

—Dutch vowels and Dutch men ar in front of late. Roemer (pronounce, rumär.), who o't to no, as his name is Dutch enuf, and who is professor of French in the College of the City of New York, has publisht (in *Origins of Eng. Peopl and Lang.*, Appleton, 1888, at p. 434) this table:

DUTCH	AS IN ENGLISH
a, articulated by a foloing consonant,	a in man
a, not so articulated, and aa	a in father
e, in prefixes be, ge, and final e	e in battery
e, articulated by a foloing consonant,	e in met
e, not so articulated, and ee	a in cable
i, articulated by a foloing consonant,	i in pin
ie, articulated or not,	ee in bee
ei, articulated or not,	ie in lie
o, articulated by a foloing consonant,	o in lot
o, not so articulated, and oo	oo in more
oe, articulated or not,	oo in room
ou, articulated or not,	ou in house
u, articulated by a foloing consonant,	u in us
u, not so articulated, is French u. [?]	
ui has no equivalent in English.	
y, articulated or not,	i in like.

By "articulated by a foloing consonant" is ment that a consonant immediatly folos in the same sylabl, the same as saving that it is a stopt vowel or sylabl, while it wud be an open sylabl if it had a vowel ending. This doctrin of open and stopt sylabls then plays the same part in Dutch as in German speling, except i-vowels in both tunges. Fuller explanation was givn in *HERALD* for Jan., 1899, p. 4. We then extended this principl to o- and u-vowels and hav uzed it so for a year. It works wel. As for a-vowels, Dr March appears to hav caut a glimps of the principl when he promulgated the dictum "a . . . ending a sylabl is a."

—In Chicago, conservativs hav ralid and sho fight, th' their case is hardly defensibl. Dr Andrews, sup't of city scools, having got twelv words with amended speling (as advized by the N. E. A.) regularly taut therin, the University of Chicago tho't to folo suit. The university pres board unanimously instructed their printer to adopt the twelv spelings too. The pres board consists of Pres't Harper, Prof's Thurber, Coulter, Donaldson, Blackburn, Price, Freund, Goodspeed, Hulburt, Laughlin, Small, Hale, and Mr N. A. Flood—be their names inscribed on our roll of onor. Then the watch-dog of conservatism barkt and alarmd that household of lerning: the governing board, deeming this action of the pres board too radical, revoked it pending decision of the congregation. Then, erly in October, it came up before the twenty profes-sers composing the university congregation. After extended discussion, decision was deferd to next meeting in January. Two profes-sers, heds of Greek and Latin departments, especialy argued against the new spelings. Prof. Shorey (Latin) said: "So long 'as we trust to the series of historical accidents "[Oh! Onest confesion is good for the soul!]" that "has bro't the [speling of the?] language to its "presnt state we ar safe, but when we introduce "an arbitrary change we take liberties with what "we hav no way of righting." We say that with the clear-cut planks of our Platform before him ther is no ocasion to fear "arbitrary changes."—The days of whimsical or capri-ious changes ar or shud be over. They hav workt harm in past years. We proceed now on definit lines with establish't principls. . . . Some unfavorabl coments in the Chicago pres on this university step provoked Mr Kimball to retort: "It is wel enuf to be conservativ, but one shud not so glory and stik to intellectual decrepitude."

—The University of Chicago has a creditabl reputation for advanced and advancing research. We trust that it wil not stultify its record by weakly yielding to the unreasoning clamors of a few non-progressiv objectors to any revision, however slight, of speling disgracefully bad, the worst in the world. The University of Padua did so once in like case. It was in the midl ages, as

decimal notation was making its way from India thru the Arabs, who, seeing its merit, adopted it erly. Slowly making its way into southern Europ, the univer-sity bookseler at Padua markt prices of his books so, preferring "49" to "xliv," and "488" to "ccclxxxviii," etc. The university board stultified itself, ordering its bookseler to desist and uze Roman notation! They wud put a stop to any such new-fangld nonsense! They preferd "the old way" to any "arbitrary" ten-base! Yet nine new symbols and a place-marker (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0) hav wonderfully facilitated and workt a revolution in mathematical calculations, and marvelosly helpt science to advance by furnishing it a precise tool working on a simpl system. One-third as many differentials aded to our alfabet, and uzed with principl and system, wil giv results yet more far-reaching, stil greater.

—Mr J. M. Mott, Chicago, had a medal and diploma awarded his alfabet at the Columbian Exhibition there in 1893. He wil exhibit it at the Paris Exposition this year. He has in pres a pamphlet giving trial applications to French, German, Italian and Spanish.

—The Old Speling Revized found in these colums is comon speling revized in acord with the foloing principls: OMIT useles letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) d to t, ph or gh to f; let -er denote agent-nouns.

—Mr A. J. Pierce, Grand Forks, Dakota, rote to the papers about beter speling, besides otherwise calling attention to it on the part of sumer scools meeting there!

CORRESPONDENCE.

U AND V IN SCRIPT.

STR: Mr Tuttle says, p. 46, that script u and var not redily distinguisht. As I form them, ther is posibility (not probability) that u wud be taken for v, as u alines with m and has a round base, while script v is a desender ending in an acute angl. See Script Formz on p. 52. Blackmer's v is a letter most desirabl, legibl, open-faced, wel adapted to clean pres-work, the proper loer-case form of U, and is asignd a power of u most comon. In my script, pen isn't lifted from paper except to dot i or cross t. The ritn page looks not difrent from one in the ordinary alfabet. The new letters ar graceful.

Chicago, Ill.

JOHN M. MOTT.

A MODERAT PROGRAM SUITS HIM.

STR: I am glad that the British empire can keep at least one publication going in the caus of beter speling. Stik to yur moderat program. Only by the wedge can the rotn trunk of [not ortho-, but] kakografy be rivn. We progress in this cuntry: notice "rime" in *Notes and Queries*. I send a second ten shilings. Alot some of it to send copies where the gospel is likely to take root, as universities and coleges. Reform must come from above, not belo, and where beter than from educational centers.

Yu say "we must agree or fail." But, points of agreement far exceed points of difrence. Ther is no difrence about the Five Rules, or even as to the bulk of the Filologic Society's Rules. If these ar adopted in our time we may wel be content. Reserv all our force to drive these Rules into the literature of the language. Defer further advance to the next generation.

Swansea, Wales.

E. L. PONTIFEX.