

LINGUISTS WOULD REFORM SPELLING

Committee Named by Modern Language Association.

DR. GREENE PROPOSES PLAN

Many Interesting Topics Discussed. Dinner to Prof. Bright at University Club.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 31.—Two sessions of the Modern Language Association of America, now in annual convention at the Johns Hopkins University...

To Reform English Spelling.

The principal feature of the morning session was the appointment of a committee to act as a sort of "reform league," as it were, in the matter of English spelling.

The Present Purpose.

"Our present purpose, however, is to enlist the influence of the association on the side of what is reasonable in our spelling. We are not trying to move too fast. We are trying simply to fix the attention of the association upon a very important subject in which radical changes are needed and in which these changes can be made and developed soberly and to crystallize. We are merely trying to attract the unacquainted."

Dr. Greene's motion for the appointment of a committee by the president of the association was carried, and Prof. Bright named the following gentlemen to serve in that capacity: Prof. O. F. Emerson, of the Western Reserve University; Prof. H. C. G. Brandt, of Hamilton College; Dr. C. G. Child, of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Herbert F. Greene, of Johns Hopkins; Prof. George Hempf, of the University of Michigan; Dr. W. E. Mead, of Wesleyan University; Prof. E. S. Sheldon, of Harvard; Prof. Calvin Thomas, of Columbia University; and Prof. H. A. Todd, of New York.

Experimental Phonetics.

Prof. E. W. Scripture, of Yale, closed the morning session with a very interesting though decidedly technical exhibition of his recent researches in experimental phonetics, in the accomplishment of which he has been assisted by the Carnegie Institute. He showed the wonderful apparatus which he has employed in his investigations, and gave exhibits of voice curves.

Prof. Scripture is the greatest phonetician in America, and his researches have made him famous throughout the world.

At 1 o'clock the members and guests of the association lunched at the Renner.

Dialect Society Meets.

The annual meeting of the American Dialect Society, which is not a part of the Modern Language Association, but which is composed largely of the members of the latter body, was held at 2:30 o'clock in Dr. Greene's lecture room in McCoy Hall.

The meeting was devoted exclusively to business. The reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and accepted, and upon the recommendation of Prof. O. F. Emerson, \$50 was appropriated for additional publication of the investigations and researches of the members of the society.

Morality of "Tristan."

The afternoon session was called by President Bright in the large assembly room in McCoy Hall at 2:30 o'clock. The attendance was considerably larger than in the morning.

The first paper, entitled "Gottfried's 'Tristan' from the Standpoint of Morality," was read by Prof. Daniel B. Schumway, of the University of Pennsylvania. In it, he endeavored to prove that the charge of immorality so frequently made is undeserved, arguing that the morality of a piece of literature is to be judged by the underlying motive.

In closing Prof. Schumway said: "The ideals of the Middle Ages differed in many respects from those of today. Gottfried is a child of his time and must be judged from his own standpoint, not from ours. His intention is to depict an overpowering passion, and the misery it wrought, and he observes the utmost delicacy and tact in dealing with delicate situations."

America in German Poetry.

"America in the Popular and Student Poetry of Germany," by Emil A. C. Keppeler, of Columbia University, New York, was the subject of the second paper. Mr. Keppeler's discussion had to do with the reason why there is no early mention of America in the popular and didactic poetry of Germany. He stated that this peculiarity seemed due to the sources of the folk and student songs, so far removed from those of America.

At 5 o'clock a dinner was given at the University Club in honor of Prof. Bright, director of the English department at Johns Hopkins and president of the Modern Language Association.

ADEQUATE COAL SUPPLY FOR DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Enough Secured to Last Until February 15.

CRITICISM OF THE BOARD

Commissioner Macfarland Says That Only Special Contract Lots Are Drawn Upon.

The District Commissioners have completed arrangements for supplies of fuel for the public school buildings to last until the middle of February. Under a special contract with President Baer, of the Reading Coal and Iron Company, they were to receive 2,000 tons of anthracite. Of this amount 1,100 tons have been delivered. The balance of 900 tons will be furnished on demand as needed.

In addition to this the Commissioners have placed contracts for 1,000 tons of bituminous coal and 1,000 tons of coke to be mixed and used in the school furnaces. This fuel will be delivered upon call as it may be required. So far the Board has been able to supply anthracite for the school buildings, and though the supply has sometimes run low, no school has been without fuel.

Safe Until February 15.

If it becomes necessary, the soft coal and coke will be brought in, so that there is enough fuel in sight to last until February 15, according to the estimates of the amount needed by the Board of Education. According to these estimates about 300 tons daily are required in severe weather. There are 140 school buildings to be provided for.

In speaking of the matter Commissioner Macfarland said the Board had been criticized in certain quarters for taking coal out of the market for the schools when it was so badly needed by the people, many of whom were without enough to keep them warm. He said that as he understood the law the Commissioners were required to keep the schools open, if possible. Of course, he said, if the fuel could not be obtained the schools would have to close, but as long as coal and coke can be obtained at figures which are not prohibitive he thought the Board was justified in keeping the work of public education going.

Special Supply.

Mr. Macfarland said further that the coal which had been brought to Washington for the schools was not that sent for the general market, but under special contract with Mr. Baer for the purpose named, and that it had not, in his opinion, affected the amount of coal set aside for a specific purpose and brought here in addition to the amount which the companies could furnish for general consumption.

Mr. Macfarland believes that the efforts of the Commissioners to obtain coal for the schools, when properly understood, will not be criticized.

SUGGEST INCREASE IN SCHOOL APPROPRIATION

Commissioners Say Present Scheme Is False Economy.

The District Commissioners have prepared a report to be sent to the Hon. Joseph Cannon, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, recommending the inclusion of an item in the next District bill increasing the total cost of the Business High School building and grounds to \$327,000. The Commissioners say that in their opinion it is necessary to make this recommendation, because within a short time more room will be required in the building for the accommodation of 1,200 pupils. They deem it false economy and bad administration to construct a smaller building to be enlarged within a very few years at greater proportionate cost.

The Commissioners make the following statement of the needs of the proposed building:

"The Commissioners requested the Board of Education to make a statement as to what is needed for the Business High School preparatory to getting up the program of competition for the plans. In the report of the board it is stated that the number of pupils in the Business High School in October last was 672, and that if the new building took two years to build that the number at that time, according to the present ratio of growth, would be between 800 and 900, and that in the opinion of the board there should be accommodations for at least 1,200 pupils in the new building."

An estimate made by the Inspector of Buildings on this data is as follows:

To accommodate 1,200 pupils there would be needed in the building approximately 1,257,000 cubic feet of space, which, in accordance with the present prices of material, would cost 25 cents a cubic foot for building, or a total cost of \$327,000, including architect's fees. A three-story building could be erected on part of the lot, so that wings could be added later at a cost of \$265,000. Of course, in that way the total cost of the building would be greater than if the entire building were erected at once. The increase in cost is due primarily to the fact that it is desired to accommodate a larger number of pupils, but also because of the increase in the cost of building material and labor, which has advanced the cost of school buildings about 20 per cent.

The lot for the Business High School building was purchased last summer, known as lot No. 395, bounded by Rhode Island Avenue, Ninth, E. and Eighth Streets northwest. The limit set to the total cost of site and building was \$175,000.

"MODERN, UP-TO-DATE METHODS."

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 30, 1902.

THE TIMES of today occupies its foremost place in the ranks of journalism because of its progressive spirit and modern, up-to-date methods. Its management is to be congratulated on giving to the Capital City a first-class newspaper; for in THE TIMES not only are faithfully reported current events, local and general, but in it the great questions of the day are fully and fairly discussed.

A. B. Duwall

Corporation Counsel.

"AMERICAN TRADE HAS REACHED ITS SUMMIT"

Representative Burton Tells Scientists That the Great Disparity of Exports Over Imports in the United States Cannot Continue.

Inevitable Tendency of Wealthy Nations to Increase Purchases Abroad. Chief Austin on Tropical Development.

Today's session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was the heaviest, in amount of work done, of any thus far this week. The ten different sections began work early. They will be busily engaged until late this afternoon. Several of the sections will probably adjourn at 4 o'clock in order to lecture their members to attend the lecture this afternoon on "Volcanoes of the West Indies," delivered by Prof. L. H. Russell, of Michigan, who was a member of the expedition sent to Martinique by the National Geographic Society.

Mr. Reed Ecologized.

At the annual meeting of the council of the association this morning, prior to the assembling of the sections, resolutions were presented by President Gilman, of the Carnegie Institution, of this city, eulogizing the life and work of the late Dr. Walter Reed, discoverer of the yellow fever germ, who died several months ago in Washington.

Prominent among the papers read this morning before the section on Social and Economic Science was one by the Hon. W. W. Rockhill, Director of the Bureau of American Republics, on the Pan-American union.

Mr. Rockhill was unable to be present and his paper was read by C. W. Fox, chief clerk of the bureau.

Exports and Imports.

"The Relation Between Exports and Imports," was the subject of an address by Representative T. E. Burton, of Ohio. He said in part:

"In determining the wealth or prosperity of a country nothing is more generally noticed than the relation between exports and imports, the so-called 'balance of trade.' An excess of imports is regarded as indicating prosperity. Yet, independently considered, nothing could be more misleading.

"In order to ascertain the significance of this relation it is necessary to consider a number of circumstances, chief among which are the condition of the country in question, whether a debtor or creditor country, in which connection the income derived from loans and investments in other countries, as well as from shipping engaged in international carrying trade, must be taken into account; the stage of development; the quality of imports and the uses to which they are applied, particularly whether they be raw material to be utilized in manufacture, or other material to be employed in increasing the productive power of the country.

"The phenomenal excess of exports of the United States in recent years can only be explained by realizing that we have gained a new position as the purveyor of the world's wants. It is impossible that this great disparity of exports can continue. There is an inevitable tendency whenever a nation obtains great accretions of wealth to increase purchases abroad."

Tropical Development.

Mr. Burton was followed by O. P. Austin, chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department, who spoke on "Tropical Development a Necessity of World Progress."

The principal suggestions of Mr. Austin's paper were:

"That the increasing population of the world and the increasing facilities for transportation require that its various sections shall contribute their proper proportion to the requirements of man.

"That the world, and especially the temperate zones, is constantly increasing its demands for tropical and sub-tropical products.

"That although the belt lying between the thirtieth parallels of north and south latitude contains practically half the land area of the world, it contributes but one-sixth of the exports which enter into the international commerce of the world.

"That the development of comparatively recent years has brought practically all of the tropics, except tropical America, under control of temperate zone countries, thus facilitating the application to the tropics of the capital and energy of temperate zone man.

C. D. WRIGHT MAY BE SCIENTISTS' PRESIDENT

Indications Point to His Selection as Next Executive.

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES

Choice of New Official Will Be Made by General Committee Tomorrow Evening.

A movement is under way among the members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for the election of Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor, as president of the organization. The annual elections of the association will be held tomorrow evening.

The section of Social and Economic Science of the association, of which Mr. Wright is the retiring chairman, has in late years become one of the most important of the ten embraced in the organization. There has never yet been a president of the association chosen from the ranks of this section, and its members believe that in Mr. Wright they have a man whose ability has been publicly recognized as the highest by the President of the United States in appointing him a member of the coal strike commission.

This feeling has also spread among the members of the association at large, and there seems to be a general belief in the various sections that not only should the section on Social and Economic Science be represented by a president of the association, but that Mr. Wright would make an executive of the highest type.

The election of the officers of the association will be made, under the rules governing the organization, by a general committee, composed of the members of the council and one delegate from each of the ten sections. These delegates have just been elected, as follows:

Section A—Mathematics and Astronomy—Otto H. Tittmann.

Section B—Physics—George F. Stradling.

Section C—Chemistry—A. H. Gill.

Section D—Mechanical Science and Engineering—John R. Brashear.

Section E—Geology and Geography—Not chosen.

Section F—Zoology—Herbert Osborn.

Section G—Botany—W. F. Ganong.

Section H—Anthropology—Frank Russell.

Section I—Social and Economic Science—Le Grand Powers.

Section K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—G. R. Sternberg.

When in doubt, buy at HOUSE & HERRMANN'S, Complete Home Furnishers, Cash or Credit, 7th and Eye Sts. N. W.

MIDWINTER SPRING LAMB IN MARKETS

Tiny Fellows Selling at Very High Price.

OTHER SEASONABLE MEATS

Brought Up in a Hothouse Like Flowers, Said One Market Man.

With the little pigs of Yuletide still in the market with their holiday embellishment, and the miltetoe yet fresh above the stalls, the spring lamb has already made its appearance. Spring lamb in December is almost as paradoxical as the evening edition of a New York newspaper that falls on the street at 11 a. m., but the marketmen, who are not so bold in their expectations, prefer the name "hothouse" to this abnormal variety.

"Brought up in a hothouse just like flowers," said one man. But the process is not exactly that of floriculture. Among the baby lambs there are a few mother ewes in attendance, but never enough to feed all the lambskins, so they are nursed from the bottle until six weeks old. Then it is all "up" with them, and they are hung on a hook in the market stall, with their woolly coats still on them, too small to make much show were it not for their wooliness which covers them. They weigh only from thirty to thirty-five pounds, but the stewards of some men's club pay \$15 a piece for them, and reckon they are cheap at that.

Forcing Young Lamb.

It is something new, this forcing fresh young lambs on the market in the middle of winter. Years ago nobody ever thought of it, and when the first ones made their appearance toward the last of February, or even as late as St. Patrick's Day, it was a signal for some celebration. It is only characteristic of the way things are done nowadays that forcing spring lamb should have become a rising industry. The industry is striking in New Jersey and in Virginia.

Although spring lamb is at this season rare and high priced, winter lamb is reasonable at from 18 cents to 20 cents, and for any festive occasion the crown roast made of the short ribs is always an appropriate piece of resistance, and makes a handsome dish when garnished and filled with green peas or lima beans.

Saddle of Mutton.

Peculiarly suitable for the New Year dinner is the saddle of mutton, which is fine at this season of the year. It is considered more of an extravagance than the leg for roasting, because it has not so much solid meat, but it is not expensive as compared with the turkeys at 25 cents a pound, and it is always delicious.

The best saddles are from the heavy mutton, the Canadian mutton so-called, because it is on these that one gets the thick layer of fat. Not every one appreciates this, but the thicker the fat the richer the roast, and a two-inch layer which cooks down in the roasting adds much to the flavor of the meat.

The little pigs are always much in favor for festive functions at this season, and for some weeks to come. Weighing from ten to twenty pounds, they sell for from \$2.50 to \$3. With them are numerous specialties in season, the tenderloins and sweetbreads, fresh hams and loins. Ox tails are selling at \$1 a dozen, and there are beef kidneys for stew, lamb kidneys to boil, calves' feet and calves' brains and fresh ox tongues.

ALMAS TEMPLE HONORS RETIRING POTENTATE

Handsome Jewel Given Frank K. Raymond.

MR. GUDE SUCCEEDS HIM

Harrison Dingman Becomes Recorder, Mr. Walker Having Declined Re-Election.

In surrendering the office of Potentate of Almas Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Frank K. Raymond was presented last night at National Rifles Armory with the handsomest jewel ever given a retiring officer of this rank. It was an affectionate remembrance on the part of the eleven hundred members of the temple of the exceptional services which Mr. Raymond has rendered them in the two years that he has filled that office.

The jewel is of Ethiopian gold, studded with diamonds and other precious jewels, and costs over \$1,000. It is emblematic of the order, and consists of two crossed bars from which are suspended mystic devices. In raised letters of gold upon the upper bar are the words, "Frank K. Raymond." Upon the lower bar, embossed with laurel leaves, is engraved "Past Potentate." Upon the reverse side of the pendant is the following inscription: "Presented to Frank K. Raymond, by His Friends in Almas Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., December 30, 1902, Washington, D. C."

Six Hundred Present.

The occasion was the annual election of the officers of Almas Temple, and over six hundred nobles were present out of respect to the retiring potentate and to support their favorite candidates for office. Interest centered in the contest for the position of recorder, which for twelve years has been filled by Noble George H. Walker. Noble Walker is one of the oldest members of Almas Temple, having been instrumental in its organization. Because of the duties which will devolve upon him as grand master of the Masons of the District, to which office he has just been elected, he was compelled to decline re-election to the office of recorder.

The candidates whose names were placed in nomination, and who have been making a fight for the office for the past month, were Harrison Dingman and Frank A. Seabring. Mr. Dingman was elected, securing a majority of nearly 100 votes.

As was intimated in The Times yesterday, Fred W. Behrens withdrew his name from the contest for the position of potentate, and the only other candidate, William F. Gude, was elected by acclamation. Mr. Gude was in line for the position, and despite the desire of his friends, Mr. Behrens refused to contest his election. Mr. Gude is the president of the Business Men's Association.

Mr. Behrens' name was, however, placed in nomination for the office of chief rabban. His only competitor was Col. Edwin B. Hay. When the votes were counted it was found that the majority had been cast for Noble Behrens, and he was declared duly elected.

The complete list of officers elected is as follows: Potentate, William F. Gude; chief rabban, F. W. Behrens; assistant rabban, Carter B. Keene; high priest and prophet, Granville M. Hunt; oratorical guide, J. A. Ellinger; treasurer, Allison Naylor, jr.; recorder, Harrison Dingman; representatives to the Saratoga Springs Council, W. F. Gude, Frank K. Raymond, and Col. Edwin Hay (the first two elected by acclamation); trustees for three years, Messrs. Simon Wolf, W. S. Knox, and F. C. Gleesking; Masonic Temple trustee, Harry Standiford.

Refreshments followed the business meeting and the gratifying results of the Christmas charities were discussed.

CLOSED ALL DAY TOMORROW, NEW YEAR'S DAY.

It is with extreme pleasure that we take this opportunity to express to you--the great public--our hearty and sincere thanks for your kind and highly valued patronage during the past year. Our aim and ambition has ever been, and is still, to make this establishment an individual benefit to the City of Washington; and the convenience of our patrons is an all-important factor in the basis upon which we regulate our methods and system of doing business. That our efforts in this behalf have been appreciated is evidenced by the continued support of our old customers, many of whom we have been serving since we started in business, and also by the increased number of new accounts on our books this past twelve months over the same period of last year. It is thus with feelings of intense gratitude that we extend to you our most earnest thanks. We want you to feel that this store exists entirely for your benefit and convenience.

It is our desire to make every one of our customers a satisfied purchaser, and we use every effort to attain this end. Mistakes will and do occur in the best regulated business; we are no exception, but we are always ready to correct any error that may occur, and we do it cheerfully. We are always on the alert to give our customers every advantage of any price concessions that the experience of our buyer and our prominence as an up-to-date concern make it possible for us to secure. It is a pleasure for us to arrange terms and payments to suit the means and convenience of our customers; it is not necessary to close the old account before you can open a new one—we will cheerfully add to an open account any additional goods you may wish to purchase.

Again allow us to thank you for your many past favors and to wish a very happy and prosperous New Year to all our friends and patrons.

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