 206)
- g) "For fyrste a question maye be asked, whether any other thing beynde a fether, be fit for a shaft or no?" (T 37)

Indecision or doubt are expressed in all of these citations. In a) the combining of the two words doubtyng and fearyng make the sentence more difficult to classify. Perhaps it should be included under subjunctive of emotion; but I am inclined to feel that the indecision expressed by "doubtyng" and whether---or no justifies its inclusion at this point. In b) there is doubt expressed regarding the appetite and eating habits of the swine. In c) the formal subjunctive following lette us se if is definitely expressive of indecision. The indecision expressed in d) is intensified by the whether---or no. While the verbs were, had, occupied, and used could be indicative, the independent clause, it is not playne, labels it as indecisive and therefore subjunctive. The dependent clause in f) expresses indecision, following a subjunctive in the principal clause which intensifies the indecision.

3. subjunctive expressing belief or hear-say:

- a) "And I suppose it be a great deal more pleasure also."
(T 2)
- b) "I wold think it were my duty." (T 11)
- c) "I thinke they should fynde smal play and lesse
pleasure in it at all." (T 47)
- d) "And this quicke medecine I beleue wolde so thnrowlye
pourse them, that the daylye medecines,---shoulde
easolyer withstande them." (T 31)
- e) "And I trust no man will be discontent with my generall
saying." (G 159)
- f) "It is said that letters from the greatest in the
Emperours Court were neuer lackyng." (G 149)

This third category includes expressions following such verbs as thinke, believe, expect, suppose and expressions of hear-say.

Although some of these citations employ the inflectional subjunctive and some the periphrastic form, all express supposition.

Kasten gives several citations under "Substantive Sentences" which admit of classification in this part of my scheme.

"I wote not whether the revenging steel were hardned" (Sh. R. 3.), "I leave him to judge whether it be not very pleasant" (Marryat), "I wonder if Titania be awaked" (Sh. R. V. D.), and "I think this be the house" (B. J. Ev. R.)³³ all express indecision or mere belief and therefore may be classified as subjunctives of supposition. Under "Verbs of Modality" he gives "It might be done that way."³⁴ This indicates possi-

33. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 13.

34. Ibid., 11.

bility and may therefore be considered a subjunctive of supposition.

Trnka classifies "In that book there is a doubt made, whether the woman were created according to God's image" as a deliberative indirect question.³⁵ Since it expressed indecision, it may be classified as a subjunctive of supposition. So also may we classify the periphrastics which he includes under "that-clauses depending on verbs denoting doubt:" "He doubted that the Frenche kyng wolde in the nyght tyme come and overrun the cytie of Parys" and under "deliberative indirect questions: "We knowe not what shall daylie fall."³⁶ In this same group is "I began to think, How if one of the Bells should fall?"³⁶ This expresses possibility and therefore may be considered a subjunctive of supposition.

In Curme we find such expressions as, "It may rain" "It might possibly be true" "This would seem to confirm his statement" "He thinks it may rain" all of which may be considered subjunctives of supposition.³⁷

In Poutsma's citations under "The Subjunctive in Subordinate Questions" we find: "We doubt whether there be a hundred genuine Bengalees in the whole army of the East India Company" (Mac., Clive) "The blowing of the horn---made me hesitatingly inquire--if there were anything to pay." (Dick. Cap.).³⁸ These belong in the category of indecision and may

35. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 70.

36. Ibid., 72.

37. Curme, College English Grammar, 268.

38. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 42, 43.

bility and may therefore be considered a subjunctive of supposition.

Trnka classifies "In that book there is a doubt made, whether the woman were created according to God's image" as a deliberative indirect question.³⁵ Since it expressed indecision, it may be classified as a subjunctive of supposition. So also may we classify the periphrastics which he includes under "that-clauses depending on verbs denoting doubt:" "He doubted that the Frenche kyng wolde in the nyght tyme come and overrun the cytie of Farys" and under "deliberative indirect questions: "We knowe not what shall daylie fall."³⁶ In this same group is "I began to think, How if one of the Bells should fall?"³⁶ This expresses possibility and therefore may be considered a subjunctive of supposition.

In Curme we find such expressions as, "It may rain" "It might possibly be true" "This would seem to confirm his statement" "He thinks it may rain" all of which may be considered subjunctives of supposition.³⁷

In Poutsma's citations under "The Subjunctive in Subordinate Questions" we find: "We doubt whether there be a hundred genuine Bengalees in the whole army of the East India Company" (Mac., Clive) "The blowing of the horn---made me hesitatingly inquire--if there were anything to pay." (Dick. Cap.).³⁸ These belong in the category of indecision and may

35. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 70.

36. Ibid., 72.

37. Curme, College English Grammar, 268.

38. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 42, 43.

therefore be classified as subjunctives of supposition. Poutsma writes "In literary English the subjunctive is fairly common in subordinate statements expressing what is the subject of a proposal, a suggestion, or advice. Thus especially in the language of deliberative assemblies or bodies. 'I propose that the matter be put to the vote at once!' (G. Eliot, Ibid.) - 'I also suggest that the ceremony take place before the departure.' (Dor. Gerard)."³⁹ Could not these citations, which involve possibility, be considered subjunctives of supposition?

VIII

The subjunctive of limitation is found in dependent clauses which limit the meaning expressed by the independent clause when uncertainty is involved. This subjunctive may be used to express limitation of: 1) a person, object, or idea; 2) a cause, reason, or purpose; 3) time or distance; 4) action; 5) quality; 6) manner or degree.

1. subjunctive expressing limitation of person, object, or idea:

- a) "be he neuer so worshipfull a man,---, that hurte him in dede." (T 22)
- b) "for pleasing any that be alone," (Q 163)
- c) "I know also many a good witte, which have played long partes when I pray God kepe long still upon the stage." (Q 159)
- d) "some in England, that would have the people neither witty nor wealthy when wit is the meare gift of God:" (Q 141)

39. Poutsma, Food and Tense of the English Verb, 30.

- e) "he that would have an example of it, let him read
Lucian---" (S 260)
- f) "and drerre him awaye that woulde robbe hym and sleye
hym." (T 49)
- g) "as to give trewe aduise to them, that may be
great hereafter." (S 222)
- h) "more mischief then he needs." (G 167)
- i) "or some other part of Tullie,---, which your scholer
may not know where to finde." (S 239)
- j) "and I could describe the nature of a quicke medicine,
which shoulde within a whyle perge and plucke
oute all the unthrifthe games in the Realme,"
(T 31)
- k) "I cannot much prayse his wit, which might have had
the Emperour in his handes & would not." (G 166)
- l) "There is a wale touched in the first booke of Cicero
De Oratore, whiche, wisely brought into scholes,
truely taught, and constantly used, would not onely
take---, but would also,---worke a true choice---"
(S 183)

The first seven citations contain a subjunctive that limits a person, the next four contain subjunctives that limit an object, while the last contains a subjunctive that limits an idea. Some employ the formal subjunctive; others the periphrastic. All of them express uncertainty in their limitation. In citation f) the dependent clause limits the meaning of him, but it does not give factual information. The clause "that woulde robbe him and sleye hym" does not express positive action that will take place without fail, but uncertain action that may possibly happen at some indefinite time. In citation j) the dependent clause limits the meaning of medicine, but it does so with uncertainty.

Kasten includes examples of this category under "Use of the Subjunctive mood in relative sentences."⁴⁰ In the citation "With power to excite all who in future time may appear" the clause "who in future time may appear" limits the meaning of all and at the same time implies uncertainty; therefore the verb may appear may be considered a periphrastic subjunctive expressing limitation of person. In "Thou hast stolen that which, after some hours, were thine without offense" the clause "which, after some hours, were thine without offense" limits the meaning of that, and so the verb were may be classed as an inflectional subjunctive expressing limitation of an object. As an example of a subjunctive used to express limitation of an idea we may cite, "I hither come engaged by my oath (which God defend a knight should violate)."⁴⁰ The clause "which God defend---" limits the meaning of oath.

Trnka gives us more examples of subjunctive of limitation in "What someuer he be, he is comen of a noble blood" and "Who may see hym lyue he shal preue a good knyghte." which he lists under "relative clauses."⁴¹

Curme classifies this use as "Potential Subjunctive in Attributive Relative Clauses": "It is a book that may help many a poor struggling fellow" "I offer a reward to anyone who shall give me the desired address" "Can you give me one good reason why you should always answer so peevishly?"⁴²

40. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 22, 23.

41. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 71.

42. Curme, College English Grammar, 271.

Although Poutsma has no category which parallels this use of the subjunctive, he has a citation which fits into the category: "I wish to publish a book that shall create a stir and make me famous" (Marie Corelli)⁴³

2. subjunctive expressing limitation of cause, reason, or purpose:

- a) "lest, his ouermuch fearinge of you, drine him to seeke some disorderlie shifte:" (S 104)
- b) "And now take heede, lest your scholer do not better in some point than you yourselfe," (S 240)
- c) "& because he would make a lusty chaunge from the feare of God and knowledge of Christ's doctrine, he fell to be a peruerse and bloody Papist." (G 150)
- d) "yet that you may know what secret workyng went before this playne writyng and open doyns,---, I will by more particular circumstaunces lead you to this generall complainte." (G 145)
- e) "they woulde kneele downe on theyr knees, and so cover all theyr body wyth theyr shyldes and targottes, that the Parthians shaftes might slide ouer then, & do them no harme,---" (T 35)

In this category the clause of limitation is introduced by lest, because, or that. The subjunctive may be the inflected form as in examples a) and b) or it may be the periphrastic as in c), d), and e).

Kasten classifies this use of the subjunctive under "Intentional sentences": "Let go thy hold, when a great wheel runs down a hill, lest it break thy neck." (Sh. K. L.)⁴⁴

43. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 33.

44. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 21.

Under the classification "Final clauses" Trnka lists one inflectional and one periphrastic. Both may be included in this group: "And that we ordeyne---siche provysyon and defence that our countrey receive no blame" (Berners) "What soeuer thynges are written a fore tyme, are wrytten for our learnynge, that we---might haue hope" (Latimer, Seven Sermons)⁴⁵

Curme includes subjunctives of this category in two places in his scheme: 1) Adverbial clauses under "Optative Subjunctive" as "I'll go early that I may get a good seat" "I went early that I might get a good seat" 2) Clauses of Cause under "Potential Subjunctive" as "Let us act and not shrink for fear (or lest) our motives be misunderstood" "I trembled lest you should be seen" "She was afraid to breathe lest she break (or should break) the wonderful spell of the magic." It is unfortunate that in this second group Curme included only examples that connote fear, for all of these shade into the subjunctive of emotion expressing fear, and it would have been possible to include examples that would not be so limited in meaning.

Poutsma writes:

Adverbial clauses of purpose sometimes have the predicate in the inflectional subjunctive when introduced by that, rarely when opening with the more colloquial so that, and rather frequently after the purely literary lest.

45. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 71.

46. Curme, College English Grammar, 266.

47. Ibid., 276.

To emphasize the notion of purpose in order that, for the purpose that and, more or less archaically, to the intent that or to the end that, are sometimes used instead of the simple that.-----Clauses introduced by lest may often be apprehended to express rather a relation of cause (reason or ground) than purpose, this conjunction frequently appearing to have the value of because it is (or was) feared or a phrase of like import.-----48

From his six and a half pages of citations expressing purpose a few will be sufficient to show that they are parallel to the citations from Ascham included in this category. "And busy caterpillars hasten, That no time be lost." (Rossetti, Summer) "Take heed, lest passion sway thy judgment." (Milton, Par. Lost) "All they would do was to give a loaded pistol, lest we were attacked." (Stevenson, Treasa. Isl.) "He sat with the door wide open at all times, that he might hear the footsteps as they entered." (Dick Chuz) "No one supposes for a moment that they gave anything in order that the gift might be talked about." (Acad.) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "And I will sing that they shall hear I am not afraid." (Sh. M. W. D.)

3. subjunctive expressing limitation of time or distance:

- a) "so farre, that he can neuer retourne backe,
untill he be so lyght, that he nede feare no
troues by the waye." (T 26)
- b) "further then any man now dare iourney by land
either for pleasure or profite." (Q 152)

- c) "A seldome they wyl leave a man before he come eyther to hanging or els some other extreme misery." (T 24)
- d) "woulde suffer me to reade of it, whan I woulde." (T 48)
- e) "Octavio---was so feared of Gonzago that he thought hym selfe never assured for Petro Luis death as long as Octavio his sonne should live." (G 133)
- f) "whilst some fitter time should discover some better remedy," (G 168)
- g) "And commonly he would not heare them whilst an hundred suters should come at once." (G 140)
- h) "Yet when his talke shalbe heard, or his writing be red,---that Nimium in him,---, shall eyther of thies two, bite his lippe, or shake his heade at it." (G 260)

Citation a) contains a limitation of distance, that he can never retourne backe, and a limitation of time, untyl he be so lyght, as well as a limitation of quality, that he neede feare no thieues by the waye. (the latter belonging in the sixth category of limitation) As in the other categories we find inflectional subjunctives and periphrastic subjunctives.

Hasten lists three groups of "Temporal Sentences" which employ the subjunctive.

1. --sentences marking a point of time as merely supposed in the present or future, bear the character of uncertainty, and they, therefore, frequently contain the subj. mood:

"At any time it please you, you shall find me ready." (B. J. Ev. E.)

"Men cannot retire when they would, neither will they when it were reason."
(Bacon)

2. In temporal sentences introduced by till marking the aim up to which an action extends, the subj. mood is frequently found.

"We may not chaunge till we be bathed."

(Sp. F. G.)

"Thy love ne^r alter till thy sweet life end."

(Sh. M. N. D.)

3. When an action is expressed which follows another, the idea of incertainty as to its realization may be admitted, indicated by the subj. mood. This usage extended, and is also adopted in cases not at all doubtful. The c njuncti^ons employed are: ere, before.

"Long ere it were day." (Chaucer M. P. T.)

"Serve it upon him quickly, afore he be aware."

(B. J. Ev. M.)

"until before we stand this rebel chieftain."

(Scott)⁴⁹

Trnka gives three citations of inflectional subjunctives used in temporal clauses and three citations of periphrastic subjunctives in temporal clauses. "Syre Ector wold not away til Gawayne were hole." (Malory, Morte d'Arthur)⁵⁰ "Ye may well amende it whan it shall please you." (Berners, Froissart) "He cast him into prison, till hee should pay the debt."⁵¹

Curme writes regarding the subjunctive in temporal clauses:

In temporal clauses after until, till, when, whenever, before, against (-before), ere, we employ in choice English the modern subjunctive with shall, in older English and in poetry also the simple subjunctive, to represent a future act, not as a fact, but only as the outcome of circumstances, the result of a development, or as planned, desired: "Your father is going to wait till your uncle shall come" "The most forward bud Is eaten by the canker ere it blow." (Shakespeare)⁵²

49. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 15-16.

50. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 70.

51. Ibid., 73.

52. Curme, College English Grammar, 266.

Poutsma writes that the subjunctive is fairly common in adverbial clauses of time which describe an action or state of the future, especially after ere and "in a less degree" after against, before, and until, but that it is rare after when. Among his citations are: "My some illusion see thou bring her here: 'I'll come 'in ere against she so appear." (Sh. R. H. 1.) - "This night before the cock crow, thou shall deny me thrice." (Bible) - "The roost forward bud is eaten by the canker ere it blow." (Sh. "Two Gent.")⁵³ He gives further citations to show that the formal subjunctive is frequently replaced by the periphrastic with shall, particularly after until (or till) and when. "Is she going to keep a lonely vigil till that time shall come?" Should according to Poutsma is found frequently: "He was cast into prison till he should pay the debt." - "This decided him to part with the boy whenever he could be found." (Bytton Right and Wrong).⁵⁴

There were no examples of subjunctive used to express limitation of distance in any of these studies, but the frequency with which this use appears in the writings of authors justifies its inclusion in this category.

4. subjunctive expressing limitation of action:

- a) "his answer was that he so abhorred the shedding of blood in others as he would never wash his hands in any." (A 133)

53. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 44.
 54. Ibid., 45.

b) "he would sooner have driven all Spaniards out of Germany, than they should have hurt him in Saxony," (§ 180)

c) "some men of our time,---, have so over reached themselves,---, as though they had been knocked up in some school in Asia," (§ 183)

5. subjunctive expressing limitation of quality:

a) "he had won thereby such favor in all Germany, as without all doubt, he had been made conditor with the King of Bohemia his uncle," (§ 185)

b) "these instruments make a riddle wit so soft smoothing tender and delicate, that they be less able to brooke, strain and touch study." (§ 18)

c) "The whole body of the Synagoge of Naples was so disordered inwardly with this disorder, with a little outward occasion it would easily have burst forth into a foule sore." (§ 142)

d) "For God in taking away one Spaniard hath made Naples now more strong, then if the Emperour had got xx. thousand of the best in Spayne there:" (§ 142)

6. subjunctive expressing limitation of manner or degree:

a) "came so hastily and so hotely as the Emperour could not abide the heat of his breath." (§ 180)

b) "and returning to his play as quietly as though he had received some private letter---" (§ 184)

c) "or love any more than he should." (§ 187)

Subjunctives expressing limitation of action, limitation of quality, and limitation of manner or degree are found less frequently than the other categories of subjunctive or limitation, and therefore we do not find citations for all of them in the investigations of the scholars.

Musten recognized a subjunctive which limits action and manner when he wrote under "Subjunctive mood in sentences of modality:"

1. Subordinate sentences expressing the manner in which something is done, in some cases admit of the subj. mood.

A comparison may be made between different subjects doing the same action or between different actions committed by the same or several subjects. The subj. mood is most frequently found with the latter kind, especially when the parallel is drawn between reality and an action supposed or wished for.

"Yet even in beginners (it were best) to adhere so moderately, as he be a man of the one faction which is passablest with the other" (Bacon)

3. In case the action referred to is merely a supposition, it has very frequently the shape of a conditional sentence preceded by *as*, *as if*, *as though*:

"Speak truly,---as so defend thee heaven and thy valour" (Sh. Rich. II)

"Smile upon my speeches as if I were a fool"
(Sh. Ham.)

"Use him as if he were a philistine" (Marl. Jew.)⁵⁵

Under "Comparative clauses" Trnka gives two citations, both of which express limitation of action. "You look as if you had something more to say" (Sh. K. L.) "Now am I better pleas'd, say'd Pryamus, than thou haddest gyven to me all the provynce and parys the ryche" (Morte d'Arthur)⁵⁶

Poutsma includes under the heading "clauses of disjunctive concession (or alternative hypothesis)" citations which may be classified as limitations of action. "Whether it be beast or man, it shall not live." (Bible) "But be it hap, or be it harm, We tread the pathway arm in arm" (Scott, Brid. of Triermain)⁵⁷ Under "clauses of hypothetical similarity" we find more citations which admit of this category. "He is

55. Kasten, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive, 21-22.

56. Trnka, On the Syntax of the English Verb, 71.

57. Poutsma, Mood and Tense of the English Verb, 80.

always talking about honesty, as if he were the only honest man in the world." (Sweet, N. E. Gr.) - "They argue as if (though) the matter were doubtful." (Onions, Advanced Eng. Synt.) - "Gwendolen felt as if her heart were making a sudden gambol." (G. Elliot, Pan Der.)⁵⁸ Under this same classification are citations which express limitation of manner. "I treat her as tenderly as if she were my daughter." (The King's English) - "So far from intending you any wrong, I have always loved you as well as if you had been my own mother." (Fielding, Jos. Andrews)⁵⁸

The 74 citations from the writings of Ascham which I classified as subjunctives of limitation are divided among the 6 categories as follows:

- 30 expressed limitation of person, object, or idea
- 14 expressed limitation of time or distance
- 12 expressed limitation of cause, reason, or purpose
- 8 expressed limitation of quality
- 5 expressed limitation of manner
- 5 expressed limitation of action

Of the 74 citations 28 were inflectional and 46 were periphrastic. An examination of the citations expressing limitation disclose three facts:

- 1) The limitation which they place upon some word in the independent clause is a limitation of uncertainty.
- 2) The limitation answers one of the questions: who? what? why? when? where? how?

58. Poutsma, Mode and Tense of the English Verb, 81.

3) The subjunctives which express limitation of person, object, or idea are found in adjectival clauses; the subjunctives which limit cause, reason, purpose, time, distance, action, quality, manner, and degree are found in adverbial clauses.

Chapter IV

SUMMARY

It is possible at this point to draw some conclusions from the study I have made.

1) concerning the treatment by the writers of textbooks

The amount of space which the writers of textbooks have devoted to a study of the subjunctive varies from no space at all to several pages. Some textbooks include both inflectional forms and periphrastic forms in their discussions and exercises, some only the inflectional, and some only the periphrastic forms (calling them "modern substitutes for the subjunctive"). Some include several uses of the subjunctive, while others limit its use to conditional clauses contrary to fact.

There is a growing tendency on the part of teachers and supervisors to fall in line with Charles Henshaw Ward, who advocates the elimination of all mention of the subjunctive from the courses of study in English.¹

2) concerning the treatment by scholars

There is as wide a divergence of opinion among the scholars as among the writers of textbooks regarding the form and scope

1. The junior high schools of Lansing, Michigan ruled the subjunctive out of the English course of study in 1943. The senior high schools ruled out all except the subjunctive in conditions contrary to fact and the subjunctive expressing prayer: God be with you, etc. (Course of Study in English)

of the subjunctive mood. Some hold to the opinion of the classicists that only those verbs are subjunctive which have the inflectional ending of the subjunctive; others admit of two types of subjunctive, inflectional and periphrastic; others refer to the periphrastic forms as "substitutes for the subjunctive."

The majority of scholars who have made extensive studies of the subjunctive have recorded their findings in poorly organized schemes which confuse notional classification and grammatical classification. I have made some attempt to eliminate some of the confusion by classifying the categories according to function.

3) concerning the subjunctives in the writings of Roger Ascham

The subjunctives in Toxophilus, A Report on the Affaires and State of Germany, and The Scholemaster may be divided into the following groups:

subjunctive expressing condition	-35%
subjunctive expressing limitation	-14%
subjunctive expressing obligation	-13%
subjunctive expressing supposition	-13%
subjunctive expressing concession	-10%
subjunctive expressing emotion	-10%
subjunctive expressing permission	- 5%

Ascham has employed both the inflectional forms of the subjunctive and the periphrastic forms. Approximately one third are inflectional, and the remaining two-thirds are

periphrastic. I have observed that these statistics hold not only for the citations as a whole, but for individual pages. To illustrate the point, I opened William Bright's edition of Ascham's English Works^{and} counted the subjunctives that appeared on two consecutive pages (pages 50 and 51). Of the 16 subjunctives on the two pages, 5 are inflectional forms, and 11 are periphrastic forms, giving the ratio of 1 to 2, which I found in a count of the total number of citations.

All seven types of subjunctive were represented on these two pages, with the greatest number of citations falling under subjunctive of condition and subjunctive of limitation, with subjunctive of supposition and subjunctive of obligation appearing next in frequency. Subjunctive of permission, which was found least frequently in the total count, was represented on these pages with one citation. The subjunctive of emotion and subjunctive of concession which together accounted for 20% of the subjunctives in the total count, represented only 12 1/2% of the subjunctives found on these two pages.

I quote here the subjunctives from pages 50 and 51 as they admit of the classification I have followed.

1. subjunctive expressing obligation:

"And here I must nedes remember a certaine Frenchman--"

"commanded under payne of a greate forfyte, that euerye Scotte shoulde learne to shote."

2. subjunctive expressing permission:

"they woulde suffre them no longer to be two"

3. subjunctive expressing emotion:

"I---would fayne be at home---"

4. subjunctive expressing condition:

"yf they were to reken agayne, I wold not ones name them,"

"if I were disposed to do it, and you hadde leysure to heare it, I could soone do as Textor doth,"

"Textor needed not to have fylled uppe his booke with suche lyes, if he hadde read the storye of Scotlande,"

5. subjunctive expressing concession:

"but as for shotinge, they neyther can vse it for anye profyte, nor yet wil challenge it for any prayse, although master Textor of his gentlesse wold gyve it them."

6. subjunctive expressing supposition:

"This sentence---, may be called in question and doubte."

"that Textor---myght very soone, euen in the first towne of Kent, have founde suche plentie of shotinge,"

"wherein he myghte have learned, that when Iames---"

7. subjunctive expressing limitation:

"I am now affectioned euen as it were a man that had bene longe wanderyng in strange contries---"

"of one that would seme to be fitter for a shop in dede than to write any boke---"

"and reken up suche a ralle of shoters as wolde holde vs talkyng whyles tomorrow"

"the receyvinge of anye profyte that myght come by it."

Although some of the inflectional forms in the above citations are plural and therefore might be considered indi-

cative, I am convinced that they are intended as subjunctives in these instances because they are parallel in structure and meaning to numerous citations containing the subjunctive in the singular.

Through the examination of some five hundred citations from the writing of Roger Ascham I have come to the conclusion that an idea of uncertainty may be expressed equally well by means of periphrastic subjunctives and inflectional subjunctives. The citation from Toxophilus (47) "and though a thefe come to the dore" may also be expressed by using any one of four periphrastic subjunctives without losing or gaining in effectiveness. Thus he might have said "and though a thefe may come to the door," "and though a thefe might come to the door," "and though a thefe shall come to the door," "and though a thefe should come to the dore." On the other hand, on page 56 Ascham employs the periphrastic form where the inflectional would have been equally clear: "That is a wonder to me, yt the feare of a displeasure, shoulde do more harme than the displeasure itselfe." Would it not have been equally clear to say, "That is a wonder to me, yt the feare of a displeasure do more harme than the displeasure itselfe?" The subjunctive of supposition in the citation "And I suppose it be a great deal more pleasure also," might have been expressed with the periphrastic may be, might be, would be, must be, or even shall be.

4. concerning the decline of the subjunctive

I am not in accord with the grammarians who maintain that the subjunctive mood of the verb has practically disappeared from the English language. It is true that there are fewer inflected forms in use now than there were prior to and at the time during which Ascham was writing, but it is not true that there are fewer subjunctives.

Life is equally as full of doubts and uncertainties and desires today as it was in the sixteenth century and before, and mankind is equally prone to giving them verbal expression. This being the case the subjunctive is here to stay. The proverbial mother of the young bride was offered the consolation that she was not losing a daughter but gaining a son. We may offer the same consolation^{to} the grammarians who believe that with the decline of the inflectional forms of the subjunctive we are losing that mood of the verb entirely. We are not losing the subjunctive; we are gaining more subjunctive. By adding the periphrastic forms of the subjunctive we now have four or five choices of expression where we formerly had but one. The addition of the periphrastic subjunctive is another step in the enrichment of the English language.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ascham, Roger, English Works, Edited by William Aldis Wright, Cambridge, University Press, 1904.
- Ascham, Roger, The Whole Works of Roger Ascham, Now First Collected and Revised, with a Life of the Author, Edited by Rev. Dr. Gile, I, II, III, London, John Russell Smith, 1864.
- "Ascham's Toxophilus," Retrospective Review, IV, 76-87, London, Charles and Henry Baldwin, 1821.
- Bevier, T. J., "American Use of the Subjunctive," American Speech, VI (1931), 207-215.
- Brown, Gould, The Grammar of English Grammars, New York, William Wood & Co., 1851.
- Callaway, Morgan, The Consecutive Subjunctive in Old English, Boston, D. C. Heath & Co., 1933.
- Chambers, Robert, Cyclopaedia of English Literature, Edited by Rev. David Patrick, I, New York, J. B. Lippincott Co., 1901, 1938.
- Cross, E. A., The Little Grammar, Boston, Atlantic Monthly Pub., 1922.
- Curme, George O., College English Grammar, Richmond, Johnson Publishers, 1928.
- Curme, George O., Parts of Speech and Accidence, New York, D. C. Heath & Co., 1935.
- Fries, Charles Carpenter, American English Grammar, New York, D. Appleton-Century Co., 1940.
- Hale, William Gardner, "The Harmonizing of Grammatical Nomenclature with Especial Reference to Mood--Syntax," P. M. L. A., XXVI (1911), 393; XXVII (1912), 411.
- Herrmans, Habel C., Studies in Grammar, New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1924.

- Jespersen, Otto, Essentials of English Grammar, New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1933.
- Jespersen, Otto, A Modern English Grammar on Historical Principles, Heidelberg, Carl Winter.
 III, Syntax, 1927.
 IV, Syntax, 1931.
 V, Syntax, 1940.
- Jespersen, Otto, The Philosophy of English Grammar, New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1924.
- Jespersen, Otto, The System of Grammar, London, Henry Holt & Co., 1933.
- Kasten, William, An Inquiry into the Use of the Subjunctive Mood in the English of the Elizabethan Period, Hanover, Will. Hiemscneider, 1874.
- Krapp, George Philip, A Comprehensive Guide to Good English, Rand McNally & Co., 1927.
- Larousse, Nouveau Petit Illustré, Edited by Claude Augé, Paris, 1928.
- Leonard, Sterling Andrews, Current English Usage, Chicago, Island Press, 1932.
- Murray, James A. B.; Bradley, Henry; Craigie, W. A.; Onions, C. T., A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles, IX, Part II, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 28.
- Poutsma, H., Mood and Tense of the English Verb, Netherlands, Noordhoff, 1874.
- Quick, F. B., Schools of the Jesuits, Ascham, Montaigne, Ratich, Milton, Syracuse, C. W. Fardoen, Pub., 1906.
- Ramsay, Samuel, The English Language and Grammar, New York, Putnam, 1892.
- Reed, Alonzo and Kellogg, Prainard, Higher Lessons in English, New York, Charles Merrill, 1903.
- "Roger Ascham, 1515 to 1568," Education, The School, and the Teacher in English Literature, Edited by Henry Barnard, Hartford, Brown & Gloss, 1876, 21-76.

Scott, Fred; Luck, Gertrude; A Brief English Grammar,
New York, Scott, Foresman, & Co., 1905.

Sidwell, Paul and Siegfried, Isaac Grant, A Handbook
of Grammar, New York, Charles Scribner and Sons,
1926.

Stephen, Leslie, Dictionary of National Biography, II,
150-159, New York, Macmillan Co., 1909.

Sweet, Henry, A New English Grammar, Part II, Oxford,
Oxford Press, 1898, 1931.

Thomas, Joseph M., Manchester, Frederick A., Scott,
Franklin W., Composition for College Students, New
York, Macmillan, 1927.

Trnka, Bohumil, On the Syntax of the English Verb from
Caxton to Dryden, Prague, State Printers, 1930.

Ward, Charles Henshaw, What Is English? A Book of Strategy
for English Teachers, New York, Scott, Foresman,
and Co., 1928.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIV. LIBRARIES



31293018413348