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The Herald.

DEVOTED TO PRONUNCIATION AND AMENDED SPELLING.

VOL. II, 53. TORONTO, CANADA, July-Sept., 1912. N^R. 1 3.

MUCH TU BE DONE

While the SSB. and SSS. break up or remove the worst boulders and erect finger-posts and boards for guidance and security of them hu walk theron, the greater work of making an extensiv practical survey [of all the highway] awaits comencement. It is not intended tu disparage the work done and success achievd by disinterested and largely unrecognized services of many [hu sowd where others reap].—Anything aproaching adequat survey of speling questions and a consistent atempt tu co-ordinate information resulting from the experience of these workers has yet tu be undertaken.—T. T. LODGE, in *Jur. Orthoepy & Orthog.*, 1909, page 23.

HISTORY OF FRENCH ACCENTS

[Translated and condense from Kr. Nyrop's *Gram. Historique de la Langue Francaise*, vol. i, p. 101, Copenhagen, 1899.]

The Midl Age copyists rarely uzed accents except in abreviations. Only in the 16th cent. printers and gramarians begin tu uze them regularly, boroing them from Greek, but putting them tu new use. They generally indicate difrence of pronunciation or of *timbre* between the same leters. (In Greek they mark especialy voice tension on a sylabl greater (plutôt) or lesthan that on surrounding sylabls).

The *acute* accent was introduced by the printer Geoffroy Tory tu mark close e final: seuerité, félicité; plural, seueritez, félicitez. This is the custom til the 17th cent. Vaugelas does the same but uzes the acute for open e, as dés, après, cét.

P. Corneille first tried a rational distinction between é and ê. See *Avis au lecteur* in his *Théâtre*, 1664, *ed. de luxe*. Aspres, verite, apres, he rote apres, verlté, après.

The *grave* accent dates from the 16th cent. but its use was at first very sparing and uncertn. Dubois, 1531, uzes it for e feminin; Dolet, 1540, puts it on *a* and *la*; Ramus, 1572, marks open e, riting mièl, fêrmete, ênfêr. Only in 17th century do modern rules emerge.

EXPLANATION: OMIT useles letters; CHANGE (if sounded so) *d* tu *l*, *ph* or *gh* tu *f*.

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

The *circumflex* accent was first uzed by Dolet, 1540, hu calld it "apocope," as shoing fall of a vowel: mani[^]ment, vrai[^]ment. Périon, 1555, uzed it tu mark vowel length. Poisson, 1609, put it on *t* preceded by *s* amuï. Godard, 1618, begins modern uzage: tu replace this *s* amuï, as adopted by the Academy with restrictions in 1740.

The circumflex is at once a sign of derivation and of pronunciation: 1. It marks supresion of a letter, consonant or vowel. 2. Dropping a fone comonly elongates the vowel preceding. Hence it servd tu sho vowel prolongation. Use of the circumflex to sho pronunciation is trivial.

The *Cedilla* was first uzed by Tory in 1529, but was slo tu come intu general use.

Tréma (diëresis) was first uzed by Dolet.

The *Apostrofe* was introduced by Tory in 1529, was uzed oftener than now, as tu mark a final silent letter (vowel or cons.)

The *Trait d'union* (hyfen) apeard first in Nicot's *Dictionnaire*, 1584.

A SYMBOL ACCEPTED, BUT MISUZED

In Jan., 1897, we began tu uze *i* for the vowel in *eat*, *machine*, *grieve*, etc.—result of trial with several forms from 1885. *i* was preferd tu *i*, tho *i* may be considerd as an acceptabl alternat.

About 1900 Passy adopted *i* for the *i* in *it*, etc., in printing German and English more especialy. This came about becaus his alfabet had a French basis, as stated by Sweet in another colum, and had *i* for *v*. in *eat*, thus dislocating *i* from historic uzage in even erly periods in the Graeko-Roman world.

From 1899 on, others, foloing Passy, began tu misuze it in one way or another. This misuse is very wide and very general. Montgomery in his *Types* goes astray so far as tu put *i* for weak *i* (our *i*).

Such general use for a dozen years, quite apart from its mistaken fone-value, proves its acceptability as nothing els cud, for only what wil work deservs adoption. "Try all; adopt what is good" enuf tu work is Paulin doctrin up-to-date.

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LITERATURE

TENTH REPORT OF THE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD OF CANADA for the year ending 30th June, 1911. 198 large 8vo pages, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1912. Price, 15 cents.

This, an annual supplement to the Ninth or consolidated Report noticed on our p. 222, gives (pages 13 to 145) recent Decisions on many old or new names. Some years ago we called the attention of W. F. Maclean, M. P., to these Reports and the slowness of the Canadian press to use them. Others look at them languidly, but he forthwith introduced them into his morning daily, *The Toronto World*, where they have regular place with *tho*, *altho*, *thru*, and the rest has advented we chronicle therein over twelve years ago. This summer only have other newspapers begun to put in practice the Board's spellings. Timiskaming, Timagami (better Timaagami), etc., instead of Temiscamingue, Temagami, etc. So, Nipigon (p. 95) displaces Nepigon, Nee-pigon (*e* in these words sounds *i*, slipping toward or to its mate, *i*, as stress declines.)

ENGLISH AS WE SPEAK IT IN IRELAND, by P. W. Joyce, LL. D., 352 pages 12mo, cloth. Longmans, 2s 6d net.

Joyce treats many words in an interesting way from a vocabulary view-point, rather than that of pronunciation.

SOUNDS OF MOTHER TONGUE, a Manual of Speech Training for Preparatory and Lower Forms in Secondary Schools, and for Vth, VIth or VIIth forms in Elementary Schools, by L. H. Althaus. 75 pages 12mo, cloth. Hodder and Stoughton for Univ. of London Press. 2s net.

Mrs Althaus, Leeds, organizing mistress for modern languages in Yorkshir schools, had experience there in 3d and 4th forms wherein French and German were begun by drills in orthoepy, with results so excellent that she asked to begin with pronunciation of English in 2d form (just from kindergarten), such drills in mother-tongue being a valuable introduction to French and German later. Long ago we taught that fonetics (syllable-analysis and -synthesis at least) begin in kinderg., wherein no books are used. Such method is likely to come in soon, as it is seen now that then pupils were at

"an age when the organs of speech and hearing were most supple and responsive.—Page 7.

"In Scotland, scientific knowledge of sounds of not only Mother-tongue but English (?) is exacted of all Elementary Teachers of reading; courses in fonetics multiply each year in England and abroad. . . . a year's work on mother-tongue sounds immediately preceding Modern Language study would be inestimable for children's general speech habits in their own tongue; in preparation for foreign ones an economy of time almost incalculable."—Page 6.

Its didactic note rings clear and true, and throughout is acceptable in the main. Faults: NED is not folded in orthoepy, for, first, *r* is dropped after a vowel; second, *i*, *e*, *o*, *u*, are *iy*, *ei*, *ou*, *uw*; third, *when*, etc., have *ai*,

voiceless *w*; and *when* is (not *hwen*, as in NED, but) *men*; fourth, *oi* in *oil* is better than *oi*. In *twice* and *now*, *ai* and *au* are acceptable under Sweet's dictum:

ai and *au* are symbols, not of special diphthongs, but of two classes of diphthongs which begin with a vowel resembling Italian *a*, and end with approximations to *i* and *u*.—*Ency. Brit.*, xxi, p. 461.

Pair, *pare*, *pear*, etc., have *e* ('*pɛ:ə*', p. 63). By *e* is meant *e* in *let*, but tense ("narrow"), our *e*', which certainly prevails before dropped *r* in many parts of England, while *e* with *r* well trilled is common in Scotland, and *æ* (either prolonged or half tense) in America. NED has *pɛ̃ːi*, with *e* prolonged (our *e*') and reverted *r*. We favor *pɛːr* in pronunciation, *pear* in New Spelling.

N.E.A. FONETIC ALFABET, with a Review of the Whipple Experiments, by R. Weeks, J. W. Bright, C. H. Grandgent. 91 pages 16mo. New Era Printing Co., Lancaster, Pa.

N. E. A. ALFABET AND THE NEW SPELLINGS OF THE SSS, by Raymond Weeks, 5 pages.

When the Joint Committee, 1904, made its Report on an alphabet (see our p. 140), the filologic wing brought out a minority report (p. 167) more acceptable to us, as said, and approved by the Amer. Phil. Soc'n at its meeting, Dec., 1905. Next the Nat'l Educat'l Soc'n made a compromise alphabet, (compromises are seldom final), published Oct., 1910. It had (beside supplementary signs for *a* in *ask* and *about*, with our *i* misused for *i* in *candid*, or *o* in *added*) 8 vowel-signs (*a e i o u a e u*) made into 8 questionable pairs by a makron, avoiding misuse of circumflex for that, but still with two symbols (*a*, *o*) misused, and with an *u*-sign (*u*) for an *a*-sound. It should use *a* as NED does and drop *o* as impracticable. Yet the Am. Phil. Soc'n at Pittsburg last December managed to swallow this NEA alphabet, but with this significant rider:

"Voted, That this resolution be not construed as in any way abrogating the Association's approval on 29th Dec., 1905, of the original and more scientific form of this alphabet."

so, the end is not yet. Meantime, in 1911, Assistant Prof. Whipple, in the Educat'l Laboratory at Cornell University, undertook observations on classes of students there, to find out which wordforms were most legible, NEA wordforms or ones with Websterian diacritics, a trial hardly fair because most students in "the States" are already familiar with Webster. His conclusions were a sweet morsel to publisher of Webster. Then Weeks & Co. whipped Whipl in the larger pamphlet. The other compares the old-letter plan of the SSS with the NEA wordforms.

NEWS-NOTES AND COMMENTS

"Forging an Alphabet" would make a good heading for the foregoing notice of two pamphlets. The controversial anvil rings. There is "Much to

be Done" yet along this and other lines.

—THE HERALD is named by a correspondent in the *Pioneer*, p. 22, as a predecessor has sown where the *Pioneer* "enters in to reap."

—Dr Isaac K. Funk, of Funk and Wagnals, died rather unexpectedly on 4th April aged 73. He had just completed the manuscript of a new edition of the *Standard Dictionary*.

—Dr Henry Sweet, the fonetician, died on 30 April. His great work was extension, elaboration and completion (so far as scientific work is ever completed) of the Bell-Ellis-Sweet system, has parts do not conflict, tho they may differ.

—"Interesting Characteristics of Modern English", by Dr A. F. Chamberlain, (5 pages in *Pop. Sci Monthly*, Feb., 1912) notes how words from all sources ar bro't in "at the sycologic moment" and adopted if tho't desirabl despite pedantic vetos. Numeros ilustrations ar givn.

—*Nadowessioux* is from natowé (snake), he says, which means a small ratl-snake, and is aplyed in the sense of "enemy" tu Indians of Siouan stok by Algonkian neighbors as Crees, Ojibwa, etc.

—Presqu'ile is a bay in Ontario. Presquile is a river in New Brunswic. Saint John is a city in New Brunswic. Saint Johns is a city in Newfoundland. Saint John's is a city in Kebek (Quebec) We cite these tu sho how variant spelings and diacritic marks ar needed tu distinguish wordforms: As tu the apostrofe, that is tu be dropt from proper names (as St. Marys, St. Johns) unless requisit *exceptionally*. So say the Geografic Boards.

THEN, AND NOW

All but our oldest subscribers will be surprised tu lern that the International Fonetic Aso'n's organ began in May, 1886, altugether in standard English. Its pronunciation was very acceptabl, quite apart from some symbols (j, dj, c, tc, œ, é) having French insted of cosmopolitan values. Here is a specimen from Oct., 1886 :

Mai Kat.—Dhis iz mai kat. Her ném iz Pus. Her fœr iz nais and worm. Ci laiks tu plé : luk at her, ci haz faund a kork, si hau ci thröz it about widh her pø! Hau nais ci luks! Last sprin ci woz boet a kitn : nau ci haz gron tu bi a kat. Last nait ci koht a litl maus and kild it. Pur litl maus! Ai woz sô sori for it. Boet mamâ sez, if Pus døzn't kate and kil dhi mais, dhé 'l it œp evri thin in dhi haus. Stil, ai kudn't help biin sori for dhi maus.

Ther is a mere trace of colloquialism, but no difthongization of primary vowels (i, e, o, u), left pure monofthongs. Words ar not run tugether and slurd beyond recognition.

Soon, editor Passy was hypnotized by Sweet, then colloquialisms, clipt and slurd words, flew thik as autum leavs; "slurd or imperfect utterance of average Londoners (. . . the cynosure that attracts some authors of proposed systems)" tu requote Murray's words from our Plank 9. We tried tu avert the false step by a two-page

protest (*MF*, May, 1889, another in July, 1891). Sweet's own cuntrymen oposed it *The Athenæum* spoke out. A controversy arose. Rev. J. H. Kidder, Owego, N. Y., and Mis Soames, Brighton, Eng., took a part *pro* and *con*. All was vain. *MF* became polyglot, but its English was never satisfactory. Stil it has gon on for twenty years, doing great good in speech-analysis outside English. Lately Sweet, strange tu say, condemd its notation of English :

Sweet's Romic systems wer made the basis of the 'International' alfabet uzed in *Le Maître Phonétique*. . . . Tho this system is now more widely known and uzed than any other, and tho constructed on the international Romic principl, it is (not a system realy international, but) an attempt tu make a special adaptation of the Romic basis tu needs of French intu a general notation for all languages. But the structure of French is so abnormal, so difrent from that of other languages, that attempts tu force a Broad Romic French notation on such a language as English is even more hopeles than it wud be tu reverse the proces. Tho wel suited tu French this alfabet must, from a wider view-point, be regarded as a failure; too minute and rigid for practical, and yet not precise enuf for scientific purposes. In short, tho it has done excelent service, and has helpt tu clear the way for a notation which shal comand general acceptance, it cannot be regarded as a final solution.—*Ency. Brit.*, xxi, p. 461.

THE HERALD has pursued a course consistent (but progressiv) thruout. We giv the same selection in New Speling :

Mai Cat.—Dis iz mai cat. Her nem iz Pus. Her fir iz nais and worm. Shri laiks tu plø : luk at her, shri haz faund a cork, si hau shri thröz it about wið her pø! Hau nais shri luks! Last spring shri woz bit a kitn : nau shri haz grøn tu bi a cat. Last nait shri cøt a litl maus and kild it. Pur litl maus! Ai woz so sori for it! Bit mama sez, if Pus døzn't catch and kil ðe mais, ðe 'l it ip evri thing in ðe haus. Stil, ai cudn't help bring sori for ðe maus.

In provisional New Speling.]

STRIGL.—Prevalens ov meni disizez iz veri grethi diu tu loerd *morals*—a jeneral stët ov inefisiensi—so markt a fritur ov ol sivilaizd prplz (*kulturvoelker*, culture-folks) tu-dø. In short wi hav bin tũ prøn ov let tu forget ðe esensial prinsipl ov laif, stragl for self-rrealizesion agenst rezistans. Wi hav sherkt ðe strigl, meking Camfort [wiðaut Werk] aur diviniti, and sach infiziolodjic living haz had its inevitabl Nemesis.—Dr A. J. Brock in *Praktitioner*, Feb., 1912, p. 320.

"LIVING ON HIZ WITS" (INTELECT).—De intelect, praimarili deveLOPT az ðe instrument or servant ov ðe wil—mrlri in fakt tu help it tu fuller ecspresion—haz

bin deflekted from its oridjinal perpos, and r̄er yutilaizd in devaizing methodz ov ešep̄ from laif and its diutz or els promōted tu ̄e pozision ov an end in itself. ̄e wil, bring betred bai its servant, s̄iferz acordingli; ̄e vaital defensiv pauerz thruaut ̄e bodi sis tu bi operativ, and disiz in eni form securz an izier inrōd.—*Ibid.*

GOSPEL OV SELF-HELP.—It iz pl̄n hwot gospel wi mast in fiutur prich wiō infling itereson tu aur saicasthenics (psychasthenics) ov evri taip..... not so mach tu kil ̄e s̄iferer'z enemiz for him; rāer tu stimyulet him tu yuz hiz ̄n faiting pauerz—tu “help him tu help himself.” J̄st az.....tiuber-ciulōsis wil bi fainali dispōzd ov not so mach bai “disinfeksion” (̄o ̄at wil ple its part dautles) az bai development on a nasional scel ov a soil mōr rezistant.....̄e wil plez a part in f̄ncsioning ol organz and tisiuz, iz inhirent, not ̄nli in ̄e nervos sistem bat thruaut—̄e ̄nli esensial difrens bring ̄at in ̄e r̄er parts it iz, so tu s̄e, s̄ibconsios, and, far-̄er, ̄is s̄ibconsios p̄rsion ov ̄e wil (popyularli envizajd az a *vis medicatrix*) iz influenst coincidentli wiō ̄e consios p̄rsion hwen ̄e later iz ap̄ld tu bai stimyuleting sajestionz.....Hwot iz wonted meni tude iz a clirer *intelektivul* formiulesion ov ̄iz prinsiplz on hwitsh ol s̄icesful therapi mast ever depend.—*Ibid.*

LISTEN TU AMERICA.—It iz flegrantli arrogant and stiupid if “wi in Ingland” clem ecclusiv jurisdiksion ov ̄e lengwej and refiuz tu tek caunsel wiō aur co-partnerz in ̄at gret heritej..... English haz sist tu bi a sprich mr̄li insular; it iz ̄e netiv langwej ov meni milionz in ̄e Western and S̄idern hemisfirz, j̄st az mach az it iz aur netiv langwej; ̄e edyuceted American or Ostralian iz j̄st az praud ov hiz English az wi. Tu denai hiz rait tu influens its evolusion wud bi not ̄nli arizonabl bat distastros, sins it cud lid ̄nli tu lingwistic disr̄psion, and deprav̄ English ov predominans among werld langwejez..... It iz mōr lvingli, reverentli and profaundli st̄did in American ̄an in English yuniverstitz; and wi o tu America—tu Horthorn, Emerson, Hōmz, Loel, yes, and tu “Mark Twen,” s̄im ov ̄e best prōz ritn diuring ̄e past sentiuri. R̄id Lincoln'z Getizburg Adress, and ̄en denai America ̄e rait tu bi herd on materz ov ̄e efisiens, biuti and welfear ov ̄e langwej.—WM ARCHER in *Yorkshir Post*.

CONSERVATIV, OR PROGRESSIV.—̄e coz ov ol rvilz in ̄e werld me bi trest

tu ̄at natyural bat mōst dedli eror ov hiunan indolens and corpsion: ̄at aur biznes iz tu prezerv, and not tu impruv. It iz ̄e ruin ov ol alaik—individyalz, sc̄ulz, and nesionz.—DR ARNOLD..... Ov no yus ar men hu st̄di tu du eezaktli az woz d̄n bef̄r, hu can never nderstand ̄at tude iz a niu ̄e. Wi wont men ov oridjinal persepsion and oridjinal aksion, hu can ̄pen ̄er aiz waider ̄an tu a nasionaliti—nemli, tu considere-sionz ov benefit tu ̄e hiunan res—can akt in ̄e interest ov sivilizesion, men ov elastic, men ov moral maind, hu can liv in ̄e mōment and tek a step forward.—EMERSON.

NIU CONSEPSION OV CRISTIANITI (A Paralel tu Niu Speling).—Fricwentli atempts ar med tu st̄t ̄e pozitiv doktrinz ov ̄e niu consepsion ov Cristianiti nau d̄ning on mancaind; bat it iz natyural ̄at nan ov ̄em haz yet found yuniversal recognision, and ̄iz transformesionz ov ̄e pozitiv aspect ov ̄e niu Cristianiti mast so far bi considerd mir atempts, mir propozisionz, mir sajestionz, ̄e acseptabiliti ov hwitsh iz stil nder consideresion. It is nīer dezairabl, nor can it bi ecspekted, ̄at a pozitiv st̄tment shud bec̄m ̄e comon properti ov progressiv denominesionz wiōin a short taim. ̄e cherchez ar in a st̄t ov fermentesion, and wi mast not bi impesient. ̄e priod ov grōth, ̄e priod ov clarificesion, mast hav its taim, and wi mast bear in maind ̄at hir filosofi mast cam tu ̄d theoloji. Niu Cristianiti mast sik its faundesion (not in historical st̄tments, not in spesial buks, bat) in eternal truōz. ̄e me yutilaiz historical matrial, bat it wil never provaid ̄em a botm rok tu bild on wiō sefti..... Modern theoloji so far haz med remarkabl progres. Liderz in ̄e m̄vment hav d̄n w̄nderful werk, and ̄at ̄er leborz ar not yet finisht, ̄at solusion ov problemz haz not yet bin brot tu a consamesion, iz sertnli not ̄er fōt, bat iz diu tu dificaltiz ̄at atend ̄e sityuesion.—*Open Court*, Nov., 1907.

SPILT MILK.—A boi nir Niucastl engejd tu milk a cau and mek himself jenerali yusful. ̄e cau, not relishing hiz clamzi method, ipset him and ̄e pel ov milk on top ov him. Tu ̄e boi ̄e ̄ner sed “Nivor maind, it's na yūs ta grit aur spilt milk.” “A'm na gr̄tin aur yor aad milk,” sed ̄e boi, “b̄t j̄st l̄k at ma clez!” [̄e vauel-sistem yuzd at Niucastl (“on-Tyne”) woz givn on p. 130.]

KEY: ̄ e i a o ū oi ai au iu as in they see us old rule oil aisle owl few (Marking o or u is unnecessary in open syllabls) and some other definit positions.)