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## How to Talk to the Deaf: The Language of Gestures, Expression, Impersonation, Pantomime or Acting Used by All Peoples in All Ages and Everywhere

Daniel D. Higgins

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# *How to Talk to the Deaf*

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Impersonation, Pantomime or Acting  
Used by All Peoples in All Ages and  
Everywhere*

By Dan D. Higgins, C. SS. R.

2712 N. ASHLAND AVE.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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G. S. GRYSZKA

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# THE ALPHABET



Z MANUAL ALPHABET  
Invented by Abbe de L'Epée  
of Paris, in the 17th Century.  
Used by the deaf throughout  
the world. Easy to learn.

J. S. PALUCH CO., CHICAGO, ILL.



## - PREFACE -

*How to talk to the deaf, and how the deaf and hard of hearing can talk to one another. This is accomplished by the language of gestures, expression, impersonation, pantomime or acting, used by all peoples, in all ages, and everywhere.*

*Before continuing, attention is brought to the following three notes:—*

**NOTE: 1.**—The English Dictionaries define "Dumb" and "Mute" as meaning "Silent". "Deaf-Mute" and "Deaf and Dumb" are given identical significations. In the United States and in other places, "Dumb" denotes "Stupid". None of these terms is the correct title or name for a person that is partially or totally deaf.

So far, I have met only two persons that were really mute; they could hear, but could make no sound with the vocal organs. This is not necessarily the case with deaf persons; they are not mute, and they are not stupid; all can learn to say some words, some can speak quite well, others learned to speak before they became deaf.

All can be divided most correctly into two classes: The totally deaf and the partially deaf; and the former should be called the DEAF, and the latter the HARD-OF-HEARING:—

The DEAF then are those who had no hearing to help them in the acquisition of speech, or have no hearing to aid them in the preservation of speech; the HARD-OF-HEARING are all partially deaf persons. Neither "Mute" nor "Dumb" can be applied correctly to either class.

**NOTE: 2.**—Do not be deceived by anyone asserting that one cannot learn from a book how to talk to the deaf. Many persons have learned in this manner, and many others are doing the same with greater ease and more accuracy than is generally the case with those who try to learn the language merely by mingling with those who use it.

**NOTE: 3.**—Do not let the exaggerated propaganda, which claims that all deaf persons are now learning to speak and to read the lips perfectly, deter you from learning this language. Even if those claims were true, the deaf using this language would be with us the rest of our lives.

## THE LANGUAGE

The language of gestures, expression, impersonation, pantomime or acting is the fundamentally natural, universal and international language. We used it as babes, our parents used it to teach us and to correct us during the first years of our life. Even now we revert to this language to make the meaning of our words clearer and more emphatic. We use it again when we have to deal with persons who do not understand our speech. When we are greatly excited, or in oratory, when words fail, we resort to the language of gestures. Actions speak louder and more plainly than words. See how difficult it is to tell a person how to act, but use the language of gestures, do it yourself, show the person and you more easily succeed. Is it not strange that many parents and some teachers will forbid the use of this language only to the deaf, even using its very gestures to tell them not to use it? At the same time these very persons tell and encourage their hearing children to practise themselves in the use of this language. They admonish the deaf children: "People will laugh at you if you use the language of gestures." Some persons will laugh at any language they do not understand. "When I was young", says a deaf man, "my parents told me that people would laugh at me if I used the so-called Sign Language." I learned to speak as other deaf children often do, but people laughed the more at my voice and delivery; so I learned the language of gestures, and I speak orally only when necessary."

Many persons consider this language to be proper only to the deaf, but they err. This language of gestures is used in many occupations of life. Also the hearing baby will understand these gestures as easily as the deaf baby. A deaf child will not understand all the gestures used by adults any better than the hearing child will understand all the words it hears: but both the hearing child and the deaf child will have a better chance of understanding acting and gestures than they have of understanding words. The hearing child must depend on gestures, expression and acting to understand the meaning of the first words it learns to use. A priest, after studying the language sufficiently to preach to the deaf, exclaimed: "I've been using this language all my life, but I did not have the gestures coded." On the other hand, there are some persons that assert this language is no language. They show a survival or revival of the national spirit which claims that no language is a language except their own national language or tongue.

It is sometimes said that this language of gestures and action is conventional and should therefore not be used for the communication of thought. They who talk thus, forget that almost all words are conventional; if they were natural, the words of all spoken languages would be more alike. In Grammar, "A word is a sign of an idea". In Philosophy, "A word is a combination of sounds manifesting an idea according to the decisions of humans", and the written word is all signs. No word looks like what it signifies, and very few words sound like what they represent, and most of these words are avoided in polite society. It is true that some of these gestures are built up from other natural gestures, the opposite of a natural gesture being taken to denote the

opposite idea; other signs are a combination of several natural ones; still others have been contracted or changed by use till it is difficult to detect the original natural gesture. This language is so natural that it has survived from the beginning in spite of all the efforts of interested parties to destroy it.

## WHY LEARN THE LANGUAGE

Some persons study French, Italian, German, Latin, for the sake of the language only or for the benefit of foreigners, although the foreigners could learn the language of the land; then, why not learn this language for the benefit of thousands who cannot learn to speak or to understand the spoken language perfectly? Why not learn the language for the benefits that accrue to oneself from the study and practise of the language of gestures, expression, impersonation and pantomime and acting.

**Students and Seminarians** should learn this language and practice it; the gestures, expression, impersonation and acting will be a great help to them in these very things to make them natural speakers, and will remove from them that selfconsciousness, the great enemy of the public speaker. Besides, seminarians, like all priests, spend many years in the higher studies, using terms that are proper to those studies, and when they begin to preach to the people, they preach as if the people all had made the same studies, consequently the sermons are over the heads of the people or in terms conventional to the books studied in the seminary. One learned President of a university said to me: "Father, I taught the higher branches of philosophy for years. I preached on the same level. However, I happened to take up the study and the practice of the language of gestures and expression and pantomime to work amongst the deaf, and now I preach the ideas to the people, using the words known to all, and without trying to show my great knowledge of words or of high sounding terms".

**Hard of Hearing Persons**, knowing this language, could converse together pleasantly, and without being overheard by persons living in adjacent rooms. If they have some power of reading the lips of others, it would be greatly supplemented by the use of this language.

**Teachers in the Oral Schools**, when they use gestures, should use these, so that their pupils would not be learning a system of gestures somewhat different from those in general use. This would also enable the teachers to correct the pupils more easily, and the better to watch over the morals of the children; otherwise the children make up their own language of gestures and no one knows whether their conversation is doing good or harm.

Teach according to any system you are certain is the best for the child, especially in its after years; teach orally, teach all the oral you can; use the combined method, the manual method or any other system or method, but do not allow slavishness to a method or system, merely mercenary or ambitious motives, or the fear of biased, foolishly proud and sentimental parents lead you to do present or future harm to the pupil spiritually or materially.

**Pastors or Priests**, who have deaf in their parish or in their care, are obliged to learn this language, or to see to it that the deaf are taken care of spiritually by some one who does know the language.

When one knows this language, he can easily adapt himself to the teaching of a deaf person that has never been to any school and has never met even one other deaf person. Deafness does not exclude any one from heaven, neither will it place any one in heaven; some assert the latter to excuse themselves from caring for the deaf.

**Scouts** ought to learn this language, which is used by thousands of adults and children, instead of learning the Indian Sign Language, which they will hardly use.

**Oral Pupils**, instead of making up a language for their own use amongst their schoolmates, should become acquainted with this, to be better understood when they do use gestures, and the better to understand the gestures of others after school days. So many things militate against their understanding oral sermons and public lectures that they stay away or go to lectures and sermons in the so-called sign language; hence their need of knowing well the language of gestures.

**Parents, Brothers, Sisters, Relatives and Friends** of the deaf should learn this Sign Language in the correct and dignified manner. These parents and others could then teach, correct and help greatly in the development of the child's mind, and not leave this to the neighboring children or to some evil minded person, or condemn the child to remain untaught and undeveloped in mind until it goes to school. Often, through false shame, parents wish to have their child wait until it is fifteen or twenty years of age without this development with the vain hope that their child will sometime speak and understand speech as well as their hearing children. Many parents, brothers and sisters and teachers and relatives consider the deaf one as outside the pale of the human race. Such parents and relatives are of that class of persons, who make of the sign language a matter of grimaces and odd gestures; they are not even natural in their home made gestures. There is much talk and properly so, about the pre-school-day education, but how can this be done, if fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers cannot converse intelligently with the child during its early years. It is claimed that the use of finger spelling and gestures will spoil the grammar of their English writing; it is more true that without these helps many will never have any English grammar to be spoiled. It is not true that all orally taught children have good English, neither is it true that all the others have poor English.

#### THERE ARE LOCAL DIFFERENCES IN THE SIGN LANGUAGE ALSO

The gestures or signs described in this book are not those of the author or those of any particular school or locality; they are the signs or gestures the author has noticed as being most general throughout the United States. Many of the gestures differ in the various lo-

calities by having more or less motion in the making of them. The many characteristics of an action or thing, any of which can be taken to denote the action or thing, are causes of differences. The pictures in this book are named for the sake of convenience; this also gives cause for a seeming difference. The picture named "Admiration" when it is akin to awe, is not the gesture for admiration when it is akin to love or affection. The gesture for "Hide" or "Cover," since what covers or hides is generally over or above the thing hidden or covered would not necessarily be the only gesture for "Above" or for "Over." The gesture for "Progress Upward," although it means higher, would not be the only gesture to indicate "Above." In the expressions: Apply for a position, apply the mind, apply diligence, apply the eyes or notice, apply a method, apply paint, apply a plaster or a poultice, the word apply takes on various meanings according to the idea, and the gestures used to express these meanings will differ according to the meaning without regard to the simple word. This is what causes some disputes, one holding that the gesture for "Apply" is this and another, that. All this is only an apparent difference. There are more signs and gestures in this book than are used by any deaf lecturer, more signs by far than are needed to teach Catechism, to preach missions, to teach and instruct people in religious and moral matters. Remember you may spell a word at any time, but use the words in the book to keep within the vocabulary of most persons. If you spell a word not known to the audience, you ought to explain that word. All local differences can be considered, if necessary, when one begins to preach or teach in any locality. Many persons change the signs through carelessness or thoughtlessness and through conditions mentioned above. Sign books are a strong aid in making or keeping the signs or gestures uniform.

#### LEARNING THE LANGUAGE

This Language is so Natural to us, and so Easily Learned that Every One Should Become Acquainted With It. Even if only to Increase the Scope of One's knowledge of languages. One does not have to learn a new spelling of words, or new words, or new grammar, or a new writing; it is one's own language expressed in gestures or signs, expression and acting, which all have used and use to a greater or lesser degree. The spelling that is done with the fingers is called the manual alphabet, and is the one children learn during school days as a game or as a joke.

**How To Learn This Language.** First, learn the manual alphabet mentioned above. This can be done quickly from cards, from dictionaries, or from the preceding illustrations. When making the letters, let the arm be free and in the position given in the illustrations, the palm of the hand facing the audience, and the fingers moving to the next letter without making any letter in between. If one should open the hand to move the fingers to the next letter, it would most likely form a letter or half a letter in between. Do not slur the letters, but slur from one letter to another, always making a slight pause at the end of a word. The hand, however, is not limited absolutely to the position shown in the illustra-

tions; sometimes, a person would wish to spell at the right to indicate the position of a person or thing, and then at the left for a similar reason, or to the front. Do not jerk the hand for each letter, but make the letters distinctly; at times, each letter of a word, or of several words, is made emphatically for the sake of emphasis on that word or words.

**To Learn The Language From The Book.** take the book and study well the **Key to the Definitions** (page 7). The key is designed to make the definitions definite, and must be well known for the accurate reading or following of the definitions. Then make each sign or gesture from the definition, using the picture as an aid, and paying attention to the suggested idea at the end of the definition. Go through the entire list without trying to memorize the gesture or definition. Next, review the entire list, making the sign from the name or picture, consulting the definition only when in doubt. Practice continuous signing by going through the prayers that are illustrated in the back of the book. Note, however, that in signing the prayers we sign more words than when we are conversing or preaching. We do this also when talking to the children in the schools, following the construction of the English language more closely, to help the children learn English correctly.

#### FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

When we have an audience of hearing and deaf persons together, we speak and sign at the same time, paying attention to the idiom of the signs if the deaf persons are the principal part of the audience, and speaking sufficiently to enable the hearing persons to understand. When this is done, the sign language or language of gestures is very intelligible and attractive to hearing persons, and it impresses them more than any oral sermon can. When the hearing people are the principal part of the audience, we speak to them, and sign sufficiently to enable the deaf to understand. When it can be done conveniently, it is better to sign without speaking, or to speak without signing, because when signing only, the ideas can be represented and acted more in the style of a moving picture, and in an order favoring clearness and impressiveness.

Use only those gestures that are needed to make the meaning clear, for instance: "City" "Now" with an expression as if asking a question would mean: "Are you going to the city any time to-day?" The answer would be "Yes" or "No" or "To-morrow" or something similar. Manner, emphasis, slowness, speed in a measure, expression, impersonation, pantomime and acting, aid in expressing and impressing ideas. An example of emphasis or speed in measure would be the following: The placing of the index tip to the lips, palm leftward, would denote "Silence," but to throw the index tip against the closed lips, the face showing fear or seriousness, would mean much more than simply "Silence." All motion of the face, or any posing that has nothing to do with the idea to be expressed should be avoided.

Any word may be spelled on the hand; often words are spelled for the sake of variety, or to make a gesture

more definite. We should aim to use simple words in their original meaning, and never try to show our great knowledge of English words, a thing which so often spoils so many of the oral sermons and speeches. It is often better to repeat the noun than to use relatives. We can also use a conjunction instead of a relative, for example: "God, who made the world, made us" is more simply expressed by: God made the world and us." Teachers of little hearing children should make a note of this. Some teachers take too much for granted. Again, spell any word but stay within the vocabulary. One could spell the entire discourse but this would be tiresome to the audience and to the lecturer.

It is a common mistake amongst many persons and amongst the deaf themselves to think that this language should be used with as much speed as possible. Some hearing persons have the same idea about the spoken language, they talk or preach so rapidly that one can scarcely understand them. One should always sign or speak sufficiently slowly to enable the audience to understand. If the audience is very large, or the subject difficult or new to the audience, the lecturer should speak more loudly and more slowly, or sign with larger gestures and more slowly.

In using the language of signs or gestures, ease and naturalness should be the guides. When a number of signs or gestures are made in succession, as in conversation, the hands should move from the last sign to the next without a stop, so that the movement is continuous and not jerky. The movement from one sign to the next should have no stress at all, whereas the sign itself always has the stress of being meant. Pauses are to be made to group together the signs that are connected as in a phrase, but the hands are not to be dropped. If we wish to lower the hands for a longer pause to think or to give the audience time for thought, or to change the train of thought, the hands are lowered quietly without any accent.

The sign or gesture denoting any idea can be used for a noun, verb, adjective or for any part of speech concerning the same idea. Words spelt alike and even pronounced alike, but having a different meaning cannot be interchanged. For instance: The sign for "Will" denoting futurity cannot be used for "Will" meaning command or law, or desire. For the same reason the signs for "Mete" "Meat" and "Meet" cannot be interchanged. The use of intransitive verbs in transitive manner is more usual in this language than in spoken languages.

The tense signs are used only when needed to make the time clear. If another word or gesture indicates the time, the tense sign need not be used; this is proper also to other languages. The principal tense signs are "Past" "Present" and "Future."

**ILLUSTRATIONS—EXAMPLES**

To illustrate what is meant by "Picture," "Manner," "Emphasis" and "Position," take the following instance: "Long ago, a man was standing on the gable end of a very high house, suddenly the man toppled over sidewise, and fell from his elevated position to the ground. The distance of the fall was so great that his body made several complete turns, over and over in the air, before he struck the ground. He was dashed to the ground flat on his back, and died within a few moments. We shall sign the foregoing as follows:—The signs are in capitals:—PAST (The hand is pushed additionally backward to denote a long time past). HOUSE—HIGH ("Tall" signed slowly to indicate the great height of the house; the eyes follow as if looking up the side of a very high building). MALE (For "Man"), STAND (Made locally so that the inverted right "V" finger tips are standing

on the gable point of the "House" just signed and sustained by the left hand; then the inverted "V" hand falls to one side quickly, and whirls over and over slowly to indicate the great height. The hand descends slowly during these turns, but the last part of the fall is made quickly straight to the ground as all objects naturally seem to fall. The right hand comes to rest with a jerk to show the sudden shock, and is supine to indicate that the victim fell on his back). DEATH (Signed slowly, to indicate that death was not instantaneous, and then followed by) FINISH (To show that all is over). (The expression of the face, the movement of the eyes, in keeping with the ideas add very much to the fulness of the description). The Illustration of this incident follows.



Other examples of expression, pantomime or acting, impersonation and manipulation of the signs or gestures follow:—

"Once upon a time, a farmer, angry and discouraged by a drought, walked out of his house. He was worried about obtaining fodder for his flocks, because he beholds all the crops dried up. At last he decides to steal what he needs. Just as he decided to do this, his little daughter walks out and calls to him. Though angry and disturbed, he turns and looks down smilingly at the child. When asked what she wishes, she answers: "I want to go along." At first, he demurs, but finally decides to take her along with him. The foregoing can be signed thus, the capitals indicating the signs used:—

PAST-COUNTRY-HOUSE-DOOR-OPEN— ("Door" and "Open" made as if at the front of the house just signed). MAN (To indicate you are taking the part of the man. Step forward as if through the door, look angrily or defiantly at the heavens, gaze out over the fields to the right and to the left, and then appear to be despondent). THINK (Assume the posture of one thinking, hold it for a moment, and then sign the

thoughts as if talking to oneself) THIS—YEAR—NO—RAIN - - - ALL—GROWING - - DEAD - - - HOW—CAN - I - GIVE - FOOD - TO - MY - COWS - HORSES—PIGS - AND - CHICKENS — (Assume the posture of one thinking, hold it for a moment, then look up suddenly and brightly as if struck with a pleasant idea). I - KNOW - WHAT - I - DO — — I - STEAL (Step back immediately, and sign at once) DOOR - OPEN (The making of this sign immediately will show that just as he decided to steal the door opened again) GIRL (Made as if she were little and just in the door) HIS (Made toward the man) DAUGHTER. (Point to the child and then taking her part, step as if out the door, look up at the father and sign) CALLS - PAPA (spell or sign). MAN (Turn to show you are now taking the part of the man. Turn as if still angry, but as soon as you look down at the child, smile and affectionately sign to her) WHAT - YOU - DESIRE. (Turn slightly to show that you are taking the part of the little girl, look up as if to the man and sign) I - WISH - TO - GO - ALONG (Take the part of the man again, remain a pause as if confused and thinking it over, then smilingly look down at the child and sign) ALL RIGHT.

**MANIPULATION OF GESTURES**

In the book, the signs are pictured and named in one position, and sometimes in profile for convenience; but they are capable of being manipulated greatly. For example, the following: "If I should go to the uttermost parts of the universe, to highest heaven, to deepest hell, God is there to sustain me," could be signed thus:—IF - I - FAR (The hands are placed as if to make "Far," but the right hand only, is moved and to the right as far as possible and then shaken to indicate it is impossible to reach the distance. Both hands again as if to make "Far" and the left hand moves to the left as was done with the right. Turn slightly and repeat the same towards the front and towards the back. Hands together again for "Far" but thumbs pointing to one side, repeat as before, the right hand moved upwards, and then the left hand moved downwards. Then sign: THERE (make this sign slowly as if to a great distance in the six directions just indicated, then sign) GOD - IS - TO - UP-HOLD - ME (For "Uphold" use the gesture for "Help" but without the lifting motion, as if the right hand were only sustaining the left closed hand).

Again, one can sign HOUSE and then as if in the house, sign WINDOW in its place and open the window, and lean out to peer in all directions.

APPROACH made with staccato movements from the body instead of to it, would denote "Move away."

GUN, it can then be carried across the arm or at rest; it can be aimed and then lowered as if the game had disappeared; it can be aimed and discharged, then lowered slightly as the hunter watches the effect, the expression of his face will show whether he failed or succeeded.

The direction of the signs can be changed to make the sign more clear and more to the point.

## KEY TO THE DEFINITIONS

*Study this well before trying to follow the definitions*

"A" hand, or "B" etc.	Denotes the hand forming the letter mentioned.
"&" hand	Hand with tips together as in the completed sign for "and".
Horizontal	Parallel with the floor.
Vertical	Pointing upward.
Inverted	Pointing downward.
Inwards	Towards the body.
Outward	From the body frontwards.
Backwards	Towards the back.
Palm towards palm	Palms facing each other.
Palm to palm	Palms applied to each other.
Prone	Palm down.
Supine	Palm upward.
Edgewise	Horizontal and neither prone nor supine.
Tandem	One behind the other in a line.

Combination of directions, as "up to the right", or "out to the left" will denote an oblique direction.

"Out-down-in-up" or "Right-up-left-down-right" will indicate a circle or curved line according to the directions given.

**NOTE 1.** Several pictures of the same name and numbered show successive positions of the hand or hands as they move through the sign.

**NOTE 2.** Pictures of the same name and not numbered denote different gestures for the same idea.

**NOTE 3.** "N. S." signifies "Natural sign". Natural, because it shows a part or all of the natural thing thing or action, or a natural application of signs seemingly or partly conventional.

**NOTE 4.** Many of the pictures are in profile, only to make the directions clearer.



**ABOUT**—Left "&" hand finger tips pointing rightward and right index tip, pointing leftward, passed around them, out-down-in-up.

**N. S.**—Showing right index moving about the left closed tips.

**Note:**—Some persons might use the left hand instead of the right in any sign.



**ABOVE**—Natural sign, pointing above the object previously signed.

**Example:**—"The bird flying above the house". Sign, "House", then point above the imaginary house and sign: "Bird" "Flying".

See "Local Differences", page 3.



**ABSOLUTION**—As the priest signs the cross in conferring of absolution; or "Blessed" "Forgive."

**N. S.**—The principal motion in the act of giving absolution.



**ABSTAIN**—Left hand palm rightward, fingers pointing outward and right bent fingers scratch down off left palm. (Subtract) (Remission) (Deficiency) (Less). This sign is used to denote "neglect" as in the missing of Mass on Sunday.

**N. S.**—Taking off something from palm.



**ACCOMPANY**—Both "A" hands together, palm toward palm, thumbs pointing upward, both hands moved forward together horizontally.

**N. S.**—Both thumbs going along side by side.



**ACROSS**—Left hand prone, fingers pointing rightward, and right hand, fingers pointing outward, pushed out edgewise across back of left hand.

**N. S.**—Across the back of the left hand.



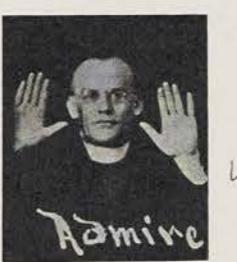
**ACTION**—Both hands prone before body, fingers pointing downward, and both hands moved first to one side and then to the other. (Actual) (Do) (Conduct) (Deed) (Actual Grace "Help" "Grace").

**N. S.**—Action in something, polishing, or scrubbing.



**ADD**—Left "&" fingers pointing upward, right "&" fingers, pointing downward, are brought down onto the tips of the left repeatedly as if adding something, and left hand gradually rises to show the increase. (More).

**N. S.**—Adding a little to a heap makes the heap increase.



**ADMIRE**—Lift up both hands at side of face, palms outward, fingers pointing upward, at same time bring head and shoulders backward. (Wonder) (Astonishment) (Oh! Oh).

**N. S.**—Hands held up in admiration.



**ADVISE**—Right fingers, palm down, tapped on the back of the left forearm, which points forward to the right. (Admonish) (Encourage) (Counsel) (Warn).

**N. S.**—We often tap a person's arm when we are giving advice.



**A F R A I D**—Body shrinking backward and and both vertical palms outward as if to ward off the object both seen and feared. (Timid) (Fear) (Coward—"fear" "er").

**N. S.**—A gesture used to denote fear.



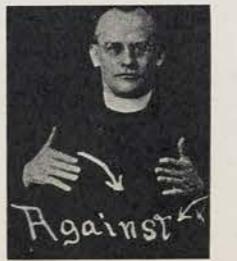
**A F T E R**—Left arm horizontal, palm towards the right, push right hand, palm leftward and edgewise, across left wrist back of left hand. (Afterwards) (Then) (Next)

**N. S. or idea:**—"Just behind."



**A G A I N**—Finger tips of open right hand, palm inward, moved horizontally to left palm, left palm rightward. (Often—"Again" repeated).

**N. S. or idea:**—Place it there once more.



**AGA I N S T**—Same as "Again" but hands do not touch and both hands move. (Opposition) (Opposition) (Difficulty).

**N. S.**—Motion against.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**AGREE** — "Think" and "Same" signed together in succession. Right Index tip to forehead for "think" and prone indices and side by side for "Same".

N. S.—Combination of two Natural signs.



**ALL**—Right tips, back down in supine left palm and then move in circle leftward - outward - rightward back to left palm, right palm facing line of motion. (Universal) (Entire) (Whole).

N. S.—Right hand moves around as if embracing all things.

N. B.—Pictures numbered in series do not show separate motions, but various positions as one motion is made.



**ALL RIGHT**—Right hand edgewise pushed out across left supine palm. (Correct) (Right).

N. S.—Natural or ordinary motion of the right hand for "Proceed" made over the left palm.



**ALONE**—Hold up right index, palm inward, and circle it a little to the left. (Only) (Simple) (Unity).

N. S.—One person wandering.



**ALWAYS**—Right index pointing outward and moved leftward - upward - rightward-downward - leftward. (Ever) (Eternity) (Forever).

N. S. or idea:—Circular motion shows duration.



**AMEN**—Hands joined palm to palm, fingers pointing upward and outward. (Pray) (Devout) (Piety) (Pious).

N. S.—Hands folded at "Amen".



**AMONG**—Right index pointing leftward, passed in and out among the spread fingers of the left hand, which is palm inward and fingers pointing rightward.

N. S.—Right tip amongst the left tips.



**AND**—Right hand at left side before body, fingers pointing leftward, palm inward, fingers spread as if to catch something; draw hand rightward, tips closing as hand moves along. (Besides) (With) (Also) (Moreover) (Even).

N. S.—The end drawn out to a point for an addition.



**ANGEL**—Palms of both hands facing back over shoulders and moved up-back and down as if smoothing feathers of imaginary wings.

N. S.—Smoothing back the feathers of the wings.



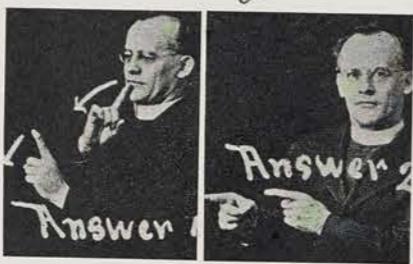
**ANGER**—Both hands downward, palms toward body, bent fingers as if hooked into waist and drawn up sides of the body as if tearing the clothes.

N. S.—The old sign of anger, rending of one's garments.



**ANIMAL**—Tips of fingers on breastbone, palms inward, and elbows in-and-out to simulate the breathing of a horse.

N. S.—Showing the breathing of any animal.



**ANSWER**—Both indices vertical and tandem, right tip at lips, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, both indices thrown forward tandem to point tandem to the person supposed to answer. (Reply) (Respond).

N. S.—The end drawn out to a point for an addition.



**ANTICIPATE**—Thumb and index tips of both hands joined, fingers pointing outward, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, both hands brought back up against the body.

N. S.—Just the opposite of "Delay".

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



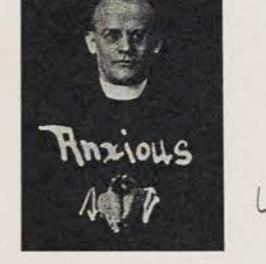
**ANY**—Right "A" hand, thumb upward, shaken as it moves from left to right before the body. (Anything) (Some).

N. S.—Motion around shows "All", the waving shows individual, the initial "A" is added to help make clear.



**ANYONE**—Right vertical index finger shaken before the body, palm inward, or "Any" "One".

N. S.—Same as in preceding, but upright index shows "one".



**ANXIOUS**—Both hands, palm to palm, fingers pointing outward, rubbed back and forwards together. (Ambition) (Ardent) (Zealous) (Desirous) (Earnest) (Industrious).

N. S.—Natural sign, used universally.



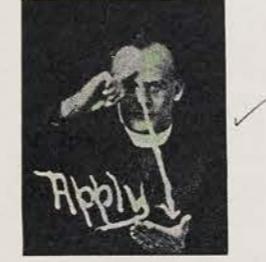
**APPEAR**—Right vertical palm at the side of the head, palm outward and turned to palm inward. (Apparent) (Seem) (Appearance) (Look like) (Resemble).

N. S.—I do not see the palm, then I do see it.



**APPLE**—Index knuckle of right "S" hand pressed sharply into right cheek.

N. S.—The knuckle pressed into the cheek shows the depression around the stem.



**APPLY**—Index tip at the forehead to show "think" and then down to left palm.

N. S.—The mind brought down to the page of the book.

See "Local Differences", page 3.



**APPROACH**—Left hand edgewise, palm toward body, right hand edgewise, palm inward, but farther from body, brought in a few staccato movements towards back of left hand.

N. S.—Right hand approaches the left.



**APRON**—Thumbs and indices moved around the waist to indicate the strings of apron.

N. S.—To indicate the strings around the waist. Indices can then trace the shape of apron if desired, also strings over the shoulder given for some aprons.



**ARISE**—Backs of right "V" fingers on left supine palm and then right inverted "V" tips on the left supine palm. (Get up) ("Stand up" from lying).

N. S.—Sign for lying down changed to "Stand".



**AROUND**—Left "&" fingers pointing upward and the right index pointing downward is passed around the fingers of the left, out-right-in-left.

N. S.—Right tip around the left tips.



**ARRIVE**—Left palm inward held from body at right side, bent right hand with fingers pointing leftward, moved upward-outward-downward-inward-upward and sharply into left palm. (Reach, in sense of "Arrive").

N. S.—Right hand shows motion around to land into the left palm to stop, as the trains come around into the station to the buffer at the end of the line.



**ARROW**—Hands held as in the drawing of the bow to shoot the arrow. To specify "bow" or "arrow", call attention to the hand which holds the same. This applies in other signs.

N. S.—Shooting the arrow.



**ASCENSION**—(of the Lord)—Right inverted "V" tips on left palm, and then right hand alone lifted upward, left hand remaining stationary and right hand retaining inverted position.

N. S.—Right "V" inverted and raised shows the standing person leaving the ground.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**A SHAMED**—Back of right fingers against the right cheek, and fingers pointing downward, move the fingers upward a little by turning the hand to palm inward. (Shame) (Bashful) (Immodest) (Immoral) (Impure) (Be ashamed or Shame on You—"Ashamed" but as hand turns on cheek it is thrown out and down to supine towards the person accused).

N. S.—Hiding the face behind the hand. (The less shame, the less motion of the hand).



**A S K**—Hands as in "Amen" and draw them back to body. (Prefer a request).

N. S.—Hands folded as in prayer drawn to oneself to indicate the begging for something.



**A S S E M B L Y**—Extended hands, palms outward, left fingers pointing leftward and right fingers pointing rightward, bring both hands together at the wrists and close in all fingers together. (Meeting) (Center).

N. S.—Coming in on all radii to the central point.



**A S T O N I S H**—Indices and thumbs joined near temples and then suddenly opened and raised. (Surprise).

N. S.—Showing the widely opening eyes and elevation of the face.



**A T**—Right finger tips put against back left prone hand, left fingers pointing outward. (By).

N. S.—At the back of the left hand.



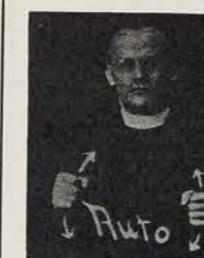
**A T T E N D**—Both hands at side of face, palm towards palm and fingers pointing upward then brought down and frontwards to fingers pointing outward. (Apply).

N. S.—The hands coming down from the side of the eyes to the book to prevent distraction from seeing other things.



**A U N T**—Right vertical "A" down in wavy line near right cheek.

N. S.—Near the cheek for "Woman", Initial letter to distinguish, and waving motion downwards added.



**A U T O**—Hands as if grasping the wheel.  
N. S.—Steering an auto.



**A W A K E**—Thumb and index tip closed at corner of eye, open eye and separate thumb and index at same time.

N. S.—Opening of the index and the thumb tip shows the opening of eyes.



**B A B Y**—Right hand placed in crook of left arm as if it were a child.

N. S.—Baby held in left arm.



**B A C K B I T E**—Left "A" horizontal, palm rightward and knuckles of right "A" hand, palm leftward, struck down against and past left thumb as if striking a flint. (Mean).

N. S.—Right hand is trying to beat the left thumb, (a person) down and out of place.



**B A D**—Right fingers, palm inward, against lips, turned from lips and cast down to prone. (Evil).

N. S.—Something brought to be tested by taste or smell and thrown down because bad.



**B A L A N C E**—Thumb and index of both hands joined, fingers pointing outward, and palm towards palm, hands moved up and down alternately as if they were scale pans. (Sentence) (Judge) (Weigh).

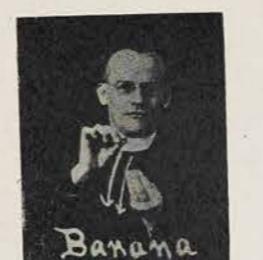
N. S.—The scale pans balancing.



**B A L D**—Right palm moved over back of left closed prone hand. (Naked).

N. S.—As bare as the knuckles of the left hand.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**B A N A N A**—Hold banana perpendicularly in left hand and with right hand pull down the peeling from the sides.

N. S.—As some persons peel a banana.



**B A P T I S M**—Right vertical "W" palm leftward, with index at corner of mouth for "water", and then raised over head and tilted as if pouring water on the head.

N. S.—Water is poured on the head.

**B A P T I S T**—Both "A" hands horizontal, thumbs upward, turned over to the side and plunged tandem-wise down into the water and up again—sometimes the first half of the above sign is prefixed to this sign.

N. S.—Dipping a person for baptism.

**B A R K**—Both hands, palm to palm, fingers pointing outward, heel of hands near mouth, and tips moved apart and together again to show the opening and closing of the dog's mouth.

N. S.—Mimicking moving jaws of barking dog.

**B A R R E L**—Right closed hand as hammer to strike the left closed hand as it moves around on the hoop.

N. S.—Driving the hoop into place.

**B A S K E T**—Right index tip traces handle of basket hanging from left arm.

N. S.—Showing the handle of the basket.

**B A T T L E**—Fingers of both hands pointing toward one another for "crowds", palms inward, moved rightward and leftward as if struggling with one another. (War).

N. S.—Open fingers represent many on both sides advancing and retiring as they wage war.



**B E**—("Be" and "To be")—Bent right horizontal index tip, pointing leftward and moved leftward a few inches.

N. S.—A modification of the sign or gesture used to denote "must" or "determination.



**B E A K**—Right hand vertical, back of hand against lips, and index and thumb tips opening and closing to represent beak of bird, other fingers closed.

N. S.—Extended index and thumb indicate the beak of a bird.



**B E A R**—Arms crossed on breast and fingers scratching at the arms near the shoulders.

N. S.—As caged bears are seen to act when they stand upright to beg dainties from visitors.



**B E A R D**—Natural sign as if stroking large beard. (If the hand trembles or shakes it denotes "Old" or "Age").

N. S.—Stroking one's beard.



**B E A U T I F U L**—Right hand finger tips, palm inward, passed down over the face and closed when brought to lips then ending with a slight upward curve to the right. (Pretty) (Fair) (Handsome).

N. S.—All parts of the face neatly arranged.



**B E C O M E**—Both hands, fingers pointing outward, palm towards palm, right hand prone and left hand supine below then reversed to left hand prone above and right hand supine below. (Change).

N. S.—The complete reversal of the hands shows the change.



**B E C O M I N G**—(Suitable)—Indices extended upward near the shoulders and then brought down to horizontal, toward object spoken of, indices remaining parallel throughout—idea is "agree".

N. S.—I and that agree.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**B E E** — Pinch cheek with index and thumb and then brush cheek with forward motion of open hand finger tips.

N. S.—Striking the stinging bee from the cheek.



**B E L I E V E** — Right vertical index, palm leftward, moved straight out from the lips to clasped hands, or right index tip from the forehead to clasped hands. (Faith) (Fidelity) (Confidence) (Truth) (Trust). N. S.—"Truth", "Grasped".



**B E E R** — Thumb tip of right vertical "Y" tossed to the lips as if drinking from a bottle, palm leftward. (Drink liquor) ("Beer" and right vertical forearm swaying back and forth will denote drunkenness) (Bottle).

N. S.—The tilting of the hand shows the tilting of the bottle.



**D O N T B E L I E V E** — Bent right index and middle astride the nose, and bending repeatedly as if scratching the eyelids or pulling them down. (Distrust) (Incredulity).

N. S.—You are trying to blindfold me.



**B E F O R E** — (Place) — Both vertical hands palm towards palm, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, moved to right palm inward and left palm outward. (The opposite means "Behind" in place)

N. S.—One hand moved emphatically to a position before the other, or behind the other.



**B E L L** — Grasp the bell and ring it, or grasp the rope to ring the bell.

N. S.—The motion made in the ringing of any bell according to its kind.



**B E F O R E** — (Time) — Both vertical hands held in front, back to back, left palm frontwards and right palm inward, right palm moved back towards and over shoulder.

N. S.—Motion of right hand indicates "From here back into the past".



**B E N E D I C T I O N** — Make the sign of the cross with both hands holding the Monstrance.

N. S.—As if giving benediction with the Monstrance.



**B E G** — Right supine palm, fingers pointing outward, moved in little jerks from left to right as if extended to beg. (Ask alms).

N. S.—Hold out the open palm seeking alms.



**B E S E E C H** — Fingers of raised hands interlaced, palm to palm, and brought down to body. (Supplication) (Entreat) (Beg).

N. S.—The clasped hands brought towards oneself to indicate a stronger request.



**B E G I N** — Right index tip turned in between left index and middle as if it were a screw. (Commence) (Start).

N. S.—Starting to drive a screw.



**B E T** — Both "A" hands thumbs upward, side by side, right hand brought around to the front of or behind the left hand. (Behind) (Evade) (Gamble)

N. S.—Part of the sign for "Race".



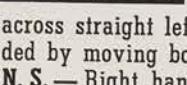
**B E H I N D** or **A f t e r** — (Time) — Both hands vertical held in front, back to back, left palm inward and right palm outward, right hand alone moved forward. (This sign has the sense of "After" "Future" or "Next").

N. S.—Motion of right hand indicates: "From here into the future".



**B E T W E E N** — Left supine hand partially bent, thumb upward, fingers out to the left; right hand edgewise, palm inward placed between left thumb and fingers.

N. S.—Right in between the fingers and thumb of the left. (Right brought down quickly means: "Interrupt", "Interfere", "Intercept", "Come between"). (This same Right brought down sharply to be across straight left supine palm shows: "STOP". Emphasis is added by moving both hands towards motion to be stopped).



N. S.—Right hand is a barrier.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**B E Y O N D** — Point out over object previously signed.

N. S.—Pointing to a more distant place or thing.



**B I R T H** — Both hands on lower trunk of body at side, palms inward, left fingers pointing rightward and right fingers pointing leftward, right palm back of left hand, then both hands turned upward and outward to supine. (Womb) (Born).

N. S.—Child from the body.



**B I R T H D A Y** — "Birth" and right vertical "D" palm outward brought from right side, up-over-down to left side. Some pluck left sleeve above elbow with right thumb and index.

(1st) N. S.—"Birth" and "Day" combined.

(2nd) N. S.—From the custom of pinching or slapping a person on his birthday.



**B I S H O P** — Kiss the ring on finger.

N. S.—Custom of kissing the ring.

Note:—Persons not Catholic trace the "Mitre" for "Bishop", see "Mitre".



**B I T T E R** — Press right index tip into corner of mouth with corresponding expression. (No taste for) (Sour).

N. S.—Tastes bitter.



**B L A C K** — Rub right index tip across eyebrow towards the right, palm inward. (Used sometimes for "cent" because penises are dark).

N. S.—Most eyebrows are darker than the skin.



**B L A M E** — Right "A" hand, thumb upward, resting on the back of prone closed left hand, left hand pointing rightward. (Fault) (Found) (Cause) (Establish) (Foundation) (If this right hand is thrown out towards some one, it means: "Accuse").

N. S.—Left hand supporting the right as accepting the burden.



**B L E S S** — Both elevated prone "A" hands brought down onto head of person to be blessed, hands opening as they descend.

N. S.—As is a custom in blessing others.



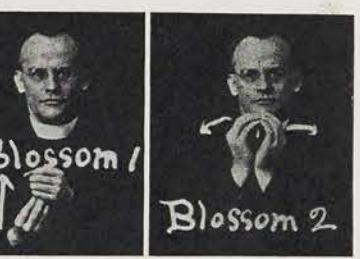
**B L I N D** — Tips of right "V" hand, palm inward, drawn downward over closed eyelids.

N. S.—The sight is closed.



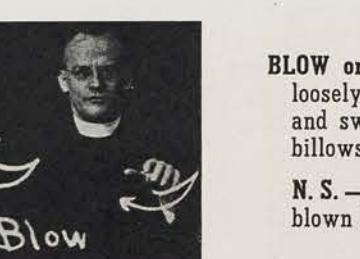
**B L O O D** — Right index tip to lips for "red" and then fingers pointing leftward oscillate as hand, palm inward, moves down, to indicate the flowing of blood.

N. S.—Red flow from mouth as in a hemorrhage.



**B L O S S O M** — "Grow" and both "&" hands with tips together to indicate "Bud" and then finger tips are separated to show opening of bud.

N. S.—Mimic the plant growing up through the ground. Mimic the bud form and then the opening of the petals.



**B L O W** or **W I N D** — Both hands raised loosely in front, palms downward, and swung right and left to indicate billows of air.

N. S.—The lateral branches of trees blown by the wind.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**BLUE**—Right "B" hand, fingers pointing frontward, shaken right and left horizontally, palm leftward.

N. S.—Initial letter and scintillating of hand to express visibility of color.



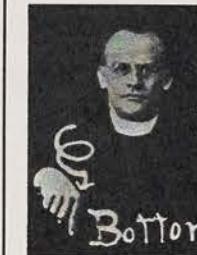
**BO T H**—Right vertical "V" palm inward, brought down between thumb and fingers of left horizontal "C" hand, which closes as right passes through. The right "V" becomes "U" in a little curve to the right after passing through the left.

N. S.—Two together.



**BL U SH**—Right index tip to lips to indicate "red" and then tips of "&" hand placed on cheek and opened against the face to show the spreading of red on the face. (Bashful) (Embarrassed) (Confused).

N. S.—Red spreads over the face.



**B OT T OM**—Right index pointing down at the side circled outward-rightward-inward-leftward as hand goes gradually lower until bottom is supposed to be reached by the stopping of the hand. (Large slow movements indicate greater depth).

N. S.—Hand going down and stopping as if on the bottom.



**BO Y**—Tip of right "A" thumb to side of forehead and then prone right shows height of boy.

N. S.—Hand at forehead for "male" because of the custom of tipping the hat, and then showing smallness of stature.



**BO A T**—Both hands horizontal, tips of fingers, lower edges and heels of palm touching to show form of boat, and forward motion as if over the waves.

N. S.—Mimic form of boat and its motion over the waves.



**BR A VE**—Both hands taking oneself as if by the lapel of coat and then pulling oneself forward. (Courageous).

N. S.—Ready to plunge into any danger.



**BO DY**—Open hands, palm inward, placed on upper part of body and then on lower trunk.

N. S.—Indicating the entire torso.



**BR E AD**—Left palm against body, pointing to shoulder, right palm rightward and fingers pointing upward, moved up and down across back of left hand as if the little finger edge were cutting the bread.

N. S.—Long loaves were often held under the arm and sliced upwards.



**BO NE**—Point index tip to teeth with striking motion, or point to prominent knuckles of closed left hand.

N. S.—Teeth are hard and white like bone. The knuckles are eminently bone.



**BR E A K**—Both hands as if breaking a stick.

N. S.—Breaking an imaginary stick.



**BOOK**—Hands palm to palm and then opened as if they were a book.

N. S.—Mimic the opening of a book.



**BR E AT H E**—Both hands palms inward, moved in and out before the chest to simulate breathing. (Sometimes this sign is made rapidly to simulate the breathing of a person in the death agony).

N. S.—The in and out motion in front of the chest to indicate the heaving of the chest.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**BR IDGE**—Left arm held out horizontally as if road of bridge, and right vertical "V" stuck up against bottom of forearm at wrist and then at elbow to represent the four main supports of the bridge.

N. S.—Two upright fingers put below two places of the left arm show the principal supports of the bridge.



**BR I G H T**—Right "&" finger tips at corner of eye, and open fingers oscillate as hand moves off to the right. (Glistening) (Shining) (Light) (Glory) (Glorious) (Bright mentally or Smart—Middle tip of open hand on forehead and flipped quickly out to palm outward, sharp like edge of razor).

N. S.—Scintillating fingers to indicate brilliancy of light.



**BR OT HER**—Thumb tip of right vertical "A" at temple for male and "Same". (Same sign for "Sister" but thumb tip touches cheek instead of temple) (For Brother-in-law and Sister-in-law, add the sign for "Law").

N. S.—A man or woman of the same blood.



**BR OW N**—Prone "R" fingers of open hand pointing outward shaken with twisting motion.

N. S.—Initial letters "B" and "R" scintillated. (The "B" is usually omitted).



**BU IL D**—Right palm on back of left hand and then left withdrawn and placed on the right hand, hands higher as building progresses, fingers of hands pointing in opposite directions.

N. S.—The motion shows one brick placed on the other as the wall rises.



**BU S I N E S S**—Heel of right verticle "B" placed on back of left prone closed hand.

N. S.—Initial letter and the right pressed on left to show effort.



**B UT**—Both indices of prone hands pointing outward side by side and separated to the sides. (On the contrary) (Although) (However) (Different) (This sign repeated as both hands move to one side means Different Things) (Diverse) (Various).

N. S.—The opposite of "Same".



**BUTTER**—Right index and middle used as knife to spread butter on the palm of the left hand.

N. S.—Spreading butter on the slice of bread.



**BUT TERFLY**—Both hands crossed at the wrists, palms inward fingers pointing upward, thumbs interlocked and fingers oscillating.

N. S.—Mimic the form and flying of the butterfly.



**BUT TO N**—Right index and thumb tips joined and placed on several button holes of the coat.

N. S.—Showing the form of the buttons where they usually are on a coat



**CABB AGE**—Both closed vertical hands struck in against sides of head, palms facing head.

N. S.—The wide leaves close together to form the head of cabbage.



**CAKE**—Right inverted finger tips as if holding cover of can to cut the cakes. (Biscuit—"Hoi" "Cakes").

N. S.—Showing the cutting of the cakes.



**CALL**—(to summon)—Right finger tips tap back of left prone hand and then right index, palm upward beckons to come. (Attract attention of).

N. S.—Tapping the hand for attention and motion to come.



**CAL M**—Both palms vertical, palm towards palm, on a level with the chin, then lowered gently until hands become prone. (Peace) (Not hurt).

N. S.—Showing waves are stilled.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



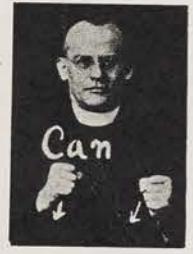
**CAMEL**—Right supine "C" in front of neck, moved out and up as if under camel's neck.

N. S.—Showing a characteristic of camel's neck.



**CARDS**—As if dealing the cards.

N. S.—The dealing shown.



**CAN**—Both closed hands horizontal, palm towards palm, forced down a few inches with a jerk. (Possible) (Able) (Ability) (Capable).

N. S.—Fists brought down showing power.



**CARE**—Right "V" hand placed on left "V" hand, fingers pointing outward, right palm leftward and left palm rightward. (Keep) (Watch) (Guard) (Celebrate) (Feast day—"Care" and vertical "D" moved from right side - up - rightward and down to left side).

N. S.—From "Look" the tips of the "V" hand represent the eyes. Here we have four eyes watching.



**CANADA**—Right "A" hand grasps lapel of coat.

N. S.—Supposed stance of Canadians standing at rest.



**DON'T CARE**—Tips of right "&" hand to forehead and then thrown to right with quick movement to palm outward.

N. S.—Throwing it out of mind.



**DON'T CARE FOR**—Fingers spread on chest, and body moved slightly from right to left as if recoiling from something, look of disgust. (Detest) (Displeased) (Don't like) (Discontented).

N. S.—Natural sign or gesture showing disgust.



**CANDLE**—Blow on the tip of the right vertical index as if to extinguish candle.

N. S.—Showing the blowing out of a lighted candle.



**CARELESS**—Right vertical "V" palm outward, shaken from right to left before the eyes. (Heedless).

N. S.—Sight and mind confused.



**CAN'T**—Left index pointing to the right, palm inward and right index, palm leftward, struck down onto and past left index which rises again. (Impossible). (Unable).

N. S.—Right index cannot knock the other down to stay.



**CAPTAIN**—Right index and thumb trace the epaulets on the left arm.

N. S.—Insignia of rank.



**CAR**—Prone index and middle of left hand pointing outward, and prone right index and middle extended across the left index and middle and moved out the length of fingers of left. (Tracks—"Car" and indicate the rails).

N. S.—Formerly the bent right index and middle moved along the left index and middle showed the wheels moving along the rails.



**CARRY**—Both hands at left side, palms upward, brought from left to right as if carrying something. (Bear) (Bring) (Serve) (Convey) (Wait on).

N. S.—Carrying something from one place to another.



**CAT**—Joined indices and thumb tips at either side of mouth as if pulling at the whiskers of cat.

N. S.—Showing whiskers of the cat.



## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**CATHOLIC**—Tips of right index and middle, palm inward, trace a cross before the face.

N. S.—The cross universally in time and place revered by Catholics.



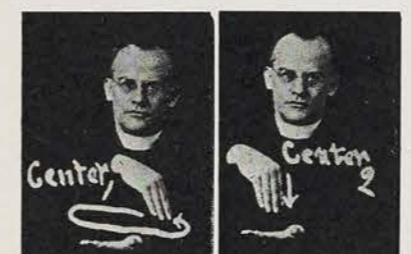
**CHEESE 1**



**CHEESE 2**

**CHEESE**—Both palms pressed together, and right horizontal "Y" shaken at side for "Yellow".

N. S.—Cheese is pressed and the color was generally yellow.

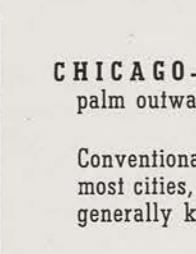


**CENTER**—Right hand tips trace a circle over the spine left and then point out the center.

N. S.—Indicating the center of something just signed.



**CHICAGO**



**CHICAGO**

**CHICAGO**—Right vertical "C" shaken, palm outward.

Conventional signs using initial letter for most cities, towns and villages. Some are generally known.



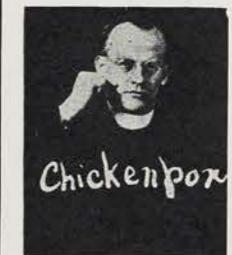
**CHAIN**—Thumb and index of both hands, joined as if links, separating and joining repeatedly, as hands move rightward, reversing also so that one thumb is up and then the other. (Sentence) (Language).

N. S.—Showing successive links.



**CHALK**—Open palm on chest drawn outward closing the tips together to denote "White" and then right index and thumb tips as if measuring the length of left extended index.

N. S.—Right as if placed on the bosom of the old style stiff shirt for "White", then the form and length is shown by measuring the left index.



**CHICKEN POX**

**CHICKEN POX**—Right index and thumb plucking at right cheek in several places.

N. S.—Showing the marks on the face.



**CHANGE**—Both closed hands, thumbs up, extended horizontally, then both hands change places by crossing at the wrists so that hands are then back to back. (Instead).

N. S.—Hands change places to indicate a change.



**CHIEF**

**CHIEF**—Right vertical "A" hand, thumb upward, elevated at side. (High) (Prominent) (Most of all) (High morally).

N. S.—High up or Higher up.



**CHARACTER**—Right vertical "C" placed on heart, palm leftward.

N. S.—Initial letter over heart which is supposed to be the seat of character.



**CHINAMAN**

**CHINAMAN**—Both indices push up the corners of eyes to show slanted eyes of Oriental. (China).

N. S.—Slanted eyes indicated.



**CHATTING**—Right thumb, index and middle extended from the mouth, left thumb, index and middle opposed pointing to mouth, indices and middles up and down on thumb tips, to represent motion of two mouths talking at once. (Gossip).

N. S.—The opening and closing indicate the chatting jaws.



**CHRISTIAN BROTHER**—Thumb and index trace white cloth at either side of neck.

N. S.—Indicating the two white linens of the Brothers' habit.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**C H U R C H**—Right vertical "C" hand resting on back of left closed prone hand.

N. S.—Initial letter resting on the left fist as upon a rock. (Peter, the Rock).



**C I T Y**—Hands pointing upward, palms apart, but tips touching repeatedly, as hands move from right to left, to represent succession of gable end of houses.

N. S.—Group of houses indicated.



**C L A S S E D**—Hands edgewise, palm toward palm, about nine inches apart and fingers pointing outward, moved rightward and stopping repeatedly to show division or arrangement. (Plan) (Order) (Complete) (Arrangement) (Prepare) (Ready) (Degree) (Put in order).

N. S.—The hands indicating separate pigeon holes in which things are kept in order.



**C L E A N**—Draw right palm, fingers pointing leftward, over left palm, fingers pointing outward. (Pure) (Holy) (Nice) (Forgive, the right moving more than once down left palm) (Smooth, the right moved down and off left in a level line).

N. S.—The least speck of dirt rubbed off.



**C L E A R**—Tips of both "&" hands at corner of eyes, then briskly darted forward, fingers opening at same time. (Plain).

N. S.—Indicating that the eyes see widely and through.



**C L I M B**—Both vertical "V" hands, palms out from body, one hand above the other; and "V" fingers bending repeatedly as hands go up or down. (Ladder) (Ascend or Descend ladder or stairs) (Stairs).

N. S.—Indicating the bending of arms and legs in the climbing of a ladder.



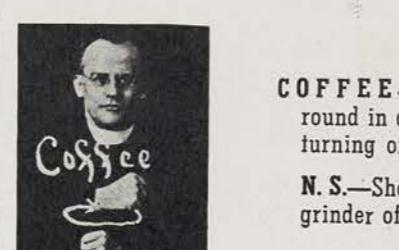
**C L O S E**—Both vertical hands, palms outward move together from the sides. (Shut)

N. S.—Two sliding doors brought together.



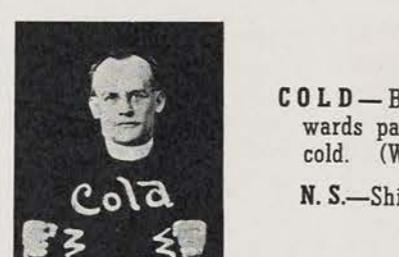
**C L O U D**—Right index tip drawn along the brow for "Black" and open slightly bent hand raised and moved around to right or left to indicate the rolling of the clouds.

N. S.—"Black" and the hand indicates the billowy mass above.



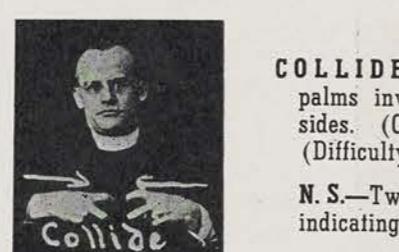
**C O F F E E**—Right hand closed, moved around in circle on left closed hand to show turning of coffee mill.

N. S.—Showing the old style coffee grinder of the home.



**C O L D**—Both fists horizontal, palm towards palm, and shaken as if from the cold. (Winter) (Chilly).

N. S.—Shivering from the cold.



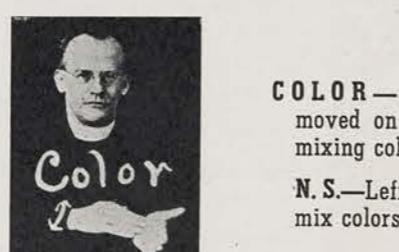
**C O L L I D E**—Bent knuckles of "V" hands, palms inward, struck together from the sides. (Obstacle) (Hindrance) (Wreck) (Difficulty) (Run up against).

N. S.—Two cars collide, the bent fingers indicating the wheels.



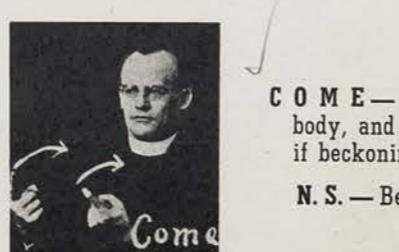
**C O L O G N E**—Closed right hand to nostrils as if smelling perfume in bottle and then shaking perfume from the bottle to clothes. (Perfume).

N. S.—Smelling the perfume before shaking some over the garments.



**C O L O R**—Tips of right "B" hand prone moved on heel of left supine palm as if mixing colors.

N. S.—Left tips used as an instrument to mix colors on the painter's palette.



**C O M E**—Indices upward, palms towards body, and indices moved toward body as if beckoning.

N. S.—Beckoning some one to come.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**C O M M A N D**—Right index pointing leftward and moved below lips as if rolling words from the mouth and then out and down from mouth with force. (Appoint) (Decree) (Sentence) (Order).

N. S.—Words brought out and down with authority.



**C O M M U N I O N**—(Blessed Sacrament)—Right thumb and index place Sacred Host on tip of tongue, or make a cross on the lips. (Eucharist).

N. S.—Recalling the Cross the priest makes with the Host before placing it on our tongue.



**C O M P A R E**—Hold out hands in horizontal plane, palms upward, and then draw one against the other, looking at the same as if comparing. (Contrast).

N. S.—Comparing both palms.



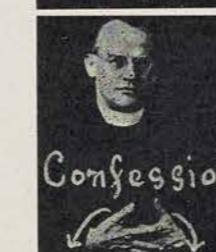
**C O N C E I V E**—Right "&" hand above head, fingers pointing down, left "&" hand before body, fingers pointing upward, all fingers open as hands are brought together.

N. S.—One hand opens to give, the other opens to receive.



**C O N F E S S I O N**—Indicate unburdening of the bosom by placing both palms on the breast and raising them up and out to supine. For sacramental confession, add the grating by crossing open fingers at the side of face, palms inward. (Sometimes "grating" alone is used).

N. S.—1st picture, unburdening the bosom; 2nd picture shows the grate; 3rd and 4th picture, unburden the bosom before the grate.



**C O N F I R M A T I O N**—With the fleshy side of thumb trace cross on forehead and slap right cheek with open palm

N. S.—Part of the rubrics of conferring Confirmation.



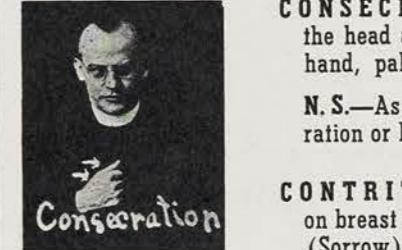
**C O N T I N U E**—Both closed hands horizontal, palm toward palm, and right thumb holding down left thumb nail for "Stay" and both hands move forward. (Persist) (Persevere).

N. S.—The forward movement brings in the idea of continuity, "Stay going".



**C O N Q U E R**—Both "A" hands horizontal, thumbs upward, right moves over and down on left pushing left over with itself. (Overcome) (Defeat) (Beat).

N. S.—One hand conquers the other.



**C O N S E C R A T I O N**—(In Mass)—Bow the head and strike breast with right 'A' hand, palm inward.

N. S.—As most persons do at the Consecration or Elevation during Mass.



**C O N S O L E**—Right palm placed on the back of left hand and moved toward finger tips and then left palm on the back of the right hand and moved in same way. (Comfortable).

N. S.—Usual gesture of person sympathizing with others.



**C O N S U M P T I O N**—Right index finger tip to the lips for "red" and then passed up the center of the chest several times to indicate spitting of blood.

N. S.—General idea that the spitting of blood means consumption.



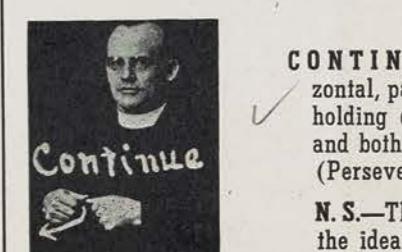
**C O N T A G I O U S**—Left palm toward body, fingers pointing rightward and moved from right to left whilst right finger tips are continually touching back of left hand and moving outward as if giving off.

N. S.—The germs of contagion go out in all directions from diseased bodies.



**C O N T E N T E D**—Right middle tip of open hand drawn upward over the heart for "feel" and then both palms passed downward over the lower trunk.

N. S.—The downward motion of both palms denotes that all feeling is quieted.





**CONTRIBUTE** — Right hand dropping an imaginary coin into the left "O" hand, and then left hand dropping imaginary coin into "O" right hand. ("Vote"—First half of this sign drops ballot into box. This is usually made for "Contribute").  
N. S.—Dropping coins in the receptacle.



**COUGH** — Right "V" tips, palm downward, struck into side of neck.

N. S.—The trouble is in the throat, the voice shows it.



**COOK** — Left supine palm as if griddle, right supine hand shoved onto the left palm, lifted up and turned over to palm down on left palm, as in turning a pancake. (Kitchen) (Pancake).  
N. S.—Cooks turn the cakes when cooking.



**COUNTRY** — Right palm rubbed around under the left elbow, left forearm pointing upward to left.

N. S.—Upright forearm and moving hand denotes a tree. Here the right hand around the base of the tree denotes the ground or land where trees grow.



**COOL** — Both hands, palms downward, pointing to face from sides and moved up and down as if fanning the face. (Pleasant) (Take a walk).  
N. S.—Fanning with the hands to show that a breeze is blowing.

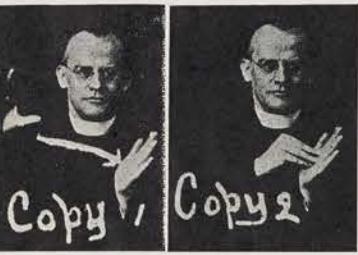


**COUSIN** — (Female)—Right vertical "C" moved at side of cheek, palm outward.

**COUSIN** — (Male)—Same sign made at side of temple.

**Affinity or Relationship**—Right vertical "C" shaken as it moves from temple to cheek.

N. S.—Hand at cheek (Bonnet String) to denote female, and Initial Letter.



**COPY** — Left hand vertical, palm slightly inward, right fingers of outward open "&" hand grasp something, and turn and place that something on left palm, right hand becoming a closed "&" hand. (Imitate)  
N. S.—Taking from one page to put onto another.



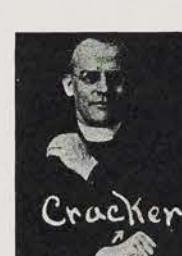
**COW** — Thumb tip of right vertical "Y" hand placed at side of forehead, palm forward.

N. S.—Showing the horn; both hands are often used to show horns.



**CORN** — Left index as the cob, and the right hand as if rubbing the grains of corn off cob.

N. S.—Shelling an ear of corn by hand.



**CRACKER** — Right closed fist struck several times against the end of elbow of left forearm, which points upward, right palm prone.

N. S.—Crack the elbow to remind one of a cracker.



**CORRECT** — Right index tip makes lines on the left supine palm as if crossing out mistakes. (Criticise) (Find fault).  
N. S.—Marking the mistakes.



**CRAZY** — Bent separated right fingers, palm inward, forming circles before the forehead, from right to left; or right index tip to forehead, palm inward, and then right inverted index whirling around left vertical index which also is whirling. (Queer) (Insane).

N. S.—Brains are mixed.

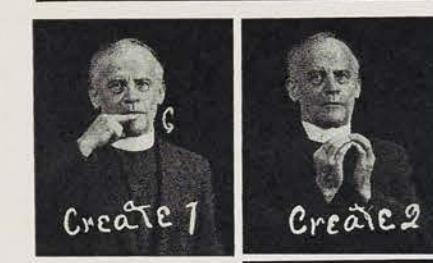


**CORRESPOND** — Both "&" hands vertical before the face, right palm outward and left palm inward fingers open as hands pass, right from body and left toward the body.  
N. S.—Motion to show letters being sent and answers coming back.



**CREAM** — Right inverted "C" hand moved as if skimming the cream from the surface of the milk.

N. S.—Taking off the cream with a skimmer.



**CREATE** — Right index tip pointing leftward, and whirling as if rolling words from mouth and then both vertical "&" hands together before chest and fingers open as hands are sprung upwards. (Creator—"Create" "Er").

N. S.—The Creator spoke and things sprang into existence.



Create 2



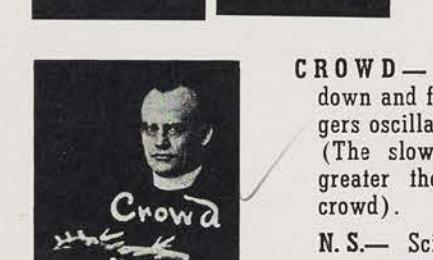
Cross

**CROSS** — (Ill tempered)—Separated fingers of right bent hand, palm inward before the face, as if dug into the face like talons.

N. S.—Face contorted.



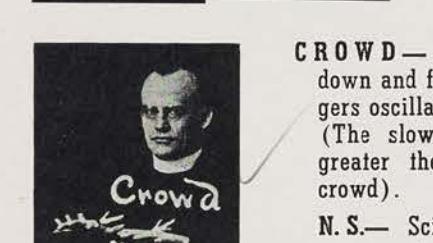
Cross 1



Cross 2

**CROSS** — Trace cross with right "C" hand, thumb and index following edge of beam. (Crucifix—"Cross" "Jesus" and outstretched arms).

N. S.—Trace the beams of the Cross.



Crowd

**CROWD** — Both hands horizontal, palms down and fingers pointing frontwards, fingers oscillate as hands move forward. (The slower the hands move and the greater the oscillation the greater the crowd).

N. S.—Scintillating fingers denote the movement of the heads of a vast throng as it moves.



Crown

**CROWN** — Separated bent fingers of right hand show crown as tips of fingers rest on crown of head.

N. S.—Finger tips for a crown on the head.



Crucify 1



Crucify 2



Crucify 3

**CRUCIFY** — Indicate driving of nails by placing index tip of right on left palm and strike left palm with right fist, show same for right palm, and then hold hands outstretched in form of cross.

N. S.—Place the nail, drive it, then extend the hands as one nailed to the cross,



Cruel

**CRUEL** — Right "X" hand struck on thumb of left "X" hand with forward motion, right palm leftward, and left palm rightward. (Torment) (Persecute) (Same sign struck little or rubbed lightly denotes "Tease").

N. S.—One hand hitting the other savagely.



Cry

**CRY** — Tips of indices alternately trace course of tears down the cheeks. (Weep).

N. S.—Tears roll down the cheeks.



Cry out

**CRY OUT-YELL** — Right thumb and index, palm inward and vertical as if drawing a stream of air from the mouth by repeated motions. (Loud).

N. S.—Draw out the voice violently.



Curious

**CURIOS** — Vertical "C" of right hand as if holding a magnifying glass before the eyes as the head turns from right to left as if searching. The right hand also moves in circular motion, before the eyes. (Look) (Seek) (Investigate).

N. S.—Using a magnifying glass to examine more closely.



Curse 1

**CURSE** — (Blaspheme)—Right hand as if taking something from mouth and throwing it heavenward.

N. S.—Throwing the voice against God.



Cut

**CUT** — Right index cutting across left index. (Knife).

N. S.—Cutting the finger as if with a knife.



Cut out

**CUT OUT** — Right index and middle used as scissors to cut off tips of left supine or prone hand. (Scissors) ("Scissors" prone operated on left arm denotes "Wool" or "Sheep").

N. S.—Using the index and middle fingers as a scissors.



**DACTYLOLOGY—or SIGNS**—Right vertical index, palm leftward, left vertical index, palm rightward, right hand moves left - down - right - up, and left hand alternates with right, moving right - down - left - up. (To sign or talk with the hands).

N. S.—Moving the hands as if making signs.



**DAILY**—Rub knuckles of closed right hand backwards and forwards on the cheek, palm towards face.

N. S.—Derived from the signs "Past" and "Future".



**DANCE**—Right inverted "V" hand swung to and fro over left supine palm.

N. S.—Inverted "V" fingers, swayed to and fro, denote movement of legs in dancing.



**DEAF-MUTE**—Right index tip to ear and then to closed lips.

N. S.—Ears and lips closed.

Note—"Deaf" is the more proper spoken term.



**DANGER**—Both "&" tips at sides of temples sprung upwards and opened. (Fearful) (Awful).

N. S.—An awful thing causes great surprise.



**DARK**—Pass vertical hands, palms inward, across the face from sides until hands are crossed at wrists. (Night). (This made slowly and part way would denote "Twilight").

N. S.—Shades pulled down before the eyes.



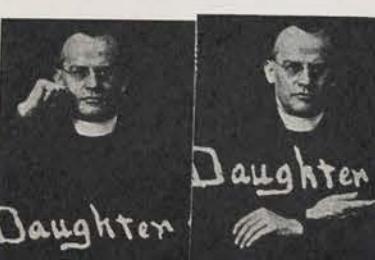
**DARN**—Both hands prone, left fingers pointing outward, and right fingers pushed across and through left fingers to show the crossing of the threads.

N. S.—The crossed fingers show the crossed threads of the darning.



**DAUGHTER**—Thumb tip of right "A" hand on the lower part of cheek and then open right hand placed in the crook of left arm as if it were a child.

N. S.—"Female" and "Baby" combined.



**DEBT**—Right index tip placed on left supine palm and then both hands moved toward creditor or away from debtor. (Owe) (Due) ("Demand"—is the same sign made emphatically).

N. S.—The money ought to be put in the palm.



**DECEIVE**—"Y" on both hands, palms down, extended to the left tandem wise, and right hand glides slowly outward along back of left hand as the left hand is withdrawn toward body. (Hypocrite).

N. S.—Under-hand acting.



**DECORATE**—With both "C" hands at either side of the head, palms outward, move them to either side and downward in successive curves as if following the direction of drapery. (Trim) (Adorn) (Ornament).

N. S.—Hands trace the draped cloth.



**DECREASE**—Palms brought together from above and below, or from the sides to show decrease. (Condense) (Make brief).

N. S.—Becoming or being made smaller.



**DEER**—Both spread hands to represent antlers, palm outward and vertical, thumb tips at sides of head.

N. S.—Spread fingers represent the antlers.



**DELAY**—Thumb and index tips joined fingers pointing outward, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, both hands moved forward in little jerks to denote putting off. (Put off) (Postpone) (Procrastinate).

N. S.—Putting something into the future.



**DELICIOUS**—Draw extremity of right tips up across the lips as if licking them one after the other, palm inward and vertical. (Excellent).

N. S.—So sweet that what might be left on finger tips is worth while tasting.



**DELIVER**—Both hands closed, palms downward, crossed at the wrists as if manacled and then drawn apart to the sides as if breaking the bonds. (Free) (Relief) (Safe) (Save) (Redeem).

N. S.—The manacled hands are torn apart.



**DEPEND**—Left hand pointing outward, palm rightward, and then right bent index hanging on upper edge of left hand.

N. S.—One hand depending on the other.



**DESCEND**—Both inverted indices before the body and moved down frontwards to the right, left on center.

N. S.—Motion "to go" made in downward direction.



**DESIRE**—Both supine bent hands before the body as if to receive something and drawn to the body. (Covet) (Want) (Wish) (Object) (End) (Will) (Would).

N. S.—Natural gesture of an infant begging.



**DON'T WANT**—Same sign as preceding sign but both hands turned suddenly prone without being drawn to body.

N. S.—Thing not wanted is dropped.



**DESPISE**—Both palms outward to one side, thumb tips holding middle tips, middles released and face averted. (Detest) (Contempt) (Scorn) (Loathe) (Abhor). N. S.—Face averted and the thing snapped off the fingers as worthless.



**DESTROY**—Right vertical leftward open palm some distance in front of body. Left vertical open rightward palm nearer to body. Right hand moves in as left moves out, both return to first position, but as they pass the second time they close as if to tear something apart. (Spoil). (Ruin).

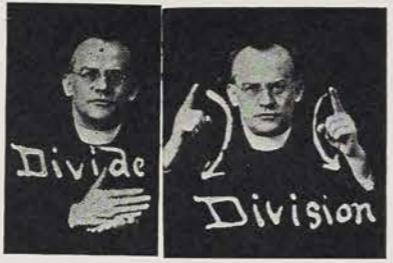
N. S.—Motion of the hands of a person destroying open newspaper. Tearing asunder.



## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



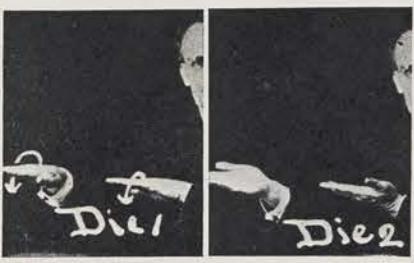
**DEVIATE**—Both prone indices side by side and pointing frontwards, right hand moved forward alongside of left and then suddenly diverted rightward. (Deflect) (Run off the track).  
N. S.—Run off to one side.



**DIVIDE**—Right edge-wise palm placed across left supine palm as if dividing it. (Hand placed once across left palm means "Half" or "Medium"), (Division in Arithmetic—make the signs used in the process of long or short division).  
N. S.—To divide.



**DEVIL**—Right and left bent indices and middles towards sides of head to represent horns. (Satan) (Demon).  
N. S.—The ugly horns represented on pictures of demons.



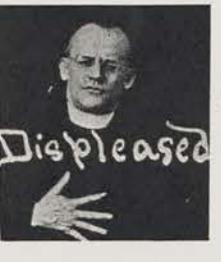
**DIE**—Prone hands tandem pointing to one side, both hands turned till fingers become supine. (Wish to die a happy death—Wish happy death). If the turning of the hands be done hesitatingly, "dying" will be understood and the completion of dying will be indicated by final emphatic upturning of hands or by adding signs for "Finish"). (Right hand alone is often used) (Death) (Agony).  
N. S.—From the idea that all persons turn face up when death struggle ceases.



**DIRTY**—Right prone fingers pointing leftward under the chin and oscillated. (Soiled) (Stain) (Impure) (Immodest) (Nasty) (The further the hand is pushed under the chin, the greater the degree of nastiness is expressed) (The hand leftward till the chin is on the wrist, and the hand moved so the end makes a small circle in - up - out - down, denotes "Pig" or "Hog").  
N. S.—The pig or hog eats its fill, wallows in the mire and is considered dirty.



**DISPLEASED**—Open hand placed on chest and body moved slightly from right to left as if recoiling from something, face expressive of disgust. (Don't care for) (Detest) (Don't like) (Discontented).  
N. S.—Displeased internal feeling.



**DISTRACTION**—Right index tip palm inward applied to forehead, and then wriggled as hand moves off and up to the right. (Inattention) (Dreaming) (Imagination).  
N. S.—Thoughts wandering.



**DIVORCE**—Clasp hands then link joined indices and thumbs and tear apart. (Clasping of hands often omitted).  
N. S.—The bond apparently broken.



**DOCTOR**—Index tip of right "D" hand on left pulse.  
N. S.—Initial letter "D" touching the pulse.



**DOLLAR**—Right index and thumb tips trace edges of dollar bill lengthwise on supine palm; or, left palm edgewise, fingers pointing rightward, and right hand placed over upper edge of left hand so that right fingers are against left back and right thumb against left palm, then right hand drawn rightward out off edge of left fingers as if drawing a bill from a billfold. (Bills.)

N. S.—The edges of the bill traced on palm.



**DON'T**—Right palm vertical, outward, shaken rightward and leftward. (Stop).  
N. S.—Universally used.



**DOOR**—Both hands vertical, palms outward and index edges touching; (Separate the hands for "Open the door" and bring them together for "Close the door").

N. S.—Vertical palms indicate the double doors.



**DOUGHNUT**—Right "R" tips between teeth.  
N. S.—The fingers twisted as doughnuts are often made.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**DRAW**—Imitate drawing on the left supine palm with tip of right "I" little finger.  
N. S.—Little finger nail formerly used as a pen.



**DRESS**—Brush hands down lightly over clothing palms inward.  
N. S.—Touching the garments lightly to indicate them.



**DRINK**—Right hand "O" as a cup from which to drink.  
N. S.—Drinking from a cup.



**DURING**—Indices near body, pointing downward and outward, palms downward, both indices pushed from body downward and outward. (While) (Meantime).

N. S.—The indices pushed into the future to show continuance.



**DROWN**—Right vertical "V" brought down with shaking movement through left horizontal "C" hand, left palm rightward and right palm leftward.

N. S.—Vertical "V" shows the legs of a person diving; and the shaking shows the going down, down, down to stay, from the idea of persons staying down the third time



**DRY**—Right bent index drawn across lips from left to right, palm downward. (Thirsty) (Drought) (Same sign across the forehead indicates "Summer") (Warm weather) (Perspiration).

N. S.—Lips are dry.



**DUCK**—Right index and middle on thumb tip at the mouth, palm outward, to indicate "Bill" and hand wobbled slightly to show gait of duck. (Goose—Same sign without the wobbling of the hand, sometimes the hand in "Goose" goes up and out from the mouth to indicate the long neck of the bird, especially so for "Swan").

N. S.—The wide bill and the waddle of the duck.



**DULL**—Left hand horizontal edgewise, fingers pointing outward, palm rightward, right edgewise hand, fingers pointing leftward, struck up against lower edge of left hand. (Stupid) (Slow).

N. S.—Lower edge of hand is the cutting edge, the other hand struck against it makes, or shows it dull.



**DUTCH**—Thumb nail of right vertical "Y" palm leftward, placed on bridge of nose and lowered below chest. (This "Y" hand thumb tip at lips indicates "Pipe").

N. S.—Representing the Dutch long-stemmed pipe.



**DUTY**—Right vertical "D" palm outward, resting on the back of left closed prone hand.

N. S.—Initial letter and pressing other hand to show effort or action.



**DYE**—Make the sign for any color. (In the picture the color indicated is "Red"), then with both hands palms down and finger tips as if grasping the wet clothes, which are dipped up and down into the coloring fluids.

N. S.—Dipping the goods into dye.



**EACH**—Right "A" hand, palm leftward, knuckles resting on the thumb of left "A" hand, palm rightward, both thumbs pointing outward, right hand repeatedly struck down onto left as thumbs point in various directions from right to left. (Sometimes "Each" is expressed by the right vertical "E", palm outward, moved in shaking line from left across to the right).

N. S.—The right thumb pointing to individuals.



**EARLY**—Left forearm supine, pointing outward, and right hand supine, pointing leftward stuck into crook of left elbow. (Often the sign for "Quick" is made, as hand moves to elbow, by shooting thumb off index as in the shooting of a marble).

N. S.—From "morning" showing a period at the beginning of "morning".



**EARN**—Right bent hand, palm leftward, is drawn in, several times, across the left supine palm, as if scraping something off left palm. (Gain) (Salary).

N. S.—Scraping some of the money off the left palm.



**EARTH**—(Planet)—Left hand closed, palm downward, and right thumb and middle of open hand forming a semicircle, as if the tips were holding the ends of an axis in the left hand, left hand moved slightly to indicate revolving on axis. (Globe).

N. S.—The left hand shows the revolving globe in the classroom.



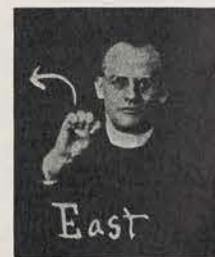
**EARTH**—(Land)—Both hands forward, fingers supine, right fingers point leftward, and left fingers point rightward, thumb tips move on finger tips as if crumbling earth. (The sign for "Blow" is added to indicate "Dust").

N. S.—As persons crumble the earth in planting.



**EARTHQUAKE**—“Earth” and “Break” made so that the hands are palm upward at end of sign.

N. S.—The earth is broken up.



**EAST**—Right vertical “E” thrown towards “East”.

N. S.—Initial letter in that direction.

Note:—If a lecturer mistake a local direction, he should sign the other directions relative to the first one made, unless he corrects his error.



**EASY**—Palm of right fingers brushed upwards and lightly against back of left fingers which are bent upwards from supine left, right palm leftward. (Light).

N. S.—Light, not heavy, the yielding left fingers are easily lifted.



**EAT**—Right “&” tips placed repeatedly at the lips. (Food) (Gluttony)—Same sign with both hands as if crowding down the throat) (Feed—“Eat”, and both “&” hand tips against chest, then moved up-out-down-to supine, giving eatables).

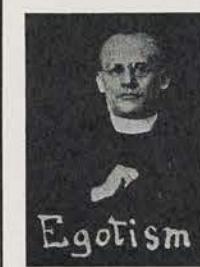
N. S.—Put food to the mouth.

#### HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**EGG**—Right index and middle struck onto left index and middle, both hands being edgewise, after striking, the hands are separated to the sides in an upward-side-ward - downward semicircle.

N. S.—Break the shell with a knife and show oval shape of egg.



**EGOTISM**—Back of right thumb of vertical “A” hand struck several times against prominent chest. (Self) (Ambition)

N. S.—Thumb tip proudly pointing out oneself.



**ELEVATOR**—Right inverted “V” tips standing on left supine palm and both hands elevated.

N. S.—The floor and feet go up together.



**EMBARRASSED**—Both “&” hands with tips against the cheeks, and fingers extended upwards along the face as if blushing to roots of hair.

N. S.—Blushing rapidly even through the roots of the hair.



**EMPEROR**—Right vertical “E” palm leftward moved from left shoulder down to right hip. (King—“K” in similar manner). (Queen—“Q” in similar manner). (Lord, a man—“L” in similar manner).

N. S.—Initial letter traced down the stole of authority.



**EMPTY**—Right open vertical hand, palm inward, closing to “&” hand as it is drawn down through closing left “O” hand. (Bereft) (Disappear).

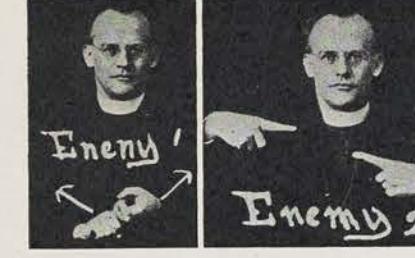
N. S.—Gone down, out the bottom.



**END**—(limit)—Little finger of left “I” hand pointing rightward, palm inward, and right index tip brought down edgewise and rested on end of little finger. (Finally) (Last) (Limit).

N. S.—Pointing to end of little finger for “Lastly” or “Last”.

#### HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**ENEMY**—Joined thumbs and indices linked for “friend” and then torn apart to remain at the sides pointing at each other threateningly (“Opponen” and not a charitable one).

N. S.—“Friendship” broken and friends now opposed.



**ENGAGEMENT**—Right index pointing leftward under lips as if rolling words from mouth, then right hand raised as if taking oath for “Promise”, then closed right hand moves in circle horizontally right-out-left-in and prone above prone closed left hand and rests crossed on left wrist which it pushes down a trifle. (The second part as in picture “3” and “4” is often used alone).

N. S.—“Speak”, “Promise or Swear”. Circular motion shows “arrangement” then “bound”.



**ENGLISH**—Palm of right hand over and surrounding back of left hand, left pointing rightward and palm down, right fingers grasp fleshy part of little finger edge and gives the left hand a shake.

N. S.—The English were considered great hand shakers.



**ENOUGH**—Closed left hand horizontal, palm rightward, right prone palm pushed out over the left as if smoothing off a measure evenly full. (Full) (Too) (Plenty) (Excessive) (Grievous).

N. S.—Filled even with the top.



**ENTERTAINMENT**—Both vertical palms forward and moved up and down alternately. (Show) (Drama).

N. S.—The open hands moved to indicate the raising and the lowering of the curtain.



**ENVY**—“Jealous” and both supine horizontal bent hands drawn in, to oneself. (Covet).

N. S.—As even children bite the finger when jealous, and the sign “desire” added.



**EPISCOPALIAN**—Right index horizontal pointing leftward passed outward-downward - inward from wrist of vertical left forearm to under left elbow.

N. S.—Index indicates the large sleeves of the surplice.



**ER**—(Of occupation)—Heels of edgewise palms, fingers pointing outward, slid down the sides of body. (The action is signed and then the “Er” added, to indicate the individual, as “Write” and “Er” for the writer).

N. S.—Hands moved down the sides of the torso to denote the individual.



**ER**—(To form comparative degree)—Slightly elevated “A” hand, thumb upward.

N. S.—Comparative is higher.



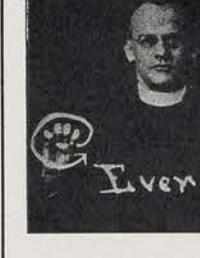
**EST**—(To form superlative)—“A” hand, thumb upward, elevated higher than for comparative. (These last two signs are added to the adjective according to the degree desired).

N. S.—Superlative is highest.



**EUROPE**—Right vertical “E” palm inward, circled before the face.

N. S.—Initial letter around the features.



**EVER**—Right vertical “E” at right side, circled up-right-down-left several times (The oftener the circle is made, the larger and slower the motion, the longer duration is indicated) (Forever) (Eternity).

N. S.—Initial letter and the circular motion showing continuity.



**EXACT**—Right thumb and index tips joined and struck down against joined left thumb and index tips, right palm down and left palm upward, taking care to make the tips strike evenly.

N. S.—Making the tips meet exactly.



**EXAGGERATE**—Right index tip to forehead for "Think" and then "Add" made repeatedly, first the right hand on top and then the left hand.

N. S.—Thinking and making it more and more from various angles.



**EXCEPT**—Left vertical index, palm inward, grasped by the right index and thumb and lifted upwards slightly. (Exception).

N. S.—Taking out the excepted one.



**EXCUSE**—"Clean" but only the finger tips of left rub something off left palm.

N. S.—Please rub out the mark that is against me.



**EXPEL**—Fingers of left supine palm bent upwards, palm of fingers slightly to the left, the open right fingers pointing out and palm leftward, strike against back of left fingers, and fingers of left hand close. (This sign is also made by using indices only, instead of all fingers) (Discharge) (Banish).

N. S.—Striking some one out of place.



**EXPLAIN**—Indicate with thumbs and indices the pulling apart of shreds other fingers open. (Example) (Story) (Tale) (Conversation) (Tell about) (Language) ("Description"—The same sign, but larger motions, and the hands go in all directions, alternately).

N. S.—Untangle the tangle.



**EXTRA**—Supine right index and middle pointing outward, left prone index and middle pointing rightward, right hand moved right-up-left-down so that right index and middle rest crosswise on left index and middle, palms down; or, make sign for "Add".

N. S.—Something else added on.



**EXTREME UNCTION**—Trace sign of cross over the eyes with fleshy side of thumb.

N. S.—Motion of anointing of the eyelids.



**EXULTATION**—Right hand as if holding a flag up straight over the head and waving it. (Victory) (Win) (Triumph).

N. S.—Waving the flag vigorously



**FADE**—(Melt or vanish)—Both open hands, palms inward and fingers pointing upward, lowered to the sides as hands gradually become "&" hands. (Die out) (Dissolve) (Disappear)

N. S.—Spread fingers gradually closing as they go down, to denote something large becoming smaller or disappearing.



**FALL**—(Weather)—Left forearm pointing upward to the right, and right prone "B" hand pushed down along the side of left arm as if right index edge were scraping something off side of left arm.

N. S.—Left upright forearm denotes tree, the right strips it of all leaves.



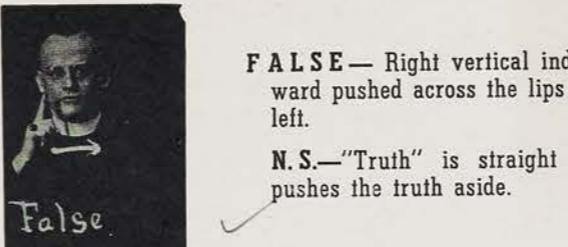
**FALL**—Right inverted "V" tips on left supine palm, and then falling off to one side. (To have one's feet knocked out from under oneself, the right "V" falls prone on left palm, fingers pointing up and out).

N. S.—Inverted "V" represents standing legs which fall to one side.



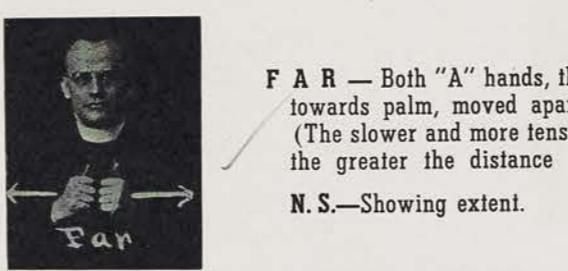
**FALL IN LOVE**—Back of right inverted "V" fingers struck against palm of left hand, the palm of which is rightward and fingers pointing outward; both hands become supine, and the right "V" slides on its back along the left palm and over the ends of the left supine fingers.

N. S.—Knocked off one's feet by transports of love.



**FALSE**—Right vertical index palm leftward pushed across the lips from right to left.

N. S.—"Truth" is straight out, "False" pushes the truth aside.



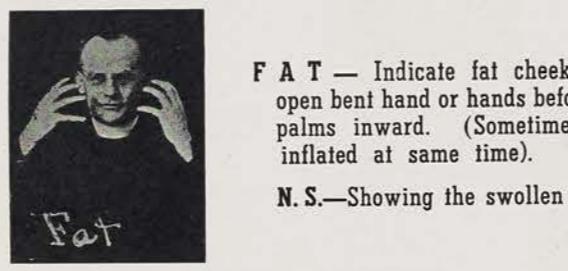
**FA R**—Both "A" hands, thumbs up, palm towards palm, moved apart to the sides. (The slower and more tense the movement the greater the distance indicated).

N. S.—Showing extent.



**FAST**—(From food)—"Eai" and make a cross on the lips with the thumb of the right "A" hand, palm inward.

N. S.—"Food" but the lips are sealed (with a cross because of the Catholic law of fasting).



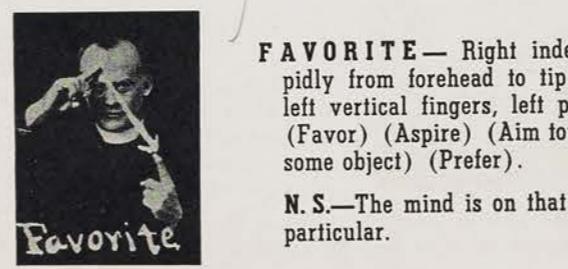
**FAT**—Indicate fat cheeks by holding open bent hand or hands before the cheeks, palms inward. (Sometimes cheeks are inflated at same time).

N. S.—Showing the swollen cheeks.



"Grandmother", "Great Grandmother"—same as above but thumb tip touches cheek for "Female".

N. S.—Often thumb tip of "A" hand is placed at temple and then opened, or thumb tip of opened hand is placed at forehead or temple for "Papa" "Pa" or "Dad". The same on the cheek for Mama or Ma.



**FAVORITE**—Right index brought rapidly from forehead to tip of one of the left vertical fingers, left palm inward. (Favor) (Aspire) (Aim towards securing some object) (Prefer).

N. S.—The mind is on that one in particular.



**FEEL**—Right middle tip of open hand, palm inward, drawn up across the heart, fingers pointing down. (Conscience)

(Same sign with both hands alternately denotes "Worry" or "Excitement").



**FENCE**—Tips of horizontal hands, palms inward, interlaced or dovetailed, drawn apart to sides. (When hands are drawn apart to sides, then inward and next together again by making heels of palms meet, the "Garden" or Field is indicated).

N. S.—The fingers show the rails of the fence.



**FETTER**—Right index traces manacle around the wrist, and left index does the same to wrist of right, then both closed hands crossed at wrists as if bound together.

N. S.—Tracing the manacle and showing the wrists bound.



**FEW**—Right "C" hand, palm upward, and right thumb tip drawn across the tips to little finger tip, fingers straighten as thumb passes. (Some) (Several) (Something).

N. S.—You can count them on your fingers.



**FIGHT**—Use fists as if striking one's face.

N. S.—As if pounding one's face.



**FIND**—Right index and thumb extended down over left prone forearm, joined and brought up as if picking up something. (Choose) (Pick) (Discover) (Select).

N. S.—Picking up the found thing.



**FINE**—(Very small)—Right thumb and index tip rubbed together as if there were something between them that one can hardly see, hand vertical and palm outward.

N. S.—Like a grain of sand between the thumb and finger tip.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



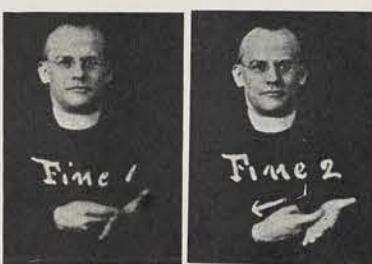
**FINE**—(Nice)—Right palm leftward, fingers vertical and spread, and thumb tip against chest. (Polite) (Courteous).

N. S.—Indicating the fancy ruffles and laces formerly affected by so-called gentlemen and ladies.



**FLOAT**—Right index and middle prone resting on left index and middle prone, and hands moved up and down as if floating.

N. S.—The motion of a person resting on a log as it floats over the waves.



**FINE**—(Tax)—Back of right tips tapped in left palm for "Money", then bent right index, palm in, drawn down left palm. (Charge) (Dock).

N. S.—"Money" and indicate that some is taken.



**FLOOR**—Both "B" hands prone moved from right to left repeatedly striking right index edge against left index edge to show succession of boards.

N. S.—One board next to another to form the floor.



**FINISH**—Right horizontal bent hand, palm leftward turned quickly to palm down; or right hand, palm leftward, placed across wrist of left hand whose palm is inward toward the right; right hand is moved along edge of left hand to end of fingers and then straight down. (Complete) (Done)

N. S.—All loose ends cut off.



**FLOWER**—Right "&" hand as if holding imaginary blossom, stem towards palm, passed from cheek to cheek before the nose.

N. S.—The flower passed before the nose to enjoy the perfume.



**FIRE**—Palms inward, fingers spread and vertical fingers oscillate as they are raised up and down alternately. (Burn).

N. S.—The alternate raising and lowering of the hands, and the oscillating fingers show the flickering of the flames.



**FLY**—(Insect)—Right hand as if catching a fly off the back of the left hand.

N. S.—Catch the fly.



**FISH**—Right hand palm leftward, fingers pointing outward, hand moved right and left to show motion of fish's tail in water as hand comes towards body.

N. S.—The motion of the hand shows the wriggling of the fish.



**FLY**—(as a bird)—Imitate the flapping of the wings with elevated prone hand at each side.

N. S.—Open hands mimic the motion of the bird's wings.



**FLAG**—Right hand holds flag and waves it to and fro.

N. S.—Waving a flag so it can be seen.



**FOLLOW**—Both "A" hands, thumbs upward, tandem towards the left, left hand moves out and right hand follows. (Chase)

N. S.—One hand follows the other.



**FLATTER**—Open prone hands, thumbs touching, hands elevated to height of lips as they move outward with oscillating fingers. (Flattery) (Flirt).

N. S.—Just words from the lips towards the person flattered.



**FOOL**—Right vertical "Y" palm leftward, moved in circles before the forehead from right to left. (Same hand thrown across forehead without circles indicates "Silly", "Absurd", "Trifling", "Simple") (Foolish).

N. S.—The revolving brain or wheels.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**FOR**—Right index tip to forehead, palm inward, brought forward as palm turns from inward to outward. (Because).

N. S.—My thought put forward as the reason why.



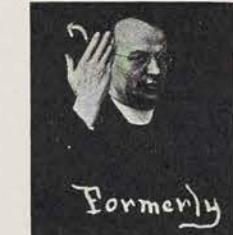
**FORBID**—Right horizontal index of the "L" hand thrown sidewise against the palm of vertical left hand, left palm rightward.

N. S.—Against the law.



**FORGET**—Right "C" palm inward, thumb near right temple and four fingers near left temple; and fingers drawn across forehead to thumb, as hand apparently takes from mind.

N. S.—Taken out of the mind.



**FORMERLY**—Right vertical hand, palm backward, thrown backward over right shoulder. (Past) (Ago) (The larger and slower and more hesitatingly this sign is made the more distant is the past indicated). (Once upon a time).

N. S.—Back in the past.



**FOX**—Vertical right "F", palm leftward, grasps tip of nose between index finger and thumb tips and bends over leftward as if twisting the nose. (Foxy) (Cunning). (Shrewd) (Sly).

N. S.—Pull around by the nose.



**FRENCH**—Right "F" prone, pointing outward, moved over toward the right, becoming prone.

N. S.—Initial letter.



**FRIDAY**—Right "F" vertical, palm outward, circled leftward - upward - rightward - downward.

N. S.—Initial letter and the circle for time.



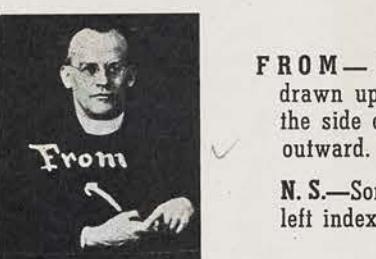
**FRIGHTEN**—Tips of both "&" hands pointing from sides towards body, hands brought in quickly, and hands opening so tips of spread fingers strike firmly against the body. (At a loss) (Dumbfounded) (Confused).

N. S.—As persons press the hands against the torso when frightened suddenly.



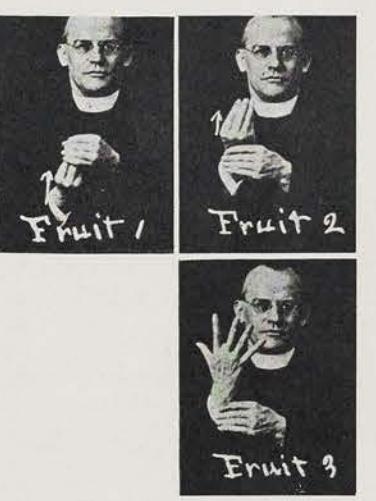
**FRIEND**—Right index, palm down, around left index, palm upward; and then the opposite. (Advocate) (Friendship).

N. S.—Clasped in brotherly love.



**FROM**—Right index bent, palm inward, drawn upward and rightward from under the side of left prone index, which points outward.

N. S.—Something drawn away from under left index.



**FRUIT**—Right "&" fingers, pointing upwards pushed up through the horizontal left "O" and then opening out, left palm rightward. (Growing) (Spring up).

N. S.—The growing of a plant to maturity.



**FUNERAL**—"Die" and "&" hands pointing down and lowered, then both prone hands as if resting on mound, fingers pointing, lengthwise on the grave, drawn in towards body to show finished mound. (Bury) (Sometimes procession is indicated by vertical tandem "V" hands, moved as if marching one behind the other).

N. S.—"Dead" placed down into the grave and the outline of the mound shown.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



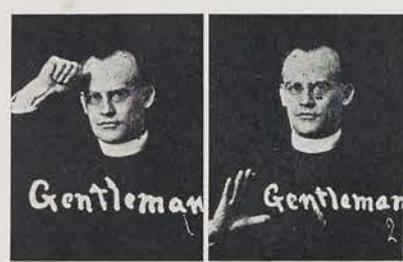
**FUNNY**—Vertical middle and index tips of right hand palm inward, drawn down on tip of nose. (Comical) (Humorous).

N. S.—Referring to the wrinkling of the nose in smiling.



**FUTURE**—Open right hand, palm leftward, fingers pointing outward and upward, moved forward into the future. (Shall) (Will, not the "will" meaning "wish" or "law") (Next) (Then) (After) (Afterwards) ("Always" "Future" denote "Eternity" or "Forever").

N. S.—Forward into the future.



**GENTLEMAN**—Right hand grasps rim of hat, or right "A" thumb tip at temple, for "Male" and "Fine (nice)" (Lady—Thumb tip of right "A" at cheek and "Fine"). N. S.—"Man" and "Fine" combined.



**GERMAN**—Hands edgewise and crossed at wrists, sometimes the fingers are oscillated.

N. S.—The hands represent the crossed flags on the coat of arms.



**GET**—Horizontal closed left, palm righward; open right hand, palm leftward closes as it moves to top of left. (Attain) (Obtain) (Take) (Catch) (Both hands then moved to body will show "Accept" or "Receive").

N. S.—Right hand gathers in, and both hands hold.



**GIRL**—Right "A" hand thumb tip on lower cheek to denote bonnet string for "Female", and right prone to indicate height of child.

N. S.—"Female" not grown up.



**GIVE**—Both "&" hands supine moved forward-upward and down, fingers opening to point outward, giving something to another. ("Apply" i. e., in the sense of giving grace to the soul).

N. S.—Hands open to give out.



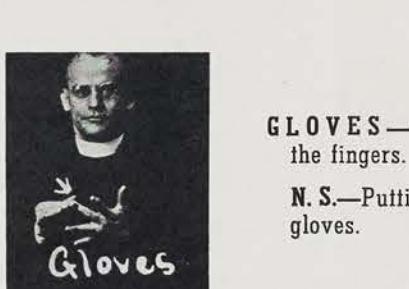
**GIVE UP**—Both prone "A" hands before body, thrown upward towards shoulders to open vertical hands, palms outward. (Surrender) (Discouraged) (Lose hope).

N. S.—Hands up in surrender.



**GLAD**—Right hand palm patting the chest several times. (Happy) (Delighted) (Joy).

N. S.—Patting the chest.



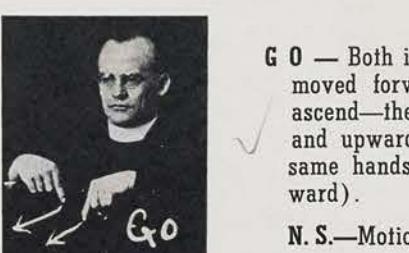
**GLOVES**—Pulling the gloves down on the fingers.

N. S.—Putting on a tight-fitting pair of gloves.



**GLUE**—Right "H" hand used as a brush against left palm, left palm righward, and fingers pointing outward, and then palms pressed together and drawn as if sticking together.

N. S.—Putting on the glue with small brush, and "sticky" shown.



**GO**—Both indices pointing downward and moved forward. (Depart) (Go up or ascend—the same hands moved frontward and upward) (Go down or descend—the same hands moved frontward and downward).

N. S.—Motion to go.



**GOAT**—Bent fingers of right vertical "V" hand, palm outward back against chin, and then to forehead and upward as fingers straighten.

N. S.—Whiskers and horns.



## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**GOOD**—Flat of vertical fingers against lips and then moved forward becoming more and more supine. (For "Hello" or "Good-bye" and "Thank You"—the hands move further from the mouth and become more supine. ("Er" and "Est" added to "Good" denotes "Better" or "Best")

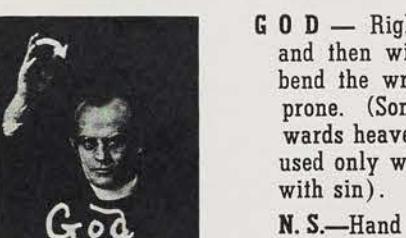
N. S.—Tasted and smelled and offered as good. "Good" with "Er" added for "Better" and "Est" added for "Best".



**BETTER**



**BEST**



**GOD**

**GOD**—Right open palm points upward and then with a slight reverent flourish bend the wrist so hand becomes slightly prone. (Some merely point the index towards heaven, but this seems to be better used only when we refer to God as angry with sin).

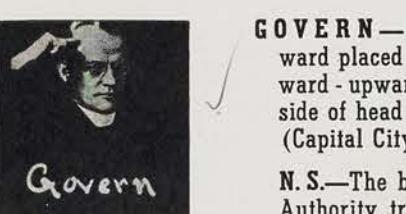
N. S.—Hand raised towards heaven and bent to show reverence.



**GOLD**

**GOLD**—Right index and thumb pinch lobe of ear and then right "Y" horizontal and palm leftward, is shaken for "Yellow". (California).

N. S.—Pierced ears for earrings and "yellow" for the color of gold.



**GOVERN**

**GOVERN**—Right index tip pointing leftward placed at side of head, raised - backward - upward - frontward - downward to side of head again. (Capital City—"Govern" "City").

N. S.—The base of the Horns of Authority traced.



**GRACE**

**GRACE**—Right "&" fingers pointing down towards the head, fingers opening as hand is lowered toward head. (Same sign, but hand lowered till it rests on head is used to denote "Sacrament").

N. S.—Coming from heaven onto the person.



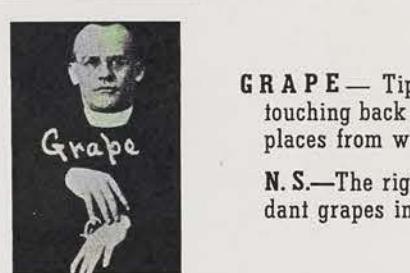
**GRADUATE**—Left palm inward, fingers pointing rightward, right fist circled up-out-down-in-up around left hand and struck into the left palm and then both prone hands extended tandem to one side are drawn back up towards body till they are vertical "A" hands, palms outward.

N. S.—Circle for diploma, strike palm for stamp and "leave".



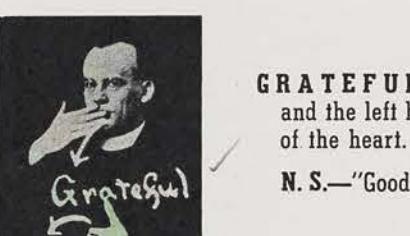
**GRAIN**—Right thumb and index measuring the size of the grain on the tip of the left index. (General sign for all grains).

N. S.—Tracing the joint of the index for grain.



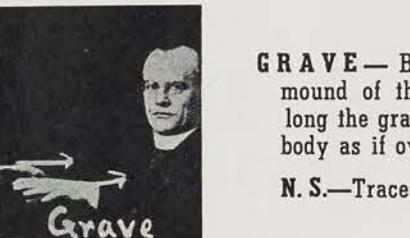
**GRAPE**—Tips of bent prone right hand touching back of left prone hand in several places from wrist to fingers.

N. S.—The right fingers represent the pendant grapes in a bunch.



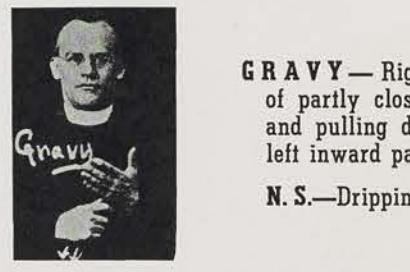
**GRATEFUL**—"Good" with right hand, and the left hand similarly from the region of the heart.

N. S.—"Good" from the lips and heart.



**GRAVE**—Both prone hands as if on the mound of the grave, fingers pointing along the grave, and hands drawn towards body as if over the length of the grave.

N. S.—Trace the outlines of the mound.



**GRAVY**—Right index knuckle and thumb of partly closed hand repeatedly seizing and pulling downward off lower edge of left inward palm, which points rightward.

N. S.—Dripping from the meat.



**GREAT**—Both hands palm towards palm, drawn apart to the sides to show greatness. (Grievous) (Tension, slowness and larger motion indicate greater degree of magnitude or seriousness, and if at the end of sign the hands are shaken as if unable to reach or measure the greatness the idea of infinity is indicated) (Sometimes the "L" hands are used in same way for "Large" or "Great").

N. S.—Showing size.



**GRECIAN**—Right vertical index, palm leftward, placed its length alongside the nose and drawn down to indicate straight Grecian nose.

N. S.—The straight-lined Grecian nose.



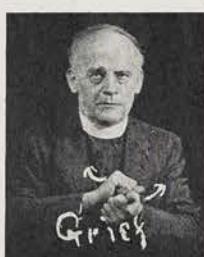
**GREEDY**—Both hands prone, fingers bent downwards, and hands moved as if to rake in all things quickly to oneself. (Selfish).

N. S.—Drawing all to oneself.



**GREEN**—Right index of "G" hand pointing outward, palm leftward, shaken back and forth sidewise. (Greenhorn)—Right horizontal "G" shaken back and forth as it moves along imaginary horn from mouth).

N. S.—Initial letter and scintillating for color.



**GRIEF**—Both "A" hands, palm towards palm, pressed together and twisted tensely and slowly as if wringing a wet cloth.

N. S.—Motion often made by persons weeping in excessive grief.



✓ **GUESS**—Index tip of right vertical "V" touching teeth once or twice, palm leftward. (Suspicion) (Suspect) (Spy).

N. S.—A gesture often made by children when in doubt about a choice.



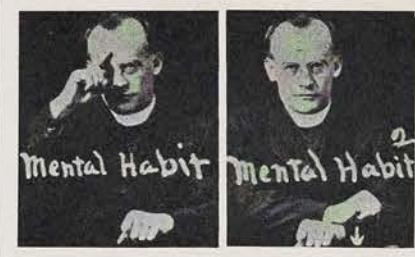
**GIN**—As if holding a gun to shoot. (Hunt—"Gun" moved in various directions).

N. S.—Hold the gun as if to shoot.



**HABIT**—Left closed prone hand pointing outward, and right closed prone hand brought down onto left wrist and forcing it down. Virtue—"Good" "Habit") (Vice—"Bad" "Habit").

N. S.—Bound down by it.



**MENTAL HABIT**—Right index tip to middle of forehead and then "Habit".

N. S.—Mind bound down.



**HAND**—Point to it.

N. S.—One hand pointing to the other.



**HANDKERCHIEF**—Right bent index and thumb of closed hand at the nose as if using the handkerchief.

N. S.—Using the handkerchief.



**HANG**—(On scaffold)—Thumb of right "Y" hand under the chin at the side, and little finger pointing upward.

N. S.—"Y" and shows the noose.



**HANG**—(On nail)—Right bent index of vertical hand as if being hung over a nail or hook. (Suspend).

N. S.—Hang something on a nail or hook.



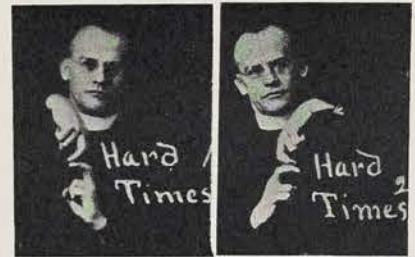
**HAPPEN**—Both indices, palm towards palm, pointing outward, hands suddenly turned to prone, tips of indices tracing a small curve each. (Therefore) (Event) (Effect) (History "Happen" made repeatedly as hands move from over left shoulder down and out to right side).

N. S.—Falls out.



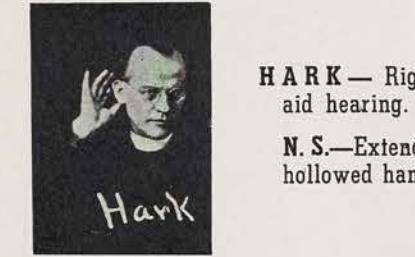
**HARD**—Bent fingers of right "H" hand struck on back of left prone and off to the left slightly, or both hands closed, back of right hand struck onto back of left prone. (Scarcely) (Difficult) (Reverses) (Obstacle) (Stone).

N. S.—Initial letter struck on back of hand to show hardness.



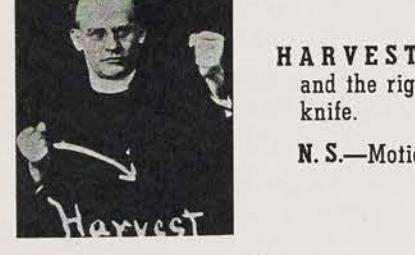
**HARD TIMES**—Bent knuckles of right inverted "V" hand placed on bent knuckles of left vertical "V" hand, and then the reverse so that right vertical is placed on inverted left.

N. S.—Ups and downs of hard times.



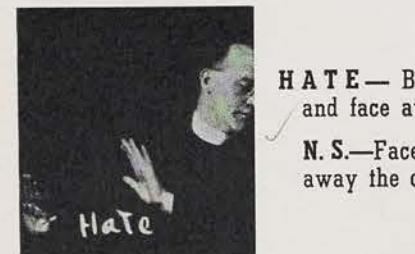
**HARK**—Right palm held to ear as if to aid hearing. (Listen).

N. S.—Extending the ears by the hollowed hand.



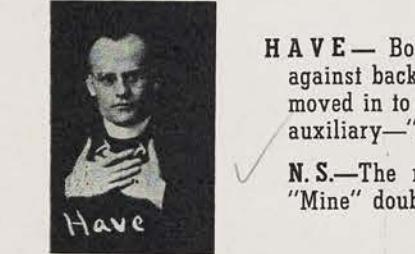
**HARVEST**—Left hand grasps the stalk and the right cuts down across with corn-knife.

N. S.—Motion used in cutting corn by hand.



**HATE**—Both vertical palms to one side and face averted.

N. S.—Face averted and hands pushing away the object.



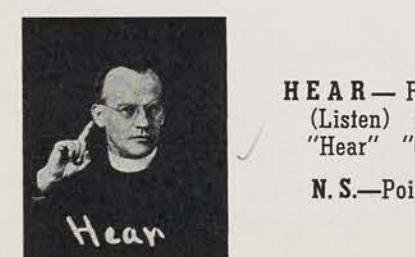
**HAVE**—Both palms inward, right palm against back of left hand, and both hands moved in to chest. (Possess) (Have, the auxiliary—"Finish" or "Past").

N. S.—The natural gesture for "My" or "Mine" doubled.



**HE**—Thumb tip of right vertical "A" hand at temple for "male" and then right index points to one side or to an imaginary person. (Him) (She or Her-objective case—same sign as above, but thumb tip on lower part of cheek instead of temple).

N. S.—"Male" and point to him.



**HEAR**—Right index points to ear. (Listen) (Deaf—"can't" "hear" or "Hear" "Closed").

N. S.—Pointing to the organ of hearing.



**HEART**—Right index points to heart; or right thumb and index trace shape of heart in region of the heart; or both index tips trace shape of heart. (Heartily).

N. S.—Trace the heart with both indices or with finger and thumb tip of one hand.



**HEAVEN**—Finger tips touch above forehead to form gable end of house, left moves left-back-right and right hand moves right-back-left till both hands cross at wrists, palms outward. (Supernatural—"From" "Heaven" or "Heaven").

N. S.—House eternal or House above.



**HEAVY**—Both supine hands pointing outward lifting with an effort. (Light—Same hands as if lifting something light).

N. S.—Lift with an effort.



**HELP**—Left horizontal closed hand palm rightward; right supine fingers placed under left hand and raising it a trifle. (Encouragement) (Assistance) (Aid) (Benefit) (Give assistance) (Help of God—Grace) (Uplift).

N. S.—One hand lifting up the other.



**HERE**—Both supine palms, fingers pointing outward immediately in front.

N. S.—Right before you.



**HIDE**—Right thumb of "A" hand pointing upward, and left palm closed down over it to hide it. (The right thumb going under the left hand, shows hiding under something). (Cover).

N. S.—Hiding the right thumb with the left hand.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**H I S** — Thumb tip of right "A" hand to temple and vertical palm pushed to one side or towards an imaginary person. (Hers or Her, possessive, the same sign as above but thumb tip on lower part of cheek instead of temple) (If the person is present in any way the vertical palm pushed towards the person would denote "His" or "Hers" according to gender of person).

N. S.—If palm towards me means "mine", palm towards him means "his".



**H O M E** — Right "&" hand tips placed on the lips and then on the cheek. (Address).

N. S.—Where I eat and sleep.



**H O N E S T** — Left palm supine, fingers pointing outward, right "H" hand, pointing outward, palm leftward, pushes its middle tip straight along the left palm from heel to tip of left index. (Just) (Fair).

N. S.—Straight dividing.



**H O N O R** — Right vertical "H" hand, palm leftward, is moved leftward - downward - rightward, palm gradually turning to prone, fingers pointing outward. (Hail) (Hallowed) (Sometimes the right vertical "R" hand is used instead of the "H" for "Respect").

N. S.—Initial letter moved downward in a gesture of respect.



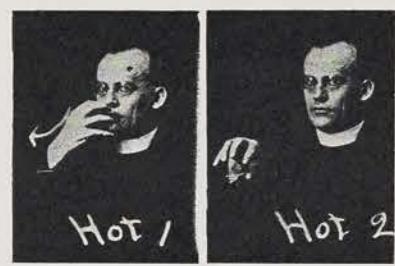
**H O P E—E X P E C T** — Right index tip to forehead for "Think"; then both bent hands tandem frontward to one side, palms opposed, fingers bending as if beckoning. (Expect).

N. S.—I think of it and beckon for it to come.



**H O R S E** — Vertical "H" hand at each side of head, palms outward and fingers moved to represent the ears of a horse.

N. S.—Upright ears of the horse.



**H O T** — Bent fingers, palm inward, around mouth as if to take something from it, hand turned suddenly to palm outward as if to drop the hot article. (Warm—same sign made more slowly).

N. S.—Something hot taken from the mouth and dropped.



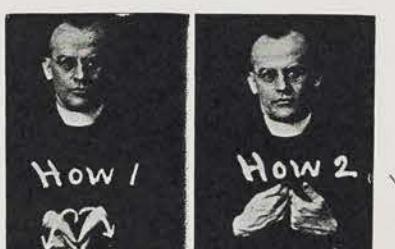
**H O U R** — Vertical left palm, rightward for face of clock, right vertical index laid against left as hand of clock and moved around. (Minute—same sign but only slight movement). (Second—same sign as "minute" but right hand is lower on left palm).

N. S.—The mimicking of the different hands on a clock or watch.



**H O U S E** — Finger tips of opposed vertical palms touching to form gable end of house, and then separated down to sides as if sliding down the sides of the roof.

N. S.—The hands show the slanted sides of the roof.



**H O W** — Both hands back to back, fingers pointing downwards, hands moved so fingers go inward-upward-outward till both hands are supine, fingers pointing outward. (Manner) (Means) (Way).

N. S.—Unfolding and opening out.



**H U M B L E** — Both vertical hands palm towards palm, right palm higher than the left, hands lowered to sides and head bowing down.

N. S.—"Calm" and humble posture.



**H U M B U G** — Right prone palm on the back of left prone hand, fingers pointing outward, fingers of both hands bending in and out together.

N. S.—Underhanded action or talk.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**H U N D R E D** — Right vertical "C" hand, palm outward.

N. S.—Roman numeral.



**H U N G R Y** — Tips of vertical bent fingers of right hand drawn down on center of chest, palm inward. (Famine) (Appetite) (Starved).

N. S.—The craving pains for food to go to the stomach.



**H U R R Y** — Right "H" fingers pointing outward, palm leftward, shaken up and down as hand pushes forward. (Haste).

N. S.—Initial letter and beckoning with quick jerks.



**H U R T** — Indices of both hands, palm toward palm, jabbed toward each other repeatedly. (This sign made near the ear denotes "earache" near the teeth for "toothache". (When awkwardness would occur, indicate the afflicted member and sign "Hurt") (Pain) (Injury) (Quarrel—Sign "Hurt" lower the hands, elevate them again and sign "Hurt")

N. S.—As if the nerves were being pierced by needles.



**H U S B A N D** — Right "A" thumb tip to temple and clasp hands for "Marry".

N. S.—Man who is married.



**H U S H** — SILENCE—Tip of right vertical index to the lips, palm leftward. (Be Still) (Keep Quiet) (If index tip, palm inward, is thrown against closed lips, it has the force of severe command for silence) (Shut up).

N. S.—Usual motion for silence.



**I o r M E** — Right index points to one's self.

N. S.—Person indicated by pointing.



**I C E** — Spread prone hands dropped several inches fingers straightening out rigidly. (Freeze).

**N. S.**—The hands becoming rigid as they spread out indicates the freezing of the water.



**I D E A** — Tip of little finger of right "I" hand placed on the forehead, palm inward, little finger then twisted up away from the forehead by turning the hand palm outward. (If the tip of little finger is elevated in spirals it would denote "imagination").

N. S.—A little thought that just sprung up.



**I D L E** — Thumb tips under imaginary suspenders, other fingers hanging down loosely. (No work) (Holiday).

**N. S.**—Men standing around with their thumbs under their suspenders, or in the armholes of their vests, are idle.



**I G N O R A N T** — Knuckles of bent fingers of right vertical "V" hand struck against forehead, palm outward.

N. S.—Hardheaded.



**I M M A C U L A T E C O N C E P T I O N** — Right inverted tip traces halo above the head and then both supine hands as in the ordinary statue of the Blessed Virgin. (In some places this sign is used for Mary, the Mother of Jesus).



**I M P O R T A N T** — Right vertical "I" hand resting on the back of the left closed hand and both hands raised upward together.

N. S.—Initial letter, raised to show superlative degree.

N. S.—Statue of the Immaculate Conception.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**IMPROVE**—Left hand pointing outward, palm rightward, right hand edgewise across left wrist and moved in successive stages up the arm. (Amend).

N. S.—Upward stages of improvement.



**NOT IMPROVE**—Same as preceding sign, but the stages of motion are made from near the elbow downwards towards the wrist. (To become worse) (Deterioration) (Decline) (Relapse).

N. S.—Downward stages of degeneration.



**IN**—Finger tips of right inverted "&" hand struck into left horizontal "O" hand.

N. S.—Finger tips just in the other hand.



**INCH**—Right thumb and index measure the length of the top joint of the thumb of the left "A" hand.

N. S.—Measuring the first joint of the thumb as if one inch long.



**INCREASE**—Palms separated up and down or to the sides to show increase. (Amplify) (Expand).

N. S.—Hands moved apart show the increase.



**INDIAN**—Joined index and thumb tips of right open hand at the lobe of the ear and then at the nostrils to indicate the rings worn by some Indians. Sometimes this sign is used to denote the "Ceni".

N. S.—Ring in ears and in nose.



**INDIFFERENT**—Left hand supine fingers bent upward, palm of fingers leftward, right hand fingers outward, brush back and forth against the left fingers, left fingers yielding to the brushing.

N. S.—The fingers can be brushed either way.



**INK**—Little finger of right "I" hand dipped into left closed hand, left palm rightward, as if into a bottle of ink and then thrown over down to one side as if shaking the ink from the pen.

N. S.—Little finger (as a pen) dipped into ink and surplus shaken from pen.



**INSECT**—Tips of right bent fingers run along over the back of the left prone closed hand to represent the feet of the insect. (Bug).

N. S.—The finger tips mimic the crawling of the insect over the hand.



**INSTITUTE**—Right "I" hand moved in a circle upward-outward-downward-inward around the left closed prone hand and then rested on the back of the left. (Sometimes this circle is made entirely above the back of the left hand) (Establish) (Foundation).

N. S.—The movement around for charter and initial letter.



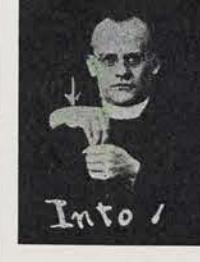
**INSULT**—Left "V" fingers pointing up to the right, palm prone, and right vertical index, palm leftward, struck down leftward, sharply between the "V" fingers of the left hand.

N. S.—Literally throwing it into the face, the left "V" tips indicate the eyes.



**INTEND**—Left fingers pointing outward and palm rightward, right "V" tips prone, struck against left palm; removed, turned palm inward and struck against left palm. (Would) (Mean or intention) (Purpose).

N. S.—"Vous Voulez", you wish.



**INTO**—"In" but the "&" hand is pushed down through the left "O" hand.

N. S.—Finger tips pushed down into the left hand.



**INTRODUCE**—Both indices vertical at the sides, palm towards palm, hands brought together and right turned prone onto left index, crosswise, left index also prone.

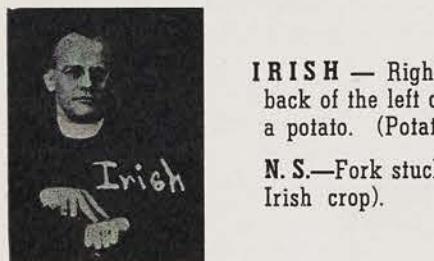
N. S.—Two persons meeting and falling on each other's neck.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



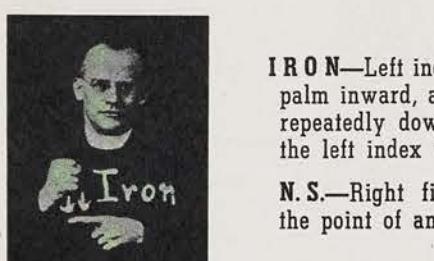
**INVITE**—Right finger tips tapped against the back of left hand and add sign for "welcome", by raising right palm vertical and outward, and moving it out and down and in as if encouraging people to walk in, i.e., right palm as if reaching out and placed on the back of the person ushered in. (Usher).

N. S.—Call attention and usher in.



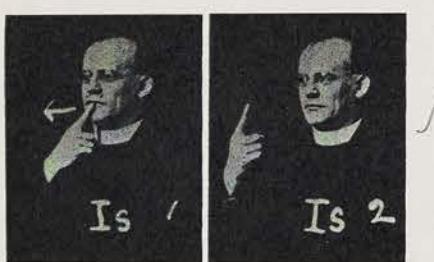
**IRISH**—Right "V" tips struck onto the back of the left closed prone hand as if into a potato. (Potato) (Fork).

N. S.—Fork stuck into the potato. (Famous Irish crop).



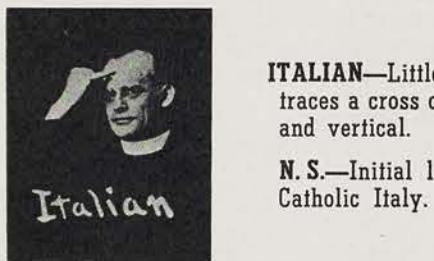
**IRON**—Left index pointing out to the right, palm inward, and right closed hand struck repeatedly down onto the left index as if the left index were a smith's anvil.

N. S.—Right fist as hammer striking on the point of anvil.



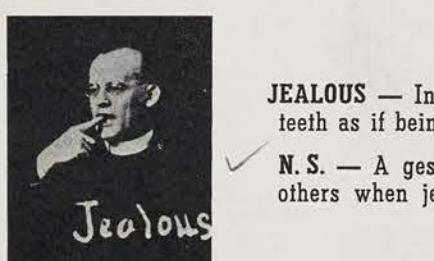
**IS**—Right vertical index against the lips, palm inward, moved straight outward from the lips. (This is the finite part of the verb "to be" the person number and tense are known from added signs or from context).

N. S.—Breath is still there.



**ITALIAN**—Little finger tip of right "I" hand traces a cross on the forehead, palm inward and vertical.

N. S.—Initial letter and the cross for Catholic Italy.



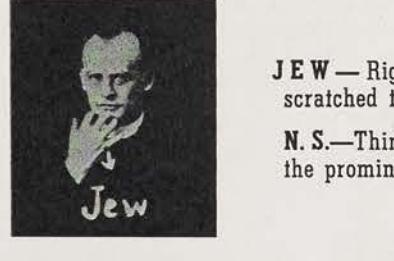
**JEALOUS**—Index tip placed between the teeth as if being bitten, palm inward.

N. S.—A gesture made by children and others when jealous.



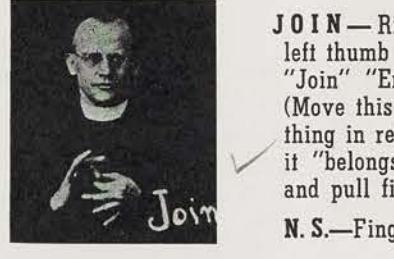
**JESUS**—Right middle tip of open hand against the palm of left hand then left middle tip of open hand against right palm, at same time bowing the head, right palm leftward, and left palm rightward. (Christ).

N. S.—The print of the nails, and the bowing of the head at the name of Jesus.



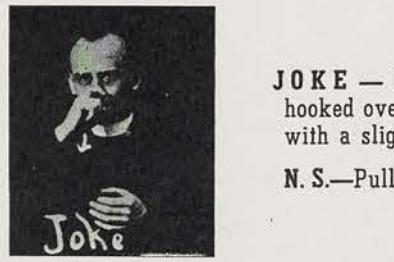
**JEW**—Right bent fingers, palm inward, scratched through the beard near the chin.

N. S.—Thin whiskers at chin, sometimes the prominent nose is indicated.



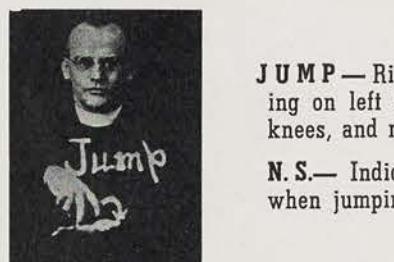
**JOIN**—Right thumb and index between left thumb and index. (Connect) (Member—"Join" "Er") (Communion i.e. of Saints) (Move this sign towards the owner of anything in reference to an object denotes that it "belongs" to him). (Disconnect—"Join" and pull fingers apart). (Part from).

N. S.—Fingers interlocked indicates joined.



**JOKE**—Right bent index of "X" hand hooked over the nose to pull the nose down with a slight jerk. (Hoax) ( Fool).

N. S.—Pulled by the nose.



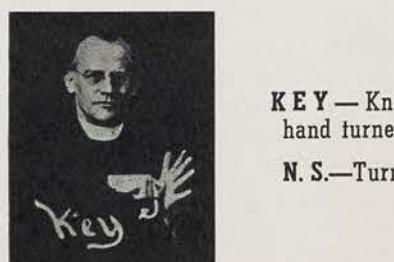
**JUMP**—Right inverted "V" fingers standing on left supine palm are bent as if at knees, and made to jump off the left palm.

N. S.—Indicating the movement of knees when jumping.



**JUSTICE**—Both hands with joined thumb and index tips, other fingers pointing outward, and palm towards palm, moved from the sides to make the joined tips of one hand meet the joined tips of the other.

N. S.—The pans of the balance scale are even.



**KEY**—Knuckle of the right closed index hand turned in the left vertical palm.

N. S.—Turn the key to close the lock.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**KILL**—Left palm prone, fingers pointing outward and upward, right index pointing leftward thrust under and past the left palm. (If in this sign the right hand is pushed slowly and steadily leftward under the left hand with a twist, it will denote "strictness" or "Severity").

N. S.—Stabbing through.



**LACES**—Both "I" hands horizontal, palm towards palm, and the tips of little fingers passing up and down against each other.

N. S.—The movement of the little fingers show the criss-crossing of the laces.



**KIND**—Both "B" hands, palm inward, left hand pointing rightward and right hand pointing leftward, moved around each other. (Gracious) (Benevolent) (Gentleness).

N. S.—One hand winding bandages around the other.



**LATE**—Right hand at side, fingers pointing down, palm backward, hand moved toward back several times. (Not yet) (This sign denotes that something is neglected or not done) (In the same way "Finish" denotes something is done or not neglected).

N. S.—You are back of or behind those who are on time.



**KINGDOM**—“King” (See emperor)—and right open prone hand circled horizontally over the prone closed left hand for “Rule”.

N. S.—Initial letter down the stole of authority, and hand moved around over the other hand to show extent of authority.



**LAUGH**—Right index tip drawn down several times at corner of mouth to show wrinkles made by laughter. (Smile) (Cheerful).

N. S.—Denoting the wrinkles caused by laughter.



**KISS**—Right vertical "A" hand, palm inward placed against the lips, and then on cheek.

N. S.—The kiss is put on the hand and then pressed against the cheek.



**LAW**—Right "L" placed against the left vertical palm, both palms outward. (Statute) (Precept) ("P" hand used in same manner for "Principle").

N. S.—Initial letter placed on the page of the book.



**KNEEL**—Right bent fingers of inverted "V" hand kneeling on the left supine palm. (Kneel down).

N. S.—The bent knuckles show the bended knees.



**LAZY**—Right vertical "L" palm leftward, in wavy lines from left shoulder down to right side. (Sometimes vertical "L" is simply shaken near left shoulder) (Sloth).

N. S.—Initial letter drawn downward to the side in a lazy manner.



**KNOW**—Tips of right vertical hand, palm inward, placed against the forehead. (Knowledge) (Intelligence) (Inform—"Know" and both vertical hands moved downward and outward to supine as if giving out as in "Spread").

N. S.—Used by people to show the knowledge is in their head.



**LEAD**—Right finger tips and thumb grasp the left finger tips and draw left hand to the right, palms inward. (Conduct).

N. S.—Right hand leads the other.



**DON'T KNOW**—Right finger tips against the forehead as in know, and then hand turned quickly to palm outward.

N. S.—The "Knowing" is out, not there.



**LEAN**—Right thumb and index of open hand, pressing into cheeks respectively, drawn down to show hollow cheeks. (Thin) (Light—i. e. not heavy).

N. S.—Indicating the hollow cheeks.

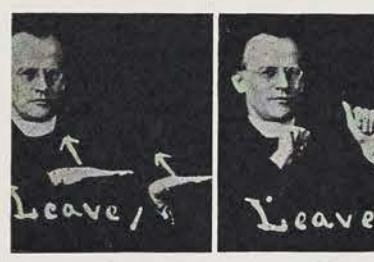
## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

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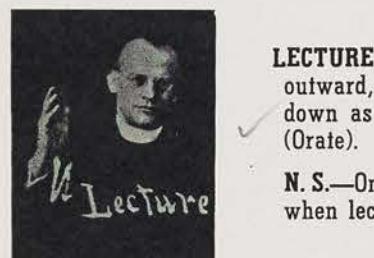
**LEARN**—Right thumb and finger tips brought together on left supine as if to take something and then lift it to head. (The sign made alternately with both hands denotes "Education")

N. S.—Take from book and put it into the head.



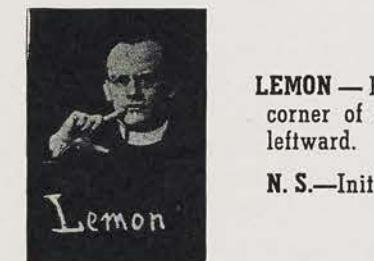
**LEAVE**—Both prone hands extended tandem to one side, both hands brought back up to body, closing to vertical "A" hands palms outward. (Avoid) (Retire) (Depart) (Withdraw oneself) (in this sign as in most signs the direction of the sign is capable of much variation according to circumstances).

N. S.—As persons do when trying to make room for others to pass them in a narrow space.



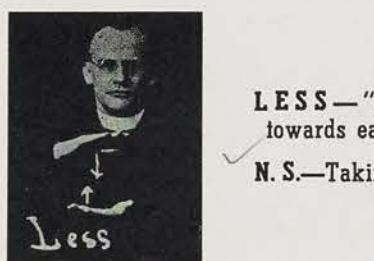
**LECTURE**—Right hand horizontal, pointing outward, palm leftward, moved up and down as if repeating gesture of emphasis. (Orate).

N. S.—One of the ordinary gestures made when lecturing.



**LEMON**—Right index tip of "L" hand at corner of mouth, sour look on face, palm leftward.

N. S.—Initial letter and bitter taste.



**LESS**—“Abstain” or both palms brought towards each other with a few jerks.

N. S.—Taking off some, or becoming smaller.



**LESSON**—Right palm edgewise on left supine palm at two places as if to divide the page represented by left palm.

N. S.—Part of the page to be studied.



**LET**—Both hands, fingers pointing down, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, hands moved upwards and outwards from the wrists till fingers point outward. (May) (Permission) (Allow).

N. S.—Both hands signing the ordinary gesture that means "proceed".



**LETTER**—Thumb tip of right "A" hand from lip to left supine palm near the end of left index, left fingers pointing outward.

N. S.—Licking the stamp and placing it on the envelope correctly.



**LIE**—(To rest)—Back of right "V" hand fingers laid down on left supine palm, or both "V" hands extended out to one side, tandem and supine. (Recline).

N. S.—The fingers of the two "V" hands indicate the arms and legs in recumbent position.



**LIE**—(Prevaricate)—Right index pointing leftward and palm downward, is pushed across the lips from right to left.

N. S.—Against the truth, which is straight out.



**LIGHTNING**—Right vertical index tip tracing zigzag course of the lightning through the sky. (Electricity)

N. S.—Trace the zigzag course of the lightning.



**LIKE**—Right index and thumb extended over heart and drawn frontwards, tips joined as hand moves as if pulling the heart out towards the object loved. ("Admire"—in sense of to like).

N. S.—The heart stretches out towards the object.



**LIMBO-REST**—Arms folded at rest. (Resigned) (Purgatory—"Time" "Fire" or "Time" "punishment").

N. S.—Natural sign of rest.



**LION**—Right bent fingers over head and shaken as they move back down, as if through the hair of the lion's mane.

N. S.—The bushy mane of the lion is indicated.



**LIST**—Left palm vertical and rightward, right hand writes a little on it repeatedly and after each writing, stamps the writing with back of right fingers.

N. S.—Write an item on the page and stamp it as completed, then write another.



**LITTLE**—Index tip of right "X" hand rubbed or touched to the knuckle of thumb of same hand.

N. S.—So small that you can feel it only when it is between the index tip and the knuckle of the thumb.



**LIVE**—Tips of both bent hands, palms inward, passed up the sides of chest. (Life) (Nature) (Live a good life—"Live" "Good").

N. S.—The blood is ascending the aortas.



**LONG**—Left hand prone pointing outward, and right index tip passed, along back of wrist up the arm.

N. S.—Showing the measure on the arm.



**LOOK**—Right "V" tips, palms inward, on cheek below the eye, and then turned to pointing outward toward the object to be seen. (Observe) (Gaze) ("Witness"—"Person looking").

N. S.—The "V" tips taken from the eyes and used as eyes.



**LORD**—(God)—Right vertical "L" elevated before the face, palm outward. (Lord—a man—see "Emperor").

N. S.—Initial letter raised reverently. (This is distinguished from "lord" a title applied to some rich men).



**LOSE**—Both hands with backs of fingers touching, fingers pointing upward, palms supine, hands separated, fingers becoming supine as if dropping something from between them.

N. S.—As the hands separate everything drops out.



**LOVE**—Closed or open hands, palms inward, crossed at the wrists and pressed to the body over the heart. (Charity) (Beloved) (Dear).

N. S.—Pressing to one's heart.



**MAKE LOVE**—Both closed hands, palms inward, thumbs upward, the thumbs bow continually to each other. (Beau) (Sweetheart) (The hands close together would indicate imprudent courtship).

N. S.—Two persons sitting close and bowing to each other.



**LOW**—(stature)—Prone palm low at side.

N. S.—Show short stature.



**LOW**—(in morals)—Right "A" hand, thumb upward, lowered at side. (Base) (The lowering of hand denotes "Degeneration") (Elevation of hand denotes rise in morals).

N. S.—Down into the depths of degradation.



**MACHINE**—Both palms inward, fingers bent and dovetailed, both hands turned up and down, allowing the fingers to act as the cogs of two engaged wheels.

N. S.—The interlocked fingers moved up and down are to show the action of engaged cogwheels.



**MAKE**—Both hands closed, right rests on left, palms inward; right hand struck continually on left, both hands changing from palms inward to right palm leftward and left palm rightward and back again. (Fix) (Repair) (Mend).

N. S.—Action of twisting and pounding.



**MAN**—The right hand as if grasping peak of hat, or thumb tip of right "A" hand at side of forehead, and prone hand to indicate height. (Men—"Man" and prone hand passed along as if over the heads of the men.) (Boys—"Men" but prone hand lower). ("Mankind" (human) Right hand as if grasping peak of cap).

N. S.—The one who lifts his hat.



**MANY**—Both closed supine hands, open out the fingers. (The oftener this action is repeated, and the more rapid the motion, the greater the number indicated).

N. S.—So many we must count by tens (ten fingers).



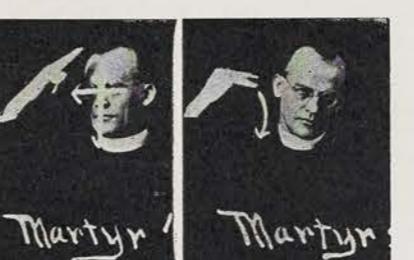
**MARCH**—Fingers of tandem hands, pointing downwards are bent and straightened as hands move forward, to show steps of soldiers.

N. S.—The motion of the fingers show the motion of the legs of the soldiers marching in step.



**MARRY**—Both hands clasped palm to palm. (Sometimes right index and thumb tips trace the ring on the ring finger, then hands are clasped).

N. S.—The clasping of the hands is signified.



**MARTYR**—"Catholic" and right palm, fingers pointing to back of neck and prone, is struck forward as if an ax to cut off the head.

N. S.—"Catholics" in very great numbers have been beheaded for the Faith.



**MARY**—Right "M" finger tips, pointing inward, oscillate as they trace halo from left shoulder over forehead to right shoulder. (Blessed Virgin).

N. S.—Initial letter, scintillated over the head to denote the halo.



**MASS**—"F" hands as if holding consecrated Host, elevated as at time of Elevation during Mass.

N. S.—The elevation of the Host just after consecration taken to denote the Mass.



**MEASURE**—Both prone "Y" hands, to denote "one foot" length, moved from left to right, tips of thumbs touching and separating as hands moved. ("Foot" as above).

N. S.—The two hands thus placed usually equal one foot, then one foot next to the other to measure.



**MEAT**—Right thumb and index of open hand seizing the fleshy part of left hand between left thumb and index, left palm rightward. (Flesh).

N. S.—The meaty space between base of thumb and base of index.



**MEET**—Both vertical indices palm towards palm, brought together from the sides. (If the motion is continued till hands pass, it denotes "Pass by").

N. S.—Two persons coming together from the sides.



**MEDICINE**—Right middle tip of open hand as if mixing powder in the left supine palm. (Poison—"Bad" "Medicine").

N. S.—Using the sensitive middle tip to mix the medicine in the hollow of the hand.



**MERCY**—"Feel" then right palm outward and circled as if on the back of the person pitied. (Pity).

N. S.—"Feeling" and then show that the feeling goes out to the individual whose back, I pat or pet.



**MERITS**—Joined thumb and index tips of both hands at either side, palm toward palm, elevated as they are brought from the sides to meet in center. (Reward) (Deserve) (Worthy) (Deserts).

N. S.—"Justice" made so the hands rise to show the heaping of many good works.



**MILK**—Both hands partially closed, moved up and down and closed as if milking a cow.

N. S.—Any correct way of milking the cow by hand.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**MIND** — Right index points to forehead.  
N. S.—Point to the seat of the mind.



**MIRROR** — Left vertical palm held at side of face and is gazed into as if into a mirror.  
N. S.—Use the left hand as a mirror.



**MISTAKE** — Right vertical "Y" hand, palm inward, with knuckles of fingers against chin. (Wrong) (Error) (Sacrilegious) — as in "Mistake" "Confession".  
N. S.—As children and persons grasp the mouth or chin when they speak out of turn or erroneously.



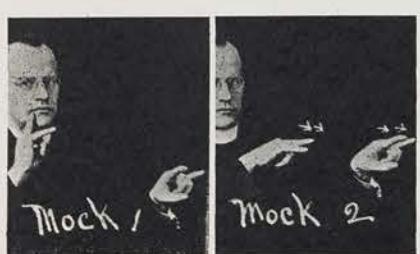
**MISUNDERSTAND** — Right index tip of vertical "V" hand at middle of forehead, palm leftward, changed to middle tip of "V" hand on forehead, palm rightward.  
N. S.—I thought one way instead of the other.



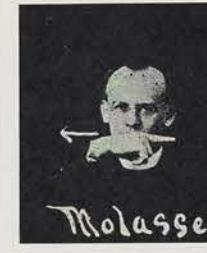
**MITRE** — Both vertical palms at side of head, palm towards palm, moved upward over the head till tips meet and form mitre. (Bishop).  
N. S.—The top shape of the mitre is traced.



**MIX** — Right bent hand prone and left bent hand supine and both hands moved as if mixing with the fingers. (Confusion).  
N. S.—Stirring with both hands.



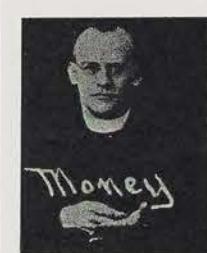
**MOCK** — Index and little finger of prone hands extended tandem to the side; after the right index tip has touched the mouth at corner, both hands are thrust several times in the direction of the fingers toward the person mocked. (Ridicule) (Make fun of).  
N. S.—Speech is against or poked at them.



**MOLASSES** — Right index of prone hand, pointing leftward, drawn across the lips from left to right. (Syrup).  
N. S.—Licking the molasses or syrup from the finger.



**MONDAY** — Right vertical "M" hand, palm outward, circled up-right-down-left.  
N. S.—Initial letter and the circle for time.



**MONEY** — Right fingers and thumb opposed and back of fingers down on left supine palm as if counting money into the palm.  
N. S.—Counting coins into the palm.



**MOON—MOONSHINE** — Right vertical "C", palm outward, at eye, raised out and up towards sky.

N. S.—The crescent we see in the sky. If this "C" is changed to "&" hand, fingers pointing downward to side, and then lowered as it gradually changes to open supine hand, Moonshine is shown.

N. S.—The rays spreading down from moon.



**MONTH** — Left index vertical, palm outward, and tip of index of prone right hand moved from tip of index to lowest joint. ("Monthly"—repeat the sign).  
N. S.—Joints of index to represent the 4 date lines of calendar; all the way down the month is gone.

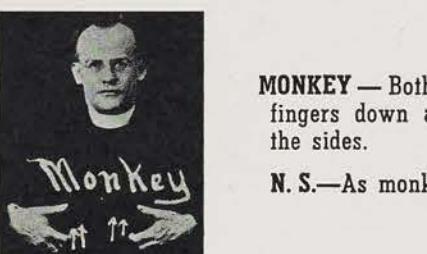


**MORNING** — Supine right hand laid on the supine left forearm. (Often the supine right is brought up under the supine left forearm).  
N. S.—One hand represents the sun coming up, or just up, over the other arm, as over the horizon.

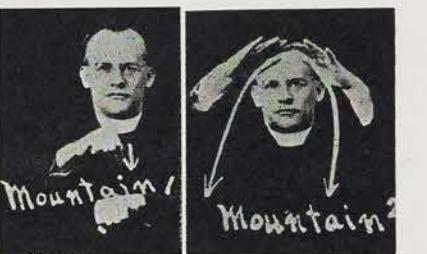
## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



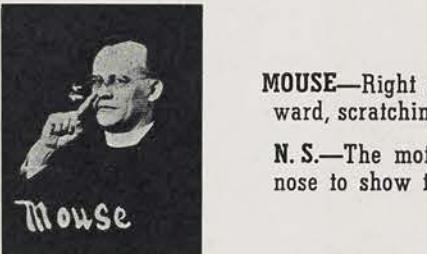
**MOST** — Tips of "&" hands stuck together for "more" and "Est". (Also "Many" and "Est" for "Most").  
N. S.—The tips of both hands together for "Something added", or for "More" and "Est" added for superlative.



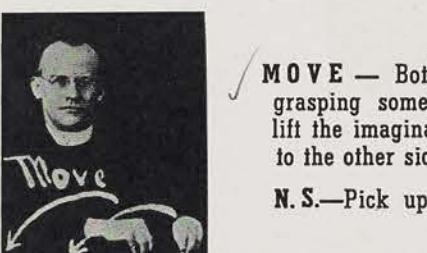
**MONKEY** — Both bent palms towards sides, fingers down and hands as if scratching the sides.  
N. S.—As monkeys often scratch the body.



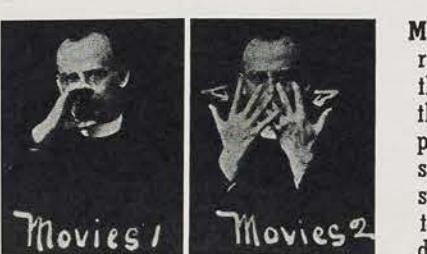
**MOUNTAIN** — "Hard" and palms of both hands as if placed on the mountain and moved down the sides. (Move the hands upward to meet and the mountain peak will be indicated).  
N. S.—Striking to denote hard rocks and shape of mountain traced.



**MOUSE** — Right vertical index tip, palm leftward, scratching forward at side of nose tip.  
N. S.—The motion of the finger tip at the nose to show the nibbling of the mouse.



**MOVE** — Both hands at one side as if grasping something with the "&" hands lift the imaginary thing up and over down to the other side. (Place) (Put).  
N. S.—Pick up, carry, and put down.



**MOVIES** — Right "C" hand resting the index on bridge of the nose for "picture", and then both vertical hands, palms inward and fingers spread, shaken back and forth sideways for jerky motion of the picture; or right "C" index and thumb edge placed against vertical left palm and moved around to show turning of machine. (The second part of the first sign is often used before the eyes to denote "Obscure").  
N. S.—"Picture" (contraction of photograph) and the shaking of the pictures indicated.



**MOW** — Hands as if swinging the scythe.  
N. S.—Mowing with a scythe.



**MULE** — Thumbs of both hands at temples, palms outward and vertical, hands bent forward and backward. (Donkey) (Stubborn).  
N. S.—Large ears of the mule or donkey.



**MULTIPLY** — Vertical indices, or "V" hands, palms inward moved from the sides till hands cross at wrists. (Calculate) (Estimate) (Figure) (Arithmetic).  
N. S.—Show the X sign for multiplication.



**MUST** — Right bent index of prone hand forced down a few inches. (Need) (Obligation) (Ought) (Have to). (Should, i. e., in sense of obligation).  
N. S.—The right hand being brought down forcibly in the gesture of determination.



**MUTE** — Point to closed lips. (Never use the word "Dumb"; "Mute" is a better word, though very few are strictly mute).  
N. S.—Indicating the lips speak not.



**MY or MINE** — Right palm placed on chest.  
N. S.—Used universally to signify "belongs to me".



**NAIL** — Left index pointing outward, then right thumb and index joined and the placed against the base of the left index to indicate head of nail. (The right closed hand used as a hammer is sometimes added).  
N. S.—Left index shows the length and right tips show the head.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**NAME** — Right index and middle resting on left index and middle, crosswise, right palm leftward and left palm rightward. (Call).

N. S.—Referring to the mark "X" used by persons who cannot write their own name.



**NEPHEW** — Right vertical "N" shaken at side of temple.

N. S.—Initial letter at the forehead where the hand is placed to denote "man".



**NARROW** — Both hands edgewise, palm towards palm, brought near each other from the sides. (Wide—Same as "Narrow" but hands moved apart).

N. S.—The distance of the separated hands showing the narrowness or the width.



**NEVER** — Right prone hand pointing outward, moved left-up-right-down and off to the right.

N. S.—The universal sign for "never".



**NATION** — Right prone "N" circled horizontally over left closed prone hand, and then tips of right "N" fingers resting on back of left hand.

N. S.—Initial letter and the circle onto the hand to denote stable group.



**NEW** — Left palm inward, fingers pointing rightward, and right palm inward, pointing leftward, slid leftward along back of left hand. (News).

N. S.—Bright new metal pushed out of the mold.



**NEAR** — Left palm near body, fingers pointing rightward and right palm, fingers leftward, placed near back of left hand. (By) (Nearly) (Almost) (When this sign is moved from left to right before the body it denotes "Neighborhood" "Environment" "Vicinity" or "Occasion" as "in occasion of sin").

N. S.—One hand near the other.



**NEW ORLEANS** — Right "O" slid along left palm, left palm rightward and pointing outward.

N. S.—Initial letter and the sliding motion to designate "new".



**NECESSITY** — Both supine hands frontwards, fingers bent upwards and moved in and out as if beckoning. (Need) (Use) (Useful) ("Must" is very generally used for "Need" or "Necessity").

N. S.—Begging and beckoning with both hands.



**NEWSPAPER** — "New" and right prone "P" pointing outward, shaken to indicate paper; or both palms struck together crosswise and "Paper" added.

N. S.—The striking of the heels of the palms indicate the pressing to print.



**NEGLECT** — Both open hands, palm towards palm, cast to one side, as if throwing aside something as useless. (Let alone) (Abandon) (Leave).

N. S.—Something in the hands thrown aside as useless.



**NEW YORK** — Right "Y" prone slid along left supine palm.

N. S.—Initial letter, and sliding motion to denote "new".



**NEGRO** — Tip of right vertical middle of open hand, palm inward, pressing tip of nose, to indicate soft flat nose of race. Often the index tip is used instead of middle tip.

N. S.—From the popular idea that Negroes have soft noses.



**NEXT** — "Near" and hand nearest body, lifted up-out and down behind the other hand. (Then) (Afterwards) (After) (The sign in reverse shows "next nearer" or "closer". The sign repeated, one hand going out over the other in turn for "next", will show "series"). See "Manipulation, etc." page 6.

N. S.—Just the other side of the thing which is near.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**NIECE** — Right vertical "N" hand, palm leftward shaken at side of lower jaw.

N. S.—Initial letter at the cheek where the hand is placed to designate female.



**NIGHT** — Left horizontal prone forearm pointing out to the right, right vertical forearm lowered over the left. (If lowered to horizontal it would signify "Evening"; if not so low, it would indicate "Afternoon"; if lowered below horizontal, it would denote "Night").

N. S.—Right hand shows the sun as having gone down below the horizon.



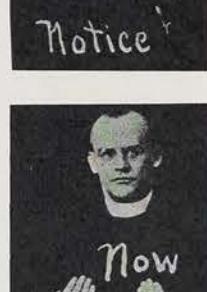
**NO** — Right index and middle of vertical hand resting on tip of thumb, palm outward, index and middle moved upward and then down on thumb tip. (Negation).

N. S.—"N" and "O" contracted to a single motion.



**NOBLE** — Right "N" palm leftward, and placed with a flourish onto the heart.

N. S.—Initial letter over the heart where this quality is supposed to be.



**NOW** — Both supine hands before body, hands pointing outward, fingers bent upward, both hands dropped a trifle. (Present) ("This" i.e., meaning "Present" as in "This day") (Also "About" when "About" means present time).

N. S.—Right here in front of us.



**NOISE** — Right index points to ear, and then both bent hands, palm towards palm, shaken back and forth in front, to indicate reverberation. (Thunder) (Sometime this last part of the sign is added to "Earth" for "Earthquake")

N. S.—Point to ear for hear and both hands then show reverberation of the air.



**NOON** — Right perpendicular forearm pointing to the zenith, palm leftward. (Mid-day).

N. S.—Right points to zenith, the sun is directly overhead.



**NORTH** — Right vertical "N" thrown to the north.

N. S.—Initial letter thrown in that direction.



**NURSE** — Tips of right "N" placed on the left pulse of the wrist.

N. S.—Initial letter on the pulse.



**NUT** — Thumb tip of right vertical "A" hand placed between the teeth.

N. S.—Cracking a nut with the teeth.



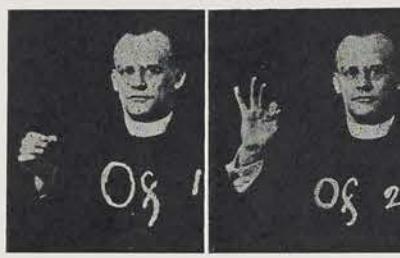
**O! OH!** — Right vertical "O" hand, palm outward, passed from left to right. (In most places "Admire" is used for "O!" and "Oh!").

N. S.—The letter itself (or the initial letter of "Oh!") moved to show it is one word.



**OBEY** — Both supine "A" hands held up and then lowered and becoming open supine, fingers pointing outward. (Serve).

N. S.—As the obsequious clerk gestures when he says: "At your service".



**O F** — "O" hand, palm leftward, hand horizontal, flipped up to vertical "F" palm outward.

N. S.—The letter "O" and "F" combined into one gesture.



**OFFER** — Both hands fingers pointing upward as if holding a plate on the finger tips, and elevated as if in the act of offering. (Propose).

N. S.—The offering of a sacrifice, in the Old Law, and in the New Law.



**OLD** — Right hand strokes thin beard with palsied motion. (Age).

N. S.—The hand of the aged shakes when stroking whiskers.



**ON** — Prone fingers of one hand on the back of left prone closed hand.

N. S.—Fingers of one hand on the back of the other.



**ONE ANOTHER** — Both "A" hands, right thumb downwards and left thumb upwards and both hands moved in horizontal circles around each other. (Each other) (Mutual).

N. S.—Both hands moved in circle around each other to denote mutuality.



**ONION** — Right index and knuckle of closed hand placed at the corner of the eye to signify tears.

N. S.—The tears caused by peeling onions.



**OPEN** — Both vertical hands palm outward, separated to the sides. ("Shut"—same hands brought together).

N. S.—Vertical hands as doors, pulled apart.



**OPERA GLASSES** — Hands as if holding the glasses before the eyes.

N. S.—Looking through opera glasses.



**OR** — Both "A" hands, thumbs upward, palm toward palm moved up and down alternately. (Either) (Whether) (Which) ("Neither"—"Not" "Either").

N. S.—Offering first one then the other.



**ORANGE** — Right closed hand as if holding and squeezing orange at the mouth; or, left closed hand vertical to represent orange, and the thumb of right vertical "Y" hand used as a knife to cut down the sides of orange.

N. S.—Sucking an orange, or cutting down the sides for peeling.



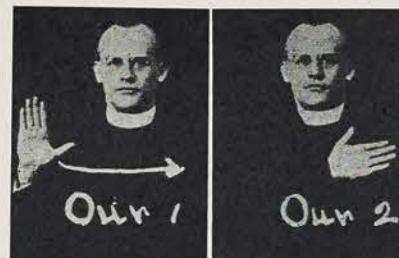
**ORIGINAL** — (In thought)—Right index tip to the forehead and then hand closed before the forehead. (Invent).

N. S.—The thought was grasped first by this person.



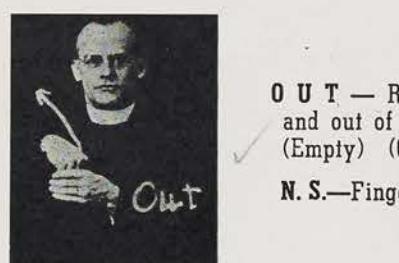
**OTHER** — Right prone "A" hand, thumb pointing leftward, thumb is thrown over to right side so that hand becomes supine. (Another).

N. S.—Pointing or referring to another by motioning the thumb over to the side.



**OUR** — Right vertical palm outward at right shoulder, moved outward and around to palm inward on left shoulder, palm faces line of motion.

N. S.—"Your" and "Mine" combined in one motion.



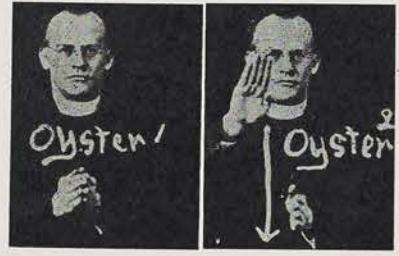
**OUT** — Right "&" hand lifted up through and out of the left horizontal "C" hand. (Empty) (Gone) (Departed) (Absent).

N. S.—Fingers lifted out of the other hand.



**OVER-SHOE** — Tip of thumb of right vertical "A" hand snapped from teeth for "Rubber" and then thumb tip traces a half sole on the left supine palm. (If the shoes have high uppers, indicate them by moving the right palm up the back of the left hand as if up the instep).

N. S.—The thumb tip from teeth to show rubber (gum) and then tracing the sole.



presents the shell and right "B" tips stuck between thumb and index to open shell).

N. S.—Form of oyster shown and half the shell struck off.



**PAINT** — (the face)—Right "&" hand as if holding a powder puff and powdering the face. (Use powder on the face).

N. S.—Painting the face with powder puff.



**PAINT** — Left palm rightward, fingers pointing outward, and right fingers as a paint brush to stroke left palm.

N. S.—Painting house or fence with large paint brush.



**PARADE** — Both vertical "V" hands palms outward tandem, and moved forward to represent the walking in step. (Four abreast) —Both hands vertical and tandem, four fingers of each hand pointing upward, hands moved forward to represent walking in step) (Single File—Open vertical hands held so that all vertical fingers are in straight line, and follow one another as hands are moved)



N. S. — The vertical figures and the motion show "Two" by two", "Four by four" marching. The third picture shows all marching in a line like geese.



**PAPER** — Right "P" hand prone, index pointing outward, shaken.

N. S.—Initial letter and the fingers of "P" have the position they take in holding a sheet of paper.



**PASS** — "Accompany" but one hand remains still whilst the other passes it. (Pass examination).

N. S.—One passes the other.



**PATIENCE** — Thumb of right "A" hand pressed to the lips so that the head moves backward. (Endure) (Suffer) (Bear).

N. S.—Shows the determination that the lips will not complain.



**PEACE** — Right hand grasps the left as if to shake it and the left hand grasps the right. "Calm" is sometimes added.

N. S.—All shaking hands.



**PEACH** — Both supine "&" hands opposed to each other as if holding a peach and bending down to the sides to break the peach into two parts.

N. S.—The breaking open of the fruit.



**PEAR**—Left "A" fingers pointing up towards the right and right index tip placed against the end of the left tips as if it were a stem.

N. S.—The hands show the form of a pear and its stem.



**PEEL**—Right hand as if holding a knife and peeling the left closed hand.

N. S.—The natural motion of peeling with a knife.



**PENCIL**—Right joined index and thumb tip placed to the lips as if moistening the pencil and then writing on the left palm.

N. S.—The old habit of wetting the lead to write plainly.



**PEOPLE**—Vertical "P" hands, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, moved alternately up-in-down-out and up.

N. S.—Initial letter and the vertical forearms moved to show many individuals.



**PERFECT**—Indices extended frontward, right hand on the left, right palm leftward and left palm rightward; or, middle tips of vertical "P" hands struck together, palm towards palm. (The showing of an effort to make the indices exactly parallel in first sign indicates "Exact").

N. S.—Indices on both hands placed exactly the one over the other.



**PERHAPS**—Both hands supine, fingers pointing outward, moved up and down alternately. (Maybe) (May) (Might) (Hesitate) (Waver) (Right index tip on forehead, palm inward and "Perhaps" denotes "Doubt").

N. S.—The balancing of the open hands show doubt or wavering.



**PERSEVERE**—With right index point to heart, and then push both fists forward as if to push way through a crowd. (The second part of the sign is sufficient). ("Continue" also denotes "Persevere").

N. S.—Showing the determination of heart to push through everything.

#### HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**PERSPIRE**—Draw right bent index, palm downward, across the forehead from left to right and then shake to the side as if dripping. (Sweat) (The first part of this sign is used to denote "Hot weather" or "Summer") ("Perspire" or "Sweat" would indicate "very hot weather").

N. S.—Wiping the drops of sweat from the forehead.



**PHOTO**—Right vertical "C" hand, palm leftward, at the side of the face, then removed and placed against the left vertical palm, left palm rightward, and right palm outward.

N. S.—Face is taken and placed on the card.



**PIANO**—Bent fingers of both prone hands as if playing the piano. (For any instrument mimic the motions of the person playing one. Thus for the Xylophone, mimic the hands holding the mallets and striking the keys).

N. S.—Fingers at hands moved as if playing the instrument.



**PICTURE**—Right vertical "C" hand palm leftward, placed so that the index hangs on the nose.

N. S.—A contraction of photograph.



**PIE**—Right edgewise hand placed on the left palm as if cutting the pie, right fingers pointing in one direction and then in another to show the shape of a piece of pie.

N. S.—Cutting the wedge-shaped piece.



**PIN**—As if sticking a pin in the dress. (Clothespin—Left index pointing rightward, palm inward and right inverted "V" fingers palm rightward, placed astride the left index) ("Pin clothes on a line"—The sign for "Clothespin" is made repeatedly as hands move from right to left).

N. S.—Sticking a pin in the lapel of coat. Clothespin astride the line.

#### HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**PLACE**—Little finger tips of both horizontal "Y" hands describe a horizontal circle or square. (Sometimes the inverted indices are used).

N. S.—The tips of little fingers drawing the limits of the place.



**PLANT**—Right "&" hand drops imaginary seeds along an imaginary line.

N. S.—Dropping the seeds in the furrow made in the earth.



**PLAY**—Horizontal "Y" hands at sides in front, palm towards palm, are shaken up and down. (Recreation).

N. S.—Motion of the hands show a desire for activity.



**PLEASE**—Right palm placed on chest and circled, pleased or pleading expression on the face according to idea. (Willful) (Like) (Pleasure) ("Please" in making a request).

N. S.—Pleasant internal feeling.



**PLOW**—Hands at sides as if holding handles of plow.

N. S.—Hands holding the plow. Sometimes the right hand is pushed edgewise over the left palm with a repeated sidewise motion as a plowshare throwing the earth to one side.



**PNEUMONIA**—Right prone "V" tips stuck into the throat and then finger tips of bent hands moved up and down on the sides of the chest.

N. S.—"Cold" down in the bronchial tubes.



**POLICEMAN**—Right "C" hand, palm leftward, placed at left shoulder. (Sometimes tips of open "&" hand are placed against the breast to indicate the badge).

N. S.—Initial letter for "Copper".



**POOR**—Right fingers and thumb plucking at the bottom of left sleeve, left hand pointing towards right shoulder. (Poverty).

N. S.—Ragged or tattered elbows.



**POUND**—Both hands prone, right index resting on left index and pushing it downward.

N. S.—The right index beam of the balance (old time scales) and weight shown by pressing down the left index.



**PRAISE**—Left supine palm elevated, fingers pointing outward, and fingers of prone left hand patted up and down on the left palm. (Applause) (Approval) (Congratulate).

N. S.—"Applause" made towards the person praised.



**PREACH**—Right vertical "F" at the side, and moved forward and down and back again as if making a gesture, palm outward but becoming prone as it moves forward. (Sermon) ("P" is often used instead of "F").

N. S.—"F" made for "Friars preachers" and gesture of emphasis.



**PRESENT**—Both "A" hands, somewhat at tandem to front, upward and as if holding something between them and the indices, and both hands brought down frontwards as if to place that something on the table. (Gift).

N. S.—Placing something of value on the table for someone.



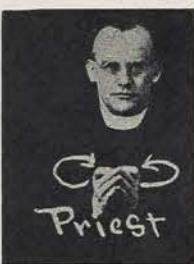
**PRESIDENT**—Both vertical "C" hands, at temples, palms outward, hands moved out to sides and hands closing as they move. ("Vice President"—"President" "Second").

N. S.—Horns of authority. Chieftains affected the horns as part of head dress.



**PRIDE**—Tip of the thumb of the right prone "A" hand drawn up a swelled chest.

N. S.—I, with my chest swelled proudly.



**PRIEST**—Hands palm to palm but indices and thumb tips of each hand joined, hands moved apart to sides and back again as the priest does at the Oremus before the Pater Noster, in the Mass. (This sign is selected because it is the most distinctive of the priest) ("Father" or "Reverend").

N. S.—As the priest holds his hands and moves them several times after the consecration. (The collar and rabat are not now distinctive).



**PRINT**—Right thumb and index as if picking the type from the font and placing them in the left palm as into the composing stick.

N. S.—Printer setting up type in old style.



**PRISON**—Fingers of open hands placed crosswise before the face, palms inward and "Key".

N. S.—Bars, and key turned in lock.



**PROGRESS**—Both bent hands horizontal, palm towards palm, moved forward; or, the same hands vertical, moved upward. (Advance) (Higher up).

N. S.—Progress is made in stages upward and forward



**PROOF**—Left palm supine, pointing out to the right, and the back of the fingers of the supine right tapped into right palm at heel.

N. S.—This gesture goes with "Prove it", put the evidence there so we can see it.



**PROPHECY**—"Look" and right "V" fingers are pushed out under the prone left palm which is held on a level with the forehead.

N. S.—Looking through the veil of the future.



**PULSE**—Right finger tips feeling the pulse of the left hand.

N. S.—Feel the pulse with the sensitive middle tip.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**PUNISH**—Left hand as if grasping the culprit by the collar, and right hand strikes the culprit with the right index used as a rod.

N. S.—Hold the rascal with one hand, strike him with the index representing the rod.



**PURE**—Prone "P" hand moved along the palm of the left supine. (Purity) (Chastity).

N. S.—Initial letter passed over palm to denote clean.



**PURPLE**—Right prone "P" hand, index pointing outward, palm downward, moved down over to the right, to become palm leftward.

N. S.—Initial letter and moved to denote glint of color.



**PUSH**—Place flat of hands against imaginary object as if to push along or to one side.

N. S.—With flat of hands push against imaginary thing.



**QUAKER**—Fingers of supine hands interlaced and thumbs revolving around each other.

N. S.—Revolve the thumbs around each other as men do who sit still and say nothing.



**QUESTION**—Right index of prone hand, pointing out and bent as if to dig into the person questioned. (Same sign with both hands—"Examination") (Quiz) ("Examination" made with both hands towards oneself—"Examination of conscience").

N. S.—The index as if digging into someone to get the truth.



**QUICK**—Right thumb snapped off the index as in the shooting of a marble. (Fast) (Speedy) (Rapid).

N. S.—As fast as one can shoot a marble from the hand.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**QUIT**—Right inverted "V" tips lifted up out of left horizontal "O" hand, left palm rightward. (Depart) (Resign).

N. S.—The feet are lifted from that place.



**RABBIT**—Both "H" hands, palms inward crossed at the wrists so that the fingers are pointing back, fingers move back and forth.

N. S.—Showing the moving ears of the rabbit.



**RACE**—Both hands as in "accompany" but the hands are pushed forward and backward alternately. (Contest) (Rivalry) (Rival).

N. S.—First, one ahead, and then the other.



**RAIN**—Right index tip of "W" hand at corner of mouth—for "water" then spread prone hands lowered whilst fingers oscillate. ("White" instead of "Water" in this sign would denote "Snow").

N. S.—"Water" and oscillating fingers as hand descends denote the falling of the drops.



**RAT**—Right vertical "R" hand, palm outward, with middle and index tips scratching at end of nose.

N. S.—Initial letter tips brushed against the nose to denote nibbling.



**RAZOR**—Right vertical "Y" hand, palm leftward, used as a razor. (Shave).

N. S.—"Y" hand to represent open razor used as if shaving.



**READ**—Right "V" fingers of prone hand pointing at left vertical palm as if reading a page.

N. S.—"V" tips represent the eyes scanning the page.



**READ LIPS**—Right vertical "R" tips drawn from left to right across lips, palm inward.

N. S.—Initial letter of "Read" moved across the lips to be read.



**REASON**—Right vertical "R" tips, palm inward, moved around on forehead.

N. S.—Initial letter moved around to show the brains are working.



**RECALL**—Right open hand reaches back over right shoulder as if to grasp something and then brings the imaginary thing before face with closed "&" hand. (Recollect).

N. S.—Taking something from the past to the present.



**RED**—Right index tip, palm inward, touches lips. (Pink—Index tip of "P" hand down across lips—Initial letter and half red)

N. S.—All lips are supposed to be red.



**REFUSE**—Right fist at right side drawn quickly back to shoulder as elbow rises. (Decline) (Disobey) (Won't).

N. S.—Drawing back the closed hand, refusing to accept something offered.



**RELIGION**—Right "R" prone, laid on heart, then raised to right, vertical, palm outward.

N. S.—Initial letter from the heart to God. Religion is a binding of the heart to God.



**REMEMBER**—Right index tip to forehead for "Think" then both "A" hands horizontal, palms inward, and right thumb holds down left thumb. (Memorize).

N. S.—The "Thought" "Stays". (One thumb holds down the other for "Stay").

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**RESIST** — Fists held out to right as guard. (Suspicion).

N. S.—Clenched fists held out as if ready to fight.



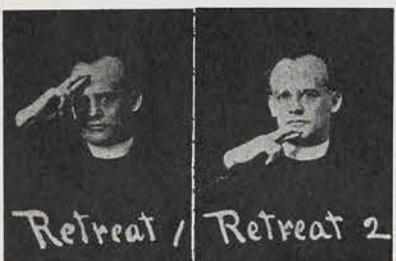
**RESOLVE** — Right index tip to forehead, palm inward, and then "Balance" without the up and down movement. (Decide) (Sentence) (Condemn) (Determine) (Render judgement) (Make up one's mind).

N. S.—Thought weighed to a certainty.



**RESPONSIBLE** — Right hand tips and left hand tips of prone hands, on right shoulder and bearing it down. (Rely) (Attribute) (Bear).

N. S.—It rests on my shoulders.



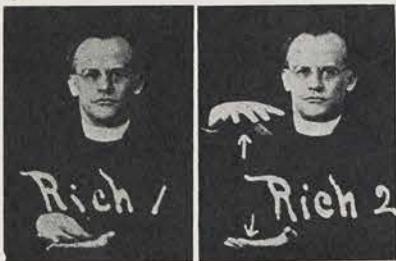
**RETREAT** — Tips of right "R" hand against forehead and then against chin, hand vertical and palm inward.

N. S.—Initial letter showing thoughts and speech are in seclusion.



**REVENGE** — Joined thumb and index of both hands striking each other forcibly. (Retaliate) ("Goody" or glad of another's accident or "Serves him right") (Quarrel).

N. S.—The beaks of two fighting roosters in action.



**RICH** — Back of right finger tips on the left supine palm to indicate "Money" and right prone hand elevated from left to indicate heap of money. (Precious — "Rich" then right supine is placed under left supine to lift it up against the heart).

N. S.—"Money" "Heaped up".



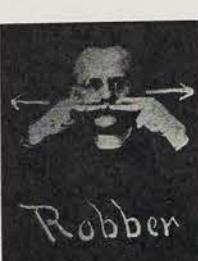
**RIDE** — Right inverted "V" fingers astride left "B", palm of left hand rightward, and both hands moved to represent the galloping of horse and rider.

N. S.—The index and middle finger astride the left hand show the horseback rider.



**ROAD** — Both hands palm towards palm, fingers pointing down, and hands moved forward as if the finger tips were following the sides of the road. (Path) (Street) (River—"W" at corner of mouth for "Water" and "Road").

N. S.—Tracing the winding edges of the road.



**ROBBER** — Indices and middle fingers placed along upper lip, palm inward, right fingers pointing leftward and left pointing rightward, then both hands drawn to the sides.

N. S.—The fingers drawn across to indicate the mask so frequently worn by robbers.



**ROMAN** — Right "N" tips at the top of the nose, and moved to the tip, as if over a large Roman nose. (Rome) (Right vertical and leftward "L" with thumb tip moved as above is also used to denote "Latin")

N. S.—Middle and index tips trace the hump of the Roman nose.



**ROOSTER** — Right vertical hand, palm leftward, thumb tip on forehead, index and middle spread upwards, other fingers closed.

N. S.—The vertical fingers show the comb of the rooster.



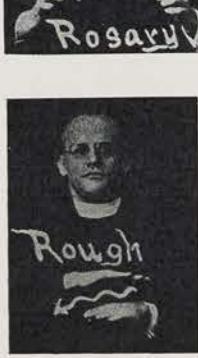
**ROOT** — "In" but right hand pushed down and then spreading out like roots. (To grow into the ground).

N. S.—The fingers representing the growing of the roots into the ground.



**ROSARY** — Both hands as if holding rosary beads between the joined index and thumb tips.

N. S.—Hands holding the rosary whilst praying.



**ROUGH** — (Not smooth)—Right prone hand moved out and over and along the back of left prone as if passing over a rough uneven surface.

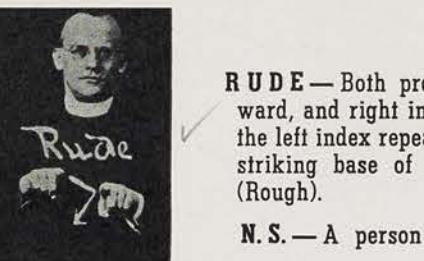
N. S.—The back of the hand is not smooth as is the palm.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**RUBBER** — Right vertical "A" hand, palm leftward, snaps thumb tip out from under upper teeth, and then both hands, palms inward, bent indices and middles opposed, drawn apart and brought together again as if stretching a rubber band.

N. S.—Thumb from tip of teeth for "gum" and the hooked fingers stretch a rubber band.



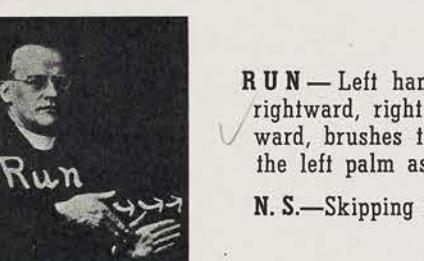
**RUDE** — Both prone indices pointing outward, and right index struck ahead against the left index repeatedly, base of right index striking base of left index. (Impolite) (Rough).

N. S.—A person shouldering others.



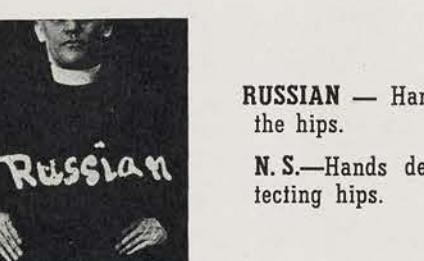
**RULE** — Right open prone palm, circled horizontally over the left prone closed hand, right hand about ten or twelve inches above the left. (Authority) (Control).

N. S.—The prone hand moved in a circle above the other shows the authority or overseeing.



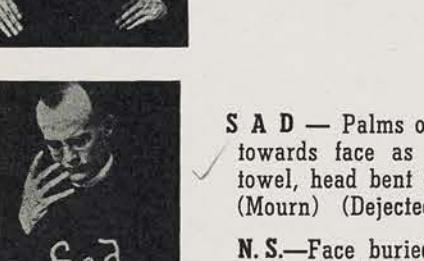
**RUN** — Left hand pointing outward, palm rightward, right inverted hand, palm leftward, brushes the tips of fingers, against the left palm as right moves outward.

N. S.—Skipping along.



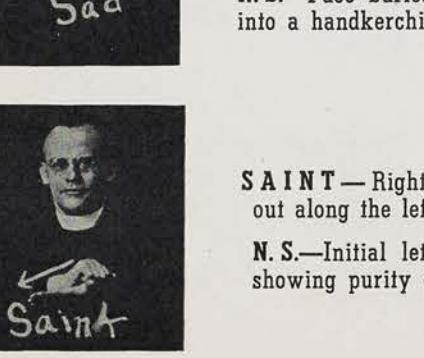
**RUSSIAN** — Hands palm down resting on the hips.

N. S.—Hands describe former armor protecting hips.



**SAD** — Palms of one or both open hands towards face as if holding the weeper's towel, head bent towards hands. (Mourn) (Dejected) (Gloomy).

N. S.—Face buried in the hands, weeping into a handkerchief or towel.



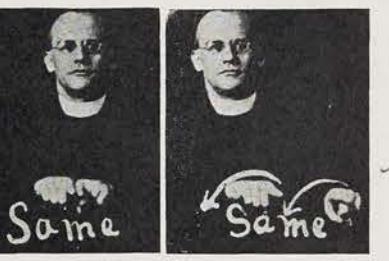
**SAIN T** — Right prone "S" hand moved out along the left supine palm.

N. S.—Initial letter moved over the palm showing purity or innocence.



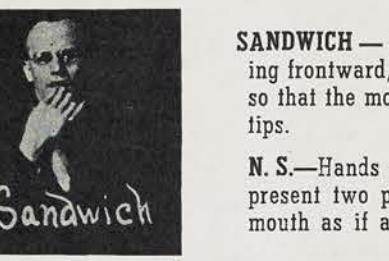
**SALT** — Right index and middle tips to the lips, palm inward, and then struck out to the back of the left index and middle, both hands prone.

N. S.—To the lips for taste and the two fingers used as a knife from which is tapped the salt.



**SAME** — Indices of prone hands, side by side pointing outward; or Same indices about eight inches apart moved up-sidewise-down, preserving their parallel distance. (As) (Like) (Similar) (Also) (Such) (Same as) (Even)

N. S.—Both fingers alike, or moved alike.



**SANDWICH** — Both horizontal hands pointing forward, palm to palm, twisted around so that the mouth can attempt to bite finger tips.

N. S.—Hands applied palm to palm to represent two pieces of bread and turned to mouth as if a bite were to be taken.



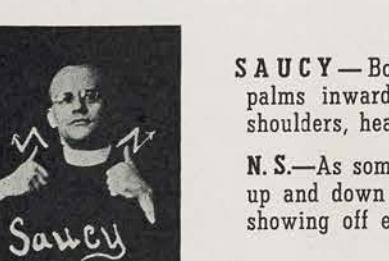
**SATISFIED** — "Feel" with right hand drawn up chest until back of hand strikes chin.

N. S.—Feeling way up to the chin.



**SATURDAY** — Right vertical "S" hand, palm outward and circled left-up-right-down-left.

N. S.—Initial letter and circled to give the idea of time.



**SAUCY** — Both "A" hands, thumbs up and palms inward, up and down in front of shoulders, head saucily erect.

N. S.—As some persons move their thumbs up and down before their shoulders when showing off extravagantly.



**SAVE** — Left closed supine hand, and right "V" fingers, supine, placed under the left and lifting the left hand up against left shoulder. (Salvation).

N. S.—Right "V" hand (with the idea of watchful eyes) presses the precious left hand up close to oneself.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**SCHOOL** — Right prone slapped on left supine to call the children to class. (College—"School" and right prone raised and circled horizontally to indicate higher school)

N. S.—Clapping of the hands for class instead of ringing a bell.



**SCOLD** — Right vertical index, palm leftward, shaken warningly. (Warn) (Reproach) (Woe).

N. S.—The scolding person shakes the upright index at the culprit.



**SCOTCH** — Tips of right prone spread fingers along left sleeve and then across to indicate plaid.

N. S.—Squares of scotch plaid are indicated.



**SECRET** — Thumb nail of vertical "A" hand, palm leftward, pressed against the lips and "Hide".

N. S.—Lips are sealed and the thing hidden.



**SEE** — Right vertical "V" tips, palms inward, to the cheek below the eye, and then moved outward. (Sight) (Vertical "V" at each side, for eyes, palm toward cheek, dropped low towards center till "V" tips dovetail will show "Disappointed", that is, what I looked for was crossed).

N. S.—"V" tips (originally from the eyes) indicate the vision of eyes.



**SELF** — Right "A" hand, thumb upward, palm leftward, strike back of thumb against chest, for first person. (The same hand is thrust forward towards person or persons indicated, for second and third person) (Demonstrative or possessive pronouns may precede this sign).

N. S.—To one's own person for self in first person. To others for 2nd or 3rd person.



**SELL** — Both "&" hands fingers pointing down as if holding up something for inspection. (Store).

N. S.—Holding the garments for inspection and sale.



**SEND** — Right finger tips of prone hand tap back of left prone hand, and then right hand pushed outward for "Go".

N. S.—Signal for attention and motion "to go".



**SEPARATE** — Both hands back to back, fingers pointing outward, right palm rightward and left palm leftward, separate to the sides as if pushing some to one side and some to the other. (Draw apart).

N. S.—A gesture often used by ushers in telling a double file to open ranks.



**SEW** — Right hand as if holding the needle and sewing.

N. S.—The action of sewing with a needle imitated.



**SHALLOW** — Prone right hand moved in horizontal circle about an inch above the supine left hand, or, "Little" "Deep".

N. S.—The palms so near together show the depth is not much.



**SHARP** — Left palm rightward, fingers pointing outward, and right fingers downward, palm leftward, used as if to whet lower edge of left palm. (Shrewd) (Cunning).

N. S.—Using the right hand as a whetstone to sharpen the lower edge of the left hand.



**SHIP** — Right thumb, index and middle pointing upward, palm leftward, other fingers closed, hand pushed forward as if over the waves.

N. S.—Upright fingers and thumb are the masts of the ship as it rides the waves.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



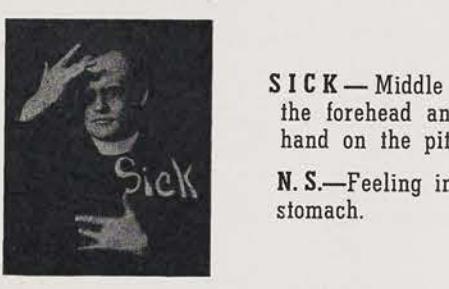
**SHOEMAKING** — Both indices pushed alongside each other oppositely, like the two needles, bent and drawn to the sides as if pulling the threads.

N. S.—Sewing with two needles of threads as is done by old style cobblers.



**SHOW** — Right index tip stuck against the heel of left vertical outward palm, and both hands moved forward. (Example) (Sign) ("Show off" or "Solemnize"—right "V" fingers vertical and palm outward, before the same left hand, and both moved from left to right dancingly).

N. S.—Point the imaginary thing on the palm and push it forward to be seen.



**SICK** — Middle tip of right open hand on the forehead and middle tip of left open hand on the pit of stomach.

N. S.—Feeling in the head and in the stomach.



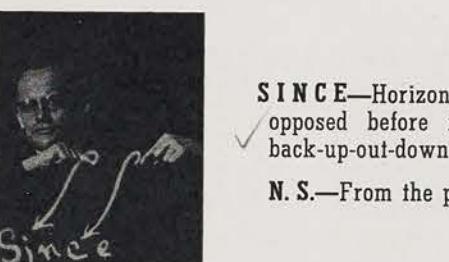
**SIN** — Both indices, palm inward, pointing toward the center from the sides and moved towards center-upward - sideways-centerward-upward; or "Law" "Break". (Trespass) (Offense).

N. S.—The first sign has grown from the second sign, which is "Law" "Break".



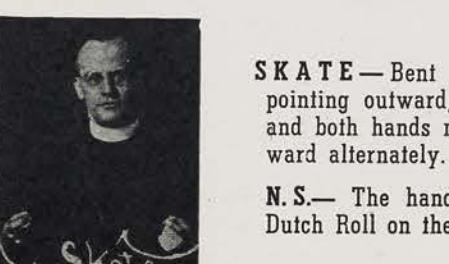
**Sim 1**

**Sim 2**



**SINCE** — Horizontal indices of prone hands, opposed before the left shoulder moved back-up-out-down-out.

N. S.—From the past down and out to now.



**SKATE** — Bent indices of supine hands, pointing outward, to represent the skates and both hands moved backward and forward alternately.

N. S.—The hands as skates cutting the Dutch Roll on the inside edge.



**SKY** — Right "B" to signify "Blue" moved around to indicate the dome of the sky.

N. S.—"Blue" moved up around to designate the blue vault.



**SIT** — Horizontal "I" hands, palm towards palm, and little fingers pointing outward to make bottom of chair; or, both hands prone, right middle and index resting across left middle and index, right tips of middle and index hanging down; or, right prone hand crossed on left prone and pushing it downward. (Chair—"Sit" and sometimes the legs are indicated as in "Table").

N. S.—1st. Hands back and seat of chair. 2nd. Shows the legs over the edge of seat. 3rd. Shows the seal.



**SLEEP** — Open fingers of right vertical hand, palm inward, before the eyes, hand moved downward, becoming "&" hand, pointing toward mouth and head bowed slightly. (Sleepy) (Right index tip on end of nose and head bowing denotes "Tedium").

N. S.—The entire face closed down.



**SLOW** — Left prone hand extended and right prone hand placed on back of the left hand and drawn slowly and a little back towards the left wrist.

N. S.—Right hand dragging slowly up the left.



**SLY** — Both prone hands pointing outward and right slipped quickly under left; or, right prone index alongside of prone left hand, and the right index slipped in sidewise under the left. (Slip away) (Underhand) (On the sly).

N. S.—All showing underhand movement.



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**SMALLPOX** — Right bent index tip digging into the cheek.

N. S.—The pock-marked face.



**SMELL** — Right supine palm moved slightly upward several times before the nose as if testing perfume. (Fragrant—"Sweet" "Smell").

N. S.—In testing perfume it is poured into the hand and smelled when it is diffused.



**SMOKE** — "Black" and right vertical hand upwards in spiral. (Smoke a cigar—Right vertical "V" fingers, palm inward, as if holding a cigar).

N. S.—The black going up in spirals.



**SNAKE** — Elevated left prone hand, and right index passed leftward under the left hand in large loops.

N. S.—The looped motion of the index as it goes under the left hand shows the snake wriggling away.



**SOAP** — Palms crossed and rubbing each other as if making lather from the soap.

N. S.—Soaping one's hands.



**SODALITY** — Tips of bent indices, palms inward, passed down sides of chest to indicate ribbon and the right thumb, and index tip joined and placed against the lower chest to indicate the medal.

N. S.—Showing the ribbon and the medal.



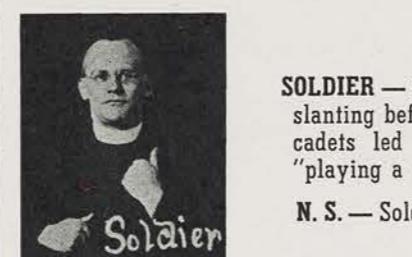
**SODA WATER** — Left "O" hand horizontal, palm rightward and right inverted "V" tips placed in the left "O" and then the prone right hand struck onto the left "O". (Pop).

N. S.—The old styled pop bottle, whose stopper had to be struck in, to open the bottle.



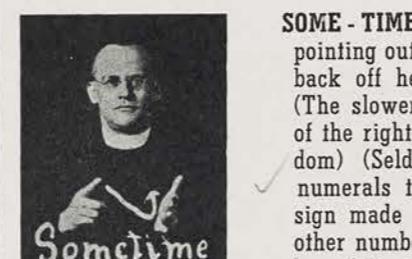
**SOFT** — Both open "&" hands, fingers pointing upward to the center, closed and opened.

N. S.—Hands opened and closed as if squeezing a soft ball of cotton.



**SOLDIER** — Both hands as if holding a gun slanting before the body. (Picnic—because cadets led the picnic crowd. Some use "playing a fife" as sign for picnic).

N. S.—Soldier holding gun.



**SOME-TIME** — Left hand supine, fingers pointing outward, and right index tip drawn back off heel of left palm several times. (The slower, larger and fewer the motions of the right index tip denotes the more seldom) (Seldom) This sign is made with the numerals to answer "How often?" (This sign made once indicates "Once"; if any other number is added it denotes that number of times).

N. S.—Counting the times off the heel of the palm.



**SON** — Right "A" thumb tip at temple and then right supine hand laid in the crook of left arm as a child.

N. S.—"Male" "Baby".



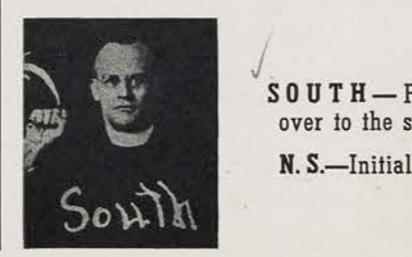
**SONG** — Left arm extended, palm rightward; and right palm inward, and pointing towards left arm, is swung to and fro to beat time. (Music) (Poem).

N. S.—Counting the beats with the right hand.



**SOUL** — Right prone palm crosswise above left supine palm, indices and thumbs closing, but joining only after the hands are sufficiently apart to prevent them from linking. (Ghost) (Spirit).

N. S.—Something you can't see or hold.



**SOUTH** — Right vertical "S" hand thrown over to the south.

N. S.—Initial letter thrown southward.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



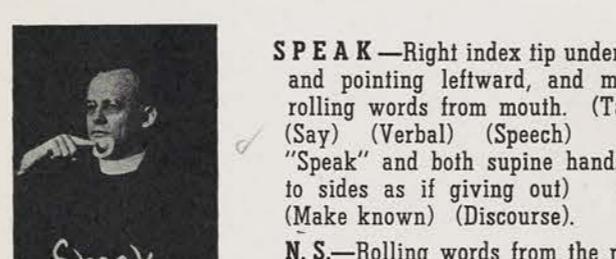
**SOW** — Right hand as if sowing seed in the field.

N. S.—Sowing a field by hand.



**SPAIN** — Indices linked under the chin.

N. S.—A part of their costume indicated.



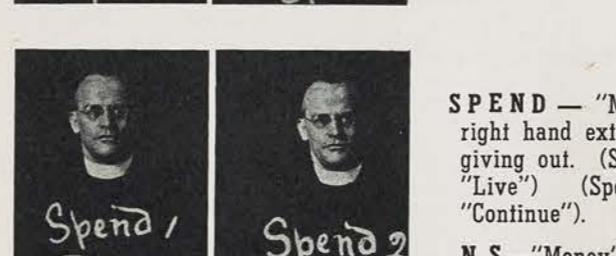
**SPEAK** — Right index tip under lips, prone and pointing leftward, and moved as if rolling words from mouth. (Talk) (Tell) (Say) (Verbal) (Speech) (Publish—"Speak" and both supine hands spreading to sides as if giving out) (Announce) (Make known) (Discourse).

N. S.—Rolling words from the mouth.



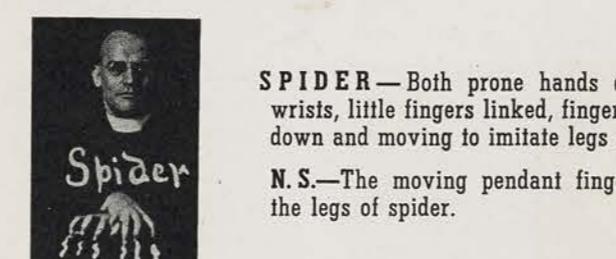
**SPELL** — "Speak" and prone right fingers oscillating as hand moves from mouth.

N. S.—Speaking by spelling.



**SPEND** — "Money" and right hand extended as if giving out. (Spend life—"Live") (Spend time—"Continue").

N. S.—"Money" given out.



**SPIDER** — Both prone hands crossed at wrists, little fingers linked, fingers hanging down and moving to imitate legs of spiders.

N. S.—The moving pendant fingers mimic the legs of spider.



**SPREAD** — Both "&" hands, tips together, hands supine, right hand pointing leftward and left hand pointing rightward, and both hands moved up-out to sides, hands opening as they go. (Generous) (Distribute) (Scatter).

N. S.—Given out widely.



**SQUIRREL** — Bent fingers of vertical "V" hands, palm towards palm, bending at each side of the nose.

N. S.—As squirrels often appear sitting up with the front paws before the face.



**STAND** — Right inverted "V" fingers standing on left supine palm. (Stand up).

N. S.—The inverted "V" fingers represent the standing legs.



**STAR** — Elevated, vertical indices striking each other at the tips; or, the tip of one pushed up against and past the side of the other alternately.

N. S.—Above for position, and the elevated indices striking each other like flints to show the light and the twinkling.



**STATUE** — "Bone" or "Stone" and the little finger tips of both "I" hands trace a form in the air.

N. S.—Hard like the teeth and shaped like a human being.



**STAY** — Both "A" hands horizontal, palms inward, and right thumb holds down left thumb nail. (Remain).

N. S.—One thumb holds the other down so it stays.



**STEAL** — Left arm pointing towards right shoulder, and bent fingers of left "V" hand, palm inward, are used as a hook to take something from under the left elbow.

N. S.—To hook from under a person's arm.



**STEP-FATHER** — Right "L" vertical, thumb tip against temple, and the index moved back and forth.

N. S.—Something like a father or contraction of "Father" and "Second".

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**STEP-MOTHER** — Same as for "step-father" but thumb tip on lower jaw instead of on temple.

N. S.—Something like a mother or second mother.



**STICKY** — Both palms pressed together and then drawn apart as if sticking together.

N. S.—Palms applied face to face and pulled apart as if sticking together.



**STOCKING** — Left prone hand, fingers pointing outward, and right prone hand, placed across the back of the left and slid up toward elbow.  
N. S.—Pulling the stocking over the hand to see whether it needs darning.



**STRIKE** — Right fist struck into left palm.

N. S.—The fist strikes.



**STRONG** — Both partially closed hands horizontal, palm towards palm, lifted up-rightward and down with emphasis closed. (Mighty).

N. S.—Open hands brought over and down closed and with energy to show strength of arms.



**STUDY** — Left palm rightward, fingers pointing up and out, and right fingers of prone hand, pointing at left hand and oscillating as right is moved towards and from left palm as right hand slowly descends.  
N. S.—The oscillating fingers denote spelling words from the printed page of the left hand.



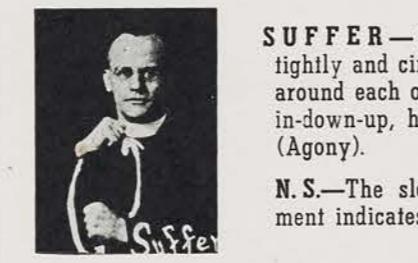
**STUPID** — Knuckles of closed right hand, vertical palm inward, struck against the side of forehead. (Dunce) (Very ignorant) (Dull).

N. S.—The skull is thick and hard, knowledge is unable to penetrate.



**SUCCEED** — Both prone indices pointing outward, thrown upward to vertical indices with palms outward. (Accomplish) (Win out).

N. S.—Up to the top and over.



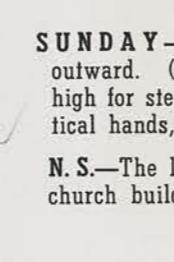
**SUFFER** — Both horizontal hands closed tightly and circled slowly and with tension around each other in vertical circle up-in-down-up, hands several inches apart. (Agony).

N. S.—The slow tensed hands and movement indicates severe suffering or pain.



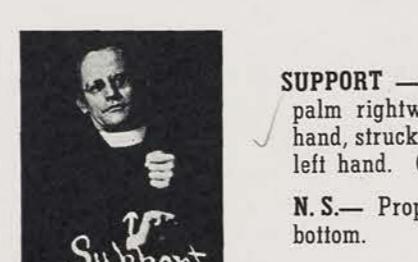
**SUN** — Spell, or, right vertical index traces the sun's disc, in the sky for "Sun". (Right "&" hand, fingers pointing away from the disc, are opened as the hand descends for "Sunshine") ("Sunrise and Sunset"; sign sun in sky, then index points to it as coming up or going down).

N. S.—Round disc in the sky, the rays spreading down.



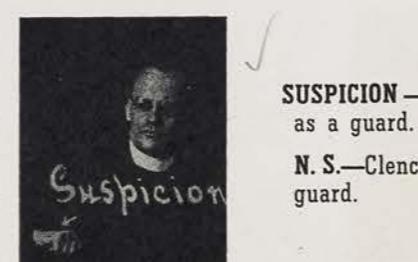
**SUNDAY** — Both vertical hands, palms outward. (Sometimes "House" is signed high for steeple and followed by both vertical hands, palms outward).

N. S.—The large opened doors of the church building.



**SUPPORT** — Left closed horizontal hand, palm rightward, and right vertical closed hand, struck up against the lower side of the left hand. (Uphold) (Contribute) (Boost).

N. S.—Popping up continually from the bottom.



**SUSPICION** — Right fist held out to the right as a guard. (Resist).

N. S.—Clenched fist out to one side as a guard.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**SWEET** — Right index and middle tips drawn down on the lips. (Candy) (Sugar).

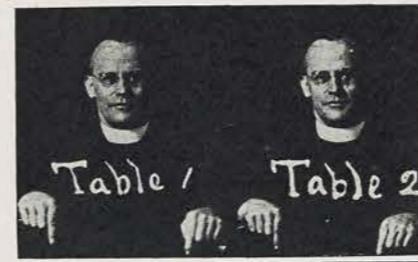
N. S.—The two fingers denote the stick of candy licked by a child.



**SWIM** — Hands moved as if swimming on chest.  
N. S.—As the hands are used in swimming.



**SWORD** — Pull sword from the scabbard hanging at the belt.  
N. S.—Drawing the sword.



**TABLE** — Both inverted indices pointing first two legs of table and then other two, and both prone palms moved from center to sides to show top of table.  
N. S.—Indicating the legs and then showing the outlines of top of table.



**TALES** — Right index and middle tip resting on thumb tip placed at corner of the mouth, and as hand moves off to the right, the finger tips are moved up and down on thumb tip. (Complain) (Gossip) (Tell-Tale).

N. S.—The chattering mouth moves around the neighborhood.



**TALK** — "Speak"; or both vertical indices, palm towards palm, moved back and forth to indicate the nodding of the heads.  
N. S.—Rolling words from the mouth, or two persons talking to each other.



**TALL** — Right vertical index, palm leftward, pushed up along front of left vertical hand, left palm outward. (The slower and larger the sign, the greater the height indicated) (High).



**TASTE** — Right middle tip of open hand placed on tip of tongue. (Middle tip of prone right hand touching the back of left closed prone hand denotes "Touch").

N. S.—The sensitive middle tip places something on the tongue to be tasted.



**TEA** — Left horizontal "O" hand, palm rightward, indicates cup, and the right index and thumb stir a spoon in the cup.  
N. S.—Stirring the teaspoon in the cup.



**TEACH** — Both "ampersand" hand tips to the forehead at sides as if to take something out, turned and pushed frontwards as if to put that something into the heads of others.  
N. S.—Taking from one's own head and pushing it into heads of others.



**TELEGRAPH** — Left index pointing rightward, palm inward, right prone bent index tapped on the base of left index and then goes out along the left index to show the wire and rapidity.  
N. S.—The message is tapped off and goes along the wire.



**TELEPHONE** — Closed hand to lips and then to ear.  
N. S.—Speaking into the transmitter and listening at the receiver.



**TEMPT** — Left arm pointing towards the right shoulder, and the right bent index tapping the left elbow with vigor. (Temptation).  
N. S.—Nudging a person's elbow to urge him to act.

**Note:** The harder the elbow is tapped, the stronger the temptations.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**THAN**—Left palm rightward, fingers pointing outward, right prone hand fingers pointing outward brought down passed left so that the right index brushes along the left palm.

N.S.—The right hand brought down as if pushing something down, to show that what follows "than" is considered of lower degree.



**THAT**—Right index vertical moved out and down and to point to something distant.

N.S.—The word "That" indicates a distant object.



**THE**—Right index pointing outward dropped several inches. (This sign is used only in prayer).

N.S.—A definite motion of the index for the definite article "The" (used in English prayers for the sake of unison).



**THERE**—Point out to a distance with right index of "To".

N.S.—Like "that" pointing out a distant place.



**THESE**—Right index points to several things near.

N.S.—"These" denotes several things near.



**THING**—Right "&" hand supine at left side, fingers pointing leftward, hand moved to right, as if placing several things. (Anything—"Any" and "Thing").

N.S.—Right hand places on the table several things which had been held in the palm.



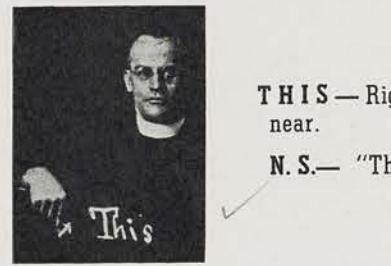
**THINK**—Right index tip, palm inward, applied to middle of forehead. (Consider) (Meditation)—The index tip of above sign moved around on the forehead).

N.S.—Index tip indicating the seat of thought.



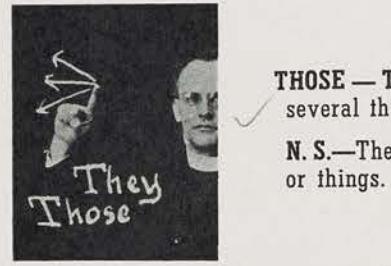
**THINK DEEPLY**—"Think" and then right inverted index stuck down through fingers of left prone hand. (Science) (Deep Wisdom).

N.S.—"Think" and the index thrust down between the other fingers denotes depth of the thought.



**THIS**—Right index points to something near.

N.S.—"This" indicates a thing near.



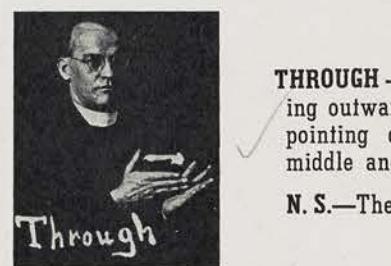
**THOSE—THEY**—Right index points to several things distant.

N.S.—These words denote distant persons or things.



**THREAD**—Left "I" hand, palm inward, little finger pointing rightward, and right index and thumb tips as if pulling the thread from the spool. (String or Rope—"Thread" and show the size of String or Rope).

N.S.—Left hand looks like a spool and the little finger is the thread being pulled off.



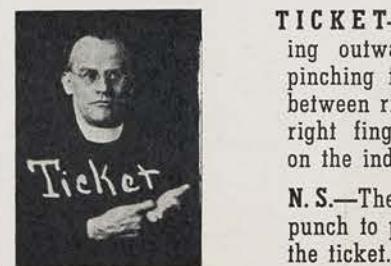
**THROUGH**—Left palm supine, fingers pointing outward; right hand edgewise, fingers pointing outward, pushed along through middle and ring finger. (By).

N.S.—The hand goes through the fingers.



**THURSDAY**—Right vertical "T" hand palm outward, circled left-up-right-down, and changed into a right vertical "H" as it is circled. Sometimes the "H" hand alone is used.

N.S.—Initial letters and circle to denote time.



**TICKET**—Left palm supine, fingers pointing outward, right hand, palm inward, pinching the fleshy edge of the left hand between right bent index and middle, other right fingers closed and thumb pressing on the index.

N.S.—The bent index and middle used as a punch to punch the left hand as if it were the ticket.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**tie**—Hands as if making a tie.

N.S.—Make any kind of a tie.



**TIME**—Right tip of index of prone hand bent and placed on back of left prone bent or closed hand.

N.S.—The bent index tip is often tapped thus on desk or table to denote time is up.



**TIN**—Right "&" fingers grasp the fingers of the left hand and bend them back and forth like a piece of tin, palms inward.

N.S.—The left fingers are a piece of tin being bent back and forth to make a noise.



**TIRED**—Tips of both open hands resting against the body, palms inward, hands inverted; tips remaining stationary and hands allowed to drop until they are closed. (Weary)

N.S.—Hands falling into the lap.



**TO**—Left index pointing out to the right, and the right index tip touches it.

N.S.—To the tip of the other finger.



**TO-MORROW**—Thumb of right "A" hand pointing over right shoulder near lower jaw, palm downward, thumb turned upward and forward, till palm is upward, in an effort to point forward. (In a few days—"To-morrow" and "Few").

N.S.—To-morrow is another day in the future ("Other" made forwards).



**TOWARDS**—Left index pointing outward, palm rightward, and right index tip pointing leftward is pushed towards left index tip but does not touch it.

N.S.—Towards the tip.



**TRAVEL**—Right index of prone hand, pointing downward and twirled as hand moves out from one side to the other. (Journey).

N.S.—The index traces a route to show the going around from place to place.



**TREE**—Right arm pointing upward and hand shaken, left supine under right elbow. (Branch—Right arm resting lower on left hand and shaken) (Lettuce—Right wrist resting on left hand, and right hand swung to and fro.).

N.S.—Upright forearm shows the trunk of tree, waving hand denotes the topmost branches. Waving hand lowered denotes lower branch. Waving hand resting on other denotes leaves of lettuce near the ground.



**TRINITY**—Right thumb and index and middle, vertical, palm inward, grasped by the left hand, which closes to "O" as the right is drawn through it down and up to the right side in vertical index.

N.S.—Three in one.



**TROUBLE**—Both open hands, right palm leftward, left palm rightward, brought down from the sides above the head to below the face, alternately, palms facing line of downward motion. (Excitement) (Worry) (Matter) (Annoyance).

N.S.—So many things are happening to me that I am almost swamped.



**TRUE**—Right vertical index tip, palm leftward, moved straight out from lips. (Truth) (Indeed).

N.S.—Straight talk.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**T R Y** — Both horizontal "T" hands, thumbs pointing outwards, palm towards palm, and hands urged forward. (Endeavor) (Urge).

N. S.—Initial letter and an effort made.



**U N D E R** — Right "A" hand, thumb upward, moved around under left prone palm. (Below).

N. S.—Right hand is under the left.

**N. B.** — If prone palm is moved around over the stationary "A" hand "Over" is indicated.



**T U E S D A Y** — Right vertical "T" hand, palm outward, circle left up-right-down-left.

N. S.—Initial letter and circle to denote time.



**U N D E R S T A N D** — Right bent index tip, palm inward, against middle forehead, and index becoming straight vertical as hand moves out and up from forehead. (Understanding) (Outstanding) (Meaning).

N. S.—The thought is opened up and out.



**T U R K E Y** — Tips of thumb and index of right prone "F" hand placed at the nose, then right "G" hand pointing downward placed on the breast, right palm rightward.

N. S.—The comb and wattles of the turkey gobbler are represented.



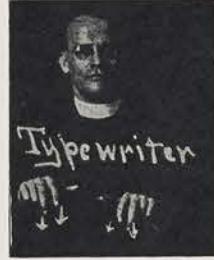
**T U R T L E** — Left palm placed on right horizontal "A" hand, right hand pushed leftward out from under the left, right thumb wriggling to represent head of turtle as it comes to surface.

N. S.—A turtle coming to the surface and swimming along is nicely represented here.



**U N I T E D S T A T E S** — Fingers of both hands interlocked or dovetailed, palms inward, moved right-up-left-down, or moved left-up-right-down.

N. S.—All united fingers and the circle around to denote extent and agreement.



**T Y P E W R I T E R** — Hands as if working the machine.

N. S.—The fingers, except the little fingers and thumb, hitting the keys.



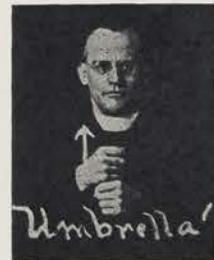
**U P O N** — Prone fingers of right hand brought up-over and down onto left closed prone hand. (Off—the opposite of "Upon").

N. S.—Right hand is moved up and on to the left.



**U G L Y** — Both indices before the face, palms down right pointing leftward, and left pointing rightward; both hands pulled to sides and indices bent as they cross the face; sometimes only one hand is used. (Homely).

N. S.—The face looks as if it were pulled out of shape.



**U M B R E L L A** — Both hands as if raising an umbrella.

N. S.—Open the umbrella.



**V A L L E Y** — Both hands supine, finger tips touching to form valley and both hands moved forward and downward to the sides, as if the backs of the hands were resting on the hills which form the valley.

N. S.—The motion of the hands shows the gradual opening of the valley.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**V E I L** — Both vertical "V" hands, palms towards sides of face and fingers pointing to sides of forehead, drawn down to shoulders.

N. S.—Initial letters trace veil.



**V E R Y** — Both horizontal 'V' hands, tips of fingers touch fingers pointing outward, separated to the sides.

N. S.—Initial letters drawn apart to show extent or degree.



**V I C T O R Y** — Right hand as if waving a flag above the head in triumph. (Triumph) (Win).

N. S.—As persons victorious wave a small flag.



**V I N E G A R** — Index tip of right "V" hand against corner of mouth, with expression.

N. S.—Initial letter with index tip at mouth to show bitter taste.



**V I R G I N** — Right "V" fingers, palm inward pointing over left shoulder and moved up over forehead down to pointing over right shoulder.

N. S.—Initial letter traces veil worn by professed virgins.



**V I S I T** — Both "V" hands, palms inward, fingers pointing up and out, circled around each other up-out-down-in-up.

N. S.—The tips of one hand are the eyes of one visitor, and the tips of the other hand are the eyes of the other visitor regarding each other during the visit.



**V O I C E** — Right "V" fingers placed against the throat.

N. S.—Initial letter at the place of the voice.



**W A G O N** — Both hands as if holding reins. For special wagon show wheels, box or body. (Drive).

N. S.—The hands holding the reins whilst driving.



**W A I T** — Both bent hands point frontward, right palm leftward, left palm rightward, one hand nearer the body than the other, and fingers of both hands bending as if beckoning. (Remain).

N. S.—Both hands as if beckoning not to go.



**W A L K** — Prone hands pointing outward, moved up and down alternately as if walking with them.

N. S.—Imitate the motion of the feet.



**W A S H** — Both "A" hands as if rubbing clothes in water. (Wash hands—natural sign) (Bathe—"Wash" and "Body").

N. S.—Rubbing clothes by hand without a wash-board.



**W A S H I N G T O N** — Right vertical "W" drawn downwards from the head, back of the ear, in a wavy line.

N. S.—Initial letter and indicating the curly locks worn those days.



**W A T C H** — Take watch from pocket and hold it to the ear.

N. S.—Listening to the ticking of the watch.



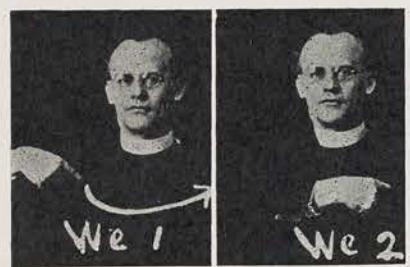
**W A T E R** — Right vertical "W" palm leftward, with index tip at the corner of mouth.

N. S.—Initial letter placed at the lips, because we drink water.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**WAVE** — Both prone hands moved sideways tandem over the surface of the waves.  
N. S.—Hands follow the natural curves of the waves, higher or wider or faster as you wish to indicate.



**WE or US** — Right index tip against right shoulder, turned down to pointing right, and moved around, pointing out, until at left side it points against left shoulder, palm down throughout.

N. S.—Pointing to myself, to all of you and to myself.



**WEAK** — Right inverted "V" fingers standing on left supine palm and bending as if weak in the knees. (Those right bending fingers placed against side of head indicate "Feeble-minded").

N. S.—The knees of the standing legs are sagging.



**WEDNESDAY** — Right vertical "W" palm outward, moved left-up-right-down-left.

N. S.—Initial letter and the circle to denote time.



**WEEK** — Right index laid prone on left supine palm and lifted up out to the right. (If this hand is lifted up to become a "V" hand it denotes two weeks, etc.) (Weekly—"Week" repeated) (Next week—"Next" "Week" or "Future" "Week") (Last week—"Past" "Week" or "Last" "Week").

N. S.—Consider the calendar, one row of dates gone, it means one week has passed.



**WELL** — Palms applied to chest, then "Can" or "Strong". (Healthy) ("Well" with questioning expression indicates the question, "How are you").

N. S.—The two signs combined signify that the body is strong or able.



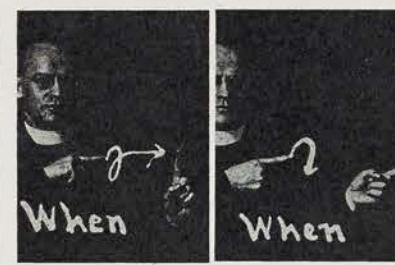
**WEST** — Right vertical "W" hand, palm outward thrown over to the west.

N. S.—Initial letter thrown westward.



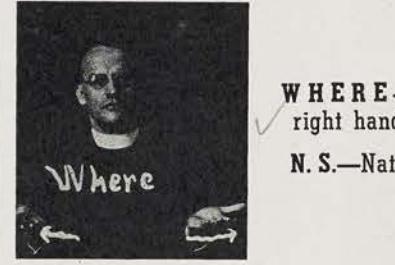
**WHAT** — Left open supine hand, fingers spread and pointing outward and right index tip drawn down across the left fingers; or, both supine palms in front, fingers pointing out, questioning expression. (Which).

N. S.—1st. Index asks: "What on that page?"  
2nd. Open palms used by all for "What".



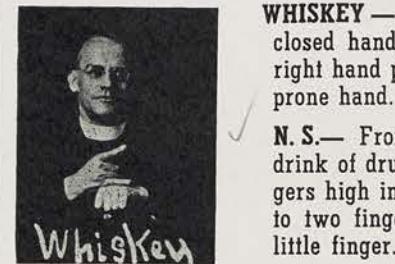
**WHEN** — Left vertical index at side, palm rightward, right index pointing at left index is moved in a circle and pushed against left index tip; or both indices pointing tandem to one side, raised up-back and down.

N. S.—1st. See the clock? What hour? 2nd. Same idea.



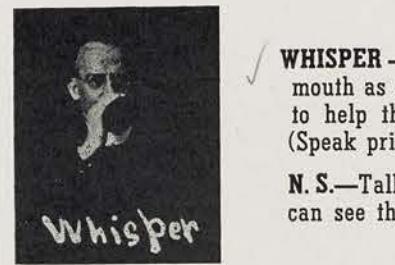
**WHERE** — Both supine palms moved out, right hand to right and left to left side.

N. S.—Natural sign asking "where".



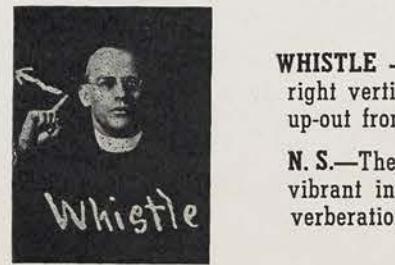
**WHISKEY** — Right index and little finger of closed hand, extended, palm leftward, and right hand placed on the back of left closed prone hand.

N. S.—From the law that restricted the drink of drunkards to a drink so many fingers high in the glass. The man restricted to two fingers, measured it by index and little finger.



**WHISPER** — Vertical bent palm held at the mouth as if to cover the act of speaking or to help the whispering to be understood. (Speak privately).

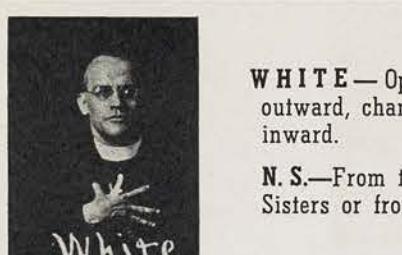
N. S.—Talking behind the hand so no one can see the movements of the lips.



**WHISTLE** — Lips pursed to whistle, and right vertical index moved in a wavy line up-out from ear.

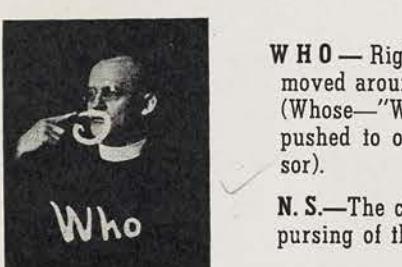
N. S.—The lips show the whistle, and the vibrant index from the ear shows the reverberations of air.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



**WHITE** — Open palm laid on chest, drawn outward, changing to "&" fingers pointing inward.

N. S.—From the white bib of the teaching Sisters or from the old white stiff shirt.



**WHO** — Right index tip pointing inward, moved around pursed lips. (Which) (Whom) (Whose—"Who" and vertical right palm pushed to one side or towards the possessor).

N. S.—The circle of the index tip shows the pursing of the lips to say "Who".



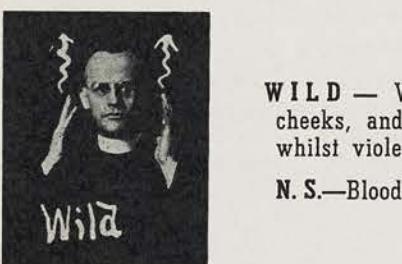
**WHY** — Right vertical hand tips, palm inward, against forehead, hand moved from forehead and changed quickly to "Y" hand. (Because).

N. S.—The "W" and "Y" contracted "Why" from the seat of reason.



**WIFE** — Right vertical "A" hand thumb tip to lower jaw or cheek for "female" and "marry".

N. S.—"Female", "Married" combined.



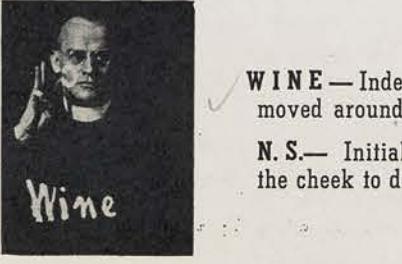
**WILD** — Vertical hands, palms towards cheeks, and both hands pushed upwards whilst violently shaken.

N. S.—Blood rushing violently to the head.



**WINDOW** — Both hands, palms inward, fingers pointing in opposite directions, placed one above the other so that the right little finger rests lengthwise on the left index. (Separate these hands up or down for "open the window" and bring them together for "close the window").

N. S.—Hands form the two parts of the ordinary window.



**WINE** — Index tip of right vertical "W" moved around on cheek, palm leftward.

N. S.—Initial letter for "Water" put on the cheek to denote the color "red".



**WINK** — Index and thumb tip at the corner of the eye, hand vertical and palm outward; tips closed and opened.

N. S.—The thumb tip and index tip shut and opened to mimic the wink.



**WISE** — Right index of prone hand bent and pointing down into the forehead. (Wisdom) (Intellectual) (Intelligence) (Genius).

N. S.—The index pointing that it is all in there, therefore, wise.



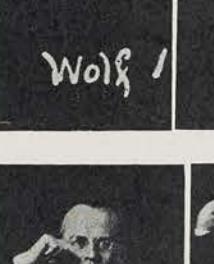
**WITH** — Both horizontal "A" hands together, thumb upward. (Together) (Beside).

N. S.—Both hands together, or one hand with the other.



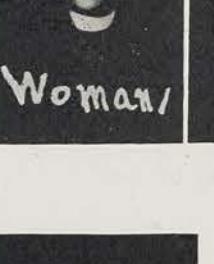
**WITHOUT** — "With" and fingers opened to point outward.

N. S.—"With" opened out.



**WOLF** — Open "&" fingers around the nose, fingers pointing to face, hand drawn from face and changed to closed "&" hand.

N. S.—The fingers indicate the pointed nose of the wolf.



**WOMAN** — Thumb tip of right "A" hand on cheek and then right prone hand shows height. (Women—same as above in first part but then right prone is passed along off to the right as if along the top of many heads).

N. S.—"Female" and stature shown.



**WOOD** — Right edgewise hand used as a saw over the outer edge of the left prone hand, left pointing rightward. (Saw).

N. S.—Right hand's cutting edge used as a saw.



**WORD** — Thumb and index tip of right closed hand measuring the end joint of left prone index, left index pointing outward.

N. S.—One separate part of a sentence.



**YARD** — Both hands with index and thumb tip joined at nose as if holding cloth to be measured; left remains at nose, and right is extended rightward.

N. S.—As persons formerly measured, from nose as far as one could reach was considered a yard.



**WORK** — Wrist of right vertical "S" hand, palm leftward, striking several times on the back of left prone closed hand.

N. S.—One wrist hammered on the other to show effort.



**YEAR** — Both closed hands, right on the left, left palm rightward, and right palm leftward; right hand lifted and passed out-down-in-up onto the left hand again. (Yearly—"Year" repeated).

N. S.—The sun apparently going around the earth.



**WORLD** — Right "W" placed on the left "W" hand, fingers pointing outward, right palm leftward and left palm rightward, right "W" lifted and passed out-down-in-up onto left hand again. (Sometimes the left "S" is used instead of the left "W").

N. S.—Initial letters, one around the other to show the universality.



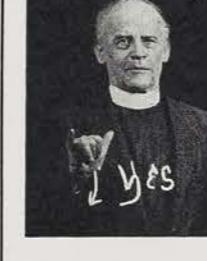
**YELLOW** — Right "Y" horizontal, palm leftward, shaken at side.

N. S.—Initial letter and shaken to show the scintillation of the color.



**WORM** — Left hand vertical, palm rightward-out; right prone index wriggles as it is pushed leftward across left palm.

N. S.—Index wriggling across the palm to resemble the worm.



**YES** — Right vertical "Y" palm outward, dropped frontward to prone; or, prone "Y" hand tapped into left supine palm. (That's it) (Same).

N. S.—Initial letter brought down with emphatic affirmation.



**WORSE** — Left "A" hand horizontal, palm rightward; right "A" hand, palm leftward, brought down past the left. (**Worst** — Same sign, but the right hand is made to go lower). (Left hand is often an open hand).

N. S.—1st. One hand brought below the other to indicate "more degraded". 2nd. The hand brought far below to show: "Most degraded".



**YESTERDAY** — Right vertical "Y" palm outward, thrown backwards over right shoulder. (A few days ago—"Yesterday" and "Few").

N. S.—Initial letter thrown back into the past.



**YET or STILL** — Right prone "Y" at side pushed forward in curve to front.

N. S.—Initial letter brought from the past to the present, the curve shows duration.



**WRITE** — Right thumb and index tips joined and writing on left supine palm.

N. S.—Right hand as if holding pen or pencil and writing on left palm.



**YIELD** — Thumb tips and index tips of both open hands joined, the right before the face and as if to take hold of nose, and the left before the chest. Both hands drawn frontward, and body showing an inclination to follow. (Fascinate) (Eyes may show fascination by object) (Allure).

N. S.—Pulled along by nose and heart.

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF



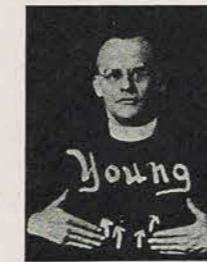
**YOU** — (Singular)—Right index pointing outward.

N. S.—Point to the person addressed.



**YOU** — (Plural) — Right index pointing outward to left, and moved rightward till hand points to right. (Motion can be from right to left also).

N. S.—Pointing out second persons.



**YOUNG** — Both bent hands, palms inward, with tips of fingers touching body at sides of chest, and brushed upwards several times briskly. (Youth).

N. S.—The blood is flowing vigorously up the ascending aortas.



**YOUR** — (Singular)—Right vertical palm pushed frontward.

N. S.—Palm of possession (as in "mine") pushed towards the second person.



**YOUR** — (Plural) — Right vertical palm facing out to the left and hand moved rightward till palm faces the right. (Motion can be made from right to left).

N. S.—The palm of possession towards second persons.

## DESCRIPTION OF NUMBERS

(Cardinal—Ordinal—Adverbial—Multiplicative)



One

- 1.....Right vertical index, palm inward.



Two

- 2.....Right vertical index and middle, palm inward.



Three

- 3.....Right vertical index, middle and thumb, palm inward.



Four

- 4.....Right four fingers vertical, palm inward.



Five

- 5.....Right fingers and thumb vertical, palm inward.



Six

- 6.....Open, vertical hand, palm outward, thumb tip touching little finger tip.



Seven

- 7.....Same as "6" but thumb tip touches ring finger tip.



Eight

- 8.....Same as "6" but thumb tip touches middle tip.



Nine

- 9.....Same as "6" but thumb tip touches index tip.

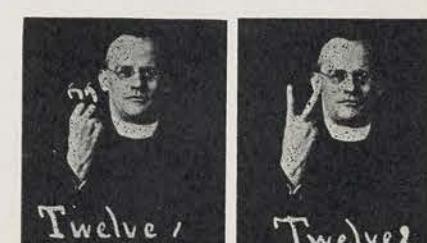


Ten

- 10.....Prominent thumb of right "A" hand shaken, palm leftward, thumb vertical.

Eleven<sup>1</sup> Eleven<sup>2</sup>

- 11.....Closed vertical hand, palm inward, index snapped up to vertical.

Twelve<sup>1</sup> Twelve<sup>2</sup>

- 12.....Same as "11" but index and middle snapped up.

- 13.....Same as "11" but index, middle and thumb snapped up.  
 14.....Same as "11" but the four fingers snapped up.  
 15.....Same as "11" but five fingers snapped up.

Sixteen<sup>1</sup> Sixteen<sup>2</sup>

- 16....."10" without shaking, turned to "6".

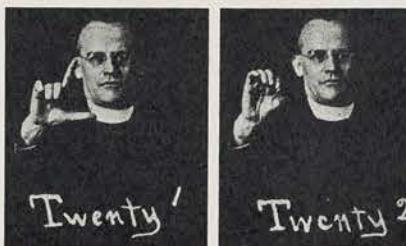
Seventeen<sup>1</sup> Seventeen<sup>2</sup>

- 17....."10" without shaking, turned to "7".

Eighteen<sup>1</sup> Eighteen<sup>2</sup>

- 18....."10" without shaking, turned to "8".

- 19....."10" without shaking, turned to "9".

Twenty<sup>1</sup> Twenty<sup>2</sup>

- 20.....Prone hand thumb and index extended for "2" and hand moved a trifle to right for "0". (Corrupted often to the tapping of the index tip upon the thumb tip, palm outward, other fingers closed).

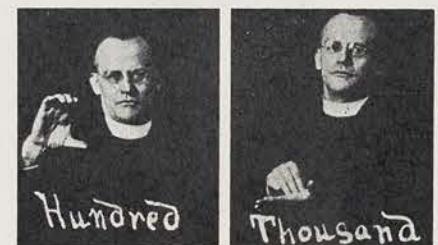
Twenty-one<sup>1</sup> Twenty-one<sup>2</sup>

- 21....."2" "1", palm being prone. (Often this "2" is changed to the "1" by moving thumb against base of index).

- 22....."2" "2", palm being prone.

Twenty-five<sup>1</sup> Twenty-five<sup>2</sup>

- 25....."2" "5", palm being prone.

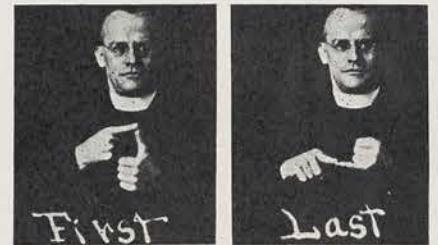


Hundred Thousand

- 100.....Right vertical "C" palm outward.
- 
- 1,000.....Right "M" tips placed on left supine palm.



- 1,000,000....."1000" and right "M" tips placed again on left palm further down on palm.



- FIRST.....Left "A" hand pointing outward and thumb upward; right index tip palm leftward, placed against left thumb tip.

- LAST.....Right "I" hand, palm leftward, little finger pointing outward; right index tip placed palm down on end of left little finger.

N. S.—The thumb is considered first in an enumeration and the little finger is reckoned as last.

- 2567....."2" "5" "6" "7" signed from left to right beside one another, prone hand. (Sometimes these numbers are signed in combination, as 1913—"19" "13"—but the other manner is clearer).

- 1st....."First".
- 
- 2nd.....Etc., "2" prone hand, turned to palm leftward. (In numbers of more than one digit, this turn is given to the last digit).

- ONCE, TWICE, (See "Sometime") (Any number and "Time" THREE TIMES. will indicate the answer to "How often") In speaking of a sum of money in which there are dollars and cents, the dollars are ordinal and the cents are cardinal).

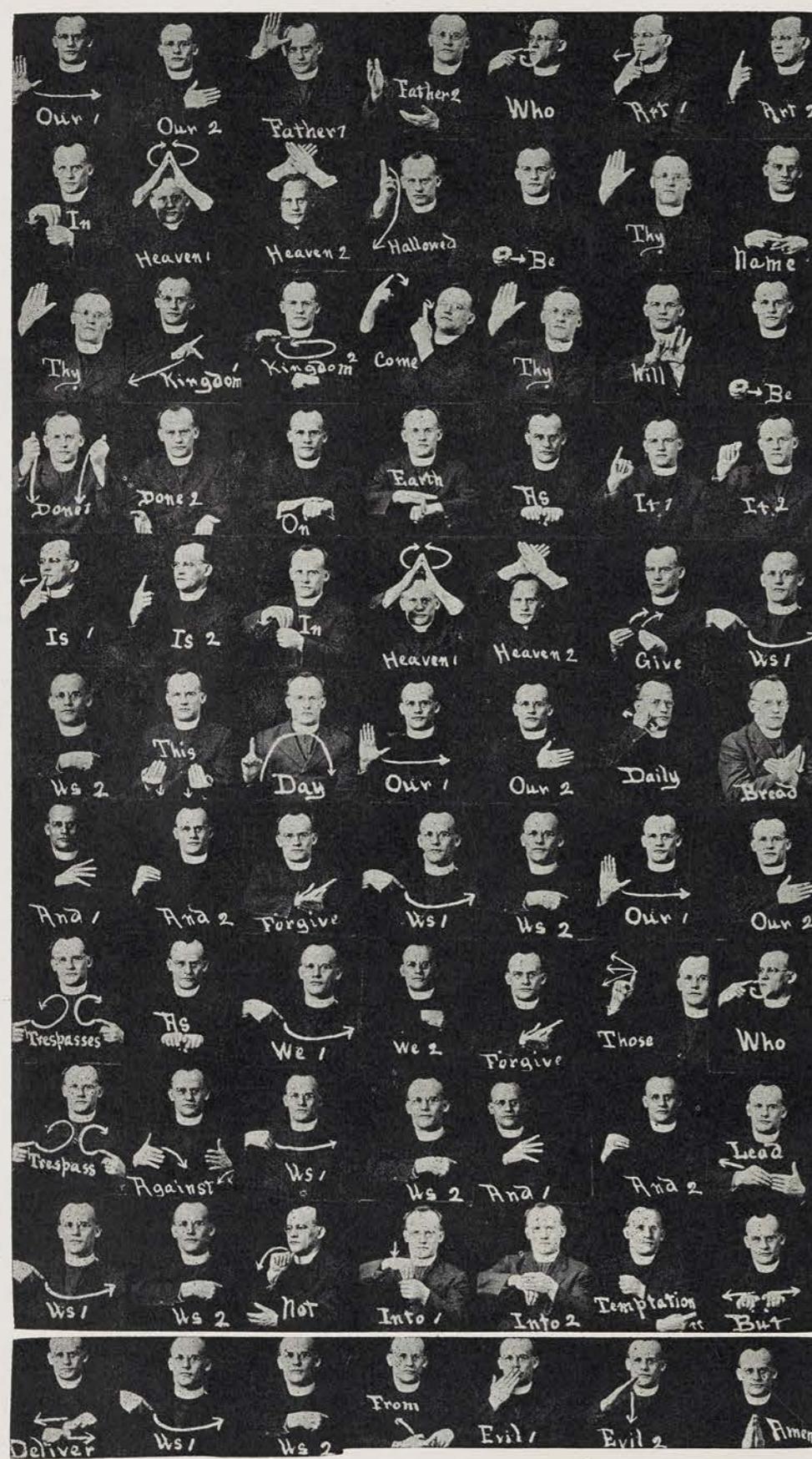
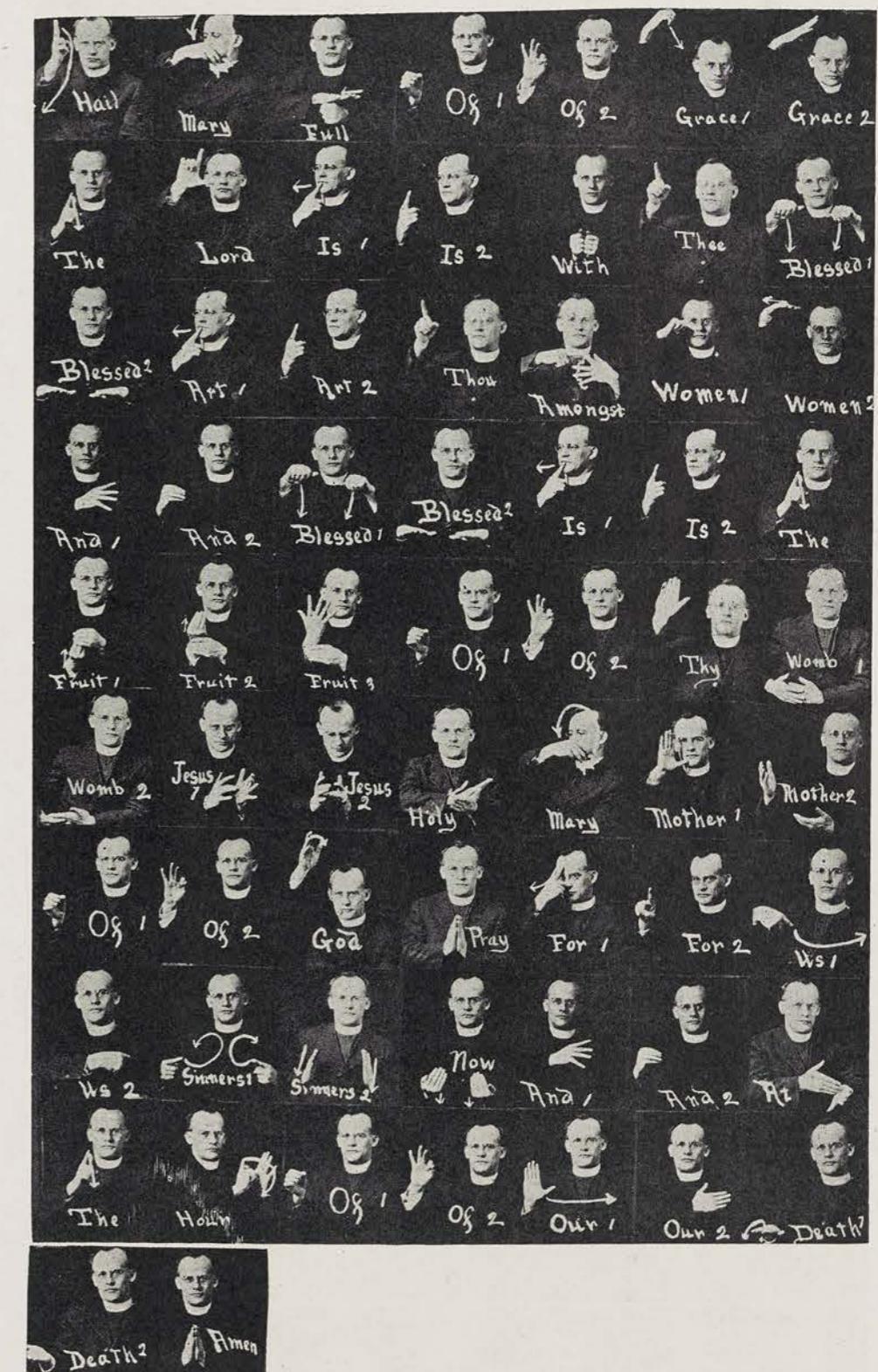
- Double—Fourfold..."2" "In" "1" "4" "In" "1".

## COMBINATIONS AND OTHER WORDS

- Accident**....."Danger" "Happen".  
**Adore**....."Attend" "Pray".  
**Advent**....."Jesus" "Approach" "Time".  
**Almighty**....."All" "Strong".  
**Altar**....."Mass" "Table".  
**Although**....."If" which is spelled, or, "And" or "But", according to the sense.  
**Ambition**....."Proud" "Succeed".  
**Any one**....."Any" "One".  
**Apostles**....."12" "men" or "12" "Men" "Sen".  
**Assume**....."Take" "Responsibility".  
**Avaricious**....."Money" "Greedy".  
**Bachelor**....."Male" "Alone" or "Male" "Not" "Married".  
**Banquet**....."Fine" "Eat" or "Fine" "Eat" "Table".  
**Barn**....."Horse" "House".  
**Besides**....."And".  
**Bird**....."Beak" "Fly".  
**Blaspheme**....."Speak" "Bad" "Against" "God" or "Curse" made towards heaven.  
**Borrow**....."Give" "Me" "Keep".  
**Breakfast**....."Morning" "Eat".  
**Bread**.....(to make it) "Bread" and hands as if kneading dough.  
**Bush**....."Tree" and "low" or "little".  
**Camp**.....Both "V" hands used as hands in "City".  
**Capital**....."Govern" "City".  
**Carriage**....."Wagon" and indicate top.  
**Chief**.....(Indian) "Chief" "Indian".  
**Christian**....."Jesus" "Follower".  
**Christmas**.....Spell or "Jesus" "Birthday" (Merry Christmas) — Right vertical "M" changed to vertical "C" as hand circles left up-right-down, palm outward.  
**Clergy**....."Like" "Priest".  
**Climb**.....As if climbing rope hand over hand.  
**Club**....."Class" "People".  
**Coal**....."Black" and "Lump" formed by bent hands palm towards palm.  
**Commandments**....."10" "Laws" or "10" "C".  
**Confessional**....."Confession" and indicate box with edgewise hands.  
**Count**....."1" "2" "3".  
**Cover**.....Natural sign according to the object covered.  
**Curse**....."Wish" "Evil" "To" "Other" (Also see "Curse" in first part).  
**Curtain**.....Sign the color of the curtain and move the hands as if moving the curtain.  
**Despair**....."Hope" "Lost".  
**Dictionary**....."Book" and right vertical "D" hand.

- Dinner**....."Noon" "Eat".  
**Disagree**....."Think" "Different".  
**Divine**....."God" "Like".  
**Doll**....."Joke" "Baby" or right index laid in the crook of the left arm as if it were a baby.  
**Dressmaker**....."Dress" "Sew" "Er" or "Dress" "Make" "Er".  
**Easter**.....Spell or horizontal prone "E" hands turned in and up to horizontal supine.  
**Enter**....."Go" "Into".  
**Excel**....."Victory" "Added" or "Victory" "Extra".  
**Excess**.....(drink) "Drink" "Like" "Pig".  
**Exchange**....."Give" with the right and "Take" with the left.  
**Fail**....."All" "Lost".  
**Fair**....."Half" "Good".  
**Family**....."Home" "Class".  
**Feet**.....Right "&" hand, palm down, stuck into the partially closed fingers of the left supine hand, left thumb and index indicating toe of shoe.  
**Flame**....."Red" "Fire".  
**Flour**....."White" "Fine".  
**Fortitude**....."Patient" "Suffering".  
**General Confession**.....Confession and prone hand elevated to indicate the "Growing up".  
**Gentle**....."Calm" "Heart".  
**Glorious**....."With" "Glory".  
**Godfather**....."Father" "Responsible".  
**Godmother**....."Mother" "Responsible".  
**Grass**....."Green" "Growing".  
**Gray**....."Black" "White" "Mix".  
**Hell**....."Demon" "Fire", or point downwards, or spell.  
**Heretic**....."False" "Believer".  
**Holiday**....."Idle" "Day".  
**Holy-day of obligation**....."Holy" "Day" "Of" "Must", or "Day" "Like" "Sunday".  
**Holy Ghost**....."Holy" "Ghost".  
**Holy Orders**....."Becoming" "Priest" or the anointing of the hands as in conferring of the Orders.  
**Honey**....."Bee" "Syrup".  
**Human**....."Like" "People" or "Man".  
**Ice Cream**....."Sweet" "White" "Cold" or "Sweet" "Cold".  
**If**....."Spell".  
**Idols**....."False" "Statues".  
**Immediately**....."Same" "Time".  
**Inclination or Disposition**....."Mercy" and right vertical hand simply follows the left vertical hand to one side, palms out from body.  
**Infidel**....."Not" "Believer".

- Interest**....."Monih" "Gain".  
**It**....."Spell".  
**Judgement**.....(General) "Balance" "Day".  
**Jump rope**.....Swing rope with closed hands and then "Jump" repeated several times quickly on the left supine hand.  
**Leaf**....."Tree" and trace shape of leaf in the air with the index tips.  
**Lend**.....(Loan) "Give" "You" "Keep".  
**Locked**....."Shut" "Key".  
**Lonesome**....."Silent" "Alone".  
**Lust**....."Bad" "Wish" or "Shame" "Wish".  
**Magnificent**....."Polite" with both hands moved out-up-down to sides, fingers and hands oscillating.  
**Maid**....."Female" "Alone" or "Female" "Not" "Married".  
**Message**....."Word" "Carry".  
**Miracle**....."Wonder" "Work".  
**Mission**....."Week" "Preach" or right "M" placed with a flourish on to the heart.  
**More or less**....."More" "Less".  
**Mortal sin**....."Great" "Sin".  
**Muddy**....."Dirty" "Water" and "Walk" as if the hands were lifted with difficulty from the mud.  
**Mustard**....."Yellow" "Butter".  
**Mystery**....."Truth" "Hide".  
**Needle**....."Nail" "Sew".  
**Nobleman**....."Noble" "Man".  
**Ocean**....."Water" "Wave" "Far".  
**Orphan**....."Father" "Mother" "Bereft".  
**Party**....."Night" "Dance" or "Night" "Banquet".  
**Pastor**....."Rule" "Priest".  
**Penance**....."Confession" "Prayer" "Patient" "Suffer".  
**Pepper**....."Black" or "Red" and right hand shakes pepper from the shaker.  
**Pope**....."Spell".  
**Presence of God**....."God" "Looking" fingers of "Look" pointing downwards from above.  
**Public**.....(in public) — "People" "Looking" "looking" signed with both hands pointing towards self.  
**Raise**.....(in wages) "Money" "Extra".  
**Ready**....."Classed" "Finished".  
**Resemble**....."Appear" "Same".  
**Rule**.....(draw lines)—Left prone hand pointing rightward and right joined thumb and index as if holding a pencil use little finger edge of left hand as a ruler.  
**Sacrament**....."Grace" "Show" or "Grace" lowered to the head.  
**Saint Joseph**....."Saini", and right "I" hand traces a "J" on left supine palm, with tip of little finger.  
**Saints**....."Holy" "People".  
**Sanctify**....."Make" "Holy".  
**Satisfaction**.....(in Confession) "Penance" "Please" "God".  
**Sensitive**....."Feel" "Quick", or middle finger tip of open right hand is placed on the heart, palm inward, and flipped away to palm outward.  
**Sleep soundly**....."Sleep" and right "A" hand placed on left "A" hands, thumbs pointing leftward.  
**Slipper**.....Right thumb tip traces half sole on the left supine palm.  
**Splendid**....."Good" and right hand passed around left as in "all". Idea is "All" "Good".  
**Spring or Grass**....."Green" "Growing".  
**Spring**....."Water" "Grow" and as right hand comes up through left hand, the right fingers oscillate as they go over out and down, the flowing of the water over the brim of the spring.  
**Starch**....."White" and hands pressed together as in "Cheese".  
**Steamer**....."Boat" and both "B" hands make the revolving side wheels or the stern wheel; or "Boat" and "Smoke".  
**Storm**....."Blow" "Destroy".  
**Strike**.....(on a strike) Both "X" hands, palms down, struck together from the sides so that the indices and thumb collide.  
**Strange**....."Know" "New".  
**Struggle**....."Collide" but first one hand is pushed to one side and then the other hand is pushed oppositely, to represent the struggle.  
**Stylish**....."Fine" and "Spreading" with expression.  
**Superior**....."Ruler".  
**Supper**....."Night" "Eat".  
**Sympathy**....."Feel" "With".  
**Swing**....."Sif" moved back and forth as if seat of swing in motion.  
**Tailor**....."Sew" "Er".  
**Tent**.....Both "V" hands used as hands in "House".  
**Theatre**....."Entertainment" "House".  
**Then**....."Same" "Time", or "Next", or "After" according to the meaning.  
**To-day**....."Now" "Day" or "To" "Day".  
**Throw**....."Feint at throwing".  
**Touch**.....Tip of bent right middle finger of open prone hand touches back of left prone hand.  
**Train**....."Car" "Smoke".  
**Ungrateful**....."Not" "Grateful".  
**Unless**....."If" "Not".  
**Vainly**....."Without" "Happen".  
**Venial Sin**....."Small sin".  
**View or Vision**....."Look" with both hands moved up and down and around as if to behold the entire scene.  
**Visible**....."Can" "See" (Invisible—"Can't" "See").  
**Waste**....."Careless" "Lose".  
**Wet**....."Water" "Soft".  
**Whether**....."If" or "Or".  
**Whitsunday**....."Holy" "Ghost" "Sunday".  
**Wing**....."Angel" made with one hand.  
**Wire**....."Thread" "Hard" (Barbed wire—"Wire" and tips of little fingers of both "I" hands struck up and down across each other to denote the barbs).  
**Yourself**....."Your" "Self".

**THE OUR FATHER****THE HAIL MARY**

## THE APOSTLES CREED

THE APOSTLES CREED  
CONTINUED

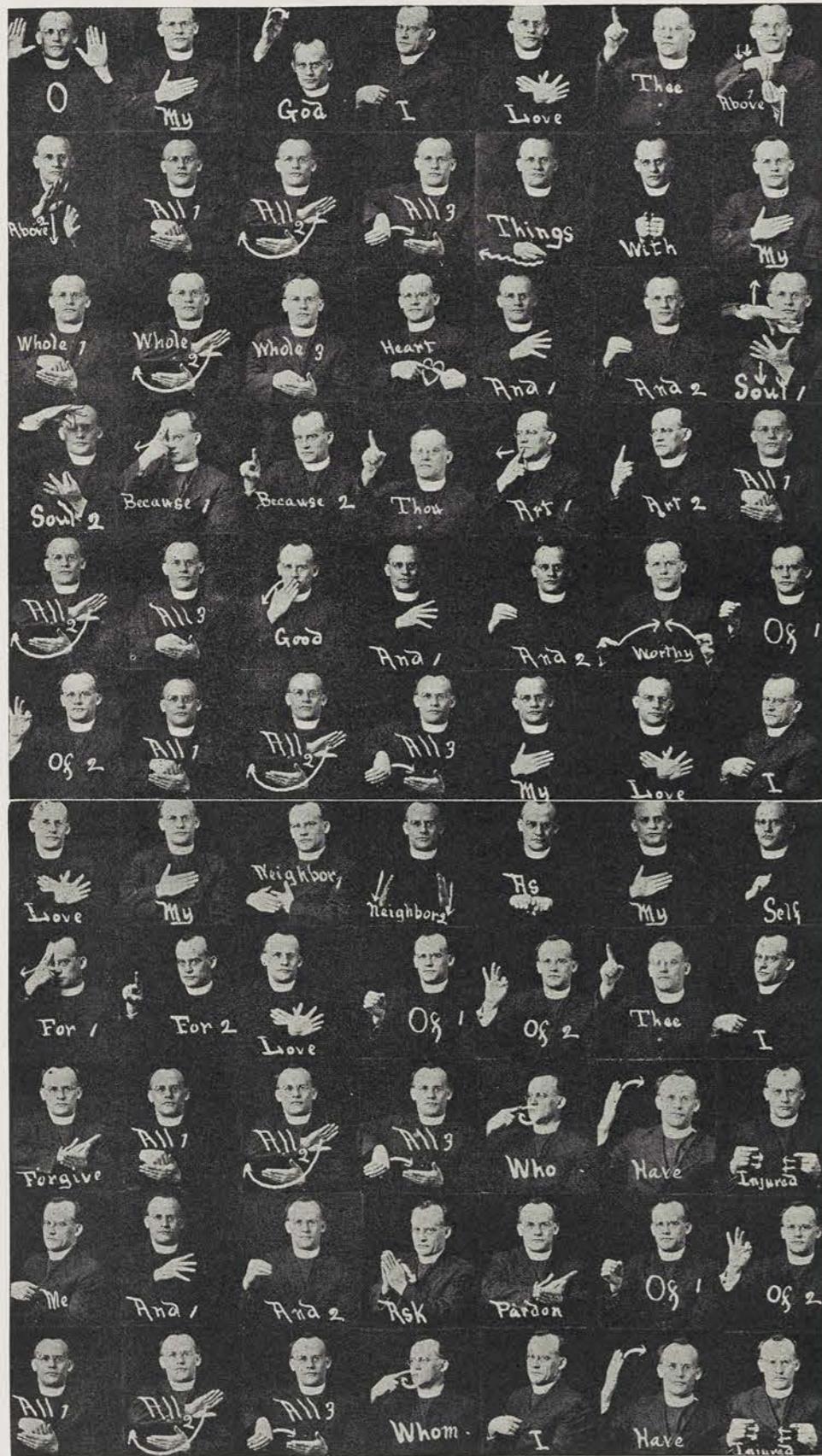
# ACT OF FAITH



# ACT OF HOPE



## ACT OF LOVE

ACT  
OF  
SORROW

**INDEX OF SIGNS**

The numbers refer to the pages of the book. Reference to another word shows the name of the picture or of the definition under which the synonym or antonym is to be found. The many synonyms and antonyms are given to accustom one to simplify his language to deal more with ideas and not so much with words.

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Blossom	14	Capital City	73	Cloud	19	Cosily—Dear	23
Blow	14	Capital City—Govern	34	Club	73	Cough	21
Blue	15	Captain	17	Coal	73	Count	73
Blush	15	Car	17	Coffee	19	Counsel—Advise	8
Boat	15	Cardinal Numbers	71	Cold	19	Country	21
Body	15	Cards	17	College—School	57	Courageous—Brave	15
Bone	15	Care	17	Collide	19	Courteous—Fine	31
Book	15	Don't care	17	Cologne	19	Courtship—Make Love	43
Boost—Support	61	Don't care for	17	Color	19	Cousin	21
Born—Birth	14	Careless	17	Come	19	Cover	73
Borrow	73	Carriage	73	Come between—Between	13	Cover—Hide	36
Both	15	Carry	17	Comfortable—Console	20	Covet—Desire	24
Bottle—Beer	13	Catch—Get	33	Comical—Funny	33	—Envy	28
Bottom	15	Cat	17	Command	20	Cow	21
Bow—Arrow	10	Catholic	18	Commandments	73	Coward—Afraid	8
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Boys—Man	44	Celebrate—Care	17	Communion	20	Crazy	21
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Breath	15	Chair—Sit	58	Condemn—Resolve	55	Crown	22
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Break	15	Change	18	Conduct—Action	8	Crucifix—Cross	22
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Breath	15	By—Near	47	Chief Indian	73	Conquer	20
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Decide—Resolve	55	Discouraged—Give up	33
Decline—Improve not	39	Discourse—Speak	60
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—Quit	54	Elevator	27
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				Sermon—Preach .....	52	Smooth—Clean .....	19

## HOW TO TALK TO THE DEAF

Snake .....	59	Stop—Between .....	13	<b>— T —</b>		To .....	64
Snow—Rain .....	54	—Don't .....	25			To be—Be .....	12
Soap .....	59	Store—Sell .....	57			To become worse—Not .....	
Sodality .....	59	Storm .....	74			improve .....	39
Soda water .....	59	Story—Explain .....	29			To-day .....	74
Soft .....	59	Strange .....	74			Together—With .....	68
Soil—Dirty .....	25	Street—Road .....	55			To-morrow .....	64
Soldier .....	59	Strict—Kill .....	41			Too—Enough .....	28
Solemnize—Show .....	58	Strike .....	61			Toothache—Hurt .....	38
Some—Few .....	30	On the strike .....	74			Torment—Cruel .....	22
—Any .....	10	String—Thread .....	63			Touch—Taste .....	62
Something—Few .....	30	Strong .....	61			Touch .....	74
Sometime .....	59	Struggle .....	74			Towards .....	64
Son .....	59	Stubborn—Mule .....	46			Track—Car .....	17
Song .....	59	Study .....	61			Train .....	74
Sorrow—Contrition .....	20	Stupid—Dull .....	26			Travel .....	64
Soul .....	59	Stupid .....	61			Tree .....	64
Sour—Bitter .....	14	Stylish .....	74			Trespass—Sin .....	58
South .....	59	Subtract—Abstain .....	8			Trifling—Fool .....	31
Sow (plant) .....	60	—Less .....	42			Trim—Decorate .....	24
Spain .....	60	Succeed .....	61			Trinity .....	64
Speak .....	60	Such—Same .....	56			Triumph—Exaltation .....	29
Speak privately—Whisper .....	67	Suffer .....	61			—Victory .....	66
Speech—Speak .....	60	Suffer—Patience .....	50			Trouble .....	64
Speedy—Quick .....	53	Sugar—Sweet .....	62			True .....	64
Spell .....	60	Suitable—Becoming .....	12			Trust—Believe .....	13
Spend .....	60	Summer—Dry .....	26			Truth—Believe .....	13
Spend life—Spend .....	60	—Perspire .....	51			—True .....	64
Spend time—Spend .....	60	Summon—Call .....	16			Try .....	65
Spider .....	60	Sun .....	61			Tuesday .....	65
Spirit—Soul .....	59	Sunday .....	61			Turkey .....	65
Splendid .....	74	Sunshine—Sun .....	61			Two by two—Parade .....	50
Spoil—Destroy .....	24	Sunrise—Sun .....	61			Two weeks—Week .....	67
Spread .....	60	Sunset—Sun .....	61			Twilight—Dark .....	23
Spring (season) .....	74	Superior .....	74			Typewriter .....	65
Spring (water) .....	74	Superlative .....	28			<b>— U —</b>	
Spring up—Fruit .....	32	Superlative degree—Est .....	28			Ugly .....	65
Spy—Guess .....	35	Supernatural—Heaven .....	36			Umbrella .....	65
Squirrel .....	60	Supper .....	74			Unable—Can't .....	17
Stain—Dirty .....	25	Supplication—Beseech .....	13			Under .....	65
Stair—Climb .....	19	Support .....	61			Underhand—Sly .....	58
Stand .....	60	Surprise—Astonish .....	11			Understand .....	65
Stand up—Stand .....	60	Surrender—Give up .....	33			Unfair—Nothing .....	48
Stand up from lying position—		Suspicion—Guess .....	35			Ungrateful .....	74
Arise .....	10	Suspicion .....	61			Unity—Alone .....	9
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Vice—Habit	35
Vice President—President	52
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Victory	66
Victory—Exultation	29
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