

SPELLING REFORM DISCUSSED BY PORTLAND MEN AND WOMEN

Some Believe It Should Come to
Pass, While Others Declare
It Is Nonsense.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION REGARDING ITS EXTENT

Entire Language Could Not Be
Changed, Say Some, While School
Teachers Generally Declare Spell-
ing Reform Is Utterly Impossible.

The term "spelling reform" has come to spell "noisiness" to many since it has been talked of so much by the daily press, and yet each one has his own ideas on the subject. Many wonder what it means and confuse the idea of simplified spelling and spelling reform with phonetic spelling. In reality they are different and one may champion the one and condemn the other, may approve of Roosevelt's plan to simplify the spelling of certain words without accepting the countless would-be funny poems which twist the English language into hideous contortions to make them as much unlike the original as possible.

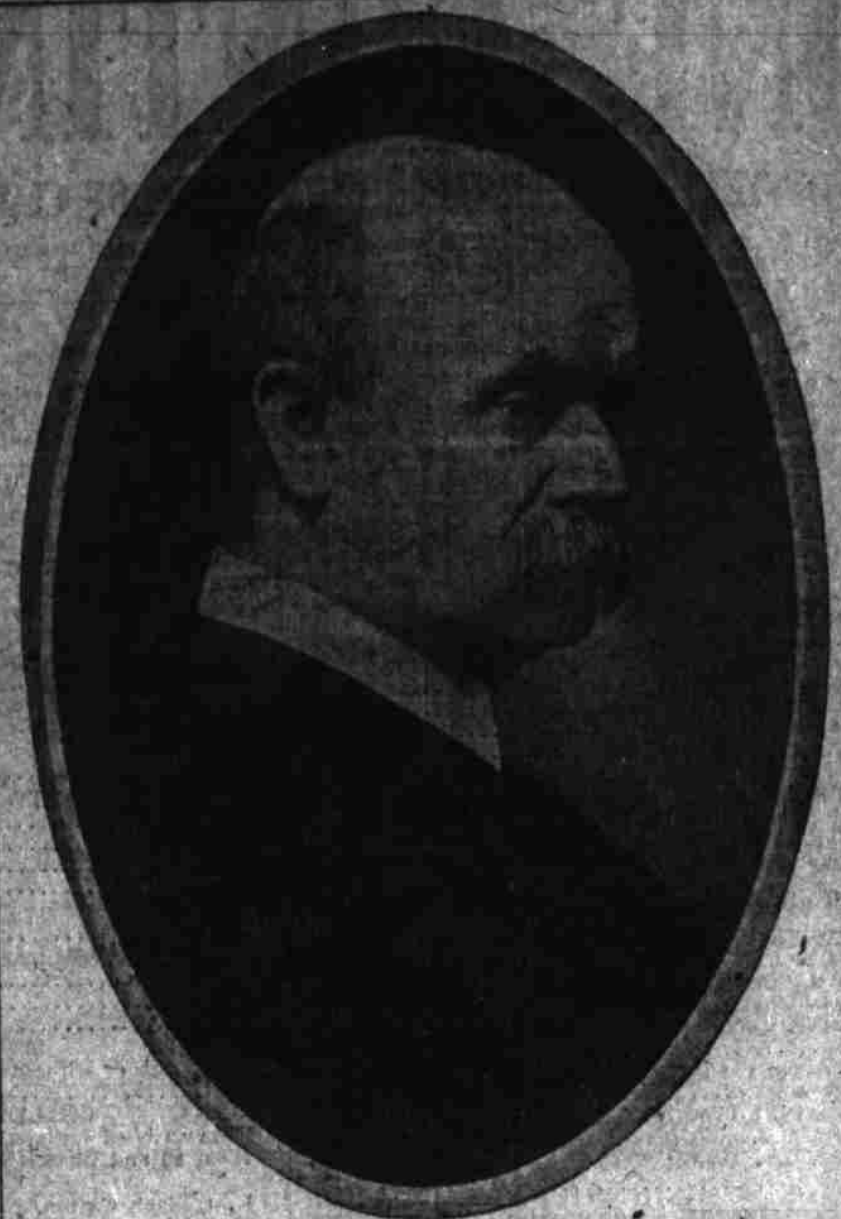
Educators of Portland have their ideas on the matter, too, and it is interesting to note how widely they vary. Some advocate a mild change; others a radical change; while still others protest against any change at all.

C. E. S. Wood, who usually lines up on the side of reform, presents his proposition of greater freedom in writing the language that there may be more individualism.

All spelling is intended to be phonetic," he said. "It has to be. Language is to express thought; thought is the soul of it; language is essentially sound—words are sounds—letters are to indicate sound, and written words are intended to express the true sound of the words. Therefore, all spelling is meant to be and all true spelling is phonetic. Anything which correctly expresses the spoken sound of the word is good spelling. Before the silly pedantry of the dictionary put its claims upon us men spelled individually as they pleased and were spared the useless waste of time in spelling which curses our school children; and a man was not classed as ignorant because he spelled in his own fashion. Dictionary spelling has been a fetter upon the mind, a waste of time and has created a false standard of culture and education, for iron-bound spelling is the most shallow and useless knowledge in the world.

What Reform Spelling Means.

"Spelling does not today indicate the origin of words. If you think you try it with your friends and see. If anything indicates it, it is the sound. Origins are not important any more. It is today's meaning which counts. What we need to know is the meaning of the living word today. For example, 'let' which meant to hinder, now means 'permit,' 'prevent,' which by its roots



Professor T. T. Davis.

that is the whole object of spelling. Look into a dictionary. It will give the accepted version of a word and then proceed to spell it phonetically. Indicate how it should be pronounced. Why should that phonetic spelling, if valuable, be kept in the sole and exclusive property of the dictionary? If it is valuable in the dictionary to indicate the true pronunciation it is more valuable out of the dictionary as the real spelling of the word. However, I do not believe that even more alphabetical characters are really necessary, and I do not believe the spelling reform goes half far enough. To my mind we should be as free in spelling as were Shakespeare, Jonson, Milton and the makers of our language. It never occurred to them that there was any value in spelling except to indicate the sound of the word. They were free to spell as they chose. I believe in free spelling and in removing this cheap barrier of cheap people from the man who spells not according to the dictionary.

What Senator Gearin Says.

Senator John M. Gearin looks at the matter from two standpoints—the personal and the general.

"Anything that will excuse bad spelling I am in favor of," he said, laughing, "but that is purely a personal matter, for I have always been a poor speller. If anyone will do anything that will make it easier for me to spell I will thank him. But seriously speaking, there are, of course, several words in our language that are spelled absurdly, but how are we going to pick them out, who is going to do it and where are we going to draw the line? As the matter stands now I don't know what anyone means by spelling reform or phonetic spelling, for everyone has a different idea. Who can authorize any one change? If we agree to spell by sound why shouldn't it be 'kat' as well as 'cat,' yet we are used to spelling it with a 'c,' and who is going to authorize the change to 'k'? And why should it be 'k' any more than 'c'? The president, who is supposed to be the arbiter of all things, has picked out certain

means to go before, means with us to drag back or obstruct.

"The origin of all spelling was phonetic and the goal of all spelling must be phonetic. The upward made over the words which it is proposed to accept in that one of several forms of spelling which is simplest shows only the ignorance of press and people. It is silly. Every one can still spell as he chooses, and nothing sacred has been attacked. As for myself I agree with Bernard Shaw that as spelling is phonetic and can never be anything else, what we need if anything is more alphabetical characters so that we shall have a character for each sound, and not have to depend on arbitrary knowledge for our pronunciation of such words as dough, cough, tough, enough. Proper spelling would indicate how each of these words is to be pronounced."

CURE CATARRH NOW

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Many people in Portland are beginning to cough and hack with the fall symptoms of disagreeable and offensive catarrh. The tongue is coated in the morning, and they do not sleep well at night on account of disagreeable tickling and dropping at the back of the throat as a result of catarrh. Before the disease becomes chronic they should use Hyonol and get complete freedom from their catarrhal troubles.

If you neglect to treat catarrh when it first comes on, the chances are that it will become a firmly rooted and deep-seated habit. It will bother you all winter and may become chronic and almost incurable.

The first day's use of Hyonol will show a decided improvement in health, and in a short time there will be no further trouble, and you will be free from catarrh, and coughs and colds will not bother you during the winter.

Remember that Hyonol is sold under an absolute guarantee, that it costs nothing unless it cures Woodard, Clarke & Co. have sold a great many Hyonol outfits, every one with their personal guarantee that it costs nothing unless it cures, and they have seen so many remarkable evidences of the curative powers of Hyonol that they are very glad to continue giving this guarantee with every package.

A complete Hyonol outfit costs but \$1, extra bottles, if needed, 50 cents.

Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher.

words for change, but why should he pick them? If we admitted anything of that kind, each of us would have a different great word which we thought should be changed and there would be endless trouble and confusion. Any arbitrary change would result thus and soon there would be no standard. If the prominent educators of the country should get together and settle on a system there might be some method. But if a universal rule is made to spell by sound everyone would be a judge, his own sound and then there would be no such thing as spelling. The English language would be revolutionized. Truth to tell, I think we are 'baiting up' against a question too big for us."

Teachers are Against It.
Teachers almost as a unit will be found against the proposed reform in spelling. In spite of the trouble they are at to teach the young idea day in and day out that "red" and "read" are the same but that "read" and "read" are different and in spite of the fact that in high schools, yes, and in college they receive essays from struggling students presenting "these efforts," or "believe them their," they are distinctly opposed to a change by which the natural spelling and the unnatural

speller will be put on an equal plane.

"I line myself emphatically against this idea of spelling reform," said T. T. Davis, principal of the Portland high school. "I am not prepared to give my reasons at length, but I think the present method very satisfactory and can see no necessity for a change. I won't say that they can't improve the present method for that would be putting it a little too strong, but I say I don't believe they will improve it with their meddling."

Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougher of the First Baptist church always has his own ideas on subjects of modern advance, and it is not hard to guess on what side to find this modern preacher who champions the removal of woman's hats in church, the providing of a kin-



C. E. S. Wood.

dergarten to dispose of the children during service, and making the church a social center Sunday evenings where the young men can bring their young women and sit and hear themselves talked about in a practical way from the pulpit.

Brougher Is for It.

"My whole sentiment is in favor of the new change," said Dr. Brougher, accommodatingly coming up to expectations. "If some one who has the time will work out a system it will simplify the language and save a great deal of time in learning it. I am in favor of the Roosevelt recommendation, though of course it will take some time for it to acquire permanence, but I think it is a start in the right direction and the rest of the change will follow naturally in time."

"Spelling reform," said Mrs. Charles E. Sifton of the school board, "to a certain extent might be desirable; but to destroy the beauty and established form of the English language in the main would bring a change and a loss greatly to be deplored."

DATE SET BY COURT FOR SLOANE'S TRIAL

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Spokane, Oct. 12.—The trial of Sidney Sloane for the murder of his father was set yesterday in Judge Huskie's department of the district court for November 12. He was seen in jail and informed of the fact.

The youth was found playing solitaire with a well-worn pack of cards and admitted with a smile that the game was a monotonous thing and he would be glad when something happened to break the monotony of the place. It is predicted that two weeks

SAVED HIS LIFE.

J. W. Davenport, Wingo, Ky., writes, June 14, 1902: "I want to tell you I believe Ballard's Snow Liniment saved my life. I was under the treatment of two doctors, and they told me one of my lungs was entirely gone, and the other badly affected. I also had a lump on my side. I don't think that I could have lived over two months longer."

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Desk and Bookcase \$16.00

For reader and writer who desires reference books at his elbow and pens and paper within easy reach, this combination Desk-Bookcase will be found an ideal piece of furniture—a sort of companion ready to help at a moment's notice.

Adjustable shelves, ample room for writing materials in the drawers and compartments of the desk—plenty of space to spread paper while writing.

Pretty little mirror at the top adds dignity to the piece.

Desks for the parlor, drawing-room and library; Office Desks for mercantile houses and factories at attractive prices.

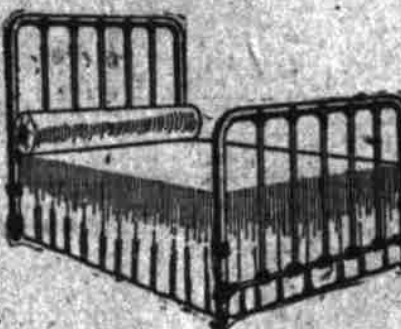
This China Closet for \$20

This is one of the trimmest, neatest little China Closets in our great stock, for we have massive closets ranging in price up to \$150. This one is just like cut, is 5 feet high, 40 inches wide, has double thick bent-glass ends, and is made of the finest quarter-sawn oak. It is a closet you will admire at once and never tire of. Ask to see No. 600. Easy terms of payment.



Brass and Enamel in New Form \$15.00

Manufacturers are constantly striving for something new—some novel way in which to blend brass and enamel to produce the happiest effect. The accompanying illustration represents one of the latest achievements. The corner posts are enamel—the upright rods and cross rods are brass, producing a pleasing result, prettier and daintier in many respects than the all-brass or the all-enamel.



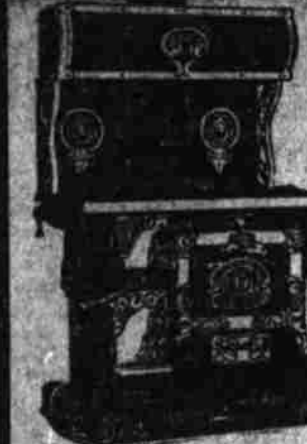
Tuna Mahogany Dresser \$50

This new style of finish preserves the beautiful natural red color of mahogany, and brings out the fine grain to best advantage. The Dresser shown in cut has the desirable serpentine front, and extra large oval French plate mirrors, with artistically carved stanchions. All drawers fit; absolutely dustproof. The workmanship and design could not be better.

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will be required to try the case and it is believed by some, familiar with court methods, that it may take an entire week to secure a jury.

GOHL FOUND GUILTY OF LEADING ATTACK

—Aberdeen, Wash., Oct. 12.—The case of William Gohl, formerly agent of the sailors' union, who is on trial on the charge of leading a body of armed men in an attack on the schooner *Peace* last summer, was finished in the superior court at Montesano yesterday afternoon, the verdict being guilty. Sentence was not imposed, as the case will be appealed to the supreme court. The penalty is not more than a year in the county jail and \$1,000 fine. The attack occurred during the course of the sailors' strike.

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SALE AT 2:30 AND 7:30 P. M. DAILY.

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EPIDEMIC OF TYPHOID SWEEPING HOQUIAM

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Hoquiam, Wash., Oct. 12.—This city is confronted with a serious typhoid fever epidemic, there being about 70

TEETH



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cases in town. The mission of the General hospital reports that the whole third floor of the hospital is now devoted to the care of fever patients and lays the blame of this condition of affairs to the water supply of the city.

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