

THE CAKE WALK

This dance probably originated among the blacks of New Orleans. For many years it was the "rage" in America and, naturally, when a dance form becomes so popular numerous versions of performing it appear. The play-party form described here is one I learned in Alabama and at the Kentucky Dance Institute. Usually the best dancer won a cake. Even a small cupcake can be awarded to the best cake-walker to increase the enjoyment of competition.

VFB

TUNE: "Shortnin' Bread"

STEP: Cake walk: Strut, leaning back as far as possible and raising bent knees as far as possible. Rotate hands while strutting down.

FORMATION: Contra: Men's line facing women's line, four to six couples to a contra set.

•ONG:

Here comes Miss Suzie
(or any name)
Here comes Miss Suzie
Here comes Miss Suzie
Struttin' on down.

Here goes another
Just like the other
Here goes another
Struttin' on down.

Doin' it this way
Doin' it this way
Doin' it this way
Struttin' on down.

DANCE:

Head woman cake-walks between the two lines to the foot of the set where she rejoins the line.

Head man cake-walks down between the lines to the foot of the set.

Partners join both hands. Kick R foot forward, kick L foot forward, now kick R,L,R faster (slow, slow, quick, quick, quick). Repeat once more.

Repeat entire dance with the next person in respective line.