A Merriam-Webster

FROM	ROM - COMPARISON OF DICTIONARIES - LAURANCE HART 18 TH AND FINAL EDITION, 1962 WEIGHT								ote C. J. Hron P. H. J. Con.		
AGES SUITED	PUBLISHER EXACT NAME OF BOOK	DATES	ICE LB		PAGES	LINES. An ENTRY is about	ILLUS- TRA- TIONS	NEW PEOPLE ETTS TO LOCK	NO RETORDATE OF TO	OTHER STRONG	G- Good F- Fair P- Poor O- Nothing
Un- abridged	MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARIES G.& C. Merriam Company 47 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL-2nd Ed. WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL	1934-1959 \$3	9.50 17	∳# 9x12"	ers of 0 years	DICTIONAL experience	ie, tradi	clusively. Larges tions, scholarshi	t staff; most p,library,file (Officia	s, quotations,	citations.
abridged	WEBSTER'S TRIED NEW INTERNATIONAL Strong on new words and usages; quot the best speakers and writers, on sg	tations, synonym pelling, pronun	s, etym	ology.Wo	neanle	or places	Tone		a g sheers	Report, 352	Too much llo . II

This magnificent volume is the harvest of herculean (usu. cap.) labors, by an army of experts, - 757 editor-years. Many substantial improvements are obvious; - paper, Times-Roman type, more than enough "enriched" etymology for usual needs; 100,000 new and useful words added; less necessary words omitted; short, clear, one-phrase" definitions; 200,000 quotations from 14,000 authors. Omission of people, places, much encyclopedic matter, 1 of the entries, and 3/4 of the illustrations, makes room for matter not so easily found elsewhere.

It is a source of pleasure and pride, to have visited Merriam's office and staff, and glimpsed their enormous files; 10 million items. But "Love me, love my dog," would be suicide for any critic. Said Brooks Atkinson, (N.Y. Times, - the world's most influential drama critic,): "It is my business to tell the truth. The only mistake you can make, is not to say what you think!"

ON WHAT AUTHORITY?- "Johnsonian" (British) dictionaries are based on "classical propriety," grammar, clarity. "Websterian" editors do not believe they are leaders, or guardians of the language, much less "THE AUTHORITY": but must record the language like she is spoke, by "Educated Americans," -"Cultivated People." Britannica says "Preference should be given to quotations from the best writers." Does that mean editors, teachers, reviewers, critics?- or show biz, cafe society, sporting circles, underworld, colyumists, singing commercials? TO WHAT NEW AUDIENCE DOES IT CATER? The ambitious? studious? conscientious? church members? - or to the frustrated, the cynical who, to be modern, different, are tearing down what they cannot replace?

CHANGES ARE INCONSISTENT. Sights have been lowered on total words, people, places, foreign phrases, encyclopedic matter, illustrations, obsolete words, vulgarity, slurring, authority; but RAISED on pronunciation, etymology, slight differences.

PRONUNCIATION: far more difficult than other books; too many symbols, unfamiliar, inaccessible. See "Water", below.

ENCYCLOPEDIC MATTER: I miss it; but did it belong here? Much of what remains is dubious. See truth, color, bright, 20, 30, current, etc. 1LLUSTRATIONS: 300 now, 12,000 before. Many are far from text.



TREASURE HUNT: Find a period (.), a capital letter, McCarthyism, Gung Ho, table of chemical elements, the most obscene 4-letter word, abbreviation of "Postal Money Order," derivation of "Holy Cow," is "a savings" correct? "a ways?", why call a woman a "broad?". Name two systems of artificial respiration? Who is president of Merriam company? What was invented by Holger? by Nielsen? What are the Roman numerals for "twelve?" Official name and spelling of New York Turnpike? Why do we condemn Communism? Is inflation caused by government spending? What are "female pudenda?" P.554.

I protest abuse of the SCHWA. Because many people say "uh" for every short unaccented vowel, must we OK it for serious scholars, speakers, schools, immigrants, distinguished visitors? (Heavuhn, duhvine, ajuhs, bulluhtuhn?)

Because alcohol, gambling, sex, exaggerated ads, and slovenly speech cannot be prevented, must we approve? Do you believe that cultivated, educated speakers say "Ain't?" - "Like a cigarette should?" - "Too", when they mean "Very?" (Not too many babies are born in cabs, 5 New York City Health Chief.) Or that "horseshit" is just usually considered vulgar?

Some slang, some new words and new usages serve a useful purpose, - because expressive, clever, graphic, colorful; but others are temporary, local, useless,

meaningless, confusing, and should not be perpetuated.

Modern versions of the Bible have lessened its poetic grandeur; - "They jar the ear of some, the soul of others." Some even call them Communist perversions. Britannica sacrificed its classic scholarship. Radio, and family magazines, advertise liquor. Some question the idea of right and wrong. Defeatists embrace Existentialism. Modern Art, poetry, music, economic theory, and wrestling, are as phony as the emperor's new clothes. Some place the entire blame for delinquency on heredity and environment, ignoring "Personal Responsibility."

But, - "In education, the customer isn't always right," says president A. W. Griswold of Yale. And Karl Barth adds- "The Church, as an echo of trends, has almost lost its soul." "America's submission to the herd dis-

tresses me." Bertrand Russell, 6/62.

These epidemics will pass; there are many signs of a new Renaissance; a revival, not only of religion, but also of respect for learning, for patriotism, for heroes, for craftsmanship, thrift, solvency, for the niceties; for gracious living. Kennedy is urging a cult of excellence, - organizing a cultural center. Symphony orchestras and Little Theatres are springing up everywhere.

Merriam too, will turn upstream long before another 25 years, and struggle to regain its hard-won status, as Guide and Authority.

IF NOT--WHOSE DUTY IS IT THEN?

I have received 50 reviews from newspapers and magazines. Only three are enthusiastic. Too bad! for the book has so many great merits. Meantime, keep your King James Bible; your 11th Britannica; and your 2nd edition of Merriam.

	WATER Column water water sounds likeor, DEFINITIONS			"Water?" "Wawder?" I don't mean to; I know better; and I certainly don't want it taught that way. Blant line used in pairs to mark the beginning and end of a transcription: \pen\ mark preceding a syllable with primary (strongest) stress: \pen\pennon,ship\ (\frac{1}{2}\text{11})									
	Merriam Unabridged Dic. 1961 NEW MERRIAM-WEBSTER,	8". 100"of com- pounds.	saw	cot	we-ter \wo d-o(r), 'well, to(r)\ n -s often attrib [ME, fr. OB water: akin to OHG watzar water, ON vatn, Goth weto water, Lunda wave, Gk Aydor water, Sk tuden! 1 a. z. the tiquite lint descepted from the clouds as rain, forms streams, lakes, and soas, issues from the ground in springs, and is a major constituent of all living matter and that when pure consists of an oxide of hydrogen H ₁ O or (H ₂ O) ₂ in the proportion of	\(\begin{align*} \wolddard{\text{wolder}}\), \(\begin{align*} \wadata \wideta \end{align*} \), \(\begin{align*} \wadata \wideta \end{align*} \), \(\begin{align*} \wideta \wideta \end{align*} \), \(\begin{align*} \wideta \w							
	Merriam Unabridged Dict.			con	waiter (wô'ter; wöt'er; 85), n. [ME. water, thester, wester, fr. AS. water, akin to OS. water, OFris. water, vester, LG. &D. water, C. waser, OHc. waser, ON. sater, See settlers, Dan. sand, Com. word of the tall, and which forms rivers, lakes, seas, etc. One of the faller reals of the ancients, characterized by being moist and	äle, chāotic, câre, ădd, ăccount, ärm ask, sofa; ëve, hēre (116), ëvent, ĕnd, silĕnt, makēr; īce, ill, charšty; öld, öbey, ôrb, ŏdd, söft, cŏnnect; food, foot; il Foreign Word. + Obsolete Variant al. + combined with. = equals. Abbreviations, Signs, etc., are explained on pages immediately preceding the Vocabulary. out, oil; cûbe, înite, firn, ŭp, circŭs menü; chair; go; sing; then, thin; natūre, verdūre (249); k = ch in G. ich, ach (109); bon; yet; zh = z in azure. Numbers within pronunciation parentheses here and in vocabulary refer to iš in Fron., preceding the Vocabulary.							
Rar Ame 195	Funk & Wagnalls Stand. Dict. Int'l. Ed. 1958			limpid liquid compound of hydrogen and oxygen. H ₂ O, in the proportion of two	add,āce,câre,pžlm; end,ēven; it,īce; odd,ōpen,ôrder; took,pōod; up;bûrn; o = a in above, e in sicken, i in clarity, o in melon, u in focus; yōo = u in fuse; ol,oil; ou,pout; ch,check; g,go; ng,ring; th,thin; th,this; zh;vision. Foreign sounds à,œ,ü,kh,ñ; and ◆: see page xx. < from; + plus; ? possibly.								
	Random House American College Dict. 1953	5"	order	hot water (wô/tor, wöt/or), n. 1. the liquid which in a more or less impure state constitutes rain, oceans, lakes, rivers, etc., and which in a pure state is a transparent,		äct, äble, dåre ärt; čbb, čqual; Y, Ice; höt, över, örder, oil, böök, ööze, out; üp, üse, ürge; e = a in alone; ch, chief; g, give; ng, ring; sh, shoe; th, thin; th, that; zh, vision. See the full key on inside cover.							
	Thorndike-Barnhart Comprehensive Desk Dict. 1958	prehensive Desk Dict. 3" order wot stitutes rain, oceans, rivers, lakes, and pends. Perfectly pure water is a transparent, colorless,		wa-ter (we'ter; wot'er), s. 1, liquid that constitutes rain, oceans, rivers, lakes, and ponds. Perfectly pure water is a transparent, colorless, tasteless, scentless compound of hydrogen and	age, care, für. Squal, térm; los; öpen, örder; pût, rüle, üse; tiz, then; e-s in about.								
	World Dictionary, Webster's New College Ed. 1956	7"	horn	car	wa-ter (wô'tër, wät'ër), n. [ME; AS. wzter, akin to G. wasser, IE. *wodôr < base *wed-, to wet; cf. WET, wash], 1. the colorless, transparent liquid occurring or earth as rivers, lakes, oceans, etc., and falling from	fat, ape, bare, ch; ten, aven, here, over; is, bite; lot, go, horn, tool, look; oil, out; up, use, fur; get; joy; yet; chin; she; thin, she; th							

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