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RONALD SETH'S

BROADCAST
COMMENTARY

FOR
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

ON
"GREENERY STREET"

BY
DENIS MACKAIL

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TARTU ÜLIKOOLI
RAAMATUKOGU

Commentary "Greenery Street".

September 23rd.

The object of these lessons is to give Estonian listeners, who speak English fairly well an opportunity of hearing an English voice for a half an hour a week.

The proper speaking of the English language depends not so much upon correct pronunciation, although that, of course, is important, as upon what we call intonation. That is to say, the rise and fall of the voice.

Listen to an Englishman **speaking** and you will hear that his sentences are really waves of sound. If you were to draw a picture upon paper of a sentence it would take the form of a curve, or a line containing several small curves.

You have been told no doubt, when given a lesson in reading English that you must drop your voice at the period or full-stop.

Let us take a simple sentence:

"He came into the house."

The sound on which you say *house* must be lower than that on which you said *he*. This is the first rule to remember:

The sound or sounds on which the last word is pitched or placed *must* be lower than the first word sound.

If you hear this sentence said correctly you will notice that the second word *came* was a little higher than the first word, and that the other three words went lower by degrees.

Now suppose there were a comma instead of a full-stop after *house* and the sentence read: —

He came into the house, with his hat on.

Said correctly, the voice will rise at *house*, and to begin with this is a very good rule to be guided by: —

Whenever you come to a comma in a sentence, raise your voice, except when it is placed after the first word, or, before or after the word *however*.

These two points are the most important to be grasped right at the beginning. There are others, but I shall deal with those later.

Greenery Street.

The title itself, *Greenery Street*. It is the name of an imaginary London street. The word *greenery* means the colour of grass and plants, and we think of it generally in connection with the new

green plants of spring; it implies a kind of freshness. So you see, the title is well-chosen, for the book is about the pleasant freshness which envelops the first years of married life, and it tells us at once that the book is a happy one.

O. E. — OLD EDITION.

N. E. — NEW EDITION.

O. E. page 7, N. E. page 7.

do they describe. When emphasis is required the adverb of manner, in this case accurately, is often placed before instead of after the verb, and this emphatic form of the verb, *they do describe*, is used. But, you will notice, with the words *they* and *do* inverted. Compare for instance, the sentence: —

Hardly had he done so than he fell.

not

Hardly he had done so.

Pantehnicon. A large covered motor van in which is placed every kind of article. Generally spoken of in connection with furniture.

Backed. To *back* means with its back facing the door of the house.

Little as each individual in turn suspects it. This means: Although each individual couple in turn (i. e. one after the other) scarcely thinks about it.

A battle is joined. A special phrase meaning, A battle is begun.

The difference between a *perambulator* and a *mailcart* is:

A *perambulator* is a carriage in which a baby can lie, a *mailcart* is a kind of chair on wheels.

To countenance means *to admit* or *to permit*.

Surplus wedding presents are those which cannot be used because the same article is already being used. Note *surplus*.

Terrible does not mean *making afraid*, but is used in conversation for *very very*, thus *very very cramped*.

O. E. page 8. N. E. page 8.

The inevitable means that which cannot possibly be avoided.

Linen-cupboard is a cup-board in which towels, sheets, table cloths and so on, are kept.

Basement. The rooms at the very bottom of the house built below the ground level. In London houses the kitchen is generally in the basement, and other rooms for the servants.

Hardly got room to turn round means *the space is very very small*.

.... *to his club*. A club is an association of which a man may be a member. It owns a house where it is possible to eat, play bridge or billiards, and sleep. In mens clubs only men are admitted.

Area railings. The area is the small space in front of the basement windows. There are steps generally leading down to a door. The area is made safe for

people walking on the pavements by railings, or a kind of iron fence.

Kerb. The edge of the pavement.

Hessian is the material of which sacks are made, and in which furniture is wrapped when it is to be moved.

It can't be done is a phrase meaning that it is impossible to do whatever has just been mentioned beforehand.

O. E. page 9. N. E. page 9.

Slam to close something with much noise.

Utter to mention or say.

September 30th.

Rule.

The sentences which I gave you last week, *He came into the house: He came into the house, with his hat on*, are what we call statements, that is to say, they *tell* you something.

The opposite of a statement is a question, that is, a collection of words which *ask* something.

Now there are two kinds of questions, those in which the question is asked by inverting or changing the verb round; and those which begin with an interrogative pronoun or interrogative adverb. The interrogative pronouns are *who, which, whom, what*. The interrogative adverbs are *how, when, where, why*.

Take these two sentences for examples: —

1. Don't you want to do anything for your Aunt Mary?
2. When did he come?

If you hear these said correctly you will have noticed that in the first the voice ROSE at the end, but in the second, the voice FELL, just like in a statement.

And this is the fairly safe rule to follow. When a question is made by changing the verb round, you should raise your voice at the end; but when the question is asked by an interrogative pronoun or adverb, you drop your voice at the end as in a statement.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 10. N. E. page 9.

Muff. Part of a lady's outfit in cold weather. It is round, generally made of fur, and ladies put their hands inside to keep them warm.

Engagement ring. When an English couple become betrothed the man gives to his fiancée a gold ring set with precious stones such as diamonds, sapphires, rubies and so on. The lady wears this on the third finger of her *left* hand until her wedding day. At the marriage ceremony the man places a plain gold ring, again on the third finger of the *left* hand. After her marriage the lady may wear her engagement ring above her **wedding** ring, but

these are the only two rings she wears on that finger.

Only the lady receives a wedding ring. An Englishman does not wear a wedding ring, and it plays no part in the marriage ceremony.

In any case means *whatever may happen or have happened*. The word *case* here does not mean a box.

O. E. still page 10. N. E. page 10.

Must know their own minds means they must be quite sure of their own feelings in the matter, *or*, be quite convinced that they are really in love.

Order in Council is an order issued by a ruler, the result of discussions of his Privy Council. That is a very important order issued by someone in complete command.

In this case the people in complete command are Felicity's parents, and the order issued by them is very important and must be obeyed.

Never the twain should meet. Twain means *two*. This is a quotation from a famous poem by Rudyard Kipling, called „The (Ballad of East and West.“ The refrain is: —

For East is East and West is West,

And never the twain shall meet.

The authorities. Again means Felicity's parents.

Oblivion. Means *forgetfulness*. *Would have passed into oblivion* means *would have been forgotten*.

Taking up her pen means *writing*.

O. E. page 11. N. E. still page 10.

Front stairs are the stairs in the front of the house, the main stairs used by the family. The opposite is back stairs, those leading from the servants' quarters and used by them.

Embargo is a prohibition, that is, something which stops something else from progressing. In this case it means the order which forbade Ian and Felicity to see each other for six months.

Function, in this sentence, an event like a dinner party or dance or other meeting.

Letter of the law means exactly what the law says, not necessarily what it means. The opposite is "the spirit of the law", that is, what the law really means, but does not seem to say.

A *put-up job* is something that has been arranged beforehand.

Be fair means *be just*.

Frightful means *very great*. It has nothing to do here with the word *fright*.

Behaved like a perfect brick means, behaved in a very nice way. A *brick* or a *perfect brick* used in this way means a very good person.

Stop-gap is a person who takes place of another person, generally at the last minute.

October 7th.

Rule.

This evening I want to give briefly one more rule, which slightly expands one of the rules I gave in my first lesson. If you remember, I said that

when you came to a comma you must raise your voice, with a few exceptions. This is a very good rule to begin with, and to use when you are practising reading. But you will see that when you have a number of commas in a sentence, it will become just as monotonous if you raise your voice to the same pitch, that is, make the same sound at every comma, as if you dropped your voice.

This is a rule I want to give you tonight. Vary the sound you make at the commas. The voice can be lowered at the commas, but if you do so the sound on which you say the final word of the sentence must be lower than any sound you have made so far.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 11. N. E. page 11.

Utterly means *completely*.

O. E. page 12, N. E. page 11.

Essential means very important, the very inside.

Fixed rule is a rule which cannot be altered, *or*, a rule which applies to all.

Chaperons are people, generally other ladies, who accompany a young unmarried woman in public places, such as at a ball. The custom is dying out, one might almost say has died out.

Matron. The first meaning and the meaning in this sentence, is a married woman. *Matron* is also the title given to the chief nurse in a hospital.

O. E. page 12, N. E. page 12.

Ocular means with the eyes, from the Latin word *oculus* meaning *an eye*.

Colouring means the colour of a lady's eyes, hair and complexion.

Cleanness. The word *Clean* when used in this way in connection with a man, means that the man has all the good things in his character — honesty, straightforwardness, a good moral outlook. Such a man generally shows the result of all these in his physical appearance.

October 14th.

Rule.

For a very short rule this evening. Many Estonians I have noticed, find great difficulty in pronouncing the two letters "th" together. English babies when they begin to talk also have this difficulty, and it can only be overcome with constant practise.

One of the ways of doing this is to practise before a mirror, and when you begin, exaggerate your movements.

Put out your tongue between your teeth, with your teeth touching your tongue on both sides. Now breathe out, and at the same time draw in your tongue quickly, and you will find yourself saying the sound "th" perfectly. Practise this many times un-

til you do it without thinking about it. For this week practise it on the ends of words, such as, *Seth, faith, truth, moth.*

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 12. N. E. page 12.

Sharer is one who shares: in this case, the person sitting beside her on the sofa.

O. E. page 13. N. E. page 12.

Hoisted. The first meaning is *to lift up something heavy.* Here it means merely *to lift.*

Lorgnettes. These are spectacles which have a sort of handle on one side. They must be lifted to the eyes, they cannot be placed on the nose.

Peer means to look at closely .

Monstrous. In the first meaning, like a monster, something unnatural. Here it means shocking or very wrong.

Family car. This is a car which is large enough to take all the family at once. Many wealthy families own a large Rolls Royce or Daimler for using when all the family is going out, and smaller cars for use when only one or two are going.

He kept on asking me means *he asked me over and over again.*

You couldn't help means *You must.*

O. E. still page 13. N. E. page 13.

Old Humphrey is Felicity's father, Mr. Hamilton.

For heaven's sake, a mild form of oath, used generally when one is irritated or a little angry.

Relapsed into complete unconsciousness means *went fast to sleep again*.

Vague means *not able to be described because it is not definite*.

Mammoth in its first meaning used as a noun is a prehistoric monster. Here it is used as an adjective and means *very very big*.

Mansion is a large house. The Mansion House in London and one or two other big towns, means the official residence of the Lord Mayor.

Still kept the flag of the nineteenth century nailed firmly to the mast, means still continued to use the manners and customs of the nineteenth century.

Broughams pronounced *bromes*. A light wheeled carriage pulled by horses, used for travelling short distances only. The first carriage was built by Lord Brougham who lived in the nineteenth century.

Barouches were also carriages drawn by horses. They had no covering and seated four.

Pole of the carriage means the shafts or long pieces of wood between which horses are placed to pull a cart. In case of a brougham and barouche when two horses pull side by side there is only one pole, the horses being placed on either side.

October 21st.

Rule.

There are two "th" sounds, the light as in "faith", *through, Seth*, and the heavy "th" sound as in *clothes, those, the*. Last week I gave you the light "th" rule and this is how you should practise making the second one. Shut your teeth quite tight, and let your tongue just touch the back of them. Your lips should be apart. Try to breathe out through your teeth, and at the same time make the buzzing sound you make for the letter „z“. This is quite difficult. I think more difficult than the light „th“ sound, especially on the end of the word *clothes*. Practise trying to make this sound in this way, then when you get really used to doing it, you will find it is not really necessary to close the teeth.

There is no rule, I fear, which I can give you which will help you to know when to make the light "th" and the heavy "th" sound. You must learn that entirely by use.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 14. N. E. page 13.

Had got her wits about her. This phrase means, *she knew what she was doing, she was quite a cle-*

ver woman, Sometimes it means, *to be in one's senses*, i. e. *not mad*.

She would counsel means *to advise*. Notice that when *counsel* is used as a verb it is spelt *sel* at the end; and when it is a noun it is spelt *cil*. Like *advise* and *advice*. The verb is *ise* and the noun is *ice*.

Rash. To do something rash means to do something without thinking about it.

Butler. A butler is a man-servant, the chief man-servant in a large household. He regulates the work of the under-servants and sees that it is done well.

Vivid saga. *Vivid* means giving the impression that it is alive and real.

Saga is a long historical or mythological story. It is derived from a Scandinavian word.

Victorian era. The period, nearly a century, from 1837—1901, in which Queen Victoria ruled England. It was the Golden Age in English history.

O. E. page 14. N. E. page 14.

Sundry cross-references. *Sundry* is an adjective meaning, in the first place, more than one or two; its second meaning, the meaning here, is *different*. There is an English stock phrase: All and sundry. We say: "All and sundry were at the theatre," meaning, all kinds, rich and poor, intellectual and unintellectual and so on. *Cross-references* means *indirect references*. Referring to something or someone in an indirect way.

To lunch means to have the mid-day meal with someone, as their guest. The times of English meals differ from Estonian times. Breakfast at 8 a.m., lunch (what you call dinner but a little lighter) at 1 p.m., tea at 4 or 4.30 p.m., dinner at 7.45 or 8 p.m. *Goal* means here an objective, the end towards which you are striving. The same word in the game of football means the posts at either end of the field between which the ball must be knicked.

Short cut means a quicker way of getting to a place than by the proper route .

Raise her voice means *to talk more loudly*.

Getting flustered means getting nervous and not able to think clearly of what one is going to say.

Prospects. A young man's prospects are what he hopes to achieve in his business, if he has any chance of success.

Transcription means *writing*.

On the defensive means *to be very careful about what one says*.

N. B. *Were* after *If* is the subjunctive. There are only subjunctive tenses to the verb *to be* in English. We do not use the *present subjunctive*, but it is more correct to use the *imperfect subjunctive* after *if*, than the indicative.

Switched the conversation means *cleverly but quickly changing the subject of conversation*.

October 28th.

Rule.

This evening I want to draw your attention to a very short rule concerning the stresses on adjectives followed by nouns. Just listen for a moment:

country house, front door, red car, bright moon, stupid fellow, wintry weather.

The Estonian tendency is to stress them thus:

country house, front door, red car, bright moon, and so on. This is quite wrong, and the rule is that:

where an adjective of one syllable precedes a noun of one syllable, the stress must be equal on *both*. Where the adjective has more than one syllable, the first syllable has a stress and the first syllable of the noun, if it also has more, receives a stress also.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 16. N. E. page 15.

Proviso is a condition. The proviso here is, "I'd like her to know that when she marries — I mean, naturally with everyone's approval — I have decided to give her my pearls." The words "*with everyone's approval*" is the *proviso*, the *condition* on which Felicity will receive the pearls.

Outwitted means *defeated by a trick*.

Sitting-room. In small houses where there is only one room for sitting in, it is called the drawing-room. In large London houses, however, the lady of the house will have a room in which to sit, perhaps with members of the family, when there is no occasion to use the big drawing-room.

Knick-knacks are little pieces of china pottery and other small useless things generally displayed as ornaments.

N. B. pronunciation *nick-nacks*.

I dare say means *Perhaps it is so*.

Throwing any real light on the affair means, to give information or an opinion on an affair, which may be useful.

O. E. page 16. N. E. page 16.

Inconceivable means, cannot be thought of. Notice stresses: *inconceivable*.

Sheer. The first meaning of *sheer* is *pure, clean*. Here it means *absolute*. By *will-power* and only *will-power*, not will-power mixed with something else .

To make up his mind means *to decide*, and remain firm by the decision.

No getting away from means, firstly, *unable to avoid or escape from something*. Here it means *unable to deny*.

Hoarse. A voice which sounds rough, as, for instance, when one has a cold.

Concel means *to put off, not to carry out one's engagements*.

Toyed. To toy means to play with, not to treat seriously.

Study is a man's special room. It first meant the room set aside for studying or learning. Now it is the man's sanctum sanctorum in the house.

Dastardly means cowardly.

Underhand. Its first meaning is *secret, sub rosa*. Generally it means *fraudulent secrecy, unfair, not just secrecy*.

O. E. page 17. N. E. page 17.

Coming-out dance. When an English society girl reaches the age of 17, 18, 19, she *comes out*. This means she begins to attend public balls and other functions. She has, in fact, ceased to be a child, and has become a grown-up. The first grown-up ball she attends is given for her by her parents. *Coming-out* may sometimes include presentation to the King and Queen at one of the Courts held by Their Majesties for this purpose. The girl is then called a debutante.

November 4th.

Rule.

According to the emphasis of words in a sentence it is possible to change the meaning of an English sentence.

Let us take this sentence as an example:

She said she would tell him to come tomorrow.

1. *She said... etc. means She herself, and no one else would tell him.*

2. She said... etc. means *She said she would tell him, but whether she has told him or not I don't know.*
3. She said she would... etc. means *She would make a point of telling him.*
4. She said she would tell... etc. means *She said she would tell him to come, but whether he comes or not is a different matter.*
5. She said she would tell him to come... etc. means *She said he must come, and not do anything else .*
6. She said she would tell him to come tomorrow means *He must come tomorrow and not on any other day.*

So you see how careful you must be. Before you say an English sentence you must think carefully of what you mean, then stress the words accordingly.

A very elementary rule to begin with is to stress the three main parts of the sentence viz. *subject, verb, object* (if there is one) and you will find later that the other words will fit themselves in.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 17. N. E. page 17.

Startling means *frightening*, but not in a serious way, only surprising.

Got to face means he must consider it and come to some decision about it.

Swing round means *to change one's opinion completely to the opposite.*

Going a step too far means Doing something which brings about a climax either by rashness or over-eagerness.

Brought matters to a head means *to cause a climax.*
O. E. page 18. N. E. page 17.

Shower. N. B. pronunciation *shower* like *tower.*
From the depths of her armchair. Daphne was sitting in a large and deep English armchair or easy-chair, and from that position she spoke.

Felicity's eyes flashed. Felicity showed her defiance, that she didn't care, in her eyes.

Fluttered. Made movements like the wings of a bird when it is flying.

Requisite means *necessary.*

Aforementioned is a legal word used by lawyers meaning *that which has been mentioned previously.*
O. E. page 18. N. B. page 18.

Doorway or threshold, is the hole, in the wall into which the door fits.

Indescribable. N. B. stress *indescribable.*

Tension. Here means a feeling that something is going to happen, which seems to be reflected by the atmosphere.

In general means *nobody in particular,* to everybody in the room .

Moral courage is the courage which requires a mental effort rather than a physical effort.

People are living under one roof means *people living in the same house*.

Polite. According to the rules the comparative of *polite* is *more polite*. Occasionally in conversation, however, one hears the word *politer* used. It would be best if you kept to the grammatic form.

O. E. page 19. N. E. page 18.

Mischievously. If you look up the word in a dictionary you will find that it means *harmful, wicked*. This is one example of the deterioration in meaning of words. Today *mischievous* means *playfully wicked*, not at all harmful, and not actually maliciously wicked. It is generally applied to young children. *Rot* means here *nonsense*, and is an exclamation. *November 11th*.

Rule.

This week I want to give you a word which is always stressed whenever it appears. It is *too*.

She always eats too much.

She is always too early for her work.

The natural inflexion is always to stress *too* because of the long *oo* sound, which cannot be said without a stress, and this word should, therefore, present no difficulty.

Now if you have small one syllabled words, like some prepositions and pronouns, at the end of a sentence, generally speaking they are not stressed.

She gave the book to him, not she gave the book *to him* or to *him*. In such a case the last important word before these short words is stressed.

She gave the *book* to him.

One often hears a foreigner accenting the final word and the consequence is, that an entirely wrong idea of the meaning of the sentence is given.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 19. N. E. page 18.

Rubbish. A word like *rot*, means *nonsense*, and is used as an exclamation "Don't talk nonsense."

Bag means *hand-bag*.

Must and *late already* means *I must go, I am late already*. When one is in a hurry, one often leaves out the personal pronouns and auxiliary verbs.

What's-its-name is used when the speaker cannot remember the name of the thing about which he is speaking, as often happens when one is in a hurry.

A typical utterance, this. *Utterance* means a *saying*. This refers to the whole of Daphne's last sentence: "If you come back with me, I'll show you' that what's-its-name." *A typical utterance, this,*

means, therefore, Daphne, or Mrs. Lennox, was always saying vague things like this.

Adequate means sufficient. Notice the stress — *adequate*.

O. E. page 19. N. E. page 19.

See. When words are printed in italics as they are called, it means that those words must be heavily stressed.

Engagement means *betrothal*.

Sinister used to mean *something on the left hand*, and then it came to mean *unlucky* and *corrupt*. Now it means *seeming to be evil or bad*. A *sinister reminder*, then, means a reminder which has *an uncertain but bad meaning*.

Unnecessary. Notice the stress. The rule is that in all words beginning with *un* where *un* means not, the second syllable is stressed. Never stress the *un*.

Terribly. This word here has nothing to do with *terror* or *being terrible*. It is another word like *awfully* and *frightfully* and merely means *very, very happy*.

Fumbling. The verb *to fumble* means to feel for something you can't see, or have difficulty in getting hold of.

O. E. page 20 N. E. page 19.

Small change means *small coins, small pieces of money*, with which to pay the taxi-driver.

Office means the place where Ian worked, his *business*.

Strictly means *accurately* or *exactly*. *Strictly speaking* means *speaking literally, exactly, truthfully*, explaining things as they really are.

To split hairs. An English idiom meaning *to argue over little things*.

That is neither here nor there means *It does not matter*, it has nothing to do with the story whatever is happening.

Bore is the past tense of *to bear*, bore borne. It has nothing to do with the verb *to bore* which means *to make hole in*.

Instinct. Notice the stress — *instinct*, not *instinct*. *Practices and pitfalls*. *Practices* means *customs*; *pitfalls*, *mistakes one may make*. Notice the noun *practice* is spelled *tice*, whereas the verb is spelled *tise*.

Panned out. *To pan out* means *to result in*. This sentence means *taken as a whole the result was not so very bad*.

Co-ordination. Notice the stress — Co-ordination. The word means *holding the same rank*.

Roughly speaking is the opposite of *strictly speaking*. It means *giving an idea, not an exact picture of something*.

November 18th.

Rule.

For the next few weeks I wish to give you some words which are accented differently when they are nouns from when they are verbs.

NOUN

ACCENT
 ATTRIBUTE
 COLLECT
 COMPOUND
 COMPRESS
 CONCERT
 CONDUCT
 CONFINE
 CONFLICT
 CONTEST

VERB

to ACCENT
 to ATTRIBUTE
 to COLLECT
 to COMPOUND
 to COMPRESS
 to CONCERT
 to CONDUCT
 to CONFINE
 to CONFLICT
 to CONTEST

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 20. N. E. page 20.

Rare moments means *not often happening*.

Loathed means *very much hated*.

He took it as it came means he did not make any trouble about things, as they happened so he carried them out .

Week-end. Notice stresses — *week-end*.

O. E. page 21. N. E. page 20.

Public school. A public school in England does not mean a school for the public, but one of those great and famous private schools for the sons of the aristocracy, the leading of which are Eton College and Harrow School.

Three years at the university. A student must spend three years at his university, otherwise he cannot have his degree conferred, not even if he has passed

the necessary examinations before the three years have elapsed.

Drop into means *have offered to him*.

Vision means *a dream of the future*.

Miraculously means *as by a miracle*, that is, in some wonderful way.

Something to do with means *something connected with*.

Setters and cocker spaniels are *hunting dogs*.

A setter is a dog which discovers the birds and makes them fly so that they can be shot, a cocker spaniel is a much smaller dog which swims very well and retrieves birds which fall into water after they have been shot.

Lodgings are furnished rooms in a house, hired out to individuals.

Stationery department at Harrod's. Harrods is one of the great and famous London shops which sell absolutely everything. The stationery department is where notepaper and books etc. are sold.

Roll-stop desk means a desk the top of which is made of thin pieces of wood, and which disappears when pushed back or rolled up!

Tapemachine means one of those machines which automatically print business news on a thin tape. One of these machines is almost always to be seen in any American film dealing with business.

Minor means *less important*.

The Staff means all the employees of a business

Farce means *a comedy*.

Imperturbably means absolutely unable to be moved by any worry or excitement .

Consumption is the noun from the verb to *consume*. Used *especially* it means the disease *tuberculosis*.

Insurance broker. A broker is a man who carries out money transactions. An insurance broker, then, is a man who carries out insurance transactions.

A reflector here means a *mirror*. Where offices in London look out onto the dark backs of other buildings a mirror is used to reflect the light of the sky into the room.

Low-pitched means a *deep* voice.

Afterthought means something thought of after some previous comment has been made.

The cart before the horse. An English proverb meaning to put things the wrong round.

November 25th.

Rule.

Here are another ten words.

NOUN.

CONTRACT

CONTRAST

CONVERSE

CONVICT

CONVOY

DECREASE

DETAIL

VERB.

to **CONTRACT**

to **CONTRAST**

to **CONVERSE**

to **CONVICT**

to **CONVOY**

to **DECREASE**

to **DETAIL**

DICTATE(S)

to DICTATE

DIGEST

to DIGEST

DISCOUNT

to DISCOUNT

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 22. N. E. page 21. The number before the dash refers to the line in the O. E. The number after to the line in N. E.

Line 18/36 *Shall I wear a black tie?* means Shall I put on a *dinner-jacket or smoker?*

19.20/37.38. You will notice, that the sentence contained in these lines has no verb. It is merely an exclamation, a generalisation.

22/40. *Income* means *how much money a person receives in the year.*

O. E. page 22. N. E. page 22.

24/1. The same applies here as to lines 19.20/37.38.

25/3. *Stabbing* means *hitting in short sharp jerks with a pointed instrument.*

Same line. *Blotting-pad*, is several sheets of blotting-paper lying flat on a desk.

Same line. *Paper knife* is a special knife used for cutting paper.

Line 27/5. *This is what I mean to say* means *What I want to emphasise is —*, and the sentence which follows is what she wishes to emphasise.

34/12. *Touch and go* means The position is rather critical at the moment. We don't know which way the decision will go.

37/15. *Sort of accidentally* means *As if by accident.*

O. E. page 23. N. E. page 22.

8/25. *Lay it on* means *Exaggerate as much as you dare.*

8/25. *Prospects* are hopes for the future in business.

9/26. *I'll back you up* means *I will support everything you say*

13/30. *A bit vague* means *not definite.*

13/30. *If you see what I mean* means *If you understand what I am trying to say.*

16/33. *Maudlin* means *very very sentimental.*

18/35. *Ascertain* means *to find out.* N. B. Stresses, *ascertain.*

21/38. *Effusion.* *To effuse* means *to pour out.* An *effusion*, therefore, is *a pouring-out.* Here it means a letter in which there has been a pouring out of sentiments etc .

22/29. *Missed the proper post* means *Not sent at the correct time.*

25/42. *Taken for granted* means *Accepted without question or doubt.*

O. E. page 23. N. E. page 23.

26/1. *Embarks.* The first meaning is *to go a board a ship.* The meaning here *it to set out on.*

26/1. *Valiant* means *brave.*

28/3. *Ultimately* means *finally, at the very end.*

30/5. *Correspondence* means *letters*.

32/8. 's means *as*.

December 2nd.

Rule.

Here are ten more words continuing my list.

NOUN.

ENTRANCE

ESCORT

ESSAY

EXPLOIT

EXPORT

EXTRACT

IMPORT

IMPRESS

IMPRINT

INCREASE

VERB.

to **ENTRANCE**

to **ESCORT**

to **ESSAY**

to **EXPLOIT**

to **EXPORT**

to **EXTRACT**

to **IMPORT**

to **IMPRESS**

to **IMPRINT**

to **INCREASE**

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 24. N. E. page 23.

Line 3/19. *Mind you say. Mind* means *do remember* to say.

3/19. *A rise* means *an increase in salary*.

1/23. *All tied up* is a financial term meaning *invested in such a way that the capital cannot be touched* .

8/24. *What a shame!* means *You have my sympathy*.

10/26. *My governor's*. Englishmen refer to their *fathers* as their *governors* as a term of endearment.

16/32. *Call it six hundred* means *let us say it is six hundred to make it a round figure*.

O. E. page 24. N. E. page 24.

24/1. *Earthly reason* means *absolutely any possible reason*.

29/6. *It's a fortune* means *comparatively speaking we shall be rich*.

33/10. *Five-finger exercises*. Generally these refer to musical exercises for practising making fingers supple. Here it means, Ian counted on his fingers.

34/11. *Quid* is a slang word for the £ (pound sterling).

O. E. page 25. N. E. page 24.

2/19. *Need* means *require*. It can mean to *lack*.

6/23. *To throw cold water* means *to find fault or to be pessimistic*.

8/25. *Hasty* means *very quick*.

10/27. *Tulle* is a very flimsy material of which women's evening gowns are sometimes made.

12/29. *Footstool*, a small stool for resting the feet on when sitting.

17/34. *Eminence*, here means *a raised place*.

18/35. *Superfluously*. N. B. stress *superfluously*.

- 20/37. *Notwithstanding* means *in spite of*.
 O. E. page 25. N. E. page 25.
 29/4. *Implication* means *something suggested*.
 35/10. *Faintest* means *the smallest possible*.
 39/14. *Notion* means *an idea*.

December 9th.

Rule.

Continuing the list of words.

<i>NOUNS.</i>	<i>VERBS</i>
<i>INSULT</i>	to <i>INSULT</i>
<i>INTERDICT</i>	to <i>INTERDICT</i>
<i>OBJECT</i>	to <i>OBJECT</i>
<i>OVERTHROW</i>	to <i>OVERTHROW</i>
<i>PERMIT</i>	to <i>PERMIT</i>
<i>PERVERT</i>	to <i>PERVERT</i>
<i>PREFIX</i>	to <i>PREFIX</i>
<i>PRESENT</i>	to <i>PRESENT</i>
<i>PRODUCE</i>	to <i>PRODUCE</i>
<i>PROGRESS</i>	to <i>PROGRESS</i>
<i>PROJECT</i>	to <i>PROJECT</i>
<i>REBEL</i>	to <i>REBEL</i>
<i>RECORD</i>	to <i>RECORD</i>
<i>REFILL</i>	to <i>REFILL</i>
<i>REFUSE</i>	to <i>REFUSE</i>
<i>SUBJECT</i>	to <i>SUBJECT</i>
<i>UNDERLINE</i>	to <i>UNDERLINE</i>

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 26. N. E. page 25.

3/20. *Checked* means *stopped himself before he actually spoke*.

7/25. *Cut him short* means *interrupted him*.

9/27. *In a flash* means *very very quickly*.

13/31. *What on earth* means *by what possible (name)*.

O. E. page 26. N. E. page 26.

25/1. *Infernally*. In the first meaning is *belonging to Hell*. Here it means *very, very*.

25/1. *Can you drink Burgundy?* means *Do you like Burgundy?*

27/3. *Gigantic*. Pronounced *jigantic*. N. B. Stress, *gigantic*.

37/13. *Parlourmaid* is the woman servant who waits at table, sees to the cleaning of the drawing-room and the master's bedroom and clothes. She is the chief servant in a household where there is *not a butler*.

39/15. *Drifted* means *to float gently on a breeze*. Here it means *soft conversation not distinctly heard*.

O. E. page 27. N. E. page 26.

5/23. *Shall we go down?* The drawing-room was on the second floor, while the dining-room was on the first. It was therefore necessary to descend the stairs.

9/27. *Cut along* means *You go on, don't wait for me.*

15/33. *Split the difference* means *to compromise.*

15/33. *Lingering* means *going slowly.*

20/38. *Damnably.* See *Infernally.* Same meaning.
O. E. page 27. N. E. page 27.

25/1. *Extremities* means *ends of the table.*

27/3. *Testing* means *examining.*

34/10. *Headlong* means in the first place, *with the head first.* Here it means *without thinking.*

37/13. *As from a fountain.* The author has made a slight mistake here, and has become a little mixed in his figure of speech. It should read *Words flowed from him as water from a fountain.* *Words* do not flow from fountains.

35.39/14.15. *Ignoramus, bore, chatterbox.* *Ignoramus* is *one who knows nothing.* *Bore* is *an uninteresting speaker.* *Chatterbox* is *a person who never stops talking.*

O. E. page 28. N. E. page 27.

7/25. *Indefatigable.* N. N. Stress, *indefatigable.*
Means *tireless.*

10/28. *Loomed* means *appeared in rather a sinister way.*

18/36. *Bafled* means *eluded, defeated.*

20/38. *Imperceptibly* means *just able to be seen.*
N. B. Stress *imperceptibly.*

21/39. *Dessert* is *fruit eaten at the end of a meal*. N. B. Stress *dessert*.

22/40. *Attendants* here means *servants*.

O. E. page 28. N. E. page 28.

31/7. *Ushered* means *introduced into a room*.

31/7. *Panic-stricken* means *very frightened*.

36/12. *Pursed-up lips* means *lips pressed tightly together*.

38/14. *Dash after them* means *to run quickly after them*.

41/17. *Tottered* means *staggered, to walk un-
surely*.

December 16th.

Rule.

In the following words the stresses never changed however the word is used .

ADJECTIVE	VERB
CONTENT	to ACCORD
EXPRESS	to CURVET
NOUN	to EXPRESS
ACCORD	to FINANCE
CONTENTS	to PRELUDE
FINANCE	to PURCHASE
PRELUDE	
PURCHASE	

These words change the vowel sounds at the end. (Please listen for an explanation.)

DELIBERATE INTIMATE ASSOCIATE.

Greenery Street.

O. E. page 29. N. E. page 28.

Line 3/21. *Port* means *port wine*.

7/25. *Mahogany* is a kind of wood. Here it means *the table*.

7/26. *Love all*. This is taken from the English method of scoring in lawn tennis. It means *the opponents are equal*.

8/20. *Hitherto* means *before*.

9/27. *Permeate* means *to come through thoroughly, but slowly or faintly*. N. B. Stress *per-me-ate*.

16/34. *Host* is the opposite of *guest*.

20/38. *Gave way* means *to surrender*.

O. E. page 29. N. E. page 29.

25/1. 'em means *them*.

32/8. *Moan* is a noise made when in pain.

38/14. *Clinch* means *to make absolutely certain*

40/16. *Awful cheek* means *great impertinence*.

O. E. page 30. N. E. page 29.

4/22. *Antithesis*. N. B. Stress *antithesis*.

6/24. *Picture-rail* is a narrow piece of wood on the walls of a room a short distance from the ceiling, from which pictures are hung.

8/26. *Oar* is *the thing by which a boat is rowed*. N. B. Pronunciation *or*.

9/27. *Weights* means *how much each man weighed*.

19/37. *What college?* means of what college was he a member at the university.

21/39. *Eight is a boat rowed by eight men.*

23/41. *Henley* is a place on the River Thames where a famous rowing regatta is held every year.

(I will explain English rowing in my broadcast.)

24/42. *Had to drop out* means *I could not participate.*

35/11. *Zest* means *eagerness.*

O. E. page 31. N. E. page 30.

5/23. *Quietus* means *a finale.* N. B. Stress *quietus.*

12/30. *Briskly* means *in a lively way.*

12/30. *Soon settle that* means *find out the right answer.*

15/33. *Molten* means *melted.*

22/40. *Dart round* means *to move round*

28/3. *Parson* means *priest.*

30/5. *Auxiliary* here means *assistant.*

33/9. *To clear away, to remove the dishes.*

41/17. *Alice* is the name of the parlourmaid.

41/17. *Go ahead* means *yes, you may do what you want to do.*

December 23rd.

I shall not read from Greenery Street this week, but will give a description of an English Christmas .

I will print this and the notes for Dec. 30th. in the January Commentary .