

(DIMOUT)

END OF SCENE TEN

SCENE ELEVEN

(TIME: Noon, the following Saturday.)

AT RISE: Center of town, exterior. ZANEETA is crossing followed by TOMMY wearing his invention)

TOMMY

(Calling)

... Zaneeta... Hey, Zaneeta --

(ZANEETA stops and turns)

ZANEETA

Tommy, Papa and Mama are sitting right there in the bank. Ye Gods!

TOMMY

All right, then meet me after supper.

ZANEETA

I can't. It's Epworth League night. Meet you where?

TOMMY

The footbridge.

ZANEETA

You see? Isn't that just what I said? Last time the lumber yard and now the footbridge. And where will you meet me after that? In the Black Hole of Calcutta? Ye Gods.

TOMMY

I only want to show you my invention.

ZANEETA

What invention?

TOMMY

My music holder for a marching Piccolo player. It still has a couple of minor flaws; see, when you keep it tight enough to hold the music steady you cut off the circulation and you can't wiggle your fingers. Meanwhile --

(Demonstrates how close it would be in playing position)

(TOMMY)

You could go blind.

ZANEETA

(Gestures in alarm at OLIVER HIX'S office)

Tommy! It's Papa!

(TOMMY leaves in a hurry as SHINN and EULALIE ENTER)

SHINN

Is that the first thing I said, or not?

EULALIE

Yes, George.

SHINN

Yes! The very first thing I said or I'll eat hay with the horse! Get that Spellbinder's credentials, I said, morning of Jew-ly Fourth, Nineteen and Twelve. And now look! My wife is off dancing at any and all hours instead of in the home -

EULALIE

But George -

SHINN

- the School Board is singin' up street and down alley instead of tending to city matters, my oldest girl is boodling around with some wild kid and my business has fallen off so far I can't find the balance sheet.

MARIAN

(ENTERING with brown book)

Mayor Shinn, I've found something very interesting in this book about Professor Hill's Alma Mater.

SHINN

His who?

MARIAN

His university.

SHINN

I know all about that. In fact, that's the only thing I can ever get out of him - Gary Conservatory, class of aught-five.

MARIAN

If you'll just take time to read a little bit about the Conservatory I don't think you'll have to look further. It's on page...

24 — *The Wells Fargo Wagon* (Townspeople, Quartet, Winthrop)

(HORSE MUSIC. GRACIE SHINN *rushes on*)

GRACIE

Papa! The Wells Fargo Wagon is just comin' up from the depot!

ALL

(*In hushed anticipation*)

The Wells Fargo Wagon!

SHINN

A likely story! At this hour of the day? Nonsense!... The Wells Fargo Wagon?

GRACIE

It could be the band instruments!

SHINN

The band instruments!

(*The TOWNSPEOPLE now form, looking up the street listening for the horse's hooves which are now heard plainly in the MUSIC*)

TOWNSPEOPLE

O-HO, THE WELLS FARGO WAGON
IS A-COMIN' DOWN THE STREET,
OH, PLEASE, LET IT BE FOR ME.
O-HO, THE WELLS FARGO WAGON
IS A-COMIN' DOWN THE STREET,
I WISH, I WISH I KNEW WHAT IT COULD BE.

1ST VOICE

I GOT A BOX OF MAPLE SUGAR ON MY BIRTHDAY.

2ND VOICE

IN MARCH, I GOT A GREY MACKINAW.

3RD VOICE

AND ONCE, I GOT SOME GRAPEFRUIT FROM TAMPA..

4TH VOICE

MONTGOM'RY WARD SENT ME A BATHTUB
AND A CROSS-CUT SAW.

TOWNSPEOPLE

O-HO, THE WELLS FARGO WAGON IS A-COMIN' NOW.
IS IT A PREPAID SURPRISE OR C.O.D.?

5TH VOICE

IT COULD BE CURTAINS,

6TH VOICE

OR DISHES,

7TH VOICE

OR A DOUBLE BOILER,

8TH VOICE

OR IT COULD BE,

TOWNSPEOPLE

YES, IT COULD BE,
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT, IT SURELY COULD BE

8TH VOICE

SOMETHIN' SPECIAL,

TOWNSPEOPLE

SOMETHIN' VERY, VERY SPECIAL NOW,

8TH VOICE

JUST FOR ME.

TOWNSPEOPLE

O-HO, THE WELLS FARGO WAGON
IS A-COMIN' DOWN THE STREET,
OH, DON'T LET HIM PASS MY DOOR!
O-HO, THE WELLS FARGO WAGON
IS A-COMIN' DOWN THE STREET,
I WISH I KNEW WHAT HE WAS COMIN' FOR.

9TH VOICE

I GOT SOME SALMON FROM SEATTLE LAST SEPTEMBER.

10TH VOICE

AND I EXPECT A NEW ROCKIN' CHAIR.

11TH VOICE

I HOPE I GET MY RAISINS FROM FRESNO.

QUARTET

THE D.A.R. HAVE SENT A CANNON
FOR THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE.

(WINTHROP breaks through the CROWD and as the TOWNSPEOPLE slowly turn to look at him in amazement, HE SINGS)

WINTHROP

O-HO, THE WELTH FARGO WAGON
ITH A-COMIN NOW,
I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN EVER WAIT TO THEE.
IT COULD BE THUMPIN' FOR THUMONE
WHO ITH NO RELATHION,
BUT IT COULD BE
THUMP'N THPETHYAL
JUTHT FOR ME!

TOWNSPEOPLE

(TENOR/BASS)

(SOPRANO/ALTO)

O-HO, YOU
WELLS FARGO WAGON, KEEP A-COMIN'.
O-HO, YOU WELLS FARGO WAGON, KEEP A-COMIN'.
O-HO, YOU WELLS FARGO WAGON, DON'T YOU
DARE TO MAKE A STOP,
UNTIL YOU STOP FOR ME.

AH -

DARE TO MAKE A STOP,
UNTIL YOU STOP FOR ME.

(MARIAN pushes her way through the CROWD to crush WINTHROP in an embrace as the CROWD cheers Wagon's arrival)

TOWNSPEOPLE

Ray-yy!

DRIVER

Whoa!

WINTHROP

It' th the band inthtrumenth!

25 - *Finale Act 1*

(Orchestra)

(HAROLD riding in wagon jumps down, carrying gold cornet which he brings to WINTHROP)

HAROLD

Here you are, Winthrop.

WINTHROP

My Cornet! Gee thankth, Profethor!

HAROLD

(Returning to wagon)

Men! You will each receive individual instruction in due course. In the meantime stay off the streets - get acquainted with your instruments and think about the Minuet in G. La de da de da de da de da -

BOYS

(EXITING)

La de da, La de da.

WINTHROP

Thithter! Thithter! Ithn't thith the motht thcrumpthyuth tholid gold thing you ever thaw. I never thought I'd ever thee anything tho thcrumpthyuth ath thith thcrumpthyuth tholid gold thing! O thithter!

SHINN

Round one for you Mister Hill, but I better hear some by God tootin' out'a them horns in pretty short order or I'll see you in front a'the grand jury over't the County Seat.

(Approaching MARIAN)

Now Miss Marian, about that book -

(MARIAN tears page out of book as EULALIE calls SHINN)

EULALIE

Come, George! Tempus fugits.

SHINN

(Turning to her)

You watch your frazology. Get along if you want to. I've got to get something from the librarian.

(Crosses to MARIAN)

About that book —

(MARIAN hands him the book. SHINN and EULALIE EXIT.)

HAROLD catches MARIAN'S look which is changing from gratitude to adoration)

HAROLD

(Coming over to her)

The Ladies' Dance Committee meets Tuesday nights at the High School.

(THEY hold the look as the ORCHESTRA with "My White Knight" swells to climax.)

CURTAIN)

END OF SCENE ELEVEN
END OF ACT ONE