

The Rachmaninoffs Have It

ONE can better understand what a hard row is hoed by simplified spelling and Esperanto societies after witnessing the orchestra management's valiant but vain attempt to introduce last week's symphony soloist as "Rachmaninow."

Despite all its efforts, three Twin Cities critics spelled it "Rachmaninoff" and one, just to be different, made it "Rachmaninov." What can you expect from the public when even the reviewers won't co-operate?

That Russian "f" sound gives a good deal of trouble. If the translation comes via the German language, "v" or "w" generally indicates the sound, as in Tschaikowsky. If it is translated directly into English, "f" carries the value of "f," reasonably enough. As in Rimsky-Korsakoff.

The chief difficulty in making Japan behave is to find somebody qualified to throw the first stone.
