THE SIMPLE SPELLERS HALT

NO MORE AMPUTATIONS UNTIL THE PUBLIC CATCHES UP.

They Can't Understand Why the Nice New Words Aren't in Common Use—A Spelling Book May Be Issued—A Wordy Scrap With Musical Interludes.

What to do next? That was the question that all day long agitated the Simple Spellers—thirty of them, count 'em—who gathered at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday for the second day's session of the annual meeting. Of course most of the simplifiers were perfectly satisfied with what the board had done in the past—oh! perfectly. All the same there seemed to be a general impression that the public should somehow or other be prevailed on to adopt the new spellings a little faster than they had been doing of late. There seemed to be an idea that too many spellers in this country have "hardened their harts," as Prof. Brander Matthews has said, and have deliberately turned their faces away from the one and only true light.

Presumably exhausted by the fierceness of the denunciation which he poured out on Tuesday night on the heads of the newspapers who do not think as highly of sawed off words as he does himself, B. Matthews was unable to be present yesterday afternoon at the deliberations of the board. Had he been present there would of course have been no hesitation regarding the future work of the board.

But deprived of its pilot the ship wabbled on its course and the afternoon was mainly given up to "expressions of opinion."

It seemed to be the general view that perhaps enough amputations have been performed on the language for the immediate present and that possibly the best thing to do next would be to persuade a greater part of the public to stand for the operations already performed by the word surgeons. But how to do it? Ah, that was the question.

The morning session developed a simplified scrap that was about as hot as true philologists could possibly allow themselves to indulge in. It involved a straight catch as catch can contradiction between Dr. Scott, secretary of the board, and Melvil Dewey, ex-State librarian and boss of the Lake Placid Club.

The session was proceeding under difficulties anyhow, because the Rubinstein Club was warbling sweet music in the very next room, and preterits have small affinity with flats and sharps. Dr. Dewey was making a talk on the all disturbing question "What else can be done to promote our propaganda?" in the course of which he said that there had been a lack of publicity about the doings of the board.

"The question is," he said, "are we using Mr. Carnegie's money—and that's all we have at present—to the best advantage? I think we're making a mistake in the lack of publicity. This far it's been a lamentable failure, despite the fact that we have $15,000 a year for that purpose. At our meeting last year a resolution was passed to send out a regular circular or a monthly news letter, but it was never sent out and not even a report of this most important session was ever distributed to the members.

"Ave Maria!" wailed the Rubinstein Club next door.

"No such resolution was ever passed," said Dr. Scott coldly from his chair on the platform.

"It was passed," retorted Dr. Dewey.

"Ave Maria!" said the Rubinstein Club.

"I say it was not passed," replied Dr. Scott.

"I can prove it from the minutes," said Dr. Dewey.

"You can't prove it from the minutes," responded Dr. Scott.

"Ave Maria!" repeated the Rubinstein, fearful of not having been understood.

Dr. Scott handed a copy of the minutes to Dr. Dewey who fumbled through its pages in search of proof, while the Rubinstein Club went on to make a series of easily audible remarks about "The Season of Roses."

At the suggestion of Prof. Calvin Thomas a diversion was created. Oil was thrown upon the troubled spellers when Prof. James W. Bright of Johns Hopkins University, acted on Prof. Thomas's suggestion that he should talk about the orthografic problem of the past tense and the perfect participle of the weak verb." This had such a soothing influence that when Dr. Dewey found by the minutes that the resolution in question had not really been voted on he was able to acknowledge Dr. Scott's victory with a graceful nod of the head. Dr. Scott smiled a smile of icy triumph.

But the Rubinstein Club was so intent upon publishing the attractions of the "season of roses" that it became necessary to send a delegate to remonstrate. The remonstrance was done so tactfully, however, that the Rubinstein Club consented readily to move over to the grand ball room and thereafter nothing disturbed the simplifiers except the speech of the members of the board.

Navigation as applied to simple spelling then came to the fore. Prof. Hempl sounded the first note of the sea when he said the Cause was like a ship that moved over shoals and in and out of coves, but had no compass. Prof. Thomas moved to amend by saying that the ship had a campass but no chart. Dr. Scott observed that it was highly necessary to sail slowly anyhow. For some reason nobody remarked upon the fact that the chief need of the simple spelling ship was passengers.

When afternoon came the debate continued to rage around the question of how to make a reluctant and fat headed populace spell as it hasn't been accustomed to spell. But before things got going again a resolution was passed considerating with Andrew Carnegie on the indisposition that prevented him from being present. The resolution contained many attractive phrases, such as "international comity," "spread of English language," "herald of the era of good will and universal peace." Everybody voted for it, even Insurgent Dewey.

"General discussion of plans and policy" was then in order. E. O Vaile, who is the most famous and accomplished simple speller in the metropolis of Oak Hill, Ill., was first to discuss. He lit into the promotion department something impolitely and said it had been disappointing. It had bitten off too much in the opinion of the Oak Hill simple speller. The second list of spellings came out before the public had accepted the first, and the third list appeared before the second had made much progress. He thought it more essential to induce the public to accept the changes already recommended than to recommend any more at present.

Prof. Charles D. Vail of Hobart College said he was one of the first simple spellers in the country, though he was the baby member of the advisory council. It was his impression that you could easily teach boys to spell simply if you caught them young enough.

Joseph Boden brought glad tidings about the phonetic spellings in the magazine "ads." He cited the cases of "Kanzist" and "Kornmeal," and said he had written the makers of these commodities to learn how the spelling boosted sales. The kornmeal man had replied that he couldn't really say how great a part of the increase in his business was due to the fact that his "ads" spelled corn with a "k." He was really sorry. Still Mr. Boden thought it was most encouraging, wasn't it? He quoted a number of similar instances. Whereupon Mr. Scott arose and said coldly that most of the spellings Mr. Boden had mentioned were neither simplified nor correct. Mr. Boden looked pained.

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews said that he believed the committee had thus far done exactly right, but that the time had come when a larger work could be done. The public was ready, he thought, for some kind of a manual that could be passed about and referred to. The normal schools were with the cause already, and he predicted complete success in ten or fifteen years. The rhetoric department of the University of Nebraska already recognized the simplified forms.

Dr. Dewey said that there were thousands of people who liked to hear themselves talk who could be induced to deliver lectures on simple spelling and this would be one way of spreading the propaganda. Prof. Hempl of the Leland Stanford University said he was going to devote himself in the course of the coming year to finding out why it was so many people objected to "thru" and how the deuce they wanted to spell it anyhow.

Henry Holt said he believed that if he had his way he'd shut up the simplified spelling office and suspend the propaganda "until we have given the people what we have made them ready for." The lists already given out, he said, did not revise many of the words the people had been most anxious about and disgusted with. He believed he'd have to make his own list for his stenographers and he'd include "trof" and "cof" and "hav" and "enuf."

The evening was devoted to more "general discussion of plans and policy," though no official action was taken. The officers of the board have all been reelected and it may be that before long a simple spelling book will be placed upon the market. Anyhow a pleasant time was had by one and all at the annual meeting. To be sure Mr. Carnegie wasn't there, but money talks.

THE HESS-SCHROEDER QUARTET

First Performance Here of a Simple Serenade by Sinigaglia.

The final concert of the Hess-Schroeder Quartet, postponed from March 3, took place last night at Mendelssohn Hall. The programme consisted of Schubert's D minor quartet, Sinigaglia's serenade for violin, viola and 'cello, and Beethoven's quartet in G major, opus 18, No. 2. The Sinigaglia number was performed for the first time here. It is in four movements, officially entitled allegro moderato, intermezzo, egloga, and capriccio. The music is of a very simple and unpretentious nature. Indeed it seems as if it might be undue severity even to consider it seriously. It might be something like breaking butterflies on a wheel.

There is no use in trying to be profound about a serenade unless you know who is the object of this delicate attention. If it is a *Juliet* or an *Isolde* the serenade may be a pretty important matter, but if it is the heroine of a best seller or the principal woman in a Broadway musical comedy then Mr. Sinigaglia is the man for the task. There is some effective writing for the three instruments in the serenade, but its ingenuity is on well established lines. The composition belongs to the class which might be suitable to a "popular" concert, if trios were in the habit of occupying their idle time in such places.

The playing of the quartet in the Shubert number did not fulfil the promise of earlier concerts. Much of it was deficient in rhythmic crispness, and the leader of the organization wasted much of his valuable time in playing out of tune.

DRESDEN PHILHARMONIC.

71 Members of the Orchestra Arrive on the Kronprinz.

Among the passengers arriving yesterday by the North German Lloyd steamship Kronprinz Wilhelm from Bremen were seventy-one members of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, under the directorship of Willy Olsen, who will gave concerts in the principal cities of the country. Other passengers were Dr. Henry Krogstad of Washington, D. C.; La Titcomb, who will appear in vaudeville here with two white steeds and the paraphernalia for serpentine dancing with electric light effects; Edward B. Correy, Burton Fox, the Right Rev. Alexander McDonald, Bishop of Victoria, B. C., and W. S. Maxwell. Dr. Krogstad, who has been in Paris visiting his sick daughter, got a despatch at Quarantine from Congressman Dalzell of Pennsylvania saying that Mrs. Dalzell was ill in Washington and asking him to hasten to her bedside. The customs men expedited the doctor's baggage and he was able to catch the 10 o'clock Pennsylvania Limited to the capital.

NEWS OF PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Edward E. Rice Is to Produce Comic Opera Again.

Edward E. Rice is preparing to reenter the field of musical comedy. He is negotiating for a Broadway theatre for a spring production of "The Duchess of Dublin," a new comic opera by M. Douglas Flattery.

Starting Easter Monday afternoon and continuing every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoon thereafter, Joe Weber will present "The Climax" at his theatre. "The Girl from Rector's" continues at the night and the usual Wednesday and Saturday matinée performances. "The Climax" is a problem play with incidental music.

Miss Clara Morris, who is now recovering from her illness, will appear in a short scene from "Macbeth" at the testimonial which is to be given in her behalf in the New York Theatre on Friday, April 16. This will give her an opportunity also of meeting the audience and to thank them.

"Aida" at the Metropolitan.

An extra performance of Verdi's "Aida" took place at the Metropolitan Opera House last night. Mme. Destinn repeated her excellent *Aida*, and Mr. Caruso, who despite official declarations to the contrary was in bad voice, was the *Rhadames*. Mme. Gay sang *Amneris*, Mr. Campanari *Amonasro* and Mr. Didur *Ramfis*, the insurgent high priest.

INDIAN MOTHER'S SACRIFICE.

Cut Flesh From Her Body for Bait in Order to Feed Her Children.

PORT ARTHUR, Ont., April 7.—William P. McKirdy confirms the story that an Indian woman living north of here cut flesh from her body recently in an effort to secure food for her children when they were starving.

Mr. McKirdy says that the woman and children were in desperate straits. The last scrap of food had been eaten days before and there was no game, though the woman hunted until her strength was gone.

In this pitiable condition she cut a strip of flesh from her body. This flesh she used as bait with which to catch fish and thus sustain life until help arrived.

Mme. Modjeska in Stupor for Two Days

LOS ANGELES, April 7.—Mme. Modjeska is still alive, lying in heavy stupor, from which nothing has aroused her for two days. The physicians say she cannot last many hours.

The Seagoers.

Sailing to-day by the French liner La Lorraine for Havre:

S. W. Bates, Mrs. H. S. Beer, E. R. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred May and John Wilson.

Passengers by the Bermuda-Atlantic steamship Prince George for Bermuda:

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Canfield, Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Baer, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Clough and Mrs. George W. Hurlburt.

Sailing by the North German-Lloyd steamship Yorck for Bremen:

Mrs. George A. Bacon, Alfred autter, Alfred Taplin and John F. Eckel

BOSSY KNEW AND PLEADED

GRATEFUL SHE WAS TO THE MAN WHO UNDERSTOOD HER.

A Cow Travelling Over Milking Time in a Crate Needs Something Besides Water and a Railroad Lunch—Ministration That Interested Ferry Passengers.

In the ordinary pastoral which occupies space in the magazines in the foolish season the kind faced cow which extends her head over the bars of the farmyard fence always says "Moo!"—short and crisp, with only two o's and an exclamation point. But this particular cow began with something that sounded more like "Moooooo!"—longer, and rather pathetic sounding.

Several hundred of Jersey folk from Montclair Heights and Upper Montclair and Montclair itself and all the settlements on this and the other side of the Montclairs were on an Erie ferryboat yesterday morning when they first heard this pathetic "Moooooo!" To be exact, they heard it when they were running from the train to catch the boat. And they heard it as they passed down the gangway onto the boat, and it became louder and longer and more pervasive as the boat slid out of her slip and headed for Twenty-third street on this side.

Meanwhile, shut up in a perfectly good crate as crates go and loaded on an express wagon was the finely bred Jersey cow from which came, at shortening intervals, the pleading, urging, begging, almost praying notes of that "Moooooooooooooo!"

And just then there emerged from the cabin a well dressed man of medium height who walked over to the express wagon and in a quiet, pleasant voice said the two magic words, "So, boss!" The cow—since we do not know her name we may call her Gwendolen—looked the speaker of the words full in the face and said "Moooooo!" There were fewer o's in this "Moo!" than in any of those that had preceded it, and the tone with which it was uttered conveyed confidence that at last there was somebody who understood. The man—it may as well be said right here that he was Frederick D. Greene, assistant general agent of the New York Association for Improveing the Condition of the Poor, that he lives at Upper Montclair and that he was graduated from Amherst in 1885—returned the look, again murmured, "So, boss!" gently as before, and handing his light topcoat, stick and gloves to a man nearby, took off his under coat, rolled back his cuffs and searched for a loose slat on the crate. There was none; so he just put his hands between the bars and said "H'ist!"

The cow lifted her off hind foot and put it down eight or ten inches further back on the floor of the crate than it had been. Then Mr. Greene took hold and began milking.

It is not known where the cow came from nor whither she was going nor how long she had been travelling on the Erie. Also there apparently was no one else on the boat who knew what was the matter with her. But Mr. Greene has a summer home at Andover, Mass., where he keeps cows and has studied their psychology, and this study had taught him that any normal, well regulated cow gets so accustomed to helping out the children and other milk drinkers of the world every once in so often that when the accustomed time comes she has an impulse to do good, and that if this impulse is inhibited there is likely to be—there is sure to be—an acute reaction of the nervous system made manifest in the "Moo!"

Mr. Greene knew all this, if the others from Montclair Heights, Upper Montclair, Montclair itself and the surrounding settlements did not; and being not only a psychologist but a practical man, he knew what to do and did it without hesitation. The boatload of passengers looked on with interest. It had been many years since some of them had left the farm and most of them had never helped much with the chores even before they went away from the old home. Some of them were for criticising Mr. Greene's methods because he was wasting so much perfectly good Jersey milk, which, moreover, it could be proved at a glance was coming from a real cow. But there were no milk pails at hand on the boat, and the foaming fluid streamed down from the express wagon to the deck of the ferryboat and formed little rivulets in all directions.

But to return to the cow. With the first touch of Mr. Greene's practised hands, almost with the first sound of his "So, boss!" Gwennie's worried and even painful look disappeared and an expression of growing content took its place. Now and then she would switch her tail at some imaginary fly and would glance around at Mr. Greene with eyes in which were mingled gratitude and quickly born affection.

Nordica Signs With the Metropolitan.

Herr Dippel signed contracts yesterday with Mme. Nordica by which she will appear at the Metropolitan Opera House next season. Mme. Nordica's first appearance will be at the beginning of the season as *Isolde* in "Tristan und Isolde."

Kidder-Avery Engagement.

Mrs. Frank Morris Avery, who was Miss May Clark, announced yesterday her engagement to James Hathaway Kidder. Mrs. Avery is the widow of a Chicago busines man and lives at the Plaza. Mr. Kidder is a member of the Stock Exchange firm of Francke, Thompson & Robb of 43 Exchange place.

Lally—Powers.

HACKENSACK, N. J., April 7.—Florence Marie Powers, daughter of Charles H. Powers, and William Banta Lally were married this evening at the bride's home in Ridgewood by the Rev. J. A. Van Neste of the Ridgewood Reformed Church. The bride is a granddaughter of Jesse W. Powers, a former Park Commissioner of New York and a director in the Merchants Exchange Bank. She is a niece of Harry L. Powers, who married a sister of the Princess of Ausperg. The bridesmaid was Isabella Powers, sister of the bride, and another younger sister, Julia, was flower girl. The best man was Leroy Lally, a brother of the bridegroom. The ushers were Theodore Demund and William Gurels. The bride was attired in white chiffon over taffeta trimmed with renaissance lace. She carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and roses.

Mills—Leake.

The marriage of Sidney B. Mills, Jr., and Miss Mabel Suzanne Leake, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis M. Leake, was celebrated at 8:30 o'clock last night at the residence of the bride's parents, 8 West 130th street. The Rev. Dr. J. Herman Randall performed the ceremony. Miss Leake, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a white satin gown trimmed with duchess lace, and her tulle veil was caught with a spray of orange blossoms. She carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley. Miss Fannie Leake, a sister of the bride, who was maid of honor, wore a nile green satin gown and carried Easter lilies. Rushton Mills was the best man and the ushers were Marshall Mills and Frank M. Clark. A reception followed the ceremony.

Dunn—Leedy.

Clifford Emery Dunn and Miss Mary Margaret Leedy were married at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Fourth Presbyterian Church, West End avenue and Ninety-first street. The Rev. Edward W. Work, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Frank Leedy, wore a gown of white crêpe trimmed with lace and her lace veil was caught with orange blossoms. Mrs. Louise Leedy Delaney was the matron of honor and Howard S. Neiman was the best man. The ushers were John A. Powders, Robert V. Matthews, Morris Ely and Edward Dunn. A reception at the Hotel Marseille followed the ceremony.

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Property of 170 Slocum Victims Still Unclaimed.

The unidentified effects of 170 victims were looked over for the last time last night at the monthly meeting of the General Slocum Survivors Society at 12 St. Mark's place. Twenty packages have been identified of the 192 left unclaimed after the disaster, and the society is in hopes that the rest may eventually go to proper persons. The graves of the unidentified dead are to be decorated on Easter Sunday. The annual memorial services will be held on June 15, the anniversary of the Slocum burning, in the Lutheran Cemetery at Middle Village, L. I.

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New York.....Apr 24, May 22, June 19, July 17
St. Louis.....May 1, May 29, June 26, July 24
ATLANTIC TRANSPORT LINE
New York—London Direct—Pier 39, N. R.
Minnehaha.....Apr. 17, 8 A.M.; May 22, June 19
Minneapolis...Apr. 24, 9 A.M.; May 29, June 26
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Arabic.....May 1, 3 P.M.; May 29, June 26
Plymouth—Cherbourg—Southampton.
Majestic.....May 5, 9:30 A.M.; June 2, June 30
Oceanic.....Apr. 14, noon; May 12, June 9
Teutonic.....Apr. 21, 9:30 A.M.; May 19, June 16
Adriatic.....Apr. 28, 1 P.M.; May 26, June 23
NEW YORK & BOSTON TO ITALY & EGYPT
Via Azores, Madeira and Gibraltar.
ROMANIC.....Apr. 17, 8 A.M.; May 22, July 3
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S.S. BATAVIA.....†Apr. 13, 10 A. M.; June 3
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