

*Fo* is a contraction for Fono-cribing. It is a simpl system of contractions by omission of lettrs chiefly got up by Col. Stewart of Philadelphia and promulgated by Mr B. W. Readshaw 94 Bird Av., Buffalo, N.Y. Several correspondents hav sent us samples. They appear not to see the (to us) clear distinction between *Fo* and our work. *Fo* must be compared with Brief Longhand suitable for those who wil not lern Shorthand. Shorthand is for professional reporters. *Fo* and Brief L. ar for note taking for memoranda, some correspondence etc. Rational Speling on a scientific basis which we aim at is another thing entirely and for evrybody. Distinction between them shud be observd. To mislead the public to believ that the mangld remnants of words left in *Fo* or Brief L. is Amended Speling is to do great injustice to the latr. *Fo* is a set or system of expedients the spirit of which is *brevidy* with moderat legibility; the latr is *speling by sound* or a more or les close approximation to it.

Col. S. N. Stewart is sound in the true orthographic faith so far as shortening goes. He writes to a friend in Toronto: "I'd rather b a tom tit & feed on evrything that squirms than 2 feel complot to spl t h o u g-h becaus my grandmother did it. I'd rathr b th chipmonk that roams th ragd ej of rugd rails than b chaind to a chimpanzee tho th chimpanzee b my ancestor."

A GOOD EXAMPL. —Mr John Mills, Taftvil, Conn., has got up a club of 50.

—In *M*'s artiel on p. 49, 2nd colum, read *United States* insted of *America*. *M* contends that Canada shud be excluded from his statement.

PARTIAL CORECTIONS of English Spelings Aproovd of by the Filologic Soc. This pamphlet of 38 pages givs lists and clases of words whose speling shud be modified for etymological or historic reasons and the authoritis which warrant the change. It is printed in exact accordance with the simplified spelings. It is issued not only with the approval of but by Fil. Soc. The changes approved of ar mainly good old spelings which hav dropt out of use but deserv to be restored. It may be had for 25 c. from Mrs E. B. Burnz, 24 Clinton Place, N. Y.

ENGLAND.—The Eng. S. R. A. is collecting opinions on certain points of pronunciation preliminary to going on. They adopt the Five Rules givn p. 18. As a next move the 8 rules followinz ar on trial, (givn for exampl's sake in the rules themselves as promulgated):

1. Omit *a* from *ea* when sounded as in *head*, *hath*, or in *herse*.
2. Omit *e* when fonetically useless, as in *har a*, *har aiv*, *defnit*, *ruind*.
3. Omit one or duvid consonants also when fonetically use ess, as *apear*, *skind*, *deft*, *shal*, *weil*, *cliv*.
4. Change *ph* to *f* when so sounded, as in *al-fabet*, *fantom*, *foto-graf*.
5. Change *y* (vowel) to *i* except when final or followed by *i*, as *sistem*, *jav*, *pitvins*.
6. Change *ed* to *t* (and after a short vowel or a consonant, *eed* to *t*) when so sounded, as *fixt*, *practist*, *pronounst*.
7. Change of *o* to *ov*; and *s* to *z* in distinctiv words, as *use* (noun) *use* (verb).
8. Change final *ce* to *se* after a consonant and to *s* after a short vowel; as *defense*, *perse*, *practis*.

The above instructions ar provisional only and ar not ment to limit the diseretion of individual writers. Letters may be omitted when the omission wil not mislead as to pronunsiation a reader acustomed only to the ordinary spelling.

PLEASE SUBSCRIBE to help along an educational advance.

Some literature of Revision of Speling after perusal by us is wasted. Much remaield appears but to miscary if we judge by lak of respons. It shal be sent to those sending stamps for postage—a redy test of appreciation.

WEBB'S NEW WORD-METHOD, Potter, Ainsworth & Co., 107 Chambers St. N. Y., postpaid, 24 c., is a strongly bound book of 130 12mo pages, excellently printed on good paper. Its author is Mr J. R. Webb of St. Josef, Mich. who first conceivd and practist the method 40 years ago. It is about the best elementary reading book for those who employ that method. The principl of the method is that each word is a logograf and is to be lern'd by sight as a hole insted of by analysis into component sounds. So far has speling been divorst from sound, that this is a good way to get pupils familiar with a large clas of words with unfonetic forms, as *one*, *who*, *might*, *straight*, *enough*. As Abe Lincoln is credited with saying— "For those that like that sort of thing I judge it the sort of thing they'd like." It is illustrated and teaches script and Roman forms concurently.