

The Simplified Spelling Society Minutes 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912 and 1913. Agendas and Minutes 1936, 1937

[Introduction](#)

[Inaugural Minutes for 10th September 1908.](#)

[Minutes for 18 September 1908.](#)

[Minutes for 2nd October 1908.](#)

[Minutes for 9th November 1908.](#)

[Minutes for 22nd December 1908.](#)

[Minutes for 11th February 1909.](#)

[There was no quorum for 21st May 1909.](#)

[Minutes for 19th July 1909.](#)

[Minutes for 31st January 1910.](#)

[Minutes for 29th July 1910.](#)

[Minutes for 18th January 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 11th August 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 18th September 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 28th September 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 8th November 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 15th November 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 23rd November 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 6th December 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 16th December 1911.](#)

[Minutes for 31st January 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 15th February 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 14th March 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 9th May 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 13th June 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 10th October 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 14th November 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 19th December 1912.](#)

[Minutes for 13th February 1913.](#)

[Minutes for 13th March 1913.](#)

[Minutes for 10th April 1913.](#)

[Note 2002-04-01.](#) Typescript (in blue) found between the pages for 1919.

[Agenda 11 May 1936](#)

[Minutes 11 May 1936](#)

[Agenda 2 March 1937](#)

[Minutes 2nd March 1937](#)

[Sub-committee Minutes 23 March 1937](#)

Introduction

2002-02-17: Early minutes are hand written and poor legibility is indicated by (?) some crossing out by XX initially and later, where legible, by strike outs, and inserts above the line by ^.

The layout and style is similar to the minute book with commas and capitals being inserted in non-standard places but the handwritten indentations that vary from page to page have been only approximately followed. Minutes of meetings follow on in the original book but in the copies here each meeting starts with a new page.

It is odd that for several years the minutes were hand written and seem to have been written in the meeting and not written up as a fair copy even though a typist was employed at £78 per annum (something like £15,000 a year at today's prices) but read on.

The hand written minutes seem not to have been written by the Secretary as the writing changes quite frequently.

The first few meetings have the minutes numbered i.e. meeting 1,2,3 but that feature was stopped after a few meetings. In another organisation of similar age it is known that meetings have been numbered since the start of meetings. Perhaps, when all the minutes have been found, the Society would like to reinstate the system. At four meetings a year for 90 years that gives meeting 360 by 2002 but we may be up to significantly more than that.

These copies have not been proof read and may not be exactly as the originals.

2002-02-26: From 1911 onwards the paragraphs are typed up with an indent at the beginning of all paragraphs and a line space between each paragraph. The hand written minutes are non-standard but there seems to be no point in copying the exact hand style. Spellings are original and punctuation is original. Crossings out have also been shown.

David Stockton

Notable items in the minutes.

In September 1908, Dr Andrew Carnegie gave SSS £1000 (which would have been a huge sum at that time).

In November 1911, the committee agreed to publish a newsletter called the Pioneer. Our 4 copies of Pioneers are 1917–1918.

In December 1911 there was a request for women to be admitted to the councils. This was agreed and several ladies were appointed.

May 1912. H G Wells gave permission for a story to be transcribed by the society. We do not have this text, but the first paragraph is used in Personal Views.

In 1913, the minutes were presented in reformed spelling. Throughout the minutes, there are occasional proposals, discussions and votes by members on isolated words or phonemes, but no mention of a complete scheme.

23 March 1937 includes a mystifying reference to a Patch Simplified Spelling Society.

**Minutes of the meeting held in the York Room,
Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday 10 th September,
1908.**

Present: Mr. William Archer, London
Professor James W. Bright, Baltimore
Dr F.J. Furnivall, London
Mr. E.P. Gaston, London
Professor I. Gollancz, London
Professor H Stanley Jevons, Cardiff
Mr. J.J. Monro, London.
Mr. A.W. Pollard, London
Dr. Chas. P.G. Scott, New York
Professor Walter Skeat, Cambridge

Dr Furnivall, having called the meeting to order moved that Professor Skeat do take the chair. Carried by acclamation.

The chairman moved that Mr. Archer be asked to act as Secretary for the time being. Agreed.

The Chairman made an opening statement mentioning the difficulties that had been encountered in former years by the, scholars who had urged a simplification of English Spelling. It was now proposed to make a renewed effort to overcome these difficulties by means of a Society which should co-operate with the Simplified Spelling Board of New York, but should adapt to English conditions its constitution and its methods of propaganda.

Dr Scott, on behalf of the Visiting Committee of the American Board, said that that board felt that the cause would be greatly advanced by the establishment of a similar organisation in England, and Professor Bright added that it quite noticed(?) that the details of method found advantageous in one country might not be equally suitable in the other.

Professor Jevons thought that the usual English method of procedure was rather to form a Society with an Executive Committee than to constitute a board and thereafter to appeal for adherents.

Professor Gollancz enquired as to the status of those gentlemen present who were not members of the existing Simplified Spelling Board of the U.S.A. It being agreed that the meeting as a whole should consider itself a Provisional Committee, Professor Gollancz urged that the proposed Society should not tie itself down in its style and title to a policy of simplification, but should adopt a name importing a dispassionate interest in the problems of spelling, rather than any settled conviction as to the need for reform. He proposed as a title the "English Spelling Society".

Dr Furnivall & several others opposed this view and a general discussion ensued.

Finally Dr Furnivall moved (and Professor Jevons seconded) :-

"That the persons now present be invited to form a Committee to establish a Simplified Spelling Society in the United Kingdom."

Professor Gollancz moved (Mr. Monro seconding) the amendment that the word "English" be substituted for "Simplified".

A vote being taken the amendment was negatived by 7 votes to 2, and Dr. Furnivall's motion was carried nem. com., Professor Gollancz refraining from voting.

All those present with the exception of Professor Gollancz having accepted the invitation to form a Committee, Professor Jevons read the following draft:-

Constitution and rules of the Simplified Spelling Society

1. The name of the society shall be "The Simplified Spelling Society".
2. Its objects shall be to recommend simpler spellings of English words than those now in use, to further the general use of such simpler spellings by every means in its power, and to co-operate with the Simplified Spelling Board of the United States of America, founded and incorporated in New York.
3. All persons shall be admissible as members of the society without distinction of sex or nationality.
4. Every member shall pay a subscription of at least one shilling per annum, which shall entitle him to the receipt post free of the Society's publications.
5. A person shall be deemed to have become a member of the Society when he has notified the Hon. Secretary in writing of his desire to become a member, and tendered the amount of one year's subscription, and the Hon. Secretary has notified him of his admission to the Society. The acceptance of any person as a member of the Society shall not be delayed longer than one calendar month from the date of his application, unless the committee by formal resolution, has refused him admission, which course they shall be entitled to take without assigning any reason.
6. A general meeting of the Society shall be held annually in the month of June, at which Reports shall be presented, and the officers for the ensuing year elected.
7. The Hon. Secretary may arrange for the holding of general meetings of the Society at other times for any purpose of which the Committee may approve; and the Hon. Secretary can be required to Call a special General Meeting thirty days after receiving a requisition signed by not less than 50 members of the Society.
8. There shall be a President and not less than three Vice-presidents, an Honorary Treasurer, & an Honorary Secretary. The President, the Hon. Secretary, together with not less than nine other members, shall form the committee.
9. The officers shall hold office for one year but be eligible for re-election. The ordinary members of the Committee shall be elected for three years, one third retiring each year but being also eligible for re-election.
10. The Officers and Committee for the ensuing year shall be elected at the annual General Meeting. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be nominated by the committee; but any member of the Society shall have the right to nominate any other member for the officers of Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, or ordinary membership of the committee.

11. The Hon. Secretary shall have the assistance of a paid secretary to be styled "Assistant Secretary"
 12. The committee shall have power to make payments for any work done for the Society
-

Dr. Furnivall moved (Professor Bright seconding) "That the preceding rules be adopted as the rules of the Society subject to modification. Carried unanimously.

Dr. Furnivall moved (Professor Jevons seconding)
"That Professor Skeat be elected President of the Simplified Spelling Society".
Carried unanimously.

The following gentlemen were then elected as Vice presidents:-

Mr. Andrew Carnegie (proposed by Dr. Furnivall , seconded by Mr. Archer).
Dr. Furnivall (Proposed by Mr. Archer, seconded by Professor Jevons).
Sir J.A.H. Murray (Proposed by Professor Bright, seconded by Dr. Furnivall)
Dr. Henry Bradley (proposed by Dr. Furnivall seconded by Dr. Scott).
Professor James W. Bright (proposed by Dr. Furnivall seconded by Professor Jevons).

It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee should be held at University College, on Friday the 18th of September at 8 p.m.

The Proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Visiting Committee of the Simplified Spelling Board, moved by Professor Gollancz, and seconded by Dr. Furnivall. A suitable response was made by the members of the Visiting Committee.

Minutes of the Second Committee Meeting held at University College, Friday, 18 th September, 1908

The President, Professor Skeat, was in the chair. Of the Provisional Committee formed at the previous meeting there were present Mr. William Archer, Professor James W. Bright, Dr. J. H. Furnivall, Mr. J. J. Munro, Dr. Charles P. G. Scott.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed.

The Chairman moved (Dr. Furnivall seconding) that rule 4 should read (?) as follows:-

Every member shall pay an entrance fee on one shilling, and a subscription of at least one shilling per annum. Due on the first of January in each year, which shall entitle him to the receipt, post free, of the Society's publications. Carried.

Professor Bright moved (Dr. Furnivall seconding) "that throughout the Rules, the word "Honorary" before the word "Secretary" and 'Treasurer' should be omitted. Carried.

Professor Bright moved (Dr. Furnivall seconding) "that Mr. William Archer be invited to accept the office of Secretary and Treasurer". Carried. Mr. Archer consented subject to a fuller discussion of the situation with the Committee to be eventually constituted.

Professor Bright moved (Dr. Scott seconding) "that in accordance with the practice of The Simplified Spelling Board, the Secretary be invited to nominate, subject to the approval of the Committee, the assistant Secretary and other assistants, as may from time to time be deemed necessary. Carried.

Mr. Archer moved (Professor Bright seconding) an addition to rule 8: "The vice Presidents shall not be ex officio, but may be elected members of the committee." Carried.

Dr. Furnivall moved, (Professor Bright seconding) "that rule 12 should run as follows: 'The Committee shall have full control over the policy, conduct and finances of the Society.'" Carried.

Some other amendments having been informally discussed, the Secretary suggested that he be empowered to prepare before the next Committee meeting a revised draft of the rules in accordance with the views expressed. Agreed.

The Chairman moved that the following gentlemen be invited to form (along with the ex officio members), the Committee of the Society:-

Dr. Henry Bradley
Mr. W.A. Craigie
Dr. Furnivall
Professor W.P. Kerr
Professor H. Stanley Jevons
Sir J. H. Murray
Dr. A.J. Napier
Mr. A.W. Pollard
Mr. J.S. Westlake
Professor Joseph Wright

It was agreed that the gentlemen should be approached with a view of obtaining their consent.

Mr. Monro asked what was now the position of the Provisional Committee formed at the previous meeting. It was agreed that on the nomination of the regular committee, the Provisional Committee ceased to exist.

Dr. Scott asked for an informal expression of approval of the proposition made by Professor Loundsbury, President of The Simplified Spelling Board, that a joint committee of experts should be appointed to consider and report upon the scientific basis for the Simplification of English spelling. Without taking a vote the Committee accepted in principle this proposition.

Dr. Scott also enquired what was the feeling of the Committee, with regard to the Advisory Council, whether a separate Advisory Council should be formed for the United Kingdom, or whether the existing council should be regarded as common to both Societies, the British members to be nominated by the "Simplified Spelling Society.

The Committee was understood to favour the latter arrangement.

The next meeting of the Committee was fixed for Friday, October 2nd, at 4.30 p.m., at University College.
October 2nd 1908

Minutes of the third Committee Meeting held at University College, Friday, October 2nd, 1908, at 4.30 p.m.

The President, (Professor Skeat) was in the Chair.
The other members present were:-

Mr. William Archer
Dr. J. H. Furnivall
Professor H, Stanley Jevons
Mr. J.S. Westlake

Dr. Chas. P. G. Scott, of The Simplified Spelling Board, was also present as amicus curie.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed.
The Secretary then read the following letter from Mr. Andrew Carnegie, covering a cheque for £ 1000.

[Copy of Mr. Carnegie's letter]
Note 2002-02-17 this is a handwritten copy in the minutes

Skibo Castle,
Dormoch,
Sutherland.
Sept. 23rd 1908

Dear Mr. Archer,

I enclose a check for one thousand Pounds Sterling, according to my promise to Mr. Scott, with copy of a letter which I sent to him. I make no further promises, because everything depends upon results. Frankly, we expect some work to be done in the old home.

Mr. Scott would tell you that the great state of Iowa has adopted the 600 words as proposed by the Board, and these are used in every State Institution from the State University to the Public School.
This is progress.

I congratulate you upon the eminent men with whom you are surrounded, and shall watch anxiously your doings. I hope you will send me copies of all documents issued, so that I may keep in touch. We are marching rapidly on the other side and the dear old home is either to join the procession and march, or be left behind.

Very truly yours

(Sd) Andrew Carnegie

Wm Archer, Esq.
London
Enclosure

contd.]

"Copy

Skibo Castle,
Dormoch,
Sutherland.

Sept. 16 th 1908

Note. 2002-02-17 the above is as shown in the minutes as the page header.

My dear Mr. Scott,

I am glad to hear that the Britons are going to form a Society, but I do not wish to be considered as going to furnish all the funds needed, being satisfied that nothing would retard the progress of the cause more than the Knowledge that it was the work of an alien. I can only be one of the subscribers. Please make this point clear.

If there had been but one organization, then my fund given in America might have been drawn upon to some extent without injuring the cause, but a separate British Society, supported by an alien would never do.

* * *

Very truly yours

(Sd) Andrew Carnegie

Chas. Chas P. G. Scott, Esq.
Langham Hotel,
London. "

The President moved, and Dr. Furnivall seconded the following resolution:-

"That the thanks of the Society be offered to Mr. Andrew Carnegie for his generous donation to its funds; and that Mr. Carnegie be assured of the determination of the Committee to apply its resources to the active prosecution of the ends for which the society has been founded, among them being that of cordial co-operation with The Simplified Spelling Board of America"

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate it to Mr. Carnegie.

Dr. Furnivall stated that of the Committee nominated at the previous meeting five had consented to serve, namely:-

Dr. Furnivall
Professor Jevons
Dr. S. A. Napier
Mr. A.W. Pollard, and
Mr. J. S. Westlake

Two had declined, namely Mr. W.A. Craigie, and Professor W.P. Ker(?). From Dr. Henry Bradley, Sir J. A. H. Murray and Professor Joseph Wright, no reply had been received.

It was proposed seconded and carried that the following five gentlemen be invited to join the committee:-

Mr. E Chambers (of University College),
Dr. Frank Heath,
Dr. Gilbert Murray M.A. LL.D.,
Dr. Trechmann,
Dr. H.C. Wild;

various members of the committee undertook to communicate with these gentlemen.

The position of the office-bearers then came up for consideration. Mr Archer urged that the officers of Secretary and Treasurer should be separated; and, Dr. Furnivall having consented to act as Treasurer, Mr. Archer moved (Professor Jevons seconding):-

"That the Treasurer (Dr. J. J. Furnivall) be instructed to open an account for the Society at the London and County Bank, 111 New Oxford Street, and that all cheques shall be signed jointly by the Treasurer and the Secretary (Mr. William Archer). Carried.

Mr. Archer then reminded the committee that at the previous meeting he had accepted the Secretariatship subject to a fuller discussion of the Situation than was then possible. He now stated that, although he had plenty of useful propaganda work to be done, he felt so strongly the urgent necessity for a practical (as distinct from an historical or scientific) survey of the whole situation, that he could not throw himself with conviction into the work of propaganda, unless this survey was undertaken at the same time. He proposed therefore that he should be commissioned to draw up such a survey, to be submitted to the Committee and, if approved by them, to be offered as a basis for their deliberations to the International Commission of Experts which, it was hoped, would one day examine and report upon the whole question. He suggested that the committee should allot him £ 50 over and above his salary as Secretary, it being understood that if he found himself unable to execute the work as he conceived it he should report to the committee to this effect, & the proposed payment should not be made.

A general discussion ensued. Several members doubted the usefulness of the proposed survey, and Mr. Archer confessed that only by executing it, could he make his idea quite clear. At the same time he disclaimed all thoughts of suspending or slackening the work of propaganda while the survey was being carried out.

Eventually, Professor Jevons moved (Dr. Furnivall seconding) that Mr. Archer's proposal be agreed to, subject to the proviso, that the proposed survey should be submitted to the Committee within six months. Mr Archer having promised to do his best to fulfil this condition, the motion was carried.

The Secretary then submitted the following provisional budget for the coming year:-

<u>BUDGET</u>	
Rent of offices (about)	£ 65)
Salary of Secretary	£ 200) Per annum
Salary of Assistant Secretary	£ 200)
Salary of Typist	£ 80)
Expenses of instalment (opening up and varnishing office(?), provision of typewriter etc), about	£ 60
Special Payment to W. Archer (according to the above arrangement)	<u>£ 50</u> £ 655
Balance for printing, postage, & general expenses of propaganda, £ 345, plus subscriptions.	

The last two items in the above list are Special Expenses, which would not recur in an annual budget. The permanent expenses in rent and salaries on the scale above would be £ 545.

After some discussion Dr. Furnivall moved (Professor Jevons seconding) that the Budget be passed. Agreed.

The Secretary having been commissioned, at the previous meeting, to nominate the Assistant Secretary, he now nominated Mr. W.W. Skeat, and the nomination was ratified by the committee.

The secretary presented a report as to possible offices, & it was agreed that No. 44, Great Russell Street, would be a suitable situation, if the rooms were found otherwise suitable.

The draft Constitution and Rules drawn up since last meeting was revised & further amended, & the Secretary was instructed to produce at the next meeting a fair copy of the Rules in their amended form.

An understanding was arrived at that members of the Committee residing at a distance from London, & having to make special journeys to attend committee meetings, shall be entitled, on sending the Treasurer a note of their travel expenses, to have them refunded.

Dr. Furnivall proposed (Professor Jevons seconding) that the names of Professor Thomas R. Loundsbury, LL.D., the Right Hon. James Bryce, and Dr. T.J. MacNamara be added to the list of Vice-Presidents. Carried.

No date was fixed for the next committee meeting.

F. R. Furnivall

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, on 9 th November at 5.30 p.m.

Present: Dr. Furnivall
 Mr Pollard
 Mr W. Archer
 Mr. Westlake

It was agreed that the minutes should be read at the next meeting.

The Secretary reported the progress that had been made with regard to securing subscribers & otherwise forwarding the objects of the Society.

Prospectuses had been sent out to:-

246 London and Provincial Papers
901 Members of the English Association
45 Enquirers
152 Persons believed to be more or less sympathetic, the names being mainly taken from a list furnished by the American Board, & by Mr. H. Drummond, of Hetton-le-Hole.

Notices had appeared in about 45–50 papers.

The life members numbered 33 (or 29, deducting members of the Committee), and included Professor Dowden, Professor Mackail, Sir T. Clifford Allbutt, Sir Edward Clarke K.C., Lady Welby, Sir Charles Eliot (Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University), Professor G. Moore Smith, Professor of English at Sheffield, and Mr. Oldfield Thomas, of the Natural History Museum, the subscriptions sent varying from 12/- to £ 5.

The number of ordinary members who had joined was 40, the subscriptions varying from 1/- to £10.

The Secretary further reported, with regard to the proposed Simplifications, that no return had been made by Dr. Heath.

The Secretary then read a digest of the remarks made by those who had returned the list of proposed simplifications.

Mr Westlake suggested (on the conclusion of the report), that *ur* should be substituted for or in the *-our* class of words.

Mr Westlake further proposed that "s" should be substituted for *-ce* in such words as licorice. *and this was carried. (Note 2002. Added later).*

The Committee decided that "throu" was the best ~~form for~~ way of spelling "through".

The consideration of the report having been concluded, Mr. Westlake agreed that it was essential to have a carefully thought-out scheme of phonetic values, in consonance with which alone all changes should be made. This scheme he undertook to draw up himself, & to forward to the Secretary.

No date was fixed for the next meeting.

F. R. Furnivall

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, at 4.30 pm. on Dec. 22 nd 1908

Present: Dr. Furnivall
Mr Pollard
Mr W. Archer

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary gave information as to the increase of the numbers of members, (both life and ordinary members), & of the subscriptions received to date.

The Secretary ~~reported~~ gave information as to the amount expended.

He then announced that the Rt. Hon. James Bryce had accepted the offer of Vice-Presidency.

A letter from Mr. J. S. Westlake, Dated 19 th Dec. 1908, was read, ~~it was resolved that the~~ in which he put forward the following motion.

" That the Society advocate no reform which would work in a direction counter to that phonetical system adopted by the Classical Societies for the revised pronunciation of Latin, or would run counter to the current general pronunciation of the Latin vowels by Latin nations".

Resolved: that the letter be put on the minutes, & that when changes were being made, the principles set out in it should be borne in mind, but that the Society be not in any way definitely bound thereby.

A letter from Mr. Joseph Knowles, asking for advice as to the adoption of a system of spelling for the benefit of the Illiterates in India, was laid before the board.

Resolved that Mr. Knowles be advised to apply to the authorities of the International Phon- ~~System~~-Society, the matter being left however in the hands of the Secretary.

The Secretary next read a list of pamphlets already in hand, & explained that what may be called for brevity sake the "etymological argument" could easily be worked up further from the recent article in "Mod. Language Teaching". With regard to the Times Reader he recommended that it should be reprinted with marginal notes, in accordance with Mr. Andrew Carnegie's own suggestion.

The Secretary suggested that if size and price permitted copies of Dr. Lounsbury's recent book on Spelling Reform (~~2002 illegible deletion in original~~) should be procured for circulation. He considered it probable that the book would contain the substance of Dr. Lounsbury's article in the Atlantic monthly called "Confessions of a Spelling Reformer".

Mr. A.W. Pollard suggested that the President should be requested to edit about 8 or 9 pages of some standard author in normalized spelling.

This was agreed to.

It was further agreed that the Secretary should propose a digest of press opinions and submit them to the Committee with a view to their possible publication.

F. J. Furnivall

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, at 4.45 p.m. on 11 th February 1909

Present: Dr. Furnivall
Mr. William Archer
Mr. H. Stanley Jevons
Mr. A.W. Pollard
Mr. J.S. Westlake

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved.

The Secretary reported a falling off in the response made to circulars sent out since the last meeting. The last 12000 copies of the prospectus had been sent to members of the College of Preceptors.

The Question of the advisability of sending out pamphlets in company with the prospectus was discussed.

It was suggested that five hundred copies of the prospectus should be sent out with, and five hundred without the pamphlets [approved.

The Secretary reported the gist of a letter from Mr. Gaston, suggesting that a circular be issued to urge publishers not to insist upon the fashions of English Spelling in books printed in America & sent across in stereo-plates. After some discussion, it was resolved that the proposed letter be sent, if approved by the President and signed by both the President and the Secretary.

Mr. H. Stanley Jevons urged the circularising of all English and Scotch University Professors & Lecturers : approved.

The Secretary reported that on the advice of Dr. McKay, about 87 Newspapers, Professors and Lecturers in Canada had been circularised. Mr. H. Stanley Jevons brought forward and explained his scheme for an alfabet with consistent values, based upon the principle of accepting the commonest accepted English values (ignoring the finer distinctions).

The Secretary moved that Mr. Jevons be requested to continue the work upon his scheme, as an important preliminary piece of work preliminary to the work of the proposed Joint-Committee.

Dr. Furnivall suggested that the scheme should be printed for the use of the Committee. After discussion, it was agreed that typed copies should be made for circulation amongst the members of the Committee.

F. J. Furnivall

A Committee meeting was summoned for May 21, but as there was no quorum it did not take place.

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on 19 th July, 1909, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Dr. Furnivall (In the chair)
Mr. William Archer
Mr. Gilbert Murray
Mr. Jevons
Mr. A.W. Pollard

Professor J.W. Bright of the Simplified Spelling Board also attended.

The minutes of the meeting of 11 th Feb. were read and approved.

The secretary read a report (appended) giving statistics as to the number of new members and the results of the circulars sent out.

Mr. Jevons was asked (in accordance with the minutes of the previous meeting) to provide the scheme of alphabetic values upon which he had been working. Mr. Jevons replied that he was unable to do this, as it was still far from complete, but that he was willing to hand it over, as it stood, to the secretary, for consideration in connexion with the scheme upon which he (Mr. Archer) and Professor Rippmann had been engaged.

The Secretary then made a statement as to the financial position of the Society, and read the draft of a letter which he proposed to send to Mr. Carnegie.

After some discussion, Professor Bright suggested that the letter be re-drafted, & it was agreed on the motion of Mr. Jevons that Professor Bright & Dr. Furnivall be appointed a sub-committee along with the Secretary, to draw up a new letter.

The Secretary brought to notice an essay by Dr. Andrews upon the use of the final -e. Agreed that the secretary should write and suggest some method of publication other than ~~that~~ as one of the pamphlets of the S.S.S.

The Secretary mentioned a letter from Mr. Percy Simpson, suggesting that several papers of Howell's English Grammar, published in 1662, would be worth reprinting, together with a passage in Epistle(?) Ho-Eliane(?). Mr. Archer was authorised to write and ask Mr. Simpson to put them into a form suitable for printing.

Mr. Stanley Jevons moved that there should be established some regular procedure or rules for dealing with the questions of simplification to be adopted.

After much discussion Mr. Jevons moved:-

That any further proposals for ~~simplification~~ alterations of spelling to be adopted by the Society, shall be submitted in written form to the members of the Committee, and that their votes be taken on them in writing, & a fortnight allowed for reply.

Mr. Pollard seconded the motion, which was agreed to nem. com.

Mr. Pollard further moved that no such vote be taken till after Michelmas; this was seconded by Dr. Gilbert Murray & approved.

F. J. Furnivall

Note 2002-02-20. Nothing is appended to the minutes in the minute book..

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on January 31, 1910, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Dr. Furnivall (In the chair)
Mr. William Archer
Prof. Gilbert Murray
Mr. A.W. Pollard

The Secretary explained that at the meeting which had been called for November 11th, there had been no quorum, it would therefore be necessary to read the minutes of the meeting before that. These minutes were then read and agreed to.

Business arising out of previous meetings: the Secretary read his letter to Mr. Hogarth, and said that up to the present no further communication had been received. Resolved: that a further letter be sent to 'stir him up'.

The secretary reported that out of ninety nine members to whom notices had been sent reminding them that their second year's subscription was due, sixty had paid. Agreed that the same system should be pursued with regard to subscriptions falling due in the current half year.

The Secretary then read a statement of the present position, & explained that he had sent copies of it to members of the committee who were unlikely to attend, & that only Mr Jevons had replied, suggesting the promotion of an active campaign.

It was agreed however that active steps should be postponed until the results of Professor Rippmann's scheme had been ascertained. The Secretary then read the draft of his letter in reply to Mr. Carnegie, and this letter was amended and approved.

The Secretary explained the steps that he proposed to take in order to economise expenditure pending the possibility of starting a more active campaign: these were that the salary of the Secretary & that of the corresponding Secretary should respectively be reduced from £ 200 to £ 100 per annum, ^ the reduction to take place after the end of the March quarter it being understood that they should divide between them the duty of attendance at the office.

This was agreed to.

Mr Bond's offer of £ to write a pamphlet in his system of spelling was declined. Mr A.W. Pollard proposed, and Dr. Furnivall seconded, that Professor Rippmann be appointed a member of the committee.

This was agreed to nem. com.

Gilbert Murray

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on July 29, 1910, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Prof. Gilbert Murray (In the chair)
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)
Professor Walter Rippmann
Mr. J.S. Westlake

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agree to.

A resolution was unanimously adopted expressing the deep regret of the Society for the loss of its Treasurer Dr. Furnivall one of the pioneers of Simplified Spelling in England.

On the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Professor Gilbert Murray, Professor Rippmann was asked, & consented to accept the office of Treasurer, in succession to Dr. Furnivall.

The Secretary then read a report as to the number of members who joined the Society during the first six months of 1909, & who had renewed their membership for the current year.

It appeared that 69 applications for renewal of membership had been sent out & that 36 second subscriptions had been received — only a little over 50 %. Subscriptions had not been received from 63 Canadian Members, but would doubtless be collected by Mr. Dearness(?) in due(?) time.

The Secretary reported that the Rippmann-Archer "Proposals for a Simplified Spelling of the English Language" had been communicated to all members of the Committee, only two of whom (Professor Murray and Mr. Westlake) had made any comments upon it. (The comments of the President, it should be noted, are contained in the pamphlet itself). It had further been communicated to Sir Frederick Pollock, Sir William Ramsay, & Mr. Daniel Jones, all of whom had criticized it in detail, but expressed themselves generally favourable to it. Some discussion took place on Mr. Westlake's suggestion that in any such scheme the values assigned to the vowels ought to be the Latin or Continental values. He looked forward to a time when a universal alphabet would be adopted by all civilised nations, and thought that no reform should be sanctioned which would lead us away from this ideal.

The Committee then considered the criticisms

Note 2002-02-21 Page missing, also identified by a previous reader who had inserted a slip of paper as a note.

for each meeting attended, & that the out-of-pocket expenses of members resident outside London should be defrayed.

The Secretary made a financial statement showing that at the beginning of 1911 the Society would have a balance of over £ 100 on its current account at the Bank, together with a deposit of £ 800.

A letter was read from Professor Skeat expressing his wish to retire at the end of the year from the office of President. The Secretary was instructed to convey to Professor Skeat the sincere regret of the Committee and to urge him to reconsider his decision.

A letter was read from Mr. W.W. Skeat requesting that from January inst. His salary should stand at the rate of £ 150 a year in place of £ 100 at present. It was agreed that this rise should be granted until further notice and pending the developments to be anticipated after the conference.

The committee authorized the payment of a balance of £ 7 on the printer's bill for the "Rippmann-Archer Proposals", and directed that 50 copies of the "Proposals", with Professor Rippmann's reply to the criticisms of the Simplified Spelling Board, should be struck off in a form convenient for use at the Conference.

Gilbert Murray Jan 18 1911

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on January 18 th , 1911, at 4 p.m.

Present: Prof. Gilbert Murray (In the chair)
Professor Walter Rippmann
Mr A.W.Pollard
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read (1) a letter written by himself to Professor Skeat on December 21st 1910 in pursuance of instructions received at the previous committee-meeting; (2) Professor Skeat's reply to that letter, dated Dec. 27th, 1910; (3) the Secretary's reply to Professor Skeat, dated January 2nd 1911.

As Professor Skeat declined to withdraw his resignation, the committee decided, with the utmost regret, to accept it.

The Committee decided that, as a matter of course, the name of Professor Skeat should be added to the list of Vice-Presidents followed by the words "Past President", no formal resolution to that effect being necessary.

Professor Murray moved, Mr. Pollard seconding, that Sir James Murray, LL.D & D.C.L &c should be invited to succeed Professor Skeat as President, & the motion being carried, Professor Murray undertook to convey to Sir James the Committee's invitation.

The Secretary moved, Professor Rippmann seconding, that in the event of Sir James Murray's declining to serve, the post of President should be offered to Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., LL.D. etc. This motion being carried, the Secretary was instructed to communicate with Sir William Ramsay, should it become necessary.

The Secretary stated that a communication had been received from the Simplified Spelling Board to the effect that it had been impossible to find delegates to represent the Board at the proposed Conference in February, wherefore the Board suggested that the meetings should be deferred until the early summer. To this the Secretary had replied, on the advice of Professor Rippmann, that the latter half of April would be a convenient time, but that after the middle of May it would be difficult to find English delegates to attend the conference.

Mr. Pollard moved, the Secretary seconding, that in the event of neither Sir James Murray nor Sir William Ramsay accepting the office of President, Professor Gilbert Murray should be invited to fill the post. To this proposal Professor Murray agreed.

Alfred W. Pollard

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on August 11 th , 1911, at 5 p.m.

Present: Mr A.W.Pollard (In the chair)
Professor Walter Rippmann
Professor Stanley Jevons
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The Secretary reported the progress of negotiation with reference to the proposed Conference between this Society and the American Simplified Spelling Bd. These negotiations had been conducted partly by correspondence, partly in the course of meetings of the Executive Committee of the American Board, which were attended, in New York, by the Treasurer and Secretary of this Society. The result was that September 4 th had been fixed upon as a date convenient for all parties. The Conference would accordingly meet on that date in the Council Room of Univ. College, the use of which had been granted by the Provost at the request of Professor Rippmann.

It was agreed that the delegates of this Society should be:-

Professor Gilbert Murray (President)
Professor Walter Rippmann
Professor H. Stanley Jevons
Mr. Daniel Jones M.A.
Dr. G.R. Edwards
Mr. William Archer

The Secretary made a statement with reference to his absence from duty during the months of April, May, June, and part of July — nearly four months in all. During part of this time he was engaged on the business of the Society, in New York; but for about three months he had been engaged on private affairs, and during that time a great part of the duties of his office had been carried out by the Treasurer, Professor Rippmann. He therefore suggested that his salary for one quarter (£25) should not be paid, but that one half of the sum (£12·10) should be allotted to Professor Rippmann as a compensation for loss of time while informally acting as interim Secretary. On the motion of Professor Jevons, seconded by the Chairman, this proposal was agreed to.

Note 2002-02-23. The central dot after the pound sign is in the hand written text.

The Committee further sanctioned the payment of the printer's bill (£2·80) for professor Rippmann's pamphlet "The Imperial Education Conference and the Simplification of English Spelling", and of an advance of £ 7 made by the Secretary out of his own pocket for the purchase on March 25th, of a new type-writer, at a total cost of £14.

On the motion of The Chairman, seconded by Professor Jevons, it was agreed that a complete statement of the financial position of the Society Should be prepared & submitted to the next Committee meeting.

The Secretary submitted to the Committee a letter from Colonel A.G. Bentley, dated May 1st, ~~and~~ complaining of the lack of an or statement of the achievements of the Society.

The Secretary was directed to reply in suitable terms.

Alfred Pollard

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street. W.C. on Monday September 18 th , at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Mr A.W.Pollard (In the chair)
Professor Stanley Jevons
Professor Walter Rippmann
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, the Secretary stating that he had ventured to postpone the financial statement called for at the previous meeting until the expenses of the late Conference could be included in it.

The Secretary then made a general statement as to the results of the Conference, and presented to the Committee a copy of the Resolutions drawn up by Professor Calvin Thomas and passed by the conference.

The Secretary read a draft of a letter proposed to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, relating to the situation resulting from the conference. Several amendments were discussed and agreed to; and the letter, in its amended form was sanctioned.

Professor Rippmann moved, Professor Jevons seconding, that Mr. Daniel Jones and Dr. E.R. Edwards be invited to become members of the Committee.

A discussion took place as to the measures to be taken in the event of the winding-up of the Society. It was agreed that, unless another ~~xxx~~ ^ Committee meeting should be held before the approaching quarterday , ‡ and should decide otherwise, one quarter's notice of the termination of their agreement should then be given to the Secretary and the Corresponding Secretary, & that similar notices of the termination of tenancy of the office should be given to the Landlord.

Alfred W. Pollard.

Minutes of a meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street on Thursday 28 th September, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Mr A.W.Pollard (in the chair)
Dr. Edwards
Mr. Daniel Jones
Professor Rippmann
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Andrew Carnegie dated 22nd September, in which he expressed a wish to consult "colleagues on the other side" before deciding whether to continue his support to the Society.

The draft of an answer to Mr. Carnegie was read and approved.

A letter from The President (Professor Murray) dated 26 th. September was read, in which he suggested that the amended proposals should be sent to various influential persons for their criticism & (if possible) approval, & that an effort should be made to get the British Academy to appoint a Committee to "sit upon" the question.

The former suggestion was adopted, & the names of several people were mentioned to whom the proposals should be sent — Sir John Strathers, Sir Donald Macalister, Sir James Mac Donaldson, Dr Viljoen (Transvaal) Dr. Mackay, & Dr. Soloman (Canada).

The Committee however agreed that there ~~good purpose~~ was no probability of any useful result being attained by approaching the British Academy.

Professor Rippmann read a letter from Professor Michael Sadler of Manchester giving his adhesion to the "Proposals". On the motion of Professor Rippmann, seconded by Dr. Edwards, it was agreed that Professor Sadler be invited to become a Vice-President of the Society.

*H.Stanley Jevons
8 th November 1911*

Minutes of a Committee meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street, W.C. on 8 th November 1911.

Present: Professor Jevons (in the chair)
Dr. Edwards
Mr. Daniel Jones
Professor Rippmann

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The suggestion that there should be Full Members paying a minimum annual subscription of 5/- and Life-subscription of £ 3, and Associate members paying a minimum annual subscription of 1/- & a life subscription of 12s. was approved, as well as the privileges maintained in the new prospectus.

The Statement of accounts, showing a balance of £351·11s·11d. was submitted to the Committee & approved

The draft of a letter to be sent to the members of the Council & the members of the Committee who had not attended recent meetings was approved. Certain changes & additions to the brief statement of the scheme were approved.

The proposal to issue the first number of a paper to be called the 'Pioneer' was approved, & it was suggested that an attempt should be made to have it sold on the bookstalls. It was decided that lecturers(?) on S.S. be paid at the rates of £2·10 per lecture, with Hotel travelling expenses, the local ctee being asked to guarantee an attendance of at least one hundred.

It was decided to approach, with a view to arranging lectures, the N.U.T., Teacher's Guild, Eng.Assoc., Mod. Lang. Assoc., Child indecipherable Soc., & similar bodies.

The Committee elected Sir F. Pollock & Sir James Donaldson, vice Presidents of the Society.

H. Stanley Jevons
15th November 1911

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street, W.C. on 15 th November 1911.

Present: Professor Jevons (in the chair)
Dr. Edwards
Mr. Daniel Jones
Professor Rippmann
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Carnegie, dated Nov. 4th, promising that " a remittance should be sent"; & letters from Sir James Donaldson and Sir Frederick Pollock accepting the position of Vice-President.

The question of the staff necessary for the active campaign now in contemplation was discussed. It was agreed that an energetic man (or woman) was required to act as "press agent" and in various other capacities; and it was understood that members of the Committee would make enquiry and endeavour to hear of a suitable person. A proposal to advertise was, in the mean-time, negatived.

It was agreed that in view of the heavier work impending, the salary of the typist, Miss Lock, should be raised from 26/- to 30/- a week, from the beginning of December.

A draft of a letter to Ordinary members, announcing the reconstitution of the Society, was read and approved, and the form of a letter of similar purport, to be addressed to the Life-members was discussed.

The Secretary suggested that it would be advisable to enter into relations with some publisher who should understand the distribution of the literature to be issued by the Society; but the proposal was in the meantime negatived. The question of advertising the publications of the Society was touched on in passing.

A leaflet addressed to teachers, intended for distribution at the meeting of the London Teacher's Association, was amended & passed.

The tenancy of the Society's office was discussed, & Mr Jevons undertook to see the Landlord with respect to a new arrangement.

H. Stanley Jevons

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street, W.C. on Thursday November 23 rd 1911 at 5.30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Jevons (in the chair)
Mr. Daniel Jones
Prof. Rippmann
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The Secretary reported that out of 12 Societies written to with reference to the delivery of lectures, 8 had replied that the matter should be laid before the next committee meeting.

The question of the new(?) officer to be engaged was discussed, & a notice was drawn up, to be exhibited at the School of Economics (by the kindness of Mr. Graham Wallons) in which candidates were requested to apply by letter to the Secretary.

A letter from the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. W.W. Skeat, was read, suggesting his re-employment(?) on new terms. The matter was reserved for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

It was decided that an Insurance Policy under the Employer's Liability Act, should be taken out in respect of the typist, Miss Lock.

The subject of payment for literary matter was discussed, and it was agreed that the regular rate should be one and one half guineas per thousand words, and five shillings per 1000 words for any transcription done(?) by others than salaried employees of the Society.

The organization of controversial (?) correspondence was also discussed, in order that the name of the Secretary might not appear too frequently in the columns of the newspapers.

Mr. Jevons reported his negotiation with the Landlord as to the rent of the office, and drafted a letter to send to the Landlord.

Walter Rippmann
6 Dec 1911

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street, W.C. on Wednesday December 6th 1911.

Present: Professor Rippmann (in the chair)
Mr. Daniel Jones
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

The Secretary reported that numerous applications for the post of Organizing Secretary had been received through educational employment agencies; but that the most promising applicant seemed to be Mr Sydney Walton of 32 Hamilton Road, Harrow, whose letter was read to the Committee. Mr. Archer moved and Mr. Jones seconded that Mr Walton be engaged at a salary of £ 225 a year, subject to his references (which the Secretary was instructed to take up) being found satisfactory.

The Secretary reported that 18 full members had joined under the new scheme, one of those being new, and that 10 associates had joined 3 of them being new. Altogether (including one or two life subscriptions about £ 18 had been received since the delivery of Professor Rippmann's lecture on November 17 th.

Mr. Daniel Jones moved, and Professor Rippmann seconded, that the subscriptions of life members should form a separate fund, the interest only being applied to current expenses.

A letter from Miss Ethel Garvin was read, urging that the Society should admit women to its councils. In pursuance of this suggestion, Professor Rippmann proposed, (Mr Jones seconding) that Miss Burstall, Miss Cleghorn, Miss Forsefull(?) & Mrs Bryant should be invited to become Vice-Presidents of the Society while Miss Ethel Garvin and Miss Mary Spalding Walker should be elected to the Committee. This was carried unanimously.

It was arranged that when outside helpers published articles on or in Simplified Spelling in papers approved by the Committee, the Society should, if necessary, supplement whatever payment was received by the authors of such articles, so as to bring the total amount up to the regulation rate of 1½ guineas per 1000 words.

The Secretary reported that the landlord consented to let the Society have its present offices at a yearly rent of £ 55, with the right to store parcels, &c, in the little back room.

It was suggested that Committee meetings should be held regularly on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 4 p.m.

Walter Rippmann
16 Dec 1911

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street on Saturday December 16th 1911.

Present: Professor Rippmann (in the chair)
Dr. Edwards
Mr. Daniel Jones
Mr. William Archer (Secretary)

A letter to Mr. Sydney Walton, defining the terms of his engagement as Secretary was read and approved.

The Secretary announced that Miss Ethel Garvin and Miss Mary Spalding Walker had agreed to serve on the Committee.

The question of advertizing Professor Rippmann's "Simplified Spelling" was discust. It was agreed that it should be advertized in(?) any teaching paper which noticed it prominently, and that, for the rest, the advice of an advertizing agent should be taken.

It was agreed that a packet of literature should be sent to the delegates of to the North of England Education Conference at Newcastle.

It was further agreed that copies of the "Simplified Spelling" book should (be sent gratis)(?) to all members and associates.

H. Stanley Jevons
31 st Janr. 1912

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44 Great Russell Street, W.C., on Wednesday January 31st 1912, at 5 p.m.

There were present: Miss Gavin, Mr. Stanley Jevons, Mr. Daniel Jones, Mr A.W.Pollard, and Mr. William Archer. Mr Stanley Jevons was voted to the Chair.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Miss Burstall, M.A. of the Manchester High School for Girls, in which she accepted the invitation of the Committee to become a Vice-President of the Society. It was reported that Miss Cleghorn, the President of the N.U.T., had deferred her decision until she was able to give fuller study of the subject; and that Miss Faithfull, of Cheltenham, had arranged a lecture at her college & would give her decision later. Miss Bryant had declined for the present.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the following new members had been enrolled since the last meeting of the Committee: 1 Life Member, 7 Full Members, 11 Associate Meetings (*sic*). Lectures in Harrow, Leeds, Bristol, Worthing, Glasgow, Ealing, Cheltenham & Durham had been arranged. It was agreed that a payment of one guinea per lecture should be made to lecturers authorised by the Society to address minor gatherings (literary societies, and so on) on the subject of Simplified Spelling. It was understood that a member of the Committee, or an officer of the Society, would, if possible, ~~hear~~ be present at the first lecture in such cases.

The question of printing and distributing leaflets advertising the lectures to be given in the various provincial centres was left to the officers of the Society.

A discussion took place in regard to the proposed formation of local branches of the Society. It was agreed that the Secretary draw up a leaflet containing suggestions for the working of local branches & submit it to the Committee. The opinion was expressed that the lectures already arranged might become a kind of missionary centre in each place; the interested might be asked to remain at the close of the lecture & form themselves into a local branch, appointing a local correspondent whose name would appear on the letter paper of the Society. The Secretary was asked to write to Mr. J. Dearness, of London, Ontario, and advise him that Canadian branches of the Society would be allowed to retain half the amount of the subscriptions paid by the members; such money to be applied to local propaganda. It was decided that the same terms should apply to South India and South Africa.

The Secretary was instructed to convey the thanks of the Committee to Dr. Trechmann for his work in transcribing certain of the Society's publications into the new spelling & for so transcribing one of Poe's tales. Details as to the form & manner of publication of pamphlets in the new spelling were left to the officers of the Society.

It was unanimously resolved that Professor Rippmann be asked to prepare a Spelling Book. The question of the publication of standard works, or reflections of them, in the new spelling was left over until a financial statement ~~is~~ was before the Committee.

It was decided to publish a leaflet as the first number of the Society's journal, about the middle of March, 1912; and the Professor Rippmann be desired to accept the editorship.

The Committee approved of the holding of an Essay competition in the summer of the present year. The suggestion was made that the subject be: " The Educational Advantages of Simplified Spelling" and that three prizes of fifteen guineas each be awarded as follows: one to men teachers, one to women teachers, one to the general public, for the best essay in each class. A second prize was suggested, but exact details & conditions for the whole competition were left over for consideration for the whole competition at a later meeting.

It was resolved that the next meeting of the Committee be held at 4.15 p.m. on the 15 th February, & thereafter on the second Thursday of each month at the same hour.

It was agreed on the motion of Mr. Archer, seconded by Mr. Daniel Jones, that the sum of £5 (five pounds) paid by Mr. Walton as a fine for not working out his notice at the Harrow County School should be refunded to him.

Mr. Archer moved, and Miss Gavin seconded that in future cheques should be signed by the Treasurer, Professor Rippmann, & Mr. A.R. Pollard, instead of by Professor Rippmann & Mr. Archer.

Attention was drawn to the rule that no payment of a sum exceeding ten pounds should be made without the special sanction of the Committee.

H. Stanley Jevons
15 th February 1912

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., on Thursday afternoon February 15 th, 1912, at 4.15 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed. It was understood that the rules regarding payment of sums exceeding ten pounds had reference to special items of expenditure and not to salaries, lecture expenses, and other payments for which a general sanction of the Committee had been given.

Professor Rippmann moved and Mr. Archer seconded that Miss Gavin be authorised to sign the cheques of the Society, along with ~~Professor~~ the Treasurer or Mr. Pollard, as the case may be.

The printing in leaflet form of Mr. Archer's article in the "Daily Mail" of Febry. 7 th, 1912 was authorised. The Secretary was instructed to procure printed slips of neat design for attaching to letters and indicating that the spelling was in accordance with the proposals of the Society.

Professor Rippmann spoke in regard to the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Committee and desiring him to proceed with the preparation of a spelling book. He urged that the proposal was premature, inasmuch as the Scheme of Simplification was tentative and not final.

It was agreed that the matter be left in abeyance for the present.

The Treasurer submitted a financial estimate for 1912. It was as follows:

Income		Expenditure	
Balance from 1911 on deposit	150·0·0 1000·0·0	Salaries:	
Subscriptions (apart from life membership)	150·0·0	Secretary	225·0·0
		Con. Sec.	96·0·0
		Typist	78·0·0
Books supplied to America	4·16·6	Office girl	26·0·0
		Caretaker	13·10·0
Interest from Bank	15·0·0	Rent of office	55·0·0
Income from advertisements	10·0·0	Furniture	10·0·0
		Lighting	2·10·0
		Library	5·0·0
		Insurance	10·0
		Lectures	150·0·0
		Printing	100·0·0
		Cost of "Pioneer"	60·0·0
		Postage on "Pioneer"	25·0·0
		Essay Competition	50·0·0
		Advertising lectures, booklets etc.	20·0·0
		Press cuttings	15·0·0
		Postage	75·0·0
		Articles in press	25·0·0
		Deposit (Life members' subs.	100·0·0
	£ 1329·16·6		£ 1329·16·6

The Treasure explained that it was impossible to estimate many of the items with any degree of exactitude, seeing that this was the first year in which the expenditure was being incurred. Since the Estimate was prepared, it had been decided to alter the size and shape of the Pioneer; the cost would now be seventy-five pounds and not sixty.

The budget was approved.

The Secretary submitted a list of suggested conditions for the Essay Competition.

The following were approved:

- (a) The prizes to teachers to be restricted to teachers in schools.
- (b) The Competition to be open to all British Subjects & to foreign members of the Society.
- (c) Essays to be written in English and not to be more than 5,000 words in length.
- (d) The subject of the Essay may be interpreted in its widest sense.
- (e) Essays to be delivered to the Secretary on or before the first day of October, 1912; non-European competitors may have until the first day of November, 1912.
- (f) The prize essays to become the property of the Society.

Professor Rippmann gave an outline of the proposed first number of "The Pioneer". On the proposition of Mr. Pollard, it was agreed not to print in the "Pioneer" a list of the members of the Society.

Mr. Archer proposed and ~~Professor~~ Mr. Stanley Jevons seconded that Messrs. Harrisons' account for printing for January, 1912, be paid. The account amounted to £ 19·16·3.

Miss Gavin raised a discussion on the difficulties that children may meet in the Scheme of Simplification proposed by the Society.

There were present at the meeting: Mr. Stanley Jevons (in the Chair),
Mr. Archer,
Miss Gavin
Mr A.W.Pollard
Professor Rippmann

Walter Rippmann
14 March 1912

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., on March 14 th 1912, at 4.15 p.m.

There were present: Professor Rippmann (in the chair) Miss Gavin, Mr. Jevons, Mr. Daniel Jones, and Mr. Archer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Mr. Archer suggested that Miss Gavin communicate to the "Pioneer" the views she expressed in the discussion at the last meeting on difficulties that children may meet with in learning the scheme of Spelling proposed by the Society.

The Secretary reported that 26 new members had enrolled since the last meeting, 13 as Full and 13 as Associate Members. The following donations had been acknowledged:

G. Richardson, Esq., Newcastle-upon-Tyne	£ 5
Arthur Sykes, Esq., Leeds.	£ 1·10·0
A. Brodrick, Esq., Birkenhead.	£ 15·0
C.A. Saylor, Esq., Swansea. An amount covering the cost of Mr. Archer's lecture in Swansea.	

Mr. Archer raised a discussion as to the enrolling of without fee of all who are interested in the movement for Reform of Spelling, "signers" as they are called in America. The matter was left in abeyance.

Letters were read from Sir Edward Clarke & Professor Wyld and the Secretary was instructed to send to the latter a note of regret on his withdrawing from the committee of the Society. It was announced that Mr. Archer had already written to Sir Edward Clarke expressing regret at his resigning ~~from~~ membership of the Society.

The Secretary gave a summary of a leaflet he had drafted on the question of local branches. It was understood that it would be published in the "Pioneer".

A discussion took place in regard to the publication of general articles in Simplified Spelling and Professor Rippmann intimated that he might be able to approach Mr. H.G. Wells & secure permission for the publication of one of his stories. The Committee gladly gave authority.

Mr Archer proposed that preference be given to the phrase "rational spelling" rather than "simplified spelling" in the letters and publications of the Society on the ground that "simplified" suggested a partial and not complete reform. It was understood that such preference would be given.

On the proposal of Mr. Archer the Full Membership fee for members of the Canadian Branch of the Society was fixed at a dollar a year.

The Secretary was instructed to see the Secretary of the Bible Society in regard to the suggestion of Canadian members to publish one of the Gospels in rational spelling.

As the next meeting of the Committee was due to fall in Easter week, the Chairman suggested that it be left to the officers of the Society to decide whether it were necessary to call the meeting until the following month. This suggestion was agreed upon.

The Committee gave permission for the purchase of a new typewriter.

The Secretary was asked to attend the N.U.T. Conference at Hull and watch the interests of the Society.

Mr. Jevons was desired, on the suggestion of Mr. Archer, to interview the landlord from whom the offices are rented & see if he would bear part of the cost of renovation.

M.S. Walker
9 th May 1912

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, London W.C., on Thursday afternoon May 9 th, 1912 at 4.15.

There were present: Miss Walker (in the chair), Miss Gavin, Mr. Jevons, Mr. Pollard, Professor Rippmann.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary reported that 66 new members had joined since the last meeting of the Committee and 4 old members had rejoined. A financial statement was read by the Secretary; it showed a balance of £ 67 on the current year (to December 1912) apart from £ 100 deposit from Life Members' subscriptions paid up to the beginning of the present year. The estimate did not take into account the fees for Life Membership paid during the current year.

A letter from Dr. Bradley to Mr. Archer was read, in which he expressed his desire to sever his connection with the Society. On the motion of Miss Walker it was agreed that Professor Rippmann try to have an interview with Dr. Bradley.

A letter was read from the Reverend J. Knowles, of Eastbourne, who suggested the adoption of a phonetic alphabet for optional use along with the present scheme of the Society and an appeal to members of Parliament for the appointment of a Commission to consider the question of a phonetic alphabet. Professor Rippmann moved that the Committee express its sympathetic interest in the proposal of Mr. Knowles, but that it did not see its way clear at present to embark upon a further campaign. This was agreed to.

A letter from Professor Mark Hunter, of Madras, reporting steps towards the formation of a large branch of the Society in South India, was read. It was agreed that Messrs. Higginbotham and Co., Booksellers, Madras, be supplied with 500 copies of the 6d booklet on Simplified Spelling, & other literature on the trade terms arranged by Professor Hunter; Mr. Pollard moving and Professor Rippmann seconding a resolution to this effect.

Professor Rippmann reported that Mr. H.G. Wells had given the Society permission to reprint one of his short stories, "The Star". The Secretary was instructed to secure estimates to present at the June meeting of the Committee.

The Secretary reported that the Bible Society was unwilling to enter into negotiations relative to the printing of one of the Gospels in Simplified Spelling.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Committee appointed to make arrangements for the Celebration of the Pitman Centenary in January of next year. Professor Rippmann suggested that the letter be suitably acknowledged.

A letter was read from Mr. H. Drummond of Hetton-le-Hole, suggesting an Essay Competition for children. Miss Gavin moved and ~~Miss~~ Mr. Pollard seconded that the idea be not entertained.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, seconded by Professor Rippmann, it was agreed to ~~make~~ give a remuneration of £ 5 to Mr. Drummond for the books and tracts dealing with Spelling Reform which he had sent for the Office Library.

Professor Rippmann introduced a discussion in regard to the retention of final -y. His proposal to print an early number of the "Pioneer" with final -i instead of -y was agreed to as an experiment. On the motion of Miss Gavin it was further decided that a printed postcard be sent to each member with that particular number of the "Pioneer" so that a vote one way or the other might be recorded.

On the motion of Mr. Jevons it was agreed that the wages of Miss Montagu, the Junior Typist, be increased forthwith to 12/6d per week. It was further agreed that a sum of not more than £ 3 be spent on the purchase of an office table or equivalent.

Alfred Pollard

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., on Thursday afternoon June 13th, 1912 at 4.15.

There were present: Mr. A.W. Pollard (in the chair), Miss Walker, Professor Rippmann.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed. The Secretary reported that sixty-four members had paid their fees since the last meeting of the Committee; of these 24 were old members and 40 were new.

Professor Rippmann reported his interview with Dr. Bradley and the Committee heard with regret that there was no possibility of retaining Dr. Bradley as a Vice-President of the Society.

The quotation of £ 15 (Fifteen pounds) from Messrs. Turnbull & Spears, Edinburgh, for printing 5,000 copies of the short story by Mr H.G. Wells was accepted on the motion of Mr. Pollard, seconded by Miss Walker.

On the motion of Miss Walker it was resolved that a letter setting forth the work of the Society during the past six months be sent to Mr. Andrew Carnegie. The Hon. Treasurer & the Secretary were instructed to draft the letters.

It was decided to ask the Committee of the Imperial Teachers Congress to allow the Society to be represented. The Secretary's suggestion to send literature to the delegates attending the Imperial Universities Congress was approved.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge Dr. Trenchman's list of suggestions for the improvement of the Society's scheme of rational spelling. It was understood that Professor Rippmann would make a further report upon the matter.

The Secretary was asked to secure estimates for "simplified spelling" note-papers for selling to members of the Society in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. E.A. Cave, of Uxbridge.

The Committee approved of the granting of three weeks holiday to Mr. Skeat & Miss Lock and a fortnight to Miss Montagu.

The offer of Mr. Stanley Jevons to allow two of his articles on "Industrial Unrest" to be reprinted in simplified spelling and in pamphlet form was received with interest; but it was felt that financial limitations precluded acceptance at the present. The opinion was also expressed that the Society ought to be cautious in regard to printing anything that might be in the nature of public controversy.

H. Stanley Jevons 10 th oct. 1912

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., on Thursday, October 10 th, 1912 at 4.15 pm.

Miss Gavin, Mr. Stanley Jevons, & Mr. Daniel Jones were present. Mr Jevons was voted to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

The Committee desired to place on record their deep regret at the death of Professor Skeat & their appreciation of his life and work. The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of sympathy to the bereaved family.

It was reported that 219 new members had joined the Society since the last meeting.

A letter was read from Mr. Carnegie announcing his intention of visiting "the friends of improved spelling in London in the spring". The Secretary was requested to acknowledge Dr. G. B. Hunter's promised gift of £ 100 towards general expenses & to ask him to become a member of the Committee.

Mr. Jones proposed and Miss Gavin seconded that Dr. Alfred Marshall, Mr. J.L. Paton, & Miss Cleghorn be invited to become Vice-Presidents of the Society. The Secretary announced that Mr. H.G. Wells had provisionally ~~arr~~ consented to become a Vice-President. It was agreed that a formal invitation be sent.

The result of the plebiscite on final 'y' and final 'i' was given. 44 votes were cast in favor of the former, 100 for the later. Mr. Jones moved and Miss Gavin seconded that final 'i' be adopted.

Miss Walker, Professor Rippmann, & Mr. Jones were appointed judges in the Essay Competition. The rate of remuneration was fixed at 2/6 (two shillings and six pence) a script.

On the motion of Miss Gavin, the omission of the portion entitled "Partial Adoption of the Scheme for Provisional Use", page 10 of the Prospectus, from further copies was decided upon. It was agreed that the printed form of application for membership be more generally worded, so as not to commit a candidate to any particular scheme of spelling.

A letter of appreciation of his work was ordered to be sent to Mr. Mark Hunter, the Hon Secretary of the South Indian branch. It was reported that Mr. Daniel Jones was visiting India this year. Mr. Jevons moved and Miss Gavin seconded that he be asked to lecture in as many centres of India as possible at the fee fixed for lectures in this country; and that he be asked to bring back a report as to the movement in India.

On the motion of Mr. Jevons it was agreed that New Year's cards be printed instead of Calendars for 1913; and that the members of the Society be asked to buy these cards.

*H. Stanley Jevons
14 th Nov. 1912*

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C. on Thursday, November 14 th, 1912, at 4.15 pm.

Mr. Stanley Jevons was voted to the Chair; there were present Miss Gavin, Miss Walker and Professor Rippmann.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary reported that 99 new members had joined the Society since the last meeting; and that donations of £ 1000 & £ 100 had been paid by Mr. Andrew Carnegie & Dr. G. B. Hunter, respectively. The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge these gifts and in the case of Mr. Carnegie to send a covering letter giving details of the progress of the Society to date.

It was announced that Mr. J.L. Paton accepted & Dr. Marshall did not accept the invitation to become Vice-Presidents ~~Profe~~ Mr. Stanley Jevons moved and Professor Rippmann seconded that Professor Grandgent, the President of the American Spelling Board, be asked to be a Vice-President of the Society.

A conversation arose as to the form of printing & advertising for 1913 & the Secretary was asked to secure further details for the next meeting.

It was decided to rescind the resolution of the last meeting in regards to the omission of page 10 of the prospectus of the Society, and to omit the headline "Partial Adoption of the Scheme for Provisional Use" only.

On the motion of Professor Rippmann it was agreed that the resolution regulating the payment of articles in the Press be altered so^ as to read "not more than 1½ guineas for 1,000 words".

Professor Rippmann moved & Miss Walker seconded that the Society be affiliated to the Workers' Educational Association & a subscription of a guinea a year be paid.

Miss Gavin proposed that Mr. J.L. Paton be asked to represent the Society at the North of England Educational Conference in January 1913.

A letter from Mr. W.W. Skeat, the Corresponding Secretary, was read, but his request for an increase of salary from £ 96 to £ 150 per year was not acceded to. It was resolved that Miss Montague, the Junior Typist, be paid 15/- (fifteen shillings) a week from date.

After conversation it was agreed that '-ij' be the spelling of 'age' in such words as 'language'; and that the members of the Society be asked to vote as to the representation of 'ate' in words like 'private'. It was agreed that the spelling of the vowel sound in 'tune' be 'yu' both in strest and unstrest positions.

A.W.Pollard

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., on Thursday, December 19 th, 1912, at 4.15 pm.

There were present: Miss Walker, Dr. Hunter, Mr. Stanley Jevons, Mr. A. W. Pollard (in the chair) & Professor Rippmann.

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary reported that 139 new members had joined the Society since the last meeting of Committee. The list of names included Lord Avebury, Mr. J.K. Caird, of Dundee, & Mr. Alfred Pitman. The income from November 14 th to date amounted to £ 83·18·10, including a donation of £ 50 from Mr. Walter Morrison which the Secretary was asked to suitably acknowledge.

After explanation by Professor Rippmann, Mr Stanley Jevons Mr. Stanley Jevons moved and Dr. Hunter seconded that 2,000 reply paid post-cards indicating Arguments For and Objections Against rational spelling be printed and issued. It was also agreed that a fuller pamphlet on the History of Spelling be issued; that an "Interview with Dr. Hunter" published in the "North Mail" be printed in leaflet form; that Miss Gavin be asked to write a special appeal to teachers; and that a 5000 reprint of the 6d booklet: "An Appeal to Common Sense" be made.

Letters from Dr. Thomson & Mr. A. Vernon Harcourt relative to the adoption of continental values in English spelling were submitted. The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge these letters.

The Secretary suggested that the time was ripening for a canvas of newspapers with a view to securing the adoption in the Press of a few simplifications. It was agreed that such canvas be made.

It was announced that Professor Gilbert Murray had consented to represent the Society at the Pitman Centenary Celebrations.

On the motion of Professor Rippmann it was agreed that the Rev. W. Temple, the Headmaster of Repton, be asked to represent the Society at the North of England Educational Conference.

Miss Walker moved that Miss Montague's wages be increased to 17s/6d per week beginning with the New Year; and this was carried unanimously.

At the Secretary's suggestion Mr. Stanley Jevons moved and Dr. Hunter seconding it was carried unanimously that the sincerest appreciation of Professor Rippmann's services to the cause of simplified spelling be placed on record.

Lord Avebury and Sir James Crichton-Browne were proposed as Vice-Presidents of the Society & the Secretary was asked to write to them.

The Secretary was appointed the Society's representative on the General Council of the Workers Educational Association.

On the motion of Mr. Stanley Jevons it was agreed that Miss Walker and Professor Rippmann be authorized to make the final award of prizes in the Essay Competition & to make arrangements in regard to the publication of a chosen number of Essays.

A note was read from Mrs Skeat thanking the Committee for the resolution of sympathy passed at the October meeting.

It was resolved that the balance sheet of the Society for the year ~~1912~~ 1913 be printed in the "Pioneer" & that Misses Berrow (?) and Brackenbury be appointed auditors.

Note 2002 The auditors were Misses not Messrs.

H. Stanley Jevons
13 th February 1913

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, London, W.C., on February 13 th, 1913, at 4.15 pm.

There were present: Miss Gavin, Mr. Archer, Mr. Stanley Jevons & Professor Rippmann, Mr Jevons presided.

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed. The Secretary announced that Lord Avebury had consented to become A Vice-President of the Society. On the motion of Professor Rippmann it was decided that an invitation to become a Vice-President be sent to Sir J.K. David, of Dundee.

It was reported that 173 members had joined the Society since the last meeting of the Committee.

The balance sheet for 1912 duly audited by Misses Berrow and Brackenbury was presented & adopted on the motion of Professor Rippmann seconded by Mr. Archer.

The result of the voting of members in regard to the representation of '-ate' in adjectives was given by Professor Rippmann. One hundred and eighty answers were received & of these sixty voted for no distinction. Of the remaining hundred and twenty, fifty-five suggested '-et', forty-six for '-it', fifteen '-ut'(?), two suggested '-at', one '-aet', & one '-eut'. It was agreed that no distinction be made for the present in the spelling of 'separate', the verb, and 'separate', the adjective, & similar words.

On the motion of Professor Rippmann seconded by Miss. Gavin, It was agreed that a prize of twenty-one shillings be offered in the pages of the "Pioneer" for the best suggestion of a title for a volume of Essays on Simplified Spelling. The question of the printing of the Essays was left over for further consideration, as also the question of advertising at railway stations.

Mr. Stanley Jevons moved & Mr. Archer seconded that in future the cheques payable by the Society be made out in Simplified Spelling.

Professor Rippmann moved & Miss Gavin seconded that Mr. W.H. Thompson be elected a member of the Committee.

Mr. Stanley Jevons moved & Miss Gavin seconded that Mr. Archer be asked to write to Mr. Carnegie in regard to the definite date of his visit to London.

A medical certificate was read in which it was stated that the health of Mr. W.W. Skeat, the Corresponding Secretary, was such as to necessitate a prolonged rest. It was agreed that the Secretary see Mrs. Skeat & inform her that the Committee was willing to grant a holiday of three months to Mr. Skeat, but that owing to the financial limitations his the Committee regretted that the post of Corresponding Secretary must cease at the end of that time.

It was resolved that the spelling of 'poor' & similar words should be altered from 'puer' to 'puur'.

It was further agreed that the Society should have a stall of literature at the N.U.T. Conference at Weston-Super-Mare at Easter.

H. Stanley Jevons
13 th March 1913

Minits of Comiti Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, London, W.C., March 13 th, 1913.

Thai wer present: Mr. Stanley Jevons (in the Chair), Mis Gavin, Mr. Wm. Archer, Mr. Daniel Jones, & Mr. W.H. Thompson.

The minits of the laast meeting wer red and siened.

It woz reported that 175 memberz had joind the Societi sins the laast meeting ov Comiti.

The Finanshal Staitment for the curent yeer woz presented & apruuvd on the moshon ov Mr. Archer seconded bi Mr. Jones. The staitment woz as foloes:

<u>Incum</u>	
Depozit at begining ov yeer	950·0·0
Lief memberz	50·0·0
Subscripshons	150·0·0
Donaishonz	1170·0·0
Booc Muni	88·0·0
Depozit interest	10·0·0

<u>Expendityur</u>	
Printing & Staishoneri	310·0·0
Lechyur Ecpensez	200·0·0
Salariz	381·0·0
Articlz & Pres Cutingz	100·0·0
Advurtizments & Ecs.	25·0·0
Poestij, Telegramz, & Shiping	150·0·0
Banc Charjez	2·15·0
Traveling Ecpensez	30·0·0
Carid forwerd	1198·15·0

<u>Braut forwerd</u>	
Telefoen	8·13·0
Lieting	5·0·0
Rent	55·0·0
Ofis Liebrari	5·0·0
Clerical Help	5·0·0
Auditorz	4·15·0
Asai Competishon	63·5·0
Cleening	15·0·0
Ofis Teez	10·0·0
Fairz & Parselz	10·0·0
Ofis Nesariz	2·10·0
Nyuzpaiperz	5·0·0
Gratyuitiz	2·0·0
Nashonal Helth Inshuurans	1·6·0
Inshuurans	1·0·0
	£ 1392·4·0
Estimaited Balans £ 1025·16·0	

Mr. Daniel Jones gaiv a breek report ov lechjurz on simplified speling given dyuring hiz reesent vizit tu India. Mr. Jones lechjurd in Madras, Bombay, & Lahore & reported that the Indianz wer æ enthyuziastic in regard tu the reform ov English speling. On the moeshon ov Mr. Jevons seconded bi Mr. Archer, Mr Jones woz thanct for hiz report & his survis tu the cauz ov simplified speling in India. It woz agreed that the Secretari maic encueriz az tu the posibility ov establishing Foecal Braanchez in Bombay and Lahore.

A leter woz red from the Bord of Edyucaishon staiting that cairful consideraishon wood be given tu propoezalz maid bi eni Loecal Authoriti in regard tu the interoduchshon ov reformz in speling intu the 'curriculum' ov scuulz under the airea ov that authoriti. It was rezolved that encueriz be maid with a vvy tu geting a prievait scuul tu ecsperiment in rashonal speling.

Mr. Stanley Jevons & Mr. Daniel Jones wer authoriezd tu sien on behaaf ov the Comiti the folowing rezoluushon draafted bi the Manajer ov the London County & Westminster Banc. "In consideraishon ov yur paing our checs maid out in wurdz in our oen moed ov speling we heerbie agree tu hoeld you harmles & indemnifie yu against eni claim which mai ariez thru the speling ov the amount being misunderstood".

The Secretari reported that Mis Lock, the Seenior Tiejist, had been invieted tu Winnipeg tu recruit her helth & she aasct permishon tu be awai from the ofis for tuu or three munths, without waijez with the exsepshon ov the three weecs dyu tu her az holidaa. Mis Gavin muuvd & Mr Thompson seconded that permishon be graanted for not mor than three munths & that the post remain oepen until her return.

It woz agreed that a thousand sheets ov noet paiper with an alfabetic list ov spelingz doun the marjin be printed & that permishon be secyurd tu print in wun pamphlet the articl on Simplified Speling which apeerd in the 'Morning Post' on the 7 th March 1913 & the Intervyu with Sur James Murray which apeerd in that paiper the preevius munth. It woz further rezolved that an ecsperiment be maid in regard tu seling literatyur in the streets of London & the Secretari woz instructed tu arainj deatailz.

*H. Stanley Jevons
10 th April 1913*

Minits of Comiti Meeting held at 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., April 10 th, 1913 at 4.15 p.m.

Thai wer present: Mr. Stanley Jevons (in the Chair), Mis Walker, Mr. William Archer, Dr. Hunter, Mr. Daniel Jones, & Mr. W.H. Thompson.

The minits of laast meeting wer red and sioned.

The Secretari reported that 108 nyu memberz had been enroeld sins the laast meeting ov Comiti.

A leter from Mr. Carnegie woz red in which he gaiv no aanser tu Mr. Archer'z encuieri az tu the dait ov hiz promist visit tu London "tu meet the frendz ov reformd speling", but declaird in faivor ov (1) dubl consonants; (2) no "gh'z" (3) no "pp'z". It woz rezolvd that Mr. Archer riet a further leter pointing out that a secshon ov the Prospectus ov the Sositati woz devoted tu urjing theez reformz; and it woz further agreed that an informal conferens with memberz ov the American Speling Bord viziting London this sumer, be arainjd & that Mr. Carnegie be aasct tu prezied.

A leter was red from Mr. A.W. Pollard anouncing his rezignashon from the Comiti. On the moeshon of Mr. Archer seconded bi Mr. Jevons, the Secretari woz instructed tu ecspres to M. Pollard thancs for his survisez & regret at his rezieng.

The Secretari red ecstracts from leterz from Mr. Robert Jackson, ov Dundee, tu the effect that ecspperiments in teeching nyu speling were about tu be maid in wun or tuu infants' scuulz in that siti. Mis Walker muuvd that the Comiti ecspres apreeshiaishon tu Mr. Jackson for hiz efforts in this regard & for hiz ofer tu suplie syutable reeding mateerial dun intu rashonal speling. The rezoluushon woz carid yunanimusli. A leter from Mr. W. J. Shield, ov Liverpool, woz red & in respons & in respons tu the recwest for a 'Reeder' for teeching the nyu speling tu yung children, it woz dezieded on the moeshon ov Mr. Jones seconded bi Mr. Archer tu print & publish 250 copiz ov a 16 paig 'Reeder', the mateerial tu be provided bi Mr Jackson.

On the moeshon ov Dr. Hunter it woz agreed that a grant ov £ 25 be maid tu the South Indian Braanch ov the Societi for the purposez ov printing & isyuing propaganda literatyr.

In a leter Mr. W. M. Metford(?) ov Toronto, anounst the probability ov the loecal braanch ov the British & Foreign Bible Society consenting tu publish wun ov the Gospels in the oeld speling but with the nyu interlievd. On the moeshon ov Mr. Archer it woz reyzolvd that Mr. Metford be thanct for hiz generositi & enterpriez in maicing this publicaishon posibl; & that permishon be given tu yuz 'dh' tu represent wun ov the tuu soundz represented bi 'th' in the current speling, the permishon tu aplie tu this publicaishon oenli.

Note 2002-04-01. Typescript (in blue) found between the pages for 1919 and scanned and OCR used to insert here.

Draft

To the Honorary Secretary or the British Academy,
Burlington House London W.1.

Dear Sir

The Simplified Spelling Society has for the past ten years urged the importance of a reform of English Spelling. Its efforts have met with extensive and weighty support, but during the five years of the war they were necessarily restricted. Now that peace has been restored the Society desires to press the claims of spelling reform with renewed vigour, as this reform appears more desirable even than before.

The war in enhancing the prestige of the English-speaking peoples has exalted the English language, and there is a wide-spread desire to learn it in all foreign countries. Further, the danger arising from ill absorbed alien elements within the Empire and in the United States of America has shown the national importance of a knowledge of English as a first condition of good citizenship. While English has the great advantage of a simple grammar, a rich vocabulary, and a magnificent literature, its acquisition is rendered unnecessarily difficult by its spelling, which, with its redundancies and inconsistencies, repels the learner, and affords him no trust-worthy guide to the pronunciation. The serious effects on our own children, by wasting their time and perverting their reasoning powers, need not be stated in detail; those engaged in teaching the young, especially in elementary schools, know them well.

Efforts have been made to solve the problem of spelling our language in a reasonable way, both in this country and in America; much spadework has been done. The Simplified Spelling Society are convinced that the time is ripe for the whole question to be considered by an authoritative body; and they know of none better fitted for this task than the British Academy. They therefore beg you, as its Hon. Secretary, to submit this letter to your Council, in the confident hope that it will receive consideration.

It is suggested that the most profitable procedure would be to arrange for a conference representative of the Empire and the United States, and that the reasoned report of this conference should be submitted to the respective Governments, with a view to official action.

Signed on behalf of the Simplified Spelling Society

Minutes of the Simplified Spelling Society from 1936 scanned into Word using OCR 2002-04-13.

[11 May 1936 Agenda](#)

[11 May 1936 Minutes](#)

[2 March 1937 Agenda](#)

[2 March 1937 Minutes](#)

[23 March 1937 Sub-committee Minutes](#)

Introduction

The pages had been cut and stuck into the original minute book a long time ago.

The font and as much of the original style is retained. The text has been read quickly but only poor character recognition has been corrected. Spelling errors in the typescript are retained as much as possible but the spell checker amends them.

David Stockton.

2016-08-17. Obvious scanning errors, line spacing and Styles have now been improved for easier reading.

Jean Hutchins

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY.

COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY MAY 11TH 1936 at 3 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of meeting held July 24th 1935.
2. Apologies for non-attendance.

Professor A. Lloyd James,
do Daniel Jones,
do W Ripman,
Sir T. Percy Nunn and
Mr. Sydney Walton,

3. Resolutions No. 1. as per notice of meeting.
4. do No. 2. do do do do do
5. do No. 3. do do do do do
6. Additions to Committee:-

1. Mr.I.J.Pitman,M.A., of Messrs. Isaac Pitman & Co.
2. Mr.T.Kingdom,M.A., Headmaster of Wyggeston Grammar School, Leicester.

7. Report of progress.
- ~~8. Letter of sympathy to Mrs Harold Cox.~~
8. Any other business.

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Monday May 11th 1936, at
The Willows, Clayton Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2, at 3
o'clock.**

The Chairman Sir.G.B.Hunter, presided, and those present wer
Mr.H.Drummond, Hon. Treasurer, Mr.G.H.Richardson,
Mr.J.D.Robertson, Mr. James Allan, and Mr. T.R.Barber,
Secretary.

The minutes of the Meeting held on July 24th 1935 wer read by
the Secretary and it was proposed by Mr. Drummond, Seconded
by Mr. Richardson and agreed that same be signed by the
Chairman.

The Secretary reported apologies for non-attendance from:
Professor A.Lloyd James,
Professor Daniel Jones,
Professor W. Ripman,
Sir T. Percy Nunn; and
Mr. Sydney Walton.

The Secretary read the following report of progress of the
work of the Society:-

Since the last meeting of the Committee of the Society
efforts hav been made to obtain further support for the
Memorial to the President of the Board of Education for the
appointment of a representative Committee to consider the
reform of English Spelling. Owing to the General Election we
hav had to compile a new list of Members of Parliament as so
many of the old signatories hav not been returned to
Parliament owing to various causes. A new Parliamentary
Secretary has been obtained in the person of Mr. Morgan Jones
who being Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education
during the last Labour Government wil be of great help to the
movement. The list of Members in support in the Present
Parliament now stands at 10 Members of the House of Lords,
and 187 Members of the House of Commons, it is hoped that we
wil obtain over half of the Members of the House of Commons.
The present state of the Memorial is as follows:-

Members of governing staffs of Universities	901
Members of Late House of Commons	237
do do present do do do	187
do do do do Lords	10
Societies	10
Bishops	20
Authors	9
Publishers	55
Chambers of Commerce and Trade	12
Rotary Clubs	2
Dominion Representatives	12
Civic Heads, Lord Mayors, Mayors, Lord Provosts, and Provosts	30
Personal Signatures	130

A Meeting of Members of the houses of Parliament was held in a Committee Room in the House of Commons on March 31st which was addressed by Professors Gilbert Murray and Walter Ripman, there was only an attendance of 50 owing to various other meetings being held at the same time but the meeting has been of good value for propoganda purposes and has caused the subject to be talked over by Members, it is hoped to hav another Meeting some time in June to be addressed by other speakers.

A letter signed by many prominent personages was promoted and was published in the "The Times" on Febry 22nd 1936, a correspondence was carried on for some time which has been very valuable in having the subject ventilated.

A further letter containing additional signatures was handed to the Press Associations and has appeared in several papers and a daily correspondence on the subject has been carried on particularly in "The Daily Telegraph" which is also causing Spelling Reform to be more widely discussed.

Several Rotary Clubs hav been addressed on the subject and in this respect we feel indebted to Mr. T. Kingdom, Headmaster of Wyggeston Grammar School, Leicester, who has spoken on the subject to Leicester Sheffield and Ilkeston Rotary Clubs and is due to speak on July 2nd to Luton Rotary Club, this is useful work and may lead to the Society obtaining the support of "Rotary International" to the Memorial.

The Secretary read the first resolution on the notice of meeting as follows:-

1. THAT, notwithstanding Rule 8 of the original rules of the Simplified Spelling Society, £1300 invested on deposit at 3 1/2% with Northern and London Investment Trust Ltd., 1700 £1 Cumulative Preference Shares at 6% in Swan Hunter and Wigham Richardson Ltd., and 440 Ordinary Shares of 10/- each in Wallsend Slipway and Engineering Co., Ltd., at present held in the name of Sir George Burton Hunter as Trustee for the Society and that all other funds, shares, investment or cash, which are now held by the Trustees of the Hunter "C" Settlement 1922 which the Trustees thereof may hereafter transfer to the Society, shall be held and administered and that the Policy of the Society shall be controlled by the existing Trustees appointed under the said Hunter "C" Settlement 1922 with the addition of :-

Sir George Burton Hunter, K.B.E., D.Sc., M.I.N.A.,
The Willows,
Clayton Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Thomas Riseborough Barber,
The Grove, 3, Walkergate,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
Secretary, and

Henry Drummond,
Rydal Mount,
Hetton le Hole,
Retired Secretary.

and it was proposed by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Robertson and agreed to with the following addition

"Subject to the consent of the present Trustees"

Secretary read No.2 on the notice of meeting as follows:-

IN the event of a difference of opinion among the Trustees on matters to be decided by them the decision of the majority of the Trustees shall be accepted.

and it was proposed by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Richardson and agreed to.

The Secretary read resolution No. 3 on the notice of meeting as follows:-

THE Trustees may by a majority appoint further Trustees to fill vacancies caused by death or other causes.

and it was proposed by Mr. Allan, seconded by Mr. Richardson and agreed to.

The Chairman stated he would write to the present Trustees of the Hunter "C" Settlement 1922 and inform them of these decisions and ask for their approval.

On the proposition of Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Robertson it was unanimously agreed that the following gentlemen be added to the Committee:-

Mr. I. J. Pitman, M.A., of Messrs. Isaac Pitman & Co., Ltd.,
and Mr. T. Kingdom, M.A., Headmaster of Wyggeston Grammar
School, Leicester.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

Gilbert Murray
March 27 1937

~~July 24th 1936 Chairman~~ (Note this line is in a different hand writing)

COPY.

Dr. T.C .Hunter,
6 ,Sydenham Terrace,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

13th May,1936.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith the Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society which was held at The Willows on the 11th inst., and I write to ask if you will agree to the Funds provided in the Hunter 1922 "C" Trust for Spelling Reform to be given to and administered by the Simplified Spelling Society under the direction of the Trustees of the "C" Trust, and if you will also agree to the addition of the names of Mr.T.R.Barber, Mr. H. Drummond and myself as Trustees representing the Simplified Spelling Society.

Yours faithfully,

(signed). G.B.HUNTER

Copies also sent to:-

Mr. G.E.Hunter,
Mr. T.E.Thirlaway,
Mr. J.W.Elliott,

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING SOCIETY.

COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD IN PRO. GILBERT
MURRAY'S ROOM AT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS
UNION HEADQUARTERS, 15 , GROSVENOR
CRESCENT, LONDON. S.W.1. ON
March 2nd, 1937, at
2.30 p.m. . . .

CHAIRMAN: THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY Pro.Gilbert Murray. LL.D., D.Lit.,

AGENDA

1. Minutes of meeting held on May 11th 1936 at The Willows, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne.

2. Matters arising out of the minutes.

3. Reference by Chairman to the death of Sir George B. Hunter, K.B.E., D.Sc.,

"Suggested resolution" "THAT the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society desire to place on record their deep gratitude for the great and long continued services to the cause of Spelling Reform of the late Sir George B. Hunter, K.B.E., D.Sc., during his tenure as Chairman of the Society and their profound regret at his decease; and they desire that this resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting"

4. Financial position of the Society.

5. Question of new Chairman of the Society.

6. Future of the society.

7. Letter from James Allan Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Rector of Kilsyth Academy, Glasgow, regarding Alphabet of the International Phonetic Association.

8. Any other business

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tuesday March 2nd 1937
at the League of Nations Union Headquarters at 2.30 p.m.**

The following wer present:

Professor Gilbert Murray (Chairman) Pro. Ripman, Pro. Daniel Jones, Pro. Lloyd-James, Mr. T. Kingdom, Mr. J. D. Robertson, Mis McLeish, Mis Walsh, Mr. James Allan, Mr. Henry Drummond, Mr. I. J. Pitman, Mr. Sydney Walton, and Mr. T. R. Barber, Secretary.

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on May 11th 1936 wer read by the Secretary and it was proposed by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Robertson and carried that same be signed by the Chairman.

An apology for non-attendance owing to illness was read by the Secretary from Mr. G. H. Richardson.

The confirmation of the addition of Pro. Henry Martin, M.A., to the Committee was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Drummond and carried unanimously.

The Chairman referred to the great loss to the Society by the death of the Chairman Sir George B. Hunter, K.B.E., D.Sc., and it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Pro. Jones that the following resolution be recorded in the minutes:—

"THAT the Committee of the Simplified Spelling Society desire to place on record their deep gratitude for the great and long continued services to the cause of Spelling Reform of the late sir George B. Hunter, K.B.E., D.Sc., during his tenure as Chairman of the Society and their profound regret at his decease; and they desire that this resolution be recorded in the minutes". The Secretary was asked to send a copy of this resolution to the relatives.

The Secretary read the following statement relating to the finance of the Society:— In 1920 our late Chairman, Sir George B. Hunter, founded what is known to us as the "Hunter 1920 Trust", in this trust he put away a number of Debenture Shares in Messrs. Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd., also a number of Preference Shares in the same Company and a number of shares in the Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., for the benefit of the Simplified Spelling Society and other religious and Temperance Societies. The final distribution took place in July 31st 1930 the share of the Simplified Spelling Society being 1300 Swan & Hunter Debentures, 1,700 Swan & Hunter Preference and 440 ordinary shares in the Wallsend Slipway Co., as per the final balance sheet

certified by Messrs. Russell Mann & Co., the auditors. The 1,700 Preference Shares have been left in Swan & Hunter's also the 440 ordinary Shares in the Wallsend Slipway but the 1,300 Debentures in Swan & Hunters were redeemed and re-invested in the Northern and London Investment Trust on deposit @ 3 ½ %, receive this interest half-yearly, we receive 6% from the Swan & Hunter Preference Shares and last year the Wallsend slipway paid 6 % dividend, thus the investments of the Society in shares are as follows:- 1,700. S.H. & W.R. Cum, Pref. Shares of £1 each. 440 Wallsend Slipway ordinary Shares of 10/s. each., and £1,300 Northern Investment Trust Ltd., Deposit., the value of these investments at Dec., 31st 1936 being as per our balance sheet £4,126.0.0. The dividends received last year (1936) were as per our balance sheet:

S.W. & W.R Pref. Shares	£78.8.3	
Wallsend Slipway	£10.2.11	
N. Investment Trust	£34.19.7	Total £123.10.9

In addition to the above Trust Sir George formed another Trust known as the Hunter 1922 "C" Trust, this trust is solely for the benefit of Spelling Reform, the original terms being for the Simplified Spelling Society or any other Society or Association having similar objects, to enable this to be for our Society only, Sir George after having taken legal advice called a meeting of the Committee of the Society in May last at which the following resolutions were passed (see special sheet) after these resolutions were passed Sir George stated that he would write to the Trustees of the Hunter "C" Trust and inform them of these decisions and ask for their approval (see special sheet with copy of Sir George's letter to the Trustees and their replies).

When we required cash to carry on I used to inform Sir George when we wanted it and he then wrote or telephoned to Mr. Elliott. Secretary of the Trust, stating what amount was required and he (Mr. Elliott) then sent a cheque to our bank (Messrs. Barclays); as we required money shortly after the death of Sir George I saw Mr. Elliott and we then arranged that a letter signed jointly by Mr. Drummond and myself would be all in order, this we did and Mr. Elliott then sent a cheque for £100 to our bank on Feb. 8th, thus the society is carried on financially by dividends, sundry subscriptions, and grants from the Hunter 1922 "C" Trust. The latter trust is due for distribution in 1938.

The 3 share certificates mentioned previously wer kept by Sir George in his safe in an envelope marked "Simplified Spelling Society" together with a copy of the Hunter 1922 Trust, after Sir George's death his Solicitor took these away with other papers so I got in touch with him, at an interview with him on Feb. 15th which Mr.Drummond also attended he informed me that the names on the share certificates were as follows:

S.H.& W.R. Ltd.,:- Sir Mark Hunter., Sir George B.Hunter,
and Miss Patricia Marley,
Wallsend Slipway:- Sir George B. Hunter and Miss Patricia
Marley.
Northern Investment Trust:-do do do do do do
do

therefore as Sir George was the last surviving name of the certificates it woud be necessary for him to hold these until probate was granted also although he knew that the shares belonged to the Simplified Spelling Society it woud be necessary for me to prove to him that they belonged to the Society, as a matter of form, I told him I had ample proof but when I showed him the balance sheet of the final distribution of the 1920 trust he said that was all that was necessary, he then said it would be necessary for me to let him have death certificates for Sir Mark Hunter and Miss Marley, (these I have sent him, Feb.16th) also a resolution from this meeting giving 2 or 3 names and full particulars of those whose names we wished the shares tranferred to., might I suggest that the names of the Honorary Treasurer and Secretary, Mr.H.Drummond and Mr.T.H.Barber respectively, and who were appointed trustees at the last Committee meeting, be sent leaving the 3rd name to be added the one of the new Chairman when appointed in this way you will have on the certificates the names of the three trustees representing the Society. The Solicitor said we could get our own Solicitors to transfer the shares but he was quite willing to do so and it would be only a small cost, Mr. Drummond and I both agreed that as they were doing Sir George's affairs and had everything in hand it was best for them to do the work. The Chairman proposed that the statement be approved of and this was carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed, Pro.Jones seconded, and it was carried unanimously that the names of Mr. Henry Drummond of Rydal Mount Hetton le Hole, Co. Durham, Retired Secretary, and Mr.Thomas F. Barber of The Grove, Walkergate, Newcastle upon Tyne, Secretary, be placed upon the share certificates of the Society.

The question of the new Chairman was then discussed, the names mentioned being Sir William Jowitt, Sir A. Flowers, Sir John Murray, Sir Francis Goodenough and Sir F. Gowland Hopkins. The Chairman asked Mr Sydney Walton to allow his name to be considered and Mr. Walton agreed to consider the matter.

The future of the Society was then considered, a long discussion took place nearly everyone present taking part and it was eventually decided that a sub-committee be appointed to consider the matter, those appointed to the sub-committee were Pro. Murray, Chairman, Professors Jones, Ripman, and Lloyd-James and Messrs. Pitman and Walton, this committee to meet to meet on March 23rd at 2.45 p.m. in the League of Nations Union Headquarters. Arising out of this discussion it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Allan that the subscription to the Society be 5/- per member and 20/- per Society or Association.

A letter from Mr Allan regarding the alphabet of the International Phonetic Association was discussed but no decision was arrived at.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 4.15 p.m.

Daniel Jones
29 th April 1938

Minutes of Sub-Committee Meeting held on Tuesday March 23rd 1937 at 2.45 p.m. in Pro. Gilbert Murray's room at the League of Nations Union Headquarters, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, London. S.W.1.

Pro. Gilbert Murray presided and in addition the following were present Professors Daniel Jones, W.Ripman, A.Lloyd-James, Mr. I.Pitman and Mr.T.R.Barber, secretary.

The Secretary tendered an apology for non-attendance from Mr. Sydney Walton owing to a very important engagement.

The Secretary reported that Mr.Walton greatly appreciated the honour of being asked by the Committee to allow his name to be nominated for the Chairmanship of the Society but regretted that owing to the pressure of business he could not give the time that would be necessary.

The Chairman then asked Mr. Pitman if he would accept the Chairmanship but Mr. Pitman replied that he also appreciated the honour but felt that he also could not give the necessary time and it was agreed that the question of a Chairman be left in abeyance Pro. Gilbert Murray stating that he would be very pleased to act as Chairman until one was appointed.

The Secretary then read suggestions for obtaining farther support for the Memorial to the President of the Board of Education asking for the appointment of a Representative Committee to consider English Spelling and also presented a report from the Patch Simplified Spelling Society showing how they worked and were successful in obtaining a Government Commission which recommended the adoption of several of the principal rules of the reform scheme and the feeling of the members present was where was a campaign that was successful and might be worked in this Country. The first point was "A definite program of simplifications as a basis" Pro. Jones pointed out that this was accomplished by the scheme drawn up by Pro. Ripman and Dr. Archer, Pro. Jones said he had a copy and also thought Pro. Ripman had a copy and it was agreed that Pro. Ripman and Mr. Pitman should meet and go over it with a view to publication.

Item No. 3 was propaganda by Pamphlets for free distribution and it was agreed that the Secretary should send to Pro. Ripman and Mr. Pitman copies of every pamphlet issued by the Society so that these gentlemen could go over same and see what could be done to bring them more up to date and report to the next meeting.

Item No. 4 was lectures to all classes of society, among other things to parents-meetings, this was agreed to.

It was thought that seeing that the Society may be making an appeal for financial support in the near future that an address in London would be more successful than an address in Wallsend.