

THIN PAPER

WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY

a Merriam-Webster
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BASED ON

WEBSTER'S
NEW INTERNATIONAL
DICTIONARY

SECOND EDITION



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PREFACE

History of the Collegiate. WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY is an entirely new book — newly edited and typeset and presented in a new format. It will, however, have for many persons the characteristics of an old friend; for it is but the latest member of the century-old MERRIAM-WEBSTER family. For many years MERRIAM-WEBSTER dictionaries have formed a series, in which the unabridged dictionary is the parent work and the COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY the largest abridgment. From each successive revision of the unabridged work new abridged books have sprung. In 1898 the first edition of the COLLEGIATE appeared. Its size, appearance, typography, and, above all, its wealth of material and scholarly presentation quickly won for it a high place in the regard of both general reader and scholar. In 1910 a second edition appeared, followed by new editions or revisions in 1916 (the third), 1931 (the fourth), and 1936 (the fifth). This NEW COLLEGIATE (the sixth) incorporates the best of the time-tested features of its predecessors.

Scope and Format. The general content and over-all plan of the previous edition (WEBSTER'S COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY, *Fifth Edition*) have proved so well adapted to the needs of its users that any attempt to change its essential character and form seemed inadvisable. The editors felt, too, that there were relatively few entries, both in its main vocabulary and in the special sections, that could be omitted without loss to the user of WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE. At the same time, there were many new terms and meanings, many older terms and meanings of increasing importance or frequency, many abbreviations, and many proper names that must be added in a new edition. The problem was how to retain most of the material of the previous work while adding material essential to the new book without markedly increasing its physical size. The new format of the present book is the answer. The wider page, with its wider column, has enabled the editors to achieve this dual aim within a handy-sized volume.

Typography. The type faces used in this book are those of the NEW INTERNATIONAL, *Second Edition*, for which they were carefully chosen, after extensive experimenting, for their appearance and readability. These type faces have stood the further tests of time and use in the previous edition of the COLLEGIATE.

The General Vocabulary. Once again the vocabulary of the COLLEGIATE has been selected to meet the needs both of the college student and of the general reader seeking clear and accurate, but not encyclopedic, information. Every entry and every definition of the previous edition has been reviewed, and many of them have been revised to incorporate additional, often new, information or to effect improvements in the former presentation. The definitions have for the most part been based on the most recent available information contained in the latest printings of the parent work, WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY, *Second Edition*, with such modifications or adaptations as are required by the smaller scope of the COLLEGIATE. Wherever they are needed and, indeed, as freely as possible within the limitations of the space, phrases and sentences have been given that illustrate the definitions. The literary vocabulary contains many additions, consisting principally of new terms and meanings and some older ones of increased importance or frequency, the inclusion of which is often the direct result of suggestions from users of the previous edition. The NEW COLLEGIATE follows the practice of its predecessors in including only a limited selection of slang, dialectal, and obsolete terms and meanings. Since behind the present work are all the vast resources of the NEW INTERNATIONAL, *Second Edition*, containing some 550,000 vocabulary entries, the problem has been one of selection of terms to be included here. Usefulness has been the criterion.

Special Subjects. The greater emphasis on the vocabularies of technical and scientific fields, which was perhaps the most noticeable difference between the previous edition and earlier COLLEGIATES, has been continued in this NEW COLLEGIATE. The wealth of information prepared by the 207 consulting editors for the NEW INTERNATIONAL, *Second Edition*, has been freely drawn

upon and a great deal of new material has been added. Many of the new definitions have been specially prepared or reviewed for the present work by various members of this group of consultants and by others, particularly Dr. Robert A. Hall, Jr., Associate Professor of Linguistics at Cornell University, Dr. Ralph Harper, Instructor in English at Harvard University, Dr. James A. Hootman of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, and Dr. Hans Kohn, Professor of History at Smith College.

In the selection of newer terms for inclusion in this book the important contributions to the language resulting from World War II play a major part. Such terms include not only those in the military field (such as *bazooka*, *blitzkrieg*, *foxhole*, *jeep*, *kamikaze*, *Panzer*, *roadblock*) but also those in many other fields, such as aeronautics, chemistry, electronics, nuclear physics, and medicine.

Trade-marks. Public interest in the status, the pronunciation, and the application of many terms originally coined for use as trade-marks makes such terms a matter of lexical concern. In a dictionary of this scope, however, it is possible to include only a limited number of those trade-marks most likely to be sought by the average dictionary user. All entries suspected of being trade-marks have been investigated in the files of the United States Patent Office at Washington, D. C., and those which the evidence showed to be trade-marks have been defined as such. The inclusion of a term in this dictionary is not, however, to be taken as an expression of the publishers' opinion as to whether or not it is subject to proprietary rights, but only as an expression of their belief that such a term is of sufficiently general use and interest to warrant its inclusion in a work of this kind. No definition in this dictionary is to be regarded as affecting the validity of any trade-mark.

Presentation of Material. Although the presentation of the material conforms to accepted dictionary practices and will in general offer no difficulty to most users of this book, occasional details may raise questions requiring precise answer. The editors, with the help of users of the previous edition, have tried to anticipate and answer all such questions in the section of *Explanatory Notes*, pages xviii-xx. Every user of this book, even the experienced dictionary consultant, will gain much from a reading of these pages.

Order of Definitions. In general the order of definitions follows the practice of the *NEW INTERNATIONAL*, where the earliest ascertainable meaning is placed first and later meanings are arranged in the order shown to be most probable by dated citations and semantic development. Technical senses, except in a few cases where they are essential elements in this pattern, are placed after nontechnical senses and are arranged according to the alphabetical order of their labels (such as *Bot.*, *Chem.*, *Med.*). This historical arrangement is of especial value to those interested in the development of meanings and offers no difficulty to the user who is merely looking for a particular meaning.

Pronunciation. The pronunciations given in this dictionary are based on those of the *NEW INTERNATIONAL, Second Edition*, and reflect the large body of firsthand information specially gathered for that work from scores of persons in all parts of the United States and elsewhere in the English-speaking world. The pronunciations of the individual entries in the general vocabulary and in the special sections are given in a phonetic alphabet that can be readily understood. A concise key to this *MERRIAM-WEBSTER* phonetic alphabet is printed at the front and back of the book, just inside the covers, where it can be found most easily and quickly. Users particularly interested in pronunciation are urged to read the *Guide to Pronunciation* (pages vii-xvii), which not only supplements this key by explaining fully each symbol used in the pronunciations but also discusses in some detail many general matters of pronunciation. This material was condensed by Dr. John S. Kenyon, eminent authority on pronunciation, from the fuller treatment prepared by him for the *NEW INTERNATIONAL, Second Edition*.

Etymologies. For vocabulary entries retained from the previous edition the etymologies, with such changes as are required to reflect recent information, are taken over from that book, for which they were condensed from those of the *NEW INTERNATIONAL, Second Edition*. These etymologies were prepared by Dr. E. E. Thompson of the editorial staff in consultation with Dr. Harold H. Bender of Princeton University, chief consultant in etymology, who has written or supervised the writing of the etymologies of new entries as well.

Synonyms. Brief articles discriminating from one another words of closely associated meaning have long been a valuable feature of the COLLEGIATE. In the present book the number of these articles has been increased. The articles, adapted from the fuller treatments in WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY OF SYNONYMS, were prepared by Miss Rose F. Egan, who had a major part in the writing of that book.

Pictorial Illustrations. The wide scope of illustrations that was a feature of previous editions of the COLLEGIATE has been retained in this new work. Many new illustrations have been prepared especially for this work. In general the aim has been to include illustrations not for their decorative quality but for their value in clarifying definitions.

Supplementary Features. Except for the section of *Foreign Words and Phrases*, the material of which has been incorporated in the general vocabulary of this book, the supplementary features of the previous edition have been retained.

The *Pronouncing Gazetteer* gives the spelling, syllabic division, and pronunciation of over seven thousand names and continues to provide information on location, political status or ownership, population, and other statistics (such as length of rivers, height of mountains, area of political divisions, lakes, etc.) in the concise form familiar to users of the COLLEGIATE.

The *Biographical* section gives the spelling, pronunciation, given names, dates, nationality, and a brief indication of achievements or sphere of activity for a selected list of names of persons, ancient and modern, of general interest. The number of entries has been increased to upwards of five thousand.

The list of *Colleges and Universities*, which has proved to be one of the most often consulted of the special sections of the COLLEGIATE, has been completely revised and its basis of selection broadened to include a very much larger number of institutions. The pronunciation and syllabic division of the names of these institutions are given wherever needed.

The lists of *Abbreviations* and of *Given Names* have been revised and many entries have been added.

The section of *Arbitrary Signs and Symbols*, the *Vocabulary of Rhymes*, and the several sections treating *Orthography*, and *Punctuation, Compounds, Capitals, etc.*, and *Preparation of Copy for the Press* have been revised and retained.

Editorial Staff. The editing, checking, proofreading, and similar operations have been carried out by the trained editorial staff of G. & C. MERRIAM COMPANY, many of whom worked not only on the preparation of the previous edition of the COLLEGIATE but also on the NEW INTERNATIONAL, *Second Edition*. An exhaustive list of staff members who contributed to this NEW COLLEGIATE, some by performing essential clerical work and others by preparing or reviewing a few definitions, would serve little purpose; but it would be ungracious not to mention the chief participants in various phases of the work. The reviewing and writing of definitions were done by Dr. Lucius H. Holt, *Managing Editor*, Mr. Edward F. Oakes, *Associate Editor*, and the following *Assistant Editors*: Mr. Hubert P. Kelsey, Dr. Everett E. Thompson, Dr. Edward A. H. Fuchs, Dr. Philip B. Gove, Dr. Donald W. Lee, and Miss Anne M. Driscoll; pronunciations by Miss Elsie Mag and Mr. Edward Artin; synonyms by Miss Rose F. Egan; cross-referencing and checking by Miss Ervina E. Foss; proofreading by Mr. Hubert H. Roe and Miss Rita L. Goyette; the editing of various special sections as follows: *Abbreviations* by Miss Driscoll, *Biographies* by Dr. Gove, *Colleges and Universities* by Dr. Thompson, *Gazetteer* by Dr. Thompson, Dr. Lee, and Miss Foss, *Given Names* and *Rhymes* by Miss Egan, *Orthography, Punctuation, etc.* by Mr. Oakes.

The typesetting and electrotyping have been done by The Riverside Press, whose staff have once again given their hearty co-operation and have assisted with excellent proofreading.

WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY represents the results of the collaborative efforts of the permanent MERRIAM-WEBSTER editorial staff, with the assistance of others previously mentioned. It is the product of an organization with the background of more than one hundred years of continuous dictionary-making experience. It is the latest addition to the MERRIAM-WEBSTER series of dictionaries which have served successive generations. We offer it to the user with the conviction that it will serve him well.

John P. Bethel
General Editor.

A GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

KEY TO THE SYMBOLS USED IN THE RESPELLING FOR PRONUNCIATION

REFERENCES. Numbers following the respelling for pronunciation of some words in the Vocabulary refer to sections in this GUIDE.

ACCENTS AND HYPHENS. The principal accent is indicated by a heavy mark ('), and the secondary accent by a lighter mark (^), at the end of the syllable. Syllabic

division is indicated by a centered period, except where this is replaced by an accent mark or by a hyphen used to join the members of words written or printed with a hyphen.

FOREIGN SOUNDS for which no special symbols are provided are represented by the nearest English equivalents.

- ā, as in *āle, fāte, lā'bor, chā'os, chām'ber* (§ 5).
 â, " " *châ-ot'ic, fâ-tal'i-ty, cor'dâte* (§ 12).
 â, " " *câre, pârent, com-pâre', beâr, âir* (§ 6).
 ă, " " *ădd, ăm, făt, ăc-cept'* (§ 7).
 ȃ, " " *ăc-count', in'fănt, guid'ănce* (§ 14).
 ȃ, " " *ărm, făr, făr'ther, ăh, pălm* (§ 8).
 ă, " " *ăsk, grăss, dănce, stăff, păt* (§ 9).
 ȃ, " " *so'fă, i-de'ă, ă-bound', dī'ă-dem* (§ 15).
 b, " " *ba'by, be, bit, bob, but* (§ 17).
 ch, " " *chair, much; also for tch as in match; for ti as in ques'tion; for te as in right'eous* (§ 21).
 d, as in *day, add'ed; also for ed as in robbed* (§ 25).
 dȳ: for *du* as in *ver'dure; for deu* as in *gran'deur* (§§ 25, 118).
 ē, as in *ēve, mēte, se-rēne', hē'li-om'e-ter* (§ 26).
 ĕ, " " *hēre, fĕar, wēird, deer (dĕr)* (§ 27).
 ĕ, " " *ĕ-vent', dĕ-pend', crĕ-ate'* (§ 35).
 ĕ, " " *ĕnd, ĕx-cuse', ĕf-face'* (§§ 28, 29).
 ĕ, " " *si'lĕnt, pru'dĕnce, nov'ĕl* (§ 37).
 ĕ, " " *mak'ĕr, pĕr-vert', in'fĕr-ence* (§§ 32, 36).
 f, " " *fill, feel; for ph as in phan'tom, tri'umph; for gh as in laugh* (§ 43).
 g (always "hard"), as in *go, be-gin'*; also for *gu* as in *guard; for gue* as in *plague; for gh* as in *ghost* (§ 44).
 gz: for *x* as in *ex-ist', ex-act', ex-am'ple* (§ 128).
 h, as in *hat, hen, hide, hot, hurt, a-head'* (§ 49).
 hw: for *wh* as in *what, why, where* (§ 127).
 ĭ, as in *ĭce, sĭght, in-spĭre', ĭ-de'a, bĭ-ol'o-gy* (§§ 50, 51).
 ĭ, " " *ĭll, ad-mĭ't', hab'ĭt, pĭt'y (pĭt'ĭ)* (§§ 52, 53).
 ĭ, " " *char'ĭ-ty, pos'sĭble, dĭ-rect', A'prĭl* (§ 54).
 j, " " *joke, jol'ly; also for "soft" g, as in gem, gi'ant; for gi* and *ge* as in *re-li'gion, pi'geon; for di* as in *sol'dier; for dg(e)* as in *edge, judg'ment* (§ 59).
 k, as in *keep, kiek; also for "hard" ch, as in cho'rus, ep'o-ech; for "hard" c, as in cube; for ck* as in *pack; for qu* as in *con'quer, co-quette'; for que* as in *pique* (§ 60). (small capital): for *ch* as in *German ich, ach, etc.* (§ 60).
 ks: for *x* as in *vex, ex'e-cute, per-plex'* (§ 128).
 kw: for *qu* as in *queen, quit, qual'i-ty* (§ 91).
 l, as in *late, leg, lip, lot, full, hol'y* (§ 61).
 m, " " *man, men, mine, hum, ham'mer* (§ 64).
 n, " " *nod, man, man'ner; also for gn* as in *sign* (§ 66).
 N (small capital): without sound of its own, indicates the nasal tone (as in French or Portuguese) of the preceding vowel, as in *bon (bôn), en'sem'ble (än'sän'bl)* (§ 67).
 ng, as in *sing, long, sing'er; also for ngue* as in *tongue; for n* before the sound of *k* or "hard" *g*, as in *bank, junc'tion, lin'ger, sin'gle, can'ker* (§ 68).
 ō, as in *ōld, nōte, bōld, he'rō, cal'i-cō* (§ 69).
 ō, " " *ō-bey', tō-bac'co, a-nat'ō-my* (§ 79).
 ô, " " *ôrb, lôrd, ôr-dain'; law (lô), bought (bôt), caught (kôt), all (ôl)* (§ 71).
 ȳ, as in *ȳdd, nȳt, tȳr'rid, tȳr'est, pȳs-ter'i-ty* (§§ 73 ff.).
 ō, as in *sōft, dōg, clōth, lōss, cōst* (§ 74).
 ō, " " *cōn-nect', ōc-cur', cō'lōn, cōm-bine'* (§ 80).
 ol, " " *oil, nois'y, a-void', gol'ter* (§ 82).
 oo, " " *fōod, mōon, fōol, nōon; rude (rōod), ru'mor (rōo'mēr)* (§ 83).
 ōō, as in *fōot, wōol; put (pōot), pull (pōol)* (§ 85).
 ou, " " *out, thou, de-vour'* (§ 86).
 p, " " *pa'pa, pen, pin, pop, put* (§ 88).
 r, " " *rat, red, rip, rod, hor'rid* (§§ 92 ff.); also for *rh* as in *rho'do-den'dron, rhom'boid*.
 s (always voiceless, or "sharp"), as in *sit, this, haste; also for "soft" c, as in cell, vice; for sc* as in *scene, sci'ence; for ss* as in *hiss* (§ 97).
 sh, as in *she, ship, shop; also for ch* as in *ma-chine', chaise; for ce* as in *o'cean; for ei* as in *so'cial; for sci* as in *con'scious; for s* as in *sure; for se* as in *nau'seous; for si* as in *pen'sion; for ss* as in *is'sue; for ssi* as in *pas'sion; for ti* as in *na'tion* (§§ 102 ff.).
 t, as in *to, talk; also for ed* as in *baked, capped; for th* as in *thyme, Thom'as* (§ 104).
 th (voiced): for *th* as in *then, though, this, smooth, breathe* (§ 107).
 th (voiceless), as in *thin, through, wealth, worth, breadth, width* (§ 107).
 tȳ: for *tu* as in *na'ture, cul'ture, pic'ture* (§ 118).
 ū, as in *cūbe, pūre, tūne, lūte, dū'ty, hū'man* (§§ 112-114).
 ū, as in *ū-nite', for'mū-late, hū-mane'* (§ 118).
 ū, " " *ūrn, fūrl, con-cūr'; her (hūr), fern (fūrn), fir (fūr)* (§§ 117, 31); for *Ger. ō, oe, as in schön (shūn), Goe'the (gō'tĕ); for Fr. eu, as in jeu (zhū), seul (sūl)*.
 ū, as in *ūp, tūb, stūd'y, ūn'der, ūn-do'* (§ 116).
 ū, " " *cīr'cū's, cau'cū's, dā'tūm, cīr'cūm-stance, de'mon (-mūn), na'tion (-shūn)* (§ 119).
 ū: for *German ū, as in grün, küm'mel; for French u, as in me-nu' (mĕ-nū')* (§ 122).
 v, as in *van, vent, vote, re-voke', re-vive'* (§ 123); also for *f* as in *of*.
 w, as in *want, win, weed, wood* (§ 124); also for *u* as in *per-suade' (-swād') or o* as in *choir (kwĭr)*.
 y, as in *yet, yard, yel'low, be-yond'* (§ 131); also for *i* as in *un'ion (-yūn)*.
 z, as in *zone, haze; also for voiced ("soft") s, as in is, lives, wise, mu'sic, ears, figs* (§ 132); for *x* as in *Xen'o-phon, xy'lo-phon* (§ 128).
 zh: for *z* as in *az'ure; for zi* as in *glaz'ier, bra'zier; for s* as in *pleas'ure, u'su-al; for si* as in *vi'stion; for ssi* as in *abscis'sion; for g* as in *rouge, mi-rage'* (§ 133).
 ' , as in *par'don (pār'd'n), eat'en (ĕt'n), e'vil (ĕv'l)*, indicates that the following consonant is syllabic (§ 38), or, occasionally, indicates unusual consonant combinations, as in *Knut (k'nōt)*.

THE ALPHABET OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ASSOCIATION (IPA)

The following symbols have each the sound values shown in the key words. The IPA symbols and words respelled with them are in square brackets [].

CONSONANTS

[p]	in	peep	[θ]	in	either	[tʃ]	in	church
[b]	"	bib	[ð]	"	either	[dʒ]	"	judge
[m]	"	maim	[f]	"	fife	[r]	"	rear
[t]	"	toot	[v]	"	valve	[l]	"	lull
[d]	"	deed	[s]	"	cease	[h]	"	hail
[n]	"	noon	[z]	"	zones	[w]	"	wail
[k]	"	cook	[ʃ]	"	mission	[hw]	"	whale
[ŋ]	"	gig	[ʒ]	"	vision	[j]	"	you
[ŋ]	"	sing						

NOTE: For convenience in printing, the symbol [g] may be substituted for [ŋ].

VOWELS

[i]	in	beet	[ɜ]	in	bird as pronounced in southern England and parts of eastern and southern America (only in stressed syllables)
[ɪ]	"	sit			
[e]	"	chaotic			
[æ]	"	cave			
[ɛ]	"	set			
[æ]	"	sat			
[ɑ]	"	father			
[a]	"	ask as often pronounced in America (between [æ] and [ɑ]). See § 9			
[o]	"	all, horse			
[ɒ]	"	sorry as pronounced in England and often in America (between [ɑ] and [o])			
[o]	"	notation			
[ou]	"	go			
[u]	"	pull			
[u]	"	pool			
[ʌ]	"	sun (used only in stressed syllables)			

[ə] in sofa (only in unstressed syllables)

NOTE: [ə] is not a symbol of the IPA, which at present has no unambiguous symbol for the sound.

DIPHTHONGS

[aɪ] in ice [aʊ] in house [ɔɪ] in boy
[ɪu] in mute: the symbols [ju] are used when the first element is [j] as in use, instead of [ɪ]

NOTE: [eɪ] and [oʊ], given above, are also diphthongs, the usual sounds of "long e" and "long o" (see §§ 5, 69).

NON-ENGLISH CONSONANTS

[ç] = **ch** in German **ich** and Scottish **heich** "high" [hiç], the voiceless palatal fricative (§ 60).

[x] = **ch** in German **ach** and Scottish **loch** [lɒx], the voiceless velar fricative (§ 60).

NON-ENGLISH VOWELS

[y] in French **pur**, German **fühlen**, — the high-front-round vowel (§ 122).

[ø] "French **œuvre**, German **Goethe**, — the mid-front-round vowel (§ 117).

[œ] "French **seul**, German **können**, — the low-front-round vowel (§ 117).

The symbols [l], [ɹ], [ɳ], [ɽ] represent l, m, n, and r sounds that form syllables either alone or with nonsyllabic sounds; as [bætʰl], [bætʰɹ], [kæzʰɳ], [kæzʰɽ], [fætʰɳ], [fætʰɽ], [betʰɳ], [betʰɽ].

The colon [ː] after a symbol indicates that its sound is long in duration as compared with that of the unmarked symbol. The raised period [ˑ] may be used for intermediate length.

The sign [̥] after a vowel symbol (as [e̥]) indicates a pronunciation of it with slightly raised tongue; [̦] (as [e̦]) with slightly lowered tongue; [̧] (as [o̧]) with slightly advanced tongue; and [̨] (as [ę]) with slightly retracted tongue.

SYMBOLS USED TO INDICATE PRONUNCIATION WITHOUT RESPELLING

To indicate PRONUNCIATION WITHOUT RESPELLING, the table below may be used in connection with the one on p. vii. For indicating PRONUNCIATION BY RESPELLING, however, the table on p. vii is complete in itself and is alone used throughout this dictionary.

The table below is to be used only when any letter of a word has a sound that is represented in the table on p. vii by a different letter. Thus, in the respelling table s is used for one sound only, that in **sin** or **so**. To show the z sound of s (as in **his**) without respelling, the marked s (**ʒ**) from the table below should be used, — thus, **hiʒ**. In the table below, the symbols in parentheses are the equivalent symbols from the respelling table.

In digraphs, mark only the letter that is to be regarded as sounded, as in **brēak**, **brēad**, **yiēld**, **vēll**, etc. Silent e at the end of a syllable, as in **fate**, etc., need not be marked. **oe**, **oi**, **oi**, **se**, **si**, or **ti** before a vowel, and immediately after an accented syllable, usually have the sound of **sh**, and need not be marked. Where desirable, any letter regarded as silent may be shown as an unmarked italic. In a few words, the pronunciation can be indicated only by respelling.

ā (= ē)	as in	li'ār, cow'ārd, mus'tārd.
ʌ (= ɒ)	"	what, was, qual'i-ty.
ʌ, ʌ (= ɒ)	"	all, awe, swarm, talk.
ʌu, au, aw (= ɒ)	"	au'thor, law.
E, e (= ʌ)	"	eight, pray, vein, o-bey'; or (= ʌ) as in me-lee'.
ē, ē (= ʌ)	"	there, heir, where-in'.
ē, ē (= ʌ)	"	ēr'mine, e-tēr'nal, swēve.
Ee, ee (= ē)	"	eel, feet, fee'ble, un-seen'.
Ew, ew (= ū)	"	ewe, dew, hewn; or (= ō) as in brew.
ī, ī (= ē)	"	pi'que, ma-chi'ne', po-lice'; or (= ē) as in fi-as'co.
ī, ī (= ē)	"	vir-gin'i-ty, e-lix'ir; or (= ū) as in irk'some, fir, bird.
q (= ɔ)	"	wol'f, wɔm'an, wɔl'ver'ine'
q, q (= ɔ)	"	goze, dɔ, whɔ, tɔmb.
ō, ō (= ū)	"	ōth'er, sōn; or (= ʒ) as in wel'-cōme, wis'dōm.
ō (= ē)	"	ma'nōr; or (= ū) as in wōrk.
Ow, ow (= ou)	"	owl, cow'ard, vow'el.

Oy, oy (= oi)	as in	oys'ter, boy, roy'al, en-joy'.
Ū, ū (= ō)	"	ry'de, ry'mor, in-trūde'.
Ū, ū (= ō)	"	full, put, push, hand'ful.
ȳ (= ī)	"	fiȳ, skȳ, stȳle, de-fȳ', dȳ'ing.
ȳ, ȳ (= ī)	"	ȳt'tri-a, hȳmn, lȳr'io.
ȳ (= ē)	"	sat'yr, mar'tȳr; or (= ū) as in mȳrrh, mȳr'tle.
C, c (= k)	"	cat, con-cur'.
ç, ç (= s)	"	çell, viçe.
Ch, ch (= k)	"	cho'rus, ech'o', ep'oeh.
Çh, çh (= sh)	"	çhaise, ma-chi'ne'.
Ġ, ġ (= ʒ)	"	ġet, be-ġin', an'ġor.
Ġ, ġ (= j)	"	ġem, en'ġine.
dġ (= j)	"	edge, bridge, badġ'er.
ŋ (= ŋ)	"	an'chor, inġ.
ġ (= z)	"	is, hag, wiġ'dom.
ġ (= gz)	"	ex-ist', ex-am'ple.
x (= ks)	"	vex, ex'e-cute.
Ph, ph (= f)	"	phan'tom, sylph.
Qu, qu (= kw)	"	queen, con'quest.
Wh, wh (= hw)	"	when, what.

I. PRONUNCIATION OF MODERN ENGLISH

STANDARD PRONUNCIATION

Standard Pronunciation. The term *correct pronunciation* is often used. Yet it is probable that many who use the term would find it difficult to give a precise and clear definition of the sense in which they use it. When the essential facts are considered, "correctness of pronunciation" must be a flexible term. It is perhaps as accurate a definition as can be made to say that a pronunciation is correct when it is in actual use by a sufficient number of cultivated speakers. This is obviously elastic, depending both on knowledge—not always obtainable—of the number of users, and on judgment as to the cultivation of the speakers.

The standard of English pronunciation, so far as a standard may be said to exist, is the usage that now prevails among the educated and cultured people to whom the language is vernacular; but, since somewhat different pronunciations are used by the cultivated in different regions too large to be ignored, we must frankly admit the fact that, at present, uniformity of pronunciation is not to be found throughout the English-speaking world, though there is a very large percentage of practical uniformity.

The function of a pronouncing dictionary is to record as far as possible the pronunciations prevailing in the best present usage, rather than to attempt to dictate what that usage should be. In so far as a dictionary may be known and acknowledged as a faithful recorder and interpreter of such usage, so far and no farther may it be appealed to as an authority.

A further factor in the determination of correct pronunciation is the style of speech, within the same regional form, used for different occasions. The most important of these different styles is what may be called the cultivated colloquial, which has been aptly termed the style of well-bred ease. This is the most used of the standard styles, it is acceptable to every class of society, whether used by them or not, and its sound system represents the main current of progress, change, and unification of the language as a whole.

It is unfortunate that with some the term *colloquial* has somewhat fallen into disrepute, the impression having gained ground that a word marked "Colloquial" in a dictionary or similar work is thereby condemned as not in the best use. See the definition of *colloquial* in the Vocabulary.

In public worship, especially in reading from the Bible, the Prayer Book, or similar authoritative work, the rate of speech is often slower than in ordinary conversation or normal public utterance. The articulation of consonants is more distinct, and the vowels are often of greater length. The unaccented vowels are often sounded as if under secondary accent, as in *vulgate* (vūl'gāt), *converse*, *v.* (kōn-vārs'), *triumvirate* (tri-ūm'vī-rāt), *labor* (lā'bōr), etc. Such pronunciations with full vowel are confined to solemn or other very deliberate style.

§ 1. ACCENT

Accent may be defined as the prominence given to a syllable or a word which makes it stand out to the attention above adjacent syllables or words. Accent that distinguishes the syllables of words is called *word accent*, or *syllabic accent*. Accent that distinguishes words in a group is called *sentence accent*.

The term *stress*, which in a strict sense means force of expiration, is commonly used to mean accent, since it is the principal element of prominence. For clearness, *stress* will here be used as a general term for accent (prominence) both of syllables and words; *accent* will be used only of *word accent*, or *word stress*; while the prominence that distinguishes words in a sense group will here be called *sense stress* (other terms being *sentence stress*, *sentence accent*, and *emphasis*). Of the various degrees of accent, only the *primary* (') and the *secondary* (ˈ) need be marked.

§ 2. SHIFTING ACCENT

Shifting Accent. In many words and phrases, chiefly in adjectives and adverbs, the accent is often variable, being stronger on one syllable or the other according to the rhythm of the syllables in the context. Thus, we say, *The room is air'tight*, but *an air'tight room*'.

In addition to the influence of sense stress and sentence rhythm, a number of other causes contribute to shifting and variable accent. One of the most potent of these is the emphasis of contrast. Such a word as *exte'rior* or *inte'rior* by itself has the accent here marked; but when contrasted, these become *ex'terior* and *in'terior*. So *up'stairs*, *down'stairs*, when contrasted, become *up'stairs*, etc.

Emphasis of intensity also frequently produces shift of accent, as in *ab'solute*ly, emphatic form *ab'solute*ly. It is especially common in adverbs ending in -arily, as *ar'bitrar*ily, *nece'ssar*ily, etc. Under emphasis these words are often pronounced *ar'bitrar*ily, *nece'ssar*ily.

As a consequence of the various influences mentioned, in actual speech many words in English have no fixed accent.

In this dictionary, as a rule, one accentuation is given, together with

a reference (2) to this section. But the accentuation given in words of this sort may not be more "correct" than the one not given: the two merely represent different uses of the word, both equally correct. Usually, compound adjectives are entered in their predicate or absolute form, with even accent. This is taken as the basic form, as it is in most cases the original form, from which the attributive form (ˈ) is shifted. In some instances, however, the unevenly accented form is entered.

§ 3. BRITISH AND AMERICAN ACCENT

British and American Accent. A considerable group of words of French and Latin origin show a historical difference of accentuation in British and American usage. The most numerous of these are words ending in -ary (*necessary*), -ery (*cemetery*), -ory (*dormitory*). In Old French these words had primary accent on -ar-, -er-, -or-, and secondary accent on the second syllable before (*nece'ssar*'ie, etc.). In English the secondary accent became the main one, and the former primary became secondary (*nece'ssar*y); or the primary sometimes fell on the third syllable before the secondary (*lab'or*atory). But recently in southern England the secondary accent has been dropped, and the more usual British pronunciation is now *nēs'sēri*, *dōr'mitēri*, etc. The older British pronunciation is, however, still frequently heard in England, and it is universal in America, except for the comparatively few instances in which there is recent influence from British practice. Those Americans who have adopted the newer pronunciation have usually done so in only a few of the large number of words of this class so pronounced in England. In England, on the other hand, it has affected all the words of the group. There the loss of the subordinate accent has naturally resulted in the reduction of the syllable that bore it, in some words suppressing it entirely. Hence in England are often heard the pronunciations *mīl'itri*, *dīk'sh'nri*, *ōr'd'nri*, *sēk'rētri*. In a few words the accent has been moved from the first to the second syllable in British usage, as in *labor*atory, *axil'lary*, *oorol'lary*, thus preserving the unaccented syllables.

In a group of words ending in -ative (*appreciative*, *cumulative*, *legislative*, etc.) often paralleling verbs in -ate, British pronunciation is in a transition state, a subordinate accent, or at least a full vowel, being sometimes retained (*ad'min-is-tra'tive*), or the accent being lost and the vowel obscured, as in *cumulative* (*kū'mū-lā-tiv*). In America such words as a rule have the full vowel and a subordinate accent; but when the main accent immediately precedes the syllable in which the *a* occurs, and in a few other words, the syllable is also reduced in American use (*dēmōn'strā-tiv*, *āfūr'mā-tiv*).

In the small group of words ending in -mony, usage differs in England and America as in those in -ary; as, *testimony* (*Brit. tēs'tīmōni*, *Amer. tēs'tīmō'nī*).

In a few other words British practice tends to one accent and an obscure vowel where America has two accents and a fuller vowel; as, *melancholy* (*Brit. mēl'ānkālī*, *Amer. mēl'ānkōl'i*), *neuro-mancy*.

In compound names in -borough (or -burgh), -bury (or -bery), British practice usually obscures or drops the vowel of the next to the last syllable, as in *Scarborough* (-būrī; -brī). Sometimes an alternating rhythmical secondary accent is heard with full vowel, as in *Canterbury* (*kān'tēr'bērī*; -brī; or -bēr'ī). In compounds with -berry (*strawberry*) the pronunciation -bērī; -brī is there the rule, though sometimes -bēr'ī is heard. In the eastern United States sometimes the same obscuration is heard in *strawberry*, *blackberry*, etc., but in the country as a whole the full vowel is used (*strō'bēr'ī*).

§ 4. STRESSED AND UNSTRESSED MONOSYLLABLES

Stressed and Unstressed Monosyllables. Prepositions (*at*, *for*, *from*, *to*, etc.), auxiliary and copulative verbs (*am*, *are*, *can*, *has*, *must*, etc.), conjunctions (*and*, *but*, *or*, *than*, etc.), pronouns (*he*, *her*, *me*, *your*, etc.), and occasionally some other words, under the conditions of sense stress may receive any degree of stress from the lowest to the highest. Accordingly the vowels of these words vary from the full and "proper" sound suggested by the spelling to an obscure sound. Note the sounds of *to* in the natural utterance of the sentence, *It began to move to and fro*. In normal speech the unstressed *to* is here pronounced *tū*, while stressed *to* is *tō*. Such words, though having only one spelling form as a rule, in actual speech have one stressed pronunciation and one or more unstressed pronunciations, — the difference, though really marked, often passing unnoticed because of the identity of spelling and similarity of meaning.

The stressed form is always used when the word is mentioned alone, not as part of a context; it is therefore necessary, in order to pronounce an unstressed form, to use it naturally, as if unconsciously, in a phrase, clause, or sentence; if pronounced by itself the stressed form will inevitably be spoken. Most of the words have more than one unstressed form, depending partly on the style of speech, partly on the preceding and following sounds, and partly on the rhythmic succession of syllables in the context.

II. THE SOUNDS OF SPOKEN ENGLISH

A

§ 5. *ā* as in *fāte*, *āle*, *māk'er*, etc., is commonly called "long *a*." In standard English, *ā* is not usually a pure, or simple, sound, but is a diphthong, with several closely similar varieties, often beginning with the tongue a little higher than for *ē* (as in *mēt*) and moving toward *ī* (as in *īf*). The second element, or vanish, of the *ā* sound appears in accented syllables in both England and America when the sound is final or before voiced consonants, as in *dāy*, *āle*. But in America, before voiceless consonants it is usually not prominent and is sometimes lacking, as in *hāte*. In unaccented syllables, especially before vowels, the vanish may be absent in both England and America (*chā-ot'io*).

The sound (*ā*) is also otherwise variously represented in the ordinary spelling, as in *pain*, *day*, *break*, *vell*, *obey*, and exceptionally in *gaol*, *gauche*.

§ 6. *ā* as in *cāre* is a relatively long vowel formerly identical with the *ā* sound, but gradually lowered by the influence of a following *r* to a more open front sound, reaching and passing below the position for *ē* in *vēry*.

The *ā* sound may be described as a front vowel lying in tongue position between the *ē* in *vēry* and the *ā* in *mān*. Two principal varieties exist in standard speech; one somewhat nearer acoustically and organically to *ē* than to *ā*, and the other decidedly nearer to *ā* than to *ē*. Both varieties are widespread in England and America alike, often occurring with different speakers in the same locality.

The typical occurrence of *ā* is in accented syllables formerly (17th century) containing a long *ā* sound, of various origin and spelling, before *r*, as in *awāre*, *fāre*, *there*, *bear*, *chāir*, *prayer*, *vāry*, *fāiry*, *various*, etc.; and many longer words, as *precarious*, *barbarian*.

As stated above, the pronunciation of these words is not uniform in cultivated speech. In America *ā* may still be heard in *vāry*, *barbarian*, and in names like *Sārah*, *Māry*. Some speakers use a lengthened *ē* sound in *Sārah*, *Hungarian*, *vāry* (nearly like *vēry*), *Māry* (nearly like *merry*), while in such words as *sparē*, *comparē*, they use the lower sound *ā*, as also in *wāry*, by analogy of *awāre*, *bewāre*.

When the vowel is followed by *r* and another vowel in longer words, the tendency (in America, at least) is toward the short *ē* sound in popular words, as in *Māryland* (*mēr'v-lānd*), *necessāry* (*nēs'ē-sēr'y*).

For those words (*barbarian*, etc.) that may be pronounced with either *ā* or *ā*, the marking *ā* is used in this dictionary as conforming to the more general tendency to lower the vowel. In Latin words, however, the older *ā* is retained in accord with the customary more formal and somewhat artificial pronunciation of Latin words and phrases and technical terms: *lāres* (*lā'rēs*).

Other spellings for *ā* are seen in *there*, *pear*, *air*, *heir*, *prayer*, *e'er*.

§ 7. *ā* as in *hāt*, *bāck*, *rān'dom*, *pār'ity*, etc., is commonly called "short *a*." Its spelling is almost invariably *a*, exceptionally *ai*, as in *plaid*.

The standard sound *ā* is low-front, the mouth being nearly or quite as wide open as for *ā* in *ārt*, but the tongue somewhat farther forward and the front (but not the tip) elevated instead of the back, as it is (though less) for *ī*. This is the sound often popularly called "flat *a*," with reference to certain supposed acoustic qualities, in contrast to "broad *a*," as in *fāther*.

§ 8. *ā* occurs in *ārm*, *fār*, *fār'ther*, *ūh*, *āims*, *pālm*, with equivalent spellings in *hearth*, *ser'geant*, and exceptionally in *memoir* (*mēm'wāir-wōr*).

This sound is classed by some phoneticians as mid-back (unrounded), i. e., made with the back of the tongue in a position midway between high and low, and with the lips not rounded. Others, however, class it as low-back. The Southern British *ā* is, however, pronounced with the tongue somewhat farther forward than for the usual American *ā*.

In Southern British and with some Americans the *ā* sound occurs also in such words as *chaff*, *path*, *grass*, *ask*, *chance*, *can't*, etc. For further treatment, see § 9.

In the larger part of America and Canada the *ā* sound is used in many words spelled with *o*, as *top*, *doll*, etc., and in words like *what*, *want*, etc., with *w* before *a* (see §§ 11, 73).

The stressed *ā* sound in all words except those spelled with *o* (*top*) is now a relatively long sound.

The symbol *ā* is also used to represent a shorter *ā* sound in unaccented syllables, as in *ār'tis'tic*, *cār'toon*; or partly accented syllables, as in *ār'ti's'tical*, etc.

§ 9. The symbol *ā* is used in the representation of the pronunciation of certain words in this dictionary. Most such words have *ā* as the final syllable vowel sound, immediately followed by the consonant sound *f*, *s*, *th*, or *v* (*staff* [*s*], *pass* [*f*], *path*, *halve* [*s*] or by an *n*-initial consonant group (*branch*, *chance*); or have *ā* as the vowel of a nonfinal syllable, followed by *th* (*rather*) or by a consonant group of which the first member is *f*, *s*, *m*, or *n* (*after*, *plaster*, *sample*, *answer*). In English (but not in foreign) words, *ā* is a symbol with a multiple value, standing for at least three distinct variants that may be heard in the English-speaking world as a whole. The use of *ā* is thus a space-saving device.

By probably more than 90% of American speakers, *ā* words are pronounced with the vowel sound that would be indicated by the symbol *ā* in the same environment or context.

Often in the speech of eastern New England, less often in the speech of New York City and of Richmond (Virginia), and rarely in other parts of the United States, the *ā* words are pronounced with a sound that is intermediate between the sounds *ā* and *ā*.

In Southern British speech the sound usually heard for *ā* is much the same in quality as, and much the same in quantity as or longer than, the vowel usually heard in the United States in pairs like *card* and *cod* from speakers who have identical or similar vowels in such pairs.

With speakers who have a sound other than *ā* in some but not all

members of this group, there is in some words an especially strong tendency to use a vowel other than *ā*, and in other words an especially strong tendency to use *ā* rather than another vowel. The first tendency is indicated in the vocabulary by the two variants *ā*, *ā* in that order (cf. *ant*), the second tendency by *ā*, *ā* in that order (cf. *Mass*).

The following are the chief English words and word elements marked with *ā* in this dictionary:

advance	can't	distaff	(-)graph	plant
advantage	cask	draft	grasp	plaster
ait(er)	casket	draught	grass	prance
aghost	cast	enchant	half	raft
answer	caste	example	halve	rafter
ask	caster, -or	fast	lance	rasp
aunt	castle	fasten	last	rather
avalanche	chaff	flask	lath	sample(r)
bask	chancel	France	laugh	shaft
basket	chancellor	Frances	-mand	shan't
bath	chancery	Francis	mask	slant
behalf	chandler	gasp	mask	staff
blanch	chant	ghastly	master	stanch
Blanch(e)	clasp	graffe	nasty	supplant
blast	class	glance	pass	task
branch	craft	glass	past	trance
brass	dance	graft	pastor	van tage
caif	disaster	grant	path	vast

In foreign words, *ā* represents a sound whose quality is very much like that of the *ā* described in the third paragraph of this section.

§ 10. *a* as in *all*, *talk*, *swarm*, *quar'ter*, etc. — otherwise spelled as in *haul*, *caught*, *draw*, *awe*, and exceptionally in *U'tah*, *Ar'kansas* (*-sē*) — is equivalent to *ā* in *ōrb*, *hērn* (see § 71), and the symbol *ā* is used in the respelling for pronunciation, however the sound may be ordinarily spelled; thus, *all* (*ā*), *talk* (*tā*), etc.

When a (*ā*) occurs in unaccented syllables it is brief; as in *au'tere*, *al'though*, *au'thor'ity*. The symbol *ā* is used both for the short and the long sound. The short *ā* is the same in quality as accented *ā*, higher in tongue position than *ā* in *ōdd* and more lip-rounded.

§ 11. *a* as in *was*, *what*, *wānder*, *wā'low*, *swan*, *qual'ity*, etc., is equivalent to *ā* (*ōdd*, *nōt*) (§ 73), and is represented in the respelling in this dictionary by *ā*; thus, *was* (*wāz*), etc.

a as in *any*, *Thames* = *ē*; see § 28.

§ 12. *ā* as in *chā-ot'io*, *fā-tā'ly*, *vā-ca'tion*, *ā-sex'u-al*, and numerous adjectives or nouns in *-āte*, as *cor'dāte*, *du'pli-cāte*, represents a sound called "half-long *a*," with reference to its *ā*-like quality, not to its quantity, or duration, which is short. This sound occurs in syllables without primary or secondary accent, with only enough accent (not usually marked) to preserve a recognizable *ā* quality of the vowel, as in *bi-fur'cāte*, *adj.*, *du'pli-cāte*, *adj.* or *n.* In standard pronunciation the *a* in words like *duplicate*, *graduate* (*n.* or *adj.*) varies from a recognizable *ā* sound to *f*. Hence the symbol *ā* in such cases may in practice represent a range of pronunciation from *ā* to *f*. The symbol *ā* conveniently distinguishes adjectives and nouns like *duplicate*, *graduate*, etc., from the corresponding verbs, which have the full *ā* sound (*du'pli-cāte*, *grad'u-āte*, etc.). In some of the nouns or adjectives an *ī* is usual in familiar speech (*dē'l'ē-gīt*, *dū'plī-kīt*; see § 13).

§ 13. In many words, *a* in a similar situation to the *a* in *cor'dāte*, as for example in *cottage*, is unaccented and is regularly pronounced as *ī*, as in *village* (*vī'līj*), *savage* (*sāv'īj*), *homage* (*hōm'īj*). So *-ace* = *ī*, as in *palace*, *preface*, *furnace*; and *-ate* = *ī*, as in *climate*, *prelate*, *separate*, *adj.*, etc. In some such endings many speakers replace *ī* with *ā*, as in *immediate* (*ī-mē'dī-āt*).

ai and *ay* in final syllables are likewise often pronounced *ī* in some familiar words, as in *always* (*ā'l'wāz*), and regularly in the days of the week, *Monday* (*mūn'dī*), etc. *Saturday* and *yesterday* are occasionally pronounced *sāt'ēr-dā*, *yēs'tēr-dā*, but ordinarily are *sāt'ēr-dī*, *yēs'tēr-dī*. But when *-day* has a secondary accent, it is *dā'* (*work'dāy*, *week'dāy*). American pronunciation often retains *ā* or *ā* where British usually has *ī*, as in *delegate*.

Unaccented *ā* is sounded *ī* in *parliament* (also *ā*), *marriage*, and often, in colloquial speech, in *miniature*.

§ 14. *ā* in unaccented initial syllables, ending in a consonant in the spelling, as in *āb-hor'*, *āb-surd'*, *āc-count'*, *āc-crue'*, etc., and in final closed syllables, as in *loy'āl*, *vā-cant*, *mad'am*, *myr'i-ad*, is more or less obscured in ordinary speech, becoming almost or quite the same as the *ā* in *so'fa*, *ī-de'a* (§ 15). There is considerable variation according to the style of speech used, whether very formal or familiarly colloquial. Hence as no single symbol can exactly express each variety of sound, the symbol *ā* is used to suggest a variable sound between the limits of *ā* in *so'fa* and *ā* in *ag'litate*, tending, however, in the majority of words, and especially in familiar speech, to the neutral vowel *ā*. The symbol *ā* is also used in some open syllables where it is desirable to suggest a tendency toward the *ā* sound, as in the first *a* of *pha-ryn'geal* (*fā-rīn'jē-āl*).

Between certain consonants, articulated in the same or nearly the same place in the mouth, this *ā* sound may disappear entirely, as in *mō'tal*, *Sa'tan*, where in ordinary speech the final consonant usually follows immediately after the preceding one without any vowel whatever. Since in most cases, however, it is possible to pronounce the vowel, such words are often marked with both pronunciations (*mō'r'tāl*, *-t'l*; *sā'tān*, *-t'n*).

§ 15. *ā* as in *a-bound'*, *ea-rouse'*, *dī'a-dem*, *so'fa*, *ī-de'a*, etc., occurs in open unaccented syllables, including such as the first one of *a-bridge'*, in which two consonants begin the following syllable. In all styles of cultivated speech *ā* has the sound of the neutral vowel. See also § 36.

au

§ 16. The digraph **au** regularly spells the sound **ô** (*ôrd, law*), as in *sought, caught, haul*, etc. When followed by **n** (*haunt, launch, laundry*), it is pronounced **ä** by many speakers, and this is given as an alternative pronunciation in this dictionary. The words *sunt* and *laugh* are never pronounced with **ô**, but with **ä**, **ä**, or **ä** (§ 9).

aw

The digraph **aw**, pronounced as **ô** (*ôrb*), is now the usual form finally and before **k, l**, and **n**; as in *law, hawk, lawn*.

B

§ 17. **b** as in *boy, cab, ebb, rob'ber, a'ble*, etc., is the voiced bilabial oral stop corresponding to **p**, the voiceless bilabial oral stop, and to **m**, the voiced bilabial nasal continuant. All three are lip sounds. **b** is usually silent after **m** in the same syllable, as in *bomb, climb, thumb*, etc. On the other hand, a sounded **b** is excrement in many words between **m** and **l** or **r**, as in *timble, timber*. In *debt, doubt, subtle, b* is silent. Initial **b** before other consonants than **l** (*blue*), **r** (*brig*) is silent (*bedellum*).

In Spanish, **b** initially and after **m** or **n** is a lip stop, there being little or no explosive action after it. Medially, esp. between vowels, it is usually not a stop, but a bilabial fricative, a voiced sound made with the lips (but not the tongue back) shaped as for English **w**, and somewhat resembling English **v**, which is a labiodental sound. In fact, the two sounds and their spellings are sometimes interchanged; cf. *Havana, Habana, Cordova, Cordoba*. In this dictionary, Spanish **b** and **v** when initial or after **m** or **n** are indicated by **b** in the respelling, and medial **b** and **v** are transcribed as **v**.

C

§ 18. **c** spells three "soft" sounds and one "hard" sound: (1) The voiceless **s** sound before **e, i, y**, as in *cede, civil, cypress, force*; for this sound it is respelled with **s**, as *cit'y* (*sit'y*). It is sometimes written **ç**, when not before **e, i, y**, as in *façade*, regularly so for pronunciation without respelling (*çit'y*). (2) The voiceless **sh** sound, as in *vicious, ocean, oceanic*, in which the **c** is combined with the **t** or **e** (see § 103). (3) Rarely, the voiced **z** sound, as in one pronunciation of *sacrifice, suffice* (*-fiz*).

§ 19. **cis** "hard," i. e., = **k**, before any letter but **e, i, y**, or **h** (see **ch**) and when final, as in *can, cup, cry, act, arc, picnic, picnicer*; exceptionally in *septic, scirrhus*. **cc** before **e, i** is pronounced **ks** (*success, vaccinate*); **cc** is pronounced **k** wherever **c** would be so sounded (*accord, accrue*).

§ 20. **c** is silent in *czar* and its derivatives, and in *indict, victuals, muscle, scene*, etc.

ch

§ 21. This digraph has four sounds in English: (1) **ch**, (2) **j**, (3) **sh**, (4) **k**. — (1) The most frequent (**ch**) is approximately **t + sh**. Though it is disputed whether **ch** is one or two sounds, in practice it functions as a single speech sound, as in *church*. It is the voiceless correlative of voiced **j**. In most native words **ch** has the sound **ch**, as in *child, chin, much*. It is also (except initially) spelled *tch* (*satchel, catch, watch*, etc.), chiefly after a short vowel; *ti* (question); *te* (righteous); and *t* before **u** (nature); see § 118.

(2) **ch** has been voiced to **j** in certain unaccented syllables. It is so regularly in the traditional pronunciation of *-wich* in English place names: *Greenwich* (*grin'j*), *Norwich* (*nôr'j*). In *knowledge, cabbage, partridge*, the spelling has conformed to the sound. In *spinach* it is pronounced **ch** or **j**.

§ 22. (3) In loan words from modern French, **ch** has the **sh** sound, as in *chagrin, machine, mustache*, etc. In some words borrowed early, as *chivalry*, association with modern French has introduced **sh** for the historically correct **ch**. In *champaign* (level country) British still keeps the pronunciation *châmpān*, while in America the Frenchified pronunciation is usual (*châmpān*). — The **sh** sound of **ch** is indicated without respelling by **ch**.

§ 23. (4) **ch** has the "hard" sound of **k** in most words from Greek, either directly or through Latin, as in *chorus, echo, epoch*; and from Hebrew, as *Chaldea, Enoch*. But some that entered Anglo-Saxon, or came from Old French popular forms, have the **ch** sound, as *church, archbishop, archduke, cherub, chart, Rachel*; but **k** is the sound in *archangel, architect, architrave*. — "Hard" (**ch** = **k**) is indicated without respelling by **ch**.

In Italian, **ch** before **e** and **i** represents **k**. In some words from foreign languages, the corresponding **ch** has a fricative sound. (See § 60.)

§ 24. **ch** is silent in *drachm, schism, yacht, fuchsia* (common plant name).

D

§ 25. **d** as in *day, bed, hard, robbed* is the voiced tongue-point alveolar oral stop, corresponding to **t**, its voiceless correlative. Both are tongue-point sounds, the contact in English being on the upper teeth-ridge (alveoli).

The spelling **d** represents a **t** sound after a voiceless consonant in the same syllable, as in *dropped, talked, puffed*, etc. The past and past participle of *dream, learn, spell* are pronounced either *drêmt* (§ 89), *lûrnt, spêlt*, or *drêmd, lûrnt, spêld*. Pronunciations with **d** are always spelled *-ed* but those with **t** are spelled either *-ed* or *-t*. In archaic, poetic, or solemn style, the *-ed* sound is often retained, as in *below'd brethren*, etc.

d is regularly silent in *handkerchief, handsome*, and, in informal speech, in *grandfather, grandma*, etc. *Wednesday* is ordinarily pronounced *wednz'di*.

d is palatalized before **i** and **u** in words like *soldier, verdure* (*sôl'jer, vûr'dûr*); see § 118.

dg, dge, see **g**, § 45.

E

§ 26. **ē** as in *ēve, bē, mōte*, etc., is the high-front-tense vowel commonly known as "long e." This sound is formed with the tongue in nearly the same position as for **ī** (§ 52), but slightly raised and more tense, with the highest part of the tongue farthest forward and nearest the front (or hard) palate of any of the English vowels. The sound **ē** occurs only in syllables of some stress, as in *keep'er, rēclothe'* (cf. § 35). It is also otherwise variously represented in the ordinary spelling, as in *feet, beam, de-ceive', peo'ple, key, Cae'sar, machine', field, quay, Phoe'be*.

§ 27. **ē** in *hēre, fēar, drēar'y, wēird*, etc., is the high-front-lax (or lowered) vowel when followed by an **r** sound, and corresponds nearly to **ī** when followed by an **r** sound. Just as the tongue position of long **ā** is lowered to **ā** in *cāre* by a following **r** (§ 6), so **ē** is lowered to **ē** in *hēre* by the **r**. As with the sounds **ā** and **ā**, dictionaries till recently made no distinction between **ē** and **ē**, though the difference between the vowels of *he* and *here* is now obvious.

The words *hero, Nero*, zero are pronounced either with **ē** or with **ē**. In the pronunciation of Latin words (technical terms, etc.) the older **ē** is often retained before **r**, while in the Anglicized adjective the **ē** is used.

In a few words, some speakers lower the **ē** as in words where **r** follows as in *idea* and derivatives, *real* and derivatives, often pronounced *ī-dē'ā, rē'zā*.

The vowel **ē** is spelled as in *deer, dear, drear'y, mere, bier, weird, fa-ki'r* (*dā-kēr*).

§ 28. **ē** as in *ēnd, pēt, ēr'ror*, etc., is the mid-front-lax vowel, slightly lower and laxer than **ā** (**āle**), commonly called "short e" but varying considerably in actual length, as, e.g., between *pēt* and *sēnd* or *wēll*. It is otherwise spelled in *heifer, leopard, friend, Aetna, asafœtida, feather, bury, any, Thames, said, says*.

§ 29. Unaccented short **ē** in initial syllables of such words as *excuse', en-large', es-tem'* varies from a recognizable **ē** sound to an **ī** sound. Obscuration toward the neutral vowel is also not infrequent among good speakers both in America and England, as *ē-tēkt'*. In medial syllables also, where a deliberate pronunciation often shows **ē**, as in *con'cēn-trate, con'stēl'ation*, obscuration takes place in ordinary speech, as *kōn'stēl'ā'shōn*.

§ 30. What was formerly a short **ē** also occurs in unaccented final syllables, as in *stream'let, Es'sex, kind'ness, small'est, col'lege*; very often in the plural or the possessive case of nouns ending in a syllable (**s, z, sh**, etc.), as *hōrs'es, match'es, Al'ice's*, etc., in the third person singular of the present tense of verbs, as *push'es, urg'es*, etc.; in verbs and adjectives like *stat'ed, four-leg'ed*, etc.; and in *breth'ren, kitch'en, wom'en, wool'en* (for another sound of final **-en**, see § 37 f.). These words vary in pronunciation of the **e** from **ē** to **ī**. In *stream'let, Es'sex* the **ē** sound is often heard in deliberate or formal speech, but **ī** in more familiar speech, some speakers using **ī** in both styles. In the endings seen in *kind'ness, small'est, hōrs'es, Al'ice's, urg'es, stat'ed*, and in **-en** of the words given above, the sound of **ē** in the familiar type of educated speech has long been **ī**.

Some words, however, are pronounced with the neutral vowel in the best speech, as *claret* (*klār'ēt*), *diet* (*dī'ēt*); so with **-e** in a medial syllable, as in *piety* (*pī'ē-ti*), etc.

§ 31. **e** in *fern, err, herd, verge, er'mine, in-fer'* is identical with **ā** in *fern* (§ 117), by which it is represented in respelling in this dictionary.

When an originally short **ē** is followed by **r** and a vowel, it usually retains the short **ē** sound, as in *ver'y, pēr'il*.

§ 32. Cf. § 36. The sound **ē** in the unaccented syllables of *mak'er, ev'er, rev'er-ent, per-form', in-fer-ence, cav'ern* — otherwise spelled as in *li'ar, e-liz'ir, ac'tor, au'gur, sur-prise', pres'sure, glam'our, zeph'yr* — is the unaccented vowel corresponding to **ī** (§ 117).

In a large number of words the unaccented sound **ēr** is variously spelled with **-ar, -er, -ir, -or, -our, -ur, -yr**. The final syllables of *bak'er, li'ar, sail'or, au'gur, na'dir*, etc., are sounded with the same vowel **ēr**, which is established by long usage, unaffected by the various spellings.

§ 33. **e** in *sergeant* = **ā**. **ē** before **r** final or followed by a consonant formerly often had the sound of **ā** (**ārm**). A large number of words like *smart, dark, starve, darling, barn, Clark*, etc., were formerly spelled with **er** and pronounced **ēr** (as in *mōrry*). In most such words the spelling has also been changed from **er** to **ar** along with the sound change from **ēr** to **ār**. But in some words the old spelling with **er** remains, as *Derby, Berkeley, Berkshire, clerk*, etc. In England the normal pronunciation (*dār'bī, bīrk'ī*, etc.) is still used in these words, but a recent spelling pronunciation with **ār** is often substituted, esp. by those less familiar with them, — commonly so in America. *Heart, hearth, hearken* have a modified earlier spelling. In *Clark* the changed spelling has preserved the **ā**, while in *clerk* (the same word) spelling has won the day for **ār** in America, and with some speakers in England. Several words have double spellings, and sometimes double pronunciations, as *clerk, Clark; person, parson; Kerr, Carr; sergeant, Sargent*; etc.

§ 34. **e** in *there, where*, spelled also as in *their*, etc. (§ 6), occurs only before **r**, and is identical with **ā** in *cāre*, by which it is represented in the respelling in this dictionary. It is indicated without respelling by **ē** (**thēre**).

§ 35. Unaccented **ē** in *ēvade', crēate', dēlin'ēate*, etc., is shorter than **ē** in *ēve*. This sound in formal or public speaking style is often a high but very brief **ē**, as in *ā/thē-ist*, but in colloquial speech, and often in formal speech, it frequently becomes indistinguishable in common words from **ī**, as in *illu'sion*. In some familiar words the obscuration of **ē** goes even farther, to the neutral vowel **ē**, as in *society* (*sō-si'ē-ti*), *necessary* (*nēs'ē-sēr-i*).

§ 36. Unaccented **e** before **r**, as in *mak'er*, is of the same quality as accented **e** in *fern*, but shorter and laxer. Cf. § 31, 32.

When **ē** is sounded by itself, with no **r** sound, it is the same sound, with slight variations, as some other unaccented vowels; as, **a** in *sofa*, **e** in *fallen*, **i** in *terrible*, etc.

Words containing the sound *ēr* can be marked without respelling thus: *h'ār, ell'ir, ac'tōr, zeph'y'r, etc.*

§ 37. *ē* as in *concestrate, angeli, moment, quiet, system* is obscured in varying degrees in ordinary speech. In the great majority of everyday words, unaccented *e* before *n* or *l*, and in many words in other unaccented position, as in *quiet, propriety*, is obscured to the neutral vowel in colloquial speech. But as in some cases like *concestrate* the *e* may have the sound of *ē* without artificial effect, the symbol italic *ē* may indicate a sound varying from *ē* to the neutral vowel — the latter in the great majority of words. Most words in final *-en* have the obscure vowel, as *freshen, fallen*, except a few words in which it is frequently pronounced *in*, as *woolen* (*wōol'in*) (§ 30), or is quite silent, as in *bitten* (*bīt'n*) (§ 38).

§ 38. Unaccented *e* before *n* or *l* often disappears entirely, leaving *n* or *l* to form a syllable alone or with another consonant; as in *eaten* (*ēt'n*), *garden* (*gār'd'n*), *model* (*mōd'l*), *vessel* (*vēs'l*). Such syllabic consonants are indicated in Webster symbols by an apostrophe before the consonant. When the apostrophe is used, there is no vowel whatever in the syllable. In some words, however, the syllable may be pronounced either with or without a vowel, as in *deafen, freshen, bushel, chapel*, which are accordingly marked *dēf'ēn, -n; chāp'ēl, -l*; etc. In many such cases the two pronunciations are possible where only one is given; and where both pronunciations are given for a main word, sometimes only one is given for its derivatives, though both are allowable.

§ 39. *e* as a consonant. When unaccented *e* is closely followed by another vowel having slightly more stress, there is formed a rising diphthong with a consonant *y* sound (or "consonantal" *y*) as its first element. A preceding *t, d, s,* or *z* sound is often palatalized (esp. in the common words) by the *y* element to *ch, j,* or *sh*, as in *righteous* (*rī'chūs*), *grandeur* (*grān'dūr; colloq. -jēr*), *ocean* (*ō'shēn*). In some cases *ē* remains a syllabic vowel, as in *Gideon* (*gī'dē'ūn*); but often either pronunciation may occur, as in *hideous* (*hīd'ē'ūs; hīd'yūs*), *piteous* (*pīt'ē'ūs; pīt'yūs*); but after *w* (*aqueous*) or a consonant *+ r* (*vitreous*) the *y* sound is not heard (*ā'kwē'ūs, vīt'rē'ūs*), though it may occur after *r* alone, as in *calcareous* (*kāl-kār'ē'ūs; -kār'yūs*). Cf. § 58. See § 121.

§ 40. *e* silent. *e* is frequently silent at the end of a word. Final *e* is now written: (1) to show the vowel long, as *cane, mote, hope* (cf. *cān, mōt, hōp*); (2) to show a preceding *o* or *g* "soft," as in *lace, rage* (cf. *lāc, rāg*); (3) to show *l* or *r* syllabic after other consonants, as in *apple* (*āp'l*); (4) to follow certain consonants or groups that are not usually written at the end, as in *live, nurse, pulse, bronze*; (5) for various traditional reasons (as a former long vowel, etc.), as in *one, done, fertile, etc.*

The *e* in *-ed* of the past and past participles of verbs is now silent except after *t* or *d* (*stated, needed*, § 30), though sometimes sounded in poetry or solemn style (§ 25). It is also silent in the ending *-es* of verbs (*goes*) and of nouns (*stones*), except after sibilants (*tosses, horses*, etc.; see § 30).

ee

§ 41. *ee* usually spells *ē* (*ēve*), as in *see, meet, etc.* Before *r* it is lowered to *ē* (*hēre*), as in *deer, cheer*, etc. (§ 27). In *been*, it has been shortened to *bin*, the standard stressed and unstressed form in America. Many English speakers use stressed *bēn* and unstressed *bīn*; others use *bēn* or *bīn* for both. In some other words also *ee* has been shortened to *i*, as in *breeches, steelyards, sick, rick* (formerly *seek, reek*), though spelling pronunciation tends to restore *ē* in those still spelled *ee*.

ei, ey

§ 42. *ei* spells *ē* (*ēve*), as in *conceive, leisure; ā* (*āle*), as in *deign, rein*, etc.; before *r*, *ā* (*āre*), as in *heir, their*. When final, the spelling is usually *ey*, as in *obey, they*, etc. Unaccented *ei, ey* are sounded *i*, as in *forfeit* (*fōr'fēt*), *sovereign, money* (*mūn'y*). Words containing this digraph when sounded *ē* or *ā* may be marked without respelling as in *de-ceive, rein*.

For *eu, ew*, see *ū*.

F

§ 43. *f* as in *fame, fly, left, cuff*, etc., is the voiceless lip-teeth fricative consonant, made by forcing the breath out between the lower lip and the upper teeth. Its voiced correlative is *v* (*vine*). It is also spelled in native English words with *gh*, as in *laugh, cough*. In Greek derivatives it is spelled *ph*, as in *phantom, photograph, telephone*, etc., and, by imitation, in *nephew*, for older *newew, neweffew*. In of the *f* is pronounced *v*.

G

This letter spells three sounds:

§ 44. (1) "Hard" *g*, as in *gay, go, egg*, the voiced tongue-back velar stop corresponding to *k*, its voiceless correlative, and to *ng*, the voiced tongue-back velar nasal continuant. All three are tongue-back velar sounds, the back of the tongue, by contact with the soft palate, or velum, closing the air passage through the mouth. For *g* and *k* the nasal passage is also closed by the raised velum, while for *ng* it is open.

In modern English *g* is "hard": (a) Always when final: *beg, drug*; and in derivatives from such words: *begging, druggist*, where *g* is doubled to distinguish between, e.g., *rugged* (*rūg'ēd*) and *raged* (*rāj'd*). (b) Before *a, o, u*, or a consonant in the same syllable: *game, go, gun, lingual, bags* (except in the British *gaol, gaoler*). (c) In words of Germanic origin before *e* and *i*: *get, give*, and in some words of doubtful origin, as *bogy*; and usually when doubled (*muggy, buggy, lagging*). (d) In a few Hebrew words, as *ge'rah, Gideon*. For *gz* and *gz* spelled *x*, see under *X*.

"Hard" *g* is also spelled *gh* (*ghost*), *gu* (*guard, guest*), *-gue* (*plague*). It is indicated in respelling by plain *g*, as in *exist* (*ēg-zīst*), and without respelling by *g* (*gun*).

§ 45. (2) "Soft" *g* = *j* (§ 59). *g* usually is soft in Latin or Romance derivatives before *e, i, y*: *gem, engine*. At the end of a word this

sound is usually spelled *-ge, -dge* (*rage, judge*); at the end of a syllable also by *dg* (*badg'er, judg'ing*). Like voiceless *ch, dg* occurs after short vowels (*edge*, etc.). "Soft" *g* does not begin native words. It is respelled with *j* in this dictionary, and may be represented without respelling by *g*, as in *gem, engine*.

§ 46. (3) *g* as in French *mirage* = *zh*. This sound occurs in a few recent French loan words not fully Anglicized; as *rouge* (*rō'zh*), *garage*, etc.

§ 47. *g* is now silent before final *m* or *n* (*diaphragm, sign, benign*); inflectional endings do not affect it: *diaphragming* (*-frām'ing*); but in such derivatives as *diaphragmatic, signal, benignity, g* is sounded (*-frāg-māt'ik, sīg'nāl*). It is also silent initially before *n* (*gnat, gnaw*). For *g* in the digraph *ng*, see § 68.

gh

§ 48. *gh* in *aghost, ghastly, ghost* is a useless spelling for "hard" *g* (*go*). In other English words *gh* has either become silent (*high, bought, caught, eight, bough*) or changed to *f* (*draught, laugh, cough, rough*). In *hough, gh* is sounded *k*. In Irish *lough*, etc., *gh* is like Scottish *ch*.

H

§ 49. *h* in *hate, home, behave*, etc., is often called the aspirate, because it is made with a breathing sound. It is usually voiceless, but sometimes voiced when between vowels. The *h* sound occurs only at the beginning of syllables, and before vowels, or *w*, as in *where* (*hwār*), or *y*, as in *huge* (*hyōō*), never at the end of syllables or words.

In native English words at the beginning of accented syllables, even if only slightly accented, *h* is sounded in standard English whenever it is spelled (*hardy, behoove, greenhouse*).

Words that came from Old French into English had no *h* sound, though the *h* was often spelled, as *hospital, host, exhort, herb, humble, humor, hour*, etc. In the 18th century there was a gradual adoption of the *h* sound where it was spelled in such words. The most popular of the words, however, as *honest, honor, heir, hour*, were in too frequent use to gain the *h*, and are still without it. Others still waver in general usage, as *herb, hostler, homage, humble, humor, hotel*. Those that lost the letter *h* are still without the sound, as *able* (*OF. (h)able*), *ostler, arbor* "bower."

The *h* sound has been dropped at the beginning of most unaccented syllables, as in *shepherd* (*shēp'ērd*), *Durham* (*dūr'ām*), *forehead* (*fōr'ēd*), *vehement* (*vē'ēmēt*), *vehicle* (*vē'ik'l*), etc. In many such words spelling pronunciation has partly restored the *h* sound.

In the unstressed forms of *he* the *h* is regularly silent in ordinary speech, as in *They said* (*hē* would; *They met* (*hēr*); *I saw* (*hīs* father); etc. At the beginning of longer words, as *historical, hereditary, h* is commonly pronounced. But usage and sentence rhythm vary, so that either a or *an* is written before such words: a *historical, an hereditary*, etc.

I

§ 50. *i* as in *ice, time, child, mighty* is commonly called "long *i*." It is also spelled as in *vie, rise, height, eye, aisle, aye* "yes," *sky, buy, choir*. This diphthong *i* varies somewhat in both its elements. The last part is often nearer to *ē* than to *i*. The diphthong in standard American and British speech is virtually the same, with the first element like the *ā* of *ask* as sounded in New England and in many British local dialects. A form with the first element the *ā* in *fāther* is also common in both countries.

§ 51. "Long *i*" when not under the main accent, as in *i-de-a, bi-o-logy, di-am-eter*, is still a diphthong, but somewhat briefer than when fully accented.

§ 52. Accented *i*, as in *bite, ill, pity, admit*, is also spelled as in *sieve, English, pretty, been* (*bīn*), *breeches, threepence* (*thrīp'ēns*), *women* (*wīm'ēn*), *busy, build, nymph, hymnal*. This sound is commonly called "short *i*," and is the high-front-lax vowel corresponding to the high-front-tense *ē* (*ēve*) (§ 26). The same sound occurs before *r* and a vowel in words like *mir'ror, lyr'ic*.

§ 53. Unaccented *i* occurs in such words as *hab'it, cab'ln, fam'lyne, in-tend', trag'ic-al*, etc. When final, its spelling is changed to *-y* (*cop'y, hap'py*) or *-ey* (*mon'ey, hon'ey*). It is represented by various other spellings, as in *senate* (*sēn'it*), *cottage* (*kōt'ij*), *surface* (*-fis*) (§ 13), *added* (*ād'ēd, ād'id*), *horses* (*hōr'sēz, hōr'sīz*), *smallest* (*smōl'ēst, smōl'ist*), *mountain* (*moun'tēn*) (§ 30), *foreign* (*fōr'ēn*), *circuit* (*sīr'k'it*), *mischief* (*mī'shīf*), *guinea* (*gī'n*), *coffee* (*kōf'ē*), *pigeon* (*pī'ūn, pī'j'n*), *always* (*āl'wāz, āl'wīz*), *carriage* (*kār'ij*), etc.

The *i* of unaccented syllables is not always identical with *i* of accented (*bīt'ēr*). In America the tendency of final unaccented *i* or of *i* immediately preceding another vowel is either to remain like accented *i* (*it*), or to vary to a higher tongue position toward *ē*. Phoneticians generally, however, use the symbol *i* (or an equivalent) for practical transcription of both accented and unaccented *i*.

j

§ 54. In longer words unaccented short *i* before an accented syllable (as *pl'ra-tion*) or after it (as *pos'si-ble*) very commonly is retracted further toward the neutral vowel (*ā* in *sōfā*). But there is great variation in good usage, and since many speakers sound *i* where others use a sound nearer to *ā* in *sōfā*, and since the same speaker often uses either sound in different styles of speech, an italic "short *i*" (*i*) is used in this dictionary as an intentionally ambiguous symbol indicating that both pronunciations of words so marked are in general good use in England and America. Thus the symbol *i* is used to mark such words as *char'ity, vanity, possible* (and other words in *-ible*), *principle, policy, similar, animal, privilege, California, anonymous* (*-īm'ūs*), etc.; and occasionally in initial or final syllables, as in *divide, April*, etc.

In a difference so slight and so variable as this, it is difficult to represent usage exactly in every word concerned. The marking here is con-

servative, *ŷ* being used only if a pronunciation with *ā* is in unquestioned good use beside *ŷ*. In many words, therefore, the symbol *ŷ* instead of *ŷ* is used, some speakers would probably pronounce *ā*. Different derivatives of the same stem are not always pronounced alike; thus many speakers who pronounce the *ŷ* in *eradicale* like *ā*, would pronounce it as *ŷ* in *radical*. Moreover, the words differ according to style: some words have *ŷ* only in very careful speech (as *polŷcy*), while others may have it also in colloquial speech (as *editor*). In general, the more common words are marked with *ŷ* (as also certain common endings, as *-ŷty*, *-ŷible*, even in rarer words), while rarer words are usually marked with *ŷ*.

§ 55. *ŷ* silent. In certain unaccented syllables, especially in colloquial speech, *ŷ* often becomes silent before *ŷ* or *n*, which thus becomes a syllable alone or with another consonant; cf. similarly silent *ŷ* (§ 38). Thus in *civil*, *devil*, *evil*, *pupil*, *basin*, *cousin*, *Latin*, *raisin*, this is regular in colloquial speech (*siv'ŷl*, *ēv'ŷl*, *pū'p'ŷl*, etc.); and in some of them, in all styles of speech (*dēv'ŷl*, *bās'n*, *kūc'n*); and likewise when an *ŷ* sound is otherwise spelled, as in *certain* (*sūrt'in*; *-t'n*), *garden* (*gār'd'n*, occas. *gār'd'in*); more rarely in initial syllables, as in *sincere* (*sīn-sēr*; *s'n-sēr*). Likewise in many medial syllables, wherever the phonetic surroundings favor syllabic consonants; as in *easily* (*ēz'ŷl*; *ēz'ŷl*), *ordinary* (*ōr'd'nēr*; *ōr'd'n-ēr*).

§ 56. *-ŷle*, *-ŷle*. The ending *-ŷle* in words from French or Latin is now pronounced sometimes *ŷl* and sometimes *ŷl*. The prevailing tendency in England is toward *ŷl* (*agŷle*, *fertŷle*), and in America to *ŷl* (*agŷle*, *fertŷle*). But there are exceptions, as *gentle* (*n*) with *ŷl* in both countries; both *ŷl* and *ŷl* are heard in America in *infantile*, *juvenile*, *mercantile*, *versatile*. (*Camomŷle*, *crocodile*, *exŷle*, *reconcŷle*, with *ŷl* in both countries, contain a different suffix.) Some of the more familiar words lose the *ŷ* sound in America (see § 55), as *fertŷle* (*fūrt'ŷl*; *-t'ŷl*), *futŷle* (*fū't'ŷl*; *-t'ŷl*), *hostŷle*, etc.

-ŷne. The suffix *-ŷne* of adjectives and nouns, derived directly or through French from Latin *-ŷnus* and *-ŷnus*, is variously pronounced in English *ŷn*, *ŷn*, or *ŷn*, partly according to its Latin source, partly by French analogy, partly by English rules of spelling and position of the accent, but chiefly by the analogy of familiar forms; e.g., with *ŷn* (like *divŷne*, *turpentine*), with *ŷn* (like *genuŷne*, *doctrine*), or with *ŷn* (like *marine*). No rule without exceptions can be laid down, many words varying in pronunciation with different speakers. British English shows some tendency to *ŷn* where American has *ŷn*. When it is desired to respell, two dots may be placed over the letter: *machŷne*, etc.

-ŷne, *-ŷde*. The endings *-ŷne* and *-ŷde* in chemical terms are variously pronounced. In the case of *-ŷne*, usage in America is divided between *ŷn* and *ŷn*, very few American chemists using *ŷn*. The *ŷn* pronunciation now distinctly prevails. The pronunciation *ŷn* prevails among British chemists, but is by no means the only pronunciation in use in England. In the case of *-ŷde*, especially in those words which have been long in the language, usage decidedly favors *ŷd*, though *ŷd* is used by many and in a few words, as *amide*, prevails.

In terms ending in *-ŷne* and *-ŷde* the pronunciation often varies even in the mouth of the same speaker, and this condition is especially true of teachers, who often are obliged to pronounce such words in the way that seems most likely to avoid confusion of the endings.

§ 57. Stressed *ŷ* before *r* final or followed by another consonant, as in *bird*, *ŷr*, *vir'ŷin*, etc., is the same sound as *ŷ* in *fern* (*ŷ*) and *ŷ* in *ŷr*. (Cf. § 31.) In this dictionary it is respelled *ŷ*, as in *ŷtr* (*ŷtr*).

Unaccented, as in *na'dŷr*, *ta'pŷr*, *elŷŷr*, it is the same sound as *ŷ* in *mak'ŷr*, by which symbol it is respelled. Without respelling, both the stressed and unstressed sounds may be marked *ŷ* (*ŷtr*, *na'dŷr*).

For *ŷr* + a vowel (*miracle*, *mirror*, etc.), see § 117.

§ 58. *ŷ* consonant. The consonant *ŷ* sound, as in yet, may be regarded as an unaccented *ŷ* (or *ŷ*) sound gliding quickly into a following vowel, as in such words as *Indian*, which may be pronounced *ŷn'di-ān*, or, more rapidly, *ŷn'dy-ān*. The increase in speed, with decrease in sonority, converts the vowel *ŷ* into the consonant *ŷ*, and the two syllabic vowels *ŷ-ā* into a rising diphthong *ŷā*. Some words are, however, fairly well fixed in usage with *ŷ*, as *serious* (*sēr'ŷs*), esp. where *ŷ* would be hard to pronounce, as after a consonant + *r*, as in *pedestrian* (*dēs'tri-ān*), or after a *w* sound, as in *colloquial* (*lō'kwŷl*) (cf. § 39). Others usually have *ŷ*, as *opinion* (*ō-pīn'ŷn*), *familiar* (*fā-mīl'ŷr*), etc. Though no exceptionless rules can be stated, there is some tendency in America to keep the syllabic *ŷ* (which is the older) and in England to change it to nonsyllabic *ŷ*, as in *audience* (*ō'di-ēns*; *ōd'yēns*); but sometimes vice versa, as in *collier* (*Am. kōl'ŷr*; *Brit. kōl'ŷr*; *-ŷr*). The same variation in sound between *ŷ* and *ŷ* applies to *ŷ* in similar position, as in *lineal* (*līn'ē-āl*; *līn'yāl*), etc. See § 39.

For *ŷa* in *carriage*, see § 13.

§ 59. *ŷ* as in *jar*, *ŷest*, *ŷute*, *proŷect*, etc., is an affricate, or consonantal diphthong, nearly like *ŷ* + *zh*. These two elements blend into a composite sound in which both are somewhat changed. The sound is the voiced correlative of *ch* in *chin* (§ 21). It is also spelled with *g* (*register*, *magic*, *clergy*), *g* (*vengeance*, *page*), *dg* (*judgment*, *lodging*), *dge* (*judge*, *lodge*), *gh* (*Greenwich*, § 21 (2)), *dh* (*soldier*), and *ŷj* (in Oriental words, as *hadŷj*, *hadŷj*). In *hallelujah*, *ŷ* has the sound of *ŷ*, as in Latin and German. In some partly Anglicized words from French, *ŷ* has its modern French sound *zh*, as in *déŷjeuner* (*dā'zhū'nā*), etc. See also § 118.

§ 60. *k* as in *kŷte*, *ŷkill*, *ark*, *ŷnk*, *oak* is the voiceless tongue-back velar stop, corresponding to its voiced correlative *g* (§ 44), and to the voiced tongue-back nasal continuant *ng* (*sŷng*, § 68). All three are tongue-back velar sounds, the back of the tongue making contact with the velum, or soft palate. The *k* sound is also spelled as in *call*, *account*, *back*, *biscuit* (*-kŷt*), *choŷr*, *bacchanal*, *acquire*, *liquor*, *queen*, *hough* (*hōk*). *k* is also a part of the sounds of *x* in *tax* (*tāks*), *luxury* (*tūk'shōō-rŷ*), except (*ēk-sēpt*).

For excrement *k*, as in *ŷtrength* (*ŷtrēngkth*), see § 68. Initial *k* before *n* is now silent, as in *know*, *knot*, *knee*.

A small capital *k* is used in the respelling in this dictionary to indicate any of certain palatal or velar fricative sounds, often wrongly called "gutturals," which occur in German, Scottish, Dutch, and other languages. These sounds are of two typical classes: a palatal (front) or velar (back) voiceless fricative. The palatal sound results from a strong current of voiceless breath between the front (hard) palate and the front of the tongue (not the point) pressed close to it. It can be approximated by placing the tip of the tongue behind the lower teeth, pressing the front part toward the front palate, and then whispering forcibly the word *he*. This is the sound of *ch* in German *ŷch*, hence called the "ŷch-laut," occurring after consonants and front vowels and initially.

The velar (back) voiceless fricative is made with the back of the tongue pressed close to the roof of the mouth. It may be learned by first pronouncing the "ŷch-laut" as above till it is familiar, and then passing from *ŷch* to *hōh* with similar forcible whisper and upward and backward pressure of the back part of the tongue. Another method is to begin to say *look*, taking care not to let the *k* quite cut off the current of breath, continuing the loose *k* sound with a "hawking" sound. This is called the "Aoh-laut," and occurs in German after back vowels, as *a, o, u*.

These two sounds are familiar in Scottish, the first after front vowels, as in *hēch* "high," and the second after back vowels, as in *looh*. Both front and back *oh* sounds are indicated in the respelling by small capital *k*, one symbol being sufficient, since the front or back sound in nearly all cases will automatically be determined by the preceding vowel.

L

§ 61. *l* as in *leave*, *low*, *elay*, *ŷll*, etc., is a so-called liquid consonant, formed with the tongue point on the teethridge as for *t*, *d*, *n*, the nasal passage being closed and voiced breath passing out at one, or more commonly both, free sides of the tongue. Hence the name *lateral consonant*—usually bilateral, sometimes unilateral. Being a tongue-point alveolar sound (like *t*, *d*, *n*), *l* precedes or follows any of these sounds without removal of the tongue point from the teethridge, as in *salt*, *battle*; *sold*, *saddle*; *coolness*, *channel* (*chān*)).

§ 62. "Clear *l*" and "dark *l*." In sounding *l*, since the sides and back of the tongue are somewhat free to assume various positions while the point remains in contact with the teethridge, there is a large range of variation in the acoustic resonance, so that this consonant may take the "color" of various vowels. The term "clear *l*" has been used to indicate an *l* sound having the resonance of a front vowel *ē*, *ŷ*, *ā*, *ē*, *ā*, *ō*, and "dark *l*" to indicate an *l* with the resonance of a back vowel *ā*, *ō*, *ō*, *ō*, or of one of the central vowels *ū*, *ē*, *ū*, *i*, *e*. *l* is formed with the tip of the tongue in the *l* position on the teethridge while the rest of the tongue approximates the position of one of these vowels. "Clear *l*" occurs before vowels (*lily*, *loose*); and "dark *l*" before consonants (*shield*), and when final (*feel*) or syllabic (*battle*).

English initial *l* is "clearer" than final *l*. But even initial *l* in English is not so "clear" as French *l*, which is "clear" in all positions, all "dark *l*'s" having become the vowel *u* or having disappeared in older French. In America, sometimes initial *l* is noticeably "dark."

The acoustic difference between a final dark *l* and *l* preceded by the neutral vowel is not easily perceptible. Hence the difference of sound in *real* (*rē-āl*) and *reel* (*rēl*), or in *ideal* (*i-dē-āl*) and *deal* (*dēl*), is not always observed in ordinary speech. Cf. also *vial* and *vile*.

In certain combinations the *l*, originally sounded, has regularly become silent, as in *would*, *alms*, *salmon*, *half*, *talk*, *folk*, etc.

§ 63. *l* often forms a syllable by itself, as in *battle* (*bāt'l*), *channel* (*chān'l*), *trouble* (*trūb'l*); or with other consonants, as in *ruffled* (*rūf'ld*), *handled* (*hān'd'ld*). Some words may be pronounced with either syllabic or nonsyllabic *l*, as *struggling* (*strūg'l'ŷng*; *strūg'ŷng*), *awfully* (*ōf'ŷl*; *ōf'ŷl*).

M

§ 64. *m* as in *me*, *smile*, *lamp*, *drachm* is the voiced lip nasal continuant, formed by bringing the lips together, as for *b* and *p*, at the same time lowering the soft palate, and thus allowing the voice to pass into or through the nasal passage. All three sounds (*m*, *b*, *p*) are made with closed lips, and are hence called labials.

§ 65. *m* may form a syllable by itself, as in the colloquial expression "Stop 'em" (*stōp'm*); or with other consonants, as in *chasm* (*kāz'm*). *m* is, however, less commonly syllabic than *n* and *l*, and in many words in which the spelling suggests syllabic *m*, a vowel often actually intervenes, though not spelled, as in *chasm*, *prism*, *spasm*, and the numerous words like *feudalism*. Cf. §§ 63, 67.

N

§ 66. *n* as in *none*, *knit*, *canny*, *inn*, etc., is the voiced tongue-point alveolar nasal continuant corresponding to the voiced tongue-point stop *d* and the voiceless tongue-point stop *t*. All three sounds are made with the tongue point on the alveolar ridge (teethridge), and are hence sometimes called alveolar consonants, or, less accurately, dentals.

After *m*, a final *n* is silent (*hymn*, *solemn*), but before a vowel in derivatives like *hymnology*, *solemnity*, etc., the *n* is usually sounded (*hīm-nōl'ō-ŷj*, etc.). Before a consonant the *n* of *mn* is always silent, as in *condemns*, *solemnly*. Usage is divided in the participles *damned*, *darning*, the familiar pronunciation being without *n*; or usage is inconsistent, as in *limner* (*līm'nēr*) beside *condemner* (*kōn-dēm'nēr*; *-dēm'nēr*). In *kiln*, *limekiln*, the historical pronunciation *kŷl* is used by those familiar with kilns, but *kŷl* is pronounced by some others.

§ 67. *n* may form a syllable by itself, as in *cotton* (*kōt'n*), often (*ōt'n*), *prison* (*prŷz'n*); or with other consonants, as in *garden* (*gār'd'n*), *pardoned* (*pār'd'nd*).

n. A small capital *n* is used in the respelling in this dictionary to indicate that a preceding vowel is pronounced as a nasal, as in French *bon* (*bōn*). The nasal passage from the throat must be open, but no *n* is pronounced. The tongue point makes no contact with the upper teethridge, as it must do to sound *n*.

ng

§ 68. The digraph **ng**, as in **sing**, **singing**, represents the voiced tongue-back velar nasal continuant, corresponding to the voiced tongue-back stop **g**, and the voiceless tongue-back stop **k**. The tongue back touches the velum (soft palate) for all three sounds. In sounding **ng** the contact of the tongue back with the velum prevents the voiced breath from issuing through the mouth, and, the velum being lowered, the sound passes out through the nose.

Though commonly represented by two letters **ng**, this sound is a simple nasal sound, neither **n** nor **g** nor a combination of them.

When followed by a **g** or a **k** sound, **ng** is also spelled with **n**, as in **anger** (äng'gér), **ink** (íngk), **anxious** (ängk'shús), **uncle** (úngk'l), **anchor** (äng'kér), **conquer** (kóng'kér). It is represented by **ng** in respelling (**fiing'gér**), and without respelling by **n** (**fiín'gér**, **íngk**).

The letter **n** now invariably represents the **ng** sound when before a **k** or **g** sound in the same syllable. When **k** or **g** follows in the next syllable, usage varies somewhat. A few words suggest the rule that **ng** is sounded when its syllable is accented; as **con'gress** (kóng'grés), **con'gregation** (kóng'gré-gá'shún) beside **con-gres'sional** (kón'grésh'ún-ál), **con-gra'tulate** (kón'grát'ú-), or **bron'chia** (brón'kí-á) beside **bronchítis** (brón'kít'is); but the rule has many exceptions, as **con'crete** (kón'krét), **in'crease** (ín'krés), or **bron-chítis** (also brón'kít'is). In many words usage varies, as in **conclave** (kón'k-), **kóng'k-), con'cord**, **mel'anchol'y**, etc.

Between **ng** and certain other consonants, a **k** or **g** sound is present or absent with different speakers, regardless of the spelling. Thus, **k** is sounded by some in **anxious** (ängk'shús), **length** (lénghkth), **strength** (strénghkth), **instinct** (ín'stíngkt), or **g** in **anxiety** (ängg-zí'è-tí), and by others it is omitted (äng'shús, **léngh**, etc.).

o

§ 69. **ō** as in **ōid**, **nōte**, **ō'yer**, etc., is the so-called "long **o**" sound. It is also spelled as in **oh**, **roam**, **foe**, **shoul'der**, **grow**, **owe**, **sew**, **yeo'man**, **beau**, **haut'boy**, **brooch**. When accented, **ō** is usually a diphthong in standard English. It begins with the mid-back-tense vowel, a "pure" **ō** sound, and glides to a vowel resembling **ōō** (**gōōd**). In the speech of South England, however, the prevailing tendency is to begin the **ō** sound with the tongue farther forward toward the central position.

In America the diphthongal character is less marked. Before voiceless consonants, as in **note**, **oak**, the **ō** is often nearly or quite pure, without the **ōō** sound, or vanish. In any case, the beginning of the American sound, like that of northerly England, is a back vowel, not advanced, though sometimes slightly lowered toward **ō** (**ōrb**). The one symbol **ō** is here used to indicate all standard varieties.

§ 70. When long **ō** occurs before **r**, it has as its vanish the neutral vowel **ē**, representing the fore-glide of the **r**, which is slight in America. Thus the word **more** has the diphthong (**ōē**) (**mōēr**). This applies to a large group of words that had a long **ō** (occasionally **ōō**) in Middle English, as **board**, **sword**, **court**, **pork**, **borne**, **coarse**, **course**, **before**, **door**, **oar**, **story**, and many others. These are to be distinguished from another large group now pronounced with **ō**, as **border**, **horse**, **lord**, etc., which had a short **ō** in Middle English. In the prevailing speech of South England these two classes of words have fallen together, both having the sound **ō**. This is a recent change. In all other parts of England there are cultivated speakers who keep such words apart in sound.

In the pronunciation of America as a whole the distinction between **hoarse** and **horse** is still made naturally. It is, however, disappearing in the speech of some in America who are influenced by Southern British practice. The **ō** sound in **hoarse** is not, however, identical with that in **hōpe**, but it is acoustically much nearer to that of **hōpe** than to that of **hōse**. Some speakers also use a sound midway between **ō** and **ō** for both groups of words.

§ 71. The sound of **ō** as in **ōrb**, **lōrd**, **ōr'der** is also spelled with a **i** in **all**, **talk**, **swarm**; by **au** in **fault**, **haul**, **caught**; by **aw** in **law**, **dawn**, **awful**; by **ou** in **fought**, **trough**; by **oa** in **broad**; by **ag** in **Magdalen** (**mōd'lin**); by **i** in **memoir** (**mēm'wōr**); and by **u** in one pronunciation of **sure** (**shōr**, § 84). This vowel is described as the low-back-tense rounded vowel, which may be long, as in **law**, or relatively short, as in **ausp'icious**. But its articulation is not uniform. In South England the typical sound is made with the back of the tongue in a low (but not the lowest) position and decidedly rounded lips (nearly or quite as closely as for **ō**), the British sound to an American ear often suggesting (but not reaching) a pure **ō**. The American sound is made with less lip rounding, often very slight — only a little compression at the corners — in which case a little higher position of the tongue and jaw helps to distinguish the **ō** sound from the low-back unrounded **ā** (**ārm**).

The sound **ō** is respelled in this dictionary with **ō** (**ōrb**); when spelled with **a**, **au**, **aw**, it may be indicated without respelling by **ā** (**āgill**, **āquit**, **āw**).

§ 72. When **o** is followed by final **r** (**for**, **abhor**), or by **r** and a consonant (**horse**, **forty**), its normal sound is **ō** when it is not **ō** as in **fōrd** (§ 70), or is not obscured by lack of stress as in **actor** (**āk'tér**). When the sound is followed by a vowel, as in **moral**, **sorry**, its regular sound is **ō** (**mōr'ál**, **sōr'í**) if it is not **ō** as in **glory** (**glō'rí**). But derivatives from words like **abhor** (**abhorring**, etc.), although the **r** (**rr**) is followed by a vowel, usually keep the **ō** of the stem (**abhorring**, **abhorrer**). In America this commonly is extended also to less immediate derivatives, such as **abhorrent**, **abhorrence**. But in British use and sometimes in American, these are pronounced with **ō** (**abhorrent**, **abhorrence**).

§ 73. **ō** as in **nōt**, **ōdd**, **bōg**, **dōff**, **prōp'er**, **prōb'able**, spelled also with (w)a-n as in **want**, **war'der**, **wash**, **watch**, is commonly called "short **o**." As now pronounced in South England, this is a low-back-lax rounded vowel, the tongue being in the position lowest and farthest back, and the lips having "open rounding," a degree of aperture only slightly less than the open unrounded position for **ā** in **fā'ther**. Since Southern British **ō** has a higher tongue position and

is much more closely lip-rounded, the sounds **ō** and **ō** are there quite distinctly different sounds, not the short and long of the same sound.

The **ō** sound is sometimes found in syllables with little stress, as in **car'bōn**, **can'not**, **ma'ron**.

The rounded **ō** sound described above is not in general use in America. It is used by a considerable part of the inhabitants of eastern New England, by many in New York City, and to a considerable extent in the South. Words historically containing "short **o**" in general American pronunciation are mostly pronounced either with **ā** or with **ō**, not with the intermediate **ō**. Some of these variations are discussed in the following section. It is convenient to represent the "short **o**" by **ō**, which may thus indicate, for American pronunciation, either the true "short **o**" or the unrounded variety **ā**.

§ 74. **ō**. The following words containing a voiceless fricative (except **sh**), **cz**, **off**, **oft**, **often**, **croft**, **loft**, **soft**, **soften**, **cough**, **trough**; (**a**) **vice**, **loss**, **toss**, **cost**, **frost**, **lost**; **broth**, **cloth**, **froth**, are prevailingly pronounced with **ō** in southern America, though **ō** is also heard. In **moss**, **moth**, **coffee**, **offer**, **office**, **officer**, **ō** is also heard there, but **ō** prevails; while only **ō**, as a rule, is pronounced in **doff**, **scoff**, **boss**, **dross**, **floss**, **gloss**, **Goth**, **profit**, **prophet**, **ac-cost**, **Boston**, **gossip**, **gospel**, **hostile**, **possible**, and most other two-syllable words of the group. In Southern British also words with **au** (= **ō**) before **s** (**Austin**, **Austria**, **austere**) are often sounded with **ō** (**ōs'tín**, etc.).

In the most general type of American pronunciation the **ō** sound prevails in all the one-syllable words above (except **doff** (rare) and **Goth** (cf. **Gōthlic**), and also in the words **coffee**, **offer**, **office**, **officer**, **Boston**. But it must be remembered that American **ō** is not the closely rounded, **ō**-like vowel of British, being, in fact, not far from British **ō**. In the other two-syllable words the unrounded **ō** (= **ā**) prevails. But with those speakers in America who normally or frequently use a true **ō**, the latter sound is used in some or all of these words.

The variation in the sound of **ō** in this class of words is indicated in this dictionary by the combined symbol **ō**, suggesting either **ō** or **ō**.

In another group of words having "short **o**" followed by an **r** sound (spelled **r** or **rr**), as **moral**, **sorry**, etc., usage in England is fairly uniform in the use of **ō**. In America the influence of the **r** (often slightly rounded) has made **ō** or **ō** in these words much commoner than the unrounded **ō** (**ā**), which is rare in these words. The more general sound in America in these is an **ō** of moderate length and more like **ō** than is British **ō**, — as in **sorry**, **moral**, **forest**, etc. The same tendency is seen in the **wa**-words, as **warrant**, **warrior**, **quarrel**, **quarry**, the most general American pronunciation being with **ō**, though **ō** is fairly frequent. When the **r** is final (**war**) or followed by a consonant (**warm**), the pronunciation is everywhere **ō** (**wōr**, **wōrm**), etc., just as in **abhor**, **hōse**.

In a group of other words with **o**, as **bob**, **knob**, **rob**, **sob**; **God**, **rod**; **bog**, **dog**, **fog**, **frog**, **hog**, **log**, **catalogue**; **doll**, American usage is quite variable. The most frequent pronunciations are with the unrounded **ō** (**bāg**, **nāb**, etc.), except in **dog**, **log**, **catalogue**, which more commonly have **ō**. In all these words, the true **ō** is, of course, proper, but most American speakers to whom the true **ō** is not native are likely to pronounce **ō** in attempting **ō**.

In words like **long**, **song**, **tongs**, **wrong**, and in **gone**, British speech has **ō**, but the more general American pronunciation is **lōng**, **gōne**, etc. In these words the unrounded **ō** is seldom heard.

§ 75. **ō** in **ado**, **do**, **lose**, **move**, **prove**, **to**, **tomb**, **two**, who is an occasional spelling for the **ōō** sound (**fōōd**), which is represented in respelling in this dictionary by **ōō**, or may be indicated without respelling by **q** (**dq**).

§ 76. **ō** in **wolf**, **woman** (**wōm'ān**), **Worcester** (**wōs'tér**), etc., is an occasional spelling for **ōō** (**fōōt**), respelled in this dictionary with **ōō**. It may be indicated without respelling by **q** (**wolf**).

§ 77. **ō** in **son** (**sūn**), **come**, **dove**, **front**, **honey**, **London**, **some**, **tongue**, **won**, etc., spells the **ū** sound (**sūn**). In some of the rarer words the **ō** or **ō** sound has been adopted from the spelling (§ 3), as in **combat**, **constable** (**kūn'stā-b'l**; **kōn'-**), **went** (**wūnt**; **wōnt**). The **ū** sound of **o** may be marked without respelling by **ō** (**sōn**).

§ 78. **ō** in **work**, **worm**, **worse**, **attorney**, etc. (chiefly in native words after **w**), is equivalent to **ū** in **ūrn**. It may be indicated without respelling by **ō** (**wōrk**).

§ 79. **ō** as in the unaccented syllables of **ō-bey'**, **pō-et'ic**, **e'gō-ism**, etc., represents a shorter variety of **ō** sound, without the vanish, or **ōō** sound, occurring in unaccented syllables. It is also used to represent a more obscure vowel sound, in ordinary colloquial speech becoming the neutral vowel **ē**, as in **anat'omy**, **biol'ogy**, **pōta'to**, etc.

§ 80. **ō** in **com-pact'**, **cōn-form'** represents an unaccented sound which ranges from a full **ō** sound (**stōp**) to the obscure neutral vowel in **nation** (**nā'shūn**). It occurs in a very large number of words which in ordinary speech regularly have the neutral vowel, as in **occur**, **connect**, **recollect**, etc., which are marked with **ō** to show that the **ō** sound has been obscured.

§ 81. **ō** as in the unaccented syllables of **nation** (**nā'shūn**), **lem'on**, **hand'some**, **gal'lop**, **big'ot**, etc., always has the obscure sound, the neutral vowel. The symbol **ū** is used in this dictionary to respell **u** or **o** when the full **ū** or **ō** sound is not a normal pronunciation. Compare the two **ō**'s in **oblivion** (**ōb-ly'v'ūn**).

For **o** in **actor** = **ē**, see §§ 32, 36.

In some words **ō** may become quite silent, being replaced by a syllabic consonant, as in **button** (**būt'n**), **idol** (**í'd'l**), **pardoner** (**pār'd'n-er**); or with loss of a syllable, as in **reckoning** (**rēk'ning**), **chocolate** (**chōk'lit**).

oi and oy

§ 82. **oi** in **oil**, **boil**, etc., is a diphthong consisting of **ō** + **i**, the elements being pronounced in a single wave of sound (**ō'í**). It is used in the respelling always with this value.

oi sometimes represents other sounds, as in **cham'ois**, **choir**. **oy** regularly has the sound of **oi** as in **oil**. The sound of **oi** when final is commonly represented, in the ordinary spelling, by **oy**, as in **boy** (**boi**), and sometimes when medial, as in **royal** (**roi'āl**).

oo

§83. oo in modern English represents most commonly the sounds **oo** in **food** and **foot**, by which these sounds, however spelled, are represented in the respelling. The letters **oo** also spell the sounds of **ü** in **flood**, **blood**, and **ü** in **door**, **floor**, **brooch**.
 oo as in **food**, **foot**, **noon**, **proof** — otherwise spelled as in **rude** (§114), **group**, **draw**, **fruit**, **do**, **canoe**, **rheum**, **maneuver**, **blue** — is the high-back-tense rounded vowel. Sometimes, esp. in South England, it is slightly diphthongal, beginning a trifle more open and ending closer.

§84. Before **r** (**moor**, **poor**, **tour**, **sure**) the **oo** sound is somewhat lowered by the **r** so as to become nearly or quite **o** (**moör**, **poör**, **toör**, **shöör**). Cf. the lowering effect of **r** in **hère**, **càre**. The same lowering effect is also seen in the last part of the diphthongal sound spelled with long **ü** = **yöü** before **r**. Words like **endüre**, **Eu'rope**, **sect'ritry** (§114) are commonly pronounced **ën-dyöör'** (**-döör'**), **yöör'üp**, **së-kyöör'z-tl**. In Southern British speech words like **poor**, **sure**, etc., are pronounced either **pör**, **shör**, or **pär**, **shär**.

§85. The sound **oo**, as in **foot**, **book**, **cook**, **crook**, etc., also spelled as in **full** (**foöl**), **wolf** (**wööl**), **would** (**wööl**), is the high-back-lax rounded vowel, with tongue slightly lower and less tense than for **oo** and lips less closely rounded.

The pronunciation with **oo** is well agreed on in the words **brook**, **brook**, **crook**, **foöt**, **good**, **hood**, **hook**, **look**, **noök**, **roök**, **shook**, **stööd**, **took**, **wöod**, **wöol**.

In the following words, cultivated usage is divided between **oo** and **oö**: **broom**, **coop**, **groom**, **hoof**, **hoop**, **pooh**, **roof**, **room**, **root**, **snoek**, **soon**, **soot**, **spoon**, **whoop**, **whooping cough**.

ou

§86. ou is the regular spelling for the diphthong in **out**. The **ou** sound in standard British and American is a diphthong beginning with **ä** (**äsk**) and ending with (or near) **ö**, sometimes also **ö**.

Other sounds represented by the letters **ou** in English are: **ö** (**soul**), **ö** (**soup**), **ö** (**should**), **ä** (**bought**), **ü** (**double**), **ö** (**hough**), **ü** (**journey**); and unaccented, **ä** (**grievous**), **ö** (**borough**), **ö** (**glamour**).

ow

§87. When final, the diphthong **ou** is usually spelled **ow** (**cow**, **now**), sometimes also medially (**scowl**, **howl**). Likewise when **ou** is sounded **ö** (**soul**) it is spelled **ow** finally (**know**, **tow**) and sometimes medially (**howl**). Unaccented at the end of such words as **sparrow**, **follow**, etc., the generally accepted pronunciation is **ö** (**fööl'**, etc.). For **oy**, see **ö** (§82).

P

§88. **p** as in **pay**, **play**, **happy**, **cup**, etc., is the voiceless lip stop, corresponding to the voiced lip stop **b** (§17), and the voiced nasal lip continuant **m** (§64). All three sounds are made with closed lips.

p is silent in **raspberry** (**räs'bër'tl**), **cupboard**, **receipt**, **corps**; and also in the commoner Greek derivatives **psalm** (**säm**), **psalter**, **pneumatic**, **pneumonia**, etc. In less common words, as **pseudo-**, **Psyche**, **pterodactyl**, etc., some pronounce the **p**.

§89. The **p** sound is often excrement, as in **Thompson**, **glimpse**, etc. The same excrement sound often occurs when it is not spelled, as in **warmth** (**wörmpth**), **dreamt**, **comfort**, **triumph**, though usage varies in this, as it does also when the letter **p** is spelled, as in **em(p)ty**, **glim(p)se**, **jum(p)ed**, **sem(p)stress**, etc.

ph

§90. **ph** as in **phantom**, etc., usually spells the **f** sound (**far**), chiefly in Greek derivatives, as **phantom**, **sylph**, **philosophy**, etc. Exceptionally, it has the sound **v**, as in **Stephen**, and in **nephew** as pronounced by some. In **diphthong**, **triphthong**, **diphtheria**, **naphtha**, etc., **ph** is often sounded **p**, but **f** is usual. Initially before **th** (**phthalin**) **ph** is more often silent: **thäl'in**; **fthäl'in**.

Q

§91. **q** is regularly followed by **u**, with the sound of **kw** in native words, as **quell**, **quake**. In loan words **q** is also usually **kw** (**quite**, **conquest**), but is sometimes **k**, as in **liquor** (**l'k'ër**), **coquette** (**kö-kët'**). Final **-que** is sounded **k**, as in **unique** (**ü-nëk'**).

R

§92. The letter **r** in **rate**, **very**, **far**, **feared**, **hurt**, **better**, etc., spells a variety of sounds, the chief of which are described here.

(1) **Description of r**. (1) The original English **r**, at least before vowels, was a **tongue-point trill**. The audible sound consists both of voice and the tongue-point vibrations.

(2) **Uvular r** (**velar r**, less properly, **guttural r**) is made by the combined sound of voice and rapid vibrations of the uvula against the back of the tongue raised toward the velum, or soft palate.

(3) **Fricative r** is made with the tongue raised to a position similar to that for the tongue-point trill, but with the point not vibrating. The point is close enough to the front palate to cause audible friction of the voiced breath between.

(4) **Frictionless continuant r** is formed by a tongue position much like that of fricative **r**, but with the tongue sufficiently withdrawn from the front palate to eliminate the fricative sound. Though similar in tongue position to fricative **r**, the difference is fundamental, no sound but voice being heard. It is vowel-like in sound.

(5) **Retroflex r** is a further modification of the fricative and frictionless **r**, in that the tongue point is further turned up toward the hard palate, in some cases being bent back, or "retroflexed." Here, too, there is no sound but voice. Organically, (4) and (5) are characterized by a gliding movement of the tongue to or from a vowel.

(6) If the tongue be held in the position for (4) or (5) and the voice sounded without change of tongue position, an "r-colored" vowel will result. This is the vowel **ü** (stressed) and **ö** (unstressed) of general American pronunciation.

§93. (II) Occurrence of **r**. (1) **Trilled r** is still used by Scottish speakers of standard English, though not invariably in all positions of the word. It is also occasionally pronounced between vowels by Englishmen, usually with a single flip of the tongue. The trilled **r** is still common with Welsh speakers of English and in Irish and Scotch dialect. The point-trilled **r** is regular in German standard speech, and is common in some types of French. It is also regular in Welsh, Italian, and Spanish.

(2) **Uvular r** is found in English chiefly in Northumbrian dialect, but not at all in standard English. The uvular trill, or a strong fricative ("uvular scrape") articulated at the same point, is regular for Parisian standard French, and is also common in Germany.

(3) **Fricative** or (4) **Frictionless continuant r** is the usual one in standard Southern British. In so-called fricative **r**, the fricative element is often a minor one.

(5) Some degree of **retroflex r** is common with educated speakers in northern, western, and southwestern England, and is regular in the greater part of America and Canada. In regions where **r** is sounded finally and before consonants, retroflex **r** often affects the quality of a preceding vowel. In the most general type of educated American speech the **r** coincides with the vowel **ü** (**hürt**) and with the corresponding unstressed vowel **ö** (**pöelve**); i. e., the vowel is pronounced for its whole duration with the tongue in the raised position for **r** — the so-called retroflex, or "r-colored," vowel, no further consonant **r** being added. This is the only vowel in standard American English so affected.

Loss of r. In the standard speech of southern England, of eastern New England, of New York City, of most of the southern United States, and of some speakers in the cities of Canada (esp. eastern), **r** is sounded only before a vowel in the same or a closely following word, the letter **r** being retained in the spelling. The following will illustrate: **fear** (**fëä**), **are** (**ä**), **arm** (**äm**), **form** (**föem**, **föm**), **bore** (**böë**), **far away** (**fär äwä'**), **here and there** (**hëär änd thääh**), **here they are** (**hëäh thä ä**). When an **r** sound is thus retained before a vowel of the next word, it is called **linking r**.

§94. As a result of sounding **r** only before a vowel, many words, spelled with final **r**, exist in two forms but in one spelling, as seen in **here I am** (**hëär i äm**), **here they are** (**hëäh thä ä**), according as a vowel follows or not. Hence any word that ends in **ä** (as does **hëäh**), such as **idea** (**idëä**), etc., is likely to be treated like those that end in **r**, and hence to take an **r** sound when a vowel follows. Thus the speaker says, a **good idea** (**ä gööd idëä**), but the **idea of it** (**thë idëär öv it**). This is called **intrusive r**, and is common in England and eastern America, less so in the southern United States.

§95. Since speakers of some types of standard speech pronounce **r** where others do not, in this dictionary all **r**'s are marked in the respelling for pronunciation as being pronounced, with the understanding that those who omit **r** except before vowels will in these cases pronounce it or omit it just as they would when it appears in the ordinary spelling.

S

§96. The letter **s** spells four different sounds, two voiceless and two voiced; viz.: (1) **s** as in **sun** (**sün**), (2) **z** as in **easy** (**ez'tl**), (3) **sh** as in **sure** (**shöör**), and (4) **zh** as in **vision** (**vizh'ün**).

§97. (1) The usual method of forming English **s** as in **sun** is with the tip and blade of the tongue pressed close to the upper teethridge, and the point drawn into itself so as to form a very narrow, tubelike channel between the tip and the teethridge. A thread of voiceless breath forced through this channel strikes the points of the teeth (esp. the lower) and produces the characteristic "hissing" sound. It cannot be made with the mouth wide open, since the air stream does not then strike the lower teeth. Some speakers place the tip of the tongue behind the lower teeth, pressing the front of the tongue toward the teethridge to form the channel.

Voiceless **s** is heard in **see**, **so**, **small**, **basis**, **yes**, **hats**, etc. It is otherwise spelled as in **pass**, **cell**, **rice**, **scene**, **schism**, **tax**, **quartz**. It is silent in **aisle**, **isle**, **island**, **Carlisle**, **corps** (**kör**), **chamois**, **rendezvous**, **debris**, **viscount**, **demesne**, **apropos**, **Grosvenor**, and with varying frequency in **bas-relief**, **Arkansas**, **Illinois**, **St. Louis**, **Louisville**.

§98. (2) Voiced **s** has the sound of **z** and is formed like voiceless **s** with the addition of voice. It is heard in **easy**, **resolve**, **has**, **is**, **ribs**. (Initial **s** does not spell **z**.) This sound of **s** is respelled in this dictionary with **z**, as in **ribs** (**ribz**), and may be indicated without respelling by **g** (**ribz**).

Two principal sources of voiced **s** (originally always voiceless) are: (a) Lack of stress, as in the unaccented syllables of words like **Mary's** (**mär'iz**), **roses**, etc., or in the frequently unstressed words **is**, **was**, **has**, etc. (b) Voice assimilation between voiced sounds, as in **observe**, **pansy**, **easy**; also in **refuse**, **lose**, etc., where final **e** was once sounded, and hence **s** was between vowels.

In certain nouns and adjectives spelled in the same way, the **s** sound was originally final, as it still is, as **abuse** (**n.**), **loose** (**adj.**). Hence some pairs of verbs and nouns or adjectives are distinguished by the sound of **z** or **s**, however spelled, as **close**: **v.** (**klöz**), **adj.** (**klöös**) — **house**: **v.** (**houz**), **n.** (**houz**) — **use**: **v.** (**üz**), **n.** (**üs**); etc.

§99. The ending **-s** or **-es** in the plural of nouns (**ships**, **bushes**), or in the possessive case (**Jack's**, **George's**), or in verbs (**eats**, **goes**), is pronounced according to the preceding sound. After voiceless sounds except sibilants (**s**, **sh**, **ch**) it is pronounced **s**, as in **ships**, **Ruth's**, **talks**. After voiced sounds except sibilants (**z**, **zh**, **j**) it is pronounced **z**; as in **ribs**, **trees**, **Tom's**, **Joe's**, **digs**, **goes**. After sibilants, voiced or voiceless, it is pronounced **gz**, **iz** (§30); as in **losses** (**löz'ez**), **roses** (**röz'ez**); **Grace's** (**gräs'iz**), **thrush's** (**thrüsh'iz**); **ceases** (**sēs'ez**), **gazes** (**gäz'ez**).

§100. (3) **s** has the **sh** sound when it is palatalized by a following **i** or **y** sound (however spelled), as in **mansion** (**män'shün**), **censure** (**sën'shër**), **nauseous** (**nö'shüz**). See §103.

§101. (4) Likewise voiced **s** (= **z**) has the sound **zh** when palatalized by a following **i** or **y** sound, as in **vision** (**vizh'ün**), **measure** (**mëzh'ër**). See further in §103.

sh

§ 102. **sh** as in *sharp, rashly, bush*, etc., is pronounced with the tip and blade of the tongue approaching the hard palate a little farther back than for **s**. The aperture is wider laterally, so that the current of air passing over the tongue is more spread out like a waterfall than for **s**, in which it is like a jet. The main body of the tongue is also higher toward the roof of the mouth. The broader stream of air rushes against the teeth much as for **s**, the mouth requiring to be nearly closed. The position of the tongue is on the whole similar to that for **y**; hence **sh** and its voiced correlative **zh** are often called palatal sounds, and are, in fact, often the result of palatalization (§ 103).

The sound spelled **sh** is not a combination of **s** and **h**, contains no **s** or **h** sound, and is a simple sound. It does often result from pronouncing **s** next to a **y** sound, but when it becomes **sh** it ceases to be either **s** or **y** and becomes a different, simple sound. It is now also spelled as in *machine, chandelier, schist (shist), issue, mission, conscience, special, anxious*. See § 103.

When **s** and **h** are in separate syllables, each has its own sound, as in *sheephead (shēp'shēd')*. In some names, ignorance has led to a wrong division and pronunciation that have come into good use, as in *Lewisham* (= Lewis + ham), often pronounced *lū'sh-ām* for the historically correct *lū'is-ām*.

§ 103. The words *issue, mission, conscience*, etc., mentioned above (§ 102), contain instances of palatalization of **s** to **sh**. The condition for this is a consonant **y** sound following the **s**, and followed by an unstressed or lightly stressed vowel. In words like *conscience, special, nauseous*, etc., this **y** sound was earlier an unaccented **y** or **ē** sound (still so spelled), which by lack of stress became a **y** sound, just as unaccented **i** in *Indian (ī'n-dī-ān)*, may become **y** (ī'n'dyān), as explained in § 58. The sound **s** is thus, as the tongue anticipates the position for (palatal) **y**, transformed into the palatalized **sh** sound (cf. § 102, first ¶). Regardless of the spelling, when these combinations of sound occur, the palatalization takes place, as in *anxious (x = ks), nauseous*. So, too, before **ū**, as in *issue*, though the **y** sound is not spelled at all, it is yet a part of the pronunciation of **ū**, and the palatalization takes place as usual: *ish'ū, ish'ōo*. The corresponding palatalization also takes place when the first sound is voiced **s** (**z**), which is changed to **zh**, the voiced correlative of **sh**; as in *vision (vīzh'n)*, etc.

In some words, after the **y** or **ē** has become **y** and been absorbed into the **sh** or **zh** sound (*mission, vision*), it has sometimes been restored, as seen in *Asia (ā'zhā)* but *Asiatic (ā'zhī-āt'ik)*, etc. This is partly due to analogy, partly to spelling, and no doubt partly to the rhythm of utterance. Thus the rhythm of *ā'zhāt'ik* is a trifle difficult, owing to the adjacent accent, so that the more natural alternating rhythm is apt to be substituted (or kept from the beginning): *ā'zhī-āt'ik*.

T

§ 104. **t** as in *tie, note, apt, matter*, etc. — also spelled as in *Thomas, walked*, or without spelling in *eighth (ātth)* — is the voiceless tongue-point alveolar stop, corresponding to the voiced tongue-point alveolar stop **d**, and to the voiced tongue-point alveolar nasal continuant **n**. All three are made with the tongue point on the upper teeth-ridge, as also is **l**. See § 25.

t in words like *question* is palatalized to **ch** as **d** in *soldier* is to **j**. See §§ 103, 118.

§ 105. **t** is silent in *Matthew, mortgage, hautboy, chasten, listen, castle, soften*, etc.; and commonly in combinations like *sit down*, *cast* — esp. when between two consonants.

§ 106. An excrement **t** is pronounced in *against* (formerly *agains*), *amongst* (formerly *among*), *midst*, *pennant*.

th

§ 107. **th** spells the tongue-point dental (or interdental) fricative, voiceless, as in *thin, ether, tooth*, or voiced, as in *this, either, smooth*, the symbol **th** being used in this dictionary for the voiceless, and **th̄** for the voiced sound. In forming **th**, the point of the tongue lightly touches the backs or the points of the upper teeth, in some cases protruding a trifle between upper and lower teeth, while breath hisses through with a fricative sound — the only sound when **th** is voiceless, and combined with voice when it is voiced (**this**).

When spelled with final **th**, the sound is usually voiceless (except in *bequeath, booth, mouth, v. smooth, with*); when final and voiced, it is usually spelled **-the (bathe)**.

The **th** sound is a simple sound, made with a single tongue position, not a combination of **t** and **h** sounds.

§ 108. Certain nouns ending in **th** have **th** in the singular (**mouth**) and **thz** in the plural (**mouthz**), etc. After a short vowel, there is a tendency to voiceless **th**, as in the plurals *breaths, deaths*, etc., and likewise after consonants, as in *breadths, months*, etc. But the usage is divided in some words, as in *truths (trōthz; ths), youths*, etc.; and some words with long vowel regularly have voiceless **-ths**, as *heaths, growths*. In *cloths*, a modern formation, some speakers distinguish *clōthz* "pieces of cloth" from *clōths* "kinds of cloth."

Initial **th** in pronominal words (**the, this, then, there**, etc.) is now voiced (**this**, etc.). In the word with usage is divided, the voiceless form being especially apt to occur before voiceless consonants (*with certainty, with feeling*, etc.).

§ 109. The **th** is voiced in several verbs, as *bathe, loathe, teethe*, in which the final **-e** was once sounded. It is likewise voiced in the verbs *bequeath, mouth, smooth*, though the **-e** is no longer written. Thus the voiced **th** constitutes a distinction between nouns or adjectives and verbs; as *bath, bathe; mouth, mouthz*.

§ 110. **th** has the sound of **t** in *thyme, Thomas, Esther*. When **t** and **h** are in separate syllables, each has its own sound, as in *nut/hatch'*. Through ignorance, or reverence for the spelling, a **th** sound has become standard in some such words; as *Waltham (wōl'thām; Brit. wōl'tām, -thām)*.

ti

§ 111. **ti** in *nation, patience, martial*, etc., has the sound of **sh** (*shine*). In *bestial (bēs'chāl)*, etc., **ti** has a **ch** sound.

U

§ 112. **ū** as in *use, lute, dispute*, etc., is commonly called "long **u**." It is otherwise spelled as in *beauty, feud, pew, queue, lieu, view, cue, suit, yule, yew, you*. The sound marked **ū** is chiefly used in syllables having a full stress (*cūbe*), or a subordinate accent, whether marked or not, as in *in-ter-view'er (īn'tēr-vī'ēr)*, *per-fūme*. When quite unaccented, a different symbol (**ü**) is used (§ 118).

§ 113. The sound of **ū** varies both with different speakers and according to neighboring sounds. The main element of **ū** is the sound **ōo** (**food**), commonly with slightly forward tongue position. Preceding this is usually the sound of **y** (**yes**), or a more vowel-like sound **y** (**hii**), the tongue being somewhat retracted. After certain sounds, the initial element is much lightened or absent, leaving only **ōo**. (See § 114.)

§ 114. The **ū** sound, however spelled, varies in cultivated speech according to the phonetic nature of the preceding sound. The same condition, with some modifications, also affects the unaccented **ü** (§ 118).

(1) When the **ū** sound is initial, the **y** sound is always fully heard in all types of cultivated English, as in *use (ūz)*, *union (ūn'yūn)*, *ewe (ū)*, *eulogy (ū'lo-jī)*; the **y** is written in the phonetically identical sound in *yew (yōo)*, *yule (yōol)*, *youth (yōoth)*. **y** is also sounded whenever unaccented **ū** is initial, as in *utility*, etc.

(2) After **b** (*beauty*), **c** (*cube*), **f** (*few*), **g** (*gew'gaw*), **h** (*human*), **k** (*Kew*), **m** (*mute*), **p** (*pure*), **v** (*view*), the sound **ū** is regular, and **ōo** is not used. Thus there is no confusion between pairs like *beauty-booty; cue-coo; feud-food; hew-who*; etc.

(3) After **s** (*assume*), **z** (*resume*), **th** (*enthusiast*) — tongue-point fricatives — though the same pronunciations as in (2) are in accepted use, cultivated speakers in both England and America often suppress the first element of the **ū**, leaving **ōo** alone: (*ā-soom'*, etc.). This is often criticized, but is in widespread use.

(4) After **d** (*duty*), **t** (*tune*), **n** (*new*) — tongue-point stops and nasal — the **ū** sounds are also accented generally, but here too in America, at least, the **ōo** sound is widely used by the educated. It is to be observed, however, that the **ōo** in these words is formed with the tongue farther forward, and that *suit, duty*, thus pronounced, are not accurately represented by the spellings "soot" and "dooty," and do not exactly rhyme with *shoot, booty*.

(5) After **l** (*lute*) usage is divided both in England and in America, the pronunciations *lute* and *loot* both being in good use. However, when another consonant precedes the **l** in the same syllable, as in *blue, blew, in-clude*, etc., the **ōo** sound is regular. But if the consonant is in the preceding syllable, as in *ab-lution*, the pronunciation is like that of *lute*. Thus in the word *flu'ent*, the marking is *flōo-*, while in *af'lu-ent*, it is *āf'flū-ent*.

(6) After **ch** (*chew*) and **j** (*June*) the first element of **ū** is likewise usually omitted (*chōo, jōon*). But after the palatalized sounds **ch** and **j** there is apt to be a noticeable **i** glide to the following vowel, and the pronunciations often resemble (*chū, jūn*).

Likewise after the simple sounds **sh** and **zh**, as in *sure, us'rious*, the **y** element usually disappeared when **sh** or **zh** was palatalized from **s** or **z**. But **ū** is sometimes heard, as in *us'rious (ū-zhōr'ī-ūs, ū-zhū'ī-ūs)*; and when unaccented, in *issue (ish'ū, ish'ōo)*.

(7) After **r** the **y** element is now completely silent in standard speech, as in *rule (rōol), brew (brōō), crew, prune, true, threw*, etc. But the **ōo** with tongue forward is still common in these words, though they are regularly marked with **ōo** in the respelling in this dictionary (or without respelling, may be indicated by **y**, as in *ryle*). By this advanced **ōo**, often also with prefixed retracted **i**, many Americans preserve the historical distinction in sound between *rude* and *rood*, *rheum-room*, *threw-through*, *chews-choose*, *lute-loot*, etc.

(8) When **ū** occurs before **r**, the **ōo** element of the **ū** sound is commonly lowered to **ōo** just as is the simple **ōo** sound, in such words as *Europe, fury, bureau, mural, cure, mature, endure*. Attention is often called to it in the Vocabulary by a reference to this section or to § 84. Thus a common pronunciation of the foregoing words is: *yo'or'ūp, fyōō'ū, byōō'rōo*, etc. The lowered sound **ōo** is especially evident after those consonants where the first (**y**-) element is sometimes omitted, as in *sure (shō'or), rural (rōō'rāl), jury (jōō'rī)*.

Just as there is a tendency in Southern British speech to change **ōo** before **r** into **ō** or **ō**, likewise the second element of **ū** (**yōo**) in *pure, endure*, etc., varies to **ō** or **ō** (*pyō'or, pyō'r, pyō'r; ēn-dyō'or, ēn-dyō'r, ēn-dyō'r'*, etc.).

§ 115. **u** as in *pull, bull, push*, etc. — otherwise spelled as in *wolf, wood, woman* — has the sound of **ōo** in *foot* (§ 85), being respelled in this dictionary with **ōo** (§ 76). It may be represented without respelling by **u** (*pull*) or **o** (*wolf*). This is the high-back-lax rounded vowel made with the back of the tongue raised toward the velum, and with lips rounded a little less than for **ōo**. The same sound of **u** is heard in *sure* and in *sugar*.

§ 116. **ū** as in *sun, ūnder, ūn-dō'* — otherwise spelled as in *son, in'come, does, flood, doubt, two'pence (tūp'ens)* — is the "short **u**" sound. For the frequent spelling with **o** (*dove, won, done*), see § 77. As pronounced generally in America, this is a central unrounded vowel, the highest part of the tongue being a little lower and farther back than for the **ū** in *sofā* or **ū** in *bettōr*.

§ 117. **ū** as in *urn, hūrt, hūrl* is the vowel already mentioned in § 31, being the accented form corresponding to unaccented **ē** (§ 32). It is a central vowel, made with the tongue intermediate in position between front and back, although it varies somewhat with different speakers and when it occurs in different positions. The sound **ū** is otherwise spelled in *fern, err, heard, sir, word, journal, myrrh*.

The sound **ū** occurs also in syllables with only a slight accent, often not marked, as in *būr-lesque'*. There is often a choice between **ū** and **ē** according to speed of utterance or difference of usage (*būr-lēsk', bēr-*). Wherever **ū** is frequently heard in such lightly accented syllables, they are marked with the symbol **ū**, it being understood that, when entirely unaccented, the sound changes, without a sharp dividing line, to **ē**.

When **ū**, or its equivalent, is followed by **r** or **rr** and a vowel, as in *hurry, courage, worry*, usage is divided as to the sound of the vowel. The earlier sound in such words corresponded to the present **ū**, and this is preserved as the usual pronunciation in America. But in the prevailing speech of England this sound has become **ū**, often somewhat modi-

fied by the following **r** so as to differ somewhat from **ū** in **sūn, come**, etc. An intermediate type is also heard in America, acoustically between **ū** and **ū**, but **ū** is also common even with those speakers whose speech in some respects resembles British, esp. in the Southern States.

When words like **fūr, cūr, stir, err**, etc., take a vowel suffix, as in **furry, erring**, etc., they retain the **ū** of the stem. The word **erring** is also sometimes pronounced **ēr'ing** — esp. in **unerring** — both probably influenced by **error, errant**; but **ēr'ing** is more usual.

The symbol **ū** is also used in this dictionary to respell French words like **jeu**, having the mid-front rounded vowel, and **jeune**, having the low-front rounded vowel; or German words like **schön**, with mid-front rounded vowel, or **können**, with low-front rounded vowel. The tongue for these sounds is somewhat farther forward than for English **ū**, which is usually not rounded.

§ 118. **ū** as in **ūnite, insūlar, natūre, verdūre**, etc., represents a modification of **ū** (§§ 112–114) in unaccented syllables. The sound **ū** differs from **ū** in taking as its second element either the lower **ō**, or a briefer form of **ō**, the same word often varying between a brief **ō** or **ō** according to conditions of speed, sense stress, or sentence rhythm.

The treatment of the first element of **ū** is much like that of accented **ū**, according to the preceding consonants. When initial, the **y** sound is invariably heard, as in **ūnite, ūsurp, eugenic**, etc. After **s**, **y** is sometimes lost, as in **supreme**, often (**sōō-prēm'**), etc. In familiar speech the vowel is often obscured to (**ū**) — (**sū-prēm'**), etc. After **ch** (**virtuous** (**vū'tū-ūz**), **j** (**Judicious** (**jōō-dish-ūz**), **sh** (**sexual** (**sek'shōō-āl**), **zh** (**visual** (**vīzh-ū-āl**)), the **y** is often lost; but, as in accented syllables, there is some wavering. After **r** (**prudential** (**prōō-dēm'shāl**), and a consonant + **l**, the **y** is regularly lost. In unaccented syllables, however, the preceding consonant often belongs phonetically to the syllable before the **ū**, as in **val'ū-a-tion**, with the result that the **ū** is phonetically initial, and thus takes a clear **y** sound (as above): (**vāl'ū-ā-shūn**). Compare **re-pūte'** with **rep'ū-ta-tion**, **sa-lūte'** with **sal'ū-ta-tion**. With these compare **at'titude** (**āt'tū-ēns**), in which the first element of **ū** is much less like **y**. Likewise after **r** in a preceding syllable the **y** sound is often clear, as in our pronunciation of **erudite** (**ēr-ū-dīc**), **errulous** (**gār'ū-lūs**). So with partly accented **ū** in **Matthew** (**māt'hū**), with clear **y** sound.

For the difference between **ūn'ent** (**floo'ent**) and **at'nūent**, see § 114 (5).

So far as the second element of the unaccented **ū** is not already lowered to **ō** by lack of stress, it undergoes the same lowering effect of a following **r** that is seen in accented **ū** (**endūre'**), or in simple **ō** (**pōor**); as in **iranium, dūration**, etc. See §§ 84, 114 (8).

Before **u** in words like **censure** the **s** sound is palatalized to **sh**, and in words like **measure** the **z** sound is palatalized to **zh**, the **s** and **z** combining with the initial **y** element of the **u**. In the common words of this sort the **u** is reduced in ordinary speech to **ō** when before **r**, as in **censure** (**sēn'shōr**), **measure** (**mēzh'ēr**). Other examples are **sensuous** (**sēn'shōō-ūz**), **visual** (**vīzh-ū-āl**), **ōō-āl**. Initial **s** is not thus palatalized, however, as in **supreme** (**sū-prēm'**), **superior**, etc., and occasionally when medial, as in **consular** (**kōn'sū-lēr**), **kōn'sū-lēr**, the first element of **ū** being weakened or lost.

In words like **nature, verdure**, the off-glide of the **t** or **d** combining with the first element of **ū** to form a sound that varies from **ty** or **dy** to a completely palatalized **ch** or **j**. The last is the natural pronunciation in general use by unaffected speakers in all the common words. This palatalization is indicated in the pronunciation by the tie bar **tū, dū**.

This palatalization also takes place before the partly accented **ū**, as in **virtue** (**vū'tū, vū'r'chōō**), etc. But before fully accented **tū, dū**, it does not occur in standard speech (**tūne, duty**, etc.).

§ 119. **ū** in unaccented syllables of **circūz, datūm, sūbmit, circumstānce** — otherwise spelled as in **porpoise** (**pōr'pūs**), **pious, dungeon, righteous, gracious, atom, irksome, nation**, etc. — represents the obscuration of a **u** or an **o** sound to the stage of the neutral vowel, the usual italic letter indicating the obscuration.

§ 120. A silent **u** occurs after **g**, as in **guard, guess; rogue**, etc. In these cases **u** does not form a digraph with a following vowel, but is a mere sign of "hard" **g**.

In the common adjective ending **-ful** (**awful, careful**, etc.), the **u** is regularly silent in familiar speech, the **l** thus becoming syllabic (**δ'f'l, kār'f'l**). The noun ending **-ful**, as in **cupful**, etc., is pronounced with the vowel **ō**.

§ 121. **u** with consonant value. The letter **u** is an equivalent spelling for **w**, esp. after **q** (= **k**) or **g** (**quality, quite, language**, etc.); occasionally elsewhere, as in **persuade, suave, suite**.

§ 122. **ū** as in French **menu** (**mē-nū'**), German **grün**, etc., occurs only in foreign loan words not yet naturalized. The French sound may be imitated by firmly rounding the lips as if to pronounce **ōō** (**mōōn**), and then, while holding the lips in this position, pronouncing **ē** (**ēve**). The German sound is in some words the same as the French, in others it is approximately **ī** (**īl**) pronounced with somewhat less rounding of the lips.

§ 123. **v** as in **vain, vivid, ever, live, valve, wolves** — spelled **ph** in **Stephen** (also **Steven**), **nephew** (**nēf'ū; nēv'ū**), and **f** in **of** (**ōv**) — is the voiced lip-teeth fricative consonant corresponding to voiceless **f** (§ 43).

v in Spanish is like Spanish **b** in pronunciation. See § 17.

W

§ 124. **w** as in **we, worse, dwarf, twice** — spelled also **u** (**persuade, queen**), **o** (**memoir** (**mēm'wūr**), **choir** (**kwoir**)) — is a combined lip and tongue sound, the lips being rounded and the tongue back raised as for **ō** or **ōō**. It may be regarded as a gliding sound, made while the lips and tongue are moving toward the position of the following vowel. It is classed as a *semivowel*.

§ 125. The consonant **w** sound occurs only before vowels. It is now silent before **r** (**write, wren**, etc.). The letter is often written finally, as in **snow, know, and now**. In **snow** it is not needed, for **ō** alone spells the same sound, as in **go**. In **now**, however, **w** is essential, representing the second element of the diphthong **ou** in **out**. Omission of **w**

would change **now** to **nō**. The group **aw(e)** is the final form for the spelling **au**.

§ 126. Besides being silent before **r** (**write**), **w** is also silent before vowels in two classes of instances: (1) When not initial, **w** coalesced with its closely related **ō** or **ōō** sound, as in **two** (**tōō**, formerly **twoō**), **who** (**hōō**, formerly **hwōō**), **sword** (**sōrd**, formerly **swōrd**). Initially **w** remains before **ō**, as in **wound** (**wōōnd**; **wound**), **woo**, **womb**, etc. (2) Before the vowels of unaccented syllables or unstressed words **w** regularly disappeared, as in **answer** (**ān'sēr**), **toward** (**tōrd**), **boatswain** (**bō's'n**), **I'll go** (from **I' will go'**), and the endings **-wich** and **-wick** of place names — **Woolwich** (**wōō'l'ij**), **Warwick** (**wōr'ik**). Many such silent **w**'s have been restored by spelling pronunciation. In **one**, **once**, **w** is sounded but not spelled.

WH

§ 127. **wh** as in **which, when, whale**, etc., represents either **h** + **w** or a voiceless **w** sound. Voiceless **w** and **hw** sound very much alike. The symbol **hw** is commonly used for either sound.

w for **hw** is now usual in standard Southern British speech. In Scotland, in Ireland, in North England, and in America, **hw** is the usual pronunciation, though the **w** sound appears to be spreading in America.

X

§ 128. The letter **x** spells six sounds in English: (1) **ks**, as in **box, exclaim'**, etc.; (2) **gz**, as in **exact', exist', exag'gerate**, etc.; (3) **ksh**, as in **an'xious** (**āngk'shūs**), **lux'ury** (**lūk'shōō-rī**); (4) **gz**, as in **luxu'rious** (**lūg-zhōō-rī-ūs**); (5) **z**, in **anxi'ety** (**āng-zī-ē-tī**) and initially in Greek derivatives, as **xylo'phone** (**zī-lō-**), etc.; (6) **sh**, as in one pronunciation of **an'xious** (**āng'shūs**). In **except'** (**ēk'sēpt'**), **excind'** (**ēk'sīnd'**), the **s** element of **x** has merged with the **s** sound of the **c**, or **sc**. In (3), (4), and (6) the **s** or **z** element of **x** has been palatalized by the following **i**, or by the **y** element of **ū** or **ū** (§ 103).

It will be seen in the above examples that when **x** immediately follows an accented vowel (**ex'it, lux'ury**), or is followed by a consonant sound (**exclaim'**), it is voiceless (**ks, ksh, sh**); when it immediately follows an unaccented vowel (**exact', exhort', luxu'rious, anxi'ety**), it is voiced (**gz, gz**, **z**).

But the analogy of differently accented forms of related words disturbs this natural phonetic tendency; thus **luxu'rious** is also pronounced **lūk'shōō-rī-ūs**, by analogy of **lux'ury**; and conversely, **lux'ury** is sometimes **lūg-zhōō-rī**. Moreover, less familiar words are likely to have **ks** from the spelling, or from a foreign pronunciation, as in **axil'ia**, etc. **Exhaust'** (**ēg-zōst'**) and **exhort'** (**ēg-zōrt'**) are regular, the **h** being silent; so is **exhale'**, being **ēg-zāl'**, if **h** is silent, but **ēks-hāl'** if it is sounded, **ks** being regular before a consonant sound.

Y

§ 129. **y** in English spells one consonant (**yes**) and the following four vowels: (1) **ī** (**sky, defy, style**, etc.); (2) **ī** (**lyric, nymph, pity, ready** (§ 130), etc.); (3) **ū** (**myrrh, myrtle**, etc.); (4) **ē** (**martyr, zephyr**, etc.). **y** (or **ey**) is the regular spelling for the final sounds **ī** (**fly**) and **ī** (**ready, money**). These sounds of **y** may be indicated without respelling as in **skī, nīymph, mīrrh, mīrtīr**.

§ 130. Unaccented final **y** as in **ready**, or **ey** as in **money**, varies considerably from accented **ī**. For this variation and for that of medial **y** (**analysis**), the equivalent of medial unaccented **ī** (**charity**), see §§ 53, 54.

§ 131. As a consonant, **y** is the typical palatal semivowel, formed with the front of the tongue, behind the tip (which is lowered), near or touching the hard palate. It corresponds to the sound of **j** in German and Latin. English **y** differs from that of German and some other European languages in having no fricative or other sound but voice. It is analogous to **w** in being a gliding sound (§ 124). It is spelled **y** in **year, you, beyond**, etc.; **i** in **pondial, union**, etc.; **e** in **feud** (**fīd**), **linear** (**līn'ē-ēr; līn'yēr**); **j** in **hallelujah; g in vignette**. It is sounded without being spelled by a separate letter in **use, unite, value**, etc.

Like **w**, consonant **y** can occur only before vowels, not at the end of words. When written at the end of words, it is: (1) a vowel (**ready**); (2) a diphthong (**sky**); (3) the "vanish" of the partial diphthong **ā** (**day, they**); or (4) the second element of a full diphthong **ō** (**boy**). Unlike **w**, **y** by itself can spell a vowel (**ready**) or a diphthong (**sky**).

Z

§ 132. **z** as in **zeal, hazy, buzz**, etc., is the voiced tongue-point alveolar fricative continuant corresponding to voiceless **s** (§ 97). **z** is often spelled with **s**, as in **busy, his, ears, robs, roses**, etc. It is rarely spelled **sc** (one pronunciation of **discern**) or **c** (one pronunciation of **suifice, sacrifice**).

§ 133. **z** as in **azure, seizure, grazier**, etc., has the sound of **zh**, the voiced correlative of **sh**. The same sound is spelled **s** in **vision, measure**, etc. In the foregoing, the **zh** sound results from the palatalization of **z** before **i** or **y** (§ 103). **zh** is also spelled in French derivatives by **g** (**rouge**) and by **j** (**bijou**). It forms the second element of the consonantal diphthong **j** (nearly **d + zh**).

RULES FOR THE PRONUNCIATION OF LATIN ENTRIES

Vowels not followed by a consonant in the same syllable are to be pronounced long (**ā, ē, ī, ō, ū**), and vowels followed by a consonant in the same syllable are to be pronounced short (**ă, ě, ĭ, ŏ, ŭ**), unless the respelling for pronunciation indicates otherwise. Consonants have the same value as in similar situations in English unless the respelling indicates otherwise. For those who prefer to pronounce the Latin entries according to the "Roman" method, the syllabification as indicated, together with the rules for such pronunciation as set forth in the Latin grammars, will be a sufficient guide.