

(AMARYLLIS has come to the window)

MARIAN, AMARYLLIS

I WISH THEY MAY,  
AND I WISH THEY MIGHT.  
NOW GOODNIGHT, MY SOMEONE,  
GOODNIGHT.  
GOODNIGHT.  
GOODNIGHT.  
(BLACKOUT)

**END OF SCENE FOUR**

**SCENE FIVE**

(TIME: Thirty minutes later.)

*Interior of the Madison Gymnasium in River City High School which appears to be well-filled. It is sparingly decorated with red, white and blue bunting. EULALIE, fifty and gushy, costumed as Columbia with a torch in her hand, leads the singing as ETHEL TOFFELMIER, a curvaceous 35, sways at the player piano, as she pumps an "expressive" accompaniment to "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean."*

(All TOWNSPEOPLE, led by EULALIE MACKECKNIE SHINN, SING in BLACKOUT, and as LIGHTS come up)

# 9 - Columbia, Gem of the Ocean

(Eulalie, Townspeople)

EULALIE, TOWNSPEOPLE

THY BANNERS MAKE TYRANNY TREMBLE,  
WHEN BORNE BY THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.  
WHEN BORNE BY THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.  
WHEN BORNE BY THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.  
THY BANNERS MAKE TYRANNY TREMBLE,  
WHEN BORNE BY THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE.

(At the conclusion of the number EULALIE steps down from the rostrum to polite applause and MAYOR GEORGE SHINN steps forward. HE is self-important)

SHINN

I'm sure we're all grateful to my wife, Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn for leading the singing and to Jacey Squires for his fine stereoptican slides -

(JACEY wheels the stereoptican machine off)

(SHINN)

...and to Ethel Toffelmier, our fine player-piano player — piano.

(Applause)

As Mayor of River City I welcome you River Citizens to the Fourth of July exercises set up for the indoors here in Madison Gymnasium account the weather.

Four score —

*("Flap-flap-flap-flap" interrupts the MAYOR'S speech. It is the end of the piano roll which MISS TOFFELMIER has been re-winding at the piano. SHINN looks around indignantly, then resumes his speech)*

Four score —

*(EWART DUNLOP rises from his seat in front of MAYOR and hands him a note. SHINN, reading)*

Ah — the members of the School Board will now present a patriotic tablow.

*(The THREE MEMBERS of the School Board who are seated on the rostrum indicate HE is wrong. He looks at note again)*

Oh — the members of the School Board will not present a patriotic tablow. Some disagreement about costumes, I suppose. Instead the Wa Tan Ye girls of the local wigwam of Heeawatha will present a spectacle my wife —

*(Catching himself. Looks at notes again)*

in which my wife —

*(MARIAN, now seated at the piano, starts to play INDIAN RHYTHM. HE indicates he has not finished. SHE stops)*

Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn, will take a leading part.

*(HE nods to MARIAN and she plays as six lovely corn-fed seventeenish GIRLS appear and mount the rostrum. Each wears a feather in a head-band. THEY are doing an Indian war dance step. EULALIE precedes them in full Indian head-dress, carrying a tom-tom which SHE beats to MARIAN'S Indian rhythm. AMARYLLIS, dressed as a GUIDE, follows her, struggling with a Springfield rifle.*

*EULALIE, bearing the tom-tom, adjusts the GUIDE'S sagging rifle)*

EULALIE

*(Peering RIGHT)*

Wa Tan Ye!

GIRLS

*(Peering RIGHT)*

WA TAN YE!

EULALIE

*(Again adjusting the rifle, then peering RIGHT)*

Wa Tan Ye!

GIRLS

WA TAN YE!

EULALIE

I will now count to twenty in the Indian tongue! Een teen tuther feather fip!

*(TOMMY DJILAS, seated on the floor in front of EULALIE, now sets off a large FIRECRACKER. EULALIE swoons)*

I'm shot, George, who shot me?

*(The MAYOR comforts her, aiding her OFFSTAGE. There is considerable disturbance)*

CONSTABLE LOCKE

*(Rising)*

Who set off that cracker?

GRACIE SHINN

I know who did it. Tommy Djilas did it — Tommy Djilas did it.

ALMA

Yes, it was Tommy Djilas.

CONSTABLE LOCKE

*(As TOMMY tries to escape)*

Tommy Djilas, I wouldn't leave if I see you.

*(TOMMY sits. CONSTABLE LOCKE joins him ominously)*

SHINN

*(Returning to rostrum)*

Mrs. Shinn will recover, no thanks to a certain young ruffian who is a disgrace to our city. Four score and seven —

*(JACEY SQUIRES RE-ENTERS, crosses to rostrum, hands MAYOR a note, and takes empty seat with rest of the School Board)*

"The Paine's Fireworks Spectacle, Last Days of Pompy-eye will take place, providing the rain stops by nine-thirty. It'll be out to Madison Picnic Park in the far meadow, 'cross the crick from the Pest House."

EWART DUNLOP

How can it be raining? Didn't the Gazette predict fair?  
*(Rolling THUNDER is heard)*

JACEY SQUIRES

Sure did, Ewart, that's why we all prepared for a storm.

OLIN BRITT

The Gazette is acc'r't most a'the time and you know it, Jacey.

OLIVER HIX

You wouldn't last very long in the bankin' business bein' accur't most a'the time.  
*(A verbal free-for-all is under way)*

SHINN

Now just a minute — let's have order here! Order! Order!

*(The quarrel subsides. The MEN sit. The TRAIN WHISTLE is heard. All the MEN take out their watches)*

OLIVER

Hmm. Number eight's late again tonight.

JACEY

I make her early.

EWART

She's late alright.

OLIN

She's right on time, 'smatter' th your watch?

*(THEY'RE off again. SHINN struggles for order)*

SHINN

Will you members of the School Board stop bicker'n in public?

OLIN

All in the world that I said was —

SHINN

*(Hastily)*

Never mind! Four score —

HAROLD

*(Half rising from where he has been an unobserved spectator)*

We heard there's a pool table in town.

MAN

Yeah — that's what I heard.

SHINN

Now just a minute —

MAUD

Is it a pool table or isn't it?

SHINN

Will you allow me to get on with the exercises?

MAN #2

We don't want any more exercises till we get this pool table matter settled!

HAROLD

Let's protect our children.

*(CROWD reacts)*

Resist sin and corruption.

*(CROWD reacts)*

Smite that devil and keep our young boys pure.

*(CROWD reacts)*

# 10 — *Trouble Reprise*

*(Harold)*

HAROLD

*(Appearing on the podium)*

Friends...

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE?

*(Slam)*

ATTENTION, PLEASE!

*(Slam)*

*(Slam)*

I CAN DEAL WITH THIS TROUBLE, FRIENDS,  
WITH A WAVE OF MY HAND, THIS VERY HAND!  
PLEASE OBSERVE ME IF YOU WILL.

(HAROLD)

I'M PROFESSOR HAROLD HILL,  
AND I'M HERE TO ORGANIZE  
THE RIVER CITY BOYS' BAND!

(DRUM ROLL)

PRRRRR!  
OH, THINK, MY FRIENDS,  
HOW COULD ANY POOL TABLE EVER HOPE TO  
COMPETE WITH A GOLD TROMBONE?  
RAAAA-RAAAA  
RA-DA-DA-DA-DA  
RAAA-RA.  
REMEMBER, MY FRIENDS,  
WHAT A HANDFUL OF TRUMPET PLAYERS  
DID TO THE FAMOUS, FABLED WALLS OF JERICHO!

(Slam)

OH, BILLIARD PARLOR WALLS  
COME TUMBLING DOWN!

(Slam)

(Slam )

(Slam)

OH, A BAND'LL DO IT, MY FRIENDS,  
OH, YES! I MEAN A BOYS' BAND.  
DO YOU HEAR ME?

(Slam)

I SAY, RIVER CITY'S GOTTA HAVE A BOYS' BAND,  
AND I MEAN SHE NEEDS IT TODAY.

(Slam)

WELL, PROFESSOR HAROLD HILL'S ON HAND  
AND RIVER CITY'S GONNA HAVE HER BOYS' BAND!  
AS SURE AS THE LORD MADE LITTLE GREEN APPLES,  
AND THAT BAND'S GONNA BE IN...

...uniform! Johnny, Willy, Teddy, Fred! And you'll see the glitter of crashing Cymbals.  
And you'll hear the thunder of rolling Drums; the shimmer of Trumpets - Tantara!  
And you'll feel something akin to the electric thrill I once enjoyed when Gilmore,

(Slam)

Liberatti,

(Slam)

Pat Conway,

*(Slam)*

The Great Creatore,

*(Slam)*

W. C. Handy,

*(Slam)*

and John Philip Sousa all came to town on the very same historic day.

# 11 - *Seventy-Six Trombones*

*(Harold, Townspeople)*

SEVENTY SIX TROMBONES LED THE BIG PARADE,  
WITH A HUNDRED AND TEN CORNETS CLOSE AT HAND.  
THEY WERE FOLLOWED BY ROWS AND ROWS  
OF THE FINEST VIRTUOSOS,  
THE CREAM OF EV'RY FAMOUS BAND.

SEVENTY SIX TROMBONES CAUGHT THE MORNING SUN,  
WITH A HUNDRED AND TEN CORNETS RIGHT BEHIND.  
THERE WERE MORE THAN A THOUSAND REEDS  
SPRINGING UP LIKE WEEDS.  
THERE WERE HORNS OF EV'RY SHAPE AND KIND.

THERE WERE COPPER BOTTOM TIMPANI IN HORSE PLATOONS,  
THUNDERING, THUNDERING, ALL ALONG THE WAY.  
DOUBLE BELL EUPHONIUMS AND BIG BASSOONS,  
EACH BASSOON HAVING HIS BIG FAT SAY.

THERE WERE FIFTY MOUNTED CANNON IN THE BATTERY,  
THUNDERING, THUNDERING LOUDER THAN BEFORE.  
CLARINETS OF EV'RY SIZE  
AND TRUMPETERS WHO'D IMPROVISE  
A FULL OCTAVE HIGHER THAN THE SCORE.

*(HAROLD parades with the KIDS)*

TOWNSPEOPLE

SEVENTY SIX TROMBONES HIT THE COUNTERPOINT,  
WHILE A HUNDRED AND TEN CORNETS BLAZED AWAY.  
TO THE RHYTHM OF HARCH! HARCH! HARCH!  
ALL THE KIDS BEGAN TO MARCH,  
AND THEY'RE MARCHING STILL - RIGHT TODAY!

# 12 - *Seventy-Six Trombones - Ballet*

(Orchestra)

*(There is a choreographic interpolation in which all the KIDS [DANCERS], carried along by the spirit of the song, pantomime instruments. The number winds up with the entire ENSEMBLE parading. As THEY disperse, SHINN corners the SCHOOL BOARD)*

# 13 - *Seventy-Six Trombones - Playoff*

(Orchestra)

SHINN

Men, this calls for emergency action. That man is a spellbinder. I haven't seen lowa people get so excited since the night Frank Gotch and Strangular Lewis lay on the mat for three and a half hours without moving a muscle! Never mind! I want his credentials.

*(TOMMY DJILAS, being escorted out by CONSTABLE LOCKE, suddenly cuts and runs. Reversing his field, TOMMY runs into HAROLD, who holds him)*

Grab that hoodlum! He almost blew up Mrs. Shinn!

CONSTABLE

Thank you, Professor. Have to make an example of him. Ringleader, you know. What he does the gang does.

TOMMY

Jeely Kly, lemme go.

SHINN

Ya wild kid, ya. Hanging around my oldest girl. His father is one a'them day laborers south a'town. Ya wild kid, ya.

*(To HAROLD)*

Taggin' down Main Street after my oldest girl last Sunday.

TOMMY

I wasn't either taggin'.

SHINN

Don't you counterdict me -

TOMMY

We'uz just walkin' together, Jeely Kly -

SHINN

You watch your frazology! I know what you'uz doin', my little Gracie seen ya. Now you stay away from my oldest girl or you'll hear from me till who laid the rails!



Hill, I'll talk to you Monday morning about this band thing. Over't City Hall.  
Ten o'clock sharp.

*(Aside as HE EXITS)*

Men, I want that spellbinder's credentials.

HAROLD

*(As CONSTABLE starts off with TOMMY)*

Constable. I'll be responsible for the boy.

CONSTABLE

You don't know this kid - he's tough, and he's got his gang waitin' outside.

HAROLD

Oh, I'll be careful. Tommy, like to talk to you about the band.

TOMMY

Aw gee, Professor, that's for the little kids.

HAROLD

I'm not talking about you playing in the band. You're mechanically minded, aren't you? Ever do anything with perpetual motion?

TOMMY

*(Sullenly)*

Nearly had it a couple times.

HAROLD

You did? You're my man! Do you realize nobody has ever invented a music-holder for a marching piccolo player?

*(Holds arms in Piccolo playing position)*

No place to hang the music.

TOMMY

*(Impressed)*

Jeely Kly! Wonder where I could get some wire from.

HAROLD

Look in your cellar, that's where people keep wire.

*(TOMMY starts tearing out. The CONSTABLE makes a move, HAROLD restrains him)*

Oh, Tommy!

**TOMMY**

*(Stopping in midflight)*

Yessir?

*(CONSTABLE LOCKE reacts in astonishment at the "sir")*

**HAROLD**

*(Aside to CONSTABLE)*

Now, Constable, I'll show you how to break up a gang.

*(Looks around)*

Oh, young lady. Oh miss —

*(HE beckons to a very pretty WA TAN YE GIRL, pink and sixteen)*

What's your name?

**YOUNG GIRL**

*(Approaching)*

Zaneeta. I didn't have any idea you was beckoning to me. Ye Gods.

**HAROLD**

Do you know Tommy Djilas?

**ZANEETA**

Well, I —

**HAROLD**

Tommy, this is Zaneeta. Escort the young lady home.

**ZANEETA**

Only excepting I'm not going home. I have to go't the Liberry. Ye Gods.

**HAROLD**

Then escort the young lady home by way of the library —

*(Takes out coins)*

by way of the candy kitchen.

**TOMMY**

*(Grinning)*

Yes sir. Do I hafta?

**HAROLD**

You hafta.

TOMMY

Yes sir.

ZANEETA

*(As SHE and TOMMY EXIT)*

Ye Gods.

CONSTABLE

Professor, you're a pretty bright young fellow. You made a couple mistakes, though.

HAROLD

Oh?

CONSTABLE

The Mayor happens to own the Billiard Parlor and that new pool table.

HAROLD

Oh. What was my other mistake?

CONSTABLE

That Zaneeta. She's the Mayor's oldest girl.

*(As HAROLD starts to cross to the LADIES who have ENTERED RIGHT,  
the SCHOOL BOARD approaches him from LEFT)*

EWART DUNLOP

*(The second tenor)*

Just a minute — Professor Hill. We'd like to have your credentials.  
We're the School Board.

OLIN BRITT

*(The bass — contradicting)*

Academic certificates.

OLIVER

*(The baritone, to OLIN, with irritation)*

Nothing of the kind!

EWART

*(To OLIVER, irascibly)*

We need letters and papers!

JACEY

*(The high tenor, to the OTHERS, nastily)*

Make him put up a bond!

HAROLD

What am I hearing?

# 14 - *Ice Cream/Sincere*

*(Harold, Quartet)*

*(Whirling back to OLIN, blows pitch pipe)*

Say -

*(SINGS on low note)*

ICE CRREEEM.

OLIN

Ice Cream, but I don't sing young man, if that's what you're -

HAROLD

All right, talk then.

*(Low)*

Down here!

OLIN

Ice Cream.

HAROLD

Talk slow!

OLIN

*(In a rich rolling bass)*

ICE CRREEEM.

HAROLD

See? Singing is only sustained talking.

*(Pointing to OLIVER - on a baritone note)*

NOW YOUUUU.

OLIVER

*(In a full baritone)*

ICE CRREEEM.

HAROLD

*(To EWART)*

NOW YOUUUU. RIGHT HEEER.

EWART

ICE CREEEEM.

HAROLD

*(Points skyward to JACEY)*

Now, you, sir!

JACEY

*(On the high note)*

ICE CREEEEEEEMMMM.

HAROLD

*(Crossing to the LADIES)*

Ladies, from now on you'll never see one of those men without the other three.

EULALIE

Oh, Professor, you're wrong! Why they've hated each other for fifteen years.

JACEY, EWART, OLIN, OLIVER

*(Behind HAROLD'S back THEY hit a gorgeous chord)*

ICE CREAM.

ICE CREAM.

ICE CREAM.

*(HAROLD takes, joins the MEN as THEY are shaking hands all around and congratulating each other)*

HAROLD

*(Pointing at QUARTET)*

HOW CAN THERE BE -

OLIVER

- ANY -

QUARTET

- SIN IN "SINCERE"?

WHERE IS THE GOOD IN "GOODBYE"?

EWART, OLIVER, OLIN

IN "GOODBYE"?

QUARTET

YOUR APPREHENSIONS CONFUSE ME, DEAR,  
PUZZLE AND MYSTIFY.  
MYSTIFY...

(MARIAN EXITS with HAROLD in pursuit, the LADIES move  
UPSTAGE as the LIGHTS dim and the QUARTET moves down into  
1 in a FOLLOW SPOT)

TELL ME,  
WHAT CAN BE FAIR IN "FAREWELL", DEAR,  
WHILE ONE SINGLE STAR SHINES ABOVE?  
HOW CAN THERE BE ANY SIN IN "SINCERE"?  
AREN'T WE SINCERELY IN LOVE?

EWART, OLIVER, OLIN

OH, WE'RE IN LOVE.

(As QUARTET holds its last gorgeous note we BLACKOUT.  
The MUSIC segues to Walking Music)

**END OF SCENE FIVE**

**SCENE SIX**

# 15 - Walking Music (Reprise)

(Orchestra)

(TIME: Immediately following.)

AT RISE: Lights come up on the street in front of the Library.  
Walking Music accompanies MARIAN'S entrance. HAROLD is following)

HAROLD

I don't suppose you live alone, or anything?

MARIAN

No!

HAROLD

I've got some wonderful caramels over't the hotel if you'd -

(MARIAN and MUSIC stop abruptly)