Swiss Dance LA FAIRA DA STRADA- (pronounced "FIRE - A")
(The Fair in Strada - Romansche)

UM MARKT VON STRADA

RECORD: Folk Dancer MH 1112

In this recording we made an attempt to simulate the old type of folk dance music in this canton of Switzerland, where in the old days nothing but string instruments were used for dancing.

FORMATION: This is a lovely dance using one step throughout - the "uebertraetter" step.
Directions are for men. Women do counterpart on opposite feet. Step forward left (count 1), step right next to left (count and), step forward left (count 2 and), step forward right with a slight knee bend (count 3) - with no stamp.

ACTION: I. "GOING TO THE FAIR" Partners face forward holding inside hands shoulder high. Four complete steps forward. On fourth, the lady turns CW under joined inside hands. Man brings feet together with a stamp. Face opposite direction without changing hands. Repeat steps and on fourth, lady turns, counter clockwise.

II. TURNING Partners face and take two-hand hold (both lean back, arms stretched, but not crossed), men's backs to center. Four complete steps CW (step, together, step, place right foot behind left). On fourth time bring feet together with a stamp. Repeat in opposite direction, starting with right foot.

III. LOOKING OVER DANCE Drop hands. Partners facing, hands on hips. Both begin on right foot and move to own right with a side, together, side; and pivot completely around to the right to face original direction; side, together, side, close feet together with a little stamp. Repeat all of this part, this time moving to own left first, with left foot and returning to place. Repeat all, this time starting to the left with left foot.

IV. AT THE DANCE Take regular ballroom position, and starting with men's left and women's right, do this same step (step, together, step, pivot) turning CW and travelling CCW. This same step may be done 8 times, or it may be done just 4, ending with a stamp, then repeated, turning CCW, starting on opposite feet, but still travelling CCW around room.

SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING WHEN TO BEGIN THE DANCE

Wait for introduction to be played and then wait long enough to say, "Let's get ready".

(Miami Valley Folk Dancers, Jane Farwell Weekend, December 12 & 13, 1959)
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