

SCHOOL ARRANGES TEST OF ENGLISH

Massachusetts Professor Offers At Pittsfield to Show Students Whether They Speak Correctly. BOSTON, June 19.—Do you pride yourself in your ability to speak the English language correctly? Of course you do, well, here is a chance to test your ability without anybody but yourself discovering whether or not your pride and confidence are justified. The above valued remark—that possibly you don't speak English as correctly as you might—is not a tactless suggestion, rather it is supported by the fact that probably the severest criticism English visitors to our shores launch against Americanism, in addition to the usual commentaries considering the too assiduous devotion to the gathering of "horries" or the American catchword, is that we don't talk English, but rather a dialect of idioms using English vocabulary. This chance to test your ability in avoiding the most common errors in conversation is afforded through a test which has recently been given in 33 towns and cities of Massachusetts under the supervision and through the co-operation of the Boston University school of education. The results of this test have been compiled by Prof. G. M. Wilson, who composed and prepared the test. The results show a marked variety of ability among school children in correcting these common errors. The test, which is in the form of a dialogue between two boys, includes 31 errors, 10 of which, according to Professor Wilson, constitute practically one-half of the everyday errors of speech. It is his claim that by training children to use these 10 forms correctly, great improvement in ordinary speech can be obtained. The original test as given the school children was administered by teachers under the direction of their local superintendents, who in turn were co-operating with a perfect of the paper was given a sheet of notes. New take out your pencil and smile

confidently, for here's the test. Frank—"Has the first bell rung?" John—"Have you solved them examples which the teacher give us to solve to home?" Frank—"I done all but the last one, I can hardly see how to solve it. Me and Jim worked together. How many did you get?" John—"I looked them over and seen that I didn't know nuthin' about them. So I went over to see Charley, Jim and me tried 'em, or three anybody didn't get them. Can I copy your's?" Frank—"I wish we had a teacher who could learn us better." John—"Here they be. Oh, by the way, have you saw the new air rifle?" I showed it to Jim when he come over last night. I tell you it's a fine one. Jim, he is certainly pleased when he seen it." John—"I wish I had went to your home last night as I could it seen it." Frank—"Jim and me is going to the woods on Saturday and you can go too if you wish. Jim says there are lots of nuts in his uncle's woods." Now if you have corrected 31 errors you may write to some of our English visitors and tell them they are all wrong; if not—well then possibly the suggestion that maybe you did not speak English as perfectly as you might was not altogether as broad as it is sounded. In commenting on the results of the

PHONES ALTER SPEECH Operators Cue Queer Enunciation to Avoid Misunderstanding Numbers. NEW YORK, June 19.—Telephone operators have a distinct influence on the pronunciation and inflection of the language. In order to avoid misunderstanding, the voices which are heard at the end of a line are often unconsciously mannerisms of speech which soon become habitual. One of the most familiar of these is the trick of holding "R" and trilling it for perhaps a second. No Scotaman, it is pointed out, stresses the R as do thousands of our telephone girls. The numeral nine has come to be pronounced either "nine-a" or "ni-un." The more pronounced operators are adopting instead of the word two, a curious new word which sounds like "two-way." These and many other tricks of precise lipa and tongue help to prevent error. It isn't typical alone who are able to increase their incomes materially by learning the touch system—Manila Bulletin

"BIG BROTHERS" SOUGHT ST. PETERSBURG, June 19.—More responses to the call for persons willing to play the "Big Brother" to some under-privileged boy of the city by making it possible for him to spend 10 days at the Y. M. C. A. summer camp starting next Wednesday, are being received by Gilbert Bush, Y secretary. Boys who are anxious to attend this camp, but have not the \$10 necessary for the outing, are asked to report to Mr. Bush and every effort will be made to arrange the trip for them. Each boy is asked to give whatever he can toward the camp fund and older persons will then make up the deficit. It is hoped to take to the camp at least 40 youngsters who would otherwise be deprived of any vacation this year.

WOMAN'S PLAN FAILS Gun Smuggled For Sweetheart Is Found by Jailer. BLOUNTVILLE, Tenn., June 19.—Extraordinary measures will be taken to guard Kinnie Wagner, young desperado and former circus pistol marksmen, when he is brought back to the county jail here for his second trial for the murder of two Kingsport policemen, whom he shot in a running gun battle. Wagner was convicted of the murders at the first trial, but because of an error in the charge to the jury he was given another chance. Several attempts to rescue him from the jail made necessary his temporary removal to the jail at Knoxville. He will be returned here, however, for the second trial, which is scheduled to open June 22. Jailer Barr of Blountville recently received information that a pistol has been smuggled in to give to Wagner when he returns here. A search revealed a pistol concealed in a niche of the jail floor. It was a long barreled blue steel gun, loaded with blunt-nosed bullets. An investigation showed that a woman occupant of the jail, a trusty and former sweetheart of Wagner, had smuggled the gun. The woman had told another prisoner about the gun. This prisoner, released a few days later, wrote a note to Jailer Barr, revealing the whole plan. Wagner's sweetheart now is in solitary confinement in the jail here and she will be kept under strict surveillance until his second trial is over.

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