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ROOSEVELTIAN SPELLING

The President Orders Phonetic Spelling to be Used in Executive Correspondence and Documents

An Oyster Bay, N. Y., dispatch says: President Roosevelt has indorsed the Carnegie spelling reform movement. He issued orders to Public Printer Stillings that hereafter all messages from the president and all other documents emanating from the White House shall be printed in accordance with the recommendation of the spelling reform committee headed by Brander Matthews, professor of English at Columbia university.

This committee has published a list of 300 words which have been reformed. This list contains such words as "thru" and "tho" as the spelling for "through" and "though."

The president's official sanction of this reform movement is regarded as the most effective and speediest method of inaugurating the new system of spelling throughout the country.

Not only will the printed documents emanating from the president utilize the reform spelling but his correspondence also will be spelled in the new style.

Secretary Loeb has sent for the list of 00 3words which have been reformed, and upon its arrival immediately will order all correspondence of the president and of the executive force of the White House spelled in accordance therewith. As the spelling reform committee shall adopt new reforms they will be added to the president's list and also to that of the public printer.

While the order to the printer today does not contemplate an immediate reform in the spelling of official documents from the executive departments in Washington, it is regarded as more than likely the respective heads of the department will fall in line with the president's ideas and have their official documents printed in the new spelling.

On June 18 last the simplified spelling board made public a list of 300 simplified spellings which has been decided upon by the board. The list is as follows:

A—Abridgment, accouter, accurst, acknowledgment, adrest, adz, affixt, altho, anapest, anemia, anesthesia, anesthetic, antipyrin, antitoxin, apothem, apprize, arbor, archeology, ardor, armor, artizan, assize, ax.

B—Bans, bark, behavior, blest, blusht, brazen, brazier, bun, bur.

C—Caliber, caliper, candor, carest, catalog, catechize, center, chapt, check, checker, chimera, civilize, clamor, clangor, clapt, claspt, clipt, clue, coeval, color, colter, commixt, comprest, comprize, confest, controller, couquet, criticize, cropt, crost, crusht, cue, curst, cutlas, cyclopedia.

D—Dactyl, dasht, decalog, defense, demagog, demeanor, deposit, deprest, develop, dieresis, dike, dipt, discuss, dispatch, distil, distrest, dolor, domicil, draft, dram, drest, dript, droopt, dropt, dulness.

E—Ecumenical, edile, egis, enamor, encyclopedia, endeavor, envelop, eolian eon, eponym, epaulet, era, esophagus, esthetic, esthetics, estivate, ether, etiology, exorcize, exprest.

F—Fagot, fantasm, fantasy, fantom, favor, favorite, fervor, fizer, fixt, flavor, fuflil, fullness.

G—Gage, gazel, gelatin, gild, gipsy, gloze, glycerin, good-by, gram, gript.

H—Harbor, harken, heapt, hematin, hiccup, hock, homeopathy, homonym, honor, humor, husht, hypotenus.

I—Idolize, imprest, instil.

J—Jail, judgment.

K—Kist (not kitted).

L—Labor, lacrimal, lapt, lasht, leapt, legalize, license, licorice, liter, lodgment, lookt, luster.

M—Mama, maneuver, materialize,

meager, medieval, meter, mist (not missed) miter, mixt, mold, molder, molding, moldy, molt, mullen.

N—Naturalize, neighbor, niter, nipt. O—Ocher, odor, offensive, omelet, opprest, orthopedic.

P—Paleography, paleolithic, paleontology, paleozoic, paraffin, parlor, partizan, past (not passed) patronize, pedagog, pedobaptist, phenix, phenomenon, pigmy, plow, polyp, possess, practise, prefixt, prenomen, prest, pretense, preterit, pretermit, primeval, profest, program, prolog, propt, pur.

Q—Quartet, questor, quintet.

R—Rancor, rapt, raze, recognize, reconnoiter, rigor, rime, ript, rumor.

S—Saber, saltpeter, savior, savor, scepter, septet, sepulcher, sextet, silvan, simitar, sipt, skilful, sithe, skipt, slipt, smolder, snap somber, specter, splendor, stedfast, stept, s'opt, strest, stript, subpena, succor, suffixt, sulfate, sulfur, sumac, supprest, surprize, synonym.

T—Tabor, tapt, teazel, tenor, theater, tho, thoro, thorofare, thoroly, thru thruout, tipt, topt, tost, transgrest, trapt, tript, tumor.

V—Valor, vapor, vext, vigor, vizor.

W—Wagon, washt, whipt, whisky, wifuil, winkt, wisht, wo, wofuil, woolen, wrapt.

The list contains 300 common words that may be spelled more than one way. The simplified spelling board urges that all who write the English language should in all cases adopt the simplest possible form. In some instances these simplified orthographies are already in common use; in others they still appear unusual and unfamiliar. Among those who favor the reform: spelling is Andrew Carnegie.

Views of Chicago Educators

Chicago educators are still divided over spelling reform, despite President Roosevelt's indorsement of the new orthography.

"I am against it," said Superintendent of Schools Cooley. "Whenever I see one of those confounded words on a page it haunts me for four or five lines ahead and as many after. It gives me a pain. Why, the whole idea reminds me of the old fellow who wanted congress to appropriate \$50,000 for the improvement of the alimentary canal.

"It will take about as long to reform spelling at is would to reform the alimentary canal. I know you can prove mathematically that by cutting out a few letters you can save nineteen seconds in every eight lines, but I guess I'm a little old fashioned in my spelling ideas."

"I approve heartily of the move towards phonetic spelling," said Acting President Harry Pratt Judson of the University of Chicago. "I feel, however, that the move towards the change should be slow. In starting, as President Roosevelt has done, I believe much may be accomplished. It is my personal opinion that great benefits will come from ridding our words of the many useless letters."

Says He Overrates His Powers

A dispatch from London says: The Standard, in an editorial on President Roosevelt's phonetic spelling says:

"President Roosevelt overrates his powers. He may act as peacemaker between Russia and Japan, may flout the United States senate, stamp on the trusts, may sit down at table with a colored citizen, may get a third term after having sworn he would not be a candidate—all these and many other wonderful things he may accomplish, but he cannot reform the spelling of the English language."

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