OH SUSANNA (America)

This familiar tune can be used for many American dances, such as square dances, the Virginia Reel, and play parties. This particular version is a good "mixer" dance, in which any number of people may participate.

OPENING FORMATION: Single circle, all facing center, girls on boys' right.

PART 1: Meas. 1-4: Girls walk forward 4 steps and back 4, as boys clap hands.

Meas. 5-8: Reverse, with boys walking forward and back and girls clapping time.

PART 2: Meas. 9-16: Partners face each other, still in a single circle, and all do a "Grand Right and Left" by grasping partner's right hand, then passing to the next person with a left-hand hold. Continue in this fashion (right and left-

EPA-4140-2

hand holds) until the seventh person or until the music reaches the "Oh Susanna" chorus.

PART 3: Meas. 17-32: At the chorus, all join hands in skating position with new partners and walk counterclockwise around the circle for two full choruses. While walking, all sing the familiar words:

"Oh, Susanna, oh don't you cry for me, For I come from Alabama with my banjo on my knee."

Repeat dance from the beginning, each time with a new partner.

NOTE: For variation in PART 3, skip instead of walking—or walk during the first chorus and swing your partner in place during the second chorus.