

## THE VIENNESE WALTZ

notes and suggestions prepared by Walter Grothe.

The Viennese Waltz is probably the most international of all dances. The step is the true waltz (step, step, close) with the accent on the first of six beats. The music is in 3/4 time. In order to get the true Viennese flavour be sure to buy only records which carry the notation "recorded in Europe". The waltz should be learned turning right and turning left, but after the step has been conquered the accomplished Viennese Waltzer should dance turning to the left only, interrupted by an occasional running waltz step, where the music indicates it.

As the only variation in the Viennese Waltz is the change of tempo, it is important to listen carefully to the music, to take larger steps and increase your turning speed when the tempo increases and to take smaller steps and to turn less vigorously when the music slows down. When there is a break in the music take running steps (waltz) (forward for the men, backwards for the ladies). No two Viennese Waltzes are alike in tempo, therefore no definite routine (how many steps per turn) can be established. Listen to the music and dance accordingly.

It is important for the man to give a firm and strong lead to his partner, to keep the ballroom position firm and steady, to support each other by holding hands firmly at the partners shoulder blades, to give and take in the turning, to be always face to face and avoid sideslipping, to move smoothly with your entire body and not sway the upper part of your body separately from the lower part, to find your own method of how not to get dizzy.