

We do not hear not hear ourselves as we sound to others. I used to teach a course in public speaking, and towards the beginning of the course I would take a recorder and I would have something -- say a poem, and each member of the class would read stanza or something, so that we would get each one for a minute or so on it. Then have them listen to it. And it was most interesting to watch people listening to this. Because as everybody heard ^{anybody} everybody else they would say, Oh isn't that amazing. That recorder gets you exactly. I'd think you were talking if I ~~didn't~~ didn't see you. But everyone of them know it was very strange how the recorder was so accurate on all the rest, but go him absolutely wrong. Nobody thought it ~~sounded~~ sounded a bit like he really sounded. And of course the fact of the matter is that none of us know what we sound like when we speak. I knew a man in San Francisco who used to have a broadcast on skiing which he had on the radio, and he gave it ~~week~~ week after week and they had many listeners to it. And then one time he could not be there because he had an appointment just before and he could not make it, and he ~~gave~~ told them in the studio, and they said, We will make a recording and out it on. And he made the recording and his other appointment was right near his home. So he was at home and he turned on the radio and he heard it and he said, What's the matter with that reproduction? Isn't it terrible? His wife said, I'd think it was you talking if I didn't see you right here beside me. It sounds exactly like you. Well he was so disgusted with it that he cancelled his contract with the radio company and refused to do any more broadcasting. We need to learn what we really sound like to others, and there is no reason why anyone should not tremendously improve his ability as a speaker. Most of us do not speak nearly as clearly and as plainly as we could and as we should, and we don't know. I had a fellow in class one time who talked as though his mouth was full of mush. And it was very difficult to understand what he was saying, and I got him to read a poem, and the poem said, ^{Thou} Sail on O ~~ship~~ ship of state, Sail on O union strong and great, and he just read that so clearly. you got every syllable as he read it. And I said, Now I said, You can speak clearly. Everytime you speak somewhere please before you speak get off somewhere by yourself and say two stanzas of this poem, or at least say it to yourself and get yourself