

Square Dance Night

By John Ward, Alton, KS

I visited a Square Dance quite unexpected,
And the things I saw there I never suspected.
I arrived at the hall and was happily greeted;
we talked for a while, then were finally seated.

When outside the door there arose such a clatter
That I sprang to my feet to see what was the
matter.
And what to my wondering eyes should appear
T'was the Caller arriving with all of his gear.

With boxes and satchels he was all loaded down,
And some of the things were dragging the ground.
He spoke not a word but to the stage he did race
And hung up big bird boxes all over the place.

And when he had finished he turned to us there
And said, "Howdy, everybody, It's time for a
square."

They rushed to the floor with a leap and a bound,
But I remained seated 'cause my mind was still
sound.

But they saw me a settin' and grabbed me right
there,

And before I knew it I was caught in that square.
At first we would circle as we went 'round the land,
Playing "Ring Around Rosie" in time with the band.

Then they would grab me and give me a fling
And spin me around like a top in the ring.
Like a big rubber ball they bounced me around
'Til I didn't know up or I didn't know down.

The caller went crazy before we got through
and the strangest things he asked us to do.
He asked us to box with the gnats and the fleas.
I looked all around but no bugs did I see.

Now this is the part I can't understand:
He said, "Chain your lady to the opposite man."
Now that is something I never would do.
Would you want some lady chained to you?

Then things got much rougher and a bandage I
wear
For allowing myself to get caught in that square.
The lady across seemed so friendly and gay
As she extended her hand across the way.

But before I knew it with a Half Nelson twist
she twisted my arm and that snapped my wrist.
I said, "Why, lady, did you ever do that?"
She said, "You sill galoot, I was Boxing The Gnat."

And so, my dear friends, I left them right there
All people are crazy that go to a square;
And I heard them exclaim as I walked out of sight,

"THERE WILL BE DANCING AGAIN NEXT SATURDAY
NIGHT!"