

SONGS FROM THE PASSING SHOW OF 1917

Act 2, Scene 6

“The Language of the Fan”

Music by: Sigmund Romberg

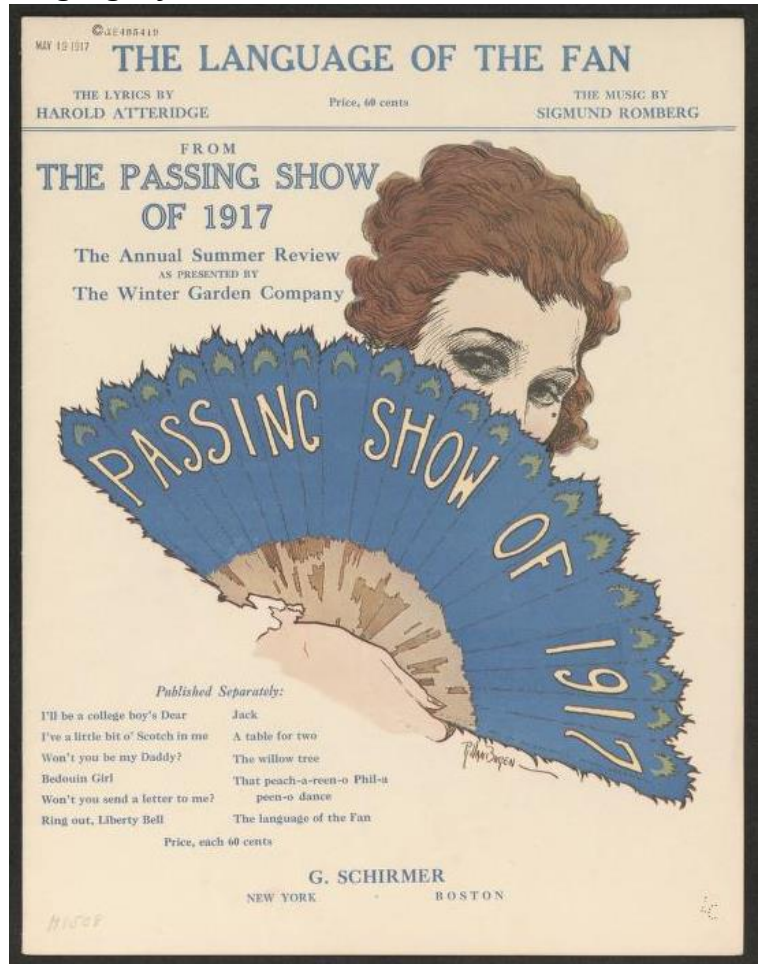
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Courtesy Library of Congress

Throughout *The Passing Show* series, women who were taller were placed... along the side, sometimes even as stationary figures... They would wear remarkable costumes that highlighted their figure and the costume simultaneously. An excellent example of this type of chorus girl can be seen in the number, “The Language of the Fan” from *The Passing Show of 1917* (see Figure 4.1). The elaborate costumes were meant to represent the “Girls of All Nations” and the three women shown are China (with a dragon), Egypt (with a scarab), and Hawaii (with a grass skirt). [Westover, pp. 90-91]

