

TANGO BAD? SLIT SKIRT WORSE? WHAT!

Judge Dunne's Caustic Advice Brings Fair Sex to Arms for Privileges

TWO SAVED FROM BAY WATERS

Rescuers Reach Storm Victims Just in Time to Prevent Drowning

The storm raked waters of the bay were today barked of their prey just as their victims were on the point of sinking into them to death. C. Hertzel, a sailor on the British steamer Buenaventura, and H. Brown of Oakland are alive, but for hours they were face to face with death in the water, though they were miles apart at the time.

For 12 hours Brown clung to the bottom of an overturned duck boat off Point Orient.

For four hours Hertzel clung to the slippery piles of the Lombard street wharf.

Each was rescued just in time. Each was completely exhausted when willing hands reached down to draw him from the chilly waters of the bay, but both are now recovered from their experiences.

Brown's boat was capsized in San Pablo bay by the gale and the heavy sea that was running. All night he managed to hang on to the craft while the waves dashed over his head and the wind buffeted him. Finally the Standard Oil steamer Despatch, commanded by Captain Barry, passed and the exhausted man sighted and taken aboard. He was revived at Point Orient and returned to his home this morning.

Hertzel slipped on the rain polished gangway of the steamer and fell into the water. The wind and waves drowned the sound of his cries for help. The slippery piles to which he clung desperately were impossible to climb, and it was not until four hours later that a full in the gale permitted two workmen to hear Hertzel's cries for help. He was drawn up on to the wharf and sent to the emergency hospital, where he was revived.

EIGHT PERISH IN INCENDIARY FIRE

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Eight persons, five men and three women, were killed in a tenement house fire at 96 Monroe street, in the crowded East Side district today. Fifteen persons were injured, four seriously, by jumping from fire escapes.

The fire started on the ground floor, cutting off escape by the stairway.

An hour before dawn the tenants in the house were aroused by the cries of persons in the street. Finding escape by way of stairway shut off, they crowded on the fire escape platform. Many jumped; the calmer waited for the firemen to raise ladders. A few made their escape over the roofs of adjoining tenement houses.

All indications were that the fire was started by an incendiary and an investigation was begun.

Vienna Bids Fair to Be Tangoless City

VIENNA, Dec. 31.—A war office edict forbids uniformed officers to dance the tango at public balls. As a majority of the male dancers at the important balls are army officers, the prohibition is practically universal. The burghmaster also has prohibited the dancing of the tango at the city ball, one of the most elaborate festivals of the carnival season.

Cabaret Dancers Woo Senator and Preacher

CANTON, O., Dec. 31.—Two cabaret dancers in short skirts caused a stir at a banquet of the Business Men's association here last night. One tangoed down the aisle between the tables, playfully slapping Senator Pomeroy on the head and tried to kiss Rev. T. Wallis Gross behind the ear.

Cabinet of Servia Tenders Resignation

BELGRADE, Servia, Dec. 31.—N. P. Pachitch, the Servian premier, has tendered to the king the resignation of the cabinet. The war minister resigned several days ago owing to the refusal of the ministry to pass the war budget.

NEWEST DANCE AND LATEST SKIRT START MERRY WAR

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Crane, society exponents of the tango, and Judge Frank H. Dunne, who frowns on new step, "I'm guilty on both counts," was Mrs. Crane's plea to the charge.



Tangoing

Every Walk of Life Has Its
Comment to Make on
Judge Dunne's Views

Ye who believe in polka and crinolines,
Ye who believe in styles that are ugly
and ancient,
List to this tale of dejection
Now sung by the wallflowers and prim
dames;
List to this panning of slit skirt and
tango
In San Francisco,
Home of the turkey trot:

SHALL the tango tango on? Shall the slit skirt keep its slit? Solomon Dunne got peevish and he told them both to "git." Seven women, honest voters, gave the judge a laughing. He came back with some reform talk, "You're a liar," unabashed. "Kill the tango, sew the slit skirts and your names will be renowned!" Then the women, guilty mostly, swished their skirts and madly frowned.

Is the law offended at a show of pretty calf? Methinks I see the genus male turn half aside and laugh. And is the tango knocked because its hard on brittle bones, and Dunne sits on the side lines while his dancing mate he looks?

Staid business men and women sharp, who know a thing or two, are on the bit because the styles have raised hellaboo. Some nick the judge, some say he's fine; some speak of the judge as a man of some speak mine. We think it all comes under "news," so here you see the interviews:

"Guilty"—Mrs. Crane

Mrs. Douglas Crane—"I'm guilty on both counts. I wear a slit skirt and I love the tango. I can't see anything wrong in either. As a matter of fact all of this storm raised about the tango is due to ignorance; any dance that has not been seen here before, whether it comes from the Barbary coast or the Y. W. C. A., is called a tango. There is no harm in the slit skirt; the evil is in the mind of the wearer or observer. Neither is the evil in the slit skirt display of leg—or limb—as some call it here, though in my country we are not ashamed of the word leg—unless it is made with evil intent or seen with evil thought. One should look at a woman's face and not what she is wearing or dancing to tell what kind of a woman she is.

Veteran Explorer to Make Antarctic Dash

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Louis de Rougemont, the veteran explorer who is now in London, has become infected with the "pole" fever and announces that he is organizing an expedition which will leave next fall to explore the antarctic regions. De Rougemont said Sir Richard Lucas Tooth, the Australian millionaire, had guaranteed to furnish him \$250,000.

Shouted Warning When Booth Shot Lincoln

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 31.—Colonel Henry T. Bevans, civil war veteran and member of the secret service detail guarding President Lincoln the night of his assassination, died at his home here yesterday. Colonel Bevans saw John Wilkes Booth enter the president's box, and shouted a warning just as the assassin opened fire.

OPINIONS OF JUDGES—NOT EN BANC Court Divided in Unofficial Talk

WHAT JUDGE DUNNE SAID:

"If you women want to do some good why don't you go out and stop this tango dancing and sew up the slit skirts?"

HERE ARE DISSENTING OPINIONS

Superior Judge E. P. Morgan—I am practicing the tango, but have not enough proficiency to be in a position to judge whether it is a dance that can be misconstrued. Therefore I can not express an opinion, but will keep up my practice daily. With regard to the slit skirt, I think that is a question that had better be left to a jury of women.

Superior Judge John J. Van Ness—It's all a personal equation, this tango and this slit skirt. I don't dance the tango myself on account of increasing weight. When the tango is danced by respectable people it shows nothing immodest to my mind. The dance, ipso facto, contains nothing wrong, but it can be made a dissolvent of morals. I never had a damage suit in my court resulting either from the hobble or the slit skirt, but I would not think it right to go to the extreme in either fashion.

Superior Judge Crothers: Neither the tango nor the slit skirt has been brought to my judicial attention, but speaking unofficially, I would say that neither of them should be discussed in their extreme forms. The tango might be exaggerated, and the slit skirt might never be exaggerated.

Superior Judge A. E. Grainger—I endorse the sentiment of the lady who told Judge Dunne that the tango may be danced gracefully or disgracefully. I believe that a well dressed woman is always modestly dressed, no matter what the fashion may be—I think that is true.

Superior Judge James Truitt—I went to see a tango dance once by professionals. I could not distinguish the tango from any other violent and repulsive kind of step. I had a very charming young lady assume to explain it, but when she got through I could only see one likeness in it to the turkey trot or the rag—they were all unattractive.

Superior Judge John Hunt—It is fitting, in my opinion, that the tango should be left with Brother Dunne, as he is an expert on the subject of the tango, and I have great deference for his opinion. I should imagine that in that of wearing apparel. Now that the question has become a matter of official record, I intend to go out and find out for myself what this tango is.

Need Not Look, Says Judge

Judge Clayton Herrington—I have never seen the tango. I am too old and "set" in my ways to pass judgment. As for the slit skirt, I say it is a feminine privilege. He that hath eyes to see can keep above the waist line should his gaze be offended below.

Can't Stop Tango

Charles Cooke, manager Fairmont hotel—The city is dance mad and tango mad and you might as well try to stop a runaway engine with a feather, as to try to stop it. Our most gentlemanly and womanly citizens indulge in it and I think it a reflection on their characters to say the tango is improper. If it were it would not find a place in our drawing rooms and in our ball rooms.

Graceful and Captivating

Chester Kelly, manager Marx hotel—No one can deny that the tango has enticed the hearts of the dancing population and that it is a graceful, captivating pastime. There is not the slightest reason why it should be abolished. You find the best type of Americans dancing it in every city and this would not be the case if it were immoral or suggestive. The slit skirt is all right if it is not too "slit," and even then it is rather attractive.

Tango Dignified, Says Pastor

Rev. Bradford Leavitt—I hardly think Judge Dunne's statement should be taken too seriously. At the same time his advice is very sound. The ladies should take up the matter of the slit skirt and make a right to do away with it. The men seem to be the principal objectors to the slit skirt; the women appear to accept it as a matter of course, no matter how daring.

"Judge Dunne Right"

Mrs. Cecil Morra—We agree with Judge Dunne. I think the tango when extreme, is wicked; when not, it is pretty. In San Francisco I am sorry to say I think both it and the slit skirt are all right. On the contrary, it is beautiful.

Ballroom Dance, Stage Skirt

Superior Paul Bancroft—I'm in my opinion the tango is a dance that belongs on the stage rather than in the ballroom. In the same connection the slit skirt has its place, if any, behind the footlights. It strikes me, however, that it is a very convenient garment for this rainy weather.

No Harm in Either

Mrs. Alan MacDonald—I see no more harm in tangoing or ragging than in any of the other dances. As for the slit skirts, what the majority of the women wear is all right, and as for the others, you will never be able to stop them.

"Beautiful"—Mrs. Monsarrat

Mrs. Samuel Monsarrat—The harm in dancing depends on the dancer. In the tango, as in dancing here, there is nothing unbecoming. On the contrary, it is beautiful.

Not in Jurist's Line

W. I. Brobeck—It seems to me that such things as the tango and the slit skirt are outside of the jurisdiction of any jurist. In my opinion dress is largely a matter of taste. I would leave it to the good sense of the women. Of course the propriety of some styles and fancies are always questioned, but I for one would not want to mark a line and say to women, beyond this you can not go and retain the respect of the community. Standards change so rapidly the new often is a shock.

No Need of Reform

Mrs. Alice Best—I do not think Judge Dunne meant to be taken seriously. Both slit skirts and tango dancing are passing fancies and what evil there is in them is self-inflicted. I personally see no great need of reform in San Francisco as far as either is concerned.

Matt J. Sullivan Bars Self

Matt J. Sullivan—There are many experts on those subjects in San Francisco and I am not qualified. Being a bachelor, I think I should judge not the tango and the slit skirt is at bar.

Too Much Lid Even Now

H. Markoe of N. W. Halsey & Co.—Any persons waiting their time agitating against anything as harmless as the tango and the slit skirt ought to devote their attention to something they understand. There is too much lid here now, without placing a ban on innocent fads.

Need Moderation

Mrs. Randolph V. Whiting—I believe that everything should be done in moderation and that neither the tango nor slit skirts is harmful unless carried to excess.

Mayor Rolph Passes It Up

Mayor Rolph—As my time is occupied with such small matters as the Hetch Hetchy affair, the building of municipal railways and the condemnation of Spring Valley, I would respectfully refer this momentous problem of the slit skirt and the tango to those who have had more experience—Supervisors Pavot and Murdoch of the public welfare committee. I would suggest that they make a full and exhaustive investigation and favor the most conservative with a written report on their findings. I would be most happy to read this report, which would be more than interesting.

Girl's Dresses Need Reform

Mrs. W. H. Campbell, vice president of the Oceanic Women's club—There could certainly be some reform in the dress of girls just now. It is a disgrace. As for the tango, I have never seen it danced. However, there is harm in all sorts of things if you want to make them harmful or to find harm in them.

Does Not See Any Harm

Mrs. Cuyler Lee—My own viewpoint of these things is necessarily limited. I probably do not see the extremes that Judge Dunne sees, but from what I know of San Francisco, I see no exaggeration and consequently no harm in either. Personally I am much in favor of the tango, for the slit skirts, it depends upon who wears them, and how.

"Difficult, but Beautiful"

Superior J. Emmett Hayden—In the street dancing recently inaugurated the tango does not appear to be popular. It is difficult to dance for the ordinary dancer to properly execute, but, from my observation of it, I think that it is one of the most beautiful and graceful maneuvers ever essayed by the disciples of Terpsichore. The slit skirt depends entirely on the way you look at it.

"Square Dance Best"

Superintendent of Schools Roncivieri—I regret to see the decline of the old dances, the quadrille, polka, schottische and the lancers. These promoted grace, and purity of mind and character. The tango, on the other hand, is a vulgar and unbecoming dance. I know very little about it, but I repeat that the square dance had a better influence. As for the slit skirt, fortunately the styles change frequently, and it is not a serious or permanent problem. I should say that the question rests entirely upon the length of the slit, and I am not a judge.

"Not Vulgar"—Mrs. Brown

Mrs. Herbert Hamilton Brown of Piedmont—The tango as I have seen it danced is not in the least objectionable, to my mind. Of course, I have seen only the best dancers, and know nothing of the vulgar phases of it, if there be any. I think that the women of this country should, if they have time from their duties to their husbands and their children, interest themselves in public affairs, but never to the extent that they neglect their homes. In my mind, however, there are no dances who could better employ their time looking into the big political reforms so necessary to the welfare of the country.

Ask Laumeister, He Knows

Frederick Churchill, secretary board of public works—The opinion of the commissioners of the board of works is unanimous on the tango and the slit skirt as expressed by Commissioner Laumeister.

Laumeister Approves It

C. S. Laumeister, commissioner, board of works—The plans and specifications of the tango stand approved. It is one of the most graceful of all dances. Slit skirts are attractive, but there is a limit.

BULLET HOLE CLEW TO AUTO

Hunt Fatal Joy Ride Car, Bearing Ball From Policeman's Gun

A long, black seven passenger automobile with a bullet in it is being sought today by the police, who want to apprehend its driver as the man who last night ran over and seriously injured George Buttle, the 9 year old son of State Railroad Policeman George Buttle.

A good description of the car was obtained by Patrolman Johnson, who saw the machine strike the boy and then rush away, leaving him lying bleeding in the road. Johnson drew his revolver and fired three shots at the automobile, and he is confident that one shot struck it.

Ellmer Moore, chauffeur for M. J. Costello, president of O'Connor, Moffatt & Co., today was bound over to the superior court by Police Judge Sullivan, charged with driving away in his machine after striking 17 year old Audrey Plitsch, 1449 Divisadero street, last Friday. Moore's bonds were fixed at \$5,000.

The police courts yesterday established a record that undoubtedly is being taken by the joy riders as a warning of what they may expect if they are caught violating the law. Seven automobilists were convicted of violating the traffic ordinances and, for once, not one of them was dismissed. Five were fined from \$5 to \$50, the two other cases being continued.

Harry F. Hansen, 1621 Laguna street, was fined \$25 for driving his car on the left side of a streetcar at Polk and Geary streets.

Fred B. Weise, 331 Park street, paid \$20 for speeding his machine at Geary and Polk streets.

Walter Grossman, 702 Seventh street, was fined \$20 for driving on the left side of a streetcar.

DEWENT IS CONVICTED
Dr. Fred Dewent, a dentist, was convicted of driving his machine on the wrong side of Grant avenue. Sentence was postponed.

Thomas Piercy was convicted of driving at the rate of 25 miles an hour in Market street. Sentence was postponed to permit of his record being looked up.

Ray Spillato paid a fine of \$5 for violating the traffic ordinance.

Paul Fazan of the Belvedere hotel was fined \$50 for driving 23 miles an hour at Geary and Polk streets Sunday night.

BOYS RUN DOWN
Two small boys were painfully injured today in automobile accidents in the downtown district.

S. Stohman, 15 years old, 160 Cassell avenue, was run down at Market and Montgomery streets by an auto driven by C. H. Holdsworth, 455 Dolores street. The lad incurred a sprain of the right leg and bruises on the arm.

Daniel Lynch, 13 years old, 4509 Eighteenth street, was hit at Post and Stockton streets. Young Lynch was treated for a scalp wound. J. B. Dodson, 1748 Geary street, who drove the machine, was charged with battery, as was Holdsworth in the Stohman accident.

Artist Starves to Death in His Studio

By Associated Press.
PARIS, Dec. 31.—The body of Vincelas Pelczynski, an artist of promise, has been found in his studio. His death revealed one of the most pitiful tragedies of the Latin quarter in years. He came to Paris a few months ago, but did not meet with success. His funds were finally reduced to an extent necessitating the pawning of even his clothes and bedding. The intense cold finished the work begun by starvation.

Chinese Federals Rout Rebel Troops

By Associated Press.
SHANGHAI, Dec. 31.—Five thousand loyal troops have entered Taifu, in the province of Yunnan, which recently was recaptured by the government from mutinous regiments under General Yeng Hu-Pin. The reinforcements marched from Yunnan-Fu and fought three engagements on the way. Although order has been restored at Taifu, executions are occurring daily.

Steamer Tasman Being Towed to Island Port

SYDNEY, Aus., Dec. 31.—The steamer TASMAN, with her passengers aboard, is being towed from Bramble bay in the gulf of Papua, where she went aground Sunday, to Thursday Island. The cause of the accident is given as the strong sea set toward Bramble bay produced by the steady monsoon. There is no light on the bay, but it is expected that the Australian government will now erect one.

Wrong Addresses; Skunk Hides and Gems Held

By Associated Press.
CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Because of illegal or incorrect addresses, more than 15,000 pieces of mail are piled up in the Chicago postoffice awaiting delivery. The packages contain almost everything, from skunk hides to diamond rings.