



—Associated Press Wirephoto.

Vaslav Nijinsky. . . . In costume during period when his agility and grace earned him acclaim as world's greatest dancer.

INSANE THREE DECADES

Nijinsky, Greatest Star Of Ballet, Dies at 60

LONDON, April 8 (AP).—Vaslav Nijinsky, the greatest ballet dancer of all the time, who went mad three decades ago, died in a London clinic Saturday of nephritis—Inflammation of the kidneys. He was sixty.

The brightest star of the Imperial Russian Ballet had lived in a world of melancholy fantasy since his mind began to break in 1917 under constant brooding about the future.

He was only twenty-seven years old then and at the height of his

career—hailed as "the man of whom the gods are jealous." Two years later he was pronounced insane. He suffered from schizophrenia, commonly called a split personality.

He was without peer as a dancer. His tremendous leaps that seemed to defy gravity and his easy grace were best shown perhaps in his role in Scheherazade—that of a half-naked slave driven to furious passion by a lustful Oriental princess.

His debut at New York's Metropolitan Opera House was a tremendous success. In "Spectre of the Rose," thousands of rose petals floated like red rain about him as he danced and leaped with an agility no other ballet star has yet matched.

He appeared in Paris with the immortal Pavlova. There his daring "The Afternoon of a Faun" was a sensation.

He came to England in 1948, accompanied by his wife, the former Hungarian actress and dancer, Romola Pulszky, who had nursed him devotedly through years of illness and hid him from the Nazis during World War II.

He fell ill last Monday, complaining of headaches, and was taken to the clinic Thursday.

Funeral services will be held at the Spanish Place Catholic Church in London. Survivors, in addition to his widow, include two daughters, Kyra, who lives in Rome, and Tamara, living in Hungary; a sister, Bronislava Nijinska, a famous choreographer in Los Angeles.

Nijinsky was born in Kiev, Russia, Feb. 28, 1890.

At the outset of World War I he was arrested in Budapest as a spy when authorities mistook dance sketches for a code. He was held in a concentration camp until 1916, when New York Banker Otto Kahn obtained his release so he could dance in the United States.

In 1945 he narrowly escaped death when the Nazis decreed that all incurables in a sanitarium where he was a patient were to be liquidated. His wife hid him and he escaped.

(Files of Dallas newspapers will show that Vaslav Nijinsky danced in Dallas in 1916 when the Ballet Russe appeared at the old Fair Park Coliseum. However, he had left the company three days before, having been summoned to Washington by Immigration officials for an investigation. No change in the program was announced by the company or the management. Thousands of Dallasites are still under the impression that they saw Nijinsky dance here.)