LA TEMPETE
(Scotland)

La Tempete (Lah Thahm-PEHT) is an old traditional Scottish dance. It was presented by C. Stewart Smith at a Federation Institute in the spring of 1966.

MUSIC: Record: Scotland Dances, London International Series TW 91239, Side 1, Band 1 or any other suitably phrased reel.

FORMATION: Sets of 4 cpls in longways formation lined up to form a column down the hall, W on MR. Cpls 1 and 2 have backs to music or head of hall, and cpls 3 and 4 are facing the music (See Diag 1).

STEPS AND STYLING:

R with toe pointed down, knee turned out (ct &). Step fwd R (ct 1). Closing step L behind R, L instep close to R heel (ct &). Step fwd R (ct 2). Next step starts with hop R (ct &).

Pas de Basque: Leap* onto R (ct 1). Step L beside R with L heel close to R instep and L toe turned out (ct &). Step R extending L diag fwd L, toe pointed down an inch or two off floor, knee straight and turned out (cts 2). Next step starts L.

Setting Step or Set (2 meas): One pas de basque step to R and one to L, usually danced in place.

Sliding Step*

*Described in Volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1095 Market St., San Francisco, California 94103.

MUSIC: 2/4

Measures:

Chord INTRODUCTION. M bow, W curtsy

I. HANDS ACROSS

1-4 Cpls 1 and 4 form a R hand star or wheel by joining R hands with a normal handshake hold at about shoulder height with an easy tension in the arms (W hands joined with W on top; M with M underneath). In this formation turn CW with 4 skip change of steps. Cpls 2 and 3 stand in place.

5-8 Active cpls release hands, turn individually 1/2 CW, join L hands in same manner as before to form L hand star or wheel and return CCW with 4 skip change of steps, finishing in original pos.

9-16 Cpls 2 and 3 repeat action of meas 1-8.

II. SET AND TURN

17-20 All set to ptr two times.

21-24 All join both hands with ptr straight across and turn once CW with 4 pas de basque steps, facing ptr throughout.

III. SLIDE

25-28 Keeping hands joined, dance 8 sliding steps up and down the hall, M passing back to back, changing places with opp cpl (cpl 1 with 3, cpl 2 with 4).

29-32 Without turning around, but looking back over shoulder return to place with 8 sliding steps, W passing back to back.
IV. CIRCLE FOUR

33-36 Cpls 1 and 3 join hands at shoulder height in a circle of four and dance 8 sliding steps to L. Cpls 2 and 4 do likewise.

37-40 Release hands and same cpls form a L hand star or wheel (as in Fig I) and turn CCW with 4 skip change of steps, finishing in original pos.

V. FWD AND BACK AND PROGRESS

41-42 Cpls 1 and 2 join hands in a line of 4. Cpls 3 and 4 do likewise. All dance fwd with 2 skip change of steps.

43 All dance bwd with 1 skip change of step.

44 Release hands and clap own hands 3 times (cts 1&2).

45-48 Join inside hands with ptr. Cpls 3 and 4 raise joined hands to form arches. All dance fwd with 4 skip change of steps, as cpls 1 and 2 go under arches. Progress to meet new line of 4.

Repeat dance with 2 new cpls until line of 4 reaches top or bottom of column. At top or bottom turn with ptr halfway around and stand inactive for one sequence of the dance.