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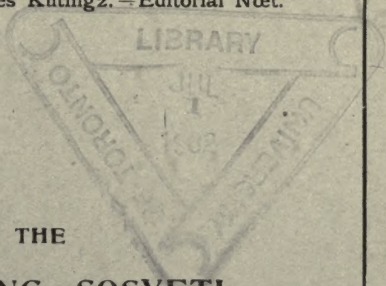


THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

KONTENTS.

Pronunsiashon Reform. — "Ten Years of Organized Effort for Simplified Spelling." — "A Dictionary of Simplified Spelling." — The Konferens ov Teecherz ov English at Stratford-on-Avon. — Wil Uther Braanchez ov the N.U.T. Folce Sent? — English haz the Ferst Klaim. — Speling Reform and Esperanto. — Transatlantik Tailz with a Moral. Korespondens. — Nœts and Neuz. — Pres Kutingz. — Editorial Noet.



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OUTLINE SCHEME FOR NEW READERS

The same sound is always represented by the same letter or letters:
eni, jepardi, greev, leep (*not* any, jeopardy, grieve, leap).

Letters not pronounced are not written, and a consonant is not doubled to indicate
a short vowel: dout, lam, aktiv, leter, nee (*not* doubt, lamb, active, letter, knee).

Wherever the *z* sound (as distinguished from the *s*) is heard it is written: tyz, praiz (*not*
ties, praise).

C (except in *ch*), *q*, and *x* are not used.

YOWEL SOUNDS.

a: hat, glad.

e: meni, plezher (*not* many, pleasure).

i: wimen, bizl (*not* women, busy).

o: kot, hot.

u: but, bruther (*not* brother).

oo: book, poot (*not* put).

ai: grait, kair (*not* great, care).

***aa:** raather, haaf (*not* rather, half).

au: aul (*not* all, awl).

ee: eech, reseev (*not* each, receive).

y: ryt, fyr (*not* right, fire).

oe: loe, poest (*not* low, post).

oo: troo (*not* true).

eu: teun, euloji (*not* tune, eulogy).

* Only one **a** is used before **r**: arm, kar, &c.

In considering the scheme remember that **no new letters are introduced**, though in
English we have only **23** letters for representing over **40** sounds.

THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

VOL. V, No. 3.

SEPTEMBER, 1916.

PRONUNSIASHON REFORM.

I hav yet tu lern that thair iz among the mœst savij trybz eni feetish mor sensles and mor steupid than that which—with edeukaited men among us—treets az werthi ov respekt or reverens the prezent orthografi ov the English tung.—PROF. LOUNSBURY.

SUM munths agoe thair apeerd in “Modern Language Teaching” an artikel with the abuv tytel from the pen ov wun hoo preferd tu kaul himself “X.” It woz a kwaint produkshon, for it woz never reali klee whether “X.” had hiz tung in hiz cheek aul the tym or whether the heumor woz ov the unkonshus varyeti.

He pointed out that bekauz the pronunsiashon ov Latin haz been reformd we myt hœp tu reform that ov English, and on similar lynz. That iz karakteristik ov “X.”’z hœl treatment ov the subjekt.

Our reederz need hardli be tœld that if we adopt the Latin speling az a gyd tu the pronunsiashon we ar fairli saif, bekauz we noe that speling tu hav been aproksimaitli fonetik. The reform heer simpli ment an atemt tu giv the Latin leterz thair orijinal valeuz insted ov pronounsing this forin langwij with English soundz.

On the uthar hand, tu maik the prezent speling ov English the baisis ov our pronunsiashon wood be tu retern tu the spœken langwij ov Shakespeare’z dai. Whot did Prof. Skeat sai ov our speling?

The shortest deskripshon ov modern speling iz tu sai that, speeking jenerali, it reprezents a modern pronunsiashon ov “popeular” werdz by meenz ov simbolz imperfektli adapted tu an Elizabethan pronunsiashon, the simbolz themselvz being mainli deu tu the Anglo-French skrybz ov the Plantagenet peeriod, hooz sistem woz ment tu be fonetik. It aulso aimz at sjusting tu the y the orijinal formz ov “lernerd” werdz. It iz thus governd by too konflikting prinsipelz, nyther ov which, even in its œn domain, iz konsistentli karid out.

That iz the konkloozhon ov Chapter XVI ov *The Principles of English Etymology* (First Series). If everibodi red that ekselent chapter befor venteuring tu diskus the reform ov speling or pronunsiashon we shood be spaird a grait deel ov foolish ryting.

“X.” iz tipikal ov meni hoo think themselvz kwolifyd tu diskus theez subjekts. He sez “it iz propoezd tu ‘simplify’ speling by introdeusing a neu literal or silabik [*sic*] speling which shal maik it unnesesari tu remember werdz az hoel pikteurz, az it wer”—which iz uter nonsens. He sez “we aul næ edeukaited Frenchmen hoo skroopeulusli pronouns bæth the *t’z* in *sotte*.” We wunder hou. He sez “let us simpli adapt the neu Latin pronunsiashon tu our æn langwij.” Sertinli, Mr. X., with plezher, if eu wil kyndli tel us hou tu pronouns, with the reformd Latin pronunsiashon, such simpel litel werdz az “now” or “eight” or “thing.”

Peepel sumtymz sai: “Why shood we not speak az we spel?” But no wun haz ever tryd. It wood be delytfoot (for a short tym) tu lisen tu sum wun hoo onestli tryd tu reprezent in hiz pronunsiashon aul the leterz ov “breakfast” (separait valeuz for *e* and *a* in the ferst silabel, pleez!), “whistle, debt,” etc., until he kolapst under the strain ov distingwishing the *ee* ov “speech” from the *ea* ov “speak,” the *tch* ov “witch” from the *ch* ov “which,” or the *-ssion* ov “passion” from the *-tion* ov “action,” and the *-cean* ov “ocean” from the *-sion* ov “tension.”

The werd “breakfast” remyndz us ov the klever yung man hoo diskuverd the seekret ov pronunsiashon reform. Aul eu hav tu doo iz tu giv fool (O.S. “full”!) valeu tu the unstrest silabelz. Apair-entli eu need not wuri about the strest silabelz. Thus, this klever yung man pronounst “breakfast” az “brekfaast,” and “twopence” az “tupens” (ryming with “sens”). It haz been sujested that a fiting punishment for reformerz ov this kynd wood be a perpeteual dyet ov “gri-led sau-sai-jez for brek-faast.”

The komonest kynd ov pronunsiashon reformer iz, houeever, not waid down by eni partikeular prinsipel or theori. Tu the kwestion “Whot iz good speech?” he haz a redi anser. It simpli amounts tu this: that hiz æn speech iz the troo standerd; deeviaishonz from it ar bound tu be rong. “Orthodoksi iz my doksi; heterodoksi iz uther peepel’z doksi.”

Eu kan not argeu with this kynd ov man (it iz aulmœst aulwaiz a man). The Editor ov THE PYONEER næz him wel. If eu ryt in a rashonal speling eu must adopt a definit atiteud az tu the spoeken langwij; eu must reprezent whot, so far az eu kan tel, iz the ordinari speech (nyther slipshod nor pedantik) ov edeukaited men and wimen. On meni points thair iz no disagreement ov eni kynd, but in a good meni kaisez thair iz markt unsertinti, and then the person ov pöntifikal infalibiliti in pronunsiashon gets hiz oportuniti

ov jumping on the Editor. We giv a feu instansez ov the varyeti found in edeukaited speech; in sum the reeder wil, perhaps, not hezitait in selekting the mor komon form, in uthertz he wil probabli be mor doutful.

Iz it "eether" or "yther"? "dékorus" or "dekórus"? "primer" or "prymer"? "parafin" or "parafeen"? "omnisiens" or "omnishiens"? "asœsiaishon" or "asœshiaishon"? "apreesiaishon" or "apreeshiaishon"? "mith" or "myth"? "marjereen" or "margereen"? "medzotint" or "metsotint"? "grandeur" or "granjer"? "feekund" or "fekund"? "tordz" or "tuwordz"?

We myt gœ on for a good long tym, but this wil sufys for our perpos, which iz tu remynd the reeder that thair iz, in our edeukaited speech, a grait deel ov absoleutli meeningles vairiaishon az wun ov the penaltiz we pai for our reched speling.

It iz aultugether feutyl tu think ov reforming our pronunsiation by substituteing Latin soundz or Elizabethan soundz for thoëz we nou hav. Our prezent langwij wel spœken iz az beutifool az English ever woz, in spyt ov the peepel hoo sai that our speech iz de-teerioraiting—that it iz nôt az good az it woz. It never woz, lyk "Punch."

Az a mater ov fakt a good kais myt be maid out for aserting that our edeukaited speech iz a good deel beter than it woz fifti tu wun hundred yêرز agœ; but it iz sufishent for us tu nôe, az we aul agree, that it iz beutifool when wel spœken.

"Wel spœken" implyz meni uthertingz besyd pronunsiation; but pronunsiation iz a veri important feeteur. A speeker mai hav ekselent vœkal organz and shoë boëth intelijens and feeling in whot he sez; yet our enjoiment ov hiz werdz mai be kompleetli spoilt if he pronounsez them in whot seemz tu us an afekted or a kairles or an unfamiliar maner.

If we wish, then, tu reform our pronunsiation we must studi veri kairfooli the praktis ov good speekerz in order tu lern whot iz thair nateural speech; and whair thair iz meeningles varyeti, such az haz been indikaited abuv, we shood stryv tu remoov it. This kan hardli be dun efektifli uthertingz than by a Komishon on Standerd Speech, the kreaishon ov which haz been repeetedli advokaited in thêez kolumz.

We began by kwœting Prof. Lounsbury, and we kan not konklood beter than by repeeting the werdz at the end ov hiz admirabel book on *The Standard of Pronunciation in English*:—

"Even the petiest aulteraishonz in the interest ov a meer

mekanical euniformiti meet with the sterdiest resistans. On this noel subjekt, indeed, thair iz no ignorans so profound and kompre-hensiv az that which envelops the myndz ov meni men ov leterz, if we kan juv ov the degree ov thair nolej by the karakter ov thair uteransez. It rekwyryz a far mor enlytend opinion than prevailz yet among the larj majoriti ov theez befor we kan look for the sukses ov eni efort tu kauz our tung tu aprœch eeven remœtli tu the fonetik ekselens ov Italian or Spanish or German. Yet, until that tym kumz, no smaul shair ov our lyvz wil be spent in the profitabel and eksyting okeupaishon ov konsulting dikshonariz, in the eekwali proñtabel and eksyting diskushon ov the pronunsiashon ov par-tikeular werdz, and in airing our opinionz and delivering our de-sizhonz upon points about which wun thurœli edeukaited man iz az good an authoriti az anuther, and nobodi iz an authoriti at aul."

"TEN YEARS OF ORGANIZED EFFORT FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING."

WE hav reseevd a leeflet with the abuv tytel, seting forth the werk ov the Simplified Spelling Board of America deuring the peeriod 1906-1916. It iz admirabli riten. We print belœ, in the speling adopted, too sekshonz which our reederz wil fynd eusfool for propa-ganda perposez :—

REASONS FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.

It wil—

1. Make English spelling more correct, scientifically and his-torically ;
2. Make it easier to spel correctly ;
3. Make the spelling lesson an aid, insted of an obstacle, to the development of the child's reasoning powers ;
4. Improve and tend to standardize pronounciation ;
5. Save time (and expense) in elementary education ;
6. Save time (and expense) in riting, typeriting, and printing ;
7. Remove the greatest barrier to the Americanization of our foren population ;
8. Remove the greatest barrier to the use of English as an inter-national language.

SOME COMMON OBJECTIONS ANSWERED.

1. Simplified spelling will not “cut us off from the literature of the past,” because the changes now proposed cause no difficulty in the reading of books printed in the present spelling. If more radical changes should later be adopted, scholars will easily learn the older spellings, as they do now; but the ordinary reader will always find everything that is worth preserving in English literature reprinted in the spelling of his time, as is the case to-day.

2. Simplified spelling will not “obscure the derivations of words,” much less will it “destroy” etymology, which the scholar knows without the spelling, and which means nothing to 99 per cent. of those who read and write English. Moreover, not only is the etymology of words often misleading as to their present meanings, but in many instances the present spelling is etymologically incorrect, as in “comptroller, delight, island, limb,” &c. Etymologists care nothing for “etymological” spelling. Prof. Skeat, the great English etymologist, said: “In the interests of etymology we ought to spell as we pronounce. To spell words as they used to be pronounced is not etymological, but antiquarian.”

3. When the new forms become familiar they will appear less “ugly” than the old, unreasonable forms. The literary dignity or propriety that we feel in certain word-forms is entirely a matter of visual habit and mental association.

4. It is not necessary for those whose spelling habits are fixed to burden themselves unduly by “learning a new method.” The chief advantage will be for our children and for future generations.

5. “Confusion”—different ways of spelling the same word—has always characterized English spelling. The dictionaries print thousands of words of which alternative spellings are given on equal authority. This confusion can be minimized if teachers and writers of English will use the simpler forms. Each simplification adopted into good usage reduces the total number of incongruities and helps to make our spelling more uniform and more rational than it was before. Even if the present confusion should temporarily increase, which is not probable, it would be a small price to pay for the ultimate gain.

6. The attempt is no more “artificial” than those other movements in the past which have made our spelling simpler—when “logique” was changed to “logic,” for example.

7. Those who “don’t like it” should not enforce their prejudices on those who wish to spell in accordance with reason and the laws of language.

“A DICTIONARY OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLING.”

THIS dikshonari haz been publisht by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls and kompyld by Mr. F. H. Vizetelly. It iz “based on the publications of the United States Bureau of Education, and the rules of the American Philological Association, and the Simplified Spelling Board.” Hou far theez roolz gœ iz indikaited in the introduktori pajjez. The majoriti refer tu the dropping ov unnesesari leterz, konsonants (e.g. “cach,” not “catch”; “eb,” not “ebb”) and vouelz (e.g. “fether,” not “feather”; “catalog,” not “catalogue”; “det,” not “debt”). Uther chainjez rekomended ar:—

For *o* having the sound ov *u* in “but” ryt *u*—e.g. “abuv, tung.”

Chainj *d* and *ed* tu *t* when so pronounst—e.g. “lookt,” unles the *e* afekts the preseedng sound—e.g. “chafed.”

Chainj *gh* and *ph* tu *f* when so sounded—e.g. “enuf, fonetic.”

Chainj *s* tu *z* when so sounded, espeshali in distinktiv werdz and in *-ise*—e.g. “abuze” (verb), “advertize.”

ae, æ, or e: chooz *e*—e.g. “esthetic, medieval.”

oe, œ or e: chooz *e*—e.g. “esofagus.”

-ence, or -ense: chooz *-ense*—e.g. “defense.”

-ew pronounst az long *u* aafter *l* or *r* or *ch*: chainj tu *u*—e.g. *clu, slu*.

-oe pronounst *o*: drop *e*—e.g. “fo, to.”

-ou befor *r*, pronounst lyk *u* in *burn*: drop *o*—e.g. “jurnal” (but “courage, flourish, nourish” ar left unchainjd).

-ow pronounst *o*: chainj tu *o*—e.g. “gro, belo, pillo (*-owed* bekumz *-oed, -ows* bekumz *-oes, -own* remainz—e.g. “floed, groes, grown.”)

“-some,” pronounst lyk “some,” bekumz *-sum, e.g. “burdensum.”*

-ue final, after *l* or *r*, pronounst lyk long *u*: chainj tu *-u, e.g. blu, clu*.

Theez chainjez ar undoutedli valeuabel az far az thai gœ, and remoov a number ov redundansiz and a feu inkonsistensiz. The real and grait difikulti ov the reprezentaishon ov the vouel soundz iz, houeever, hardli eeven aprœcht. The speling ov meni veri komon werdz duz not apeer at aul in this dikshonari: ov the fifteen werdz we hav just riten (“the speling . . . dikshonari”) not a singel wun iz given. On the uther hand, it kontainz meni such werdz az “antiputrefactive, stereochromosome,” theez too being inklooded bekauz ov a dropt *e* and *h* respektivli.

The stres iz aulso indikaited; but when we look up sum test werdz tu see whether American praktis agreez with ourz we ar disappointed, for we fail tu fynd “decorous, precedence, ptomaine,” and utherz which shood hav been inklooded.

We ar left wondering hoo wil deryv benefit from this dikshonari. Not

the children, for mœst ov the werdz in thair vokabeulari ar mising; and by implikaishon thai ar ekspekted tu gœ on ryting "done, gone, stone," and "my, buy, sigh," and "fern, fir, fur," and "made, laid, weighed," and aul the uther inkonsistent vouel notaishonz that konstituteut the cheef berden in our speling.

We ar driven tu supœz that thair must be a jeneuin dezyr amung syentifik werkerz tu nœ hou thai aut tu spel the werdz "fructificativ, fotosphere (*sic*), glyfografy, hydrocoumarin, ets., ets.," and that literari men ar kraiving for gydans az tu the proper form ov "goahedativness, inexpugnableness, mismanageabl, nonrespectabl, ets., ets."

In konkloozhon, we nœt with plezher that the kuver ov the book iz dezynd in imitaishon ov our œn booklet on *Simplified Spelling*, at which we feel much flaterd.

We think it wil be instruktiv for our reederz tu kompair a pasij transkrybd in our œn form ov Simplifyd Speling with the saim pasij in which aul chainjez ar maid that apeer in the *Dictionary of Simplified Spelling*. We chooz the begining ov "Dhe Baibz in dhe Wood," az printed in our *Ferst Reeder*. It wil be rememberd that the voist sound ov *th* iz thair riten *dh*; utherwyz it iz in akordans with our skeem az at prezent euzd in THE PYONEER.

Az soon az dhe faadher neu he kood not get wel, he began tu think whot kood be dun for his litel wunz. So he sent for hiz brudher, dhe children'z unkel. "Brudher," he sed, "my deer wyf iz ded, and I am dying. Taik kair ov my children, and teech dhem aulwaiz tu doo whot iz ryt." Dhen unkel promist tu doo so. Dhen dhe faadher bad dhe baibz good-by, and soon aafterwerdz dyd.

As soon as the father knew he coud not get wel, he began to think what coud be done for his litl ones. So he sent for his brother, the children's uncl. "Brother," he said, "my dear wife is ded, and I am dying. Take care of my children, and teach them always to do what is right." The uncl promist to do so. Then the father bad the babes good-by, and soon afterwards died.

THE KONFERENS OV TEECHERZ OV ENGLISH AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

FOR a hœl week in August teecherz ov English—klœs on too hundred—wer asembeld at Stratford-on-Avon tu diskus vairius aspekts ov thair werk. Thai had lekteurz from Mr. Drinkwater on "The Significance of the Drama," and from Mr. de la Mare on "Realism in Fiction." Thai had paiperz on the ydeal skool edishon ov Shakespeare (by Mr. Guy Kendall), on the literateur lesen (by Mis M. G. Jones), on the teeching ov reeding (by Mis N. Dale), on esai ryting in skoolz (by Mr. J. H. Fowler), and on egzaminaishonz in English (by Mr. Stanley Leathes); and Mr.

Rippmann spæc about "the studi ov fonetiks az an aid tu good speech," and gaiv hiz lekteur on "Our Living Langwij and its Ded Speling."

Our reederz wil be glad tu næ that the atiteud ov thæz present at the Konferens aforded fresh evidens ov the keen interest that the studi ov the spæken langwij iz arouzing amung aul hoo ar interested in the teeching ov English. The ænli rezoleushonz paast by the Konferens wer :

1. *That a test in the pouer ov reeding aloud, kleerli, intelijentli, and ekspresivli, shood be inklooded in aul egzaminashonz in English langwij and literateur up tu and inklooding thæz ov seenior standerd.*

2. *That, in order tu sekeur the kompetent teeching ov good speech in our skoolz, the studi ov the spæken langwij, baist on a sound nolej ov whot iz fundamental in fonetiks and vois produkshon, shood form an integral part ov eni kors ov training for teecherz in elementari and sekondari skoolz.*

Az far az wun kood juj, theez rezoleushonz represent the eunanimus opinion ov thæz present—at leest, no disenshent vois woz raizd. We mai regard this az a distinkt step forward.

The lekteur advokaiting a rashonal speling woz eekwali suksesfool. A nætwerthi number ov teecherz wer present, and at the end thair woz no opozishon ; indeed, meni bekaim memberz, and meni mor baut kopiz ov the "Ferst Reeder" and ov the "The Star."

It iz probabli the ferst tym that the kais for simplifyd speling haz been poot befor an audiens kompæzd cheefli ov teecherz ov English, and the resepsion serpaast our mæst sangwin antisipaishon. We ar begining tu kaast of the feterz ov the ded speling and tu rejois in the beuti ov the living langwij.



WIL UTHER BRAANCHEZ OV THE N.U.T. FOLGE SEUT ?

WE hav much plezher in printing the folceing rezoleushon reesentli reseevd :—

This meeting ov the Nottingham and Distrikt Braanch ov the N.U.T. iz ov the opinion that the atemt tu impart the present English speling involvz a graiv los ov tym and enerji without eni kompensaiting edeukaishonal gain, and in the interests ov eekonomi and efishensi in edeukaishon, it rezolvz tu giv enerjetik suport tu a petishon for the apointment ov a Roial Komishon tu inkwyr into the feezibiliti ov a reform ov English speling, and the best meenz ov bringing about such a reform.

ENGLISH HAZ THE FERST KLAIM.

[From the "Aberdeen Free Press."]

THE London Siti Korporaishon haz sent a rezoleushon tu the Bord ov Traid that it wood be ov imens valeu if wun langwij kood be rekognyzd az the komershal langwij and taut in aul skoolz, heer and abraud. It iz sujested that steps be taiken tu plais the mater befor the Alyz. In spyt ov the Esperanto entheuziasts, we inklyn tu think that English haz the ferst klaim. But English with a revyzd speling. Pözeshon iz nyn-tenths ov the lau, and the fakt that our langwij, the simplest and mæst direkt ov European tungz, iz spæken aul æver the werld iz an imens fakt in its faivor. It iz a hyli signifikant fakt that it woz euzd at the Konferens ov the Alyz sum tym agæ and not French, in spyt ov the fakt that the Konferens woz held in the French kapital. Numberz ov peepel hav been rekomending us tu lern Russian, the mæst difkult ov langwijez, az if such a herkeulean taask kood be performd by aul and sundri. No, it iz mor lykli that the Russians wil lern English than the uther wai about. Alyd with the propæzal tu hav an internashonal komershal langwij iz the rezoleushon ov the Kort ov Komon Kounsil tu adopt the metrik sistem ov waits and mezherz. Too grait reformz—the introdukshon ov the desimal sistem and a fonetik sistem ov speling—wood be an enormus gain for our children, and not for theez alæn, but for aul thoez hoo hav tu traid with us and euz our langwij. The end ov the Wor wil provyd a fit oportuniti for stok-taiking in vaiurus departments ov the nashonal lyf. Feu transend in komershal importans the too reformz aulredi menshond. The reformz stand waiting redi tu be taken in hand. Whair iz the reformer tu akomplish the taask?

SPELING REFORM AND ESPERANTO.

A KEEN suporter ov Esperanto ræt us an interesting leter the uther dai, in the kors ov which he sed: "I shoold lyk tu see English speling reformerz and English Esperantists werking in harmoni, and eech helping the uther. The Esperantists apreeshiait kleepli the valeu o speling reform, but if thai ar given the impreshon that English speling reform wil endainjer the sukses ov Esperanto az the internashonal langwij, thai wil stik tu Esperanto az being the mor important ov the too in thair yz. Why not join in werking for bæth:—Reformd speling for the benefit ov English-speeking peepel and aul hoo wood lyk tu lern English; Esperanto az the internashonal augziliari langwij? In the tym saivd tu peepel lerning English, by meenz ov reformd speling, thai kood fooli maaster Esperanto. Everiwun hoo lernz Esperanto reseevz a konvinsing demonstraishon ov the enormus advaantijez ov fonetik speling."

Nou it iz veri gratifying for us tu næ that the Esperantists apreeshiait kleepli the valeu ov speling reform, and we shal be veri glad if thai wil let that apreeshiaishon taik a tanjibel form by bekuming memberz ov our

Sosyeti. Why shood thai think that English speling reform wil endainjer the sukses ov Esperanto? Az far az we kan see, that kood ænli be if English, œing tu the simplifikaishon ov its speling, bekaim stil mor popeular than it iz az the langwij ov internashonal komeunikaishon. The Esperantists hav ofen taiken okaizhon tu point out hou graitle the jeneral spred ov English iz hamperd by our bad speling, a fakt we hav insisted upon again and again and ov which evidens reechez us from everi forin land.

We see no good reezon why the Esperantist shood not giv hiz suport tu our moovment; indeed, it iz hiz deuti, if he iz a Britishman, tu doo whot he kan tu improov the English langwij, and we ar tæld that he realizez that a reform ov the speling wood be an improovment. Why the benefits ov a rashonal speling wood be mæst direktli felt by our æn children, thai wood aulso ekstend tu the foriner. Duz our Esperantist korespondent objekt tu this rezult? No; but he sez: "If wun iz a troo paitriot wun aut aulso tu respekt the paitriotizm ov utherz, and for Englishmen tu try tu impœz English on uther peepel for the perposez ov internashonal interkors seemz tu me tu saivor ov the spirit ov shœvinizm rather than ov brotherhood."

Kwyt so. But if we improov our speling, duz this meen that we "try tu impœz" our langwij on the foriner? Eni atemt tu doo so wood obviusli be doomd tu faileur. But thair ar meni ov us hoo regard English az pozesing so meni intrinsik advaantijez that thair iz no need tu "impœz" it on eniwun. It haz maid its wai aulredi in a kwyt remarkabel maner; and if its speling wer rashonal it wood spred stil mor rapidli. We doo not beleev in kompulshon, but in peesfool penetraishon.

If we agreed tu our frend'z propœzal, and sjusted that the edeukaishon tym set free by the adopshon ov a rashonal speling shood be devœtet tu lerning Esperanto we shood komit ourselvz tr too opinionz:

1. That Esperanto, and not English, iz the dezyrabel langwij ov internashonal komeunikaishon;
2. That Esperanto iz the subjekt tu which our children shood devœtet the tym availabel when rashonal speling haz been introdeust.

We doo not think that we kan onestli rekomend our memberz tu adopt theez opinionz. We welkum memberz hoo hoeld theez veuz, az we welkum eniwun hoo wil suport our moovment; but we doo not think that our Sosyeti, az a hæl, wood be wel advydzd tu maik theez opinionz planks in its platform. We doo not wish tu eksklood thœz hoo beleev in the werldwyd ekstenshon ov English speech, or hoo dezyr the introdukshon ov uther reformz in our elementari edeukaishon. Thair ar meni hoo wood lyk tu devœtet the tym set free by redeusing the number ov ourz nou given tu speling lesonz, not tu Esperanto, but tu—English. We wont mor tym for teeching good English speech; for the reeding ov good literateur; for kompozishon. It iz English that, for meni ov us, haz the ferst klaim aul the tym.

TRANSATLANTIK TAILZ WITH A MORAL.

1.—FROM SPELING-BOOK TU JAIL!

WUN dai az Frank Thompson paast throo jail he sau a prizoner glaans at him and then aask the gard for privilej tu speak. Then the konvikt reecht for hiz hand, with teerz in his yz, and sed: "Hou doo eu doo, Frank? Dœn't eu remember eur œld seetmait, Tom Jones? Eu nœ I got tangeld up in speling, and teecher skœlded til I lost paishens, kerst the œld book and him too. He œverherd me, eu nœ, and beet me so that I left skool. That began mi dounwerd kareer. I went tu a distant start, and fel intu eevil kumpani. I went from bad tu wurs. Wun nyt several ov us went tu a raid. Wun poor felœ woz kild, and thai throo the blaim on me. I woz sent heer for lyf!"

2.—FROM SPELING-BOOK TU BANKRUPTSI!

When Thomas Brown atended skool he wonted tu studi book-keeping. But the teecher tœld him he must spend the tym on hiz speling lesonz, for book-keeping wood doo him nœ good unles he kood spel wel. So he kwit skool, and went tu help in hiz unkel'z grœseri. In a feu yeez he inherited the establishment. The stœr woz wel patronyzd, and apeerd tu prosper. He had tu depend entyrli on a hyrd akountant, hoo sylentli robd him, and "doktord up" the books. Brown did not nœ whot woz rong. Everi yeer he bekaim mor deepli involvd. At length, worn out and diskuriyd, he dyd ov feever. The book-keeper fled. The estait seeld for meni thousand dolarz les than lyabilitiz. The unforteenait famili woz left in wont.

KORESPONDENS.

MR. A. D. WILDE haz sent us this interesting nœt:—

I ryt tu kaul atenshon tu wun mor sad egzaampel ov the misfortunez that atend thœz hoo diskus speech-soundz without trubling tu akwyr the roodiments ov fonetiks. It iz tu be found in a seereez ov lekteurz on the Art ov Writing, delivred by Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, King Edward VII Professor of English Literature at Cambridge, and reesentli publisht az a book. He thair ryts (paj 140):

"Explore, next, what . . . to my mind stands the first, or almost the first, secret of beautiful writing in English. . . . I mean that inter-play of vowel sounds in which no language can match us. We have so many vowel sounds indeed, and so few vowels to express them, that the foreigner, mistaking our modesty, complains against God's plenty. We alone, for example, sound by a natural vowel that noble *I*, which other nations can only compass by diphthongs."

On this folœz the kwœtaishon, "Arise, shine, for thy light is come," ets., maiking it kleer whot sound iz intended. By the wai, this ydea ov the eksepshonal welth ov vouelz in English iz unfounded. Sweet's *Primer of Phonetics*, giving 18 for English, 15 for French, and 19 for German, iz sertinli not much out. But, leting this paas az a tuch ov aimiabel, tho uninstrukted patriotizm, whot ar we tu sai about the remark on "the noble *I*"? Being a definit speech-sound, that vowel iz yther whot iz kauld a

difthong, or not. Hou, then, kan it be sed that we sound it "by a natural vowel," whyl utherz "compass it only by diphthongs"? and whot iz thair unnatural in a difthong? The suspishon aryzez that the Professor iz deseved by the fakt that, whyl in uther langwijez, or at least in sum ov them, this sound iz reprinted by too leterz, e.g. in German by *ei*, in English it iz ofen reprinted by wun *œnli*, az in *mind* and *by*, and that suspishon iz dependintu konvikshon by whot foldez:

"Take another passage in which the first lift of this *I* vowel yields to its graver sisters as though the sound sank into the very heart of the sense. 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him: Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.' 'And am no more worthy to be called thy son.' Mark the deep o's."

The Professor poots in italiks the soundz tu be markt az "deep o's," and the first too ar no dout rytli kauld o'z, but ov the alejd o'z in *worthy* and *son* the former iz utherwyz spelt in *earth*, *birth*, *mirth*, *further*, and *myrtle*, and wood he kaul it an *o* in aul theez? At aul events, it iz not wun, but iz probabli best kauld the undenocted vowel, sins no wun ov the fyv or siks vowel leterz properli belongz tu it, and it iz konsekwentli, or inkonsekwentli, spelt with aulmœst eni ov them. Its orijin iz probabli not in eni ov the vouelz at aul, but in the silabik eus ov *r*, but this iz mater ov opinion, and I doo not stait it az fakt. The vowel ov *son* and *sun* mai perhaps be reezonabli deskrybd az a kynd ov *u*, but mor trooli it iz a kynd ov *æ*: in nyther kais iz it an *o*. And, whyl he rongli marks theez soundz az o'z, the Professor œverlooks the fakt that the vowel ov *called* iz az "deep" an *o* az eni. He iz misled by the speling, and the much tu be regreted fakt iz manifest that we hav a Professor ov English Literature so il instruktet in the soundz ov the langwij az not tu hav paast that ferst esenshal step in fonetiks, the komplet mental separaishon ov Sound and Syn.

THE ENGLISH FONETIK ALFABET.

From Mr. W. J. YOUNG, ov Harston, Cambridge, we hav reseved the folcœng leter:—

Since you invite criticism of this Alphabet I venture to send you the following:—The alphabet has a little to recommend it in that is an attempt at Reform, and is not mere irrational Simplification. For instance, in *The Two Frogs ai* is correctly used to represent the sound heard in "Kaiser" and in "aisle," and not a sound for which it has no affinity, as in the Simplified Spelling. It is clearly ridiculous to teach children the fact that the vowel sound heard in "shine" is a diphthong of the two in "machine," and then to tell them that this sound is to be written with a *y* and the diphthong *ai* used for something quite different. Again, *au* is used correctly, as in Greek, Latin, and German, for the sound heard in "round"; this contrasts favorably with its unphonetic use in Simplified Spelling.

But the alphabet is redundant, since there already exist simpler and better modes of expressing the sounds in English. Of the vowel signs the double *a* (*aa*) of Simplified Spelling is readier and more obvious than the new letter; the same is also true of *ie*, *œ*, and *ee* for the sounds in "chief," "note," and "fête" (cp. also "Beethoven"), for many people habitually write *e* in Greek fashion, *e*; the new letter for *u* is needless and liable to be confused with *r* in writing. The new consonants give us nothing of value, whilst they take away much; *th* and *dh* are phonetically correct and all that we need for "thin" and "then"; *ng* is more certain in its outline than the new form and good enough for all practical purposes, whilst *sh*, *zh*, and *ch* are perfectly sound and present no difficulty to child or foreigner. The suggestion about the saving of money fails to take into account the enormous cost of adding these twelve new forms in all kinds and sizes of type in every printing office, not only in this country and the other English-speaking lands, but also everywhere

where English is printed. The *argumentum ad hominem* tells the other way.

In the case of three other symbols the advantages do not rest with the phonetic alphabet. *eu*, which years ago I strongly advocated to the S.S.S., and which it has at last adopted, is decidedly better than the fearsome wildfowl suggested. *ou*, for the sound heard in "soup" has in its favour ancient and modern Continental and also English usage; its use in Simplified Spelling is arbitrary and improper, but there is no need at all to burden homeborn and foreigner with a new letter for the sound it so universally represents. As to the sound heard in "all," Simplified Spelling is phonetically irrational in writing this diphthong *au*, but since it is a diphthong whose elements already exist in our alphabet, a new letter for it is both redundant and mistaken. This sound is a combination of those heard in "top-hat," and it is found giving its correct diphthongal value in the word "broad"; *oa*, therefore, ought to be used for this sound.

I say nothing of the many side effects on native and foreigner of having to learn and to use 38 instead of the 26 letters of Mid and West Europe; neither will I dilate on the possible consequences to the legibility of our handwriting. But, if we take into consideration the typewriter and the whole mechanism of business—indexing, &c.—even the most enthusiastic must realize how undesirable and impossible is the scheme. To add fresh signs to those already in use in a language is altogether too serious a matter to be lightly undertaken; nothing save proved necessity can justify such a course. The phonetic alphabet neither proves the need for new signs, nor satisfies the requirements of true spelling reform.

Spelling reform is a crying need, but it should above all things be rational; it cannot be right to seek orthographical salvation by such means as those offered us in the phonetic alphabet. Like an ancient king of Israel, this alphabet has "departed without being desired"; if, indeed, it be true that "no better scheme has yet been suggested," it is simply because none is needed.

[Az our reederz wil not fail tu see, thair iz sum keurius konfeuzhon ov thaut in this leter az regardz kritisizmz ov the S.S.S. skeem. In edeukaited speech the vouel sound herd in "shine" iz *not* a difthong ov the too in "machine," and the sound ov S.S. *au* iz *not* "a kombinaishon ov thoez herd in 'top-hat,'" which woud be a feersom kombinaishon indeed. Why the S.S. *eu* ov *ou* shood be "arbitrari and improper," and that ov *ee* komendabel, iz not at aul kleer. If eu wuns admit the dygraaf az a eusfool ekspeedient, then eu hav no mor kauz for objekting tu the S.S. *eu* ov *ou* or *ai* than tu that ov *ie* or *ee* or *sh* or *th*.]

A KRITISIZM OV SUR ISAAC PITMAN'Z ALFABET.

(Ritn akoordiq tw dhi Alfabet kxld "British.")

VOWELZ.

at far met mate kin keen him not note up pull pool awe.
a aa e ee i y i o oo u w ww x

KONSONANTS.

c, dh, q, az in "chance, then, sing" = "cans, dhen, siq."

Xl udhur konsonants az in O.S.; inishal *w* in "wwd, wwl," etc., aktiq az e konsonant. N.B.—Laks *i*, az in "him, iz dotles. "I" az in O.S.

Dheer aar no eksephshunz tw abuv rrwlwz.

Pitman'z alfabet for dhi present purpusiz ov rifoormd speliq iz ov no vali, on akownt ov its 12 streenj simbolz. Pleeisq foor difthoqz amuq dhi leturz ov dhi alfabet iz e disturbiq eliment and ov no iws; dhe fxl nacurali intw dheer pleesiz in foormiq wurdz. Dhi skym haz no simbol tw reprizent dhi laks *i* sownd, e sownd rekognaizd in dhi *Modern English Dictionary*. Dhi furst letur in dhi sampl iz e difekshun from dhi fonetik prinsipl. Whai not rait *e* insted ov *a*? It konteenz ridundansi. Dhi *w* in "hwic" and *u* in "fiu" hav dhi seem vali; dhi *e* in "w@ter" and *u* in "jump" xlso.* Whai shwd e bi pwt in "jurneing"?

* This iz the best we kan doo, not having the presys simbolz.

If it iz e part ov dhi skym, it iz e greev fxl't. In dhi wurd "wud" *w* and *u* hav dhi seem valiw. I am hapi tw infoorm dhi Rev. Mr. Knowles dhat suc inkonsistensiz dw not okur in dhi "British" skym. In kees dhat I or eniwun els shwd dizaur tw meek dhis e skym ov wun sownd wun simbol, it me bi dun bai introdwiq ten niw simbolz, Pitman'z rikwaiurz thurtyn. I thiqk dhi abuv iz sutfisht tw sho dhat Pitman'z skym iz not dhi moost purfekt iet invented.

Freire, Chile.

HUGO DAVIS.

NETS AND NEUZ.

The membership ov the Sosyeti nou numberz 2671.

Ser William Ramsay.

We rekord with greef the deth ov Ser William Ramsay. Ov hiz faim az a grait kemist it iz not for us tu speek; but we shal ever bair him in graitfool memori for the hœlharted suport he gav the moovment for speling reform, in which he took the mœst earnest and inteligent interest, az our reederz wer aibel tu gather from hiz valeuabel kontribeushonz tu the PYONEER.

The Neglekt ov Syens.

"Nothing proovz mor konkloosivli the lak ov the syentifik point ov veu in the British naishon than the prezent kondishon ov its orthografi." Dr. Macan, at the Konferens on Neu Ydealz in Edeukaishon (Oxford, August, 1916).

G = g or j.

Let the folœing point its œn moral. A yung laidi boested the naim ov Gillies. The profesor red her naim az Jillies. She protested, but in vain. "G befor *i* iz soft," deklaird the profesor. If wun aith ov a kwort iz a "jill," whot iz a fish'z "gill"? Thœz sent tu the "gibbet" wer by no meenz soft, but whot karakter iz a "gimlet," or shal we sai "jimlet"? Whot sound shoold be given tu "giddy," and whot tu "ginger"? If a gilt-wheeld gig iz tu be prezentet tu an Eestern pœtentait, shooldn't "gilt" and "gig" be pronounst "jilt" and "jig"? If not, why not? Iz a yung wooman ov the peeriod a "jirl" or a "girl"?—bairing in mynd that *g* iz soft befor *i* in meni werdz. But ofen a chyld, and sumtymz a profesor, iz maid tu look soft when he mispronounsez werdz abserdli spelt. Ar not tym and muni waisted œver such a sistem ov speling?—HENRY DRUMMOND.

The "œ" Ligateur.

Such ekspreshonz ov opinion az we hav reseevd ar in the main faivorabel tu this ligateur. The advaantij lyz in the eus ov wun syn insted ov too, which iz aulwaiz a simplifikaishon, in ryting az wel az in printing. Morœver, it rekwyryz no fresh typ. Sum ov our reederz hav sujested that we myt in the saim wai maik eus ov œ, substitueing it for *ai*; uthertz hav eeven gon so far az tu wish us tu euz the Greek ω in plais ov œo.

The "oo" Difkulti.

In reesent numberz ov THE PYONEER we hav euzd *oo* for the long az wel az the short sound, just az we euz *eu* for the long and short soundz in "teun" and "regeular" respektivli. It apeerz tu giv litel trubel. The œnli kaiseiz in which ambeiguiti aryzez iz in the pairz which in the œld speling apeer az "full, fool," "pull, pool," "wood" (or "would"), "woed." We aulso hav tu plead gilti tu kontineuing tu spel the O.S. "to" az "tu"; it wood be aukwerd tu euz "too" heer, az we hav tu euz this for O.S. "too" and "two."

Fynal "o" or "œ" ?

We ryt "o, no, so" (and thairfor "aulso"), az theez ar werdz which hav no relaitet inflektet formz; but we ryt "grœ, wilœ," etc., bekauz thair ar aulso

such formz az "grœz, wilœz." This leedz tu "No, I did not nœ it," which looks inkonsistent; and sumthing mai be erjd in faivor ov ryting œ everiwhair, eeven in "œ, nœ, sœ."

A Neu Speling.

The "Yorkshire Telegraph and Star" the uther dai reported the kais ov a gerl charjd with steeling several "nine-carrot" ringz. We hav herd ov the good red gœld, but this vejetairian deskripshon iz novel. The saim report stais that the gerl woz "obtained in kustodi"—not a bad malapropizm.

Az in the daiz ov Nehemiah.

"Lyk aul moovments it haz gon throo vairius stajez ov opozishon. When Nehemiah woz reebilding the wauld ov Jerusalem, he went throo three ov theez stajez, and thai ar fairli tipikal—abeus, ridikeul, and a wilingnes tu parli. The 'Simplified Spelling Board' haz had the abeus, it haz had the ridikeul, but it iz nou priti wel in the staj whair sensibel peepel ar wiling tu parli and konfer. The Board iz no infalibel groop ov men with an yron-klad prœgram and an egzekeutiv pover tu poot that prœgram intu efekt. It iz a groop ov men, eminent in arts and leterz and syens, hoo ar earnestli trying tu bring about sum mezher ov lojik and regeulariti intu the kaios ov our English orthografi." Mr. de Witt C. Croissant, General Field Agent of the Simplified Spelling Board.

Support from South Africa.

From the "Rand Daily Mail" ov August 11 we lern that the Transvaal Teachers' Association reesentli paast the folœing rezoleushon :—

That in the opinion ov the Transvaal Teachers' Association no ytem ov edukaishonal reform iz ov mor importans than a reesonabel simplifikaishon ov English speling; that the need for such reform iz speshali felt by the teeching profeshon ov South Africa; that this Association beleevz that modifikaishonz kood be maid in the prezent sitem which wood rektify its werst deefekts without mateeriali transforming the riten langwij.

NEU MEMBERZ.

Aneual Memberz.

Kernel Ser William Serjeant, C.B., St. Benet's Abbey, near Bodmin, Cornwall.

Mrs. Dorothy Dick, Old Brewery House, Stratford-on-Avon.
Dora F. Kerr, P.O. Box 565, Kelowna, B.C., Canada.
Schumpeter, St. Margaret's, Hewlett Road, Cheltenham.
Jessie M. Wood, Wyards, Banbury Road, Stratford-on-Avon.

Misez L. C. Tindal Atkinson, Hoswell Grammar School for Girls, Launceston, Cornwall.

Annie P. Barrie, Benthill, Bent Road, Hamilton, Scotland.
Winifred G. Brown, The High School, Monmouth.
D. E. Coutts, Secondary School, Croxley Green, Herts.
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Rosalind Wartens, 43 Queen's Road, Alton, Hants.

Mesrz. James Chayton, Chile, South America.
Edward Copley, B.Com., 19 Derby Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport.
Stewart Dick, Shakespeare Memorial, Stratford-on-Avon.
B. Vosnjak, 16 Granville Place, Portman Square, W.

Guner Beresford Montagu, 44715, R.F.A., B.E.F., France.

PRES KUTINGZ.

Joon, Jooly, and August.

LETETZ THURCELI IN SIMPATHI WITH SPELING REFORM wer publisht in : Aberdeen Free Press (3 leterz), Bedford Record (3 leterz), Hull Daily Mail, Newcastle Journal, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Yorkshire Post.

ARTIKELZ STRONGLI ADVOKAITING SPELING REFORM apeerd in : Aberdeen Free Press (leeder and artikel), Commercial Education, London Teacher, Modern Language Teaching (2 artikelz), Oregon Teachers' Monthly, Pitman's Journal, School World, Spectator, Staffordshire Teachers' Yearbook, The Varsity.

REFERENSEZ TU SIMPLIFYD SPELING wer maid in the foløeing paiperz : Daily Sketch, School Government Chronicle, Scotsman, Sydney Bulletin, Yorkshire Herald.

DEURING the Konferens ov Teecherz ov English, held at Stratford-on-Avon, Prof. Rippmann maid a konvinsing plee for Speling Reform, which woz reported in Birmingham Post. A nøetis aulso apeerd in the Newspaper World konserning hiz reesent remarks tu the Publicity Club ov London on the dezyrabiliti ov reform.

THE foløeing jernalz gav prominens tu the fakt that Speling Reform haz reesentli been diskust by vairius Edeukaishon Authoritiz : Dudley Herald, Newcastle Journal, Rand Daily Mail, School Government Chronicle, South Wales Daily News, Western Press, Wolverhampton Express and Star.

ARTIKELZ ON THE PRONUNSIASHON OV ENGLISH wer publisht in Birmingham Post, Child, Schoolmistress, School World, Star.

SPEHAL ARTIKELZ konserning the deth ov Ser William Ramsay and hiz advokasi ov speling reform wer nøeted in : Daily Mail, Glasgow Herald, Manchester Guardian, Newspaper World, Times, Westminster Gazette.

GRATIFYING REVEUZ OV the sekond edishon ov the *Ferst Reeder* wer given in : A. M. A., Child, Highway, Secondary Education, Teachers' Times.

IN komenting on the Joon number ov THE PYONEER, the "Educational News" sez : "This number iz so interesting that wun kood wish tu see a kopi sent tu everi skool. Kritisizmz and sujestionz abound, and sum troothz euzheuali ignord ar freeli ventilaited."

 EDITORIAL NØET.

IT haz been desyded tu publish THE PYONEER kworterli until pees iz restord. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PYONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti. The aneual subskripshon for Asøeshiat Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Aktiv Memberz a minimum ov fyv shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

Reederz ar erjd tu aply for leaflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosyeti. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent by the Sekretari ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

AMONG your friends and acquaintances there are thinking people
who care for

Efficiency and Economy in Education

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM

*whether any of the following objections to a reform of the spelling
have occurred to them :—*

- O 1. It would interfere with the growth of the language and obscure the derivation of words.
- O 2. To give the same spelling to such words as *right*, *write*, and *rite* would lead to confusion.
- O 3. A spelling according to the sounds assumes the existence of a standard speech, which we do not possess.
- O 4. Language constantly changes, and a spelling in accordance with the sounds would be always changing, which would be intolerable.
- O 5. The present spelling is beautiful, and any change would make it ugly.

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM

*whether they have realized the following advantages that would
result from the adoption of a rational spelling :—*

- A 1. Much of the child's brief education time would be saved.
- A 2. Spelling would be taught in a reasonable way.
- A 3. The teaching of our language and literature would be improved; other school subjects would also benefit.
- A 4. The English language would spread rapidly throughout the Empire, and might become the language for universal intercourse.

YOU SHOULD ANSWER THEM

*by using the arguments that by this time are doubtless familiar to
you; or, if you prefer it, send a post card to the Assistant Secre-
tary, S.S.S., 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C., asking for
one or all of the pamphlets in our Objections Series (O1—O5) and
our Advantages Series (A1—A4), which deal briefly but convin-
cingly with all the points that have been enumerated.*

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