THE UNIVERSAL ALPHABET: THE ALPHABET WHICH THE FACTORS THAT HAVE EVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF NATURE LOGICALLY CONSPIRE TO PRODUCE THIS ALPHABET IS BASED UPON THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE HUMAN SPEECH SOUNDS, THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE ROMAN SCRIPT LETTERS

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The Universal Alphabet: The Alphabet Which the Factors that Have Evolved in the Process of nature logically conspire to produce this Alphabet is based upon the Correct Analysis of the Human Speech sounds, the Correct Analysis of the Roman Script Letters by Charles T. Luthy

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# **CHARLES T. LUTHY**

THE UNIVERSAL ALPHABET: THE ALPHABET WHICH THE FACTORS THAT HAVE EVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF NATURE LOGICALLY CONSPIRE TO PRODUCE THIS ALPHABET IS BASED UPON THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE HUMAN SPEECH SOUNDS, THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE ROMAN SCRIPT LETTERS





# THE UNIVERSAL ALPHABET

THE ALPHABET WHICH THE FACTORS THAT HAVE EVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF NATURE LOGICALLY CONSPIRE TO PRODUCE

1

THIS ALPHABET IS BASED UPON THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE HUMAN SPEECH SOUNDS, THE CORRECT ANALYSIS OF THE ROMAN SCRIPT LETTERS, (THE WRITING THAT MUST OBTAIN FOR ALL TIME,) THE UNMISTAKABLE TREND OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE BECOMING THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE AND UPON THE HANDING DOWN TO POSTERITY THE VAST ENGLISH LITERATURE IN ITS MOST READABLE FORM

#### IT CONTAINS

AN APPROPRIATE LETTER FOR EACH OF THE FORTY-THERE DIFFERENT SPEECH SOUNDS IN THE HUMAN VOICE SO THAT THE ALPHABET IS ADAPTED FOR THE USE OF ALL NATIONS, AND WILL PREFECT THE SPELLING IN ALL LANGUAGES





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### TO THE HONORABLE

## Philander P. Claxton .

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

OUT OF THE GREAT REGARD FOR HIS SO WORTHILY GRAC-ING THAT HIGH OFFICE, AND IN APPRECIATION OF THE FAVORS RECEIVED FROM HIM, THIS LITTLE TREATISE, THE CULMINATION OF TWENTY YEARS' INVESTIGATION, IS RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED

BY THE AUTHOR



### PREFACE

• Men conversant with world affairs have long felt the need of a common medium for international communication, both spoken and written.

The former is shown in the efforts to promulgate such artificial languages as Volapük and Esperanto. But the evolution of nature is tending to make English the world language.

The efforts on behalf of the latter are shown in that, in this country, Boston University, on February 27, 1905, issued and widely distributed among learned men at home and abroad a circular inviting opinions on the proposal to hold a world conference to devise and adopt a universal alphabet; and bills were introduced in Congress for that purpose, in 1888, in 1901, and again in 1911; —but so far no such conference has been held.

The opinion seems to prevail that such alphabet can be arbitrarily devised and so stamped with authority as to constitute it the universal alphabet. That is a great mistake.

Three things essentially underlie the Universal Alphabet: (1) the human speech sounds; (2) the Roman script letters; and (3) the ultimate Universal Language. But (1) the speech sounds have evolved in the process of nature; the number of sounds and their organically correct pronunciations are fixed in the human voice—man cannot change them. (2) The basic parts of the Roman script letters have also

evolved in the process of nature and their principles are as enduring as are the principles of Euclid—man cannot change them. And (3) the English language is spoken by two great nations; it has the greatest literature of any language in the world; and in the last 110 years it has forged from fifth to first place among the European languages;—English, therefore, seems destined to become the world language. These three elements constitute the three essential factors for the Universal Alphabet.

The universal alphabets heretofore proposed, as the author found them in the Congressional, the New York and the Boston libraries, show that they are not based on a correct understanding of the speech sounds; that they are not based on a knowledge of the principles of the Roman script letters; and that the vital part which the English language, as the ultimate Universal Language, plays in the Universal Alphabet, seems not in the least to have been considered;—they are wholly arbitrary.

The author has scientifically investigated the human speech sounds, the Roman script letters, and the important relation that English sustains to the Universal Alphabet;—and he has based the alphabet upon them. He, therefore, presents this as the alphabet that the factors which have evolved in the process of nature logically conspire to produce.

CHARLES T. LUTHY.

New York, March, 1918.