

CLASH OVER COMSTOCK.

Purity Congress Refuses to Listen to Attack Upon Anti-Vice Man.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 18. — Pandemonium broke loose this afternoon at the opening session of the ninth International Purity Congress when Leon Maimed of Albany, N.Y., and William C. Hall, a local medical student, tried to quiz Anthony Comstock on phases of his work. Threats of physical violence and arrest from three Sergeants at Arms were necessary to make the questioners desist.

Comstock had just finished a half-hour address on his work and adventures as Secretary of the World's Purity Federation. He had recited statistics to show that he had gradually driven out of New York all obscene publications. He had turned to take his seat, when Malmed arose and shouted:

"I want to know if Mr. Comstock thinks he has acted justly and rightly in having William Sanger of New York arrested for selling a publication published by Margaret Sanger, his wife, when Mr. Comstock sent an agent to William Sanger who secured a copy of the book in question by a subterfuge?"

"I consider that question very impertinent at a meeting of this kind," replied Mr. Comstock vehemently, "and I only wish to state that you are misinformed as to the facts."

Three Sergeants at Arms rushed up to Malmed and threatened his arrest if he did not take his seat. As the President rapped again for order, Hall arose from his seat.

"Mr. Comstock," Hall queried, "do you believe that you do right in stamping as pernicious and corrupting the works of men like Havelock Ellis, Dr. Von Krafft Ebing, and Dr. Ulrich, or are you assuming that to those of pure mind books on the body and se are gangrened and rotten? Do you suppose—"

"You are out of order," broke in the President, as the audience broke into an uproar. The three sergeants at Arms thereupon rushed up to Hall and silenced him.

The case of William Sanger is due to come up before Judge Swann in General Sessions. Mr. Sanger, who, upon the earnest request of a Comstock agent, furnished him with a copy of Mrs. Sanger's book entitled "Family Limitation," asked for a jury trial, but this request was denied by Judge Swann last Monday.