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A Little Dignity with All Your Pep in Dancing

If You Would Please Your Male Partner

by Dorothy Fedderson

WHEN the music goes 'round and around," you had better know your man. Because you don't want to be the one who spoils a good time for both your partner and yourself. After interviewing 30 men about the way women dance, I know that they all have some pet irritations on the dancing floor.



From pep

Of course, there were some men who wouldn't talk. For the protection of the noble and courageous who would, those mentioned in this story claim they just picked up their ideas while watching the fray at the Cyclone Twister.

Since women are agreed that many faults in their dancing are due to the men, we'll let these arguments go a bit one-sided. "If you are dancing with a man who doesn't hold you right," Rose-mae Johnson explained the other day, "you are just stuck"—then she added, "out!"

Yet, that is the main grievance of the men. Robert Dodds, sitting at his desk in the Student office, just happened to be the first one to express the opinion that ice skating positions are definitely passé with the men. "I like them to stand up straight," he said.

But Lee Bagby claims that the woman who leans back is quite as bad when she gets off balance and slips on every other step. While George Dunkleberg objects to what he calls the "swinging chassis" movement which the forward balancers use.

"The men are often just as bad as the women," said Carl Hamilton, "but I like to see a little dignity in dancing and manners of college students."

The clinging vine, who wilts right on your shoulder, Wendell Marsh and Winn Heyer agree, is a burden too great to bear. "Airiness and lightness of foot make a woman charming on the dance floor," Robert Root remarked poetically.

Eat a dish of grapenuts or do something to get plenty of pep before you begin dancing. Welch Richardson feels that the woman who falls asleep on the dance floor and lets her partner crash back into someone has failed in her duty.

In the language of an engineer, Stanley Peterson says that women should respond to slight guiding pressure. "I like them to stop and start easily," said Lloyd Johnson, an M. E.

Verle Johnson emphasized the need for regular ball room dancing lessons. "How can a girl expect," he asked, "to



Through Ice Skating

be a really good dancer when she learns by dancing with other girls in the dormitory?

"A woman should know the difference between the different dance steps as well as some of the new steps," he said, "and when she wears a formal gown she should not act kiddish."

"Even perfect dancers," Clifford Briggs said, "sometimes ruin an evening by having hair that blows into your mouth." Dean Horning wonders if women could wear hair nets to prevent this.

Or such a little thing as wearing a dress that allows for only a ten-inch step would put a woman on the black-list, Kenneth McGuinness suggests. Garner McNaught would black list anyone who spends the evening watching her own feet.

Knees that get in your way, Palmer Kalsem believes, come from a slouching posture. And by this time I am wondering if we are all a bunch of softies who have no backbone and heavy feet that land in the wrong places.

But at least there is nothing we can do to help Walter Barlow, who com-

plains that women dancers tend to come too tall.

Wynn Hanssen, George Arnold and Laurence Costigan would petition against talking and singing on the dance floor—although they would be lenient with the women who really can sing.

Enough of this or we shall all be getting inferiority complexes. We'll hope that the men like our dancing enough to take us all to a lot of dances, and after all, we weren't asking for compliments.

"And remember," Walter Barlow yelled from the doorway, "I like them short."



To dignity

BETTY JO NIENDORF, H. Ec. So., offers stiff competition to the members of her class in a costume design course in the Textiles and Clothing Department.

While attending Lindenwood College at St. Charles, Mo., last year, Miss Niendorf competed in a contest sponsored by Nell Donnelly, who is a graduate of Lindenwood and creator of many of the smart Nelly Don dresses. Before her marriage, Nell Donnelly created many of her own designs for the nationally known Donnelly Garment Company. Now she offers three \$10 prizes each year to Lindenwood students for dress designs on the basis of originality, workmanship, and usefulness.