

APPENDIX I DIGRAPHS

TH, DH

Many reformers would be content to retain the digraph *th* in its present dual capacity. In their view, the proposed use of *dh* for the voiced sound will not only be too great a shock to conservative sentiment, but will also scarcely effect any substantial simplification. (See also on Word-Signs, Appendix II.)

It must be remarked, however, that a certain number of pairs of words are distinguished by *th* and *dh*: *thee* (thigh), *dhie* (thy); *eether* (ether), *eedher* (either); *sheeth* (sheath), *sheedh* (sheathe); *teeth* (teeth), *teedh* (teethe); *reeth* (wreath), *reedh* (wreathe); *mouth* (mouth), *mouhdh* (mouth).

Those who favour the use of *th* and *dh* consider that failure to show the distinction would be an arbitrary breach of consistency in the interests of the adult generation.

NG

There is admittedly a difficulty in the representation of two consecutive but separate consonants by the digraph which also represents one consonant. The words in which such confusion might arise are, however, few, and there are special points which justify the apparent blemish of the representation of two different sounds by one pair of letters.

(1) It is possible, for those who wish to do so, to make the distinction by introducing a hyphen when the *n* and *g* are separate, since the difficulty arises only in words where a prefix ending in *n* precedes a *g* and where a hyphen would naturally be acceptable: e.g. a hyphen in *en-gaej* will make it clear that the *n* and the *g* have their separate, and not their digraphic values. This distinction would be particularly desirable in books for those for whom English is a foreign language to be learnt from the printed page: for the

average Englishman who learns his language through the mouth and ear there can in practice be no confusion.

(2) Many such words, e.g. *engage*, *ingredient*, *ingrained*, *congratulate*, as well as such words as *congress*, *congregation*, have in the speech of many Englishmen the value *ngg* rather than *n + g*. Those who use these pronunciations may indicate them by writing *ngg* instead of the conventional *ng* or the above-mentioned *n-g*.

APPENDIX II

WORD-SIGNS

The idea of adopting “word-signs” to denote certain of the very common English words is one that deserves serious consideration. Several convenient word-signs can be made by shortening New Spelling forms, and as already stated on p. 48 we propose to adopt the following: *I, U, me, he, she, we, be, dhe, a* (shortened from *Ie, Ue, mee, etc.*), and *to* (shortened from *too*). Further, on account of the variability of the pronunciation of *were* (pronounced *wur* by some and *waer* by others) we propose a special word-sign *wer* for this word. It will be seen that eight of the above eleven word-signs are identical with the forms at present in use. One result of their adoption in New Spelling will be to lessen considerably the alteration in the appearance of the printed page. According to the calculations of Dr. Godfrey Dewey,¹ the above eight words constitute on the average approximately 8-9 per cent of continuous English.

If it is held that the advantage of lessening the alterations in the appearance of the printed page outweighs the disadvantage of inconsistencies in the spelling system, the retention of the existing spelling of several other common words might be considered. Such are *the, that, with, without, this, they, their, there, them, than, these, then, those*. Dewey’s estimate of the occurrence of these words is over 11 per cent. Similarly certain other existing spellings might be treated as word-signs, thereby reducing the number of shocks received by those brought up on present spelling when introduced to New Spelling. It has been estimated that if the present spellings of forty-two common words² were accepted as word-signs, these

¹*Relativ Frequency of English Speech Sounds* (Harvard University Press, 1923).

²*The, of, that, is, was, you, as, with, have, by, this, are, his, they, all, will, has, one, my, there, no, their, were, so, your, can, would, them, what, who, do, her, time, war, any, more, now, other, than, say, once, people.*

words together with those not requiring change in New Spelling would constitute over 60 per cent of running matter.

Some hold that it would be advantageous to invent a few additional word-signs designed to diminish the number of homonyms in the language. Forms that have been suggested are *twu* or *tuw* (for O.S. *two*), *rieht* (for O.S. *right*), *ouhr* (for O.S. *hour*), *sunn* (for O.S. *sun*). The idea of introducing a limited number of such unphonetic forms is one which should not be summarily dismissed.

APPENDIX III
THE SPELLING OF THE VOWELS
IN *NEW, FOOD, GOOD*

To find an entirely satisfactory way of writing the vowels of such words as *new, food, good* without the introduction of any new letter seems an impossibility. The solution proposed in this book (*ue, uu, oo*) has the following considerations to recommend it. *E* is used in *ue* as a kind of length-mark, as it is likewise in *ae, ee, ie, oe*. Moreover by adopting *ue* we have the easily remembered rule that *ae, ee, ie, oe, ue*, stand for the names of the five vowel letters A, E, I, O, U.

The adoption of *uu* for the vowel in *food* has the advantage that it can be reduced to *u* before another vowel, as in *bluish, truant, duing*; a similar simplification could not be made if *oo* were chosen for this sound. If *ue* and *uu* are chosen for the above-mentioned sounds, *oo* is clearly the appropriate symbol to represent the vowel in *good*.¹

According to Dewey's statistics of frequency in connected texts the following is the order of commonness of the existing modes of representing the *ew*-sound: *you* (including *your*) (1091 occurrences in 100,000 words), *u* + consonant + *e* (274), *ew* (160), *u* alone (140), *ue* (121), *iew* (37). The spelling *eu* does not occur at all in the 1000 commonest English words; it occurs in the relatively rare words *neutral, neuter, feud* and the words beginning with *eu-* and *pseudo-*. *You* is obviously unsuitable for New Spelling, as also is *a* + consonant + *e*. *Ew* can hardly be considered suitable for our purpose on account of the inconsistency that would be involved in the use of *w*. Our choice from the statistical point

¹ Many Scottish speakers make no distinction between the sounds in *food* and *good*. It would be necessary for them either to replace *uu* by *oo* or to memorize the words to be spelt with *uu*.

of view must therefore undoubtedly be *ue*. It may, however, be said in favour of *eu* that it has a certain phonetic appropriateness, since the *e* might be regarded as a reduction of *ee* and the *u* a reduction of *uu*. On the other hand we need *eu* for words like *muezeum*, *lieseum*, *mausoleum*.

The lack of uniformity in the existing spellings of the *ue*, *uu* and *oo* sounds show that the problem of their representation is no new one, and it is evident that the words under consideration are cases where frequency of occurrence in present spelling cannot conveniently be taken as a deciding factor. Thus, as has already been mentioned, *ew* though a common spelling cannot well be adopted in a system of the kind contemplated in these Proposals. On the other hand the long *oo*-sound is at present represented by so many spellings, most of them unsatisfactory, that we feel obliged to recommend for it the digraph *uu*, despite the fact that it cannot be supported on statistical grounds at all.

It has been suggested that the difficulty of the *ew*-sound might be solved by a spelling such as *yuu*, or a simplified form of this, *yu*, which gives a correct phonetic indication of the sound, although having no statistical support in present spelling. *Yu* was in fact tested by the Society for some years.¹ On the whole it works well; exceptions have, however, to be made of the words *yung* (Old Spelling *young*) and its compounds and *yuka* (Old Spelling *yucca*), where the *u* is given its ordinary short value, and *yurn* (Old Spelling *yearn*), where the *ur* has the same value as in *burn*.

All things considered, there seems to be not much to choose between *yu*, *ue*, and *eu* as representations of the *ew*-sound.

¹ It was recommended in the third edition of these Proposals (November, 1911) and was regularly used in *The Pioneer* and other publications of the Society until April, 1915. From June, 1915, to September, 1917, *eu* was tried as an experiment (see Introductory Note to *The Pioneer*, June, 1915).

APPENDIX IV

I FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER VOWEL

The treatment of *i* when followed by another vowel presents considerable difficulties. In present spelling *ie* is sometimes a digraph denoting long *i* (as in *tie*) and sometimes the two letters are pronounced separately (*i* having its long sound in *quiet*, *quiescent*, *flier*, and its short sound, or sometimes *y*, in *convenient*, *acquiesce*, *happier*). Sometimes, too, the *i* of *ie* is not sounded at all, e.g. *patience*. When *i* precedes *a*, *v* or *u*, four pronunciations are found—

(a) long *i*, as in *dial*, *diameter*, *sciatica*, *lion*, *biology*, *diurnal*,

(b) short *i*, as in *fiasco*, *kiosk*, *tiara*, *familiarity*, *pronunciation*, *industrious*, *curious*, *curiosity*, *obvious*, *aquarium*,

(c) the *y*-sound, often with short *i* as an alternative, as in *brilliant*, *subsidiary*, *million*, *senior*, *genius*,

(d) *i* unpronounced, as in *commercial*, *station*, *precious*.

The last of these cases concerns unstressed positions in which the preceding consonant sound is *sh*, *zh*, *ch*, or *j*, and in words of this type the *i* must clearly be dropped in New Spelling. Examples in New Spelling are *akaesha*, *komurshal*, *optishan*, *jenshan* (O.S. *gentian*), *aleejans*, *plenipotenshary*, *staeshon*, *vizhon*, *sujeschon*, *relijon*, *preshus*, *kontaejus*.

Our proposal for other cases is that *i* be used when the vowel is long but *y* when it is short as also of course wherever the consonantal *y*-sound is heard. Thus we recommend the following spellings: *dial*, *diameter*, *siatika*, *lion*, *biolojy*, *diurnal*, *kwiët*, *kwiësent*, *tiing* (O.S. *tying*), *fyaskoe*, *kyosk*, *tyara*, *familyarrity*, *pronunsiy-aeshon*, *ondustryus*, *kueryus*, *kueryosity*, *obvyus*, *akwaeryum*, *akwyes*

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(O.S. *acquiesce*), *hapyer*, *hapyest*, *brilyant*, *subsidyary*, *konveenyent*, *milyon*, *seenyor*, *jeenyus*. Some words now written with *e* would likewise be written with *y*; such are *aerya* (O.S. *area*), *linyal*, *subteraenyan*, *miskryant*, *galyon*, *hidyus*, *petroelyum*, *meetyorrik*, *jeenyalojy*, *fraezyolojy*.

Since many words thus written with *y* are derivatives of words ending in an unstressed short *i*-sound, it is convenient to retain the existing practice of using *y* to denote this final sound. Thus we propose to write *vaery* (not *vaeri*), *vaeryus*, *vaeryans*, *vaeryant*, *vaeryabl*, *vaeryability*, *vaeryaeshon*, *hapy* (not *hapi*), *hapyer*, *hapyest*, *empty* (not *empti*), *emptying*; and for the sake of consistency we propose also to write *-y* in the numerous words which have no such derivatives such as *lily*, *kloesly*, *shuurly*, *fifty*, *orratory*, *braevely*, *fotografy*, *apathy*, *infansy*, *ekspeedyensy*.

There are two drawbacks to this system. One is that *y* is used in two senses; it has a consonantal value in *yes*, *yard*, etc., and a vowel value in many of the cases mentioned above. The other is that the vocalic *y* has to be replaced by *i* in derivatives of words in *-y* whenever a consonant follows, e.g. *vaery*, but *vaeriz*, *vaerid*, *hapy* but *hapines*, *body* but *bodiz*, *bodily*, *eny* but *eniwun*. Any attempt to retain *y* in such derivatives would lead to endless complications.¹ Neither of these disadvantages is in our opinion serious. We consider the drawbacks inherent in all the other possible systems of dealing with *i* + vowel to be much more formidable (see below).

We came to the above conclusions regarding the use of *y* after a full investigation of other possible systems of dealing with short *i* + vowel. For the information of our readers these other systems are set out below, together with our reasons for rejecting them.

(1) A system which seemed at first sight full of promise was to place a diæresis on the *i* whenever it had the short value (or the *y*-sound) before another vowel, thus *fiascoe*, *familiarity*, *pronunsiae-*

¹ Thus if *vaerid* were written *vaeryd*, consistency would require that *timid* should be written *timyd*. The logical outcome of such a policy would be to adopt *y* as the normal way of writing short *i* in all unstressed syllables. Such a system is defensible, but it involves variations of spelling such as *timyd*, *tymidyty*, *ynkwizytyv*, *inkuyzishon*.

shon, milion, konveenfent, hapfer, happyest, etc. The system would, it is true, be unambiguous, but it would involve using the diæresis in an immense number of words, and we feel that the diæresis is not a good sign, and that it should be used as sparingly as possible. For typographical reasons an *i* with diæresis is particularly objectionable. Moreover most ordinary printers do not possess *ï* and could not be expected to procure it. If *ï* were approved in principle, it is certain that ordinary *i* would be substituted in practice.

(2) Another system would be to leave *i* as in present spelling, writing simply *fiaskoe, familiarrrity, pronunsaeshon, milion, konveenient, hapier, hapiest*, etc. This plan would have the disadvantage that *i* would have two quite different pronunciations when followed by *a, o* and *u* in New Spelling: long *i* in *diameter, kwiësent, biolojy, diurnal*, but short *i* or *y* in *fiaskoe, akwiës, kueriosity, akwaerium, briliant, milion, jeenius*. These could be partly covered by a rule, but there would be exceptions. In the case of *ie* there would be the further drawback due to the ordinary New Spelling value of this digraph. Our vowel system requires that *ie* should denote long *i* (as in *tie*). It would therefore be very undesirable to give it an entirely different value in such words as *konveenient, audiens*. Moreover the terminations *-iel, -ien, -ier* would be ambiguous; they would have the normal New Spelling values in *rekonsiel, tekstiel, alpien, porkuepien, safier* (O.S. *sapphire*), *empier*, but quite different values in *spaniel, aelien, premier, hapier*.

(3) Another possible system would be to use *e* instead of *i* in the cases under consideration: *feaskoe, familearrity, pronunseaeshon, mileon*, etc. This would be unambiguous when the following vowel is *a, i, o* or *u*, and it would be in line with the present spelling of some words (*area, genealogy*, for instance). It would not, however, work well when the following letter is *e*. Either the *ie* would have to be changed to *ea* (this would be feasible in some words, e.g. *convenient, audience, spaniel*) or a diæresis would have to be used; this latter would be unavoidable in the common terminations *-ier, -iest*, and would give forms like *premeër, hapeër, hapeëst*, which would be unsuitable for many reasons.

(4.) Yet another plan, which has in fact been experimented with by the Simplified Spelling Society, is to reserve the letter *i* for the

short vowel sound and to adopt *y* as the regular symbol for the long sound *ie*. We have come to the conclusion, however, that to use *y* in two such very different senses as the vowel in *tie* and the initial consonant of *yet* would constitute a serious defect in a system of reformed spelling.

APPENDIX V

USE OF THE DIÆRESIS

We recommend that the use of the diæresis be confined to cases where a sequence of vowel letters without a diæresis would have another value. Examples are *gaëst* (gayest), *plaër* (player), *paäbl* (payable), *freëst*, *kwiët* (quiet), *poëm*, *truër*, *zoölojy*, *koürs* (coerce), *egoist*, *inkongruüs*. Sequences of vowel letters to which no special meaning is assigned never require a diæresis, e.g. *paing* (paying), *seing* (seeing), *triing*, *bluish*, *kaos*, *neon*, *lion*, *fiuoresent*, *real*, *theater*, *liabl*, *pius* (pious), *pervaor* (purveyor), *truant*.

Those who use a disyllabic pronunciation in such words as *higher*, *flyer*, may indicate this by using the diæresis: *hiër*, *fliër*. But this marking would not be essential, since many speakers pronounce these words as monosyllables (*higher* being identical with *hire*, and therefore adequately represented by *hier*). Similarly the diæresis in *freër* may be omitted on the ground that many pronounce the word to rhyme with *beer*.

In some cases the diæresis may be omitted on the ground that the letters could not occur in the particular position with the special value of the digraph. Thus no ambiguity would arise from writing *truer* and *going* without a diæresis, since the ordinary value of *ue* does not occur after *tr* and the ordinary value of *oi* does not occur before *ng*.

In numerous other cases the diæresis might be made optional on the ground that there is no possibility of confusion with any other word. Thus users of New Spelling would no doubt generally omit the diæresis in such a word as *egoist*.

In some cases a hyphen might be used as a preferable alternative to the diæresis, e.g. *ko-urs*, *re-enter* instead of *koürs*, *reënter*. Some favour extending this plan so as to make the diæresis entirely unnecessary (see Appendix X).

APPENDIX VI

CONTRACTIONS, APOSTROPHE

Contracted forms of groups of two or more words can be made in New Spelling in much the same way as in present spelling. Examples: *kaan't*, *doen't*, *o'klok*, *kat's-pau*, *wil-o'-dhe-wisp*, *I'l*, *U'l*, *he'l*, *I'v*, *she'z* (= she is, she has), *we'd* (= we had, we would), *it's* (= it is, it has), *U'r* (you're), *dhae'r*.

It has been suggested that in many such cases the apostrophe is superfluous. We have come to the conclusion, however, that for the present it is better to adhere to the best printing-house practice in this matter.

We recommend also retaining the apostrophe in the possessive termination, distinguishing for instance *boiz*, *boi'z* and *boiz'*, *dueks*, *duek's* and *dueks'*, *horsez*, *hors'ez* and *horsez'*, *churchez*, *church'ez* and *churchez'*. It will be noted that (apart from some of the word-signs) this is the only case in New Spelling where visual distinctions are made which do not correspond to any distinction in pronunciation.

Some common contractions retain their present forms in New Spelling. Such are *Mr.*, *Ltd.*, *St.* (street and Saint), *i.e.*, *e.g.* Others need alteration. Such are *Msz.* (Mrs.), *Mesrz.* (Messrs.), *Bruz.* (Bros.), *Nr.* (No.), *Nrz.* (Nos.), *Ky* or *Koe* (Co.), *vt.* (viz.), *pz.* (pp.), *ets.* (*etc.*), *os.* (oz.), *pd.* (lb.), plurals of letter names such as *a'z*, *b'z*, *gz*, *h'ez*, *s'ez* (*f's* would remain as at present).

APPENDIX VII

WORDS SPELT WITH *OR*

(a) *Or + consonant*

The representation of words at present written with *or* + consonant is complicated by the fact that in many parts of Great Britain two separate vowel sounds are represented by it: a “close” *o* is used in some words (e.g. *port, afford*), while an “open” *o* is used in other words (e.g. *sort, cord, fork*). Those who make this distinction also use close *o* in words now written with *oar*, *our* (e.g. *board, course*).¹

Whatever spelling is selected for these words will therefore cause inconvenience to some speakers. Either (1) distinctions made by some will have to be ignored, or (2) other speakers will have to memorize spellings showing distinctions they do not make.

All things considered, we incline to the view that the normal way of writing all such words should be with *or*. However, as has been shown by P. MacCarthy in the Foreword to the Society’s version of *Hamlet*, it is advisable to admit *oer* as a possible alternative in the words pronounceable with “close” *o*. These words are marked with an asterisk in the Society’s *Dictionary of New Spelling*.

The following are the chief words at present written with *or* + consonant which many speakers pronounce with close *o* but which according to the first system would be written like the

¹The distribution of the close and open *o*-sounds is not quite the same in all districts. The most usual is that shown in various dictionaries (e.g. the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Cassell’s *French and English Dictionary*, Chambers’s *Dictionary*, Funk and Wagnall’s *Standard Dictionary*) and in Grant and Robson’s *Phonetics for Scottish Students* (Cambridge University Press), pp. 100, 101. The principal dictionaries indicating the pronunciation of those who do not make this distinction are Wyld’s *Universal English Dictionary* and D. Jones’s *English Pronouncing Dictionary*.

words with open *o* listed in the next paragraph: *ford*, *aford*, *hord* (O.S. *hoard*, *horde*), *sord* (O.S. *sword*), *fort*, *port* (*import*, *report*, etc.), *sport*, *forth* (O.S. *forth*, *fourth*), *divors*, *fors*, *born* (O.S. *borne*), *sworn*, *torn*, *worn* (O.S. *worn*), *forj*, *pork*.

The chief words now written with *or* + consonant which are always said with an open *o* are: *kord* (*rekord*, etc.), *lord*, *order*, *border*, *form* (*inform*, etc.), *storm*, *adorn*, *born* (O.S. *born*), *korn*, *horn*, *morning* (O.S. *morning*), *skorn*, *shorn*, *kork*, *fork*, *stork*, *York*, *sort*, (*rezort*, etc.), *short*, *snort*, *north*, *gorj*, *hors* (O.S. *horse*), *korps*, *remors*, *forty*, *fortifie*, *fortifikaeshon*. The same sound occurs in *worn* (O.S. *warn*), *kworts* (O.S. *quartz*, *quarts*), etc.

The alternative system would show a difference of pronunciation which many speakers consider to be important. It would also distinguish certain pairs of words which in the first system are homonyms: *boerder*, *hoers*, *moern*, *boern*, *woern* (O.S. *boarder*, *hoarse*, *mourn*, *borne*, *worn*) would be distinguished from *border*, *hors*, *morn*, *born*, *worn* (O.S. *horse*, *morn*, *born*, *warn*).

(b) Final stressed -or, -oar, -ore

Final stressed *-or* (as in *nor*, *tor*, *abhor*) is always pronounced with open *o*. So also is *war*. But final stressed *-oar*, *-our*, *-ore*, *-oor* (as in *boar*, *four*, *more*, *door*) have variable pronunciation; a great many speakers say these words with open *o*, but others use close *o* in them. We recommend that these words be normally written with *or*. Thus we propose to write not only *for*, *nor*, *or*, *for*, *wor* (for O.S. *for*, *nor*, *or*, *tor*, *war*), but also *ador*, *befor*, *bor* (O.S. *boar*, *bore*), *dor*, *eksplor*, *flor*, *for* (O.S. *fore*, *four*), *ignor*, *lor* (O.S. *lore*), *mor*, *nor* (O.S. *nore*), *or* (O.S. *oar*, *ore*), *por* (O.S. *pore*, *pour*), *restor*, *ror*, *shor*, *skor*, *sgr* (O.S. *soar*, *sore*), *store*, *swor*, *tor* (O.S. *tore*), *wor* (O.S. *wore*).

Words of the latter class might be written with *-oer*, and if this were done, *foer* (O.S. *four*, *fore*), *noer* (O.S. *nore*), *or* (O.S. *oar*, *ore*), *toer* (O.S. *tore*), *woer* (O.S. *wore*), would be distinguished in spelling from *for*, *nor*, *or*, *tor*, *wor* (O.S. *war*). Not only does this mode of spelling conform to the pronunciation of many, but it presents the advantage of not increasing the already large number of homographs in the language.

¹ See the dictionaries mentioned in footnote on previous page

We think it reasonable therefore that the spelling of these words with *oer* should be admitted as a possible variant.

(c) Long and short *o* + *r* + vowel

These words are illustrated by the words *story* and *sorry*. Words of the *story* type are pronounced by some with a long open *o* and by others with a long close *o*.¹ Words of the *sorry* type are always pronounced with a short open *o*.

After exhaustive investigation of the words affected we have come to the conclusion that normally the existing principle of spelling such words can well be followed in New Spelling, i.e. that a single *r* should be used after long *o* and double *r* after short *o*. The New Spelling forms of *story* and *sorry* will thus be identical with their present forms.

The following are examples of the proposed new spellings. (i) Long *o*, indicated by single *r*: *adoring*, *adorable*, *eksploror*, *abhorring*, *historyan*, *hory* (O.S. *hoary*), *viktoryus*, *tuetoryal*, *kworum*, *korus* (O.S. *chorus*), *oral* (O.S. *oral*), *sanatoryum*, *boraks*. (ii) Short *o*, indicated by *rr*: *horrid*, *sorro*, *porrij*, *kworrel*, *abhorrent*, *korridor*, and in words like the following which at present have only one *r*, *korral* (O.S. *coral*), *morral*, *forrest*, *histerrik*, *morribund*. There is no need to write double *r* when the syllable is unstressed; *correct*, *corrupt*, etc., are represented unambiguously by the spellings *korekt*, *korupt* (like *moro*, *oraeshon*).

The proposed system involves making *r* an exception to the general rule that single consonant sounds are represented by single letters. It follows that for consistency the same use of *r* has to be made in two other cases, namely after *a* and *u*: a single *r* must be used when these letters denote long vowels and double *r* when they denote short vowels. Thus O.S. *starry*, *tarry* (covered with *tar*), *erring*, *stirring*, *purring* will be written in N.S. *stary*, *tary*, *uring*, *sturing*, *puring*, but *carry* will be written *karry* and *hurry* will retain its present form. Double *r* will be retained also in such words as *marrej*, *embarrass*, *arro*, *barraazh*, *wurry*, *kurrent*, *hurriken*, *burro* (O.S. *burrow*), and *rr* will have to be substituted for *r* in words like *harras* (O.S. *harass*), *harbarrik*,

¹ See the dictionaries mentioned in footnote on p. 111

karrikatuer, komparison, popuelarrity, parragraaf, parralel, kurrej, (OS. courage), burro (O.S. borough).

There is no necessity to double *r* after short *e* or *i*: *very, mery, hering, eratik, spirit, lirik, skwirel, iritaet* are adequate spellings. So also a single *r* suffices in unstressed positions, as in *military, vikarej, around, ariez, ariev, araenj, serender, kurikuelunz, kuraejus*.

An unambiguous spelling would also be arrived at by a reverse process, viz. using single *r* after short *a, o, u* and double *r* after the long values of these letters. This plan has much to commend it. For the numerous speakers who do not sound final *r*, *adorring, eksplorrer*, would be consistent spellings for derivatives of *ador, eksplor*, and would not involve any departure from the principle that single consonant sounds are represented by single letters. Against this advantage must be set the facts (1) that for Northerners and others who do sound final *r* this convention as to the use of *r* and *rr* might be found not entirely convenient, and (2) the system would in most cases be a reversal of present usage (*story, historian, chorus, oral*, for instance would have to be written *storry, historryan, horrus, orral*, while *sorry, corridor, moral* would be written *sory, koridor, moral*). After considering a large number of words, we have formed the opinion that the balance of advantage is on the side of the previous system.

It would also be possible to write *oer* when the vowel is long thus *stoery, adoering, histoeryan*, etc. This spelling would conform to the pronunciation of the numerous speakers who use close *o* in words of this, type. For reasons similar to those adduced in § (a) we feel it to be advisable to admit this spelling as a possible variant in such words.

APPENDIX VIII

PLACE NAMES IN NEW SPELLING

The following lists show alterations that would be required if geographical names were to be written in New Spelling. (The names marked * would have an alternative spelling with *oer* for *or*.)

1. Continents, Countries, Rivers, etc.—

(a) *Unaltered*: Alaska, Brazil, Burma, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Greenland, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Jutland, Kenya (or Keenya), Natal, Nepaul, Nyasaland, Sahara, Siam, Tibet, Trinidad.

(b) *Altered*: Aesha, Afganistan, Afrika, Albaenya, Aljeerya, Amerika, Araebya, Arjentien (or Arjenteen), Armeenya, Asam, Austraelya, Baluuchistaan, Beljum, Bengaul, Bermueda, Bolivya, Bornyoe, Britan, Bulgaerya, Chekoe-Slovaakya, Chiena, Danueb, Eejipt, Ekwador, Estoenya, Fraans or Frans, Gambia, Gyaana, Goeld Koest, Grees, Himalaaz, Holand, Hungary, Iesland, Indya, Inglan (or Inggland), Iraak, Iraan, Jaava, Jamaeka, Jurmany, Kalifornya, Kanada, Kashmeer, Kolombya, Kolumbya, Kreet, Kueba, Latvya, Lithueaenya, Luksemburg, Madagaskar, Malaä, Maula, Meksikoe, Miesor*, Mongoelya, Morokoe, Nijeerya, Niel, Norwae, Nue Zeeland, Ooroogwie, PaakistAan, Palestien, Panamaa, , Parragwic, Peruu, Poeland, Portuegal, Punjaab, Pursha, Rien, Roedeezya, Roen, Rusa, Ruumaenya, Sardinya, Selon, Senegaul, Siebeerya, Sieprus, Syera Lyoen, Sirya, Sisily, Skotland, Somaaliland, Soodan, Spaen, Sweeden, Switserland, Tazmaenya, Tailand, Travankor*, Tuenis, Tuenizya, Turkey, Uego-slaavya, Ueganda, Uenieted Staets, Uerop, Waelz.

2. Towns and Counties in the British Commonwealth and U.S.A.—

(a) *Unaltered*: Aberdeen, Bedford, Boston, Bradford, Bristol,

Chelmsford, Chester, Chichester, Darlington, Devon, Devonport*, Dorchester, Dorking, Dorset, Dublin, Dundee, Hereford, Huntingdon, Ipswich, Kent, Kingston, Manchester, Northampton, Northumberland, Preston, Richmond, Ripon, Rochester, Rugby, Southampton, Southend, Stratford, Sunderland, Westmorland, Wigan, Winchester, York.

(b) *Altered*: Adelaed, Aelzbury, Aukland, Auldershot, Baath, Barkshir, Belfaast, Boelton, Bombae, Bornmuth*, Brieton, Brizbaen,, Bukingam, Bukston, Burkenhed, Burmingam, Chatam, Cheltenham, Cheshir, Darby, Dely, Doever, Donkaster, Durram, Edinboro, Eeling, Eestborn*, Ekseter, Eseks, Filadelfya, Foekston, Glaasgoe, Gloster, Grimzby, Haestingz, Halifaks, Hampshir, Harford, Harrij, Hichin, Holiwood, Huderzfeeld, Hul, Iel ov Wiet, Ilfrakuum, Invernes, Kaembrij, Kalkuta, Kamberly, Kanterbury, Kardif, Karliel, Kimberly, Kolumboe, Kornwaul, Koventry, Kroemer, Kroidon, Kumberland, Kwebek, Lankaster, Leedz, Lemington, Lester, Linkon, Liverpool, Lufboro, Lndon, Luuton, Madraas, Maedston, Maklzfeeld, Marget, Melborn*, Midlzbroy, Monmuth (or Munmuth), Montreaul, Noeva Skoesha, Norfok, Norrij, Notingam, Nuefoundland, Nuehaeven, Nuekaasl, Nueport*, Nue York, Oeldam, Oksford, Ottawa, Peeterboro, Penzans, Plimuth, Portsmuth*, Purth, Ramsget, Reding, San Fransiskoe, Saulford, Saulzbury, Seatl, Shefeeld, Shikaagoe, Shroezbury (or Shruuzbury), Sidney, Skarboro, Staford, Stokport*, Sufok, Somerset, Surry, Suseks, Torkee, Torontoe, Truuroe, Tunbrij, Vankuuver, Waekfeeld, Waemuth, Waulsaul, Waulzend, Welington, Wiltshir, Wimblon, Winipeg, Woolverhampton, Wooster, Worrik, Worrington, Woshington, Yarmuth.

3. Foreign Towns with anglicized form:

(a) *Unaltered*: Amsterdam, Bagdad, Berlin, Flushing, Gothenburg, Hamburg, Madrid, Milan.

(b) *Altered*. Aljeerz, Athenz, Barselocna, Belgraed, Brunzvik, Bruselz,, Buekarest, Florrens, Gent, Jeneeva, Jeruusalem, Kaediz,, Kartajeena, Koepenhaegen, Koloen, Kieroe, Lizbon, Marsaelz, Moskoe, Muenik, Parris, Osloe, Roem, Rotterdam, Stokhoem, Toekyoe, Valenshya, Venis, Vyena, Worsau.

4: London Streets, Suburbs, etc—

(a) *Unaltered*: Barking, Bedford, Bond, Brentford, Brompton, Camden, Campden, Embankment, Dorset, Farringdon, Fenchurch, Fleet, Gordon, Hanover, Hendon, Kensal, Kentish, Ken Wood, Kilburn, Lambeth, Paternoster, Portland*, Portman*, Praed, Strand, Stratford, Torrington, Trafalgar, Westminster (Avenue, Park, Street.)

(b) *Altered*: Adison, Arkriet, Auldgaet, Auldwich, Baeker, Baezwauter, Bekenam, Blakfrierz, Batersy, Belgraev, Bilingzgaet, Bishopsgaet, Bluumzbury, Boe, Brikston, Brondzbury, Bukingam, Burmondzy, Chaansery, Chaeny, Charring, Chizik, Devonshir, Druury, Duck, Eeton, Ejwaer, Finchly, Finzbury, Fitsjon, Gloster, Gour, Graez In, Grinij, Groevenor, Haemarket, Hamersmith, Harnpsted, Harly, Harroe, Hied, Hieget, Hoeborn, Holowae, Hornzy, Horsfery, Hurn Hil, Izlington, Kadugan, Kaledoenyan, Kavendish, Kenzington, Klapam, Klaption, Kolvil, Kovent, Kraeven, Kue, Lankaster, Ludget, Maeda Vael, Marrileboen, Monuement, Morlboro, Muzwel, Nietsbrij, Noting, Nueget, Paddington, Pankras, Pikadily, Primroez, Putny, Reejent, Rodherhiedh, Rusel, Shaafisbury, Sheperd'z Boosh, Sloen, Sohoe, St. Jaemz'ez, St. Jon'z Wood, St. Jorj'ez, Stock Nueington, Sudhark, Tavistok, Temz, Theobauld, Totenam, Tour Brij, Ueston, Urlz Kort*, Viktorya*, Vokshaul, Waulwurth, Wauterluu, Welington, Westborn*, Whietchapel, Whiethaul, Wilzden, Woeburn, Woolij. (Brij, Dok, Driev, Gaet, Gardenz, Groev, Hil, Kloes, Korner, Kort*, Kresent, Laen, Muez, Plaes, Roe, Roed, Skwaer, Surkus, Teres, Wae, Wauk.)

5. Derived Nouns and Adjectives-

(a) *Unaltered*: Burman, French, Greek, Spanish, Turkish.

(b) *Altered*: Aeshyatik, Afgan, Afrikan, Amerikan, Arrabik, Australyan, Beljan, Bolivyan, Brazilyan, Bulgaeryan, Burmeez, Chieneez, Chilyan, Daen, Daenish, Devoenyan, Duch, Ejipshan, Fin, Finish, Ieslandik, Ierish, Indyan, English (or Ingglish), Italian, Japaneez, Jaavaneez, Jurman, Hunggaeryan, Kan-aedyan, Kreetan, Liverpudlyan, Maulteez, Meksikan, Nielotik,

Norweejan, Palestinyan, Parizyan, Peruuvyan, Poelish, Portue-
geez, Rugbean, Rushan, Ruuniaenyan, Singgaleez (or
Singhaleez), Siryan, Skoch, Skot, Skotish, Spanyol, Surbyan,
Swedish, Swis, Ueropian, Vyeneez, Veneeshan, Zuuluu.

APPENDIX IX

FURTHER STATISTICAL DATA

Since the fourth edition of this book Dr. Godfrey Dewey completed and published the results of his investigation into the frequency of English words (*The Relative Frequency of English Speech Sounds*, Harvard Studies in Education, 1923). This valuable statistical work has an important bearing on the question of the changes which will be made if practical application is given to the recommendations of this book. In the absence of such published investigation the authors of the book could, under the heading of each speech sound, list the number of words which occur in the various old spellings, but they could not give to those words the value which they have in the terms of frequency in ordinary continuous English. The only case in which statistics of frequency in continuous English were given in the earlier editions of this book was in connexion with *c* and *k*. These statistics are reproduced in the present edition (p. 22). We think it, however, advisable to add fuller statistics in this Appendix.

The 500 commonest words of the language, as listed in Dr. Dewey's book, have an average frequency of 76.6 per cent of ordinary continuous English¹; the remaining 631 words in his list have an average total recurrence of only 10.75 per cent, and the remaining—shall we say—50,000 words an average total recurrence of only 12.6 per cent.

The commonest words thus afford a cross-section of over three-quarters of the English language in continuous form, and possibly they may be presumed to afford a sample from which deductions concerning the remaining 23.4 per cent of the language may be made.

There are thus two aspects from which the results of Dewey's work may be considered helpful—in the first place, to show precisely what is the effect within the 500 commonest words, and, secondly, to indicate from the effect in the 500 commonest words what is the probable effect in the other, say, 50,000.

Table 4—The Recurrence of Words, including Their Simple Derivatives.

The 500 commonest words could be analysed for every consonant and every vowel sound, but it has been thought best to confine this appendix to the vowel sounds only.

500 COMMONEST WORDS

Vowels and Diphthongs. In the case of some of the vowel and diphthong sounds of the English language there will in New Spelling be a continuance of the existing system of representation either in all instances or in the majority of instances, the same signs being used in New Spelling as are used in Old Spelling. All the short vowels, the long vowel *ee*, the diphthong *ar*, and the diphthong *ou*, provide instances of all or the great majority of representations remaining, but there are many changes in some of the others. While at one end of the scale we have the short vowel sound *a*, as in the demonstrative pronoun *that*, which in New Spelling will in all cases be represented by the sign which was used in the Old Spelling, there are at the other extreme the cases of the new signs for the vowel sounds in *pa*, *go* and *rule* in which there is in the commonest words not a single instance where the old spelling will remain.

The results of the investigation into the 500 commonest words may conveniently be set out as follows—

Table of the 500 Commonest Words (Table 4 in Dewey's *Relative Frequency of English Speech Sounds*) analysed in classification of vowel sounds to show percentages of words where any given vowel sound will in New Spelling be represented by the same letter or letters as in Old Spelling and where it will be represented by a different letter or letters.

| Vowel sound in | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGED | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|------|-----|------------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % |
| That | <i>a</i> | <i>and</i> <i>that</i> | 3.280 1.367 | | | nil | nil | |
| | | Total 58 words ¹ | | <u>10.848</u> | | | | |

¹ The word *capital* provides two instances. The word *carry* is here the only instance of the use of a double *r* in New Spelling.

| Vowel sound in | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGED | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------|------------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % |
| Pen | <i>e</i> | <i>were</i> | .307 | | <i>a</i> | <i>any</i> | .210 | |
| | | <i>them</i> | .262 | | | <i>many</i> | .104 | |
| | | | | | Total 3 words | | .344 | |
| | | | | | <i>ea</i> | <i>read</i> | .046 | |
| | | | | | <i>head</i> | .038 | | |
| | | | | | Total 5 words ² | | .172 | |
| | | | | <i>ai</i> | <i>said</i> | | .161 | |
| | | | | <i>ie</i> | <i>frien</i> | | .039 | |
| | | | | | <i>d</i> | | | |
| | | | | Total 104 words ¹ | | | 6.102 | .716 |
| Is | <i>i</i> | <i>in</i> | 2.116 | | <i>u</i> | <i>busi</i> | | .091 |
| | | | | | | <i>ness</i> | | |
| | | <i>it</i> | 1.488 | | <i>ey</i> | <i>mon</i> | | .060 |
| | | | | | <i>ey</i> | | | |
| | | | | | <i>o</i> | <i>wom</i> | | .048 |
| | | | | | <i>en</i> | | | |
| | <i>y</i> | <i>any</i> | .210 | | <i>ui</i> | <i>build</i> | | .046 |
| | | <i>only</i> | .289 | | <i>u + e</i> | <i>minu</i> | | .030 |
| | | | | | <i>te</i> | | | |
| | | | | Total 20 words | | | .945 | |
| | | | | | | | 10.960 | .275 |
| Not | <i>o</i> | <i>of</i> | 3.998 | | <i>a</i> | <i>was</i> | .850 | |
| | | <i>on</i> | .643 | | | <i>what</i> | .260 | |
| | | Total 44 ³ words | | 7.655 | | Total 3 words | | 1.193 |
| | | | | | <i>au</i> | <i>beca</i> | | .108 |
| | | | | | | <i>use</i> | | |
| | <i>or</i> | <i>for</i> | 1.035 | | <i>ar</i> | <i>war</i> | | |
| <i>or</i> | | .458 | | <i>ou</i> | <i>four</i> | .041 | | |
| Total 16 words | | 2.239 | | <i>cour</i> | .038 | .079 | | |
| | | | | | <i>se</i> | | | |
| | | | | | | | 9.894 | 1.597 |

¹ *Every*, *never* and eighteen other words provide two or more instances. The word *perfect* has been treated here as a verb and will also appear as an adjective under *ur*.

² The word *read* has been treated here as a past participle and *lead* as the metal. They will also *appear* as present indicatives under the long *ee*.

³ The word *condition* and three others give two instances.

| Vowel sound in | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGE D | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------|-----------|------|----------------|-------------|------|------|------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | | | | | | | | |
| Much | <i>u</i> | <i>but</i> | .504 | 2.180 | <i>o + e</i> | <i>one</i> | .389 | .962 | | | | | | | | |
| | | <i>up</i> | .207 | | | <i>come</i> | .171 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Total 23 words | | | | Total 8 words | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <i>ur¹</i> | <i>purpose</i> | | | .058 | .174 | <i>o</i> | | <i>other</i> | .194 | .647 | | | | | |
| | | | <i>turn</i> | | .054 | | | | <i>month</i> | .062 | | | | | | |
| | | Total 4 words | | | | | Total 10 words | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <i>oo</i> | <i>to²</i> | | | | 2.924 | | 3.457 | <i>ou</i> | | <i>country</i> | .111 | .282 | | |
| | | | | | <i>into²</i> | | .166 | | | | | <i>enough</i> | .044 | | | |
| | | | Total 7 words ¹ | | | | Total 4 words | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | <i>aa</i> | | nil | | | | | .617 | | <i>oe</i> | <i>does</i> | | .232 | .063 |
| | | | | <i>er</i> | | | <i>her</i> | .234 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>per</i> | .060 | | | | | | | | | |
| Good | <i>ar</i> | <i>part</i> | .097 | .514 | <i>or</i> | <i>work</i> | .127 | .514 | | | | | | | | |
| | | <i>large</i> | .084 | | | <i>world</i> | .117 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Total 13 words | | | | .617 | | | Total 3 words | | .282 | | | | | |
| Pa | <i>a</i> | | | .659 | <i>ea</i> | <i>early</i> | .041 | .659 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>ir</i> | <i>learn</i> | | .030 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | <i>girl</i> | | .050 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | .050 | | | Total 7 words | | .533 | | | | | |
| Good | <i>ou</i> | | | 2.354 | <i>u</i> | <i>woman</i> | .059 | .659 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>ou</i> | <i>would</i> | | .267 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | <i>could</i> | | .147 | | | | | | | |
| Total 7 words ¹ | | | | Total 3 words | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pa | <i>a</i> | | | .516 | <i>a + e</i> | <i>are</i> | .549 | .516 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Total 9 words | | | .516 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | .549 | | | Total 9 words | | .516 | | | | | |
| Total 13 words | | | | 1.065 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

¹ There is here no instance of *urr* in words like *hurry*.

² Words like *to* from which the final reduplicated letter has been omitted are here treated as unchanged.

| Vowel sound in | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGE D | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | |
| May | <i>ae</i> | <i>a¹</i> | 2.120 | | <i>a + e</i> | <i>made</i> | .170 | 1.281 | |
| | | | | | | <i>make</i> | .166 | | |
| | | | | | | Total 17 words | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>ay</i> | <i>say</i> | | .191 |
| | | | | | | | <i>day</i> | | .175 |
| | | | | | | Total 10 words | | | .987 |
| | | | | | | <i>ey</i> | <i>they</i> | | .495 |
| | | | | | | <i>e + e</i> | <i>there</i> | | .329 |
| | | | | | | | <i>where</i> | | .083 |
| | | | | | | <i>ei</i> | <i>their</i> | | .319 |
| | | | | | | <i>a</i> | <i>nation</i> | | .059 |
| | | | | | | | <i>labour</i> | | .052 |
| | | | | | | Total 6 words | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>ai</i> | <i>against</i> | | .073 |
| | | | | | | | <i>again</i> | | .062 |
| | | | | | | Total 4 words | | | .241 |
| | | | | | | <i>ea</i> | <i>great</i> | | .178 |
| <i>bear</i> | .027 | .205 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | <u>2.120</u> | | | <u>4.189</u> | | |
| We | <i>ee</i> | <i>the</i> <i>be</i> | 7.310 .956 | | <i>ea</i> | <i>year</i> | .152 | .883 | |
| | | | | | | <i>mean</i> | .072 | | |
| | | | | | | Total 18 words ³ | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>e + e</i> | <i>these</i> | | .152 |
| | | | | | | | <i>here</i> | | .110 |
| | | | | | | Total 4 words | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>e</i> | <i>even</i> | | |
| | | | | | | <i>ie</i> | <i>believe</i> | | .059 |
| | | | | | | | <i>field</i> | | .030 |
| | | | | | | <i>i</i> | <i>machine</i> | | .030 |
| Total 21 words ² | | | | <u>11.097</u> | | | <u>1.427</u> | | |

¹ The word *a* from which the final *e* will be omitted is here treated as an instance where no change will take place.

² The words *the*, *be*, and four others from which the final *e* will be omitted have been treated as unchanged. The word *be* in its derivative *being* and the word *real* are similarly treated as unchanged.

³ The words *read* and *lead* have here been included as present indicatives.

| Vowel sound in | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGE D | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | |
| All | <i>au</i> | <i>cause</i> | .057 | <u>.084</u> | <i>all</i> | <i>all</i> | .467 | .606 | |
| | | <i>authority</i> | .027 | | <i>call</i> | .085 | | | |
| | Total 2 words | | | | <i>al</i> | <i>also</i> | .069 | | |
| | Go | nil | | | <u>nil</u> | <i>ou</i> | <i>thought</i> | .075 | .228 |
| | | | | | | <i>aw</i> | <i>brought</i> | .033 | |
| | | | | | | <i>aw</i> | <i>law</i> | .057 | .108 |
| | | | | | | <i>a</i> | <i>saw</i> | .041 | |
| | | | | | | <i>a</i> | <i>water</i> | .049 | <u>1.089</u> |
| | | | | | | <i>o</i> | <i>no</i> | .321 | |
| | | | | | | <i>o</i> | <i>so</i> | .300 | 1.779 |
| | | | | Total 18 words | | | | | |
| | | | | <i>ow</i> | <i>know</i> | .171 | .420 | | |
| | | | | <i>ow</i> | <i>own</i> | .090 | | | |
| | | | | Total 5 words | | | | | |
| | | | | <i>o + e</i> | <i>those</i> | .104 | .343 | | |
| | | | | <i>o + e</i> | <i>home</i> | .071 | | | |
| | | | | Total 6 words | | | | | |
| | | | | <i>oa</i> | <i>loan</i> | .034 | .067 | | |
| | | | | <i>oa</i> | <i>coal</i> | .033 | | | |
| | | | | <i>oh</i> | <i>oh</i> | .053 | <u>.038</u> | | |
| | | | | <i>ough</i> | <i>though</i> | | | | |
| | | | | | | | <u>2.700</u> | | |
| Too | <i>uu</i> | nil | <u>nil</u> | | <i>o</i> | <i>who</i> | .248 | .487 | |
| | | | | | <i>oo</i> | <i>do</i> | .239 | | |
| | | | | | | | <i>oo</i> | <i>too</i> | .057 |
| | | | | | | | <i>oo</i> | <i>food</i> | .055 |
| | | | | Total 4 words | | | .193 | | |
| Carried forward | | | | <u>nil</u> | | | <u>.680</u> | | |

| Vowel sound | UNCHANGED | | | | CHANGED | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|--------------|------|
| | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | Present Spelling | Word | % | Total % | | |
| in | Brought forward | | | | nil | | | | .680 | |
| | | | | | <i>wo</i> | <i>two</i> | | | .146 | |
| | | | | | <i>ough</i> | <i>through</i> | | | .094 | |
| | | | | | <i>o + e</i> | <i>move</i> | .044 | | .086 | |
| | | | | | | <i>whose</i> | .042 | | .060 | |
| | | | | | <i>ue</i> | <i>true</i> | | | .033 | |
| | | | | | <i>u + e</i> | <i>sure</i> | | | <u>.033</u> | |
| | | | | | nil | | | | <u>1.099</u> | |
| | I | <i>i</i> | <i>I</i> ¹ | 1.236 | <u>nil</u> | <i>i + e</i> | <i>time</i> | .232 | | |
| | | | <i>supply</i> ¹ | .045 | | | <i>like</i> | .129 | | |
| | | | | | | | Total 15 words | | | .997 |
| | | | | | | <i>y</i> | <i>by</i> | .600 | | |
| | | | | | | | <i>my</i> | .329 | | |
| | | | | | | | Total 3 words | | | .980 |
| | | | | | | <i>igh</i> | <i>night</i> | .110 | | |
| | | | | | | <i>might</i> | .084 | | | |
| | | | | | | Total 5 words | | | .209 | |
| | | | | | <i>eye</i> | <i>eye</i> | .054 | | | |
| | | | | | <i>uy</i> | <i>buy</i> | .036 | | | |
| | | | | | <i>ei</i> | <i>either</i> | .036 | | | |
| | | | Total 2 words | <u>1.281¹</u> | | | | | <u>2.698</u> | |
| Now | | <i>ou</i> | <i>our</i> | .357 | | <i>ow</i> | <i>now</i> | .210 | | |
| | | | <i>out</i> | .206 | | | <i>how</i> | .146 | | |
| | | Total 13 words | <u>1.186</u> | | Total 4 words | | <u>.522</u> | | | |
| Enjoy | <i>oi</i> | | | | <i>oy</i> | <i>boy</i> | .043 | | | |
| | | | | | | <i>destroy</i> | .034 | | | |
| | | <i>point</i> | <u>.048</u> | | Total 3 words | | <u>.107</u> | | | |

¹ *I* from which the final *e* will be omitted and *supply* of which the plural and third person derivatives will be unchanged have been treated as unchanged.

SUMMARY OF VOWEL PERCENTAGES

| Vowel Sound in | UNCHANGED | | CHANGED | | |
|----------------------|-----------|----------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| | Words | % ¹ | Words | % ¹ | |
| That | 58 | 10.848 | — | — | |
| Pen | 104 | 6.102 | 10 | .716 | |
| Is | 67 | 10.015 | 5 | .275 | |
| Not | <i>i</i> | 20 | .945 |) | 1.301 |
| | <i>y</i> | 44 | 7.655 | 4 | .296 |
| | <i>o</i> | 16 | 2.239 | 3 | 11.904 |
| Much | <i>or</i> | 23 | 2.180 | 23 | 2.821 |
| | <i>u</i> | 4 | .174 | 13 | 2.921 |
| Good | 7 | 3.456 | 5 | .659 | |
| Pa | <i>a</i> | — | — | 9 | .516 |
| | <i>ar</i> | 13 | .617 | 1 | .549 |
| May | 1 | 2.120 | 43 | 4.189 | |
| We | 21 | 11.097 | 26 | 1.427 | |
| All | 2 | .084 | 10 | 1.089 | |
| Go | — | — | 33 | 2.700 | |
| Too | — | — | 12 | 1.099 | |
| I | 2 | 1.281 | 31 | 2.698 | |
| Now | 13 | 1.186 | 4 | .522 | |
| Enjoy | 1 | .048 | 3 | .107 | |
| Music | 3 | .121 | 16 | 1.702 | |
| | 399 | 60.169 | 251 | 34.570 | |

It will be noticed that 399/650 of the vowel occurrences² remain unchanged and that their frequency is relatively greater, so that 609/948 of the vowel occurrences per page of continuous English remain unchanged. Put in other words: the vowel sounds of two syllables out of three in the occurrence of the commonest words in continuous English are now spelt by the letters which it is proposed shall represent them in New Spelling.

¹ The total words would be 500 and the total percentage 100 only if all the words in the list Of 500 commonest words were monosyllables. Since many are words of more than one syllable, many words have come up for consideration several times over.

² These totals are nearly exact. Adjustments would be made if possible to differentiate ambiguous words like *read*, *perfect*, etc., and could be made for words like *capital* in which there are more than one syllable as an example.

APPENDIX X

THE SYSTEM OF THE S.S.A.

Early in 1947 a new system of reformed spelling was put forward by the Simpler Spelling Association of America (Lake Placid Club, New York, U.S.A.). Working independently, the members of that Association evolved a scheme almost identical with our New Spelling—a clear indication that both organizations have been working on sound lines.

The following are the details in which the S.S.A. system differs from that of our Society.

(1) In the S.S.A. system the long vowel digraphs are not reduced before another vowel. Examples: *dieal*, *kaeos*, *agreeabl*, *lieon*, *egoist* (N.S. *dial*, *kaos*, *agreabl*, *lion*, *egoyst*).

(2) The S.S.A. system does not employ the diæresis, but inserts a hyphen when necessary to avoid ambiguity. Examples: *gae-eti*, *ree-elekt*, *kwie-et*, *loe-er*, *influu-ens* (N.S. *gaëty*, *reëlekt*, *kwiët*, *loër*, *influëns*)

(3) In the S.S.A. system *oo* is used to denote the long *oo*-sound and *uu* to denote the short *oo*-sound—the reverse of our N.S. usage.

(4) In the S.S.A. system *u* (without following *e*) always designates the short *i*-sound. *Y* is not used with this value finally or in any other position. Examples: *piti*, *pitiabl*, *hurri*, *hurriing*, *kueries* (N.S. *pity*, *pityali*, *hurry*, *hurrying*, *kueryus*).

(5) In the S.S.A. system *u* is employed to denote the obscure vowel in certain cases where N.S. retains the existing mode of writing, and particularly in the termination now written *-tion*. Examples: *naeshun*, *nashunaliti* (N.S. *naeshon*, *nashonality*).

In all other respects the two systems are identical. The points of divergence are of little importance, so that the results of experiments with the one system may be taken to hold good for the other.

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