

The Phonetic Herald

DEVOTED, TO PRONUNCIATION AND REVISED SPELLING.

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YD VOWELS.

The sound express by *y* in *yet* can be heard before any vowel or glide and is heard before most of them as in *Yeigh, yoke, year, yawn, yon, young, yarn*, etc. Mr Rous at p. 6 of his pamphlet quite pertinently asks "Why shud *ew* in *new* be treated as a diphthong more than the combinations of *y* with other vowels?" It shud not. For orthoepic purposes, it is probably best to denote the sound by inserting *y* in evry case.

Before the vowels in *put* and *rule*, *y* is comonly unexpressed in old spelling. Inserting it in ordinary print, especially in mid word givs such print an awkward look. Comonly it will be bettr to insert *y* at beginning of a word and in some words, as *valyu*, at beginning of a syllabi other than first; otherwise use *u* as a contraction for *y* and either of the two vowels mentiond.

This *u* is not an alphabetic letr at all but an optionl contraction. We alrady use *x* so. *X* is an allowabl contraction for *ks* or *gz* - sometimes used ofn not. Such use of *u* and *X* is paraleld by the way *Z* is used in Italian and German viz, as an optionl contraction for *ts*.

In that teling articl on the Spelling Evil we hav denoted *yd us* by either inserting *y*; if this wud look awkward, we denoted it by puting *u* in italic.

Some redy way to denote when an *u* is *yd* is important to help chek a comon but glaring mispronunciation, not noing when to giv a *yd u* and when not. Exampl, stooitent for *student*, or dook for *duke*, or figur, insted of figur, for *figure*. In Worcester, as stereotypd in 1859 and so printed unchanged ever since, ther is no indication when to giv *yd u* and when not. It is givn in the recently issued suplement, but this is

not sold separatly, and, when got, we must look in two places for a word.

DUTCH, the language of Holland, has alrady had its spelling revised and givn state sanction. Bosworth says: "The services of Prof. Siegenbeek in restoring and remodeling Dutch hav been so highly estimated by his cuntry that his system of Orthograpy obtaind government sanction in 1806. Since, for sake of yuniformality in expressing words, it is required that evry public document shud be ritn in strict accord with his orthographic system. A free translation of the Scripture in modern Dutch style and orthograpy was made by Prof. van der Palm of Leyden. It was publishd in 4to in 1825, and tho it had not the sanction of the States General, nor is it adopted in churches, it is in great demand and in general use. The Establisht Version of Scripture, made according to regulations of Synod of Dort 1618 to 1619 and first publishd at Leyden in 1637, had its orthograpy modernized according to Siegenbeek's system by Rev. H. Cats, minister of Dutch Reformd church at Leyden. Mr Cats dying before the work was completed, it was finisht by Prof van Hengel, and publishd in 4to by Thieme of Arnheim in 1834." On all which let us r mark that what the Dutch acomplisht in erly part of century weshud be able to accomplish at latr part. Spanish orthograpy was revised in last century: so that Orthographic Revision by a nation is not something holly unherd of.

— *Roman Types* with loer case modeld after the cursiv riting of the 12th century wer first redust to symetry and made a Text type in 1471 by Nicolas Jenson a famus printer of Venice.