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# The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 57. TORONTO, CANADA, Jan.-Mar., 1917. N<sup>o</sup>. 107.

## THE NEW FROM THE OLD

Evry society is the legatee ov all that went before. It inherits all that is good, much that is evil. Ther must be therfore in evry helthy community much that is worn out and shud be extruded.

While love ov novelty is unwise, and changes made for mere fashon ov change ar tu be avoided, it is on the other hand sheer foly tu refuse needful changes.—Conserv what is sound and good, prune out all that no longer bears fruit, cut down and burn what is ded and mildewd.

Absolute conservatism is absolute dotage. No change? then no growth. At evry generation the state shud enter on house-cleaning. Worn-out furniture shud giv place tu new and better. Evry crack and cranny shud be sercht for vermin; rubbish shud go tu the garret, broken crockery tu the dust-heap.

The attempt tu wear the clothes ov our childhood wud not be more absurd than for society tu preserv its old institutions unmodified. Violent and sudn changes ar tu be avoided. *The new shud gro out ov the old.* Thus, as in Nature evolution goes on from loer tu higher, without break or casm, and from les good tu greater good, so shud it be in the state.

Reformation is the surest preventiv ov Revolution.—HENRY WARD BEECHER

## PRONUNCIATION AND POETIC MELODY

A reviewer in the *Toronto Globe* notes that John Masefield, the new poet, makes (but when it suits him only) two sylabls ov words like *fire*, *hour*, pronouncing them *faɪər*, *auər* tu help out his meter. This

EXPLANATION: OMIT useles letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* tu *t*, *ph* or *gh* tu *f*; *o* tu *u* in *to*, *do*, *who*, *prove*, *move*, *behave*, *shoe*, *canoe*.

For fuller explanation and Platform see cover of *Annual of New Speling* (postpaid, 10 c.)

is "the author's personal peculiarity" not coverd by poetic license or hardly so, for

Over the fire with his magic ring  
must be scand: *ō vēr | ðə faɪ | ər wið | hɪz mæd | ɹɪŋ*. *Rs* ar not dropt, as Masefield, aged 42, was born in Shropshir, and western England has vigoros *rs*. He went tu sea at 14, tramt and workt thru America til, stranded, he became a bar-tender's asistant in New York. Shropshir men with like record du not drop *rs*. Poets hav long taken liberty tu count words like *power* as monosylabls. Then such shud be printed "pow'r," tu help readers tu the rythm, a rule with older poets, a tradition kept by poets laureat thru Tennyson and Austin tu Bridges inclusiv. We ar told:

The tru busines ov a poet is tu enshrine fine tho'ts in exquisit melodies. Now Browning too often left the melodies tu take care ov themselves. . . . has our age altogether lost all ear for melody in verse, as I now observ poems extravagantly lauded, despite being cast intu barbaros, tiresom and dissonant form. We hav men ov fine intellect, men ov genius and vivid imagination haled as poets becaus they hav thrown some ov their fancies intu lines printed as verses, which ocasionaly scan, but otherwise ar awkward prose ov sounds realy excruciating. Du these enthusiasts realy feel the music ov Shakspear, Milton, Shelley—can they hear it? or ar they def tu this witchery ov words? No force ov intellect can save poetry that laks this. In the later Victorian era we had but three poets of prime mark—Browning, with sutl tho't but no music; Swinburn, with luscios music but no deep or original tho't; and Tennyson, hu put ideas truly poetic intu varied, exquisit, harmonios cadence.—FREDRIC HARRISON

Shakspear makes Richard II say

"Muficke do I heare?  
Ha, ha! keepe time: How four sweet muficke is  
When Time is broke, and no Proportion kept?  
So is it in the Muficke of mens liues:  
And heere haue I the daintinesse of eare,  
To heere time broke in a disorder'd ttring:"

(Act v, sene 4, Folio ov 1623.)

## NEWS-NOTES AND COMMENTS

—It seems establisht that when poets wish *over*, *never*, *ever*, *heaven*, etc., tu count as one sylabl in scansion a letter is dropt but an apos-

trofe takes its place (c'er, ne'er, e'er, hev'n, etc.) Dropping weak e helps to preserv melody for the weak (not long) eard readers (Harrison, HERALD)

—Michigan has its Agricultural College at Lansing and alumni-secretary Sam. Langdon used simpl spelings in its *Record*. Prof. Barrows, oldest in the faculty, tried to stop it, says Detroit *Evening News*. When it came to vote he was the only one to suport hisown motion! The faculty then resolvd to recognize certn wordforms in *all* their publications. Let progres go on.

—The principal component of Yiddish is a form ov High (or South) German.

—All no that "sometimes w and y" ar vowels. W is a vowel when it sounds u in *put* as in this paragraf, while w is for the consonant—similarly, Y is i in *sit* in this paragraf and above, while y is as in *yet*. We folo Paul: "Try all, adopt the good." We try it out as tu w and y in these feu lines. "y" for a vowel breaks the rule that no vowel-sign goes belo the line. Is it worth farther tryal and use in scool-books? We ask readers to respond after due consideration.

—Y came from the Greek alfabet, not Roman originally. Capitals du not go belo the line. The singl exception is "old style" j, (J). y-belo-the-line dates from printing's advent 400 years ago, while j, a Kamist letter, came 300 ago. Modern J (not "old style") is on the line.

—In England the field is open. They need efficient, intelligent, conservativ, co-operat v co-workers—hard to find.—*Jur. Or. & Or.*, '09, p. 17.

—The literary use ov dialect to aid to individualize character seems to depend on seizing and reproducing the spirit, the idiom ov dialect, rather than on fonetic or lexicographic accuracy.—H. W. SMITH in *Dial. Notes*, iv, p. 263.

—All hu study Greek or French no what a nuisance diacritics ar, and what perplexities, not to say profanities, they constantly inspire. Very few forin lerners hav really mastered them. To "simplify" English by the r introduction is worse than ridiculos.—HENRY HOLT, LL.D.

—It wud be easy to spin out an alfabet that wud be a cumbrus nuisance. The tendency has been to pare alfabets down.—IBID.

—Any thing humans hav tu do can be overrefined into futility — a great danger where experts prescribe for evryday work ov a era e people. Ther is no practical need to try to make ritn words represent *all* shades ov spoken worls, nor chance ov success, especially as pronounciations vary with locality and time.—IBID.

—One great enemy ov Simplified Spelling, perhaps greater even than excessiv conservatism, is counsel ov perfection. Expert filologists and foneticians not only heap up suggestions ov superfluous refinements, but oppose obvious reforms becaus not perfect, and becaus ov ded-and-burid historic considerations.—IBID.

—Economy is the wedge's thin end — Among adults movment is inevitably and reasonably slow. But the time seems near when children's labors will be lightend, and their appreciation ov law and order increast, by teaching the *u* some system both economic and rational.—IBID.

—Probably the most frequent, certnly most obvious, ov all economics is *yu*. Why it was not one ov the "twelv words," and why some others wer when it was not, puzzles. Riting and printing utterly superfluous *o* in *you* (including *your*) costs millions ov dollars evry year; — tru, in les degree, ov a still greater absurdity: spelling *tu* as *too* and *two*.—IBID.

—Tu disturb materialy the verbal forms [speling] peple ar used tu wud be cruel — more

cruel to inflict on children and teachers present spelling. Ther is no real necessity for either cruelty. The present generation can be acustomd to better forms thru ordinary busines correspondence and advertizing; also to the idea ov bringing up children to find better forms naturally in literature and correspondence ov moment.—IBID.

—This idea shud be peculiarly welcom becaus it wil save children many tears and much time—estimated by some as high as two years—now wasted over inconsistent spelling. If tant rational and consistent forms, they wil become acustomd to current forms also, without consios effort.—IBID.

—The American Board recomends several excelent impruvments, but attempts not to reduce our spelling to system. The English Society attempts such, many ov huse features correspond with the Am. Board's work; and many more (not all the Am. Board has formally adopted) ar apruvd by the majority ov its members. If this debateabl ground is ever put in order it wil be by individual effort, most efforts going to waste, the most fit surviving.—IBID.

—The SS Board's Secretary givs reasons why but one issue ov its *Bulletin* apeard in 1915. One was that field activities interfered with editorial duties; an other, obstacis arose to prevent carrying out the proposed program: 4 special issues to giv in 4 parts a proposed handbook ov SS.

—The *Bulletin* is not self-supporting—money wel spent, as it circulated widely among non-subscribers, important in publicity.

—Dr Robert Bridges, born 23 Oct. 1844, was educated aristocratically at Eton and Oxford, became a fysician and worked hard in London hospitals. Posest ov privat means he retired before 40 to liv at Oxford to rite essays and poems beautifully finisht. The distinguishing characteristics ov his poetry: stateliness, gravity and a certn unusual music that charms many.—*Med. World*.

—*The Pyoneer* apeard quarterly in 1916.

—Sir William Ramsay, world-renownd chemist, quoted on an other page, died 23d July. Born in Glasgow 1852, ov late he livd in London.

—James Whitcomb Riley, Hoosier (Indiana) dialect poet, died on the same day. All riters ov dialect help us to study pronounciation.

#### PRONOUNCING FRENCH.

LESSON II — (LESSON I is on page 215)

é v'a jil s' l'o s'a j'a, fa pitr' pr' myé

14 é la parol a été fet fer é a a bité par mi nu, plen d' gras é d' vérité; é nuz a v'o vu sa glwar, un glwar tel k e sèl du fis unik v' nu du pèr

[Et la parole a été faite chair et a habité parmi nous, pleine de grâce et de vérité; et nous avons vu sa gloire, une gloire qu' est celle du Fils unique venu du Père.—St. Jean, i, 14.]

John i, continued from p. 215, is (not colloquial, but) deliberat and reverent. é, insted ov e, is kept for close-*e*-tense, é and e correspond and ar nearly identical. In French, é is close-*e*-tense, seldom open e: é keeps this before the lerner's eye, e does not. Two other es ar distinguisht: one, (e), nearly as close as e, or e, symbolic, meaning e-in-e-position, an

other, (e), opener—e is distinguisht from e by Bell, Ellis, Sweet, Murray, and is alowd (tho not markt) by Wright; Passy levels both intu one sign (e, using e for our é). e and e are widely distributed in Britan, wherin words ov difrent meaning ar distinguisht so. In midl and western Scotland, *ell* is eɫ, *ill* is eɪ (often ɪl where *w'ill* is wɪl); *himself* is hem sɛɫ. u is ū, consistently speld *ou* in French; while u is "French u," a vowel that wabls (in difrent districts) from ɪ whisld (ɪ<sub>ou</sub>) tu u (in our *put*) whisld or purst (u<sub>o</sub>), pitch being raisd by fronting the tung for ɪ<sub>ou</sub> or loerd by retraction for u<sub>o</sub>, lips the same in both. Before an other vowel v becomes v-consonant, a second w difrent from u-consonant, our w. a is a haf-fronted but more tense æ, comon in northern France, midl and western Scotland. \* and , on p. 215 ar leveld under °, which weakens tu , in colloquial, or disappears if consonants join redily. Sign ov nasalization (˘) precedes the vowel, an index-finger tu sho that voiced breth is tu go by nose as wel as mouth.

LITERATURE

- SCOTCH IRISH PIONEERS in Ulster and America, by Cha's K. Bolton, with maps and illustrations. 398 pages, Boston, Bacon. \$2.
- THE ULSTER SCOT, his History and Religion, by Rev. J. B. Woodburn, M. A., 412 pages, London, Allenson. Cloth, 6 s.
- HISTORY OF EMIGRATION from the United Kingdom to North America, 1763 - 1912, by S. C. Johnson, M. A., 397 pages 8vo, cloth. London, Routledge and sons. 6 s.
- THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA by H. J. FORD, professor of politics at Princeton University. Cloth, 607 pages, Princeton Univ. Pres Oxford Univ. Pres, London. \$2.
- THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA: their History, Traits, Institutions and Influences: especially as Illustrated in Erly Settlers ov Western Pennsylvania, and their Desendants, by J. W. Dinsmore, D. D. 257 p. cloth. Chicago, Winona.
- THE ULSTERMAN, a Story ov Tu-day, by F. F. Moore. 323 pages 12mo, boards. London, Hutchinson, 1914. 6 s.
- MORVEN, 177 pages 12mo, *Gleaner* book-room, boards, Huntingdon, Quebec.
- A FONETIC METHOD TU TEACH READING: Shal We Test its Worth? by E. O. Vaile 16 p.
- ECONOMIZED COMMERCIAL SPELLING, by Henry Holt, LL. D., reprinted from the *Unpopular Review*, 35 w. 32d st., New York. 19 pages.

The Puritan setlment in New England and the Cavalier one in tidewater Virginia in the 17th cent. had a bro'd border put around them in the 18th., a border difrent in race and speech from Puritan-Cavalier ones. Beside Penn's Quakers came co-religionist Germans ("Pen. Dutch") ov the Rhine, tu real Dutch in the Hudson vally, and Protestant Scoto-Irish spred thru

Maryland, West Virginia, the Carolinas, intu Georgia and western Pennsylvania, thru New Jersey intu Massachusetts west ov Connecticut river, and from the northern Hudson thru Vermont and New Hampshir intu Maine and Nova Scotia. The Puritan-Cavaliers favord such setlment becaus it formd an ever widening border against Indians all around and tu French ov New France, much as Britan kept Holland-Belgium a buffer tu Germany. Lord Baltimore bro't Catholics (mainly English) intu Maryland; otherwise this English-speaking border was Scoto-Irish chiefly. Hu wer they? Why came they? Whence came they? Seek anser in Woodrow Wilson's 5-vol. *History Amer. People* and be disapointed. Roosevelt's *Winning of West* givs considerabl light in places: Ford, Bolton, and Woodburn clear it up: New England's and Virginia's speech, nearly identical yet, was straind thru this border buffer (with its vigoros personality, ever alert tu du and push setlment farther afield), alterd and colord in transit. Johnson tels us:—

from 1769-74 no les than 43,720 saild from Londonderry, Belfast, Newry, Larne and Portrush tu setlments on the Atlantic seaboard, an annual outgo ov 8470. Scotland contributed more and England les — quite 20,000 a year—the majority from the Scottish Highlands and Ireland.—P. 2. This was before the Revolution, after it

Loyalist migration intu British teritory flowd in two great streams, one by sea tu Nova Scotia, the other overland tu Canada.—*Ibid.*, page 5. Tu lern more about it all, read this history ov setlment—not ov pronunciation, tho pron. is much cleard up therby. Dinsmore eulogises the race too much. Moore has mid-Antrim dialect in his novel. *Morven* givs the story ov forced emigration ov Catholics in 1769 from Deir, an iland of the coast ov Scottish Highlands, tu virtual slavery in Virginia, whence they escaped tu the Mohawk vally before the Revolution; after it, as royalists, across the Saint Lawrence intu eastern Ontario. Between 1800 and 1846 Catholic settlers wer few, then they swarmd. Readers interested in pronunciation shud no history.

Mr Vaile's Plea asks \$2000 tu print 1st and 2nd scool readers in NEA alfabet reved on our page 226, these tu be used tu teach reading in Chicago scools.

Dr Holt's pamphlet givs a list ov 750 impruvd word-forms. Haf ov them we use since erlier '80s, foloing their advocacy by Lindsley in later '60s. The other haf we hesitate over, tho underlying reasons and principls ar givn—chiefly economic, while a few ar longer, as "novvel" *novel*. It and Vaile's Plea ar sent free.

## NOTES ON PRONUNCIATION

[See Plank 22. Cont'd from pp. 206, 231, 235, 239]

(2) In New Orleans E. Riedel, in *Dialect Notes*, iv, p. 269, finds *r* pronounced *oi* as in the Bowery dialect in *world*, *work*, *girl*, *shirt*, *hurt*, etc. In a Toronto school-boy we herd *holt* for *hurt*. We ar unable tu lern how he came by it. Wil this invade North America as the Essex Cokny invaded London and therabout?

(a) Dialect speakers in extreme old age revert tu the dialect as it existed in their yuth. Tu years ago I visited an old wuman in a Yorkshir vilage, hum I had nōn intimatly 48 years, haf that in daily intercourse. She formerly said *də*, *uəm*, for *day*, *home*; she now said *də*, *ōm*. Some other vowel-sounds had changed similarly.—Dr Jos. WRIGHT in preface tu *Eng. Dialect Gram.*

(b) Mr Phipson givs this specimen ov speech in Birmingham, Eng.: “wɪ rə yau we kɪn, ‘æri?” “wɔɪ, ə selɪn ðə Dai li Mai l; ‘əv yau got sɪm t?” “aa, oɪ m t ðə baulɪn grɪn ə brɪŋ gɪn bæ k ðə baulz fə ðə tofs əz plɛz ðɪr” By “sɪm t” is ment, something tu du. *wek* is how *work* is pronounced in Rutland, 50 miles east-northeast, whence it came? *oi* in *why*, *I*, is herd in London and Ireland whither it was bro’t with much other western speech in varios “setlments” ov Ireland. *yau* for *you* rimes with *now* and is herd in Northumberland, Lancs, Lincoln and Oxford. Note undifthongized *i*, *e*.

(c) Sir Wm Ramsay says (*Pioneer*, 1913, p. 84) the difrence between vowels in *not*, *all*, *haul*, *war*, is in duration alone.

(d) Sir Wm says also (*Ibid.*) “Northern English distinguishes between the vowels in *light* and *lie*. I am wiling tu ignore the difrence.”

(e) Sir Wm hears *ū* in *shoe*, *look*, *too*, *sure*, *boot*, *foot*, as du most northerners.

(f) T. Rea, Dublin, says (*Pioneer*, 1913, p. 89) “The older pron. fern is quite ded, firn replacing it evrywhere. A great difficulty in German classes all thru Ireland is tu prevent children from pronouncing German *fern* as firn, *lernen* as lr nən, etc.”—tru ov U. S.-Canada; ov French, too.

## AMALGAM OV FORIN SPEECH

Chicago is so very polyglot that D. C. Buck made a study ov linguistic conditions therin and put results on record in ov Chicago University. He says:—  
vol. vi, first series, ov Decennial Publica’s

“Absorption ov the varios languages is not accompanid by any permanent effect on spoken English except in isolated communities. Second generation speech seldom betrays any forin influence in either pronunciation or vocabulary—often a vulgar form, but not difrent from that ov nativ stok in the same social position.”

Is this a by-product ov our Public-Scool system in America? or is it that combined with other democratic conditions?

## HE SEES IT!

Felix Adler, Ethical Muvment leader and principal contributor tu its quarterly mouthpiece (*Internat. Jur. of Ethics*) says:

“Tu impruv Ethics as a sience it is necessary tu fix attention on moral *facts*, tu collect them, tu bring them intu vew, especially more recondite facts.”

Evidently Adler sees need tu get *facts*, as did Darwin in *Beagle* voyages, digesting them for years after. Now Ethics parallels Speling in this. In Planks 22, 28, 29 and otherwise, we hav heralded it for long.

What about *recondite*? Wel, recondite facts and “horse-sense” ar a strong tear.

## SPEECH IN NEW ZEALAND

This, acording tu the Wellington *Dominion*, has flavor ov east London. Boys recite Macaulay’s *Armada* thus:—

“Oi tell of the throice fymous deeds she  
wrought in yncient dys,  
Wen that grite fleet invincible agynst  
her baw in vine  
The richest spoils of Mexicow, the steowt-  
est ‘aats of Spine.”

Except dropt *h* and *r* in *hearts*, and *r* in *bore in vain*, we infer from notes *r*, *s* on our p. 235 that drooping *h* and *r* ar not thoroly epidemic. Newspapers without a Notation, *HERALD*’s or other, ar not reliabl. An older generation, acording tu Mr Harding, wud hav said *borɪn vɔɪn*; a stil older, as Ellis on our page 238.

Mr F. Renner, ov a college teaching staf, urges that certn pronunciations be tabu’d in scool. He wud not try tu stop some slurring in comon speech (“the unavoidable play ov individual and local pronunciation” in our Plank 1), but wud restrict teachers’ efforts tu: First, don’t difthongize *ō* in *no*, *Mexico*, etc., intu *ou* or *ow*, nor shift the actual difthong in *now*, *cow*, etc., intu *æu* (*næu*, *cæu*, etc.) Second, don’t pronounce *day*, *daily*, *lady*, *name*, etc., as *dy*, *dyly*, *lydy*, *nyme*, etc. Third, don’t pronounce *mine*, *nine*, etc., as *moin*, *noin*, etc. Fourth, don’t pronounce *card*, *cart*, *hard*, etc., as *cærd*, *cært*, *hærd*, etc.

Teachers hu try tu cary out Mr Renner’s vews say they strike two snags: First, when children get tu the playground they use the objectionabl forms at once; Second, parents complain tu the tune: “What is good enuf for us is good enuf for our children.”

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