



# "DOWN THE LANE"

MAY, '54

By Maury Thompson and Dorothy Martin of Los Angeles, California

**Record:** "Down the Lane," MacGregor 642 or L. Shaw 2-111. Decca 24986 is excellent and was the record to which the dance was composed but is probably not available.

**Position:** Open, facing LOD. Directions for M, W does counterpart unless otherwise stated.

**Footwork:** Opposite, meas 1-16; same, meas 17-32.

## Measures

## PATTERN

- 1-2 Balance Forward, Back; Forward, Back;**  
Balance fwd L (ct 1, 2), bal back R (ct 3, 4). Repeat.
- 3-4 Step, Kick Out, Step, Kick In; Step, Kick Out, Step, Pivot;**  
Step fwd L (ct 1), kick R across in front of L (ct 2)—as though kicking stones down a lane—step fwd R (ct 3), kick L across in front of R (ct 4). Repeat, but on ct 3, pivot R face on R in toward partner to face RLOD. Change hands.
- 5-8 Balance Forward, Back; Forward, Back; Step Kick In, Step, Kick Out; Step Kick In, Step, Pivot;**  
Repeat meas 1-4 starting on M's L which is now the inside foot. On last ct turn in on R twd partner and take semi-closed dance pos both facing LOD.
- 9-10 Walk, 2, 3, Turn Back; Walk, 2, 3, Point;**  
Both walk fwd in LOD, M L, R, L, pivot in twd partner on 3rd step to face RLOD and point R fwd (ct 1, 2, 3, 4). Repeat facing RLOD starting R, ending in closed pos M facing wall.
- 11-12 Two-Step, Two-Step; Twirl, Twirl;**  
2 two-steps turning CW (ct 1 & 2, 3 & 4). Then continuing to move in LOD, W does 2 R face twirls under M's L arm (2 steps to each twirl) while M follows with 4 steps (ct 1, 2, 3, 4).
- 13-16 Two-Step, Two-Step; Twirl, Twirl; Two-Step, Two-Step; Twirl, Twirl to Skaters;**  
Repeat meas 11-12 two more times, ending in skater's waltz pos fac LOD. W must step R, L,R, on last twirl in order to start meas 17 with same foot as M. The Round Dance Teachers Assn. prefers only one twirl on meas 16.
- 17-18 Left, Right, Left, Swing; Back, 2, 3, 4;**  
Both walk diagonally fwd to R both stepping L, R, L, swing R fwd (ct 1, 2, 3, 4). Retrace steps walking diagonally bkwd to place—R, L, R, L.
- 19-20 Right, Left, Right, Swing; Back, 2, 3, 4;**  
Repeat meas 17-18 diagonally fwd to L both stepping R, L, R, swing L, then diagonally backward to place—L, R, L, R.
- 21-22 Left, Right; Left, Right;**  
"Stagger" step: Both step fwd L, step R across in front of L, cross L in front of R, cross R in front of L (2 cts to each step).
- 23-24 Pivot, 2, 3, 4; 5, 6, 7, 8;**  
Both pivot CCW in small circle one full turn with 8 small steps.
- 25-32 Left, Right, Left, Swing; Back, 2, 3, 4; Right, Left, Right, Swing; Back, 2, 3, 4; Left, Right; Left, Right; Pivot, 2, 3, 4; 5, 6, Open Out;**  
Repeat meas 17-24 ending in open dance position.

**ENDING:** With MacGregor record—bal fwd, bal bkwd twirl; bow and curtsy. With Shaw and Decca—do dance 2½ times (thru meas 16), then do 2 more CW turning two-steps in closed dance pos followed by 1 R face twirl for W, change hands, balance away, then M kneels down on R knee as W walks around M CCW and sits on his L knee on last beat of music.

**Editor's Note:** Though we printed "Down the Lane" in Sets in Order in August 1950, improvements and slight changes have been made in the dance description and we think it deserves to appear again so that even more dancers may enjoy it.