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SANE SPELLING

CHANCELLOR ANDREWS DELIVERS OPENING ADDRESS.

Urges Adoption of Spelling Reform Proposed by Simplified Spelling Board.

In his annual opening address delivered this morning in Memorial Hall, Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews made a strong plea for the general adoption of simplified spelling as proposed recently by the Simplified Spelling Board. Dr. Andrews has been an ardent advocate of spelling reform ever since the beginning of the movement and was one of the first members of the Spelling Board, which has on its membership list at the present time the names of a large number of men known the world over for their scholarly attainments and their special knowledge of Orthography.

As Superintendent of Schools in Chicago, in 1898, Dr. Andrews approved the bulletin of the National Educational Association which urged the simplification of perhaps a dozen words. Included among them were the following: Tho, altho, demagog, prolog, thoro, thru, thruout, and program.

These words are now in common use and the stand of Dr. Andrews, which was bitterly attacked in 1898 by the country has been proved correct and sensible. His ideas on this subject are the result of extensive observation and thoro study, and are backed by the opinions of such men as J. A. H. Murray and Henry Bradley, editors of the Oxford dictionary, both of whom have recently become members of the Simplified Spelling Board.

The Chancellor spoke in part as follows: "The revision of Spelling is no new movement. The ordinary spelling of the day is not that of Chaucer nor that of Shakespear. Evolution has been most marked but it has been at random. Haphazard spellings are the result and our orthography is in a chaotic condition. It is much more logical to direct the process of evolution by careful study and this is the intention of the Simplified Spelling Board.

"Simplified spelling is not phonetic spelling necessarily. The latter is an extreme that would injure as much as it would improve, for all silent letters in our words cannot be removed without causing much study, and great ambiguity. Silent letters must often be used to tell the sound of neighboring letters. This is readily seen in the use of the letter 'a' in the word read. The spirit of the present reform is embodied in two precepts which may be stated as follows: 1. When a letter or combination of letters is in no sense helpful or necessary, leave it out. 2. When a letter or combination of letters differing from the usual one renders the sound better than the usual one, substitute it for the usual one.

"A thoro reform is the goal of the Spelling Board, but it must be worked out gradually and thoughtfully. New forms will not be proposed until the ones already suggested are in general



CHANCELLOR E. BENJ. ANDREWS.

use. Ambiguity must be avoided and the notion that the reform is a fad must be overcome.

"To the arguments against 'Sane Spelling' there is a full and satisfactory answer in every case. It is not sectional and American, as some critics have claimed. In fact the entire movement owes its initial impulse to England. To the statement that the adoption of revised spelling would necessitate the reprinting of all recent literature I can only say that if extant books could be buried so easily, such a chance of doing good would swell reformers ranks by a host. The assumption is idle, however, as our ability to read Chaucer proves.

"The spellings urged in opposition to the reforms are not hallowed by long usage, either, but are of yesterday. The man who urges the sacredness of ancient usage is like the grandmother who said in reference to the Revised Version of the Bible, 'King James's version was good enough for Sant Paul and it's good enough for me.' "The arguments in favor of simpli-

fied spelling from the standpoint of utility are numerous. It would enormously facilitate education, especially in the United States, by reducing, by at least one year, the time required for a thoro mastery of spelling. In the schools of Chicago it is estimated that this would mean a saving of at least 4 per cent of the eighth grade expense. Besides this the cost of printing would be materially reduced, proof-reading would be much simpler, and books would be much cheaper, especially to the blind whose literature is extremely expensive at the present time.

"A reformed spelling would materially help in Americanizing the hordes of immigrants whose present inability to fathom the mysteries of English orthography puts an effective bar in front of them when they attempt to learn American customs by way of the newspaper and current literature.

"Finally, simplification would help decidedly in making English an international, if not a universal language. This prospect is of immense importance to English speaking peoples, diplomatically and commercially, and spelling reform should have general support for this reason if for no other."

Football Schedule for 1906

Sept. 29 Hastings College, at Lincoln.
Oct. 6, University of South Dakota, at Lincoln.
Oct. 13, Drake College, at Lincoln.
Oct. 20, Ames College, at Lincoln.
Oct. 27, Doane College, at Lincoln.
Nov. 3, University of Minnesota, at Minneapolis.
Nov. 10, Creighton College, at Omaha.
Nov. 17, University of Kansas, at Lincoln.
Nov. 24, Chicago University, at Chicago.
Nov. 29, University of Cincinnati, at Lincoln.

FALL ATHLETICS

THE FOOTBALL SITUATION—ATHLETIC BOARD MEETS.

Assistant Coach Chosen—Charging Machine Installed—Many Men Out—Season Tickets on Sale.

For the past two weeks the aspirants for football honors have been strenuously engaged on the Athletic Field and at the State Farm in showing what they can do. The weather has not been conducive to good practice and so far but thirty men have reported. New recruits are rapidly coming in, however, and Manager Eager expects to be kept busy handling out equipment every day next week.

Of the old Varsity squad those back in the game are Captain Mason, who is in the best of condition at 160 pounds; Rice, who weighs 180 pounds, and Little at 175 pounds. McDonald, the man who pushed Benedict in the drop-kicking contest last year, tips the beam at 158 pounds, Drain at 160 pounds, and Craig at 163 pounds. Bob Taylor is up to his usual 200 pounds and Wenstrand and Matters are huskier than ever. Denslow, Carroll, Harvey and Miller Benedict are also out. Schmidt, the half-back, has not yet reported for duty, but is in town and will undoubtedly do so in a day or two. This makes a good nucleus around which to build-up a winning team, and while the prospects for the season are not brilliant, yet, under the new rules and with Coach Amos P. Foster's new, snappy plays, Nebraska will undoubtedly give a good account of herself when the time comes.

Among the other men who are eligible to the team are Ewing, the 200-pound Lincoln High School player; Cook, the speedy little end on the Sophomore team of last year; Hildebrand, one of the stars of the Lincoln High School team of last year; Burras, whose reputation on the Varsity track and basket-ball teams promises good things; Branson, the Lincoln High School fullback of last year; W. W. Theisen, J. O. Walker, and Hal Cornell, who is bigger and stronger than ever before. Shindoll, M. Bennett, F. W. Johnson, a Fullerton High School man, and Chaloupka, of last year's track team, are among other promising candidates.

Other new men who are eligible are Miner and Evarts of Lincoln High School, Fleming of Sutton High School, Wopat, a South Dakota man; Ferrel of Doane, who carries 230 pounds, and Patten, the Knox end who played against us last year. The squad will miss the work of Perrin, who will not be in school this year, and of Weller and "Shorty" Burns, who will not be back in the game.

Fewer candidates than usual for this stage in the season have appeared for practice and more men are urgently needed. Everyone who has played or who wants to play is urged to come out. Equipment can be had of Manager Eager, who may be seen at his office in the basement of the new Administration Building every day from 2:00 until 3:30 p. m.

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