

SUR LE BORD DE LA RIVIERE

(French)

Folkraft Record #1105-A

The chief characteristic of French dances is their light and breezy running air, for this reason most French dances are excellent material for recreational dancing. This number is from around Isigny in the Department (Province) of Cotentin. It is a dance for two couples and can be done progressively.

FORMATION: Two couples face each other in a large double circle.

FIGURE I

Measures

- 1-4 The two couples join hands and circle right with eight running steps.
- 1-4 (Repeated): Reverse above.
- 5-6 With four running steps run to center of own circle of four, raise high joined hands.
- 7-8 With four running steps, run backward to place, lowering hands.

FIGURE II

Couples face each other. Hands released.

- 9-10 Both girls run toward each other, hook right elbows and twirl in place with running steps.
- 11-12 Hook left elbows with opposite man and turn once around.
- 9-10 Repeated; both girls once again hook right elbows and turn around.
- 11-12 Stand in a regular ballroom dance position. All couples facing the clockwise direction move in that direction with four sliding steps (gallops), while the other couples move in the counter-clockwise direction with four sliding steps and meet a new oncoming couple.