

1/20/33

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Orthological Inst
Basic English
33012

It was recommended that \$35,000 be appropriated in support of the research work of the Orthological Institute in the Chinese and Japanese languages, payments to be made over a three-year period beginning January 1, 1933.

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1. The purpose of the Orthological Institute, with headquarters in Cambridge and London, is to simplify international communication through "Basic English" in contrast to the attempts to create such means of communication through artificial languages. The Institute began in the efforts of two Cambridge scholars, C.K. Ogden and I.A. Richards, to analyze Indo-European verb uses in order to discover those essential to ordinary description of fundamental physical operations. By extending the examination of vocabulary, these two men and assistants have built up a first vocabulary comprised of 850 words making a severely practical vocabulary easily acquired as an auxiliary language.
2. The Institute now has completed the first stage of its research work and has published handbooks that make materials available to Europeans. The following are being used in spreading the use of basic English in both Europe and Asia:
Basic English
 A general account, with Word-List and Rules
The Basic Words
 A full account of the 850 words, with all special uses
The ABC of Basic English
 A simple account, step by step, for learners and teachers
The Basic Dictionary
 A history and discussion of the question; with details of the number of words used for different purposes
 Other interests of the Institute are development of teaching devices such as readers, phonograph records, talking motion pictures, and the use of basic English in radio broadcasts. It is further working towards the adoption of basic English for international congresses and for publication of scientific works in scholarly journals. Abstracts of scientific articles, written in basic English by research workers in various countries as supplements to the articles themselves, do away with a great part of the present laborious translation into English, German, and French. Some progress has been made in this phase of the applied use of the method, and special vocabularies are being developed for the fields of law, engineering, and medicine.

3. Accomplishments of the Institute during the ten years now ended have been brought about through the work of Mr. Ogden and Mr. Richards with the help of two full-time assistants, part-time service of many translators, and aid from the staff of the London School of Oriental Studies. Expenditures during the past ten years, totaling \$150,000, have been provided through private income of Mr. Ogden, through gifts of private donors in England, and through a few philanthropic organizations. Because of interest in the radio phase of the program, the Payne Fund of New York is now carrying the general expense of the offices for the third year. A library and office in Cambridge and a laboratory in London provide the necessary equipment for work.
4. The project now presented for support is intended to bring to completion the work of Japanese and English scholars on the application of principles of basic English to the language problems of the Far East. During the past ten years the Japanese have made good progress in producing fairly reliable English-Japanese lexicography, but there has been no parallel development of Japanese-English work. Co-operation is needed with English and American scholars. The personnel for group attack upon the problem is at hand. Mr. Richards, who recently spent a year in China as governmental adviser on the teaching of English, can arrange for partial release from his duties at Cambridge. Professor Takata of Tokyo has recently completed a six months' residence in London and is ready to return to Tokyo to resume work with Professor Y. Okakura, the official representative of the Institute in Tokyo and a lifelong promoter of English in Japanese schools. Leading scholars in the Imperial University, in Doshisha University, and at Sendai are promoting the preparation of school materials, the introduction of basic English in public and private institutions, and the publication of periodicals in the simplified language. Three British scholars who have had long terms of residence in Japan possess the knowledge of colloquial Japanese requisite for the work.
5. Supplementary to the main project it is desired to have representatives of basic English from the Orient and from England attend the Banff Conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations that is to be held during the summer of 1933. Steps have been taken to assure the recognition of the group at the conference as part of the plan to introduce basic English in the documents printed for Oriental readers. It is anticipated that within five years the oral use of English in succeeding conferences can be greatly facilitated

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for the Oriental delegates, and also that a much more representative delegation can be selected from the number of Japanese and Chinese able both to speak and to understand the simplified form.

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6. The budget presented for three years would provide salary for the group, as well as for two assistants and secretarial service. The extra sum provided for 1933 would meet the charges during 1933 for the Banff Conference and for initial expenses of the main project.

Whereupon it was, on motion,

RESOLVED that the sum of Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000), or
RF 33005 as much thereof as may be necessary, be, and it is hereby,
appropriated to the ORTHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, LONDON, for
research in the CHINESE and JAPANESE LANGUAGES during the
years 1933-1935 inclusive, amounts available not to exceed
the following:

1933	\$15,000
1934	\$10,000
1935	\$10,000
