

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Foreign Spinsters Guests Of  
**Women Returned' Students**

### A UNIQUE AFFAIR

As a token of appreciation for the courtesies and hospitality which they received while studying abroad from their American and English friends, the **Women Returned Students' Club** gave last night a Christmas party to the foreign spinster collegians resident in Shanghai. The function was an afternoon reception, supper party and dance which was held at the home of Miss Beulah Chang, a graduate of Oberlin College and Master of Arts of Columbia University, at Takit Road, near the Public Recreation Grounds in the native city.

Tea was served at 5 o'clock and each member was dressed as a man and escorted into the reception hall a foreign guest who numbered about thirty, most of whom were engaged at Shanghai in educational, missionary or commercial activities. The festive spirit dominated the whole proceedings in spite of the severely formal character of typical Chinese tea with its unadulterated tea, melon seeds, and a hundred varieties of sweets and condiments, home-made and imported.

The reception was a general get-together and get-acquainted proceeding, interspersed with games and stunts and Christmas carols, and give-and-take reminiscences of college days and nights in Europe and America. Such a function has never been held before in Shanghai by and for purely college women, foreign and Chinese, and the novelty and delight of it was a thoroughly happy time for all concerned.

Promptly at 7 o'clock the arrival of Santa Claus' bounty was announced and the girls formed for a Grand March to the tune of the military procession in Verdi's *Aida*. Some marched in truly martial array and step, some cake-walked, some danced, and some even goose-stepped, until the end of the tune when a huge bag came into view, opened of itself and Santa Claus invited each marcher to "grab" for it, which was done with avidity. But Santa collected his gifts again and placed them on a festive board where a Shanghai feast was spread, each "grab" assigned to its owner's chair which was in turn indicated by some unique place-cards specially painted by the artist of the Club, Miss Chiu, an art graduate of Northwestern University. Then the procession was reformed and each "man" led his lady into the dining hall.

The excitement that came with the uncovering of the "grabs" was a continuous thrill, a shout and laughter, "just like in the college dorms," and every one got a useful and pretty prize, chosen with taste and patriotism, for each gift was a native production, of good material and colour scheme. The supper that followed was interrupted by the foreign girls' admiration of their hostesses' largesse and judgment, also by college songs, yells, and impromptu verses.

At the end of the supper, Mrs. H. C. Mei, President of the Club, presented Miss Grace Yang as mistress of ceremonies, who made a brief and humorous speech, saying that the party was one of the many things the Club was doing, that it was planned as an appreciation of the many kind acts of their foreign friends in America and Europe who made them welcome in their homes when the Chinese girls were strangers in strange lands, and that this party was but an attempt to pass along the courtesies which they had received while abroad, since they could never adequately repay their hostesses and college chums.

Miss Alice Huie and Miss Carter, of the Y. W. C. A. Training School, led the dances at the conclusion of the dinner and speeches, and every one joined in the "Virginia Rill," barn dances, waltzes and one-steps. An Irish Jig danced by two members was a star number, and the girls were so enthusiastic that they danced from 9 o'clock until near 11.

Games of various kinds were freely indulged in, and yarns galore were told, but it was not all foolery, for Miss Wong Zoen-Yien, a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music, played some exquisite pieces from Schumann and Brahms, and played them so well that the girls forgot all their games and dances. Somewhere about 12 o'clock the party broke up after singing good old English carols and Newell.

The officers of the Women Returned Students' Club for the new year were elected, Mrs. H. C. Mei and Miss Alice Huie as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Mrs. John Y. Lee, Treasurer, Miss Eling Tong and Miss Grace Yang, Secretaries, all of whom were present with 12 other members of the Club, and the foreign ladies included the Misses Ward, MacNeil, Preston, Eckmeiyer of the Y. W. C. A., Miss Higgins and Miss Hillis of the Bridgman School, Miss Silver, Miss Savage, Miss Forbes, Miss Yates, and Miss Muir, with a few others.