

# Teresina's Opinion

## TANGO DANCERS ARE BORN, NOT MADE

Teresina, the petite Spanish dancer who is visiting Shanghai, holds out little encouragement for the average individual who wants to achieve the tango.

One must be born to the tango, she said, as she had her first glimpse of the Palace Lounge. And that means one must be born a Spaniard. Teresina distinctly does not recommend that the comfortably plump housewife, or the gangling school girl, attempt to dance in public. She feels that the art should be closely guarded, and only those fitted by nature and circumstance for public appearances should be encouraged to adopt dancing as a career.

The artist herself looked forward to a stage career, and was concentrating on the drama, studying dancing only incidentally, when her masters discovered her talent. Beginning her work on the stage at the tender age of nine, she was the premiere danseuse with the Barcelona Opera Company at 15, and she comes to Shanghai after signal successes in every capital of Europe, and the principal cities of the United States.

The visiting artist, in a black costume banded with white fur at the elbows, with large black and white pearl buttons outlining the square neck-line, spoke yearningly of the sunny Manila she had just left.

There was not a great deal to observe in Manila, she said but she has great hopes for what she may learn in China. Her tour will take her on to Japan, where still other types of terpsichorean art will come under her attention.

Teresina is capable of making her own music, since she uses castanets with some of the dances, castanets specially constructed from a part-

icular kind of wood. Then too, her heels are known to make a music of a sort not often achieved by dancers. The Teresina heels are famed far and near for their rhythm, even more pronounced than that attributed to other dancers. And heels are important in the rendering of any Spanish dance.

She speaks French, Spanish, some Italian and is not entirely lost in English, but she is unable to tell

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very much about the real tango. "It is a gypsy dance, this national dance of Spain," she says.