FIRST PRINCIPLES OF FRENCH PRONUNCIATION

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649098996

First principles of French pronunciation by Émile Saillens & E. R. Holme

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ÉMILE SAILLENS & E. R. HOLME

FIRST PRINCIPLES OF FRENCH PRONUNCIATION



FIRST PRINCIPLES

OF

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION

FIRST PRINCIPLES

OF

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION

BY

ÉMILE SAILLENS AND E. R. HOLME, B.A. (SYD.)

AGRÉGÉ DE L'UNIVERSITÉ DE PRANCE; PROFESSEUR D'ANGLAIS; ÉLÈVE DE M. PAUL PASSY, À L'ÉCOLE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES, PARIS ABSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH,
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY; LATE STUDENT OF
THE INSTITUT TILLEY, BERLIN;
AND HOLDER OF THE PHONETIC EXAMINATION
COUTTFOCATE FOR GERMAN (MARGUEG)

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION PHONÉTIQUE INTERNATIONALE

WITH AN INTRODUCTION ON THE ORGANS OF SPEECH

BY

PROFESSOR T. P. ANDERSON STUART
M.D., CH.M., LL.D., EDIN.
DEAN OF THE PACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY



LONDON

BLACKIE & SON, LIMITED, 50 OLD BAILEY, E.C. GLASGOW DUBLIN AND BOMBAY

1909

THIS LITTLE BOOK

IS RESPECTIVILLY AND GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED

40.

PROFESSOR PAUL PASSY

DOCTEUR ÉS LETTRES DIRECTEUR-ADJOINT À L'ÉCOLE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES, PARÍS

AND

DR. WILHELM VIETOR
PROPESSOR AN DER UNIVERSITÄT, MARBURG

414921



PREFACE

This book is for English-speaking people. It has a three-fold object,

First, it should serve those general readers or speakers of French whose feeling for the language is such that they will not rest content with a mere rough-and-ready approximation to the way in which it is pronounced by Frenchmen. Secondly, its concern is with teachers and their pupils already devoted to the "direct" method of modern-language study, as also with those who are liberal enough to give that method a trial. Thirdly, it may furnish a handy epitome of its subject for academic students of French, whose needs must be met more in detail by the advanced investigations of the recognized specialists, and particularly those native to the language.

The educational principles of the book will be found in the list of principes pédagogiques formulated by the Association Phonétique Internationale, whose standard and system are here adopted:—

"Le premier soin du maître doit être de rendre parfaitement familiers aux élèves les sons de la langue étrangère. Dans ce but il se servira d'une transcription phonétique, qui sera employée à l'exclusion de l'orthographe traditionnelle pendant la première partie du cours."

8 FRENCH PRONUNCIATION

30 MMU

As authors of a new attempt to increase the operation of a principle now almost time-honoured on the Continent of Europe, though less widely adopted in the British Empire, we desire to explain the scope of our undertaking, We have tried to combine our respective means of approach to a scientific familiarity with French sounds, whether in analysis or synthesis, so as to offer as broad and plain a road of access as may be, for most English speakers interested in them. Each of us is native to one of the languages concerned, but an earnest and phonetically trained student of the two. Each has had personal experience of the method advocated. Both agree in regarding phonetic science as essential to all good philological and practical study, yet both subordinate it to the interest of human speech as an art, infinitely various and coloured with individuality. We do not intend to compete with the more abstract and elaborate treatises which should be in the hands of all serious students, and we have not adopted their usual widely comparative method. Our purpose is to regard French alone, and that only from the point of view of its English learner. Nor do we in the least suppose that any scientific exposition of language-sounds, however practical, can be a substitute for oral exercise and aural experience among native speakers. But we know that phonetic science can destroy the fallacious notion that the speech of one people can be fairly represented in terms of that of another (e.g. French ton = English tong; French ruse = English ruse; French car = English car, and the like); also that it can strengthen the vocal organs for the new

and arduous labour of foreign pronunciation, as well as train the ear for nice discrimination between familiar and unfamiliar sounds. We know, further, both as learners and instructors, how greatly interest increases with increase of certainty and power of discernment.

In order to be of most practical use, we have avoided superfluous technicality and scientific minuteness. If, for example, we do not describe the position of the tongue, at the production of a certain sound, in the exactest detail, it is because we are not writing for those who require such perfection as matter of scientific record, or for those who have no skill at all in the use of the tongue for articulate speech.

Intelligent beings may do the same thing in less than precisely the same way. We prefer to neglect a tedious particularity, because we know it will be neglected in practice.

We gratefully acknowledge the advantage we have secured for our readers by our being able to include Professor Anderson Stuart's Introduction on the Organs of Speech. It contains all the anatomical and physiological groundwork that can be required, and should be of unique value, as written by an eminent specialist of vocal physiology in the concise and cogent expression of a long-experienced teacher.

In conclusion, we wish to record our deep indebtedness to those from whose personal teachings or publications we have learnt and received stimulus to our task, whether individually or in common, and particularly to Professor Paul Passy (University of Paris), Professor Wilhelm