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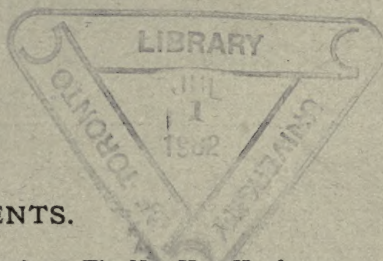
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no.8

Vol. III, No. 8. DESEMBER 1914.

Pries 2d.

THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.



KONTENTS.

The Historikal Standpoint—and the uther.—The Nyu Yeer Konferens.
— The Popyular Apeel. — A Faksimile ov the Nyu Speling. — The
Moast Dainjerus Kritik ov Simplifyd Speling iz the Dyakritik.—
Ideaz for Promoeting the Petishon. — Our Fieting Lien. — Kore-
spondens. — Noets and Nyuz. — Pres Kutingz. — Editorial Noet.

PUBLISHT BI THE
SIMPLIFIED SPELING SOSIETI,
44 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

The Traid suplied bi
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT, & CO.,
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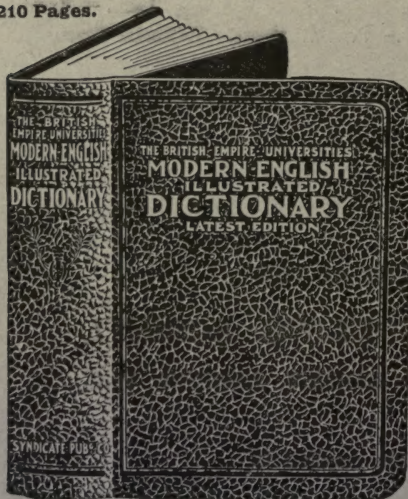
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CONTAINS ARTICLES ON SPELLING REFORM.

THE PIONEER

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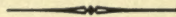
THE HISTORIKAL STANDPOINT—AND THE UTHER.

SUM tiem agoe our esteemd kontemporari "Modern Language Teaching" publisht tuu veri long artiklz bi Mis Bremner which nominali delt with the reform ov English speling, but insidentalitucht on meni uther thingz. In the Juun number Prof. R. A. Williams haz a breek but teling anser. Insted ov persyuing Mis Bremner along the meni siedtraks he just shoez hou tipikal she iz ov the *a priori* kritiks; and hou litl she apreeshiaits the historikal standpoint. Forsibli he points out "the inability or unwilingnes ov thoez hu hoeld the *a priori* standpoint tu distingwish between tuu thingz, which for a historikal obzurveer must be entierli diferent—naimli, the English langwij and English speling." He diskusez the prezent atityud ov the larj majoriti ov edyukaited English peepl, and rietli deklairz that "befor we kan diskus the kwestion ov speling reform, we must hav a diskushon and justifikaishon ov the respektiv standpoints." The konkluzhon ov Prof. Williams'z admirabl artikl we giv in ful:

"Az an uphoelder ov the historikal standpoint, I mai remark that the kais iz a veri simpl wun. Tu us langwij iz a form ov soeshal tradishon, which, liek aul uther formz—*e.g.*, politikal instityushonz, lauz, and kustomz—must be konseevd az the produkt ov historikal development. That iz a pozitiv vju. The opozit—the *a priori* vju—iz at botom a negativ wun, which konsists priemarili in a negaishon ov the historikal wun. The burden ov dispruiving our afurmativ thairfor faulz upon the suporterz' ov the *a priori* standpoint.

"It iz much tu be dezierd that the adheerents ov the laast-menshond standpoint kood be indyust tu giv a rashonal akount ov

thair faith. I konfes I hav strong douts that this wil, houeever, be the kais. It iz a mater ov ekspeeriens that thoez hu hoeld a relijus beleef meerli az a mater ov unegzamind tradishon, hu hav never konshusli reflekted on its groundz, ar yuzhyuali veri intolerant ov relijus diskushonz. Thair beleef iz bekum for them instinktiv, and eni atemt tu egzamin or justifie it konshusli iz painful tu them. Much the saim hoeldz good in lingwistik materz. The *a priori* atityud haz bekum instinktiv thru long habit. We hav a good ilustraishon in the artikl on 'The Speling Sosieti.' The rieter kwoets an egzaampl ov urli speling, and admits that the speling haz ofen aulterd. She duz not inkwier, houeever, whot liet this throeze on the relaishon between speling and langwij. It iz enuf for her that uther formz than thoez tu which she iz akustomd maik her subkonshusli long tu pool the printer'z eerz. Our prezent sistem haz her instinktiv apruual, and she kan not konseev that whot she instinktivli apruuvz mai not dezurv her apruual. Bekauz she kan not apruuv ov the Sosieti'z printed formz, she stielz them a speesheeze ov Josh Billings' English, aultho, az a mater ov fakt, thai represent—veri suksesfuli for the moest part—the saim English az she emploiz herself, with the aded advaantij that thai represent it az it iz reali spoeken bi the majoriti ov edyukaited peepl, and not az it yust tu be spoeken three or for hundred yeezr agoe, which in the main iz aul the sistem she apruuvz kan akomplish. This konsideraishon, houeever, which iz a waiti wun tu the historikal styudent, kan not wai with the *a priori* reezoner in the leest. For the later, the aksepted printed formz duu not, az shoen abuv, represent spoeken wurdz at aul, or oenli duu so, az it wer, aksidental. For him thai represent iedeaz, and he kan not konseev that an Englishman shood be aibl tu ekspres hiz iedeaz with eni fitnes or grais eksept thru the meedium ov theez veri riten or printed formz, and no utherz. For him theez printed formz ar a kolekshon ov simbolz which, bi sum misteerius, non-analiezabl proeses, hav bekum asoesiaited with iedeaz. The meer fakt that this asoesiaishon iz so misteerius tu him must fil him with the reverens which everi misteri eksiets; and natyurali, thairfor, the simbolz which hav wuns enterd intu such a konekshon must seem tu him sakrosankt. For him thai ar indeed a wunder, and no wun hu beleevz a wunder iz wiling tu admit that a sekond wunder kan taik its plais."



THE NYU YEER KONFERENS.

INVITAISHON TU THE SIMPLIFIED SPELING MEETING.

WE antispait a good audiens—fit and not fyu—at the Simplified Speling Sosiety's meeting which will form part ov the grait Konferens ov Edyukaishonal Asoesiaishonz tu be held in the Yuni-vursiti ov London, Imperial Institute Road, South Kensington, S.W., from Mundai, Janyuari 4, tu Saterdai, Janyuari 9.

The Prezident this yeer wil be Bishop Welldon, Deen ov Manchester, wun ov our Vies-Prezidents. Our oen meeting will be held in the Jehangier Hall on Tyuzdai, Janyuari 5, at 2.30 p.m.

Speekerz: Prof. Gilbert Murray iz tu taik the chair, and short adresez wil be deliverd bi Mr. William Archer, Mr. Walter Rippmann, Prof. Mark Hunter, Miss Lucy Silcox, Hed Mistres ov the St. Felix Skuul; Mr. John Perkins, Hed Maaster ov the Sur John Cass Foundaishon Skuul. London memberz ar shuur tu be in thair multityud. We urj eech wun tu bring an unkonvurted frend.

The prinsipal railwai kumpaniz hav been aproecht, and it iz ekspektet that thai wil undertaik tu graant tu memberz ov the Konferens return tikets tu London, availabl from Janyuari 2 tu 9, at a singl fair and a thurd, on prezentaishon ov a voucher at the booking ofis. Voucherz kan be obtaind oenli from the Konferens Sekretari. Aplikaishon for theez shood be maid az suun az posibl, and must be akumpanid bi a stampt adrest enveloep.

Programz ov the Konferens ar being isyud with this number ov **THE PIONEER**. We urj our memberz tu order a kopi ov the report, which wil be a liebrari ov informaishon on aul edyukaishonal subjekts. Laast yeer'z woz much apreeshiaited and woz veri kwikli soeld out.

THE POPYULAR APEEL.

Bi A. R. WILLIAMS.

WE ar in dainjer, in the Simplified Speling Sosiety, ov luuzing siet ov our moest important aim: getting Simplified Speling adopted yunivursali.

The sukses ov no politikal parti iz so dependent upon popyular sufrij az that ov the S.S.S., but we duu not aulwaiz akt up tu that konsideraishon.

Moest ov us hu joint the S.S.S. did so for demokratik reezonz. We thaut ov langwij az the everidai konkomitant ov lief, az sumthing free and unlimited, tu be yuzd with az much eez az breathing in air. But we sau that the eez ov respiraishon woz laking, and in Simplified Speling woz a meenz for remuuving the obstaklz tu popyular fasilitiz in tauking and rieting.

Dyuring the laast three yeerz meni wonderful skeemz ov speling reform hav apeerd in THE PIONEER. Thai hav been ekstremli interesting tu thoez hu, noing sumthing ov the teknikalitiz, kood understand, but thai wer Greek tu the uninishiaited. Such skeemz stand no chaans ov akseptans. No adults wood look at them twies; no edyukaishonal authoritiz wood konsent tu thair being taut; and printerz, and aul interested in alied traidz, wood not skrap milionz ov poundz' wurth ov masheeneri and mateerial renderd obsoleet bi a deviezd alfabet ov nyu formz.

Eni skeem ov reform, tu gain popyular akseptans, must be baist on the egzisting alfabet, and must maik strongli for simplifikaishon. The naim ov the "Simplified Speling Sosieti" shood be printed with the wurd "Simplified" at leest ten tiemz the siez ov the uthertz.

We ar triing tu duu sumthing tu eez the mental burden ov fortiefv milionz ov peepl hu hav litl formal edyukaishon, and that veri elementari, hu hav never given thair oen langwij a seerius thaut, and huuz lievz ar taiken up with wurk (ofen laborius and for long ourz), rest, rekreaishon, and domestik ameenitiz. At prezent moest English peepl speek, reed, and spel aukwerdli. We wont them, az thai duu themselvz, tu konvurs, reed, and riet with eez and pozitiv plezher.

The histori ov the langwij; the vairid spelingz ov English thru the sentyuriz; the laiborz ov Skeat, Pitman, Ellis, and uthertz; forin langwijez; English az the internashonal tung; fonetiks—aul thoez thingz that we reed about in our PIONEER, and in which we memberz ov the S.S.S. ar so interested, trubl not the man in the street. He wonts the simplest and the moest fasiel meenz availabl for interkors, and no elaborait skeem wil ever reech him.

It mai be sed: The eksperts shood deviez a lojikal skeem, with a komprehensiv alfabet, liek the internashonal wun, baist on fonetiks, and the peepl wil hav tu yuz it. Ye fuulz and bliend! Az if eksperts ever kood infloovens popyular speech! Langwij iz a nashonal karakteristik, az kontroelabl bi eksperts az the lieking for beer or footbaul. Eksperts mai maik sum syuperfishal diferensez,

yet behoeld the yunivرسالiti ov dialekt in the British Isles. Whot hav the pundits dun tu eliminait this? The grait dainjer iz that the authoritiz mai wieden the breech between edyukaited and un-edyukaited tauk. We wont the speech ov aul klaasez tu be the saim—eekwali good.

The fienal arbiterez ov pronunsiaishon ar the wurking klaasez, and thoez wel akwainted with them noe whot blunderz thai maik when pronounsing English az at prezent printed, and hou ignorant thai ar ov the aksepted formz ov speling.

The remedi for this iz a simpl, kleen-kut sistem ov speling wurdz az sounded, baist upon spoeken English, oral teeching, kleeer speeking, and fonetiks. It must be teechabl in the ait or nien yeeرز ov the chield'z priemari-skuul lief. The egzisting no-sistem iz not.

If the skeem reali duz simplifie, it wil suun be in komon yuzij—not utherwiez. The yus ov "color, theater, program," ets., iz bekuming prevalent bekauz peepl ar geting yust tu seing them, and, wuns thai get familiar with simplified formz ov aul wurdz, thai wil kwikli seez upon and yuz them.

Probabli the best propaganda pamflet yet isyud bi the S.S.S. woz *The Star*, bi H. G. Wells. Sum mor interesting literatyur in Simplified Speling wood advaans our kauz wunderfuli among peepl hu ar unaibl tu apreeshiait reezond argyuments for it.

It iz tu be hoept that on the lienز ov simpl, popyular propaganda the Simplified Speling Sosieti wil progres.

Wuns we kan get a spelt-az-sounded plan ov English befor reederز ov peeriokalز and books, taut in skuulز together with good speech and fonetiks, adopted bi printerز, regarded az the standerd, and yuzabl bi aul, then we shal be on the wai tu maiking English a veehikl ov thaut and ekspreshon beter eeven than it iz nou, aulbeit eezier.

Let us keep kleeerli befor us the rekwierments ov surtin peepl—children, forinerز lurning English, non-British memberز ov our Empier, and the milionز ov peepl hu hav litl tiem for intelektuyal materز, tu huum Simplified Speling wood be a godsend.

Wun point in our faivor iz that the wurkerز ar not burdend with pedantik skruuplz; wuns thai ar konvurted tu Simplified Speling, thai wil yuz it with thuroenes and zest.

Propaganda, lektyurz, literatyur, shood be direkted tu that wun end—the simplifikaisjon and popyularizaishon ov a fonetik standerd ov English speech and speling.

A FAKSIMILE OV THE NYU SPELING,

YUZZ IN THE SPESIMEN OV EGZAMINAISHON PAIPERZ (1914) SET TU KANDIDAITS FOR SURTIN
SITYUAISHONZ IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

Nœ person hoo livz in thi fiev tounz ever thinks about thi kounti hee livz in. Hee ignoerz thi kounti, sav that hee yooziz it sumtiemz az a leg-strecher on holidai aafternoonz, az a man mai yooz hiz bak garden. Thi distrikt haz nuthing in komon with thi kounti; it iz richli sufishent in itself. Nevertheless, its self-sufishensi and thi tro sault saiver ov its lief kan oenli bee apreeshiatid bie piktyering it hemb in bie thi kounti. Thi fiev tounz seem too kling together for saifti. Yet thi iedea ov klinging together for saifti wood maik them laaf. Thai ar yoneek and indispensabl bikauz yoo kanot drink tee out ov a teekup, yoo kanot eet a meel in deesensi without thair aid. Thi evridai krokeri yoozd in thi kingdum iz aul mäd in thi fiev tounz—aul, and much bisiedz. A distrikt kaipabl ov such jiegantik manycofaktyer, ov such a perfekt monopoli—which fiendz enerji olsœ too prodyos koel and iearn and grat men—mai bee an insignifikant stän on a kounti, konsiderd jeeografikali, but it iz shoorli wel justified in treeting thi kounti az its bak garden wuns a week, and in bliendlü ignoering it thi rest ov thi tiem.

We ar enaibld tu reprodyus this bi the kurtesi ov the Controller ov His Majesty's Stationery Office from
huum permishon haz been obtained.

THE MOAST DAINJERUS KRITIK OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING IZ THE DYAKRITIK.

WHEN the Simplifyd Speling skeem woz launcht sum too and a haaf yerz agow, the need for the eelizhon ov leterz and the eus ov a dyakritik seemd indispensabl. The diskushonz which sins then hav apeerd in THE PIONEER almoast leed to the hoap that it mai be posibl to avoid theez devysez entyerli by maiking sum further ajustment to the skeem. This kontineud kritisizmz mai at furst syt apeer az a kondemnaishon ov the sistem. But in reealiti it iz not so, az its endeurans iz a proof ov its beeing a praktikal instrooment which wil yet, I hoap, kroun its kreeaitorz with faim. It afordz no litl plezher to studi the veuz and kritisizmz apeering in THE PIONEER, espeshali upon this kwestion ov eelizhon ov leterz and the dyakritik.

In referens to this subjekt I wood lyk to remynd memberz ov the staitment maid by Dr. Carruthers on paj 154, Desember PIONEER, 1913, whair he saiz : " Mi impreshon iz that nun ov euer korespondents haz braut out kleerli that the week spot ov the prezent sistem iz the eelizhon ov the fynal *e* in the dygrafs *ee*, *ie*, and *oe*." He aulso refurz, on the saim paj, to another korespondent, Mr. Dunton, hoo, so far bak az the Joon PIONEER, 1913, paj 86, rekomendz the kanselaishon ov aul roolz that alou ov modifikaishon ov a dygraf. Mr. Sexton aulso in hiz skeem (last November PIONEER) advokaits the eus ov *oa* insted ov the prezent *oe*, bekauz the former maiks the eus ov a dyakritik unnesesari.

The retenshon ov this undesyerabl feecher iz surtin to retard the akseptans ov the skeem so much that I am inklynd to think that the moast dainjerus kritik ov Simplified Speling iz the dyakritik.

If this devys kood be remoovd, it wood in itself be a grait simplifikaishon ov the sistem, and besydz, wood gow veri far toardz maiking it popeular with the "kidiz," and helping to braik doun the prejoodis ov that moast konservativ peep in the wurd—their graniz.

I think memberz wil be the mor interested when I sai that aul the mateerial which I hav gatherd for the solooshon ov this problem haz been kuld, with wun eksepshon, from the sujestionz and propoazalz kontributed to the PIONEER by euer korespondents, and aulso by euer noats.

Several korespondents hav from tym to tym sujested that the dygraf *uu* in the prezent skeem shoold be replaist by *oo*. Nun ov them, I think, haz advanst az a reezon the fakt that the eus ov *oo* wood maik it imposibl to drop a leter, and konsekwentli no dyakritik wood be rekwyerd. For egzampl: "glooiing" kood not be riten "gloing," nor "chooiing" az "choing," nor "wooiing" "woing," nor "rooiing" "roing," nor "jooel" "joel," ets. Whatever uther reezonz mai faivor the adopshon ov *oo*, I think this freedom from dyakritiks and leter-dropping iz not the leest.

The leter *y* haz been propoazd az a substiteut for the *ie* ov the skeem. Az the merits ov *y* hav aulredi been diskust in previous PIONEERZ, it wil be enuf just to giv wun illustraishon heer. The wurd "quietus," riten in the skeem without abreeviaishon stands thus: "kwie-eetus." Dropping the leter *e*, and doting the folowing vouel, it standz thus: "kwieëtus." Substiteuting *y*, it stands "kwyeeetus"—the speling and ryting ov which bekumz a meer mekanikal akt in stryking kontrast to the mental alertnes demanded by the uther form.

The dygraf *ee* ov the skeem bairz a good repeutaishon. No wun haz ever sujested a chainj. Stil, it must konform to the rool, and drop a fynal *e* befor another vouel. Thair seemz to be no good reezon for dooiing so, eksepthing for the saik ov eunifomiti, and perhaps when the uther vouel iz an *e*, az in "seest" (see-est). The spelingz, "reéal, reealiti, iedeeal, deeist, theeist, atheneeum, lyseeum, meuzeeum," seem to anser the purpus ekselentli. Even the oald spelingz, "seeing, fleeing, freeing, agreeing," ets., ar seupeerior to the S.S. formz ov "seing, fleing, freing, agreing."

But thoaz wurdz in which three *e*'z wood kum together wood ook strainj, az

in "fleeest, freeest, seeest," etc. This iz avoided in the S.S. by eelizhon and the eus ov the dyakritik, which iz aulso neserari tu prevent the klashing ov "seest" ("ceased") with "seest" ("see-est").

But wurdz ov this klas mai be riten with thair ful kompliment ov leterz by making eus ov the hyfen—thus: "flee-est, free-est, see-est." This plan rekwyerz no eksplanaishon; but its veri simplisiti, which saivorz ov the infant skool, mai kauz sum to regard it with disfaivor. But thoaz hoo feel this dislyk mai perhaps oaverkum thair objekshon when thai remember that theez wurdz wil seldom apeer to ofend thair taist. But, if we ar to aspyer to freedom from dyakritiks and leter-dropping, we kan nót veri wel maik eni eksepshon in the kais ov theez rair wurdz. Shoorli the grait reeding publik, bred and born for jeneraishonz on the idiosinkrasiz and freeks ov English speling ar not gowing to be upset by an okaizhonal glans at a trinitiy ov e'z hand-in-hand with a komon hyfen.

The eus ov the hyfen kompleetli sofenz the startling efekt which utherwyz three suksesiv e'z wood kauz. Meni wurdz ar so riten—thus, "co-education, co-operate, co-ordinate, half-crown, horse-tail, lock-out, farm-house," etc. The kontrast in the too methodz iz kleeerli seen in the Italian wurd *siesta*, and showz, I think, distinktli in faivor ov the hyfen az against the dyakritik—thus, "seesta" and "see-esta." The simpl wil fynd the last form veri eezi to reed.

The eus ov the hyfen, then, maiks it possibl to retain the dygraf without resorting to a dyakritik and the dropping ov a leter. And it iz eezi to ryt, duz not stop the flow ov the pen, and haz the grait merit ov being familiar to aul the wurd, whyl the dyceeris iz bound to remain smthung ov a puzel.

I think the propoazalz az outlynd abuv—naimli the adopshon ov *oo* and *y* insted ov *uu* and *ie*, and the eus ov the hyfen in the kais ov *ee*—wood be, az far az thai gow, a solooshon ov the problem.

Thair stil remains the dygraf *oe*. Several korespondents hav rekommended the substiteushon ov *oa*. Owing to its familiariti in such komon wurdz az "boat, moan, roam, soap" it aulwaiz promts the ryt sound, and haz the seupeerioriti ov beeing under no lyabiliti to drop a leter and euz a dyakritik. This, I think, dispoazez ov the hoal problem; but, in the kais ov the last propoazal—naimli, *oa*—I wood lyk to deel with wun point, which duz not in the leest tuch the preevius kwestion ov the dyakritik and the eelizhon ov leterz. The point iz this—that, whyl *oa* iz aulwaiz found at the begining or midl ov wurdz, it iz a keurius thing that it iz never found at the end eksepting in too kaisez—naimli, "cocoa" and "halloa." On the uther hand iz the larj number ov 61 ending in *ow*, of which about forti ar verbz, with a feu ajektivz inklooded. Eech verb givz ryz to a number ov derivativz—thus, "blow, blowest, blowz, blowing, blown, blower, blowi (blowy)." Eech ajektiv lykwyz—thus, "slow, slower, slowest, slowli." If we then multipli 40 by an averij ov, sai 5, we get 200. Ad to this the remaining 21 nounz, and we aryv at a toatal ov oaver 200 wurdz.

If *oa* oanli iz adopted, then the abuv egzamplz wood aseum the folowing formz: "bloa, bloaest, bloaz, bloaing, bloan, bloaer, bloai; and sloa, sloaer, sloaest, sloali." Aul ov which look strainj, and veri un-English. To avoid this I wood lyk to see *ow* euzd in konekshon with *oa* in such a wai that *ow* mai aulwaiz taik the fynal pozishon, whyl *oa* duz deuti in the begining and bodi ov wurdz. Thus: poalow (polo), foaliow (folio), embroaliow (embroglio).

An objekshon mai be raizd against *ow* bekauz ov its tendensi to sujest the vowel sound in "cow." From Rippmann and Archer's book I fynd thair ar 73 prinsipal wurdz ending in a fynal *ow*. Out ov theez 73, oanli 12 ar sounded lyk "cow," and the remaining 61 ar aul sounded az in "snow." If thair iz eni tendensi wun wai or the uther it must be in faivor ov the "snow" sound; and thair iz aulwaiz the kontekst for a gyd.

The eus ov fynal *ow* wood retain the larj number ov oaver too hundred wurdz in thair oald dres, and the gap between the oald and the neu wood be konsiderabli diminisht. This wood tend also, not oanli to simplify the skeem stil further, but whot iz a hundred tymz beter, to simplify it on popeular lynz; and wuns a reeali popeular simplifid speling iz oferd it wil ov itself rapidli wurk its wai into the publik estimaishon.

JOSEPH HOGARTH.

IEDEAZ FOR PROMOETING THE PETISHON.

SEVERAL ov our memberz hu ar giving paiperz on "Simplified Speling" at thair varius debaiting and literari sosiëtiz hav undertaiken tu kolekt signaturz for the petishon at the kloez ov thair lektyurz. This survis wil be ov mateerial asistans tu us and wil aulso be ov sum litl valyu tu the lektyurer az shoing him hou far hiz argyuments hav penetrated. The Sekretari wil be pleezd tu forwerd petishon formz tu eni memberz hu mai be intending tu reed paiperz on "Simplified Speling."

Mai we ad that speling reform maiks an ekselent subjekt for a debait? Prof. Lounsbury sez ov it, in the prefais tu hiz book, *Confessions of a Spelling Reformer*, that it iz not wun which adz tu the gaieti ov naishonz and then proseedz tu ilyumin it with so much wit and charm az entierli tu faulsife the asurshon.

The debaiter wil fiend that in meni kaisez he haz stil a solid waul ov ignorans and prejooidis tu nok down, and the diskuveri aut tu giv point and fier tu hiz diskors. It iz, indeed, the pyur lojik ov speling reform that konstityuts the grait hindrans tu its sukses. The wurd, ilojikal itself, iz raather afraid ov pyur lojik.

Reezon, however, iz bound ultimaitli tu bring oever unreezon, and surtinli triumfs imeediatli in the akademik reejonz ov debait. The man hu taiks the "pro" sied in a debait on speling reform aut tu enjoi himself.

In the mater ov lektyuring at debaiting sosiëtiz, we hav tu rekord our sinseer thanks tu Mr. J. D. Robertson, Glasgow, hu deliverd a veri suksesful lektyur at Stonelaw Yunieted Free Church Literari Sosiëti, Rutherglen, and tu Mr. William Shield, hu spoek on speling reform tu the Crosby (Liverpool) Literari Sosiëti. We noe that Northernerz ar born tu argyu az the sparks flie upwerdz, and we hav no dout that theez meetingz wer plezant, boeth tu the lektyurerz and tu thair audiens. Mr. Shield, enkloezing aplikaishon formz for membership, riets: "Theez ar the rezult ov a lektyur I deliverd laast niet tu the memberz ov the Crosby (Liverpool) Literari Sosiëti, but thai ar not indikativ ov the veri simpatetik resephon I had. Thair wer thurti-siks pursonz prezent, and, dyuring the diskushon which foloed mi lektyur, thair woz praktikali no opozishon. The tuu pursonz huuz aplikaishonz I send heerwith kaim tu me tu join. Had I had sum wun with me in the audiens tu duu a litl rekruting, I feel shuur that haaf the audiens wood hav joi'd."

OUR FIETING LIEN.

A Teecher'z Apeel tu Chield-Luverz.

The foloing leter speeks so forsibli for itself that koment wood be inartistik.

Sum Tottenham Teecherz paid a vizit heer a fyu weeks agoe tu see the "Wörtergarten Phonetic System." Thai wer moest interested, partikularli in the grait difkultiz which children *must* enkonter in the speling, and which the "Wörtergarten" ekspoezez even whiel it helps the chield.

Az we wer tauning I remarkt, "If thair wer a Petishon maid tu Parliament tu remuuv sum ov theez difkultiz, wood yu sien it?" "O gladli" woz the eeger replie. I then toeld them ov the Petishon going forwerd from the Simplified Speling Sosiëti; pointing out it woz no *pursonal* advaantij tu me, az when the Petishon woz graanted, and difkultiz remuuvd, thair wood be no need for mi sistem, or eni uther sistem—aul wood be so simpl and eezi. At the saim tiem the benefit tu the chield wood be so inkalkyulabl I thaat everi truu Chield-Luver *must* suport the muuvment. Thai agreed and hav promist tu sien the Petishon and aulso get uther signaturz.

Voizez in the Wildernes.

The "Associated Iron and Steel Workers of Great Britain" hav isyud a remarkabl manifestoe tu thair memberz, enjoining upon them tu maik the best

ov the prezint kriesis. Mr. James Cox, the jeneral sekretari, Darlington, iz larjli responsibl for the strieking pronounsment. He sez in a leter tu wun ov our memberz :

I yust tu be graitli interested in fonetik speling, and moest shuurli thair iz tremendus room for impruuvment in our prezint bewilderment and jumbl ov vouelz and konsonants az representing, or triing tu reprezent, sound. I hartili wish your kauz sukses—it wil kum sum dai. No nyu thing, no nyu prinsipl woz ever yet inishiaited but had furst its "Voisez in the Wildernes" preparing the wai.

If we ar stil in the wildernes, thair ar meni welkum sienz ov its blossoming az the roez.

Propaganda in Meni Landz.

It woz a joi tu oepen the buljing enveloeps sent in bi Mr. Grant Brown ov Bassein, Burma, hu had kolekted oever 50 signatyurz for the Petishon and bi the Rev. José Casadesus, hu obtaind oever 200. We noe that theez eforts reprezent a grait deel ov tiem and laibor on the part ov theez enerjetik memberz ; but hu noez just hou much propaganda valyu eech ov theez naimz kariz ?

The Kuming ov Simplified Speling.

Mr. R. M. Hyndman, the veteran Soeshalist, riets that he iz much interested in Simplified Speling and mai posibli deel with the subjekt in a book ov anti-spaishonz.

Church Lektur Noetisez in Reformd Speling.

In Hetton-le-Hole, dyu no dout tu the infloens ov Mr. Henry Drummond, wun ov our moest enerjetik memberz, Simplified Speling prosperz. We hav just been forwerded wun ov the lektur bilz isyud bi the Wesleyan Church, Hetton-le-Hole, in which a mezher ov Simplified Speling haz been introdyst.

KORESPONDENS.

MR. ARCHER WILDE sendz us the foloing leter :—

Mai I sugest that sum ov yur korespondents miet be mor kairful in the yus ov the fyu teknikal turmz that kan not be avoided in the diskushon ov speling ? In hiz skeem publisht in yur laast number, Mr. Hugo Davis deskriebz himself az yuzing thurthi leterz and not a singl diegraaf. Tu mi thinking he yuzez the twenti-siks leterz ov the alfabet and twelv diegraafs, thairbi denoeting thurthi-ait soundz. I defien a diegraaf az a tuu-leter speling for a simpl sound or a difthong. It woud be interesting tu noe Mr. Davis'z definishon ov the wurd ; but, whotever this mai be, at aul events he yuzez fifti tieps for the noetaishon ov thurthi-ait ov the soundz ov English, the toetal number ov which iz staited insied the kuver ov THE PIONEER tu be "oever forti." Amung uther soundz he omits that ov *sh*. Mi objekt, houeever, iz not tu enter on a jeneral kritisizm ov hiz skeem, but raather tu aask hou hiz yus ov the turmz "leter" and "diegraaf" kan be justified.

Insidental I woud aulso raiz the kwestion whether the S.S.S. aut tu be satisfied tu speek ov the soundz ov English az numbering "oever forti." The problem befor them being tu asertain the best vizibl preziment ov theez soundz, woud it not be a yusful preliminarri step tu asertain whot and hou meni thair ar ?

We surtinli ar at a los tu noe whot Mr. Davis meenz bi a diegraaf. On paj 105 he speeks ov *ng* az a diegraaf. Then whi duz he not giv the saim deskripsjon tu *sh*, *th*, ets. ? At the saim tiem we shood hezitait tu sai that the

representaishon ov a difthong bi meenz ov tuu leterz konstityuted a diegraaf, asyuming that theez tuu leterz separaitli designaited the inishal and fienal soundz ov the difthong; az an egzaampl we mai taik *oi*, the difthong in "boi," maid up ov *o* (az in "hot") and *i* (az in "it").

Eni atemt tu asertain hou meni soundz thair ar in English at wuns raizez the hoel kwestion ov stander speech, and with it the problem hou far a praktikal speling kan goe in the direkshon ov siëntifik akyurasi. The important thing iz not tu asertain hou meni soundz thair ar, but whot iz the leest number for which sienz ar rekwierd if signifikant diferensez ov sound ar tu be eksprest and if the speling iz not tu reakt unfaivorabli on the spoeken langwij. The *l* in "willing" and that in "will" ar not pronounst aliek, but thair iz no need for separait simbolz. The *th* in "this" and that in "thing" hav diferent valyuz; the diferens iz (probabli) never signifikant, but separait sienz mai be desierabl tu shoe (and so prezurv) the diferens in sound. Meni maik no diferens between *w* and *wh*; sum wood keep the *wh* so az tu infloens the pronunsaishon; uthertz wood regard its retenshon az a pedant's atemt tu resusitait an ugli sound that haz, fortyunaitli, been lost. This iz the sort ov kais that the Konferens on Stander Speech wil hav tu setl.

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 2459.

Faulti Speling ov Forin Naimz.

Mr. E. A. Phipson, wun ov our memberz rieting in the "Academy," haz sum kritisizm tu maik on the jurnalistik atemts at reprodyusing forin fraizez, plais-naimz, ets. In at least 50 per sent. ov kaisez he sez theez ar iether mis-spelt or inkorektli yuzd. Thus, redundant leterz ar aded tu Reims, Gent, Coblenz, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg, Nürnberg, Prag, Pest, Bern (and, ov kors, Lyon and Marseille), whiel Hannover, Württemberg, Strassburg ar undyuli shortend. French spelingz ar prefurd for plaisez in Flemish Belgium, Holland, and Germany, such az "Bruges" for Brugge (Eng. Brug), "Meuse" for Maas, "Leyden" for Leiden, "Hague" for Haag (the real French iz La Haye), "Aix-la-Chapelle" for Aachen, "Thionville" for Diedenhofen, whiel Basel (Fr. Bâle) apeerz az "Basle" (thair wood be no objekshon tu this if anglisiezd and pronounst "bai + sl"), Schelde az "Scheldt" (liek "veldt" for "veld"), Liège az "Liège," and Mâcon az "Maçon." Kairles misprints liek "Criel" for Creil, "Lalken" for Laeken, "enciente" for "enceinte" ar leejon. We fiend "a" Uhlan for "an" Uhlan, just az in the Boer Wor it woz "a" Uitlander. Hou much beter the plain "Outlander"! Shuurli, tuu, it iz nou tiem tu naturaliez the establisth nounz "debris, detour, depot," espeshali az the ordinari speling "depôt" iz niether English nor French; aulso "role" (beter "roll"), "chancellery" (beter "chancery"), "recounter, rencounter, annex, impasse, approachment, accouchement, naïvety, garage, entourage, cortege, clientele, blond, comradery, regime, resume, in mass, in block, on route," whiel the idiotik "on the karpet, goez without saïing" shood be replaist bi "on the taibl, it needz no saïing" or "it iz self-evident." Let us aulso sai "sharpshuuterz" or "freeshuuterz" for "francstireurs" (jurnaleez "francstireurs"), yuz "burger" and "burgermaaster," "pursonal" and "mateerial" az substantivz, "moral" (beter stil "mettle" or "fettle") for the absurd "morale" (which in French haz a toetali diferent meening—viz., "ethics"), and "message" or "dispatch" for "communiqué," which yuzhyuali apeerz az "communiquie." Thair iz no such wurd in French az "racquet," which our skriezb riet az looking so much mor jenteel than "racket," the proper form being "raquette."

Simplified Speling "En Casserole."

It iz the American editor aloen hu hoeldz the seekret ov prodyusing a magazeen which shal kombien the seeriusnes ov a siëntifik revyu with the airi charm ov good, liet konversaishon. Our English magazeen editorz diskus problemz, enunshiat theoriz, giv jujments, but thai kan not "causer" in the eezi-chair maner ov thair American brethren. And so iz lost tu us the frendlines that maiks the American magazeen so kumfortabl a kompanion for "a canty oor at e'en." Just such a magazeen iz the "Unpopyular Revyu," which risks further unpopyulariti bi persyuing the subjekt ov Simplified Speling. We raiz no kworel with the editor, tho he asienz the subjekt tu the sekshon heded "En Casserole." If Simplified Speling emurjez in a mor eezili asimilaited form bi this method ov tretment, we shal be purfektli satisfied. Or, if we ar aaskt tu konsider "Casserole" az a sinonim for "melting-pot," thair aulso we ar redi tu be akomodaiting. Our oen ideaz on the subjekt ar staibl enuf, but we aask nothing beter than that Simplified Speling shoed be flung into the melting-pot for the benefit ov the publik—the thinking and the unthinking sekshon aliek. The unintelijent opozishon ov the intelijent haz tu be kombated even mor feersli than that ov the unintelijent. But, wuns in the melting-pot, we hav no feerz that it woud not emurj in a hieli satisfaktori kondishon. Good melting-pots ar not eezi artiklz tu sekyur, but we ar not tu rest kontent with an infeerior artikl. Hens our petishon for a Roial Komishon on the subjekt.

An "Alice in Wunderland" Kritisizm.

Our kritik, in hiz *causerie*, stedfastli suportz the prinsipl ov speling reform, and, inazmuch az prinsipl iz deerer tu us than polisi, we ar graitful tu him. But, when he kumz tu kritisiez the methodz ov speling reformerz, we ar inkliend tu think hiz kritisizm oez its inspiraishon tu an inspiiring, but unsyutabl, sors. Tu eksplain. He siets the leterz ov surtin memberz ov the Simplified Speling Bord and komplainz that thai ar tuu modest in thair demaandz. "Probabli not wun in fiev ov theez leterz haz kontaind eni nyu formz whotever, or at leest not enuf tu be noetist. If the anointed apozl ov reform doen't bak it up eni beter than that, thoez hu opoez it hav okaizhon tu rejois." But heer he insurts the uther prong ov the fork. "On the uther hand, the leterz from sum ov the faithful hu reali wer faithful wer deliberaitli impruuvd until thai wer veri funi" (asyuming "funi" tu be an oproebrius epithet). Nou, what duz that kiend ov kritisizm remiend wun ov so much az that wel noen aksiom in "Alice in Wunderland": "Thoez that aask shaan't hav, thoez that doen't aask doen't wont." We kwoet from memori, but the sentiment iz korekt, being oenli tuu familiar, boeth in theori and praktis, tu a denizen ov this topsi-turvi wurd.

An Italian Apresiaishon.

We ar indeted tu Prof. F. Viglione for sending us hiz ekselent artikl on "La Riforma dell' Ortografia Inglese" kontribyuted tu the Joolie isyu ov the "Rivista d'Italia." He staitz the problem veri kleeerli and diskusez aul the komon objekshonz, maiking kopius yus, az he dyuli staitz, ov the books and pamphlets isyud bi our Sosieti. The artikl iz a litl maasterpees ov ekspozishon.

"Ortografia."

Iz that not an ekselent speling? The Italian pronounsez *th* az *t*, just az the Frenchman duz, and the German, but he aloen haz the good sens tu riet it az *t*. He pronounsez the Greek ϕ az *f*, az aul naishonz duu and az the Greeks themselvz hav dun for oever tuu thousand yeez; but the Italian aloen haz the sens tu yuz the leter *f*—aul the rest goe on rieting *ph* bekauz the Romanz spelt wurdz that kontaind the leter ϕ with *ph* simpli bekauz that woz the oeld pronunsiashon, which thai retaind even when the pronunsiashon chainjd. PeepI sai that if we riet "orthografi" it "obskyurz the derivaishon." Duu thai reali beleev that

the Italian duz not noe the derivaishon ov this wurd bekauz he spelz it fonetikali? Yu ither noe the derivaishon, and then the speling duzn't mater, or yu doen't noe it, and the speling, whotever it mai be, duzn't help yu.

A Simplified Speling Song.

"Spelbound Joe—a tearful tail" iz a song which haz been speshali riten for the Simplified Speling Sosieti bi Mr. C. E. Hodges, M.A. It iz given in the isyu ov "The Teachers' World" for 28th Oktoeber. Despiet the melankoli tietyl, Spelbound Joe haz a briet and cheerful melodi and wil be found an akseptabl ietem for skuul konserts. The sentiments wel akord with theoz ov the averij skuulboi. We reprodyus wun vurs:—

"Oh, why should we waste all our time and our brains
On a thing that's so far from the truth?
For spelling is simply a horrible plan
To torture our innocent youth.
The letters get tangled and mixed in a heap,
And the rules never twice are the same,
Till at last you're so muddled, it's all you can do
To know how to spell your own name!"

The Triumf ov Pyur Lojik.

"A short tiem agoe, at mi rekwest, yu forwerded me yur book on Speling Reform, together with vairius pamflets. I hav dijested theez and I am so konvinst ov the advaantijez tu be gaind bi a reform that I hav desieded tu bekum a member and enkloze heerwith chek valyu 5s." This reprezents the atityud ov a sensibl, oepen miended man. Thair ar meni hu need simpli tu hav the kais for simplified speling plaist befor them. We hav plenti ov good amyunishon for waijing the wor against ignorans and prejooidis: we hav leeflets that deel breefli and konvinsingli with aul the ordinari objekshonz, and utherz that stait the advaantijez tu be gaind bi reform.

Duu not rest until yu hav komyunikaited tu utherz the faith that iz in yu.

French Speling.

M. Ant. Grégoire, in hiz reesentli publisht pamflet on "La Phonétique et l'apprentissage de l'orthographe," sez ov the lurning ov the speling:—"C'est une des plus lourdes tâches imposées à l'enfant dès son entrée à l'École primaire. Il est inutile de rappeler les conséquences désagréables que les bizarreries orthographiques de notre langue entraînent lors de la première instruction des enfants."

The Rekruts' Interest in our Wor Piktyurz.

Bi kiend permishon ov the "Graphic" we ar enaibld tu displai wor piktyurz on the noetis bord outsied our ofis with the eksplanaishonz in Simplified Speling. Az long az thair iz liet tu reed bi our bord iz serounded bi a litl grup ov reederz, sum ov hum ar perhaps having thair inishiaishon intu the simplisitiz—we kan not sai misteriz—ov our orthografi. We noetis that the rekruts hu march paast our ofis sumtiemz so far forget disiplin az tu turn an interested ie siedwaiz on theez piktyurz.

Turning Good Speling intu Bad.

"Pitman's Journal" praizez unrezurvedli the substityushon ov fonetik speling for the ordinari diktaishon test in the Sivil Survis Egzamainaishon, pointing out that the oenli week point in the skeem iz that good speling haz tu be turnd intu bad. "A splendid monyument," it sez, "shood not be ruind bi being re-riten in the langwij ov our faatherz huuz speling we ar endeavoring tu forget."

England az the "Falstaff" ov Naishonz.

The championz ov our speling ar driven tu strainj pozishonz. The "Yorkshire Observer" reprochez us for our simpathi with the Belgians in thair strugl with our pronunsiashon. "Belgians," it sez, "ar probabli mor amyuzd than iritaited bi the misteriz ov 'cough,' 'bough,' 'dough,' and 'enough.' Our speech iz liek 'Falstaff,' not oenli witi in itself but the kaus ov wit in utherz, and this iz sum konsolaishon." We think that boeth Britain and Belgian wil fiend it raather a puur wun. Tu aask us tu retain our bad speling bekoz it adz tu the gaiti ov naishonz sujests a fairli hie degree ov altruizm and for ourselvz we shood prefur that sum uther naishon suplied the bufuuneri, whiel we sat in the frunt seets and provided the roundz ov aplauz.

The Hyumor ov Polish Fonetiks.

The difkultiz ov the Russian kampain hav evidentli not obliterated the Grand Dyuk Michael'z sens ov hyumor if we ar tu juj from hiz sporting ofer tu suplie the korekt pronunsiashon tu aul hu kontribyut 5s. tu the "Kumforts for British Soeljerz" Fund. Przemysl haz provided a fyu od paragraafs for hyumorus paiperz short ov kopi, but we noet in mor repyutabl nyuspaiperz a dispozishon tu taik Polish fonetiks a litl mor seeriusli. The Pole spelz fonetikali akording tu hiz liets, and hiz liets ar veri much syupeerior tu thoez ov meni English peopl. If we must retain our glaas houzez, let us refrain from maiking pro-voekativ ataks on the much mor solid edifisez inhabited bi the Pole.

Simplified Speling for Belgian Children.

Thair haz been an imeediait and harti akseptans ov our ofer in the publik pres and in edyukaishonal magazeenz tu suplie free literatyr for skuul teecherz hu hav the nun tuu simpl taask ov teeching English tu Belgian refyujeez. The litl Belgian probabli haz az stout a hart az the English chield, but in hiz kais the "stey brae" mai wel pruuv insermountabl. We hoep in our nekst number tu giv sum akount ov the eksperiment. The ofer iz stil oepen tu teecher-reederz ov THE PIONEER hu mai hav Belgians in thair klaasez. A poest kard tu the Sekretari wil bring a saampl ov literatyr. Wil thoez apliing pleez stait the aij ov the children?

Bad Speech az a Breech ov Manerz.

Bad hand-rieting iz anti-soeshal, riets a korespondent in a weekli revyu. "Riet lejibli," sed Lewis Carroll in wun ov hiz three ruulz for leter-rieterz; "yur korespondent's tiem iz az valyuabl az yurz." No les iz indistinkt and sluvlenli speech a breech ov the hiër etiket.

Hou tu Spel Rekruting.

From the "Regiment" ("Topiks in Tabloid"): "The Nyu Speling profesorz ar elaited bekauz it iz nou rekogniezd that Rekruting beginz with a 'K.'"

NYU MEMBERZ.

Anyual Memberz.

- Mrz. Crum, Mill Edge, Aldeburgh.
 D. Hervey, Belsted House School, Aldeburgh.
 McCullum, 22 Jedburgh Avenue, Rutherglen.
 E. Ward, 75 Trafalgar Road, Scarborough.

- Misz* C. J. Beswick, 10 Londesborough Road, Scarborough.
 Annie Brewer, 6 Lime Avenue, Derby.
 S. Cadwell, 16 Double Row, Seaton Delaval.
 Hilda Charlton, School House, Seaton Delaval.
 P. Chattell, 14 Chichele Mansions, Cricklewood, N.W.
 Mary Constable, 8 Vernon Place, Scarborough.
 Margaret Fryer, Infants' School, Bunallin, Dudley, S.O.
 M. Garcin, Belstead School, Scarborough.
 E. M. Golightly, Girls' C. C. School, Bracebridge, Lincoln.
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PRES KUTINGZ.

September, Oktoeber, November, and Desember.

"SIMPLIFIED SPELLING: AN APPEAL TO COMMON SENSE," THE PIONEER, and *Nurseri Riemz* wer revyud in: **Middlesex Advertiser, Printer's Ink, School Government Chronicle.**

ARTIKLZ AND PARAGRAAFS menshoning and diskusing speling apeerd in: **Daily Mail, Daily News, Glasgow Herald, Liverpool Post, Regiment.**

NOETISEZ OV OUR WOR TELEGRAMZ IN SIMPLIFIED SPELING apeerd in: **Advertisers' Weekly, Commercial Education, Dundee Advertiser, Glasgow Evening Times, Irish Times, Star (London).**

LEKTURZ ON SIMPLIFIED SPELING wer reported and komented upon in the foloing paiperz: - **Armley and Wortley News, Derby Express, Glasgow Evening Times, Glasgow News, Harrow Gazette, Lancashire Daily Post, Scarborough Evening News, Scarborough Mercury, Yorkshire Herald.**

SPEHAL ARTIKLZ deeling with Belgians and Simplified Speling wer publisht in: **Academy, Schoolmaster, Winnipeg Free Press, Yorkshire Observer.**

LETERZ IN FAIVOR OF SIMPLIFIED SPELING wer reprodyust in **Daily Mirror, Daily News, Bristol Times, Glasgow Herald, Harrow Observer, Leicester Post, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Newcastle Weekly Leader, Oldham Standard, Pitman's Journal, New York Call, Saturday Westminster Gazette, Schoolmaster** (fiev leterz apeerd in this jurnal on Speling Reform), **Yorkshire Post.**

A SPEHAL INTERVYU with the Simplified Speling Sosietai woz publisht in **Pitman's Journal.**

VERI FAIVORABL ARTIKLZ on a reform ov the kurent sistem ov speling wer noeted in **Educational Times, Glasgow Herald, Manchester Guardian, Pitman's Journal, Shields Daily Gazette, Southampton Times, Times Educational Supplement, Yorkshire Observer.**

ARTIKLZ IN FAIVOR OV OUR PETISHON tu the Priem Minister wer given prominens in: **Commercial Education, School Government Chronicle, School Guardian, Schoolmaster, Teachers' World, the A.M.A.**

SPEHAL ARTIKLZ ON SPELING REFORM bi Mr. Walter Rippmann and Mr. W. Alfred Richardson, B.Sc., apeerd in: **Educational Times, Journal of Education, School World, Teachers' Times.**

EDITORIAL NOET.

IT haz been desieded tu publish THE PIONEER everi uther munth until pees iz restord. The Editor's adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PIONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplified Speling Sosietai. The anyual subskripshon for Asoeshiait Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Aktiv Memberz a minimum ov fiev shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

Memberz ar urjd tu aplie for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosietai. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent bi the Sekretari ov the Simplified Speling Sosietai, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

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).

The digraphs *ee*, *ie*, *oe*, *uu* may be reduced before another vowel: seing, fiing, going, juel (jewel).

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: tiez, praiz (*not* ties, praise).

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).

ie: riet, fier (*not* right, fire).

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

uu: buun, truu (*not* boon, true).

yu: tyun, yuloji (*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.

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