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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 37. TORONTO, CANADA, Jan.-Mar., 1906. N.^o 87.

THE VITAL POINT.

THE HERALD has a circulation of 1000, and has done much good to its subscribers. It is the best, cheapest and most liberal journal of the kind published. It gives all the news and plans of spelling reform for 25 cents a year, with extra give-away copies.

Its editor has the heart, will, knowledge and experience necessary for its publication. Of any reformer he has, too, the best collection of type for the purpose; farthermore, he is so located that he can send the paper at pound rates to both the British Isles and the United States.*

He has labored long and hard with pecuniary loss. To allow THE HERALD to stop would be a dreadful blow to the cause.

So, readers, subscribe — the vital point.

Teachers, take THE HERALD. The child wastes two years of precious school life through irregular spelling. A fitting word now and then to the young paves the way for reform.

College Presidents, ask your philanthropic students to canvass for THE HERALD. It would revive the reform, cause great leaders to arise, and free the English-speaking world from ignorance and slavery.

Spelling Reformers, subscribe. A quarter (or a shilling) a year from each believer would boom THE HERALD, and it would boom the cause. It would then have 100,000 subscribers, if not a million, and it would make them earnest reformers. Let us go to work now, and roll up ten thousand subscriptions. Canvassing is now the most essential part of our reformatory work, preparation of the soil for the seed.

New York City. G. W. WISHARD.

*[Including Hawaii, Philipin Islands, South Africa, New Zealand, Newfoundland and other colonies—India and Australia not yet; distribution would be handicapped by postage from any other center, as the United States even.—Ed.]

THE HERALD is published (with miscellaneous object) in Jan., April, July, Oct., at 57 Harbor St., Toronto, Canada. SUBSCRIBE AND DISTRIBUTE in letters, in schools, privately in a hundred ways. 8 copies to one address 25 cents a year in advance; 20 copies, 50 cents; 45 copies, \$1; 100 copies, \$2. Issues for a past year, 10c. Foreign stamps taken. Your influence to extend circulation is solicited.

For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of Annual of New Spelling (postpaid, 10c.) published every July as archives of the year.

OPINIONS OF EMINENT MEN.

(Cont'd from p. 101, 107, 111, 115, 123, 127, 139, 140.)

The phonetic movement is of vast importance to humanity.—Prof. R. WEEKS.

Many zealous spelling reformers lack training for constructive work. They find arguments enough against the present system; they can contribute nothing of value to a new one. A conference of such would have no influence.—F. A. BLACKBURN, professor in English, Chicago University.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The Blossburg Advertiser, a Tioga Co., Pa., weekly, uses the, thru, boro, and others.

—Wright's English Dialect Grammar, is out: 730 pp. crown 8vo (smaller than 12mo) cloth. It gives chief results as developed by Wright's Dialect Dictionary (noticed on our p. 150) comprising the dialects of England, Shetland and Orkney Islands, and parts of Scotland, Ireland and Wales where English is habitually spoken (Frowde, 10s 6d till 31st Dec. 1905; after, 16s).

—Wright tries "to bring out as far as possible main characteristic features of all the dialects, and to furnish . . . a concise and systematic account of the phonology and accentuation."

—It is the first grammar of its kind. Had collection of material for it been delayed twenty years, it would then have been quite impossible to get together sufficient pure dialect material to outline our dialects' phonology, so rapidly is pure dialect speech disappearing, even in country districts, from spread of education and modern facilities for inter-communication.

—The pure dialects disappear, their orthoepy remains in amalgam for centuries, affecting averages and normals. America is full of Tudor English, part of which came through New England, but more from Ireland.

—This asks you to subscribe and so help to reach the circulation aimed at—10,000.

—Were 100 workers to buy and distribute judiciously 100 copies each of every issue, or 400 a year for each (in all 40,000 a year) THE HERALD would then be self-supporting (income \$200 a year) and fulfill its mission. Hitherto its receipts were between 33 and 40 percent of cost of publication.

—History repeats itself: Vickroy found nearly 400 members of the Amer. Sp. Ref. Ass'n who refused (by neglect of dues) to pay arrears of 50-cent subscriptions to his *Phonetic Teacher*, the SRA organ. He bled the Ass'n for \$479. All its funds, \$220.46, were paid on account; a balance of \$258.54 was never paid. This sum was but a little part of the time, trouble, energy, work and money given by that devoted scholar. Exit Vickroy in disgust from this and other like reasons. See SRA Bulletin 18, dated New York Nov. 1884.

—"The incum of the paper for the hole

year has fallen far short of paying expenses. It is not worth while to extricate overlapt accounts of past two years; the editor's los for the hole period is \$322.72." So said Fernald (*Our Language*, April, 1893) after publishing 24 numbers, each of les matter and les typesetting than our sheet becaus *O. L.* had larger type and some advertizements to help its 'incum,' tho we never had any. Divide his stated deficit by 24—monthly los \$13.45 causing *O. L.* to stop March, 1894. Fernald then transferd his energy to *Speling*, bakt by the Speling Reform Aso'n. After two or three numbers the SRA, *Speling* and all, died Sept., 1894.

—'T was ever thus. Exampls cud be multiplied; but, "nuf sed."

—HERALD receipts in 1897, \$17 or therabout, wil be publisht itemized, when the record, now mislaid, is found.

—HERALD receipts in 1898: Lyon \$1.00, Woodward \$0.25, Kimball \$1.00, Werner \$0.50, Converse \$0.25, Broomell \$2.00, Willner \$0.25, Kansas State Hist. Soc'y \$0.25, Tyson \$0.25, Boss \$0.25, Wilcox \$0.25, Drummond \$1.08, Cameron \$0.25, Molee \$0.25, Thornton \$0.70, Kidder \$1.00, Squair 0.25—Total \$9.78.

—HERALD receipts in 1899: Lyon \$1.25, Orr 1.00, Kimball 1.46, Pierce 0.30, Wilcox, Boss, Cameron, Wishard, Vierhof, Mott, 0.25 each, Werner 0.75, Tuttle 0.61, Drummond 2.00, Thornton 0.50, Candy 1.00, Pontifex 4.70, Broomell 2.00, small sums 0.60—Total \$17.67.

—Zamenhof, inventor of Esperanto in 1887, is a practising oculist of Warsaw (Varsov, French *Varsovie*, appears a better speling). A jarnal of medicin, most cosmopolitan of all noledge, wholly in Esperanto, is projected.

—*Sherbourne*, a principal street in Toronto, is named after Sherborne (without u, the u in Sherbourne is a mistake persisted in) in Dorsetshir, Eng. Sherborn (without final e, making this distinctiv), Mass., is named after the same vilage, founded in 705 and celebrating its 1200th anniversary last summer. Its name is from Saxon *scir*, clear, and *burna* (Scottish *burn*), stream.

—"Teaching French Pronunciation by Machinery" is an illustrated artiel of six pages by Grace Ellison (*Strand Magazine*, Oct.—New York edition, Nov.) It givs the features of Abbe Rousselot who lectures at the Catholic University and Colledge de France, Paris, and who with Dr Nantier has founded the Institut de Laryngologie et Orthophonie, which now receives a government grant, and where, assisted by instruments, it is possibl to define and correct with precision impediments of speech, defects of hearing, and many trubls due to improper breathing. Correct pronunciation of foren tungs, too, is a great feature with Abbe R., whose unique and wonderful instruments wel deserved the *Grand Prix* at the Paris Exhibition of 1900. In the Rousselot (ruslo) machine three inscriptions ar made simultaneosly; from, first, lips or mouth; second, nose by a litl glas oliv connected by a rubber tube to the inscribing pen; third, larynx by a rubber cravat around it. Each inscribing drumhed (*tambour inscripteur*) has a pen atatch riting on smoked paper which is then dipt in varnish and dried.

—In correcting mispronunciation Rousselot's teachers make great use of an artificial palat made like a plate for false teeth. This is coverd with kaolin powder. Pupil and tutor insert their own. The pupil aims to produce the same fone as the teacher. Comparison of the two plates is an object lesson, according to areas swept of kaolin by the tung.

—Rüss-'lōō' appreciates and practises this: "These difficulties can be grapld with *only* by scientid methods, if we hope for satisfactory results. . . . Acurat noledge of orthoepic facts wud help to setl speling."—SWEET.

—*Only* in the foregoing means *ther is no other way*. Experience abundantly confirms.

—In *Rousselot* before, both s and ō appear held or *prolongd* from elision, and ar markt so. Chief stres is on second sylabl, and is markt so. Both vowels hav high teusion, as is the rule in strong French vowels, and ar markt so. If ther is question on a point, let French foneticians decide. This illustrates what is said about Elements of Strength (in strong syllabls) in another colum.

—Sweet (p. 1, this vol.) says "the problem of riting sounds is fully as important as analyzing them." Without a *good* notation we can not compare critically. Both comparison and strictly logical, even fiery, criticism ar indispensable if we ar to hav results that wil endure. A good strict notation, as simpl as may be, is paramount for progres. HERALD-notation has never been fully devlopt yet. Shud it liv?

Mr G. W. Wishard, New York, sends THE HERALD \$5 unconditionally, and \$10 more on the easy conditions that his plea, "The Vital Point," be put on first page in larger type, with 1000 extra copies, 500 for specified addesses and 500 for his own distribution. Thus has he bakt up his words by cash and deeds. Too many of us ar content with what is easier, shouting for the other felo to giv and do.

—In July-Aug. ther was prolongd discussion on amendment of speling in the *Yorkshir Post*. Mr Drummond led the agressiv host; Rev. L. G. Hunt, Wykeham, the defense.

—With a complete notation, all change can conform gradually to that alfabet. Each if minded so can immediatly enjoy [and work toward] it—by far the most powerful means to hasten rational and regular speling.—SIDNEY E. BOND in *Yorkshire Post*, of Leeds, Eng.

—Fonetic speling wud intensify the differences between a Cornishman's and a Northumbrian's speech. Now, with arbitrary speling, Englishmen from all parts can at least understand each other by letter. Fonetic speling wud not tend to unify speech [as wud a fixt New Speling that rufly approximated normal orthoepy.] It wud perpetuate differences which, with spred of education, tend to disappear. Literary fonetic speling wud be realy arbitrary, as it wud hav to be fixt. [Our Plank 15 over again.]—S. M. F., *Ibid*.

—One may favor simplifying glaring anomalies without having or shoing any favor to fonetic speling. . . . Had England an Academy like France, I wud welcome any simplifications suggested by it. [Filologic Societies on both sides of the Atlantic joint to recomend 24 Joint Rules for immediat adoption. Folo them as we do now and, in efect, thruout.]—*Ibid*.

—Mr E. B. Thorntun, Addison, N. Y., presents THE HERALD with a gramofone and records to be uzed to help progres in comparativ orthoepy in difrent districts. This means of study has come into prominence of late, and is likely to prove of great service in normalizing speech in regions widely separated.

—Mr Burch's 26th artiel apeard on 30th Nov., and treats of the work of the late Dr T. B. Welch, Messrs Sreeting, Needham, Fysher and Lodge, Dr Lloyd and Prof. Ronald Ross, principal of the Scol of Tropical Medicin, Liverpool. Woodcuts of Messrs Streeting and Fysher appear.

—*K versus C* is a long artiel, "a brief for K," by Mr N. J. Werner of St Louis (*Jur. O. & O.*, Oct., Nov.) He forgets to recall what our p. 145 says: the New Speling of Spanish promulgated in Chile chuses K tho k is a rare letter in Spanish.

—The late Prof. Candy, by wil, left his fonetic books to THE HERALD—20 bound vol's of Pitman's *Phonetic Journal* (1873, 1877 to 1895) yet in London. If sold, the price goes into our Type Fund. Otherwise, they wil go to some library.

—A reading-room in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, asks and receives THE HERALD.

—We began using *ı* (equivalent to *ı̄*) as an alphabetic symbol in Jan., 1897. Since about 1899 it has been used widely, but for *i* in *in*, not *i* in *machine* as employed herein all along. This is due largely to *i* having only the *machine*-sound in French. So Passy (and others folo) uses *ı* for this non-French (and, to him, foren) sound. We think the original value assigned it the better, and urge that it be used so.

LETTER BOX.

C. R.: *almoud* and *haud* on p. 155 shud be *almond*, *hand*. Neither *aneurism* nor *aneurysm* is found in Preferd Spellings on p. 120 becaus reason for choice was absent. The N. E. Dict'y says :

"The spelling with *y* is etymological; but that with *i*, by form-associ'n with *-ism*, more frequent."

S. E. B.: Script *ı* is upward script *r*. It is often made necessarily much like *e*. *r* itself is always ritn downward. Script *e* is *é* (French *é* in *bébé*, *été*, *coupé*, *café*, *CAFÉ*, regular and uniform in French) made with one pen-stroke. Script *ı* is script *A* (*A*-like) with its long legs omitted.

E. W.: "hiir" for *here* on p. 156 is not a misprint. In America many use a rather prolonged *i* (like that in *spirit*) in *clear*, *here*, *hear*, *oh dear!* (not *deer* in Toronto). Larison uses *i* in *birth*, *first* (*ı* prevails in this region). Presumably an Adirondak woodsman said *hiir* for *here*.

L. C. P.: Mr Lyon has made out Preferd Spellings to end of C. Limited space forbids insertion unless in a Supplement. A-words ar found on pages 120, 121; B-words to *bilge* ar on pages 146, 148.

AMENDMENT IN FRENCH SPELLING.

(From the London Daily Mail.)

The French Government Comision's report on reform of French is before the Academy for criticism and modification and may lead to many changes in French grammar and spelling. The Academy has to acknowledge another king in Brentford. For 250 years it alowd no dissent from its magisterial decisions on filologic questions—or, at least, when overborne by the rush of genius from Moliere to Victor Hugo, it took care to make inovaters consios of sin in wishing to move faster than the Forty Immortals. The Academy is forced to yield to the democratic spirit. Its obstinat endeavor to "stand on ancient ways" and retain even French imperfections, simply becaus time-onord, has receivd a nasty jar from the Government, quietly using its complete control of public education.

In 1891 the French Minister of Education charged inspectors and examiners not to lay undue stres on minor mistakes in spelling, or to delight in triping students—as examiners ar apt to do—with out-of-the-

way forms, irregular verbs, od plurals, anomalos genders, etc. In 1900 a circular brusht aside some minute difficulties due to unsientific gramarians in the eighteenth century. The famos decree of 26 Feb., 1901, made a sweeping reform in more complicated parts of french syntax—exceptional genders and plurals that vex the schoolboy wer suprest—a good deed now rounded off by announcing that in future the plural is always with *s*, never with *x*.

NORTHERNERS IN THE SOUTHWEST.

Most towns on the Kansas City Southern Railway [running south to Port Arthur on the Gulf of Mexico] hav large eastern and northern contingents. Kansas City is more New England than Boston, for ther is no brogue, nor is the polyglot twang of New York's lingo herd. Neosho, Joplin, Pittsburg, Siloam Springs and Fort Smith each hav a large proportion of citizens from north and east, and ar perhaps wider between eyes than brethern they left behind. Port Arthur is setld entirely by northern folk, Shreveport and Texarkana largely so, tho, if out to buy clothing, *yu* may hear dialect imported *via* New York. Most immigrants to west Arkansa, east Texas, west Luisiana, come from Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois. As a rule, better English is herd west of the Missisipi than east of the Alleghanies [becaus population is more fused?]. Cuntry populations, as a rule, come from the same localities as the townspeopl.

Kansas City, Mo. F. E. ROESLER.
Immigration Agent Kan. City Southern R. R. Co.

THE ELEMENTS OF STRENGTH.

On p. 88 a formula is stated. It is $s = f(d, i, p)$, which ("being interpreted," as the good book says) means : a syllabl's strength is a compound function of its duration, its intensity and pitch.

In our language a syllabl's strength or force or vim (*v*) plays an important part in all speech, verse especially. Stres appears left out of account in the formula. Acordingly, amend it to read : $v = f(d, i, p, s)$, where *d* is duration, *i* intensity, *p* pitch, and *s* stres. A syllabl's strength is a compound or complex function of its duration, intensity, pitch and stres. *i* and *p* ar interrelated; *s* may not be independent. Strong, average and weak stres ar shown by a raisd period, hyfen and period (··) after the syllabl (as *indivisibility* in-di-viz-i-bil-i-ti-). Alternativly, weak syllabls ar shown by a small vowel (indivizibil·iti). Duration above average is shown by dubling or by apostrofe or other mark (·) as in *walk* on p. 160. Intensity over average

is shown by acute accent (´); weak or relaxed tension by its reverse (˘). A first or ruf approximat to pitch is givn by vowels, i, e, a, o, u, being in natural-pitch order.

FIVE MILION YEARS.

Debating Societies, now in ful blast, shud debate: *Resolved*, that 5,000,000 years ar wasted annually by irregular speling; and report such debates as news to local papers. 25,000,000 children atend scool in U. S. and British empire. A fifth of their time is wasted — enuf for them to lern fysiology, book-keeping, natural filosofy. Spreed this tho't wherever our tung is ritn or red. 336 w. 44, New York. G. W. WISHARD.

NORMAL AMERICAN SPEECH.

Sweet said in 1888 (*Hist. Eng. Sounds*, p. ix) that Irish-English and American-English wer unknown—only too tru, if careful representation of it by an adequat notation is ment. Tru, careful record of speech in several States has been made (*Dialect Notes*, i, p. 198), but too colloquial to help orthograpy. This needs formal or solem speech as Lloyd givs (in *Nor. Eng.*, texts, type A). Grandgent compares (in *Ger. & Eng. Sounds*, Boston, 1892), vowel by vowel, speech in suthern English, northern English, that of New England, suthern States, and America, meaning by that the rest of U. S. We extend the term to include Canada. Lloyd (*HERALD*, April, 1898) calls this "the largest homogeneous body of English pronunciation." New England is les distinctiv in speech now than forty years ago; the South les divergent too. This formal normal (average or standard) speech receivs illustration in a solem rendition of (P)sam xxiii, 1-4, with which Lloyd's work (*N. Eng.*, p. 67) may be compared. The vowel { i e ʌ o ū system in i-, e-, a-, o-, u-or- } i e æ a o u der is powerful to express { i e ʌ o u sound, yet simpl and redily graspt mentally, coresponding sign-for- { i e v o u sign to NED notation, but } i e æ a Q u NED denotes weak ('obscure') vowels by a brev above—ours is more expressiv. In trying to uze the IFA alfabet difficulties and unsetld questions arise. Attempts to uze giv a result requiring much acompnying explanation, especially in riting English. Principal variants ar givn, as Vior does in his *Lesebuch*, and Passy in the Michaelis-Passy *Dict. phonétique français*.

These general facts shud be noted: (1) Strong ʌ and a occur in stopt sylabls only. (2) As formal speech drops to colloquial, e, o, u, tend to weak i or weak ʌ. (3) Strong a is oftener mid-bak than lo-bak.* (4) i, e,

a, o, u, ar more open than their sound-mates, i, e, ʌ, o, ū. They ar literally wider (tho not "wide" in the Bell-Sweet sense. B-Sweet's 'naro' vowels hav high tension. Tru American vowels hav average, not high, tension. Relaxt tension is tabood as drawling. (5) Vowels ar comonly pure: nasalization is tabood. (6) r after vowels is kept, is rolld moderately, and is virtually the same as before them. (7) e(r) when not folod immediatly by a vowel (as in *server*) becomes ʌ(r).

ðʌ lord iz mai sep^hard; ai sæl not wont. hi mæk^ə mi tu lai daun in grin pasty^{rz}; hi lid^ə mi bésaid ðʌ stil wot^{rz}. hi rí stōr^ə mai sōl; hi lid^ə mi in ðʌ padz ov raity^{sn}s for hiz nēm^{zz} sæk. yeⁱ, ðō ai wo:k þrū ðʌ væli ov ðʌ fædō ov deþ, ai wil fir nō ivl: for ðau art wið mi; ðai rōd ænd ðai staf ðe camf^{rt} mi.—sam xxiii.

NOTES

the becomes ði or ði before vowels.

my, lie, beside, right, I, thy, hav each a (art) folod by brief, relaxed or slak i tending toard or even *tu* brief i, to which it is nearer. That the second element is e (*they*) ending in an i-vanish (Hempl, Schoch) is not proven conclusively.

not, rod, hav comonly a (art) but ordinary o (*nor*) is herd so often as to be considered a regular variant denoted by its symbol, o. In *HERALD*-notation, a, e, i, o, u, denote regular variants.

want, waters, walk, hav a too, but irregularly. The attraction (assimilation) of w, a labial, has converted a into labialized, purst o in a vast majority of cases.

pastures, paths, staff, (p)sa(l)m, hav æ mostly. Most orthoepists prescribe a (art). So, it is a regular variant denoted by its symbol, a.

pastures, comfort, hav u, o. In colouquy weak e, i, o, u, tend to become weak ʌ. Weak a is not herd from nativs. Weak a and weak ʌ ar not far apart, too near for use by the same set of speakers. Foreners uze weak a.

paths, with, ar often herd as pæps, wip.

beside has brief i varying to i, weak i, e, ʌ, in its first sylab—a regular variant in a considerable clas, markt by its symbol of variance, i. *restoreth*, too, belongs to this clas.

righteousness has ai before t, tho Ellis, and, after him, our Montreal correspondent, M., in vol. i, p. 49, stoutly contend that ai, not ai, always precedes a voiceles consonant, while ai precedes voiced ones or ends the sylabl. Our observation goes to sho that a in such cases does not shift to ʌ, its mate-sound. It is ai stil before p, t, k, etc. Such ai is *prolongd* before b, d, g, etc.

name's has dubld z, which tho weak (z) from five voiced fones preceding, is made audibl by prolongation, during which, voice is dropt and breth taken to giv ful hissing s in *sake*.

yea has e folod by i because a paus folos. The i-vanish is perceptibl in such exceptional position. Evans' views in our vol. i, p. 198, shud hav repetition and emfasis. Too many foneticians exaggerate exception into rule. A regular but negligibl off-glide is exaggerated into an i-or u-vanish. Thus false difthongs arise.

walk has its vowel prolonged more than *want*, perhaps due to efect of lost l, herd in Anglo-Saxon *wælcian*, later *walken*; then a (art), by attraction of w, shifted to o (*nor*), and is yet long.

evil often has weak i in the pulpit. In (p)sam xxiii L(1)oyd puts i, but not in *evil* in the Lord's Pray on p.69. This i is unstable.

*German a is lo-neutral: compare Amer. *hot-house* and Ger. *hat, haus*, in *er hat ein haus*.