



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn W. Watkins

Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1963

Future Sea Menu To Offer Fronds and Sea Urchins?

Sea food is taking on a more complex nature. No more do we consider only fish, oysters, clams, and lobsters as a basis for our menu. Now, in addition, we incorporate a hundred or more other things as food, with many palatable dishes still untried.

Future experimenters with the same blind courage as that of the man who tried the first oyster, will have to pioneer the way and demonstrate that food is where you find it. Eventually, all that is flesh will be a necessity to some diet of the future.

Hesitant To Try

There are people today, like goats, who will eat anything. However, most of us are a little reluctant to try new foods. We will be the last to adopt a radical change in our food preference. We will be the last to sample the green scum that blankets stagnant fresh water ponds and which, someone discovered, contains a great many necessary nutrients.

The discoverer himself admits the scum tastes a little fishy. Actually he has not discovered anything new, as algae and suspended animal matter such as insect life, fish roe, and plants have existed since the very beginning. The man only discovered that the scum was nauseating, but highly nutritious.

Green Scum

The green scum of ponds is only one of the countless entrees on nature's elaborate menu. Most of them are strange to nearly all of us. They are unusual as bird's nest soup or shark fins, but perhaps we will learn to like them. There are millions of greens that wash ashore on ocean beaches after a bad storm. These tons of seaweed contain just about every element necessary for the sustenance of human life. Under the waters of the oceans there are thousands of square miles of luxuriant vegetation waiting for someone to discover how best it can be used.

Irish moss, which in some parts of the world is gathered and used in a pudding, is a form of seaweed. The giant kelp beds of the Pacific coast contain food enough for thousands and thousands of people. Some of the individual fronds are said to be several hundreds of feet in length.

Sea urchins, the little ball-like animals covered with spines, that plod along the bottom of the sea, contain very little flesh, but at certain times of the year half of these living pin-cushions are heavy with eggs.

Seagulls Ahead of Us

The roe is golden brown in color, and as high in food value as the finest caviar. The day may come, and probably not too far in the future, when sea urchin caviar will be a delicacy.

Right now the seagulls are ahead of us for they search for sea urchins that are heavy with eggs. The birds eat this roe with gusto, indicating a long familiarity with an article that is good to eat.

For those who, after becoming familiar with the roe of these marine creatures, want a change, the roe of the sand dollar and the sea biscuit, can be an extra treat. There are hundreds of thousands of eggs carried by every female sand crab. These eggs have a delicate flavor.

There are thousands of strange and unusual food items all waiting in the sea and on the surface of the pond. Happy eating to all of you.

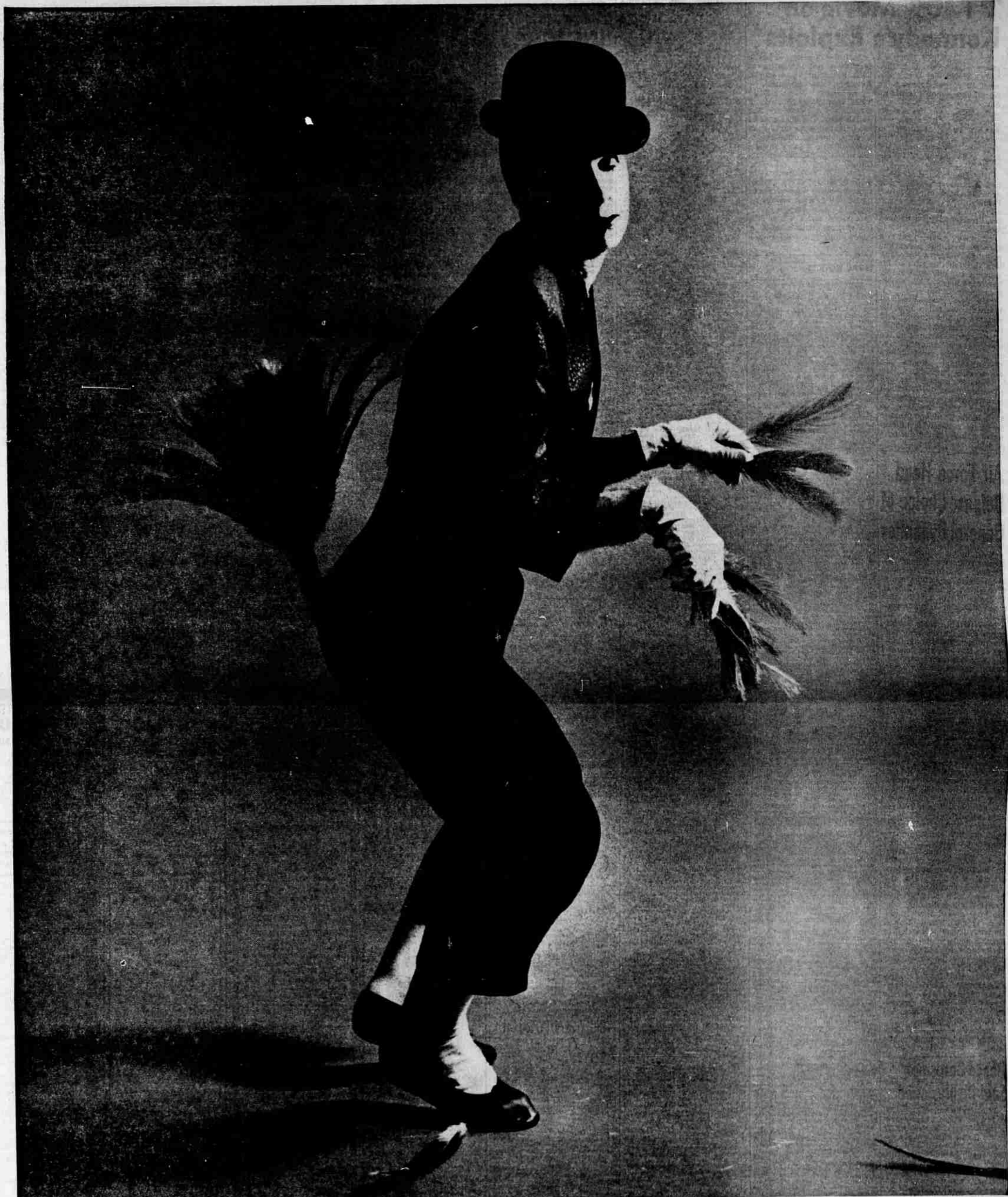
Consolidated Strike Settled

Denver - (UPI) - A strike by a Denver Teamsters local against Consolidated Freightways, Inc., in five major Western cities has been settled, according to Consolidated.

The company said Thursday "all issues" had been resolved in a dispute between the local and the huge trucking company over the use of a four non-union drivers by a Consolidated subcontractor. The strike began last week in Denver and spread to Salt Lake City, Portland, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

It was halted temporarily by a restraining order issued by U.S. Dist. Judge Hatfield Chilson in Denver.

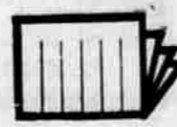
Chilson had set today for a hearing on a request by the National Labor Relations Board for a preliminary injunction, but cancelled it when the company reported the dispute settled.



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