The following words and phrases are hereafter BANISHED and are included in toto and en masse on the Annual New Year’s Dishonour List of Words Banished from the Queen’s English for Mis-, Mal- or Over-Use, as well as General Uselessness.

OUTSTATE MICHIGAN — This seemingly-innocuous word (OUTSTATE) grates on any sensibilities like fingernails across a blackboard. The implication being that Detroit IS Michigan and the rest of the Michiganians are out of the State — Why Detroit? Instead? — Big city newspapers and “downstate” legislators are the worst offenders — even the Governor is guilty! It’s time we “OUT-STATE” band together and put “OUT-STATE” in its final resting place. Buried forever!”

Pamela Carlson
Ludington, Michigan

LIPOSUCTION — “Ugly, ugly word; often mispronounced — visions of four lips sucked out of some infected lip being created, or having verbal influence, pull in high places.”

Natalie Clark
Deborn Heights, Michigan

NON VERBS

GRANDFATHER — We can grand father those items in the labor agreement.

IMPACT (The most non-essential) — The effect a sledge hammer has on a brick wall, or a car on a nylon pole. (A sledge hammer may probably not know the difference between a brick wall and a nylon pole.) Too many times we’ve subjected to a radio or television news reader saying some thing the proper noun of something we’re to be impacted by the rising costs of gravestones. Perhaps the impact of a good slash in the head would curtail such irritating misuse of language.

Dave Summers
Holly, Michigan

MESSAGER — “Sorry, but you cannot message anywhere, anywhere. Messenger is a noun. Why not use a simple verb, send or deliver?”

Carolyn P. Beeler
Charlotte, N.C.

SINGING OF THE SIGNS

WANTED: PART-TIME PERSON — “What is the person the rest of the time?”

Janet K. Brice
Baraboo, Wisconsin

MINOR EMERGENCY CLINIC — “Either something is not an emergency, or it isn’t.”

Carol A. Mclellan
Fort Worth, Texas

“ESTATES IN THE NAMES FOR MOBILE HOME PARKS — “Defunct View Mobile Home Estates.”

N’SUFF, “added to the name of a business... B.J. Winnet’s Fine Jewellery ‘N Stuff.”

SHIPPEE FOR SHOP — “VINNIES COLISION AND AUTO BODY SHOPPE.”

NUMBER AND GENERATION OF THE OWNERS IN THE NAME: “TWO OUTFOR FUNDING, HUNGER, HEALTH, EDUCATION.”

Robert M. Anderson
Chelsea, Michigan

From the Empire State, New York, this evil example was submitted by Robert B. Leffler, East Nassau, New York, excerpted from a 24-page report from that state’s OMRED, Office of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. “The environmental revitalization program obligates the delivery of resources for the improvement of the patient environment at Office of Mental Health facilities.” Thank goodness there is a picture to explain the text. It shows workers developing a “floor plan layout for dayroom furniture.” Mr. Leffler explains the text, “They’re buying new furniture.

NOMINATIONS for next Banishment’s list will be accepted Nov. 15 through Dec. 15, 1990. NOMINATIONS listed above are not necessarily a complete list of banished expressions, but these nominations seemed most worthy of quotation. This poster is available for $2. A Summary poster (22 x 17 inches printed both sides) of banishments from 1970 to 1988 only is available for $5. We are working on an All-Time Banishment calendar.