

**Speech for a Tiny Little Girl.**

I am so small I am afraid  
 Because my voice is weak  
 That half the people in the house  
 Can scarcely hear me speak.  
 But if I do my very best  
 I can't do any more;  
 And please remember that a speech  
 I never made before.  
 Nobody can expect to gain  
 Much fame unless they try.  
 I think that I have said enough,  
 So bid you all—good-bye.

—Selected.

**Speech for a Very Little Boy.**

"Some little boys  
 Are very shy  
 To make a speech  
 They will not try.  
 But as for me,  
 I do not fear  
 To speak before  
 The people here;  
 Because they are  
 All friends I know.  
 And now I'm through  
 I'll bow and go."

—Selected.

A FEW Sundays ago, says the *Fredericton Gleaner*, "Father Carney, at St. Dunstan's church, referred to the great sin of not paying one's just debts. He felt that this was one of the world's greatest sins, and that regarding it the world was getting worse instead of better." If putting others to inconvenience, worry and annoyance is a sin, then the neglect to pay one's just debts is a sin.

TO HELP THE TIMID CHILD.—It is such an easy matter to let the bright pupils do the reciting and so hard to hold their attention while some timid, hesitating child stumbles along in a recitation, that I have adopted the plan of often sending the brighter ones to the board for written work while the duller ones get a much needed chance for oral recitation. This has much improved the oral expression of some of the more timid ones who never like to say anything if they can help it, and is less of a tax on the patience of the teacher.—*Popular Educator*.

A SPELLING EXERCISE.—Ascertain, difference, dilemma, enthusiasm, enumerate, forcible, gallery, gesture, handkerchief, harass, hesitate, hypocrite, incorporate, judicial, larceny, license, mechanism, notoriety, oxygen, perception, precious, residence, several, signature, truancy.

**Phonetic Drill.**

An excellent drill may be given in phonetics which will train the pupil's ear and largely increase his vocabulary. Give each child a strip of paper and then dictate spelling in this way:

"Think of *at* and write *cat*.""Think of *at* and write *fat*," etc.

Take up one combination after another.

"Think of *bright* and write *right*.""Think of *light* and write *plight*."

Increasing in difficulty as the children gain power, at the end of the year you will be surprised at their improvement and enlarged vocabulary.—*Primary Education*.

**CURRENT EVENTS.**

The revolution in Hayti has been suppressed, which means at least a respite in the disturbances there. In the other part of the island, the Dominican Republic, a very stormy constitutional convention is in session.

A new railway in Guatemala, one hundred and ninety-five miles in length, from Puerto Barrios to the capital, was opened last month. This completes another transcontinental railway, as there was already in operation a railway thence to the Pacific.

Japan has established schools and hospitals on Saghalien Island, and about twenty thousand emigrants have gone there from Japan.

There is an influential party in Japan which advocates the adoption of the Roman alphabet. At present a Japanese boy requires four or five times as long as an English, French or German boy to learn to read and write his own language.

The progress of Western learning in China is marvelous. In the city of Wuchang, six hundred miles up the Yangtse, there are one hundred schools, most of which have been opened within the last six years.

By the construction of a broad avenue following the shore of the harbour, and other improvements which the Brazilian government is making in its capital city, Rio de Janeiro is to be made the finest capital in America. When its new docks are completed, they will be the best in South America, if not in the world; while the avenue along the shore is intended to be the most magnificent driveway and promenade in the world.

A new canal in France, to connect the Rhone with the port of Marseilles, will pass through a tunnel over four miles long. The time required for digging it is estimated at seven or eight years.

A series of concrete viaducts connecting the Florida Keys, and ultimately to have its southern terminus at Key West, is one of the most remarkable railway projects in the world. It is so far com-