

USONIA IS LOGICAL.

A Suggestion That Esperanto Will Supply Our National Name.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

It is both illogical and impertinent for the inhabitants of the United States of America to seize upon the name Americans for themselves. Any one who is a resident of any part of North or South America is an American. But if it is sad to be a man without a country it is also awkward to belong to a country which cannot furnish its inhabitants with a name. United Statesians would not be a very aesthetic designation, and besides, at any moment there may be United States in South America. In any such case the thing to do is to resort to the international auxiliary language which we shall all be presently familiar with—Esperanto, or, better, the Reformed Esperanto of Ostwald, Jespersen, and Conturat. In this language inherent difficulties have been labored over by expert philologists and for the most part logically solved. In both forms of Esperanto, the primitive and the reformed, the word for an inhabitant of the United States of North America is Usona, which, for use in the English language, might become Usonian.

The name of the country itself (since in this perfect language nouns are characterized by all ending in "o") is Usono. In this case Usonian readily suggests U. S. A., (or U. S. N. A.,) but if any one can think of anything better, more appropriate, or more artistic, the committee, of which M. Conturat, Paris, is head, will, I am sure, be ready to receive suggestions. They have already adopted at my request the independent words *matro* and *femino* in lieu of using for mother, woman, the feminine derivatives of *patro*, *viro*, namely, *patrino* and *virino*, which is what the regular rule would require. The word *homo* is, of course, reserved for man in the sense of a human being.

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Columbia University, New York, July 7,
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