

SISKEN (Denmark)

This is another one of those European folk dances that are found in several countries, all in slightly different form.

OPENING FORMATION: Couples in double-circle formation, with man's back to the center of the circle, partners facing.

THE DANCE: PART 1: Meas. 1-8: WORDS: *Go from me, go from me, get out of my sight.*

ACTION: Partners move away from each other, motioning with hands to go away, and singing the above words.

WORDS: *Come to me, come to me, let's dance so light.*

ACTION: Both move diagonally to the right and towards new partners in the opposite circle, motioning with hands to welcome them, and singing the above words. Stop in front of new partner.

PART 2: Meas. 9-16: Clap own hands. Clap right hands with partner. Clap own hands. Clap left hands with partner. Clap own hands. Clap both hands with

partner. Then clap own hands 3 times in this rhythm: Clap . . . clap, clap.

(All the clapping is done on the first count of each measure of music, except the last clapping, which is done thus: the first clap on the first count; the second clap on the third count; and the 3rd clap on the first count of the next measure.)

PART 3: Meas. 17-28: With an inside-hand hold, do an "open" waltz—face-to-face and back-to-back—for 12 measures.

VARIATION: "Ballroom" position waltz for 12 measures.

VARIATION: Either of the above positions may be used for 8 measures, followed by clapping own hands once, clapping both hands of partner, and own hands 3 times (4 measures).

Repeat dance from beginning.

Note that there should be a lot of mimicry during the first part of the dance. For language study classes, substitute words of other languages.

