Malūnēlis (The Little Mill)

Formation: Circle of eight couples, boys back to center, facing partners, join both hands.

Running steps throughout the dance. Number couples from 1 to 8.

FIGURE I

Sway joined hands to imitate "sieving," first to boys' right then to left. (Music A, 8 double sways.) Release hands. Boys circle clockwise, girls counter-clockwise until back to partners and places (at second meeting). Sixteen running steps.

FIGUREIL

Join hands again and "sieve."

Start Release hands. Partners pass each other with right shoulders, four steps for each passing, boys going out of circle, girls into circle. Reverse by going backward, passing with left shoulders (a pointed dos-a-dos). Repeat the same figure with a new person to the right, passing each other with right shoulders and back with left. Continue this pointed dos-a-dos, progressing toward the right until back to the original partner. When back to partners, join hunds and "sieve" as above.

FIGURE III

Form a large double mill of two couples to each spoke: even couples join left hands to form the hub, right arm around the girl's waist, her left hand on boy's right shoulder. Odd couples, independent of inner circle of couples, place their hands around each other's waist in back. Inner couples mark time in place. Outer couples move on to the next spoke of mill with four running steps. Continue running around all spokes with 12 more steps. Now consolidate, with the outer couples attaching themselves to the inner couple which was ahead of them, and the entire double mill running forward, 8 measures.

FIGURE IV

Boys in the inner circle retain their joined left hands. Their right hands are joined with the left hands of the outer boys and form arches. Outer girl steps in front between the inner girls, and all girls join hands in a circle and run clockwise beneath the arches formed by the boys; boy stand in place and mark time (8 measuses). Girls continue running for 16 more steps and run forward in a counter-clockwise direction. If on a stage with curtains, the curtains are drawn during this part; the musician, at the same time, should increase the tempo of the music. For an exit otherwise, boys stop running but mark time in place. Girls reverse direction of their running. Any previously eppoleted girl releases her right hand with the left hand of the girl in front of her; now, this girl leads out the rest of the girls from underneath the arches. The last girl, just before she leaves the last arch, with her left hand joins the right hand of the outer boy nearest hee. At that time, the left hands which form the hub are released and the left (hub) hand of the outer boy joins the right hand of the next wing, thus forming a curved line of boys. Now, all follow the leading girl who leads them away from the dance area.

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