

THE FEDERATION

FOLK DANCER

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THE MARCH FESTIVAL

Spring is to be heralded this year two days in advance by one of our colorful festivals. This beautiful pageant of costumes and dances is to be held in Berkeley on Sunday, March 19th, from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. at the MEN'S GYMNASIUM on the University of California Campus, located about two blocks from either Shattuck or Telegraph Avenues adjoining Bancroft Way. The entrance is on east entrance of the Gym. From San Francisco take the "F" train and the Alcatraz Local to the end of the line. The U. C. Folk and Square Dancers will be host. Let's all be there in our most favorite costume!

The Festival Workshop Dancers will offer two demonstrations. The first is to be a Swiss dance called "Mietchi, putz di!" meaning 'Mitzi, powder yourself!' An excellent substitute record is a Schottische called "For He Men Only" (T-2066A) sold by the Standard Phono Company of N. Y. Other Schottisches will probably do however. As implied by the music the dance is a Schottische, and has three figures and three choruses. Curiously enough the chorus precedes each figure. The figures are reminiscent of and probably borrowed from the Norwegian and Swedish Fancy Schottisches. The drawing illustrates the 'forge' pattern of the chorus figure. With our intimate knowledge of Schottisches this catchy and interesting dance should really find itself amongst our best dances in our social night repertoires.



The second dance to be demonstrated is a Russian dance called "Troika" meaning Three Horses (no reflection intended). There is an excellent record available called "Troika" made by Kismet. It may be possible to purchase it at a Jeweler Shop called Benthon on Fillmore between California and Pine Streets. There is a possibility that the International Book Shop on Golden Gate Avenue, also in San Francisco, might also have it. The other side of the record has a nice polka.

The dance is performed by a man and two ladies, the man holding the inside hands of the ladies with all arms outstretched. The step used throughout the dance is a simple running step. Dancing side by side in a straight line each set begins with four steps diagonally to the right and four steps diagonally to the left, then eight straight ahead. Each lady, beginning with the one on the right, runs eight steps under an arch made by the other two. This is almost identical to the Crested Hen arching. The third figure is a running circle of each set sixteen steps to the left with three appels on the last three counts, then sixteen to the right. If all sets are evenly balanced (one man and two ladies in each), the dance may be progressive with the man running under the arch formed by the two ladies and joining the next set in eight counts. If the dance is not progressive, merely run these eight steps out.

This is a very popular dance amongst the New York folk dance groups. And it should prove equally as popular amongst us.