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LEGISLATION IN U. S.

Mr. Voorhees has introduced in Congress at Washington a bil to provide for "an amended orthograpy," to take effect in all public scools of teritoris and District of Columbia, in military and naval academis, and in Indian and colord scools in teritoris. The changes proposed ar groupd under twelv heds. The first ordains that silent e s' d be dropt "when fonetically usesles," as in are, live, bronze, etc. The foloing rules relate to vowels and difthongs:

2.—Drop a from ea, having the sound of e, as in feather, leather, etc.

3.—Drop o from eo, having the sound of e, as in jeopardy, leopard, etc.

4.—For o having the sound of u write u in above (abuv), dozen, some (sum), tongue (tung), etc.

5.—Drop o from ou, having the sound of u, as in journal, nourish, rough (ruf), trouble, tough (tuf), etc.

6.—Drop silent u after g before a, and in nativ English words, as in guarantee, guard, guess, guest, guilt, etc.; drop final ue, as in apologue, catalogue, etc.; demagogue, pedagogue, etc.; league, harangue, tongue (tung), etc.

Then folo five rules relating to consonants:—

7.—Dubl consonants shal be simplified: Final b, d, g, n, r, t, f, l, z, as in ebb, add, egg, inn, purr, butt, bailiff, dull, buzz, etc. Medial before another consonant, as battle, ripple, written (writn), etc. Initial unaccented prefixes, and other unaccented syllabs, as in abbreviate, accuse, affair, etc.; curvetting, traveller, etc.

8.—Change d and ed, final, to t when so pronounced, as in crossd (crost), looked (lookt), etc., unles the e effects the preceding sound, as in chafed, chanced.

9.—Change gh and ph to f when so pronounced, as in cough, philosophy, etc.

10.—Change s to z in distinctiv words, as in abuse, verb; house, yerb; rise, verb; etc.

11.—Drop t in catch, witch, etc.

The twelfth rule takes up the cases of a few words which cannot be clast under the above, such as ache (ake), anchor (anker) women (wimen), through (thru). The bil has been handed over to the tender mercis of Comtee of Education.—*Mail*.

Each State in U. S., as each Province in Canada, has control of education. The Washington and Ottawa governments can but legislate for what is within their control. Each state and province can enact for itself in regard to the mater. What has been enacted by a central government shud

be folod by states severaly, so as to hav uniformity. We expect to see the bil kill, —to be repeated in one form or other til successful.

Congressman Warner has introduced a bil in Hous of Representatives to appoint a comision to enquire into reform of American speling, and reporting whether some practicabl plan has been devised simpler than that in use. It provides \$25 a day as expenses of comision.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

(To be ansord from previus issues.)

1. What consonants "hav an almost vowel purity of voice," according to Bell? Does Hensen's Speech-Recorder confirm this?

2. Who first reduced Anglo-Saxon to riting?

3. What sound is givn to o by the Geografic Society? Giv the Society's speling of Feejee, Zooloo, Foochow?

4. Pronounce Arkansas, Kansas, Bismarck, Keough, Clougher, Hawarden.

5. Explain how g came to be used in gh. How was the gatural represented in Saxon?

6. What language has been calld "gramarles"?

7. Where is Anglo-Saxon crosst d stil in use?

8. Has French any sound like our w?

9. What does z comonly represent in German? French? Italian? English?

10. Pronounce *Thiers*, *posthumous*, *hover*, *discernible*, *ghoul*, *caisson*.

11. What values does Amer. Bible Society giv a, e, i, o, u, in Ojibway?

12. What ar Italian values for a, e, i, o, u? Why ar they better than ours?

13. How does Bureau of Ethnology divide and anotate our vowels?

WELSH.—"Welsh orthog. is remarkably fonetic, having only one ambiguous leter, y. Except y, the sounds hav remaind the same for the last 300 years." So says Ellis in Chap. I, *E. E. Pron.* An attempt is being made, says the *Fonetic Journal*, which, while preserving the regularity of its speling, shal bring it in acord with leters as used by other nations. As this talis with a certn line of advance in alfabetics ("consonants as in Eng.") in other quarters, we ar glad to note it, preferring to record agreement insted of discord. The editor of *Cyvaill yr Aelwyd* proposes to make the foloing changes in his paper: 1, Use v for sound represented by that leter in Eng. and substitute it for f which has hitherto becn Welsh v. 2, Use f as in Eng., thus doing away with ff and ph. hitherto used in Welsh. 3, Do away entirely with dubling similar consonants. Y will stil stand for two sounds: i in it, and u in up.