

On Country Dancing.

- 1) Mr Melch obtained all his information about Country Dances from his brother, and seems to have no information from other sources.
- 2) He only taught the standard few - people were not usually interested. But he knew all those in Allan's Guide. There was a lady who was very interested in the less common ones - she took lessons from him & taught them to the schoolchildren in Glasgow. This would have been about 1912. Mrs Melchior, or some similar name.
- 3) He was never consulted by any member of the R.S.C.D.S. in its early days.
- 4) Jamieson was very friendly with Mr Melch, & took lessons from him. Jamieson "left the S.C.D.S. in disgust" because they had departed from the old style.

? Do there exist letters from J to D.C.M.?

- 5) Pas de Basque : 1) Step to semi 2nd position on RF
- 2) Close LF to 5th position, ball of foot on ground, and as close as possible to RF
- 3) Beat with RF in 5th rear position.



On the beat there should be NO vertical movement of the body. Present style of C.D. - too much "bobbing up and down".

?

- 6) DuThé gave a series of broadcast talks on Scottish Country Dancing ca 1926, and in an outspoken letter to The Scotsman D.C.M. challenged him to produce his sources for the style he propounded. There was no reply. Mrs Melch asked Elie Anderson about a reply, & she said airily that they thought about replying, but decided not to.
- 7) Both Mr & Mrs Melch thought the present style terribly affected. Quite unlike "real country dancing". Atholl Robertson saw the recent performance by The Edinburgh R.S.C.D.S. before The Queen at Holywood, & thought it heinous - in its affectation.