

# The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 45.

TORONTO, CANADA, January, 1909.

№ 95.

EXPLANATION : OMIT useless letters. CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* to *t*, and *ph* or *gh* to *f*. For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Spelling (postpaid, 10 c.) published every July as archives of the year.

## WHAT WE STAND FOR.

The spelling of our language is retched, becaus grosly irregular, and misleading.

It shud, and can, be amended along two lines concurrently :

1. Drop all letters utterly useless (often misleading too,); introduce the *changes* as above (simply and redily done); then make a list of words affected. Use of this givs Amended Spelling, quietly to supersede Old Spelling.

2. While this is put into practise, more or les, take the *asured results* of linguistic sience and slowly develop New Spelling, a simpler organic system not misleading. Orthograpy has its own laws and develops new ones as required. This restrictiv caution (as to "asured results") excludes all schemes not wel considerd or "wildcat."

Such New Sp. wil be fixt, wil mirror the literary language, giv receivd orthoepy aproximatly, and can be uzed wherever it proves suitabl, as in teaching pronunciation and how to read Old or Amended Sp., which it shud supersede gradually, the two being long concurrent.

But, beside Spelling, these pages mirror Pronunciation, and that, too, in multiform aspect. To discuss this we must hav some fairly minute speech-Notation—not Spelling at all, and far beyond any such *popular* application. "The problem of riting sounds is fully as important as analyzing them" (Sweet). By its means, thru experiment, observation and comparison with others' conclusions, the "asured results" mentiond above hav been and wil continue to be got til a satisfactory solution of this and other questions is found.

What system of Notation is employd is of litl moment if it but squares with nōn linguistic facts and is powerful to express their multifarios forms simply and lucidly and in harmony with New Spelling so far as developot from time to time. Such Notation is not permanent, but a temporary scaffold to be removed when it has servd its purpose.

## TO GET PRINTERS IN LINE.

Systematic eforts wil be made to get a simplified-spelling leag among editors and publishers, that the list of periodicals uzing such spelling may gro. Alredy about 125 publications formaly agree, provided enuf others do. An interesting fact: these lists include the *Chicago Inland Printer*, *St Louis Practical Printer* and *New York Inland Type Foundry Bulletin*, all publisht for and red by printers—remarkabl and gratifying. We uzed to hear that attempts to mend spelling ar sure of defeat by printers' conservatism. These names confirm belief that if the world wer as progressiv as printers as a clas, we shud rapidly get universal use of a spelling rationally simplified.—*Phonographic Magazine*.

## NEWS-NOTES AND COMENTS.

—*Birmingham* occurs twice on our p. 192. It is perhaps the best of several spellings, as it is the oldest, being found in *Doomsday Book*. Anglo-French scribes had no difficulty in sounding e before rn. Their desendants sound it redily to this day north of the Humber and in France.

—Beside Norman French this is tru of regular French, German and Italian. Americans (including nativs of Canada) shift er to ar as a rule. Teachers of German and French hav trubl with pupils in this, Americans as a clas especially, for they giv *berg*, *dernier*, etc. as *barg*, *darnye*, etc.

—*The Jur. Or. & Or.* (Nov., 1907) views this as we. Thus to controvert the analogy of other tungs and the uzage of many speakers of our own is a step so seriois that we hav not taken it yet. "Lern to speak many words as now speld," is the *Journal's* wise advice. Do not, for exampl, pronounce *fir* as *fur*, *Kerr* as *cur*.

—Rev. E. Lyttelton, hedmaster of Eton, speaking at Clewer, said many English peple no not how to pronounce English. Great efort shud be made, he said, to counteract the London district accent, that spred in circls where least expected. If it spred north, and Yorkshir accent south, what wud hapn when they met, especially if a sound [?] peculiar to Australia was bro't in too.

—General characteristics of Australian speech ar on our p. 79. Mr Black has not reported yet, tho he givs account (*Maitre Phonétique*, 1907, p. 86) of how *he* thinks *he* speaks.

—(1) Filologic experts . . . . . see the difficulty of reform clearer than any dilettante can. (2) Filanthropists like Mr Carnegie . . . . . shud endow fonetic reserch and teaching, now a great field for experiments in new methods of spelling. (3) Leav presnt spelling alone til replac'd by one radically difrent on which all agree.

—The three points above ar from Prof.