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DICTIONARY

OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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CHARLES EARLE FUNK, LITT.D.
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THE PLAN OF THIS DICTIONARY

This dictionary is intended to serve the general needs of all English-speaking adults. Among modern dictionaries it is a departure with an aim at thorough practicality. To achieve that aim all the conventions that have grown up around dictionary-making have been carefully reexamined. Only those that are of practical value have been retained, and these have been reformed and strengthened with new ideas to make a modern book, efficient in every detail.

The book is based on the Funk & Wagnalls New "Standard" Dictionary. It offers, however, a new form and much wholly new material hitherto unrecorded in any general dictionary. The method adopted in the presentation of the material is notably different from the larger work, for the aim of the editor has been the greatest possible simplicity—a simplicity which, with no sacrifice in accuracy or adequacy of statement, would provide essential information quickly and clearly. Such abbreviations as appear and the few marks used for indicating pronunciation are believed to be so clear and so well known as to create no confusion.

Conspicuous to one who opens this dictionary are the simplification of the pronunciation scheme, the innovation in the indication of accent, and the elimination of unfamiliar symbols and abbreviations. The pronunciation scheme, which is fully explained in the section on page xi was designed, after years of experimentation and testing, to provide instant interpretation and to eliminate the laborious study of intricate and baffling symbols which generally discourage all but assiduous students of phonetics. The use of the underscore to indicate accent is a new device. The eye immediately interprets its significance, from the familiar use of the underscore in marking emphasis.

Vocabulary: No single volume could contain every literary, scientific, technical, trade, dialectal, cant, local, and slang term or expression which the English language affords—a language embracing the speech habits of peoples of North America, the British Isles, Australia, large areas of Africa, India, and the Philippines and other islands of the Pacific. It is believed, however, that no owner of this book can be justly disappointed in the wealth of information or the wide range of terms in all those fields that he will find herein. In the selection of the terms to be included, the editors drew heavily upon the textbooks used in college and university courses and the supplementary reading required in those courses—engineering, medicine, law, agriculture, forestry, commerce, music, art, literature—all the arts and sciences. Their belief was that by covering all the needs of the college student, in whatever direction those needs might lie, they would then meet the practical requirements of the majority of men and women in any walk of life.

Science and arts: In recent years, great interest has been shown in fundamental sciences and in technical subjects. This dictionary meets that interest—in chemistry, physics, medicine, radio and other branches of electrical science, motion pictures, aviation, etc. Each new discovery and new process has brought new words into the language. All these fields have been explored and the record of the findings is entered in these pages. The arts have been similarly explored; new terms or meanings in painting, in music, in drama, in the vast range of literature, in fashions and decoration, as well as in domestic sciences, have been recorded and carefully defined.

Words common to the literature of all English-speaking people are necessarily included in these pages. Hence, for example, such dialectal terms as are found in the works of Robert Burns or Sir Walter Scott, or other writers who are known wherever English is spoken, and such archaic or obsolete terms as are found in the King James Version of the Bible or in the writings of Shakespeare are duly recorded. The nature or the source of such words is shown, usually by abbreviation, in brackets immediately after the entry as [Scot.] for Scottish, [Obs.] for obsolete or archaic, [Prov. Eng.] for provincial British dialect. Words and phrases from foreign languages which have become thoroughly a part of our language, both in pronunciation and usage—as chauffeur, garage, blitz, etc.—are treated as ordinary English words, and the language of origin shown, as ordinarily, in the treatment of etymologies. But those still on the borderline of acceptance or still retaining the characteristics, in form, pronunciation, or usage, of the original language, are identified by the name of the language, usually abbreviated, in brackets immediately after the pronunciation and part of speech; as, *smør'-gås-bord*: (smør'-gôs-börd) *noun* [Sw.]. In similar manner, words used in, or peculiar to localities in the United States, but not in general use throughout the country, are labeled, in brackets, [Local].

Informal English: Because, through the influence of many factors, it is no longer possible to draw precise lines of distinction between the various forms of unconventional English now permissible in informal speech, no attempt has been made in these pages to distinguish between slang usage and colloquial usage. Much of the slang of yesterday has become the popular everyday phrase of today, and the slang of today may be the colloquial usage of tomorrow. Hence, such of these terms as have been admitted to these pages are labeled "popular," by the bracketed abbreviation [Pop.], the label serving to indicate that in the opinion of the editors and other competent observers the word or meaning so labeled may be used in ordinary conversation or writing, but has not yet achieved the dignity of usage in formal speech or writing.

Vulgarisms: A conscientious lexicographer may omit words or meanings of unquestionable vulgarity from a general dictionary; but, however greatly he may deplore the use of certain terms which are considered derogatory or offensive by individuals, or by persons of various races, nations, or religious beliefs, he cannot ignore them if they are widely encountered in reading or in speech. A thoughtful person, who would not intentionally injure the feelings of a neighbor or an employee, may do so in ignorance if unaware that the word he uses is offensive. Hence, particular attention has been given to such entries in this dictionary, and care has been taken to caution against the use of those that are especially likely to arouse ill feeling.

Trade names: Many manufactured articles have received such wide popularity in recent years that the names given to them by the makers have almost become household words. Some persons take them, erroneously, to be generic words, applicable to any article of similar nature. In most instances, however, these names are proprietary, owned by the maker of the specific product. The most widely known of these names are included among the vocabulary entries in this dictionary, with a brief description of the product to which it is usually applied. Each is shown with an initial capital letter. As a further precaution against indiscriminate use, though without intentional prejudice to existing or future legal decisions, the description contains the phrase, "a trade name," by which it is to be understood that the name appears to have been invented by the maker of the article and should be applied to his goods only.

Military terms: The great number of men and women who became members of the military forces or of auxiliary organizations during World War II and the effect of that War upon the literature of our era have necessitated the inclusion of many hundreds of *military terms* in these pages. The services of Lt. Col. Arthur Vollmer, U.S.A., formerly in charge of the preparation of English-French, English-Spanish, English-German dictionaries for the War Department, were engaged for this purpose. Not only was he experienced in the field of lexicography, but also his service in various branches of the U. S. Army equipped him to supply an equal accuracy of definition to the wide range of terms that pertain to military usage. The war years brought about a coinage of many terms, some that could be considered ephemeral, as expedients adopted purely for temporary or emergency use, and some like *jeep*, *bazooka*, *flak*, and others, likely to be permanent increments to the language. Matter that has been deemed impermanent has been excluded.

Geographical terms: The wide-spread character of World War II brought about an unprecedented interest in *geographical terms*. Places, such as Guadalcanal, El Alamein, Attu, Okinawa, previously unnamed dots on most maps, assumed a lasting historical importance. To provide for this expanding field, all places of historical or of geographical importance, including all countries, states, and the chief cities of the world, and the principal mountains, lakes, islands, rivers, and seas, are shown within the main body of the text. Separately listed in the appendix are the cities and towns of commercial importance, including all places within the United States and Canada having a population above 5,000. These entries carry statistics of population, according to latest available official figures; pronunciation, as needed, and means for approximately locating the entries upon maps of the respective states or countries.

Biographical entries include the notable leaders, statesmen, scientists, industrialists, artists, writers, and rulers of all ages. The field of *Mythology* embraces the chief Gaelic, Teutonic, Scandinavian gods and heroes and many in American Indian legend and mythology, as well as those of the more familiar Greek and Roman myths. An especial feature is the introduction of the most outstanding themes or motifs of the world's *folklore*, some of them familiar and beloved fairy tales, which have been common to many peoples through the ages, and some, like the American folklore, typified in the tales of the amazing Paul Bunyan and Pecos Bill, developments of relatively modern times. Pen names and the names of fictional characters are listed under the first element, as "Mark Twain," "George Sand," "Simon Legree," "Paul Bunyan."

Spelling: As this book is intended for the guidance of the general public rather than to serve a specialized group, the spellings of main entries and of words in the text are those that conform most generally with usage throughout the United States or, among scientific terms, that have been adopted by the most representative bodies. Variant spellings in accepted use are clearly indicated. It is to be understood that these alternate spellings, as the terminals *-our* (of *labour*, *humour*) and *-ise* (of *capitalise*, *summarise*), preferred in England, are as correct as the forms shown in the main entries although not the preferred practice in the United States.

Geographical spellings: In the spelling of geographical names the latest rulings of the United States Board on Geographical Names have been accepted for all places within or under the political jurisdiction of the United States. Thanks, in part, to the greater spread in communication within recent years, much of the earlier confusion in the spelling of the names of foreign places has been resolved through the efforts of various groups, and a greater degree of unanimity has been reached. In each instance, in the record of such places, the spelling entered herein is that favored by the greatest weight of usage. Diverse spellings appear on many maps and in many reference works, however, so it has been necessary to record them also and to refer the reader to the entry under which he will find the information that he seeks.

Capitalization: To indicate promptly and clearly the correct way of writing words derived from proper names, such words as require capitalization are printed with initial capital letters. In the treatment of the terminology of the sciences the aim has been to follow the system of spelling and capitalization recognized as authoritative in each science. Where in any instance usage varies, both the capitalized and the non-capitalized forms are indicated.

Syllabication: The *division of words* into syllables, next in importance to spelling among printers and the vast army of typists who desire a neat and attractive page, is clearly indicated

in a manner that requires no special interpretation. The method is based primarily upon pronunciation, with such modifications as are dictated by the practice of typography.

Compounding: The Standard Dictionary, edition of 1893, was the first English dictionary in which an attempt was made to resolve the compounding of English words into systematic principles. In recent years this phase of literary practice has been re-studied to achieve greater simplification and consistency, and it is fitting that a successor to the dictionary that was a pioneer in this field should be the first to recognize the modern development. Miss Alice Morton Ball, editor of the U.S. Department of State, has long studied this important phase of the language. Her work, *Compounding in the English Language*, first published in 1939, has won deserved recognition. Through the courtesy of the Department of State, the services of Miss Ball were borrowed from the Department in order that she might personally supervise the application of her principles directly to the pages of this book.

Plant names: For the vocabulary entries of plant names, the principles on compounding developed by the Joint Committee on Standardized Plant Names have been accepted. The recommendations of this Committee call for the compounding of certain types of names in botanical works specifically and, ultimately, in general works also. Thus, for example, the compounded form, **OSAGE-ORANGE**, appears as the main entry in this dictionary, in conformance with the recommendations of the Joint Committee, as a visual reminder to the reader that the shrub is not a member of the orange family, in the scientific sense, regardless of the general resemblance of its fruit to the true orange. Current forms that differ from scientific usage are recognized as variants—in this instance by the appended phrase, "Also **OSAGE ORANGE**."

Hyphens: For typographic clarity throughout this dictionary, words in which the compounding is indicated by a hyphen, words known as "hyphemes," are so indicated by a hyphen of double length, both in the vocabulary entries and throughout the text. Compound words to be written as solid words—or "solidemes," as they are called—have only the usual center dot (·) for the syllabic break in the vocabulary entries and are printed solid when they appear in the text. In the text, if, at the end of a line, a syllabic break occurs in a word other than a hypheme, the break is shown by a short hyphen, or one of regular length; if in the middle of a hypheme, the break is marked by a hyphen of double length.

Definition: The definitions in this dictionary are based upon the Funk & Wagnalls Practical "Standard" Dictionary. Each definition, however, was critically re-examined by a trained staff of editors, all of whom brought new vision and perspective to the work. Very few former definitions were left in the original form. Each was examined, checked against the original source, compared with the records of usage, and, if necessary, modified—by an added word or phrase, by an additional definition, or, in many instances, entirely rewritten. Specialists were consulted whenever, as with new technical terms, the occasion warranted. No expense was spared to insure the greatest accuracy. And, as stated previously, thousands of terms, many of them so new as not to have appeared previously in any dictionary, are entered and defined in this volume.

Parts of speech: The appearance of the definitions also differs from those in the earlier book. The part of speech of the main entry is written out in full, immediately following the entry or its pronunciation, as *noun*, or, if abbreviated, the abbreviation is sufficiently extended as to permit little chance of doubt; as *tr. verb* for transitive verb, or *adj.* for adjective. If the term has two or more different meanings, each definition is set off unmistakably by a bold-faced figure, as 1 . . . 2 . . . 3. The many words in the language that are used as two or more different parts of speech, all derived from a common source, as *place*, *verb*, and *place*, *noun*, are carried under a single entry. If the definitions comprise only a few lines, the parts of speech, each separately defined, follow each other and are set off by a heavy dash; but if one or another of the definitions is lengthy, the heavy dash preceding the second or succeeding parts of speech is carried to the margin, beneath the main entry.

Comparatives and plurals: The consultant need be in no doubt as to the correct spelling of any irregular plural, of any form of a verb, nor of a noun or other part of speech derived from a main entry. The comparisons of adjectives and of adverbs, when formed otherwise than by the normal addition of *-er* and *-est*, are shown in like manner; as, *fol-ly adj.* [*fol-li-er, fol-li-est*].

Homonyms: Many words in English, identical in spelling, have come into the language from altogether different sources. As a rule, the meanings are very different, as with *felt*, the past tense of *feel*, and *felt*, matted wool; and sometimes the pronunciations differ, as with *row* to propel (a boat) with oars, and *row*, a noisy quarrel. In a dictionary, however, such words must be entered one beneath the other and it is often necessary to refer to one or another of the several words in other parts of the work. For convenience, therefore, and to prevent the misinterpretation of a cross-reference, each entry in a group of homonyms is preceded by a small half-encircled number, as *DFELT* . . . ; *2FELT*.

Derived phrases: Phrases of two words or more are defined in this book under the significant element. Prepositional phrases and verb phrases always appear under the most important word: *on the loose* is defined under *loose*; *to blow hot and cold*, *to blow up* appear under *blow*. The entry *split infinitive* is run in under *infinitive*, for the adjective *split* stands in common modifier relation to it. And by the same rule *atomic bomb* is defined under *bomb*; *Canada goose* under *goose*; *pocket gopher* under *gopher*.

Unit phrases: When a phrase, especially one of two words, is considered as a unit in itself, however, it is entered alphabetically according to its first element. *Black death* is the name of a plague and would be erroneously entered under *death*; *false face* is a kind of mask and would be improperly defined under *face*; *dark horse* is an unknown and unexpected candidate and,

even in its original sense, is not aptly described under *horse*; *Old World* denotes the Eastern Hemisphere; *open house* is hospitality or a time set aside for visitors, as at a school or other institution.

Animal and plant names: A third class of similar entries includes the names of birds, animals, flowers, etc., which appear in alphabetical place under the first element. In some instances, as those of numerous flies, moths, ducks, and the like, a confusion is avoided by listing them separately rather than under a large general entry. In other instances, a popular name is listed for purposes of identification—as, "*Carolina dove* The mourning dove."—whereby it is understood that the scientific and full definition is to be found under the reference (under "*mourning dove*," in this instance).

Etymologies in this volume have been re-studied with two purposes in mind: first, to present them in such form that they would be readily intelligible to the student, and, second, to bring them into accord with the latest researches of leading scholars in comparative philology. All words of Teutonic source—including Old English, Old Norse, Old German, and Scandinavian—were treated by Dr. Kemp Malone, of Johns Hopkins University. Words from other sources were examined, treated, or revised, as needed, by various members of the editorial staff according to their special fields of learning. Excursions into the realm of fancy have not been permitted.

Other Aids to Consultation: The treatment of *synonyms* and *antonyms* that has proved of such value in the Funk & Wagnalls New "Standard" Dictionary has, with some modification, been retained. To make this feature of greater service, the material is shown in type of the same size as that in which other text matter is printed.

Lists and tables: A number of valuable lists and tables are included, containing matter to which ready or repeated reference is desirable, as of *alphabets*, *chemical elements*, *constellations*, *geologic eras*, *major wars*, *military and naval grades*, *metric tables*, *manias*, *phobias*. Additional collections of related material are grouped throughout the book. Thus, under *calendar* are to be found the nine important calendars since early times; under *terrier*, the characteristic features of the leading breeds, and so on.

Varying Pronunciations: Correct pronunciation in any large region depends upon the consensus of usage in that region. Just as British speech is correct in England, so is American speech correct in the United States, and that typical of the North Central States, as correct as that typical of the North Atlantic States. Hence, in this dictionary, such words, as *ask*, *grass*, *path*, *dog*, *on*, *god*, which vary markedly in regional areas, are not respelled for pronunciation, and those, such as *laugh*, in which the spelling does not indicate the pronunciation, are respelled with such notation as "*varying from laff to lahf*" in recognition of regional usage. Otherwise, with the aid of the Editorial Advisory Committee in many instances, the effort has been made to show the pronunciations generally preferred in America. British usage, when differing, is also shown, and so labeled.

Alternate pronunciations: Where two or more alternate pronunciations are shown, it is to be understood that either may be employed, that equally cultivated speakers use one or the other. The order of listing indicates that the first appears to be the current preference. Special usages, as the nautical pronunciation of *foresail*, are distinguished.

Authorities: Many authorities have been consulted for the pronunciation of personal and place names. For those of living persons an effort has been made to record the usage of the individual who is entered, a usage sometimes at variance with popular usage. For place names, especially for those on which interest was centered in World War II, use was freely made of the voluminous and painstaking compilation, "*World Words*," by Dr. W. Cabell Greet, prepared primarily for news announcers of the Columbia Broadcasting System, and containing the pronunciation of thousands of geographical names. The pronunciation of American and British place names are those recommended, respectively, by the United States Board on Geographical Names and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use.

Illustrations: It is the belief of the editor that the illustrative material within the text of a dictionary has but one function—to aid in a better understanding of the terms to which it relates. The black-and-white illustrations appearing in this book have been carefully selected to fulfil that purpose. With the exception of the two plates of *insects*, all pen-and-ink illustrations were produced under the efficient supervision of Mr. Stephen T. Voorhies. The plates of *insects* were drawn by Mrs. Alma Froederstrom, under the careful supervision of Dr. Charles H. Curran, of the Museum of Natural History, New York City.

Credit: Aside from those to whom specific credit has been given in foregoing paragraphs, acknowledgement is made to Dr. C. R. Addinall, of the Merck Laboratories, for information leading to the definitions of the terms in vitaminology, the sulfa drugs, and other new curative agencies; to Dr. Abigail C. Boardman for many terms pertaining to drama and the theater; to Dr. John Day, Columbia University, for the chart of comparative alphabets; to Mr. E. K. Field, U. S. National Park Service for certain terms and illustrations pertaining to mountaineering; to Mr. Assen Jordanoff and to Lt. Comdr. H. E. Boggess for information leading to an exact interpretation of certain terms in aviation; to Miss Olga Paul for helpful lists of terms, especially of European folk dances; to Dr. Henry K. Townes, of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, for his critical examination and revision of insect terminology, and to numerous individuals who freely supplied valuable information upon simple request. Credit is also due to Mr. C. H. Griffith, of the Mergenthaler Linotype Co., for his cooperation in the development of the type used herein for vocabulary entries and for the illustrative page under *type*, and to the officers and compositors of the Knickerbocker Printing Corp

for their skill in handling the complex problems entering into the physical construction of this volume.

In particular, the editor wishes to express his deep personal gratitude to the members of his staff for their loyal, pleasant, eager, and efficient support in this undertaking, their aid in solving many perplexing problems, their mutual cooperation, and their willingness to sacrifice personal interests in a common cause. He is especially grateful to Miss Mamie Harmon, M.A., his early associate, for many valued suggestions, particularly on editorial styling; to Mrs. Maria Leach, M.A., not only for general scholarly ability reflected on every page of this book, but in particular for her researches in American English and in the fields of folklore and mythology; to Mr. Philip von S. Krapp, B.A., for continued editorial skill and in particular for his aid in classical etymology; to Mr. Harold Ward under whose capable eyes passed every scientific and technical term listed in this work and who devised the many tables of convenient reference; to Miss Bernice Collier for geographical entries and for general supervision of all proofreading, and, by no means least, to Mr. Jerry Fried for unremitting and painstaking care in all matters pertaining to consistent treatment and typographic style, affecting every line on every page. In no small measure the Editor attributes the general excellence of this dictionary to this group of his assistants. He would also express his appreciation of the excellent services contributed by others of his staff, especially that by Miss Constance Stark and Lester W. Boardman, Ph.D., as well as that by many others who served conscientiously for brief periods in the preparation of material in specific fields.

Editorial Advisory Committee: At the outset of this work, the editor, paying heed to the many thousands of communications from dictionary-users he had received in a quarter-century of experience in lexicography, contemplated certain departures from conventional dictionary practices of the past fifty or seventy-five years with the intent to produce a dictionary that would serve a wider range of the public—a book that, lacking nothing in scholarship, would be virtually free from the mystical signs, abbreviations, symbols, and redundancies which confuse many readers. In order to reach a decision, he called upon Dr. W. Cabell Greet, of the Department of English, Columbia University, editor of *American Speech*, and speech consultant of the Columbia Broadcasting System, to form and head an advisory committee of educators and men of letters, whose function it would be to render impartial criticism, suggestion, or advice upon such matters as would be submitted. The names of the members of this committee appear elsewhere.

Progressively, various studies were submitted to the committee, studies that covered in detail each phase of the proposed treatment. Criticisms and suggestions were requested and freely given, and many were accepted. No step was finally adopted except with the approval of a clear majority of all members. In some instances of radical departure from conventional practice, approval was almost unanimous. The members of the committee were kept informed of the progress of the work, and samples of printed pages were submitted to them from time to time for further analysis, criticism, and suggestion. The scheme finally adopted met the full approval of a large majority of the members, but the editor recognizes that upon him alone lies all the responsibility, both for the interpretation of the intent of the members and for the manner in which that intent has been performed.

CHARLES EARLE FUNK

PRONUNCIATION

The method adopted in this dictionary for indicating pronunciations is simple. It merely takes advantage of certain assumptions upon which all phonetic systems are based—the assumptions that the consultant already knows the values of the letters in the English alphabet, that he knows the sound of *a* in rat, of *i* in mine, of *u* in cute, and so on, and that he knows the normal sound of certain combinations of letters, as *ch* in church, *sh* in ship, *aw* in law, *oy* in boy. It recognizes further that the majority of English words are composed of syllables each of which, through conformity with words already familiar, is correctly pronounced when the syllable is marked; that the full word may then be correctly pronounced if the stressed syllable or syllables are clearly indicated.

Accordingly, by the insertion of a centered dot (.), the words are divided into syllables conforming with the rules of printing or writing. Accent or stress is plainly indicated by underscoring, or underlining, a familiar device for indicating emphasis. Words that carry two or more rhythmical stresses have those syllables underscored, and the conventional single accent (') shows the syllable which receives the heavier stress. In the majority of the words in this dictionary no further assistance toward a correct pronunciation is required by the person who is old enough or sufficiently familiar with the language to use a reference book of this scope. For such words no phonetic respelling is given. All other words are respelled, either in part or in full.

Even stress: No underscore is shown under compound words of two syllables, as *bookcase*, *campfire*, *schoolboy*, *spellbind*, etc. Such words are normally pronounced with an almost even stress on each syllable. Usually the stress is slightly heavier on the first element, but, as for emphasizing differences—as, *bookcase*, not *bookstand*—the stress may be shifted to the second. Similarly, the words of certain foreign languages—namely French, Chinese, Japanese—are unmarked for accent, for in the native speech stress is not employed as in English and an even stress is preferable to a heavy accent in any one syllable. In French as pronounced in English, the conventional stress upon the last syllable is indicated in the respelling.

Phonetic simplification: In all respellings the needs of most persons are best served by the employment of simple, easily identified devices which the consultant does not need to memorize. Chiefly to avoid non-alphabetical symbols for the representation of certain English sounds, the ordinary phonetic respellings are supplemented by the familiar macron (—) and breve (˘); thus: *ā*, *sāne*; *ǎ*, *sǎnd*; *ē*, *ēve*; *ĕ*, *ġet*; *ī*, *mine*; *ī*, *pīn*; *ō*, *nōte*; *ō*, *nōt*; *ōō*, *rōōd*; *ōō*, *fōōt*; *û*, *cûte*; *û*, *cût*; *ÿ*, *mÿ*.

Rule I In an accented syllable terminating in a vowel, the vowel has its alphabetic or long sound; as, *BA-SIN*, *DE-I-TY*, *RE-LI-A-BLE*, *MO-MENT*, *MU-SIC*, *HY-DRO-GEN*.

Departures from this rule (as *FA-TH-ER*) are respelled.

Rule II In an accented syllable terminating in a consonant,¹ the vowel has its short sound; as, *MAG-NET*, *COM-PEL*, *CIT-Y*, *DE-MOC-RAC-Y*, *RE-PUB-LIC*, *MYST-ERY*.

Seeming exceptions not respelled include the derivatives of verbs in which, by Rule VI, the main vowel of the final syllable is long. The vowel remains long in the derivatives although, in conformance with printing practice, the division of the word does not so indicate; as, *BAKE*, *BAK-ER*, *BAK-ING*; *CON-SOLE*, *CON-SOL-ING*, *CON-SOL-A-BLE*.

Rule III Final silent *z* following a single consonant¹ of an accented syllable indicates that the preceding vowel in that syllable usually has its alphabetic or long sound; as, *TAME*, *CON-YENE*, *IN-VITE*, *PRO-MOTE*, *DIS-PUTE*, *STYLE*.

¹ If the consonant under Rules II and III is the letter *r*, the quality of the preceding vowel is distinctly altered. See discussions under *AR*, *ER*, *IR*, *OR*, *UR*, in the following list of Normal Interpretation of English spelling.

Speech variations: The intent in this dictionary is to give preference to American usage—in spelling, in definitions, and in pronunciation. Although British usage is not neglected, care is taken to label it when the difference is marked. Standards of American pronunciation vary in different areas. Thus *ASK* is pronounced (*ahsk*) in some areas, (*ǎsk*) in others, and in others the (*a*) is neither so broad as the first nor so flat as the second. Each of these is wholly correct in the area in which it is generally used, and this dictionary does not advocate a preference.

Many other words have two or more fully accepted pronunciations which are not regional in character. Thus the word *COCAINE* is pronounced by most non-technical speakers in two syllables, with the second syllable sounded as (*cane*). Some put the heavier stress on the first syllable, and others upon the second. Chemists, however, divide it into three syllables, accenting the first—*CO-CA-INE*, with the final syllable sounded as (*een*). Similarly, some speakers pronounce the word *ECONOMIC* with the first syllable sounded as (*ee*), although others equally cultured give it as (*ĕk*). All such pronunciations are equally correct, but one is necessarily shown first in the dictionary. The order of arrangement is believed to be current American preference, as determined in part by observation and by various authorities, in part through the aid of the *Pronouncing Dictionary of American English* (1944), by J. S. Kenyon and T. A. Knott, and, in many instances, through the assistance of the Editorial Advisory Committee.

SPELLING CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISH WORDS

As a child progresses through school he becomes familiar, consciously or not, with certain characteristics of English spelling, with certain combinations of vowels and consonants which automatically he associates with definite speech sounds. Thus, for example, at least by the time he has finished high school, if he encounters such a word as *AUTOPEPTE*, which he may not have seen before, he will pronounce the syllables correctly as soon as they are pointed off—*AU-TO-PEPTE*. That is, through long association, he knows that in English words the normal value of the combination *au* is the sound of (*aw*) in *awl*, *ph* is equal to (*f*), and that final silent *e* following a consonant indicates that the preceding vowel is usually long.

General rules: The general rules affecting the pronunciation of English words which are unconsciously observed by English-speaking persons have been followed in this dictionary and are given here primarily for the benefit of foreign students of the language.

Rule IV In ordinary conversation the vowel in an unaccented syllable tends to become weakened or obscure; the vowels **A**, **O**, and **U** approach (uh), as in *about*, *final*, *connect*, *opinion*, *careful*; the vowels **E** and **I** approach (i) or (uh), as in *decide*, *emblem*, *emigrate*, *civil*.

Note: The distinctness with which the vowel in an unaccented syllable is pronounced varies according to the habit or wish of the speaker. He who enunciates each syllable with unusual precision may accord the vowels in unstressed syllables the values indicated in Rules I and II, for vowels in stressed syllables. The careless speaker may elide all unstressed vowels. Thus, each **O** in *POTATO* may be long (ô) or obscure (uh), depending upon the speaker.

Rule V Doubled consonants approximate a single sound which is regarded as a part of the accented syllable, as in *MAT-TER*, *DIF-FER-ENT*, *GRAM-MAR*.

Rule VI In solid compound words composed of two monosyllabic words, as *BOOK-CASE*, *RAG-MAN*, *BACK-STOP*, *SPELL-BIND*, *DOWN-STAIRS*, *DRAW-BRIDGE*, each element retains its original pronunciation and the first element usually has a slightly heavier stress.

Note: In this dictionary neither element of the words in this category carry a mark for stress, as each would require it. In derivatives, however, as *SPELL-BINDER*, the stresses are shown. Compounds in which the connection is by hyphen carry the pronunciations and stresses of the respective separate elements.

NORMAL ENGLISH VALUES

The pronunciation scheme in this dictionary, as previously stated, is based on the acceptance of certain characteristics of English spelling which, through frequency of occurrence, have become commonly associated with definite sounds. Those to whom the language is native will instinctively give the normal or most frequent interpretation to the spelling even when another interpretation could be selected. Hence, whenever by frequency of use it is clearly established that a given combination of letters will be correctly pronounced by a person sufficiently advanced to use a dictionary of this scope, it has not been deemed necessary to respell that combination for pronunciation. Such combinations, however, as are not clearly established—as the combination **ei** in *WEIGHT*, *HEIGHT*, *LEISURE*—are respelled in all instances.

The list of normal interpretations is given in full below. This list is primarily intended for students of speech or for foreigners who are interested in the char-

acteristics of the language. The average consultant is not likely to need it, although the list may clarify some point about which he is uncertain. The sounds of the letters of the alphabet are discussed under the respective letters throughout the text and are not repeated here. The list that follows is intended to include only those combinations which, through frequency of occurrence or position, are characteristically interpreted with the value ascribed to them. However, for the greater convenience of the consultant, other means may be used in this dictionary for the indication of pronunciation than the respellings indicated. Thus, for example, the second syllable of the word *CROCHET* may be respelled as (shay) rather than (shā); *FIEND* may be respelled (feend) rather than (fēnd); *TUESDAY* shown as (tyōōz' dī) rather than (tüz' dī), and *PATIENT* as (pay' shunt) rather than (pā' shunt). Each word has been considered apart from others and the means chosen to indicate its pronunciation is that which will convey the information most readily and with the least chance of confusion.

NORMAL INTERPRETATION OF ENGLISH SPELLING

	NORMAL INTERPRETATION	VALUE		NORMAL INTERPRETATION	VALUE
A	(1) Long (ā) under the conditions of Rules I and III, as <i>BA-BY</i> , <i>O-BA-TION</i> , <i>MATE</i> .	ā	(2)	As (k) before a, o, u, c, l, r, and t and at the end of a word, as in <i>CAVE</i> , <i>COST</i> , <i>CUT</i> , <i>AC-CENT</i> , <i>CLAP</i> , <i>CREAM</i> , <i>AC-TION</i> , <i>MU-SIC</i> . Exceptions are indicated by the spellings (æ) and the character (ç).	k
	(2) Short (ă) under Rule II, as in <i>CAT</i> , <i>BAD</i> .	ă		Although c may close a syllable, as in <i>PAC'-IFY</i> , <i>TO-BAC-ÇO</i> , <i>DOC-U-MENT</i> , its sound is (s) or (k) in accordance with the letter that follows.	
	(3) Obscure (uh) under Rule IV, as in <i>A-BOUT</i> .	uh	CH	A single sound as in <i>CHAIR</i> , <i>CHEESE</i> , <i>CHIP</i> , <i>EACH</i> , <i>CHURCH</i> .	ch
	Exceptions are respelled, as <i>FA-THER</i> (fah'-thur), <i>BALM</i> (bahm). This so-called "broad a" is the sound of alphabetic a in most European languages.			Departures from the normal, as in chemistry, chorus, Chicago, chassis, are respelled with (k) or (sh).	
AI	Long a (ā), as in <i>PAIN</i> , <i>MAID</i> , <i>SAIL</i> .	ā	CIOUS	An unaccented terminal, as in <i>TENACIOUS</i> , <i>GRACIOUS</i> .	shus
AIR	(ār) as in <i>PAIR</i> , <i>HAIR</i> , <i>CHAIR</i> . See note under <i>AR</i> (2).	ār	DG	As in <i>JUDGE</i> , <i>EDGE</i> , <i>BUDGING</i> . See also <i>J</i> .	j
AR	(1) The sound of ah + r, as in <i>BAR</i> , <i>CAR</i> , <i>FAR</i> , and in an accented syllable when followed by a consonant, as in <i>BARK</i> , <i>CART</i> , <i>FARM</i> , <i>PARK-LOP</i> , <i>MAR-KET</i> , <i>EN-LARGE</i> .	ar	E	(1) Long (ē) under the conditions of Rules I and III, as in <i>E-GUAL</i> , <i>FE-MALE</i> , <i>COM-PETE</i> .	ē
	(2) Long a + r, when followed by e in the same syllable, as in <i>CARE</i> , <i>FARE</i> , <i>DECLARE</i> .	ār		(2) Short (è) under Rule II, as in <i>BED</i> , <i>HEW</i> , <i>GET</i> .	è
	This sound, customarily described as shown, is much closer to the sound of short e + r, as in <i>very</i> , <i>there</i> , <i>merry</i> .			(3) Obscure, under Rule IV, as in <i>RE-FUND</i> , <i>SE-CURE</i> , <i>EM-BLEM</i> , <i>MAR-KET</i> . See also <i>ED</i> , <i>ER</i> , <i>LE</i> .	i or uh
	(3) Short a + r, when accented and followed by a vowel or a second r in the succeeding syllable, as in <i>CHAR-I-OT</i> , <i>PAR-AL-LEL</i> , <i>CAR-ROT</i> .	ār	EA	Long e (ē), as in <i>BEAM</i> , <i>MEAT</i> , <i>LEAF</i> , <i>RE-VEAL</i> .	ē
	(4) Obscure a (uh) + r, under Rule IV, in an unaccented syllable, as in <i>REG-GAR</i> , <i>MOR-TAR</i> , <i>REG-U-LAR</i> .	ur	EAR	As in <i>EAR</i> , <i>FEAR</i> , <i>HEAR</i> . See note under <i>ER</i> (2).	ēr
AU	As in <i>HAUL</i> , <i>FAULT</i> , <i>AU-TO</i> , <i>AW-FUL</i> , <i>LAW</i> .	aw	ED	Suffix When it becomes a separate syllable, as in <i>DE-MAND-ED</i> , <i>SEAT-ED</i> , e is obscure under Rule IV. See also note under <i>y</i> (vowel).	id
AY	Long a (ā), as in <i>HAY</i> , <i>SAY</i> , <i>MAY</i> .	ā		In other cases the e is silent and the sound of d is added to the simple verb, as <i>RUBBED</i> (rūbd), <i>WINGED</i> (wingd), <i>VE-TOED</i> (vee'-tōd). Added to verbs closing with the sound of (ch), (f), (k), (p), (s), or (sh)—as in <i>REACHED</i> .	
C	(1) As (s) before e, i, and y, as in <i>CELL</i> , <i>CIV-IL</i> , <i>I-CY</i> , <i>FAC-ET</i> (fās'-it), <i>AC-CRESS</i> (āk'-sēs).	s			

	NORMAL INTERPRETATION	VALUE		NORMAL INTERPRETATION	VALUE
	PUFFED, PICKED, FLAPPED, KISSED, DASHED, TRIUMPHED, COUGHED —the <i>e</i> is silent and <i>d</i> is automatically sounded as (<i>t</i>) (reecht, pŭft, pikt, flāpt, kist, dāst, tri'umft, cawft). See FOREIGN SOUNDS.			(5) Short <i>i</i> (<i>ɪ</i>) + <i>r</i> , when accented and followed by a vowel or a second <i>r</i> in the succeeding syllable, as in SPIR-IT , MIR-A-CLE , MIR-ROR , IR-RI-TATE . This sound is almost identical with the sound (<i>eer</i>).	<i>ir</i>
ER	(1) A sound like that in fur , burn , turkey , as in HER , TERM , RE-FER , and in an accented syllable when followed by a consonant, as in FER-SON , MER-CY , RE-SERVE .	<i>ŭr</i>		(4) An obscure vowel (<i>uh</i>) + <i>r</i> , under Rule IV, in an unaccented syllable, as in TA-FIR , Vir-GIN-IA .	<i>ur</i>
ER	(2) Long <i>e</i> (<i>ē</i>) + <i>r</i> , when followed by <i>e</i> in the same syllable, as in HERE , RE-VERE , SIN-CERE-LY . This sound customarily described as shown, is much closer to the sound of short <i>i</i> + <i>r</i> , as in mirror , spirit .	<i>ēr</i>	IVE	An unaccented suffix, as in FENSIVE , NATIVE , RELATIVE .	<i>iv</i>
	(3) Short <i>e</i> (<i>ē</i>) + <i>r</i> , when accented and followed by a vowel or a second <i>r</i> in the succeeding syllable, as in VER-Y , PER-RY , A-MER-I-CA . In verbs in which the final <i>r</i> of an accented syllable is doubled in the formation of derivatives—as in A-VER , A-VER-RING ; RE-FER , RE-FER-RING —the sound of the root remains as in ER (1) above.	<i>ēr</i>	J	As in JET , JOIN , INJURE : used in respelling soft <i>g</i> (of <i>gem</i> , <i>genius</i> , <i>ginger</i>): equals DG of JUDGE .	
	(4) An obscure vowel (<i>uh</i>) + <i>r</i> , under Rule IV, in an unaccented syllable, as in TELL-ER , GEN-ER-AL .	<i>ŭr</i>	K	As in KITTEN , KEEP , LIKE : used in respelling hard <i>c</i> and, as required, <i>ch</i> (as in <i>chorus</i> , <i>chemistry</i> , etc.). K is silent before N in the same syllable, as in KNIT (<i>nit</i>), KNIFE (<i>nife</i>). See FOREIGN SOUNDS.	
ES	Suffix In verbs and plurals of nouns, <i>s</i> is sounded as (<i>z</i>) and <i>z</i> is obscure as in Rule V. See also note under <i>y</i> (vowel).	<i>iz</i>	LE	When appearing as the terminal of a word (and in words created therefrom by suffixes), sounded as in LITTLE , LITTLENESS , TROUBLE , TROUBLESOME , RIFLE , RIFLED , IDLE . In singing or slow speech the sound is an obscure vowel + <i>l</i> (<i>lit'ul</i>). See note under U (1).	<i>l</i>
EU	As in EWE , FEUD , FEW , PEW , EU-CLID .	<i>ū</i>	LU	Suffix As in BAD-LY , KIND-LY , FREE-LY .	<i>li</i>
EW	When followed by <i>r</i> , and also in unaccented syllables, EU becomes slightly weakened and is sounded (<i>yoo</i>), as in EU-ROPE , EU-GENE . When preceded by <i>n</i> , or <i>s</i> , many Americans give EW the sound of (<i>oo</i>), as NEW (<i>noo</i>), SEWER (<i>soo'ur</i>).		LY	Suffix When unaccented, as in DOCUMENT , TESTAMENT .	<i>munt</i>
EX	Prefix (1) Before a consonant, as in EX-PERT , EX-PECT . (2) Before a vowel, as in EX-ACT , EX-IST . If the prefix before a vowel carries an accent, as in EX-IT , EX-ILE , the sound may be either (<i>eks</i>) or (<i>egz</i>).	<i>ēks</i>	M	(1) As in NINE , NOON . Becomes (<i>ng</i>) before K (or hard <i>c</i>) or G in the same syllable, as in BANK , SANC-TION , YOUNG . See NG . (2) Silent after M in the same syllable, as in DAMN , HYMN , COLUMN , but retains its normal sound when placed in the following syllable, as in DAM-NA-TION , HYM-NOL-O-GY , COL-UM-MAR . See FOREIGN SOUNDS.	
	(3) Before a vowel, as in EX-ACT , EX-IST . If the prefix before a vowel carries an accent, as in EX-IT , EX-ILE , the sound may be either (<i>eks</i>) or (<i>egz</i>).	<i>ēgz</i>	NG	A single nasal sound, as in BANG , SING , LONG , HUNG , and occurring before K (or hard <i>c</i>) and hard G in the same syllable. Syllabic separation of <i>n</i> and <i>k</i> (or hard <i>c</i>) and of <i>n</i> and hard <i>g</i> , as in UN-KIND , IN-CUB , EN-GAGE , indicates that each retains its normal sound. Exceptions, such as AN-KLE (<i>ang'-kl</i>), UN-CLE (<i>ung'-kl</i>), LAN-GUAGE (<i>läng'-gwij</i>) are respelled.	<i>ng</i>
FUL	An unaccented suffix, as in CAREFUL , BEAUTIFUL . See Rule IV.	<i>ful</i>		(1) Long, under the conditions of Rules I and III, as in O-CEAN , O-C-TO-BER , HOME . (2) Short, under Rule II, as in HOT , LOCK , COM-MON , DE-MOC-RACY . In American speech the sound of short <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>) is usually that of (<i>ah</i>), like the A in FATHER . In some words, as ON , DOG , GOD , SOFT , COFFEE , ACROSS , the sound has regional variations ranging from (<i>ah</i>) to (<i>aw</i>).	<i>ō</i>
G	(1) Hard before <i>a</i> , <i>o</i> , <i>u</i> , <i>l</i> , and <i>r</i> , and at the end of a syllable, as in GAME , GOT , GUM , GLAD , GREET , BIG . See also NG . (2) Soft (<i>as'j</i>) before <i>y</i> . <i>g</i> is usually soft before <i>e</i> and <i>i</i> , as in <i>gem</i> and <i>gin</i> , but the exceptions are so numerous that these instances are respelled with <i>j</i> . (3) Silent when followed by <i>n</i> in the same syllable, as GNAT , GNOME , SIGN , FOREIGN . Within a syllable, GH may be sounded as (<i>f</i>), as in LAUGH , ROUGH , or may be silent, as in THOUGHT , WEIGH . Such syllables are respelled.	<i>g</i>	O	(3) Half long or obscure (see note under Rule IV) when closing an unaccented syllable, as in PO-TA-TO , O-BEY , VI-O-LET . (4) Obscure, under Rule IV, when followed by a consonant in an unaccented syllable, as CON-FESS , BA-CON , OC-CUR .	<i>ō</i>
GE	Hard <i>g</i> , at the beginning of a syllable.	<i>g</i>	OA	Long <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>), as in BOAT , SOAP , OAK , COAL . As in OAR , BOARD , COARSE . Many American speakers do not distinguish this sound, and ORE of BORE , CORE , etc., and the less frequent, but identical OOR of DOOR and FLOOR , from the much more frequent sound of OR in ORDER , HORSE , MORTAR . See OR .	<i>ōr</i>
H	(1) Aspirate at the beginning of a syllable, as in HOME , HIS , HELP . Through French influence on English speech after the Norman invasion of England, aspirate <i>h</i> was dropped from many English words and is still not sounded in HEIR , HOIR , HONOR , HONEST , and, by some, in HERB , HOTEL , etc. (2) Silent after a vowel in the same syllable and after <i>r</i> , as in JOHN , MESSIAH , POOH , RHEUMATISM , MYRRH . See also WH .		OAR	Long <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>), as in TOE , HOE , FOE . See FOREIGN SOUNDS.	<i>ō</i>
I	(1) Long, under the conditions of Rules I and III, as in FI-NAL , RE-LI-A-BLE , LINE . (2) Short, under Rule II, as in BIB , HIM , COM-MIT . (3) Obscure, under Rule IV, as in HAB-IT , POS-SI-BLE , DI-RECT .	<i>i</i>	OE	As in OIL , COIN , NOISE , BOY , EMPLOY .	<i>oy</i>
IE	(1) Long <i>i</i> (<i>ī</i>) in the short and familiar words, DIE , FIE , HIE , LIE , PIE , TIE , VIE , and in their plural and verb forms. (2) Long <i>e</i> (<i>ē</i>), when followed by a consonant in an accented syllable, as in PIECE , THIEF , BE-LIEVE , PRIEST . (3) An obscure vowel in an unaccented syllable, usually a suffix or terminal, as in DOG-GIE , AUNT-IE , MAG-GIE , COL-LIE . See note under Y (vowel).	<i>i</i> or <i>uh</i>	CE	(1) As in TOO , MOON , COOL , BOOT , ROOST . (2) As in WOOL , FOOT , GOOD , LOOK . Note: This sound of OO is identical with the U of FULL , PUSH , PUT .	<i>ōō</i>
IED	See note under Y (vowel).		OI	Long <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>) + <i>r</i> , as in DOOR , FLOOR . See note under OAR .	<i>ōr</i>
IES	Long <i>i</i> , as in HIGH , NIGHT , SIGH .	<i>i</i>	OY	(1) The sound of (<i>aw</i>) + <i>r</i> , as in FOR , MOR , and in an accented syllable when followed by a consonant, as in CORD , HORSE , OR-DER , MOR-SEL , PRO-PORTION .	<i>or</i>
IGH	(1) A sound like that in fur , burn , <i>turkey</i> , as in FIR , SIR , BIRD , FIRST , WHIRL , and in an accented syllable when followed by a consonant, as in CIR-CUS . (2) Long <i>i</i> + <i>r</i> , when followed by <i>e</i> in the same syllable, as in FIRE , RE-TIRE .	<i>ŭr</i>	OO	(2) Long <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>) + <i>r</i> , under Rule III when followed by <i>e</i> in the same syllable, as in MORE , BE-FORE , A-SHORE . See note under OAR .	<i>ōr</i>
IR		<i>ir</i>	OR	(3) Short <i>o</i> (<i>ō</i>) + <i>r</i> , when accented and followed by a vowel or a second <i>r</i> in the succeeding syllable, as in COR-AL , OR-A-CLE , BOR-ROR . In American speech this sound has re-	<i>ōr</i>

NORMAL INTERPRETATION		VALUE	NORMAL INTERPRETATION		VALUE
gional variations ranging from (aw) + r to (ah) + r (as in OR-ANGE , FLOE-T-DA , HOE-RID , etc.).			dency is toward (oo), although careful speakers retain the sound of long u (ü). (Exceptional usages, as SURE , SUGAR , are respelled.)		
(4)	An obscure vowel (uh) + r, under Rule IV, in an unaccented syllable, as AC-TOR , Q-DOR , HIGH-BOR-LY .	ur	(2)	Half long where terminating an unaccented syllable, tending to become y + uh, as in U-NITE , AN-NU-AL , TAB'-U-LATE .	yu
OU } OW }	As in OUT , MOON , HOUSE , THOU , COW , HOW , BROWN , CROWD . Words spelled with ou are most frequently pronounced as in out, and when so pronounced are not respelled, but there are many and varied exceptions. For this reason the respellings with ow have been preferred in this dictionary, for the exceptions in which ow is sounded as long o (as in know, show, flow) are infrequent.	ow	(3)	Short (ü), under Rule II, as in UP , BUT , FUNNY .	ü
	An unaccented suffix.	us	(4)	Obscure, under Rule IV, as in CIR-CUS , MIN-I-MUM , UN-TIL , IL'-LUS-TRATE . Words spelled with u in which the sound is that of (oo) or of (öo), as FLUTE or BULL , are respelled.	uh
OUS	Same as oi.		UE	Long u (ü), as in CUE , HUE , DUE , TUESDAY . When preceded by d, s, or t, many Americans give UE the sound of (öo), as DUE (döo), SUE (söo), TUESDAY (tööz'-di). In certain words, as TONGUE , UNIQUE , PLAGUE , the terminal UE is silent.	ü
OY	The sound of (f), as in PHOTOGRAPH , PHILIP , PHOSPHOR .	f		(1) As in URN , CUR , FUR , and in an accented syllable when followed by a consonant, as HURT , TURN , TUR-KEY , FUR-NISH , PUR-PLE . The sound of accented ur (ür) is also the most frequent sound for both accented er and ir, either standing alone or followed by a consonant, as in her, term, certain, fir, bird, circle. It is not infrequent in words beginning with wor, as in word, work, world, worm, worry, worse, worth, and in spellings with our, as in courage, journey, nourish. It is also the usual sound of ear plus a consonant, as in early, learn, earth, heard.	ür
QU	The sound of (kw), as QUICK , QUEEN , QUOTE . In the terminal QUE , as in TOQUE , OBLIQUE , UNIQUE , BURLESQUE , both u and e are silent and q is sounded as (k).	kw	UR	Although the symbol ür is employed in the respellings of words such as her, irk, work, turn, it is not likely that American speakers will mistake the symbol for the sound of short u (as in but) + r, for such a sound is not of normal occurrence in American speech. See Note under Rule IV.	ür or yoor
R	As in RARE , BIRD , FARM . In some regions in America, especially in New England and the Southern States, and among British speakers generally, the sound of r following a vowel in a syllable is indistinct or missing, reflected merely by its effect upon the vowel sound that immediately precedes it.			(2) Long u (ü) + r, that is, preceded by the consonantal sound of y, under Rule I, when followed by e in the same syllable, as in CURE , PURE , EN-DURE . This value is retained in derivatives in which final e may be replaced by another vowel, as in EN-DUR-A-BLE , PUR-IST .	yur
S	(1) As in SAIL , SISSY . When s between two vowels has the sound of (z), as in ROSE , RESIST , and many other words, it is respelled.	s		(3) Half long u + r, when followed by e in an unaccented syllable, as in FIG-URE , FAIR-URE , and in derivatives, as FIG-UR-A-TIVE , in which the sound of y (consonant) precedes u.	
	(2) The sound of (z) in the endings of plurals, possessives, etc., as in CUBS , BABY'S , BECOMES , BRINGS , ROLLS . It has not been considered necessary to respell all instances in which s is sounded as (z) in such word formations, nor in those ending in the sound of (f), (k), (p), (t), (th), in which s retains its normal value.	z		(4) An obscure vowel (uh) + r, under Rule IV, in an unaccented syllable, as in PUR-LOIN , FE-MUR , SUR-PRISE . This sound is the characteristic sound of an unaccented syllable in which r follows any vowel, as in DOL-LAR , CE-DAR , ROB-BER , O-VER , TA-PIR , E-LIX-IR , EM-PER-OR , SAIL-OR , MO-TOR , SAT-YR , ZEPH-YR .	ur
SC	(1) The sound of (sk), before a, o, u, i, and r.	sk	W	As in WATER , WET , WINE . Has the effect of (u) when following a vowel, as in HOW , LAW , DEW .	hw
	(2) The sound of (s), before e, i, and y. Compare c.	s	WH	As in WHAT , WHEN , WHIP . Many speakers in both America and England pronounce all words beginning with wh as if beginning with w alone, pronouncing which as witch, when as wen, while as wile, and so on. Careful speakers in both countries observe the distinction.	
SH	A single sound, as in SHIP , SHOT , RUSH , LASH .			(Consonant) As in YEAR , YOUNG , YET . In respellings, the use of consonantal y is sometimes employed for greater clarity; as (yoo) instead of (ü).	
SION	An unaccented suffix: when preceded by a consonant, as in PENSION , MISSION . When this suffix is preceded by a vowel, it has the sound (zhun), as in INVASION , VISION , and is respelled.	shun	Y	(Vowel) Has all the characteristics of the vowel i.	
SU	See note under u(1).			(1) Long, in accented syllables, under Rules I and III, as in MY , CRY , BY , MAG'-NI-FY .	y
TCH	As in CATCH , FETCH , DITCH , NOTCH , DUTCH .	ch		(2) Short, under Rule II, as in MYTH , HYMN . The unaccented terminal y, as in CITY , PITY , CANDY , and the plurals in IES and participles in IED —as CITIES , PITIED , CANDIED , FAMILIES —are sounded by most Americans as short i (i), with no distinction, for example, between PIT-TED and PIT-IED , CAN-DID and CAN-DIED . In some regions, especially in the Northern and New England States, the sound may approach long e (ee).	i
TH	(1) A single sound, most frequently sounded as in THANK , THIN , THUMB , BOTH , BATH , MOUTH . (2) Less frequently, especially when followed by e, the sound is soft, as in FATHER , THE , BATHE : always respelled.	th			
TION	An unaccented suffix, as in NATION , MENTION . This suffix is so familiar that it has been rarely respelled.	shun			
TIOUS	An unaccented terminal, as in FRACTIOUS , VEXATIOUS .	shus			
TIVE	See ive.				
TURE	An unaccented syllable, as in NATURE , CAP-TURE , PICTURE , PUNCTURE . The majority of cultured Americans give this syllable the sound of (chöör), which may become (chur) in ordinary conversation. In precise speech, the sound (työör) is sometimes used.	chöör or työör			
TY	An unaccented suffix, as in FIFTY , LIBERTY . See also note under y (vowel).	ti			
V	(1) Long (ü) under the conditions of Rules I and III, as in CUTE , FUME , DIS-PUTE , V-NIT , IM-MU-NI-TY . When preceded by R or J, as in RUBY , RUDE , JUNE , the sound of V is always (öö) (röö'-bi, rööd, jöön). When preceded by L, as in REVOLUTION , LUDICROUS , usage is divided between (lū) and (löö), but if the L is preceded in the same syllable by B, C, F, or G, as in BLUE , CONCLUDE , FLUID , GLUE , the sound is always (öö). When long V (ü) is preceded by D, M, S, or T, as in DUTY , NUMERAL , SUIT , SUPER , TUNE , TUBER , the American ten-	ü			

FOREIGN SOUNDS

A dictionary of this scope must include a considerable number of words or names of foreign origin. Whenever possible with reasonable accuracy, the pronunciation of such entries is indicated by English phonetics. However, certain sounds, common in some languages, have no exact equivalent in English speech and it is necessary to employ somewhat arbitrary symbols to represent them. The number of these symbols has been kept low; each is distinctive, to call immediate attention to a departure from ordinary English interpretation. The sounds represented are as follows:

eh—Vowel sounds of frequent occurrence in French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese, often spelled with *e*, *è*, or *é*. The sounds may be identified with the English short *e* of *get* or the long *a* of *mate*.

K—Palatal consonant sounds occurring mainly in Germanic languages, often represented in the original spelling by *ch*, as in *ach*, *doch*, *Buch*, or by final *g*, as in *Schlag*, *Gebirg*. The sounds are approximately those of English *k* in *book* and in *sick*, but they are made without full contact between the back of the tongue and the roof of the mouth. The Spanish *g* before *e* or *i* and the Spanish *j* have a closely similar sound, though not quite so harsh; they are customarily respelled with English *h*—as, *Jo-hē* (*ho-zeh'*)—but the *h* should be strongly articulated, as in uttering an emphatic *who*.

N—A character which indicates that the preceding vowel (or vowel sound) is nasalized. The sounds are approximately those characterized by *n* in such English words as *bank*, *think*, *long*, *sung*, if the terminal consonants were not sounded. They occur chiefly in French words in which a vowel is followed by an undoubled *m* or *n*, as in *faim*, *encore*, *bon*, *un*. The sounds are also frequent in Portuguese and certain other European languages. In Portuguese literature it may be recognized through the use of the tilde (~) over the vowel (or over one of a vowel combination) that is to be nasalized.

œ—Vowel sounds of frequent occurrence in French and in Germanic languages. In French the spelling may be *eu*, as in *peu*, *deux*, *dieu*, or *œu*, as in *bœuf*, *œuvre*. In German the sounds are indicated by *ö*, sometimes written *oe*, as in *schön*, *Flöte*, *mögen*. The sounds closely resemble that of English *u* in *burn*, but are made with rounded lips and approach long *a*.

ü—A vowel sound of great frequency in French and in German and occurring in other European languages. It is the normal sound of *u* in French words, as in *poilu*, *tube*, *littérature*, and the sound of *ü*, sometimes spelled *ue*, in German words, as in *über*, *Stück*, *Müller*. The sound closely resembles that of English long *e*, as in *reed*, but is produced through rounded lips, as in saying *rude*.

SPECIAL EXPLANATORY NOTES

Division of Words into syllables is indicated by a centered dot (·). Unless otherwise indicated by respelling, each underscored (accented) syllable is to be pronounced as if it stood alone.

NOTE: Pronunciation of principal parts of verbs and of comparisons of adjectives and adverbs, if in agreement with the main entry, are not repeated, even though the syllabic division, in accordance with printing rules, may appear to indicate a change in the pronunciation of a terminal syllable.

An underscore beneath a syllable indicates that that syllable should be emphasized (accented) when speaking the word; as, GO-ING. If two or more syllables are underscored, each is to be emphasized, and that on which the accent is more distinct is followed by the conventional accent mark (ˈ); as, IN-DE-PENˈDEN-CE.

If the pronunciation of a word or a part of it is not clearly evident from its spelling, the full word or enough of it to be readily identified is respelled, by simple English phonetics, in parentheses immediately following the entry; as, TROUGH (trawf); HET-ER-OGˈY-NOUS (-əjˈi-nus). For the values of the symbols used, see Page XVII.

Words in which each syllable is sounded with almost even stress (chiefly solid compounds of two syllables, like CAMP-STOOL, HEAD-ACHE, BACK-BITE, and most French words) do not carry an underscore.

Pronunciations as indicated are those now preferred in America. Sometimes two or more pronunciations are shown, indicating that choice in usage is divided, that some authoritative speakers favor one and that others of equal authority favor another. It is not the intent in this dictionary to express a preference nor to adjudge relative correctness. In instances in which British pronunciation differs from that in America, the British usage is labeled. Also, in foreign words not fully anglicized, both the English and foreign pronunciation, if at variance, are shown.

COMPOUND WORDS that are written with a hyphen, like CHICKEN-HEARTED, and phrases of two or more words, are not divided into syllables, for each element or word is to be found elsewhere listed. Exceptions, such as HEL-TER-SKEL-TER, occur when one or another of the elements is not elsewhere listed. All such compounds are shown with a hyphen of extra length, and this scheme is followed when such words appear throughout the text, with short hyphens used for syllabic breaks at the ends of lines.

HOMONYMS—words identical in spelling but differing in meaning and source—are preceded with an identifying number; as, SPOUND (weight), SPOUND

(strike), SPOUND (trap). The numbering serves to simplify cross references.

PREFIXES, SUFFIXES, AND COMBINING FORMS are defined in regular alphabetical place. A prefix is shown with the centered dot following it, as PRE-; a suffix with the centered dot before it, as -TION. A combining form; if of the first element of a word, is followed by the centered dot, as PHONO-; if the last element, with the dot before it, as -PHONE.

Many compound words, formed by the addition of a prefix to the elementary word, are self-explaining through the meaning of the prefix plus that of the elementary word. Such words are listed, in this dictionary, under the entry of the prefix, the lists serving to record the words and to show the spelling. Those with extended meanings, not fully self-explaining, are shown in regular alphabetical place.

Parts of Speech are shown, in italics, immediately following an entry (or its pronunciation); as, *noun*, *verb*, *adj.* (adjective), *adv.* (adverb), *prep.* (preposition), *conj.* (conjunction), *interj.* (interjection). Verbs used only transitively are shown *tr. verb*; those used only intransitively, *intr. verb*; those not specifically labeled have both transitive and intransitive uses and are so defined.

The **PRINCIPAL PARTS OF VERBS** in which a change in spelling or form occurs are shown in heavy type within brackets immediately following the part of speech; as, BAKE *verb* [BAKED, BAK-ING]; REV-EL *intr. verb* [REV-ELED or REV-ELLED, REV-EL-ING or REV-EL-LING]; DIG *verb* [DUG or DIGGED, DIG-GING]. In the listing of such principal parts within brackets the form of the past tense, usually the same as the form of the past participle, is shown first and is followed by the form of the present participle. With irregular verbs in which the form of the past tense differs from that of the past participle, the order within brackets is past tense, past participle, present participle; as, DRINK *verb* [DREW, DROOK or DRUNK-EN, DRINK-ING].

The **COMPARISONS OF ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS**, if involving a change in form of spelling, are similarly shown; the comparative first within the brackets, followed by the superlative; as, HEAV-Y (hévˈi) *adj.* [HEAV-Y-ER, HEAV-Y-EST].

Classification of entries by such bracketed forms as [Law], [Scot.], [Pop.] indicates that the definition pertains to the usage indicated within the bracket, as law or legal usage, Scottish usage, popular usage. If the bracketed classification applies to all definitions covered by the entry—for example, all the parts of speech in which the entry may be divided—it is placed immediately after the entry or its pronunciation. If it applies to

each of the definitions within one part of speech, but not to those within another, it is placed after the designation of the part of speech. If it applies to one or more of several numbered definitions, but not to all, it is placed immediately after the number of the definition to which it applies.

Variant Spellings, if within close range of the alphabetical position of the main entry, are shown in bold-faced type at the end of the definition and are not repeated in the regular alphabetical arrangement. Variants not within close alphabetical range are shown in italics at the end of the definitions and also appear as main entries in their own proper alphabetical position with a reference to the entry under which the definition is given. In all instances, the spelling of the main entry is that preferred in America.

A variant spelling or alternate term that applies to one portion of an entry, but not to all portions, as to an adjective but not to the noun, is shown at the end of the portion to which it pertains. Similarly, if the variant applies to but one of several definitions of a word, it is shown at the end of the definition to which it pertains.

Abbreviations used in the text are few and, usually, are readily identified. Any about which there may be doubt will be found in the appendix of Abbreviations.

Etymologies appear in brackets at the end of any given definition, following the conclusion of the last part of speech defined. For conciseness the sign (<), meaning "from" or "derived from," is employed in the etymological treatment. Thus, under **RE-VIVE**, the treatment [<F. *revivre* <L. *re-*, again, + *vivo*, live], carries the meaning that the English word *revive* is from the French, *revivre*, which is derived from the Latin prefix, *re-*, meaning "again," plus the Latin word *vivo*, meaning "live." In certain instances when the English word is identical with that of the language of origin and the meaning is unchanged, the etymological note merely indicates the language of origin; thus, under **FEU-BOM** the etymology shows only

[<F.], to indicate that the word is of French origin and is unchanged in spelling and in meaning. When the English word is identical with that of the language of origin, but the English meaning has been altered in any way, the original word is not repeated and the etymological note shows only the language of source and the meaning in that language; as, under **FEU-BA** [<L., feather]. Words derived in whole or in part from terms elsewhere defined in alphabetical place show that source by the use of small capital letters in the etymological treatment; as, **GER-MI-CIDE** [<GERM + L. *cado*, kill], or **AC-RO-PHO-BI-A** [<ACRO- + PHOBIA].

Foreign Words not yet anglicized in pronunciation, meaning, or usage are identified by the abbreviation of the language of origin, in brackets, immediately following the entry, its pronunciation, and the part of speech; as, **GHA-ZI** (gah'-zee) *noun* [Ar.]; **GAW-LIT-ER** (gow'-lit-ur) *noun* [G.]. Foreign personal names are similarly classified.

Cross References are indicated by the use of small capital letters; as, **GEN-E-RA** Plural of **GENUS**; **PARACHUTE TROOP** See **PARATROOP**.

Suffixes, as **-LY** and **-NESS**, following the treatment of a vocabulary word, indicate that the suffix is to be added directly to the word in the main entry to form the corresponding adverb or noun. The meaning of the adverb or noun thus formed can readily be determined through reference to the respective suffixes.

Plurals that are formed regularly by the simple addition of *s* to the singular, as **NIGHT**, **NIGHTS**, or of *es*, as **BOX**, **BOX-ES**, or by the normal change of terminal *y*, as **DU-TY**, **DU-TIES**; the comparative and superlative of adjectives and adverbs if formed regularly, and the principal parts of regular verbs, all corresponding to the simplest rules of grammar, are not shown. Irregular formations are always shown, and are also separately listed in alphabetical place if the spelling differs notably from the elementary form.

GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

SYLLABLES TO BE ACCENTED ARE UNDERSCORED, AS GO-ING.

IN WORDS OF TWO OR MORE ACCENTED SYLLABLES, THAT WITH HEAVIER STRESS CARRIES AN ADDITIONAL ACCENT MARK, AS IN-DE-PEN'-DENCE.

WORDS OR SYLLABLES THAT CONFORM WITH CHARACTERISTIC ENGLISH VALUES ARE NOT RESPelled FOR PRONUNCIATION. FOR THE BASIC RULES GOVERNING ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION SEE RULES LISTED BELOW. SEE ALSO DEFINITION 2 UNDER EACH LETTER OF THE ALPHABET FOR ITS PRONUNCIATION AND THAT OF DIGRAPHS. A LIST OF "NORMAL ENGLISH VALUES" IS SHOWN UNDER "PRONUNCIATION," PAGE XI, INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE:

ai—normally long a, as in pain, pair
ar—normally sounded as in car, market
au—normally sounded as in fault, auto
ea—normally long e, as in meat, near
oa—normally long o, as in coat, coarse
or—normally sounded as in for, order

ur—normally sounded as in fur, turkey
c—normally equal to k before a, o, u, i, and r, as in
cat
c—normally equal to s before e, i, and y, as in city
ch—normally sounded as in chin, each
ph—normally equal to f, as in photograph

IN THE RESPelling OF WORDS OR SYLLABLES FOR PRONUNCIATION, CHARACTERISTIC ENGLISH VALUES ARE SUBSTITUTED, AS:

ah—for a as in father
aw—for a as in ball
j—for g as in gem, gin
k—for ch as in chorus
ng—for n as in sink, finger
ow—for spellings of the sound in cow, now, bough
th—(roman) for the sound in think, three
th—(italic) for the sound in this, then, they
uh—for spellings of the sound of a in about, e in system, o in consent: often written as u, as in the phonetic respelling of nation (nay'-shun)
z—for s as in easy
zh—for z as in azure, s as in measure

THE FAMILIAR MACRON (—) INDICATES THE LONG SOUND OF THE VOWELS, AND THE BREVE (˘) THE SHORT SOUND, AS:

māy, fāre, ēve, hēre, Ice, fire, gō, fōre, fōod, cūte, cūre mý
bāt, pārish, hēn, vēry, sīt, mirror, nōt, sōrrow, fōot, pōor, shūt

FOREIGN SOUNDS: THE PRONUNCIATION OF CERTAIN NON-ENGLISH SOUNDS IS INDICATED BY THE FOLLOWING DEVICES:

eh = French e, é and è, and Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish e: a vowel sound frequently pronounced in English as long a (ā), but approaching short e (ē).
K = ch in German ach, Scottish loch: approximately English k in book, but without full contact between the back of the tongue and the roof of the mouth.
N = n in French bon, the preceding vowel or vowel sound nasalized: approximately English n in honk.
œ = oe in French boeuf, ö in German schön: approximately English u in burn, but with lips rounded.
ü = u in French poilu, u in German über: approximately English ee in reed, but with lips rounded as in saying rude.

Rule I In an accented syllable ending in a vowel, the vowel has its long sound; as, BA-SIN, DE-TY, RE-LI-A-BLE, MO-MENT, MU-SIC, HY-DRO-GEN.
Exceptions to this rule (as EA-THER) are respelled.

Rule II In an accented syllable terminating in a consonant (see note in Rule III) the vowel has its short sound; as, MAG-NET, COM-PEL, CIT-Y, DE-MOC-RAC-Y, RE-FUR-LIC, MYS-TE-RY.
Seeming exceptions not respelled include the derivatives of verbs in which, by Rule III, the main vowel of the final syllable is long. The vowel remains long in the derivatives although, in conformance with printing practice, the division of the word does not so indicate; as, BAKE, BAK-ER, BAK-ING; CON-SOLE, CON-SOL-ING, CON-SOL-A-BLE.

Rule III Final silent e following a single consonant of an accented syllable indicates that the preceding vowel in that syllable characteristically has its long sound; as TAME, CON-YENE, IN-VITE, PRO-MOTE, DIS-PUTE, STYLE. **NOTE:** When the single consonant is the letter r, the quality of the sound of the preceding vowel is distinctly altered. See discussions under AR, ER, IR, OR, UR, in the Normal Interpretation of English spelling on pages xi, xii, xiii.

Rule IV In ordinary conversation the vowel in an unaccented syllable tends to become weakened or obscure; the vowels a, o, and u approach (uh), as in about, final, connect, opinion, careful; the vowels e and i approach (i) or (uh), as in decide, emblem, emigrate, civil.

Rule V Doubled consonants approximate a single sound which is regarded as a part of the accented syllable, as in MAT-TER, DIF-FER-ENT, PEP-PER.

Rule VI In solid compound words composed of two monosyllabic words, as BOOK-CASE, BAG-MAN, BACK-STOP, SPELL-BIND, DOWN-STAIRS, DRAW-BRIDGE, each element retains its original pronunciation and the first element usually has a slightly heavier stress. **HENCE:** In this dictionary neither element of the words in this category carry a mark for stress, as each would require it. In derivatives, however, as SPELL-BIND-ER, the stresses are shown. Compounds in which the connection is by hyphen carry the pronunciations and stresses of the respective separate elements.

FUNK & WAGNALLS

NEW PRACTICAL

Standard DICTIONARY

[Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.]

A, A [AES, A's, As pl.] 1 The first letter of the English alphabet: from Phenician *aleph*, through the Hebrew *aleph*, Greek *alpha*, and Roman A. 2 Any sound of the letter *a*. In English it is variously pronounced:—long, as in ape, gate; short, as in fat, hammer; broad, as in arm, art, father; intermediate between short and broad, as in ask, chance, path, etc.; moderately long and dropping into *ə*, as in care, bare, bear, various; like the *aw* or *au* in awl and haul, in such words as ball, quart, swarm, walk, etc.; obscure, as in unaccented initial and final syllables, and certain final closed syllables, as in absent, sofa, loyal. It is frequently silent after *e* and *o*, as in bread, foam, etc. See ALPHABET, TYPOGRAPHY.

—symbol 1 Primacy in class or order; as, A₁ (at Lloyd's), or first class; as a numeral, one; as, section A. 2 In music, one of a series of tones, the sixth in the natural diatonic scale of C, or the first note in the relative minor scale; also, a standard for tuning instruments; the pitch of this tone; the written note representing it; the scale built upon A. 3 In chemistry, argon (A). See appendix (ABBREVIATIONS).

AA (ā; unaccented uh) indefinite article, *adj.*, or *prep.* One; any; some; each; before a vowel, *an*. See AN, ARTICLE.

Special uses: before plural nouns with *few*, *great many*, or *good many*; with *on*, *at*, or *of*, denoting oneness, sameness; as, birds of a feather; in such phrases as one dollar a bushel, with the distributive sense of *each*, and equivalent to *per*. [OE. *ān*, one]

AA (uh) *verb* [Prov. Eng.] Have.

AA (usually sounded ā, sometimes uh or aw) *pron.* [Prov. Eng.] He, she, it, they: an unstressed form.

A- prefix 1 On; in; at; as, aboard, asleep, agog, agoing: also used intensively or without specific meaning; as, arise, awake. [OE. *an*, on] 2 To or toward; as, ascend. [OE. *ad*] 3 From; away; off; as, avert. [OE. *a*, ab] 4 Of; from; as, atfirst, akin. [OE. *of*] 5 Without; not; as, ataxia, achromatic: in Greek grammar, called *alpha privative*. See AN-. [Gr. *a-*, *an-*]

A-A (ah'-ah) *noun* A brittle, scoriaceous substance consisting of sand, earth, stones, and melted lava, cooled and broken up. [Hawaiian]

AA (ah) Any of several small rivers of Europe, especially, two in Latvia, both emptying into the Gulf of Riga, and two in NW. Germany.

AA-CHEN (ah'-Kén) A city in western Prussia, Germany; battles, 1944-45. Also [F.] *Aix-la-Chapelle*.

AAL (ahl) *noun* An East Indian shrub (*Morinda royoc*), the root of which yields a red dye; also, the dye.

Å-LAND ISLANDS (ô'-lahn) A Finnish archipelago, at the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia; 551 square miles; chief town, Marishamn. Also written *Åland Islands*.

ÅL-BORG (awl'-bor) A commercial seaport in northern Denmark. Also spelled *Ålborg*.

Ā-A-LĪ-LĒ (ah'-ah-lē'-ee) *noun* A small tropical tree (*Dodonaea viscosa*), native in Australia, Hawaii, Jamaica, and Madagascar, valued for its dark, hard, and durable timber.

AAR (ar) A river in Switzerland; 181 miles from the AAR GLACIERS in south-central Switzerland to the Rhine River.

Å-AU (ah'-row) A city in north-central Switzerland.

AARD-VARK (ard'-) *noun* A burrowing, ant-eating African mammal (genus *Orycteropus*) about the size of the pig, with long protrusile, sticky tongue to which the ants adhere, and strong, digging forefeet; an ant-bear. [OE. *aard*, earth, + *varken*, pig]



AARDVARK

AARD-WOLF (ard'-wōlf) *noun* A hyena-like, nocturnal, carnivorous mammal (*Proteles cristata*) of East and South Africa, living chiefly on carrion and termites. [OE. *aard*, earth, + *wolf*, wolf]

ÅAR-HUS (or'-hōos) A seaport in central Denmark. Also **ÅAR-HUUS**.

ÅAR-OW (ar'-un) A masculine personal name. [Heb. *Aharon*, mountaineer or enlightener]

—**ÅAROW** The first Jewish high priest; brother of Moses. Ex. iv. 14.

ÅA-RON-IC (-rōn'-ic) *adj.* Of or pertaining to Aaron, the high priest, or his descendants; hence, of or pertaining to a high priest; pontifical. Also **ÅA-RON-Y-CAL**.

ÅARON'S ROD 1 The rod cast by Aaron before Pharaoh, which became a serpent (Ex. vii. 9-15), and which later blossomed (*Num.* xvii. 8). 2 In architecture, a rod-shaped molding, ornamented with sprouting leaves or with a single serpent twined about it. 3 A plant that flowers on long stems, such as the mullein.

ÅAS'-VO-GEL (ahs'-fō-gl) *noun* [Taai] A vulture.

AB (āb) A Hebrew month. The 9th day of Ab is a fast day to commemorate the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, 586 B.C. and A.D. 70. The 15th day is a secular festival of doubtful origin. See CALENDAR (Hebrew).

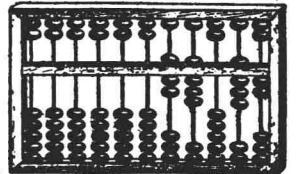
AB-, ABS- prefix Off; from; away; as, absolve, abdicate, abrogate, absterge, absent, abstain, etc. [OE. *ab-*, *ab*]

AB-A *noun* [Ar.] A sleeveless garment of camel's- or goat's-hair cloth worn in Arabia, Syria, etc.; also, the cloth. Also **AB-BA**.

AB-A-CA *noun* [Malay] A banana plant (*Musa textilis*) of the Philippine Islands; also, its inner fiber, Manila-hemp, which is used for cordage. Also **AB-A-KA**.

AB-ACK *adv.* So as to be pressed backward, as sails; backward; aloof. —**TAKEN ABACK** 1 In nautical use, caught by a sudden change of wind so as to reverse the sails. 2 Disconcerted as by a sudden check.

AB-A-CUS *noun* [OE. *acus* or *ci* (si) pl.] 1 An ancient reckoning table with sliding balls still used in some Oriental countries. 2 In architecture, a slab forming the top of a capital. For illustration see CAPITAL. [Gr. *abax*, counting table]



ABACUS

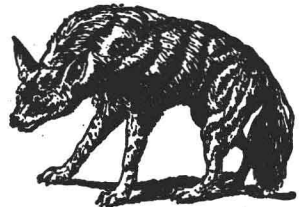
A-BAD-DON (uh-bād'-n) *noun* 1 The bottomless pit; hell; the place of destruction. 2 The angel of the bottomless pit; Apollyon. [OE. *abaddon*, Heb.]

A-BAST *adv.* In nautical use, toward the stern; back; behind. —*prep.* Further aft than; astern of; as, *abast* the mainmast. [OE. *ab-* + *ast*]

AB-A-LO'-WE (-nl) *noun* A shellfish (genus *Haliotis*) having a perforated ear-shaped shell lined with mother-of-pearl, which is used for inlaying, making buttons, beads, etc. Its meat is used for food. [OE. *aulone* < L. *ala*, wing]

AB-AM-PERE *noun* The cgs electromagnetic unit of current, equal to 10 absolute amperes. [OE. *ab* (solute) + *ampere*]

A-BAN-DON *tr. verb* 1 To forsake or renounce utterly; give up wholly; desert. 2 To give over entirely to another; resign; yield. 3 To yield (oneself) without restraint. —*noun* Full surrender to natural impulse; freedom; dash. [OE. *aban*, to forsake]



AARDWOLF

à bandon, in the power] — **A-BAN-DON-A-BLE** *adj.* — **A-BAN-DON-ER** *noun* — **A-BAN-DON-MENT** *noun*.

Synonyms (verb): abdicate, abjure, cease, cede, desert, discontinue, forgo, forsake, forswear, leave, quit, recant, relinquish, renounce, repudiate, resign, retract, surrender, vacate. *Abandon* denotes the complete and final giving up, letting go, or withdrawal from persons or things of any kind; *abdicate* and *resign* apply to office, authority, or power; *cede* to territorial possessions; *surrender* especially to military force, and more generally to any demand, claim, passion, etc. *Quit* carries an idea of suddenness or abruptness not necessarily implied in *abandon*, and may not have the same suggestion of finality. *Relinquish* commonly implies reluctance; the creditor *relinquishes* his claim. *Abandon* implies previous association with responsibility for or control of; *forsake* implies previous association with inclination or attachment; a man may *abandon* or *forsake* home or friends; he *abandons* an enterprise. *Forsake*, like *abandon*, may be used either in the favorable or unfavorable sense; *desert* is commonly unfavorable, except when used of localities; as, "The Deserted Village"; a soldier *deserts* his post. While a monarch *abdicates*, a president or other elected or appointed officer *resigns*. See also **RE-NOUNCE**. **Antonyms:** adopt, advocate, assert, cherish, claim, court, defend, favor, haunt, hold, keep, maintain, occupy, prosecute, protect, pursue, retain, seek, support, undertake, uphold, vindicate.

A-BAN-DONED (-dund) *adj.* 1 Given over (in a bad sense); extremely profligate; shameless; dissolute. 2 Deserted; left behind; forsaken. See **SYNONYMS** under **ADDICTED**, **BAD**.

A-BAS (ah bah') [F.] Down with; opposed to; vive.

A-BASE *tr. verb* [**A-BASED** (-bāst'), **A-BAS-ING**] 1 To lower in position, rank, estimation, etc.; cast down; humble. 2 [Obs.] To reduce in value, as coin: *debase* now preferred. [**L. ad, to, + BASE**] — **A-BAS-ED-LY** *adv.* — **A-BAS-ED-NESS** *noun* — **A-BAS-ER** *noun* — **A-BASE-MENT** *noun*.

Synonyms: debase, degrade, depress, discredit, disgrace, dishonor, humble, humiliate, lower, reduce, sink. *Abase* refers only to outward conditions. *Debase* applies to quality or character. The coinage is *debased* by excess of alloy, the man by vice. *Humble* refers chiefly to feeling of heart; *humiliate* to outward conditions. To *disgrace* is chiefly applied to deserved moral odium; he *disgraced* himself by his conduct. To *dishonor* a person is to deprive him of honor that should or might be given. To *discredit* one is to injure his reputation. *Degrade* may refer to station; as, an officer is *degraded* by being *reduced* to the ranks; but it is now chiefly used of character; as, drunkenness is a *degrading* vice. **Antonyms:** advance, aggrandize, dignify, elevate, exalt, honor, promote, raise, uplift.

A-BASH *tr. verb* [**A-BASHED** (-bāst'), **A-BASH-ING**] To deprive of self-possession; disconcert; discomfit; make ashamed; confuse; embarrass. [**OF. esbahir**, astonish] — **A-BASH-ED-LY** *adv.* — **A-BASH-MENT** *noun*.

Synonyms: bewilder, chagrin, confound, confuse, daunt, discompose, disconcert, dishearten, embarrass, humble, humiliate, mortify, overawe, shame. Any sense of inferiority *abashes*, with or without the sense of wrong. The poor are *abashed* at the splendor of wealth, the ignorant at the learning of the scholar. To *confuse* is to bring into a state of mental bewilderment; to *confound* is to overwhelm the mental faculties; to *daunt* is to subject to a certain degree of fear. Confusion is of the intellect, embarrassment (as here considered) is of the feelings. A witness may be *embarrassed* by annoying remarks or questions so as to become *confused* in statements. To *mortify* a person is to bring upon him a painful sense of humiliation. The parent is *mortified* by the child's rudeness, the child *abashed* at the parent's reproof. The *embarrassed* speaker finds it difficult to proceed. The mob is *overawed* by the military, the hypocrite *shamed* by exposure. See **EMBARRASS**. Compare **CHAGRIN**. **Antonyms:** animate, buoy, cheer, embolden, encourage, inspirit, rally, uphold.

A-BAS-SE-A (-bāy'-zhī-uh or -zhuh or -sī-uh) *noun* Inability to coordinate the action of the muscles in walking. [**Gr. a-, not, + basis**, rhythmical movement] — **A-BAS-SIC** *adj.*

A-B-A-TAGE (āb'-uh-tahj') *noun* 1 Demolition; destruction, especially by high explosives: a military term. 2 The anchoring of a piece of artillery. 3 The destruction of diseased horses. [**F. abattre**, demolish, knock down]

A-BATE *verb* [**A-BATED**, **A-BATING**] 1 To make or become less; decrease; diminish; moderate; slacken; reduce. 2 [Law] To do away with; annul; remit; also, to become void; fail. 3 To deduct, as part of a price. [**OF. abatre** <**L. ad, to, + batuo**, beat] — **A-BAT-A-BLE** (uh-bāte'-) *adj.* — **A-BATE-MENT** *noun* — **A-BAT-ER** (uh-bāte'-) *noun*.

Synonyms: decline, decrease, diminish, ebb, lessen, lower, mitigate, moderate, reduce, relax, subside. See **ABOLISH**, **ALLAY**, **ALLEViate**. **Antonyms:** aggravate, augment, enhance, increase, intensify.

AB-A-TIS' (āb'-uh-tee' or āb'-uh-tis') *noun* An obstruction of felled trees or bent saplings pointed in the direction of expected attack, sometimes interwoven with barbed wire. Also **AB-AT-TIS'**. [**F. abatire**, to fell]

A-BA'-TOR *noun* [Law] 1 One who removes a nuisance. 2 One who unlawfully seizes an inheritance before the rightful heir. 3 The agent or cause in effecting an abatement.

A-BAT-TOIR' (ā-buh-twahr') *noun* A slaughter house. [**F.**] **AB-AX'-IAL** *adj.* Situated off the axis or central line. Also **AB-AX'-ILE** (-il). [**AB- + AXIAL**]

AB *noun* Warp yarn. [**OE. aweb**, woof, weft]

AB-BA *noun* Father: a title anciently used with the names of patriarchs, certain bishops, etc., and in invoking God. [**Syr.**]

AB-BA-CY *noun* [-cies *pl.*] The office, dignity, or jurisdiction of an abbot; abbotship.

AB-BAS (ah'-bahs), 566-652, the uncle of Mohammed.

AB-BAS-SIDE (ah-bah'-side) *noun* 1 One of the caliphs at Bagdad, 749-1258, in Egypt to 1517. 2 One of a Persian dynasty, 1500-1736. Also **AB-BAS-SID**.

AB-BAT-TIAL (-bāy'-shul) *adj.* Of or pertaining to an abbot or an abbey. Also **AB-BAT-TIAL**.

AB-BÉ (ah-beh') *noun* [F.] In France, an abbot; an ecclesiastic at the head of an abbey or holding its revenues; a curate; an ecclesiastic without a benefice, or a theological student wearing the cassock.

AB-BESS *noun* The mother superior of a convent, and of certain religious orders of women: a rank corresponding to that of an abbot in a monastery.

AB'-BE-VILLE (āb'-i-vil; *F. abh-vehl'*) A town in northern France.

AB-BEY *noun* [**AB-BEYS** *pl.*] A monastery or convent; a place of worship or other building connected with a monastic establishment; also, a society of monks under the jurisdiction of an abbot or of nuns under an abbess. See **SYNONYMS** under **CLOISTER**. [**OF. abaie** <**L. abbas**; see **ABBOT**]

AB-BEY, EDWIN AUSTIN, 1852-1911, American artist.

AB-BOT *noun* The superior of a community of monks or an abbey. [**OE. abbot** <**L. <Gr. abbas**, father] — **AB-BOT-CY**, **AB-BOT-SHIP** *noun*.

AB-BOTT, JACOB, 1803-79, American clergyman and author of juvenile literature.

AB-BRE'-VI-ATE *tr. verb* [**-AT-ED**, **-AT-ING**] To shorten, reduce, condense, especially by omission or contraction, as Mrs. is the abbreviated form of *Mistress*. [**L. ad, to, + brevis**, short] — **AB-BRE'-VI-A-TOR** *noun*.

Synonyms: abridge, compress, condense, contract, curtail, epitomize, prune, reduce, shorten. Compare **ABBREVIATION**, **ABRIDGMENT**. **Antonyms:** amplify, enlarge, expand, extend, lengthen.



ABB' EVIATION

AB-BRE'-VI-A'-TION *noun* 1 A shortened form; contraction; abridgment; especially, the shortened or contracted form of a word. 2 In music, a method of indicating the repetition of a note, chord, or the like.

Synonyms: abridgment, abstract, compendium, condensation, contraction, curtailment, epitome, reduction, shortening, summary. An *abbreviation* is a shortening by any method; a *contraction* is a reduction of size by the drawing together of the parts. A *contraction* of a word is made by omitting certain letters or syllables and bringing together the first and last letters or elements; a *contraction* is an *abbreviation*, but an *abbreviation* is not necessarily a *contraction*. *Rec't* for receipt, *mdse.* for merchandise, and *Dr.* for debtor are *contractions* and also *abbreviations*; *Am.* for American is an *abbreviation*, but not a *contraction*. *Abbreviation* and *contraction* are used of words and phrases, *abridgment* of books, paragraphs, sentences, etc. See **ABRIDGMENT**. **Antonyms:** amplification, dilation, dilution, elongation, enlargement, expansion, expatiation, explication, extension, prolongation.

AB-BY Diminutive of **ABIGAIL**.

ABC 1 The alphabet: often used in plural, *ABC's*. 2 A primer. 3 The simplest rudiments of anything.

AB'-COU-LOMB (-kō-lōm) *noun* The cgs electromagnetic unit of charge, equal to 10 absolute coulombs. [**AB(SOLUTE) + COULOMB**]

ABC POWERS Argentina, Brazil, Chile: mediators between Mexico and the United States in 1914.

ABD- *prefix* Servant; slave: used in proper names in Semitic languages; as, Abdallah, servant of God.

ABD-EL-KA-DEER or **-KA-DIR** (ahbd-ēl-kah'-deer), 1807?-83, Algerian tribal emir. [**Ar.**, slave of the Almighty]

AB'-DI-CATE *verb* [**-CAT-ED**, **-CAT-ING**] To give up voluntarily; renounce, as royal power; renounce a throne, power,