

CALL OF THE PIPES

Music: Reel - Standard 13001 (Reverse side of Jig used for Shindigger Polka)

Source: This dance is done in the rural areas of the provinces of Alberta and Manitoba (and, I believe, Saskatchewan) in Canada. The origin of the dance is Scotch, but it is not a Scotch dance as done in Scotland. It is probably the result of the change of custom and habits of Scotch settlers of the country as they came in contact with immigrants of other countries. However, it has retained a Scotch flavor and has been done for many years by rural people of all nationality backgrounds in this area.

The music used is produced by a wide variety of homemade instruments, the most advanced being a fiddle. There are no recordings so far as I know. The Scotch people in Edmonton say the music should be bagpipe, but again no suitable recordings. Any reel music will work, but the record suggested comes closest to the effect produced by an amazing assortment of washtubs, reeds, whistles, pots, pans and whatnots.

Formation: Couples in circle facing counter-clockwise.

I. 8 Counts

- A. Walk 4 steps fwd, both M & W starting on R foot. Inside hands held at shoulder height. (4 counts)
- B. Count 1 - Point R fwd.
Count 2 - Point R to side.
Count 3 - Point R to back.
Count 4 - Change weight to R foot, point L fwd.

II. 8 Counts

Repeat IA and B, starting with L foot on count 4. Step IB, step to face partner, M with back to center of circle.

III. 4 Scotch balance steps* R - L - R - L (8 counts) (both M & W). Hands held up, elbows bent. (*Scotch balance step: Jump to R foot and hop R. At same time bring L foot in front of R and tap floor twice lightly. Repeat to L. Repeat all.)

IV. 8 Counts.

Take R hands, walk 4 steps exchanging places with partner (W to inside of circle) (4 counts).
Swing with partner (4 counts) (buzz swing).

* This is not a pas-de-basque step. No weight is shifted when the L foot is brought across, but is simply jump, hop on R, jump, hop to L, etc.

.....Presented by Lisa Lekis