

SONGS FROM THE PASSING SHOW OF 1918

Act 1, Scene 1

“My Baby-Talk Lady”

Music by: Sigmund Romberg

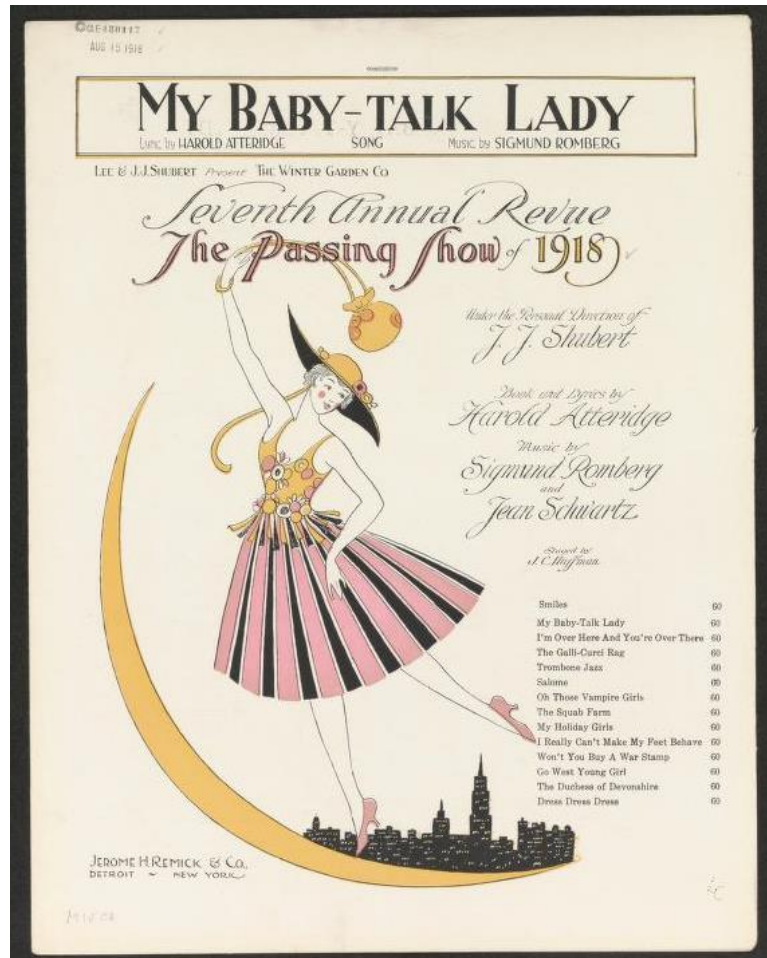
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Courtesy Library of Congress

Belcher's frequent reports to Shubert also indicate how arrangements of songs were circulated. During this era, one of the surest ways to get audiences to hear a melody was to have the piece played across as many outlets as possible. In regard to the music for The Passing Show of 1918, Belcher wrote the following to J.J. [July 26, 1918]:

We have already distributed among the orchestra leaders in various cafes and restaurants arrangements of "My Baby Talk Lady", "Galli-Curci Rag"... We got these out very quickly in order to have them ready for the New York opening. I am having an excellent dance arrangement made of "Baby Talk Lady" and "Galli-Curci Rag" as I find these two numbers as the most likely for that purpose... [Westover, p. 128-129]