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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOLK DANCING

REPRINTED FROM

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL PLAYGROUND CONGRESS
PITTSBURGH, PA., MAY 10-14, 1909

FOR THE

PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

COMMITTEE ON FOLK DANCING

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| CONTENTS | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Introduction | 5 |
| Selected List of Folk Dances | 7 |
| Additional Dances | 8 |
| Dances Suitable for Grass Playgrounds | 9 |
| Dances Suitable for Playgrounds with Dirt Surface | |
| Dances Suitable for Indoor Playgrounds | 10 |
| Dances Suitable for Small Children | 11 |
| Dances Suitable for Larger Boys | 11 |
| Dances Suitable for Larger Girls | 11 |
| Dances Suitable for Adults | 12 |
| Dances of Various Occupations | 13 |
| Dances Suitable for Special Occasions | 13 |
| Books on Folk Dancing | 15 |
| Folk Dancing | 21 |
| Exhibitions of Folk Dancing and Athletic Competitions | 23 |

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOLK DANCING*

INTRODUCTION

- I. The first object of your Committee on Folk Dancing has been to determine those folk dances and folk-singing games that are most useful under the conditions found in American playgrounds.
 - A. We have considered three kinds of playgrounds found in this country:
 - 1. Country places, or large outdoor, grass-covered
 - 2. Ordinary playgrounds with dirt surfaces.
 - 3. Indoor playgrounds with board, cement, or asphalt
 - B. We have also considered the kinds of people who use these playgrounds:
 - 1. Small children (boys and girls, mixed).
 - 2. Larger boys, in separate groups.
 - 3. Larger girls, in separate groups.
 - 4. Grown men and women.
 - C. We have also considered these folk dances and games for their value to those for whom they are intended, and
- *It is to be noted that the Committee on Folk Dancing has presented a report, not upon the social use of the folk dance, but upon the use of folk dancing where active exercise, large numbers of children and limited space are involved. Thus the lists of dances that are presented by this committee are designed to meet this particular need. This does not mean that there are not many other folk dances which are entirely suitable for social objects. For example, the Virginia Reel, which is referred to definitely as not being included in this list because it does not contain enough vigorous exercise, may be of great value from a social standpoint. Attention was called to this matter in the conference on the report of the Committee at the Third Annual Conpress, and instructions were issued. * It is to be noted that the Committee on Folk Dancing has presented a

the Committee at the Third Annual Congress, and instructions were issued

that this explanation be added to the report.

LUTHER H. GULICK,

President

not from the standpoint of the spectator, eliminating the element of personal display and choosing those dances in which large numbers can take part, and which have, in addition to a social element, the virtues of (one) simplicity, (two) vigorous action, (three) wholesome, natural, out-of-door spirit.

We have, therefore, compiled a list of folk dances which have been found successful and well loved, and have classified them as to their suitability for use in these different kinds of playgrounds, and as to their suitability for use by small children, boys, girls and adults.

II. Our second object has been to prepare a list of dances which are of special significance and can be fitted into special occasions, such as festivals of the seasons, greeting, farewell, rejoicing, celebration of holidays, etc.

III. Our third object has been to make as complete as possible a list of printed matter relative to folk dancing, with a printed outline of the character and special value of each, specifying each of the dances on our list as described therein.

Out of a list of seventy-nine folk dances compiled by your Committee, we have chosen those which were known and especially approved of by at least two of the committee.

We herewith submit:

First. A selected list of folk dances, followed by various classifications of these dances according to their suitability under different conditions.

Second. A list of dances representing various occupations.

Third. A list of dances suitable for special occasions.
Fourth. A list of printed matter relative to folk dancing.

SELECTED LIST OF FOLK DANCES

Arranged alphabetically according to nationalites of dances.

| Nationality of Dance | Name of | Dance | Name tion | or Mu | where De sic, or B Found* | oth, |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bohemian | Komarno | | 9. "F | olk Dane | e Music" | |
| | | | 10. "F | olk Dane | es" | |
| " | Strasak | | | olk Dane | e Music" | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Ace of Diamo | | | | | |
| | Dance of Gree | eting | .29. "P | 'opular F Dances' | | s and |
| " | Shoemaker's | | | | | nces" |
| | Bean Setting | | 21. "T | he Morri | s Book" | |
| " | How Do You | | | | | |
| | Do, Sir? | Morris | 21. "7 | he Morri | is Book" | |
| | Laudnum | Dances. | | | | |
| | Bunches . | | 21. "7 | he Morri | is Book" | |
| * | Maypole Dan | ce | .13. "0 | uild of | Play Bo | ok of |
| Finnish | Bounding He | art | . 11. "F | olk Dane | ces and G | ames" |
| | Harvest Dane | | | | | |
| | Csardas | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Irish | Jig | | 10. "F | olk Dane | ces" | |
| | | | (0 "F | olk Dan | ce Music' | |
| Italian | Tarantella | | 10. "F | olk Dan | ces" | |
| | Mountain Ma | | | | h Folk Da | |
| - | | | r o. "F | olk Dan | ce Music' | , |
| Russian | Comarinskaia | | 10. "F | olk Dan | ces" | |
| | Highland Flin | | | | | |
| ** | Highland Red | 1 | . 10. "F | olk Dan | ces" | |
| | Highland Sch | | | | | ames" |
| | Bleking | | | | wedish | Folk |
| | | | 28. "0 | Dances' | wedish | |
| | Clap Dance | | | wedish ! | Recreative for School | e Ex- ls and |
| | Fjalnas Polsk | а | | | | es" |
| | Oxdans | | 28 "(| old S | wedish | Folk |
| | OAUGIIS | | | Dances' | | - JIK |

^{*} The number prefixed to the name of the book corresponds in each case to that prefixed to the title of book in the list of books of folk dances.

| Nationality of Dance | Name of Dance | Name of Book where Descrip- tion or Music, or Both, may be Found* |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | 33. "Swedish Recreative Ex- |
| Swedish Dance. | Reap the Flax | ercises for Schools and Playgrounds" |
| | | |
| | | 10. "Folk Dances" |
| | | 8. "The Folk Dance Book" 28. "Old Swedish Folk Dances" |
| Swedish Song | | |
| Play | Carousel | 31. "Song Plays" |
| | | "Gymnastic Dancing" |
| | How Do You Do. My | |
| | | 29. "Popular Folk Games and |
| | | Dances" |
| | I See You | 31. "Song Plays" |
| | Kull Dance | . 28. "Old Swedish Folk Dances" |
| " | Ma's Little Pigs | 10. "Folk Dances" |
| | Nigare Polska | 33. "Swedish Recreative Ex- ercises for Schools and |
| | | Playgrounds" |
| | D-1 W | |
| | Peter Magnus | 31. Song Plays |
| | Ritsh, Ratsh | |
| •• | To-day Is the Fir | |
| | of May | 31. "Song Plays" |
| | ADDITIONAL | DANCES |
| N | lot folk dances, but fo | ound desirable. |
| | | |
| Name of Danc | e Arranged by | Name of Book where Descrip- tion or Music, or Both, may be Found* |
| Chorus Iig | Mr. M. B. Gilbert, | may of Toung |
| 3.6 | Boston, Mass | . Not published |
| Christmas Dance | Mrs. M. H. Woolnoth. | |
| Cimionina Danie | | . 13. "Guild of Play Book of |
| | A STATE OF STREET | Festival and Dance" |
| Dance of the Jun | np- | |
| ing Jacks | Mr. Hebbert, Provi- | |
| | dence, R. I | |
| Lilt | Mr. Thomas J. Brow | n, |
| | New York City | . 8. "The Folk Dance Book" |
| Spring Flower | | |
| Dance | . Mrs. M. H. Woolnoth | A Section of the Control of the Cont |
| | London, England | .13. "Guild of Play Book of Festival and Dance" |
| Ugly Mug | .Mr. M. B. Gilbert, | |
| 3-7G1111 | Boston, Mass | . Not published |
| *The number | er prefixed to the name | of the book corresponds in each the list of books of folk dances. |

DANCES SUITABLE FOR GRASS PLAYGROUNDS

Bean Setting...... English (Morris Dance)

Bleking.....Swedish

Carousel.....Swedish (Song Play)

Clap Dance. Swedish
Dance of Greeting. Danish
Fjalnas Polska. Swedish
Harvest Dance Finnish

 Hey. Little Lassie
 Swedish (Song Play)

 How Do You Do, My Partner?
 Swedish (Song Play)

 How Do You Do, Sir?
 English (Morris Dance)

 I See You
 Swedish (Song Play)

 Kull Dance
 Swedish (Song Play)

 Laudnum Bunches
 English (Morris Dance)

Ma's Little Pigs......Swedish (Song Play)
Maypole Dance.....English

Oxdans.....Swedish (Song Play)

Peter Magnus......Swedish (Song Play)

Reap the Flax.....Swedish

Tarantella.....Italian

To-day Is the First of May.....Swedish (Song Play)

DANCES SUITABLE FOR PLAYGROUNDS WITH DIRT SURFACE

Name of Dance Nationality of Dance

Ace of Diamonds......Danish

Bean Setting ... English (Morris Dance)
Bleking ... Swedish

Bounding Heart. Finnish
Clap Dance. Swedish
Fjalnas Polska. Swedish

 Hey, Little Lassie.
 Swedish (Song Play)

 How Do You Do, My Partner?
 Swedish (Song Play)

 How Do You Do, Sir?
 English (Morris Dance)

 Kull Dance.
 Swedish (Song Play)

 Laudnum Bunches
 English (Morris Dance)

 Ma's Little Pigs.
 Swedish (Song Play)

Maypole Dance.....English
Nigare Polska....Swedish (Song Play)

 Name of Dance
 Nationality of Dance

 Oxdans.
 Swedish

 Peter Magnus.
 Swedish (Song Play)

 Reap the Flax.
 Swedish

 Shoemaker's Dance.
 Danish

 To-day Is the First of May
 Swedish (Song Play)

 Trollen.
 Swedish

Name of Dance

DANCES SUITABLE FOR INDOOR PLAYGROUNDS

Nationality of Dance

Bean Setting..... English (Morris Dance) Bleking......Swedish Bounding Heart.....Finnish Carousel.....Swedish (Song Play) Clap Dance Swedish Comarinskaja......Russian Csardas......Hungarian Fialnas Polska.....Swedish Harvest Dance Finnish Hey, Little Lassie..... Swedish (Song Play) Highland Fling......Scotch Highland Reel.....Scotch Highland Schottische.....Scotch How Do You Do, My Partner? Swedish (Song Play) How Do You Do, Sir?..... English (Morris Dance) I See You...... Swedish (Song Play)Irish lig ... Komarno......Bohemian Kull Dance.....Swedish (Song Play) Laudnum Bunches..... English (Morris Dance) Ma's Little Pigs......Swedish (Song Play) Mountain March......Norwegian Nigare Polska.....Swedish (Song Play) Oxdans.....Swedish Peter Magnus......Swedish (Song Play) Reap the Flax.....Swedish Ritsh, Ratsh.....Swedish (Song Play) Strasak......Bohemian (Song Play) Tarantella......Italian To-day Is the First of May..... Swedish (Song Play) Trollen.....Swedish Varsouvienne.....Swedish

DANCES SUITABLE FOR SMALL CHILDREN

Name of Dance Nationality of Dance Bleking.....Swedish Bounding Heart......Finnish Carousel.....Swedish (Song Play) Clap Dance.....Swedish Csardas......Hungarian Dance of Greeting.......Danish Fjalnas Polska.....Swedish Hey, Little Lassie......Swedish (Song Play) How Do You Do, My Partner? Swedish (Song Play) I See You.....Swedish (Song Play) Komarno......Bohemian Kull Dance.....Swedish (Song Play) Ma's Little Pigs......Swedish (Song Play) Maypole Dance.................English Nigare Polska Swedish (Song Play) Oxdans.....Swedish Peter Magnus......Swedish (Song Play) Reap the Flax.....Swedish Ritsh, Ratsh.....Swedish (Song Play) Shoemaker's Dance...... Danish Strasak Bohemian (Song Play) To-day Is the First of May..... Swedish (Song Play) Trollen.....Swedish Varsouvienne......Swedish

DANCES SUITABLE FOR LARGER BOYS

 Name of Dance
 Nationality of Dance

 Bean Setting.
 English (Morris Dance)

 Bleking.
 Swedish

 Comarinskaia.
 Russian

 Dance of the Jumping Jacks.
 Irish

 How Do You Do, Sir?.
 English (Morris Dance)

 Jig.
 Irish

 Komarno.
 Bohemian

 Laudnum Bunches.
 English (Morris Dance)

 Lilt.
 Irish

 Oxdans
 Swedish

 Reel.
 Scotch

DANCES SUITABLE FOR LARGER GIRLS

Name of Dance Nationality of Dance
Ace of Diamonds......Danish
Bean Setting.....English (Morris Dance)

.

| Name of Dance | Nationality of Dance |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Bleking | Swedish |
| Carousel | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Clap Dance | |
| Comarinskaia | Russian |
| Csardas | Hungarian |
| Fjalnas Polska | Swedish |
| Harvest Dance | Finnish |
| Highland Fling | Scotch |
| Highland Reel | Scotch |
| Highland Schottische | Scotch |
| How Do You Do, My Partner? | |
| How Do You Do, Sir? | English (Morris Dance) |
| I See You | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Jig | Irish |
| Komarno | Bohemian |
| Kull Dance | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Laudnum Bunches | English (Morris Dance) |
| Maypole Dance | English |
| Mountain March | Norwegian |
| Nigare Polska | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Peter Magnus | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Reap the Flax | Swedish |
| Shoemaker's Dance | Danish |
| Strasak | Bohemian (Song Play) |
| Tarantella | Italian |
| To-day Is the First of May | Swedish (Song Play) |
| Trollen | Swedish |
| Varsouvienne | Swedish |
| | |

DANCES SUITABLE FOR ADULTS

| Name of Dance | Nationality of Dance |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ace of Diamonds | Danish |
| Bean Setting (men) | English (Morris Dance) |
| Bleking | |
| Bounding Heart | Finnish |
| Clap Dance | Swedish |
| Comarinskaia | Russian |
| Csardas | Hungarian |
| Pjalnas Polska | Swedish |
| Harvest Dance | Finnish |
| Highland Fling | Scotch |
| Highland Reel | Scotch |
| Highland Schottische | Scotch |
| How Do You Do, Sir? (men) | English (Morris Dance) |
| Jig | Irish |
| Komarno | Bohemian |
| Kull Dance | Swedish (Song Play) |

| Name of Dance | Nationality of Dance |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Laudnum Bunches (men) | English (Morris Dance) |
| Maypole Dance | |
| Mountain March | |
| Oxdans (men) | |
| Strasak | |
| Tarantella | |
| Varsouvienne | Swedish |

DANCES OF VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS

| Dimitor of the | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of Dance | Nationality of Dance |
| Carousel (Riding in the Merry | 7-go- |
| round) | |
| English and Roman Soldiers | |
| Jolly Is the Miller | Traditional Singing Game |
| King of France | Traditional Singing Game |
| Milking Pails | English Singing Game |
| Mountain March | |
| Oxdans (mock fight) | Swedish |
| Sailor's Hornpipe | |
| Shepherds, Hey | English Morris Dance |
| Shoemaker's Dance | |
| Tailor's Dance | Swedish Singing Game |
| Washing Song and Dance | Swedish Singing Game |
| Weaving Dance | |
| | |

DANCES SUITABLE FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

| Special Occasion Name of Dance | Name of Book where Descrip- tion or Music, or Both, may be Found* |
|--|---|
| Christmas Christmas Time | I. "Book of Song Games and Ball Games" 31. "Song Plays" |
| " Christmas Dance | 13. "Guild of Play Book of Festival and Dance" |
| EasterChristmas Time (Last stanza sung first) | I. "Book of Song Games and Ball Games" 31. "Song Plays" |
| FarewellTo-day Is the First May (ad Part) (Substitute any oth special day.) The second stanza of | 31. "Song Plays" her |

^{*}The number prefixed to the name of the book corresponds in each case to that prefixed to the title of the book in the list of books of folk dances.

| Special Occasion Name of Dance. | Name of Book where Descrip- tion or Music, or Both, may be Found* |
|---|---|
| Fourth of July . Minuet | . "Guild of Play Book of Festival and Dance" |
| " " Indian Dance | |
| Greeting Danish Greeting Dance . 10 | "Folk Dances" |
| " Gustaf's Skol (Toast to | |
| " How Do You Do, My | . "Folk Dances and Games" |
| Partner?29 | . "Popular Folk Games and Dances" |
| " How Do You Do, Sir?21 | "The Morris Book" |
| " Kull Dance 28 | |
| " Nigare Polska | 3. "Swedish Recreative Ex- ercises for Schools and Playgrounds" |
| Hallowe'en Hallowe'en | . "Book of Song Games and Ball Games" |
| Harvest Time Finnish Harvest Dance . 11 | "Folk Dances and Games" |
| " French Vintage Dance 11 | |
| " Reap the Flax33 | |
| | ercises for Schools and Playgrounds" |
| "Oats, Peas, Beans 4 | "Children's Singing Games" |
| " Mow, Mow the Oats | Games" |
| RejoicingCarousel31 | . "Song Plays" |
| " I See You | . "Song Plays" |
| | "Folk Dance Music" |
| "Tarantella | "Polk Dances" |
| SpringtimeBean Setting and other | |
| Morris Dances21 | "The Morris Book" |
| "Cornish May Dance29 | |
| "Maypole Dance13 | |
| " To-day Is the First of May 31 | . "Song Plays" |
| St. Patrick's Day Irish Jig | "Folk Dance Music" |
| | |
| " " Irish Lilt 8 Washington's | |
| BirthdayMinuet13 | Festival and Dance" |
| "Indian Dance17 | . "Indian Dance" |

^{*}The number prefixed to the name of the book corresponds in each case to that prefixed to the title of the book in the list of books of folk dances.

BOOKS ON FOLK DANCING

 BOOK OF SONG GAMES AND BALL GAMES. Kate F. Brenner. Published by George Philip & Son, 32 Fleet St., E. C., London, England. Price, 3 shillings 6 pence.

Contains music and descriptions of twenty-one Swedish ring games, with words translated and altered so as to be more suitable for school children. Among them are:

Christmas Time Hallowe'en

 CHILDREN'S SINGING GAMES (First and Second Series). Alice B. Gomme. Published by David Nutt, 57 Long Acre, W. C., London, England. Price, 3 shillings 6 pence.

Contains a clear and definite description and music for about a dozen of the traditional children's games of England. Among others are:

> Green Gravel Milking Pails When I Was a Young Girl

CHARACTERISTIC SONGS AND DANCES OF ALL NATIONS.
 James Duff Brown and Alfred Moffat. Published by Bayley & Ferguson, 2 Gt. Marlborough St., London, England. Price, \$2.25.

Contains songs of all nations, a small proportion of them folk dance melodies. There are a few notes on the general character of some of the dances, but no descriptions of the dances themselves are given.

 CHILDREN'S SINGING GAMES. Mari R. Hofer. Published by A. Flanagan Company, 266 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. Price, 50 cents.

Contains, among others, music and descriptions of: Oats. Peas. Beans

Mow. Mow the Oats

 Dance Songs of the Nations. Oscar Duryea. Published by Oscar Duryea, 200 W. 72d St., New York City. Price, \$2.00. Dancing. Mrs. Lily Grove. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 91 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Price, \$2.50.

Contains a few folk dance descriptions.

 DANISH FOLK DANCE MUSIC. Published by the Danish Folk Dance Society, Denmark. Obtainable of G. E. Stechert & Co., 129 W. 20th St., New York City. Price, \$1.50.

Contains the music to the dances described in "Old Danish Folk Dances".

 FOLK DANCE BOOK, THE. Dr. C. Ward Crampton. Published by A. S. Barnes & Company, 11 East 24th Street, New York City. Price, \$1.50.

Contains, among others, music and description of:

German Hopping Dance Stuyvesant Dance
Irish Lilt Trollen

 FOLK DANCE MUSIC. Elizabeth Burchenal and Dr. C. Ward Crampton. Published by G. Schirmer, 35 Union Sq., New York City. Price: paper, \$1.50; cloth, \$2.00.

Contains seventy-six folk dance melodies. Among others, the most popular are the following folk dances:

Comarinskaia Irish Jig Komarno Strasak Tarantella

 FOLK DANCES. Elizabeth Burchenal. Published by G. Schirmer, 35 Union Sq., New York City. Price, \$1.50.

Contains dance music, descriptions and illustrations of twentyfive of the folk dances introduced by the author in the Public Schools Athletic League of New York City. Among others are:

Comarinskaia
Csardas
Irish Jig
Ma's Little Pigs
Scottish Reel and Fling
Strasak
Tarantella

II. FOLK DANCES AND GAMES. Caroline Crawford. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., II E. 24th St., New York City. Price, \$1.50.

Contains, among others, music and descriptions of:

Bounding Heart
Finnish Harvest Dance
French Vintage Dance
Gustaf's Skol
Highland Schottische

 GRAMMAR OF THE ART OF DANCING. Translated from the German by Frederick A. Zorn. Price, \$10.00.

This is the most complete work on the technique of dancing. It also suggests various national dance characteristics.

 Guild of Play Book of Festival and Dance. G. T. Kimmins. Published by J. Curwen & Sons, 24 Berners St., W., London, England. Price, 5 shillings.

Contains music and descriptions of old English dances arranged by Mrs. M. H. Woolnoth and dance at Bermondsey Settlement in London, by the Children of the Guild of Play. Among other charming dances are the following:

Christmas Dances
Maypole Dance
Minuet
Spring Flower Dance
Welsh Dance

 GYMNASTIC DANCING, RHYTHMIC EXERCISES FOR CLASSES OF BOYS AND MEN. Published by the Y. M. C. A. Press, 124 E. 28th St., New York City. Price, \$1.00.

Contains, among other drills and fancy steps, the following:
Dance of the Jumping Jacks, by O. L. Hebbert
Highland Fling (Simplified)
Sailor's Hornpipe, by O. L. Hebbert

 GYMNASTIC DANCING. Mary Wood Hinman. Published by Mary Wood Hinman, University of Chicago High School, Chicago, Illinois. Price, \$2.00.

Contains music and a number of folk dances, mostly Swedish. Notes on the accompanying dances are given with each piece

of imusic, which are of use to those familiar with the dances. They are not intended as descriptions. The dances that could be followed from the notes are:

> Clap Dance Doves

Hey, Little Lassie Nursery Rhymes

16. HISTORY OF DANCING, A. Gaston Vuillier. Out of print, but some copies can be obtained through G. E. Stechert & Co., 129 W. 20th St., New York City. Price, \$4.00.

Contains profuse illustrations and gives a general historical review of the development of the art of dancing.

- Indian Dance. Published by Thomas Charles Co., 80
 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Price, 15 cents.
- LEKSTUGAN. Hirsch's Forlag, Stockholm, Sweden. Obtainable of G. Schirmer, 35 Union Sq., New York City. Price, \$1.50.
- MAYPOLE EXERCISES. Published by J. Curwen & Sons,
 Berners St., W., London, England. Price, 1 shilling.
- MAYPOLE POSSIBILITIES. Janette C. Lincoln. Published by F. A. Bassette Company, Germona Bldg., Springfield, Mass. Price, \$1.00.

Contains descriptions of maypole events used at the University of Illinois.

 MORRIS BOOK, THE. Cecil J. Sharp and H. C. MacIlwaine. Published by Novello & Co., 21 E. 17th St., New York City. Price, \$1.25.

Contains very clear and definite descriptions of twelve of the best Morris dances in England. Among them are:

Bean Setting
How Do You Do, Sir?
Laudnum Bunches

22. MORRIS DANCES. Collected and edited by John Graham. Published by J. Curwen & Sons, 24 Berners St., W., London, England. Price, 2 shillings. Contains music and descriptions of eleven Morris dances, among them:

Constant Billy Bluff King Hal Shepherds, Hey

23. MORRIS DANCE TUNES (Sets 1 and 2). Cecil J. Sharp and H. C. MacIlwaine. Published by Novello & Co., 21 E. 17th St., New York City. Price, \$1.00 each.

Contains music for the dances described in "The Morris Book".

24. OLD DANISH FOLK DANCES. A translation by Lida S. Hanson and Laura W. Goldsmith, of the Hand Book of the Danish Folk Dance Society. Published by G. E. Stechert & Co., 129 W. 20th St., New York City. Price: description, 75 cents; music \$2.70; both, \$3.45.

Contains descriptions of forty-four Danish folk dances, and is especially useful to those who are already familiar with Danish dances. Among others, the following are described:

> Ace of Diamonds Mountain March Shoemaker's Dance

 OLD DEVONSHIRE DANCES. Mildred Bult. Published by J. Curwen & Sons, 24 Berners St., W., London, England. Price, 1 shilling.

Contains music and descriptive outlines of six Devonshire dances, among others being:

The Triumph

OLD FAMILIAR DANCES WITH FIGURES. Arranged by C.
Gott. Published by Oliver Ditson, 150 Tremont St.,
Boston, Mass. Price, 50 cents.

Contains music and descriptive outlines of a number of Contra dances and French dances.

 OLD ENGLISH GAMES AND PHYSICAL EXERCISES (for children). Mrs. Florence Kirk. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 91 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Price, 50 cents.

1.

28. OLD SWEDISH FOLK DANCES. A translation of the Hand Book of "The Friends of Swedish Folk Dances." Published by Niels Bergquist, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y. Price, 75 cents.

Contains, among others, descriptions of:

Clap Dance

Oxdans

Varsouvienne

Weaving Dance

The music for these is found in "Lekstugan".

 POPULAR FOLK GAMES AND DANCES. Mari R. Hofer. Published by A. Flanagan Company, 266 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. Price, 75 cents.

Contains music and descriptive outlines, among them the following:

Dance of Greeting Twining Wreath

- SINGING GAMES. M. C. Gillington. Published by J. Curwen & Son, 24 Berners St., W., London, England. Price, 1 shilling.
- Song Plays. Jakob Bolin. Published by Jakob Bolin, 645 Madison Ave., New York City. Price, 75 cents.

Contains, among others, music and descriptions of:

Carousel

Christmas Time

To-day Is the First of May

I See You

Peter Magnus

Ritsh, Ratsh

32. SWEDISH FOLK DANCES. Annie Barr Clapp and C. G. Bjerstedt. Published by Annie Barr Clapp, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. Price: description, 75 cents; music, \$1.50; both, \$2.25.

Contains, among others, descriptions of:

Fjalnas Polska

Weaving Dance

 SWEDISH RECREATIVE EXERCISES FOR SCHOOLS AND PLAY-GROUNDS. Grace McMillan. Published by McDougall's Educational Co., 8 Farringdon Ave., London, E. C., England. Price, 2 shillings.

Contains, among others, music and descriptions of:

Clap Dance Nigare Polska Reap the Flax (or Linen Weaving) Weaving Dance (or Wool Weaving)

FOLK DANCING*

A study of the various dances used by the peoples in different parts of the world has revealed the fact that a large number of these dances are not suitable for us. In some of the dances, for example, but few individuals are dancing at a time, the rest remaining still, thus involving a waste of time. An excellent example of this type of dance is the Virginia Reel, known also as Sir Roger de Coverly; a dance interesting in itself, excellent from the social standpoint, but lacking from the standpoint of physical exercise. Therefore, one of the first principles of selection was the picking out of those dances in which most of the individuals are active most of the time.

Then, again, some folk dances require for their performance more space than is commonly available in the gymnasium, the school basement, or the schoolyard. Thus space, as well as time considerations, are involved in the selection of each dance. Those dances are chosen which can be done by the largest number in the most limited space.

As far as possible dances have been selected which involve large movements of the body, arms and limbs. This at once removes from the possibility of use such a large group of dances as that represented predominantly by the dances from Java, in which much symbolic work is done by the forearm and wrist.

Another consideration is that the postures involved in the dances shall be graceful and such as do not tend in any way to the forming of habits of movement or posture which are disadvantageous from the standpoint of health. As an illustration of the dances that have been avoided on this score may be cited

^{*}This article and the one following are abstracts from the paper on "The Girls' Branch of the Public Schools Athletic League of New York City," by Luther Halsey Gulick, M.D., printed in the Proceedings of the Second Annual Congress.

those Indian dances in which for a considerable portion of the time the body is bent forward, the individual dancing with bent knees and in a crouching position. While it has not been possible to avoid these positions altogether, no dances have been selected in which such postures are predominant.

Another most important consideration is that the dances shall be sufficiently simple, so that children can learn them without an undue amount of training.

It has also been found necessary to avoid using a large number of folk dances because of their unsuitability from the emotional standpoint. For example, the love dances of the East, however beneficial they may be from the standpoint of the bodily movements involved, are entirely unsuited from the standpoint of their emotional content and their relation to the morals of our civilization.

It will thus be seen that the range of available folk dances meeting these various conditions is comparatively small. The work consists only in the teaching of those folk dances which meet these physiological, moral and social conditions.

In considering these various questions, the dangers of dancing, it is believed, have been largely met. It is recognized that there are many people who are not only fearful of dancing, but who see in it genuine evil. That to which these persons object is also objected to by us. Experience indicates clearly that the joyous freedom of those dances which are suitable from the various standpoints mentioned tends to minimize rather than to increase the dangers that were anticipated from the start. The attractiveness of the dance hall has been lessened for those who can have in school the beautiful old world folk dances.

Another and an entirely different aspect of the case is also important. The parents as they come to school and see their children taking part in the dances of the various races have come to feel that there are ties existing between themselves and their own children and the historic past of their own peoples, an appreciation of which ties had formerly been lacking. On the other hand, the children, who are doing the dances which their parents before them have done as children and as young people, coming to understand something of the meaning of those dances, have had interpreted to them in a way which it is hardly possible to accomplish by any other means their ancestral history. These dances constitute a real tie between the old and the new.

EXHIBITIONS OF FOLK DANCING AND ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS

Recommendations of the Girls' Branch of the Public Schools
Athletic League of New York City

In the development of the good which we see in physical exercise for girls, including folk dancing and athletics, we recognize that there are certain real dangers. Our problem is to secure the good results without fostering the evil possibilities. We believe that the danger may be avoided at least in a great measure by the following steps:

 By having the dancing as genuine play, rather than primarily as a means of public display or money getting.

2. By having the work of such nature that it can be done by large classes, for the exhibition of one or even a few girls in special work leans toward the stage. We feel strongly that this idea should not be the trend of our work.

3. By avoiding undue expense of time and money in the preparation of dances for exhibition purposes, or of money for the purchase of costumes for the several dances. Where the national costumes are used, serious difficulty has been developed. If the costumes are paid for by the girls themselves, social class distinction has been found between those who can and who cannot afford to make the purchase. This is unfortunate. When paid for by the teachers, a condition of unfairness is introduced which is not to be tolerated. The impression of unity which it is desired to give to a class can be accomplished by the use of some simple decoration, such as a ribbon in the hair, uniform in color and form throughout the class, or through a sash or scarf. The latter may be made of cheesecloth, which is relatively inexpensive.