THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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SCHUMANN-HEINK CHILDREN SEPARATE HER AND HUSBAND

Singer Admits Estrangement Caused by Her Love of Them.

ARE THE BREATH OF HER LIFE, SHE SAYS

Praises Mr. Rapp and Absolves Him from All Blame in St. Louis Interview.

"HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND"

Her Happiness Is with Her Family of Eight, Who Inspired Her Career, She Adds.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sunday.—Mrs. William Rapp, known to the musicloving world as Mme. Schuman-Heink, has separated from her husband. The parting took place some time ago, but neither until to-night acknowledged there was an estrangement.

The singer in her apartments at the Planters' Hotel this evening admitted the trouble with her husband. With much feeling and expression she spoke of her present married life, which she said she had endured as long as she could, and while she dreaded having the name of Schumann-Heink before the public, there was no alternative.

"I have not a word to say against Mr. Rapp," said the diva. "He is a gentleman, cultured and refined, but it is best he should go his way and I go mine. He is in New York city, where he has an office, and I am on the road singing.

"There were no ugly quarrels nor any scandal—please say that for both of us. My children caused the separation. He could not understand, and I should not blame him too harshly for it. He has no children of his own, while I have eight, and some of them are grown.

"When it came to a question whether it should be my children or my husband, to whom I have been married six years, I clung to my children. And what good woman would not? They are my life, and I love them with every breath that I draw.

"It is my children that have been my inspiration in life. It was they who gave me the ambition to achieve what I have achieved. It was that they might profit by it that I desired above all things to become a great singer.

"I succeeded before I became the wife of Mr. Rapp. My estate in New Jersey is a beautiful place and I am happy when I am there surrounded by my children. Then I have another home in California and I am happy there. No matter where I am I want my children to know that their mother will always take them to her arms."

Noted for Domestic Tastes and Love for Her Adopted Country.

Mme. Ernestine Funfstuch Schumann-Heink Rapp, as the singer gave her name when she took out naturalization papers, has been married three times and has eight children. Paul Schumann, her second husband, was a watchmaker, but he afterward became an actor. He died November 29, 1904, and November 28, 1905, the prima donna was married in Chicago to William Rapp, Jr., son of the one time proprietor of the Chicago Staats Zeitung.

Prior to the marriage emphatic denials of the engagement were made by the singer and also by Mr. Rapp, who once said to the newspaper men he would not consent to be asked the question again. He is more than six feet tall, muscular and broad. Rapp was thirty years old at the time of his marriage. Mme. Schumann-Heink, is forty-two years old. Even the day before the couple were married they denied it was going to take place. Mr. Rapp was the singer's manager.

Her Love for Children.

Shortly after she made a success in this country the prima donna asserted she loved her home more than she did the stage, and it always has been her contention that she only worked hard to make her eight boys and girls happy.

Once she was quoted as saying:—"Me? I am an American. My youngest child was born in this country."

She named the boy George Washington and said he would have a chance to become President of the nited States. On another occasion she told a friend, "This boy, he is an American. He has no emperor."

For years Mme. Schumann-Heink has been known as the most home loving prima donna on the stage. Her children's ages now range from twelve years to twenty-eight years. The oldest son is in the Germany navy. Her daughter, Charlotte, was married seven years ago to Dr. George Grief. Then there is Heinrich, who is in business in Germany, and Hans, who doted on going on the stage much against his mother's wishes. Walter now is twenty-two years old, Ferdinand is eighteen, Marie Therese is fifteen and the youngest, George Washington Schumann-Heink, is twelve.

At the time of her marriage Mme. Schumann-Heink was touring the country in "Love's Lottery," in which the singer attained great success. Despite her one great desire to be an American, and the love for her foster country, Mme. Schumann-Heink has never yet been able to master the pronunciation of English. But her accent always has been conceded naive and amusing.

Took Out Citizen's Papers.

She was the first woman singer of foreign birth of any prominence to take out citizenship papers in this country. She appeared before Julge Ten Eyck, in Newark, N. J., in March, 1908, and was made an American. Her joy then was unbounded. She bought an estate near Montclair, N. J., and patterned her home after her American ideals.

In Germany and other European countries the singer did not meet with much success as she did over here. She commented on this only a few years ago in giving her reasons for wishing to become an American citizen.

"America," she declared, "has brought great fortune from the very first moment I set foot in New York city." She was born in Lieben, Austria, and her debut in this country took place in 1898.

Mme. Schumann-Heink has always asserted she was satisfied with eight children, but did not wish to have nine. "I love my boys and girls," she said once, "but I have just enough love for the eight, and not for nine."

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THINKS CAT DEAD, SHOCK KILLS HER

Aged Woman's Grief Causes Fatal Attack of Heart Failure—Pet Only Intoxicated by Gas.

Mrs. Honorah Rossetter died at the age of three score years and ten, yesterday, in her apartment, in No. 146 East Forty-fourth street, a victim to shock and grief at the supposed death of Egypt, the great black cat which had been her beloved and practically sole companion for many years. The animal that long had shared in the mystery that surrounded his kindly mistress, survived her and entirely recovered from the intoxication from illuminating gas which had caused Mrs. Rossetter to believe him dead when she found him.

Egypt, like some other animals, apparently had formed a depraved taste for the inhalation of noxious fumes. That he had deliberately filled his lungs and agitated his nerve centers with the poisonous and intoxicating gas, is undeniable. He had pulled the rubber tube from a small gas heater on the floor of the sitting room of the apartment when his mistress found him.

Egypt was stiff and extended on the floor his delicate nostrils still close to the end of the tube through which the gas was pouring. Mrs. Rossetter was alone in the apartment at the time and evidently she had bent in horror stricken sorrow over the body of her pet whom she supposed dead. Unable to endure the shock she had hurried to her own room, neglecting even to cut off the gas flow in the sitting room.

James Anderson, who rented a room from Mrs. Rossetter, entered the apartment about ten minutes after her exclamations of surprise and shock at finding the insensible cat had been overheard by her immediate neighbors. Mr. Anderson picked up Egypt and, opening a window, put the cat on the fire escape to give him a chance to revive. Then Mr. Anderson called to Mrs. Rossetter, but received no reply. He sought her in the other rooms and at last found her in her own room, the third from the sitting room and entirely out of the zone affected by the escaping gas. She was dead, and a surgeon who responded to an ambulance call said she had been killed by heart disease. She had not suffered from the gas in any degree, he declared.

For twenty years Mrs. Rossetter had lived in the Forty-fourth street house and her apartment there is filled with fine furniture of the Colonial period and of the French Empire. She was a widow and was reputed to have considerable wealth, the tradesmen in the neighborhood saying that she always paid her bills by check. She enjoyed all the comforts of life, but her affections chiefly centred on the dissolute cat, who at last caused the stroke that killed his devoted mistress.

MUSIC MAKES COWS YIELD MORE MILK

J. Gilbert Hiccox, Scientific Farmer, Gains $1,000 a Year by Use of the Phonograph.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Saturday.—J. Gilbert Hiccox, bank director and farmer, producing milk of quality, has discovered that the use of a cheap phonograph has increased the producing value of his herd of seventy blooded cows two quarts each day. As the milk sells to the exclusive set at twelve cents a quart, this makes his music worth $1,000 a year to the farm.

He tried the experiment on the theory that music at milking time would make the cows less inclined to be nervous. He was right. Bossy, under the soothing influence, yielded all the milk she possessed. Waltz music proved the most satisfactory from the cow standpoint. Ragtime agitated rather than quieted the bovine nerves.

Mrs. Dodge Joins in Putting Ban on New Dance Craze; Leading Women Aid Her in Banishing "Turkey Trot"

Society Leader Raises Point Concerning Plans for Junior Cotillon at Sherry's.

MATRONS DENOUNCE THE "TURKEY TROT"

Mrs. De Lancey Nicoll and Others Declare All Acrobatic Innovations Should Be Suppressed.

PLAZA HOTEL TAKES ACTION

Settlement Workers in Sympathy as Example Is Important in Their Work on the East Side.

Asserting that the latest acrobatic dances known as the "turkey trot," "grizzly bear" and other terpsichorean monstrosities are positively a menace to the morals of teh young, Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, of No. 563 Park avenue, and other women prominent in New York society circles, as well as settlement workers of distinction, have begun a movement which has for its end the barring of all objectionable dances at social functions at which young women are the central figures.

The agitation against acrobatic dances which is in progress throughout the country, with clergymen, public officials and society leaders arrayed against the objectionable movements, has found sympathetic action by Mayor Gaynor, by clergymen and by women prominent in society in this city.

As reported in the HERALD recently the Rev. Dr. Leighton Parks, rector of St. Bartholomew's Church, advised in his sermon that a ban of social ostracism be placed upon persons giving and attending social functions at which the objectionable dances were permitted. Other clergymen have taken a similar view and have advised their parishioners along the same lines.

Rebellion in Junior Cotillon.

Rebellion against the acrobatic dances manifested itself at the Junior Cotillon a few days ago, when the announcement was made that Mrs. Alfred R. Conkling, of No. 157 East Seventieth street, was to give a dansant at Sherry's on Saturday, at which Mns. Maurice was to be present. Mons. Maurice has been a prominent exponent of the latest novelties in the terpsichorean line and is in great demand at social functions, where the new ideas in dancing are much appreciated.

Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, it is said, remonstrated with young women of her acquaintance and urged them to decline to attend the function on high moral grounds. This action, it was said, was in no sense to be construed as a criticism of Mrs. Conkling's taste in introducing the exponent of the latest dances, but was directed entirely against the craze which prompted his engagement.

Danger in the Dances.

"I am unalterably opposed to this style of dancing, even though in itself it may be harmless," said Mrs. Dodge to a HERALD reporter yesterday. "I think society ought to taboo such outrageous dances as the 'Turkey Trot,' the 'Grizzly Bear' and 'Apache' dances, because of the harm they may do, rather than the harm they actually do.

"The ideals of our young women should be cast on lines that will refuse to tolerate such dancing at social functions which they attend. I deem it to be the duty of every mother to caution her young daughter against the danger of dances that become popular because of their sensational features."

Mrs. Dodge said she did not attend Mrs. Conkling's dansant not because she was opposed to acrobatic dancing in every form, but because she had an opera engagement she could not forego. She said that she was heartily in sympathy with any movement that would have for its end the absolute inhibition of the "turkey trot" dance at society functions and that this or any other form of outre dancing would not be tolerated at any party given by herself.

"'Apache' Dance Horrible."

"I think the 'Apache' dance is perfectly horrible," she said, "and I cannot see how any self-respecting woman can enjoy dances of that kind. Of course I have no desire to be a mentor of society, but I think society women who have the welfare of their young women at heart ought to frown upon anything that may by its suggestiveness work irreparable injury to the morals and lives of all concerned."

Mrs. Alfred R. Conkling, through her husband, said in a general way she agreed with Mrs. Dodge, but she believed young women could not be greatly harmed if they were allowed some latitude in the indulgence of their social pleasures.

"There was nothing in the dancing line at Mrs. Conkling's party on Saturday that could have offended any one," said Mr. Conkling to a HERALD reporter. "The acrobatic dancing was a graceful exhibition of terpsichorean skill and nothing more. There was a Spanish dance, a cake walk and Apache dance, and everything that might offend the most fastidious taste, of course, was eliminated.

"I agree with Mrs. Dodge that the 'grizzly bear' and Apache dances, if overdone, are objectionable on moral grounds. It all depends, however, upon those taking part in the dances and the circumstances in which they are given.

"The 'grizzly bear' dance may be all right at a country club, a picnic, or Newport clambake, but at home functions in the city, I think they partake too much of the Bowery and ought to be discouraged. But young women ought to be given some latitude in the choice of the dances they like best. Personally, I think there ought to be fewer waltzes and more old style polkas.

"There ought to be no gymnastics in the ballroom, whether it be in a restaurant, the home or in a fashionable hotel. Functions of this kind ought to be like dress parades or drills, above criticism. Still, the old French proverb, 'Evil to him who evil thinks,' will suggest itself to all in a matter of this kind. It all depends upon how the dances are done. If exaggerated, harm may follow, but reasonably done no harm can ensue."

Mrs. Nicoll Did Not Attend.

The stand taken by Mrs. Dodge in the matter of the suppression of objectionable dancing at society functions is heartily indorsed by Mrs. De Lancey Nicoll, of Na. 23 East Thirty-ninth street. Mrs. Nicoll had been included "among those present" at Mrs. Conkling's dansant at Sherry's, but she denied positively that she attended the affair.

"I am in mourning and did not attend the party," she said to a HERALD reporter last night. "I am heartily in accord with the views of Mrs. Dodge upon the question of the propriety of acrobatic dances of the 'turkey trot' and 'grizzly bear' type at social gatherings at which young women are present. They may not be immoral in themselves, but as they are capable of distortion they are likely to do much harm.

"I have no desire to engage in a controversy of this kind in the press, but, nevertheless, I believe every matron who has a daughter will view the matter as Mrs. Dodge does. I believe New York society, as a whole, should join hands in barring outre dancing, no matter what its name may be."

The appearance of three couples who danced the "turkey trot" at the dance given by the Southern Society at the Plaza last Friday night occasioned complaint to the management, with the result that the announcement was made that hereafter at the Plaza no such dances would be permitted.

Not Sanctioned by Society.

Mrs. George Gordon Battle, one of the patronesses of the dance, said that the "turkey trot" dancers were not associated with the Southern Society, and that they kept to themselves in a corner, so that their antics were observed by only a few of the large gathering in attendance. No effort was made to stop the dancing until later in the evening, when a complaint was made to the hotel management. Mrs. Battle expressed herself as opposed to acrobatic dancing in any form at dances attended by young women débutantes.

The crusade against this form of dancing was taken up by Mayor Gaynor, who a few days ago issued an order prohibiting the "turkey trot," "grizly bear" and other objectionable dances in all licensed dance halls in New York. At the suggestion of Judge Holt, Augustus H. Skillin, of No. 34 Pine street, receiver for the Café Des Beaux Arts, last Friday caused a notice to be posted in that place prohibiting anybody from dancing the "turkey trot," "grizzly bear" and similar dances while beneath the roof of the café.

Prominent settlement workers on the east side have joined hands in the task of suppressing objectionable dances in social circles. One leading settlement worker said last night:—

"Mrs. Dodge will receive the support of every wise mother and well wisher of our young women who are just entering society. These risky dances ought to be tabooed at every society function, because of the example our upper society should set to others, if for no other reason.

Example for East Side Youth.

"The young people of the east side who are attached to the settlements and who are profoundly interested in everything that goes on in the sphere in which their mentors move are largely led by the force of example, the result being that our work among them has been most successful in the last ten years.

"What would these young folk think if they were aware that such dangerous dances as the 'turkey trot' and the like were tolerated by our best society women? They would, perhaps, be induced to follow in the footsteps of these society women and our good work would suffer great harm, if, indeed, it might not be totally destroyed. By all means let us bar the outre dancing, for which an unaccountable craze appears to have arisen."

Admitting that while she is opposed to all forms of objectionable dancing, Mrs. John H. Tyson entertained fifty friends in her apartments in the Evanston, at No. 272 West Ninetieth street, the chief attraction beins, Mons. aurice, who gave exhibitions of acrobatic dances. There was nothing about his various dances to excite more than passing comment by those who witnessed them.

"Depends Upon the Gathering."

"It depends upon the nature of the gathering if acrobatic dances are to be classed as offensive, harmful or otherwise," said Mrs. Tyson. "I agree with Mrs. Dodge that if I had a young daughter I should not care to see her dancing the 'turkey trot' or any dance of a similar kind. But if young women observe the conventions of good breeding I fail to see how artistic dances can work injury. It is a matter for the young people to decide for themselves."

J. D. Rockefeller, Jr., Ends His War on 'White Slavery'

Success Crowns His Two Years' Campaign at Expense of $100,000 and Now He Will Turn His Attention to New and Greater Field of Public Duty.

NEW LAW IS ERADICATING EVIL, OFFICIALS SAY

After a two years' campaign which has cost him in the neighborhood of $100,000 John D. Rockefeller, Jr., this week will see what he calls the successful culmination of his plans to obtain a law to end "white slavery."

When Archangelo Piromalli, an importer of olives, is sentenced by Judge Mulqueen, in the Court of Special Sessions, on a "white slave" charge, Mr. Rockefeller will sever his active connection with the campaign and devote his attention and means to another and greater kind of public service which he has under consideration.

When Mr. Rockefeller became foreman of the celebrated Grand Jury which was charged with the duty of investigating "white slavery" he told his friends and fellow jurymen that he would fight the traffic until there should be placed on the statute books a law that would send to jail practically for life any person convicted of this crime. Now that he has caused such a law to be enacted and enforced, besides having induced the federal government to continue the campaign which he began, he feels his duty to the public in this direction has been ended.

The conviction of Piromalli is the first in this country since the summer of 1910, when the celebrated Belle Moore case was tried, in which it was proved that there was an actual sale of a "white slave." This came under Section No. 2,460 of the Penal law, as amended in September, 1910, as a result of Mr. Rockefeller's activity.

The amendments simplify the enforcement of the law and make the punishment more severe. The extreme penalty for this offence is now a term of twenty years in State prison and a fine of $5,000.

Increased Official Activity.

Records in the District Attorney's office show that during 1911 there were more than three times the number of convictions under the provisions of the amended law than there were during the preceding year. Fourteen indictments were found and three defendants received prison sentences ranging from ten to twenty years each. In one instance a $5,000 fine was levied in addition to the twenty year prison term. Two defendants were acquitted, while five were allowed to plead guilty to lesser degrees of crime. At the end of the year four indictments were pending.

District Attorney Charles S. Whitman yesterday expressed himself as being gratified at the efficiency of the new law, as shown by the results during the first year of its operation.

"In the first place," said Mr. Whitman, "I want to make it clear that the increase in the number of indictments and convictions on charges of 'white slavery' by no means indicates that 'white slavery' is on the increase in this city, but rather shows that the small percentage of 'white slavery' existing here is being gradually stamped out. And the new law is an admirable weapon for that purpose.

"Not only has the operation of the law been simplified, but the increase in the maximum penalty will enable us, I think, to keep this evil at a minimum."

Judge Warren W. Foster, of the Court of General Sessions, also expressed himself as pleased with the success of the new law.

Thirty-Four Years for One Offender.

"During the last year there was tried before me one of the meanest and most brutal cases of 'white slavery' that has ever been called to my attention," said Judge Foster to a HERALD reporter. "Philip Solow, a youth of twenty years, lured a beautiful Pittsburg girl from the home of respectable parents and then sold her into a life of 'white slavery' here in New York. He was convicted and I gave him the maximum prison term and a fine of $5,000, making in all an aggregate sentence of thirty-four years. It is such sentences as these and the wide publicity attending them that hits the right spot.

"I mention this fact solely because I want to say that I do not approve the constant exploitation of this subject in the newspapers and magazines. As long as there is an arrest, a prosecution and a sentence for the crime of 'white slavery' the widest publicity is desirable. But where none of these features is present it is my opinion that the discussion of such a subject in the newspapers and magazines can serve no good purpose.

"On the contrary, it is my theory that such articles as a general rule do more harm than good. They add very little to the general stock of information, and certainly they do not make the best kind of mental food for the reading public. My point is that specific instances should be exploited only when there are indictments and convictions."

Isidor Wasservogel, Robert C. McCormick, T. Channon Press and James B. Reynolds, assistant district attorneys, also say that they are well pleased with the results of the first year's operation of the new law.

"CHANCE"

JOSEPH CONRAD'S Greatest Novel of the Sea, Was Written Especially for the

NEW YORK HERALD

The First Instalment Will Appear NEXT SUNDAY, Continuing Every Sunday Thereafter. DON'T MISS IT.

NATION SHOULD BUY AND RUN ALL TELEGRAPHS

—FRANK H. HITCHCOCK.

Postmaster General Will Urge Legislation to Take Over Every Line.

POSTAL LAW GIVES AUTHORITY TO ACT

Valuation Must Be Ascertained by Special Board of Appraisers.

MOVE CAUSES SURPRISE

Taft Administration First to Indorse This Form of Governmen Ownership.

OPINIONE ARE MUCH DI

Law Authorizing Federal Purchase

Here is the government's authority, under the act of June 23, 1874, for the purchase of the telegraph lines:—

"The United States may, for postal, military or other purposes, purchase all the telegraph lines, property and effects of any or all companies acting under the provisions of the act of July 24, 1866, entitled, 'An act to aid in the construction of telegraph lines and to secure to the government the use of the same for postal, military and other purposes,' or under this title, at an appraised value, to be ascertained by five competent and disinterested persons, two of whom shall be selected by the Postmaster General of the United States, two by the company interested and one by the four so previously selected."

HERALD BUREAU, No. 1,502 H STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C., Sunday.

Postmaster General Hitchcock to-day declared in favor of government ownership and operation of telegraph lines.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK

An official statement, made public by the Post Office Department, states that he will recommend to Congress that the government be authorized to buy the property of the privately owned telegraph companies, under an act of 1874 providing for their appraisement.

The announcement came out of a comparatively clear sky. Although government telegraphs have been advocated sporadically, no Postmaster General, it was said at the Post Office Department, had officially recommended such an advanced change of policy.

Politically the announcement was a sensation, for no administration has ever given any sign of espousing the cause of government ownership. Members of Congress, even those on the Postal committees, appeared to have had no inkling of Mr. Hitchcock's intentions. Here is his statement:—

Mr. Hitchcock's Statement.

"Among the recommendations Postmaster General Hitchcock will submit to Congress during the present session, is one that the telegraph lines be acquired by the ogvernment and operated as a part of the postal service. He believes that such a consolidation would result in important economies and permit the adoption of lower telegraph rates. Post offices are maintained in numerous places not reached by the telegraph systems and the proposed consolidation would therefore afford a favorable opportunity for the wide extension of telegraph facilities.

"In many small towns where the telegraph companies have offices the telegraph and mail business could be readily handled by the same employes. The separate maintenance of the two services under present conditions results in a needless expense. As a matter of fact, the first telegraph in the United States was operated from 1814 to 1847 by the government, under authority from Congress, and it is most desirable that the government control be resumed. A method already has been prescribed for the taking over of the telegraph lines by section 5,267 of the revised statutes, which provides that the government may for postal, military or other purposes purchase telegraph lines operating in the United States at an appraised value.

Hopes for Legislation.

"Mr. Hitchcock hopes that Congress will speedily enact legislation in harmony with this law providing for the taking over by the government of the existing telegraph systems at terms that shall be fair to their present owners. Every reason for the transmission of intelligence by mail under government control can be urged with equal force for a similar transmission by telegraphic communication.

"Because of the more extensive organization maintained by the postal service and the freedom from taxation and other