

FLACHSERNTEN

German

Flachserten, which tells of the harvesting of the flax, was introduced by Waltraud Herrmann. The melody originally came from Sweden, but the text, verse and dance are from northern Germany.

MUSIC: Record: Gaare 104 "Fiddler's Waltz (substitute). Slow speed *considerably*.
FORMATION: Circle of couples, all facing center, W to R of M, all hands joined at shoulder height.
STEPS: Walk waltz: three walking steps to each measure.
Note: This step is used throughout the entire dance.

MUSIC 3/4

PATTERN

Measures
4 meas.

INTRODUCTION.

I. CIRCLE L—CIRCLE R.

1-4 Circle L (CW) with 4 walk waltz steps.
5-8 Circle R (CCW).

CHORUS

9-12 Partners face to start a Grand R and L. Give R to partner, L to the next, and R to the next. Keeping R joined (with this 3rd person) dance a full turn around CW to face opp. direction (W are now facing CCW; M CW).
13-16 Continue Grand R and L (in this reverse direction) giving L, R, L, keeping L joined with this last person and dancing a full turn CCW to end in original position. (Leaning away from each person throughout Chorus adds to the swing.)

II. THE HATCHEL (COMBING THE FLAX).

1-4 With 4 walk waltz steps W dance CCW around partner, while M mark time in place.
5-8 M dance CW around partner while W mark time stepping in place.

CHORUS

9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16.

III. SPINNING

1-2 With 2 walk waltz steps W move twd. center and join hands at shoulder level.
3-4 Circle L.
5-6 Circle R.
7-8 With 2 walk waltz steps, W dance bwd. to place. M, with hands on hips, spin CW in place during entire Fig. III, meas. 1-8.

CHORUS

9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16.

IV. WEAVING.

1-2 With 2 walk waltz steps, W move twd. center and join hands.
3-4 M move twd. center and duck under arches made by W joined hands; then M join hands bringing them over W heads to rest at back of W necks.
5-8 With 4 walk waltz steps all move slowly bwd., smoothly and gradually releasing hand holds.

Note: Throughout this entire figure dancing is continuous, smooth and flowing.

CHORUS

9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16.
64 meas. Repeat entire dance.

1-16

CODA

Repeat action of Fig. I, meas. 1-16.