

SHANGHAI DANCING GIRLS HAVE A WAR OF THEIR OWN

Shanghai—A new international struggle, involving the female of the species only, is on in Shanghai. This struggle, like many more serious scrambles in East Asia, embraces Japan, China and Russia, and is being waged around the cabarets and dance halls of the International Settlement.

When the dancing craze first hit the Chinese in Shanghai cabarets sprang up with mushroom-like rapidity, and the cabaret industry, at the beginning, virtually was a monopoly of the Russian women. Refugees, near-refugees and imitation refugees, flocked down from Manchuria, especially from the Eur-Asiatic city of Harbin, to entertain the drifting population of Shanghai and other treaty ports. They included young girls, mothers working to support a fatherless family and even more elderly dames—some of these were said to be actual grandmothers—who fought time valiantly with rouge and lipstick. These Russian refugees lived in community flats or boarding houses, and the cabaret portion of their life, at least, was beyond reproach.

Then the Chinese suddenly took to dancing. It came upon them like a flood. At first Chinese went to the cabarets to dance with each other or to watch the others. In the meantime Chinese girls learned the mysteries of the waltz, the fox-trot and other dances and soon realized the cabaret business was a paying one. They induced Chinese with money to open cabarets and night clubs; they invaded halls where the dancers were almost exclusively Russians and gradually edged the Slaves out. The popularity of the Chinese cabaret girl grew rapidly and, with nationalism rampant in China today, in many a cabaret young Chinese refuse to dance with any but Chinese girls.

Soon the Russians even were edged out of places under American or European management, but which were conducted with an eye primarily on the cash register. It was the old story of hopeless competition against cheap labor. The Chinese lass needs only a bowl of rice and perhaps a couple of gherkins, or maybe a dime's worth of noodles for a meal. The Russian girl had to eat European-fashion, and however cheap she contrived to make her meal, it nevertheless cost much more than a satisfactory one for the Chinese nickel-hopped. Then the clothes of the Russian girl cost more; the Chinese girl was able to dress cheaply and at the same time effectively. Finally, the Chinese girl cut down the price for a dance.

Clad in ankle-length brocade of brilliant color, the Chinese cabaret lass is an attractive and striking figure. She wears a little tight-fitting bodice and her slender neck is encased in a high stiff collar of the same material, while her black sleek hair is brushed back severely, although she moretimes affects a sort of Colleen Moore fringe.

Diet Aids in War

The Japanese girl now has challenged the supremacy in Shanghai cabaret—land wrested by the Chinese less from the Russian, and the Japanese girls, by all accounts, are immensely popular. They, too can dress and eat cheaper than the Russian girls. Their kimonos, though gorgeous and flashing, are not necessary expensive, but, like the sheath-like dresses of the Chinese lass, are effectively exotic. While it costs the Japanese girl more to live, for she is, in a sense, a stranger; yet between the Chinese girl and the Japanese musume (young lady) the Russian Cabaret denoise is ground as between the upper and the nether mill-stone. It is only a matter of a very short time before the Russian lass will be out of the picture. In the meantime Young Miss China and Young Miss Nippon are, metaphorically speaking, locked in a death tussle for cabaret supremacy.

Both the Chinese and the Japanese girls dance very well. Their slight build makes them excellent floor partners, while their willingness to learn as well as to teach, and their lack of snobishness, two shortcomings often chalked up against the Slav women, are appreciated by patrons. In these dance halls, the dancers sit demurely on either side awaiting a partner. The dance over, there is a prim bow with

a strong suggestion of: "Now keep your place and no nonsense," and the girls retreat to their chairs ranged against the sides of the hall until the music strikes up again. Formerly the dancers mingled with studied carelessness; today, more often than not there are three cliques—Chinese, Japanese and Russian.

A Pathetic Disguise

One of the largest cabarets in Shanghai, in which for some time the dancing partners were exclusively Russian women, today is almost totally Sino-Japanese as far as the girls are concerned. There are a few Russian girls who try to pass off as Chinese or Japanese, darkening their complexions, painting their eye-brows and wearing Chinese or Japanese garb. But they can be spotted by even the most inexperienced eye, for not only are they of a heavier squat type with a strange suggestion of inertia in contrast to the lively and peppy Japanese and Chinese girls, but their pathetic and anxious eyes also give their game away.

It is during the week-ends that Shanghai cabarets really are in full swing and the proprietors reap regular golden harvests. From Nanking, civil officials of the Nationalist government swoop down on Shanghai for a good time at the week-end. They are good spenders, and to judge from the way in which these government officials squander money, one would think that China was the richest country in the world today. The gard of these officials consists, for the most part of weird plus fours or exaggerated and loud tweed lounge suits with flaming ties and horn-rimmed spectacles. Some times they bring with them girls of the "bachelor" species, aggressively mannish, determined to be Occidental. They smoke cigarette after cigarette in long ivory or bone holders and there even are those who affect log-nets.

Live A Strange Life

These are the products of Oriental birth and Occidental training and most of them have had their education in the United States. They live a strange and unreal life. They are Chinese and yet they have nothing in common with Chinese culture and are even ignorant of Chinese traditions. Yet, they cannot mix with Westerners who seek the same form of diversion in the big hotels or the clubs; the Shanghai mind does not permit it, even though these men and women may have mingled on the dance floors of exclusive American or English halls. So they go to cabarets where everything is conducted by the owners primarily with an eye for easy money in their coffers.

Very seldom do Japanese girls allow their emotions to run away with them to the extent that they will insult a stranger, though the Japanese man often acts with the childish petulance characteristic of the high-strung Chinese girl. The Japanese women, dancers as well as others, generally are well poised both physically and temperamentally, lay great importance on the need for maintaining an unruffled exterior and, by training do not easily yield to excitement.

Whether the lass from Cherry Blossom land or the girl of the Dragon Republic will win in the struggle for the hegemony of the cabaret in such places. Both have their champions; all agree, however, that the day of the Russian lass as a taxi-dancer in a cabaret is over.

CHICKEN AND TONGUE SALAD

1 cup cooked chicken, diced
1-2 cup cooked tongue, in strips
French dressing
1-2 cup diced celery
Hard-cooked egg
Pimento
Capers
Mayonnaise

Have the tongue cut thin and then cut in strips. Let tongue and chicken stand for one hour in French dressing. Drain the meat and mix with the celery

Put in a mound in the center of a plate on a bed of crisp lettuce. Garnish with mayonnaise and decorate with pimento, cut in fancy shape, capers and hard-cooked egg, cut in quarters.

NESTING GROUND OF BLUE GOOSE FOUND IN ARCTIC

Canada literally has been conducting a wild goose chase. A chase after the esteemed "blue goose," whose breeding grounds in the arctic regions had remained a mystery hidden from man though ages untold. Each year in June the blue geese, millions of them, fly northward, vanishing into the far white regions, returning later in the season accompanied by hosts of little geese. Where did they go?

Museums and the Canadian department of the interior, deeming this matter worthy of notice, says "The Milwaukee Journal" sent out expeditions to trail the elusive azure goose, with the result that a neat pamphlet, appropriately covered in blue has been issued in which J. Dewey Soper tells of his expeditions and their final triumphant result, for the blue goose has been trailed to her mating grounds and her eggs and her goslings have been viewed with a scientific eye.

Mr. Soper's first expedition was in 1923 when he travelled 7,000 miles through Greenland, Ellesmere and Baffin Island for the National Museum of Canada. Only rumors of geese resulted. A second sojourn of a year in Baffin Island and journeys of 1,400 miles brought no success. The next year he covered the land with dog teams, traveling hither and yon, with the blue goose apparently fitting ahead, just out of sight but leaving tantalizing feather of rumor to lure him on. In search of the blue goose he made the first successful crossing of Baffin Island.

Finally he went, again by dog team to Cape Dorset, which thrusts itself out into Hudson Straits off the shore of the island, and there in June he saw the blue geese honking lustily, flying northward. By this time other persons were becoming interested. The Canadian mounted police sat up and took notice. The Hudson's Bay Company, likewise.

Back to Baffin Land, next year, went J. Dewey Soper, resolved to do or die. He settled in August prepared to keep house until the next breeding season, that he might be on the ground. Important folk were back of this expedition, the Department of the Interior, the national parks of Canada, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon branch, all hot foot after the blue goose.

Sure enough, in June the birds began to come. Blue geese and snow geese, who, it appears, travel together. Blue geese settled over the bare patches of vegetation; blue geese waddled and flew along the Kungovik River which flower near the camp. The first egg was found—a matter for modified excitement, for nesting hadn't begun. Was it the egg of a blue goose or a snow goose?

Waves of blue geese came and came, flying in the teeth of storms some staying by the river, others pressing on the places farther in the north. Finally, to be scientifically precise, the first nest was found on June 26, 1929, near Foxe Basin in latitude 65 degrees 30 minutes north. Handsome nests of tundra moss, plucked and shredded, mingled with down and pale grasses. Sometimes Mme. Goose lays one egg; sometimes she becomes ambitious and produces four.

Coming back with pairs of adult geese, with eggs and nests and whatnot, J. Dewey Soper endeavored also to bring back goslings; rare precious goslings with pale lemon patches on their throats and neat black legs. He tried his best to be a mother to them, cuddled them inside his clothes, but the lack of feather or of properly maternal attitude must have been detrimental, for all the goslings died.

All told, Mr. Soper passed six years in trailing the blue geese and his various pilgrimages led him a chase about 30,000 miles long.

Incidentally, one wonders why this goose is blue. It is described as "a handsome fowl with slaty gray and brown body, clay colored wings and pure white head and neck."

Of course, advice is cheap. But watch your step—summer is no time to be shut up in a hospital.

AL G. BARNES GIGANTIC CIRCUS



With the Athletes apparently set, sports editors here and there have gained an extra two inches of space by dropping the "if table."

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NOTICE!

THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC IS DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING:—

Under Amendments passed at the last Session of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, and Regulations since passed by The New Brunswick Liquor Control Board (See The Royal Gazette, June 11, 1930)—

1. All persons selling Sterno, or any similar substance, must keep a record of each and every sale, such record to be open for the inspection of the Chief Commissioner or any other Member of The New Brunswick Liquor Control Board. Penalty for violation not less than Twenty Dollars and not more than Fifty Dollars, or One Month in the common gaol.
2. The Board may prohibit or limit the sale of Sterno, or any similar substance, by any person or persons.
3. Any person who has been convicted for selling liquor, or keeping for sale, or of being drunk, shall not be entitled to purchase liquor, except under a special Permit from the Board.
4. "Each Magistrate making a conviction under Section 81, Sub-section 4 of The Intoxicating Liquor Act shall within ten days after the making thereof report the same to the Board."
5. If the Board has reasonable grounds for believing that any person is violating The Intoxicating Liquor Act, the Board may give to such person notice in writing that thereafter for such period as may be prescribed he shall not purchase or have in his possession any Liquor except under a Permit, as required under Sub-section 4 of Section 81 of The Intoxicating Liquor Act.
6. Any person convicted of being drunk more than once within any period of Twelve Months is automatically Interdicted under Sub-Section 4 of Section 81 of The Intoxicating Liquor Act, and, unless a Permit has been obtained from the Board, is liable to a penalty of Two Hundred Dollars and Two Months in gaol for any subsequent offence, upon the presentation of a Certificate, signed by the Chief Commissioner or any other Member of the Board, of a previous conviction.

The above is published for information only. Copies of The Intoxicating Liquor Act and the Regulations Made Thereunder may be obtained upon application to the Board.

R. G. FULTON,
Chief Commissioner.

Fredericton, N. B., July 8, 1930.