



(Above)—MARION KIWANIS BAND. This fine little band not only furnishes the 3500 people of Marion with music on summer evenings and during celebrations but recently made a trip to Washington, D. C., playing in 22 cities along the way. This is the band Sherwood Anderson is "rooting" for and to whose support Otto Kahn and the rest contributed. Frank Lieto, director, extreme left.



(Left)—Sherwood Anderson says he is happier because he has rescued the band in Marion than if he had written the year's Best Seller, not because he has done a "good deed" but because he'll be sure of band concerts this summer.



SHERWOOD ANDERSON, famous novelist and short story writer, among the type cases of his weekly newspaper in Marion, Virginia. Mr. Anderson created a sensation last November when he left New York City and became publisher of two little weekly papers down among the Blue Ridge Mountains. About the first thing he did was start a campaign for the Marion band. He likes a band "better than almost anything else in a town," he says. His appeals, written in the inimitable Sherwood Anderson style, not only stirred up support among the people of Marion but brought contributions from Otto Kahn, international banker, H. L. Mencken, noted writer and critic, Horace Liveright, well known publisher, and other national figures.

VOICE AND PICTURES NOW SYNCHRONIZE

New Apparatus Made Available for Schools, Churches and Motion Picture Theatres.

Engineers are now at work on a simplified photophone device suitable for use in the home, which will make it possible, it is stated, to reproduce "talking movies" in the home very much as the ordinary radio broadcast programs are now being received in more than eight million homes. This announcement was made by General James G. Harbord, President of the Radio Corporation of America, at the formation of a new company to be known as "R. C. A. Photophone, Incorporated."



Gen. J. G. Harbord

In discussing the formation of the new company, General Harbord pointed out that although the Radio Corporation, General Electric and Westinghouse had been preparing for several years to market apparatus synchronizing voice and music with motion pictures, public introduction of the apparatus had been delayed until the engineers had achieved "complete practicability" so that it would be as simple to operate as a radio set, and, at the same time, highly perfected.

"The Photophone," said General Harbord "is both simple and practical. The essential principle is the recording of pictures and sound on one film. While various methods have been devised for 'talking movies,' experience has shown that the most practical is that of recording pictures and sound on the same film. This is the method employed by the Photophone. It is now possible to photograph the President of the United States—voice as well as action—and to distribute films reproducing the event throughout the country.

Uses and Operation
"Easily operated reproducing apparatus for use in theatres, schools and churches will be nationally available. An entire opera, musical comedy or drama can be electrically recorded on the film, just as it is seen and heard, and then reproduced from the same film. Whatever can be seen or heard, whether it is a nightingale singing or an army in battle, can now be recorded and reproduced for both the eye and the ear. Moving picture dramas with complete orchestral accompaniment, or with music and speech, will be available for nation-wide use.

"Standard films without the sound can be used without any change in the machine. The only thing the operator has to do is to close one switch when he is projecting pictures with sound, and open it when he does not want the sound. Any type of 'talking film' can be used in the machine. The type of sound reproducer to be used will vary with the size of the room in which the pictures are to be shown. The reproducer embodies some remarkable new developments in acoustics.

"Sight and hearing have been the two avenues of approach to the human mind for education, religion and entertainment. Now one medium combines the appeal to sight and hearing simultaneously, with universal accessibility and availability. The complete practicability of the new art has already been demonstrated, and there remained only the need for an intelligent and serviceable system of manufacture and distribution.

"One can only guess at the many varied uses of this invention as an instrument for the spread of knowledge, for bringing the people of the world closer together, and for the advancement of civilization."

Old Year Dead When Harvest Is Gathered?
That the calendar by which we count our days does not fit in harmoniously with the seasons is pointed out by an editorial in Liberty Magazine.

"It has long been obvious," explains the editorial, "that starting the calendar on the first of January is all wrong. The year ends with the harvest, when the last grain is in the leaves are fallen, and the earth has gone to sleep. The closing day of the calendar might well be that one on which we turn away from outward things and ask about the chances of having a little steam heat.

"It is unlikely on the whole, that the calendar makers will agree to end the year with the fall and begin it with the spring, as is meet and proper," concludes the editorial. "We must take January 1 as the beginning of the year because Julius Caesar fixed it that way and nobody has changed it."

Mule Long Imprisoned
When his mule disappeared, Dan Darling, pioneer farmer of Nixon, Texas, started a farflung search for him, without avail, even putting out postcards with a reward for his return. Two weeks later, he happened to cross a dry creek in the middle of his pasture, and found the mule wedged in between two banks in such a way that he could not get out. Darling procured help, and released the mule, which had not suffered much in spite of his long stay without food or water.—Indianapolis News.

Famous Writer, Turned Country Paper Editor, Boosts the Town Band

No wonder the Marion band of Marion, Virginia, considers its troubles are over, says the Conn Music Center, Elkhart, Ind. Sherwood Anderson, who is reported to get a nickel a word for his short stories, is championing the band with a half to a column article every week in the Marion papers, which he recently bought.

Not only has this highly paid writer stirred up support in Marion, but many national figures have come to the support of the band.

Otto Kahn, international banker and donor to the Metropolitan Opera, has contributed \$100. H. L. Mencken, "cussed" or praised by perhaps more people than any other writer in America, chipped in \$12. So did Horace Liveright, well known publisher. Alfred Knopf, another publisher of New York City, came across with \$5, as did also Fred Black, Ford Motor Co., Detroit, and Brig. General Rosenbaum, Washington, D. C.

Sherwood Anderson says he is not an uplifter. He claims he took up the band cause from his own selfish desires. He says he likes a band. Band music just suits him. He would like to play the biggest horn in the band himself but lacks ability. He would like to be the drum major best of all, he confesses, but he doesn't have the figure. It's in his system, I guess, as his father used to play a cornet in the same town band with the late President Harding.

His First Story

"What does a band mean to a town?" Anderson asks in one of his first stories. "Better ask what is a town without a band? Life in a town goes on, just so. You know how it is. Merchants selling goods, lawyers fighting their cases, farmers coming into town to buy goods, Spring, summer, fall, winter. People in their houses, women cooking, making beds. Life is dull enough.

"Days come. See, the men of the band have put on their uniforms and are coming up along the street. The big drum is booming, the horns going.

"Just suppose now, in our town, we are visited by some great man. Hurrah now, let's give him a big day. It may be the governor of the state or some other dignitary. Our principal men are going to meet him down at the station. They have their best cars there, the biggest and best cars we have in town, all our leading citizens. And no band. Pahaw! What a frost.

"And what about Armistice Day and the Fourth of July?

"Or when the fair is on.

"Older men, staid citizens of a town may be able to get along without a band but what about the boys?

"When I was a boy my one great yearning was to play the biggest horn in the town band. I never made it. There never was much music in me.

"Still and all, I'm not a jealous man. What I can't have I don't want to take away from the other fellow.

Fond of the Band

"I still like a band better than almost anything else in a town. Band music just suits me. There they come up the street. Lately I have only seen the Marion band in action a few times and then they didn't have any drum major. I hope they get one again soon. I like to see the fellow in the big bearskin hat with his staff and stepping high and wide.



HENRY MENCKEN, the famous Baltimore Bell Wether, who gave a year's dues to the band boys. With his contribution came a note saying, "It is an honor and a pleasure. All I wish is that the boys play 'Die Wacht am Rhein' once a year, preferably on my birthday. Don't let the band die. Anderson wrote back: 'O. K., Henry. When is your birthday? We'll have a parade.'"

"I'd like to do it myself but I haven't got the figure for it.

"And how faithful and devoted the band members are. The men of our Marion band, for example, go off to practice twice a week. Far from receiving paid for their work they do it without pay. The members even pay dues to keep the band going.

"Recently, until these last few weeks, our Marion band has had a band leader who was paid a good salary because he was a good musician. He was there to keep the boys up to snuff and would be there now but that he is sick.

"But the boys are at it just the same. They are keeping the band up.

Sacrifices of Band Men

"There are men in the Marion band who make a sacrifice every time they go out to play. Bear this in mind. When we want our band most, other towns, that haven't any band, would

like one too. Our band gets off to go all over the Southwest. Each offers almost always come when we need them here and they get out. Instead of going out on a raising in money they stay here and do their services.

"And there are individual members of the band who make a sacrifice every time they go out to play. Do they kick? Not they.

"The boys of the band like their band, and so do we. Hurrah here they come. Music floating in the breeze. Every heart jumping. Life. Music. Zipp.

"We like that. 'The people of Marion owe it to their band to give it the heartiest kind of support. Get back of them. When they need a little money to keep going, shell out. A good band is the best investment a town can make.'"

Join the Glory List

"Join the Glory List," Sherwood Anderson headlines another story, and continues. "The Marion Publishing Company doesn't intend to become a crusader. You know he city papers are. Well, we make no pretensions of being a big city paper. We are just a little old country weekly, that's what we are.

"Still and all, as Mr. Ring L. Alder is so fond of saying, we do not want the big city papers to hang it over our eyes. City papers are always getting up a crusade for some good cause. They uplift this one or that one. Sometimes whole sections of society get uplifted like that. It's wonderful.

"We aren't, however, quite so unphilippic. Up to date we have taken up but one cause and that is the Marion Band. It may be the only one we ever will take up. And we are not doing that out of any altruistic impulse. It's just because we like to hear the band play. We like to see them parade. When a big day comes we like to see them put on their uniforms and come blowing their horns up Main street.

"I am going, everyone feeling so. Life is drab enough on ordinary days. We have never found any way to be a canny bird ourselves.

Summer Night Concerts

"What we want is to see the band boys have a little money in the treasury. We want band concerts on summer nights.

"O, hearts of gold, who will put up \$500 a year over a period of five years to get and keep our school in financial condition? We are making this appeal not only to Marionites but to all people in the surrounding country who read this paper and who like to come to our town when there is something stirring, or on summer nights to hear the band play.

"The King of England, President of France, President of the United States, Senators, Politicians, Millionaires, Rich Authors, Poor Ones, Farmers, Merchants, Anyone welcome. If you do not want to sign up for



OTTO H. KAHN, international banker, leader of the Metropolitan Opera, music enthusiast and philanthropist, who started the Marion band fund off with a check for \$100. Several contributions from national figures followed but the bulk of the fund came from Marion people who love the band as one of the biggest things in the town.

more than one year or cannot give \$500, do not let that stop you.

JOIN THE GLORY LIST

Spirit of the Band
Anderson says he would like to be the drum major in the band but doesn't have the figure. Well, he may be a little plump and his knee action may be a bit stiff but we'll vote for him, anyway. He catches the spirit of the parading band. That's what it means to be a drum major.

"The band represents the town on its gay days," he says. "When the fair comes, when there is a celebration, Fourth of July, any kind of a jubilee when every citizen becomes a boy again, then a good band, stepping gaily out, the drums beating, flags flying—what is a town without a good band?"

"You cannot have a good band in debt. You cannot expect the boys to blow gaily, step out with real gusto, when they are in debt. To have a good band requires nights of steady practice. It requires sticking to it. What can you expect when the boys have to come to band meetings and slunk down a dollar just for the privilege of working to be good when we want them good?"

"The boys got a little discouraged. Their leader got sick. A lot of them are working boys. They got a little in debt. This paper is no uplift paper. It is just a good, little old country paper. But we like a band. We began writing about the Marion band in our paper.

"Well, don't you worry about old Marion. We will rake in many a five-dollar bill for the boys."

Viewpoint of the Band Men

Few have gotten the viewpoint of the small town band as has Sherwood Anderson. He has learned from the band men what they are up against. He also appreciates what the band really means to any town.

"One of the first signs of the decay of a town is when it cannot get up enthusiasm to support a band. The Marion band needs support. Most people don't know it.

"In order to keep themselves up to snuff the boys practice twice a week. They pay a dollar a month out of their own pockets. This isn't fair. They should not be asked to do that. The money goes to pay rent for a hall in which to practice, and other incidental expenses.

"Who will pay the yearly dues for one band boy? This paper will receive it for them. Some of the boys have got behind in their dues. A good many of them work hard for their money. When they get behind they do not feel like coming around to practice and the band suffers.

Loyalty of the Band

"Only last Armistice Day our band had an offer to go to another town. They could have got \$100 for the day. They stuck to Marion. They have always stuck. We want to stick to them.

"There is soon to be a show put on in town a part of the proceeds of which go to the band. Support that when it comes along. If you feel like tipping in to pay some fellow's dues for a year, we will be glad to hear from you."

When the campaign has run its course, the Marion band will probably be completely outfitted with quadruple gold-plated horns and uniforms with gold braid three inches wide. Anyway, the people of Marion are assured of band concerts this summer and of having a snappy band to live up all their snappy days with music.



HORACE LIVERIGHT, publisher, letter producer and literateur. In a letter he says: "I want a little band boy of my own. Enclosed find \$12 to pay one band boy's dues for the year. Pick me a good one, one with good lungs. Let him blow hard. You tell that band boy that when a big day comes in Marion, I want him to shine his shoes, comb his hair, keep his eyes off the girls and go to it. Lordy, why didn't I learn to blow a horn myself when I was younger! I would like nothing better in this world than to be one of the Marion Band Boys. Here's to them."

AMERICA LEADING IN RADIO COMMUNICATION

The opening of a new, direct radio channel between New York and Lisbon, Portugal, for the transmission and reception of radiograms was recently announced by the Radio Corporation of America. The inauguration of this radio circuit adds another spoke to the world-wide communication system which has New York as its hub and radiates directly to England, France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Poland, Turkey, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Porto Rico, the Dutch West Indies, and Dutch Guiana. From San Francisco other direct radio circuits join the United States to Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Shanghai, China, the Dutch East Indies and French Indo China. To further insure the continued supremacy of the United States in transoceanic radio communication the RCA is planning additional circuits for the near future to countries as near as Canada and Cuba, and as distant as Spain, Czechoslovakia, Chile and

Mightier Than the Purse

How a California newspaper man's pen became as mighty as a well-filled purse is told by V. C. of Hayward, Calif. Scouring the town for stories, the reporter came upon a poverty-stricken little family occupying two rooms, with no beds and very little of anything else. The children slept huddled on the floor. Into his column next day went a faithful and graphic description. The following day he spent the later hours declaiming furniture, bedding, clothing and food for the family, for the proffered supply soon exceeded the immediate needs.

Frugality

As boys should be educated with temperance, so the first greatest lesson that should be taught them is to admire frugality. It is by the exercise of this virtue alone that they can ever expect to be useful members of society. It is true, lectures continually repeated upon this subject may make some boys, when they grow up, run into an extreme, and become misers; but it were well had we more misers than we have amongst us.—Goldsmith.

Rome to Perfect Children

Rome's municipal government has outlined a program for physical improvement of its school children. It started a survey to find all unhealthy adolescents and will remove them free of charge. The governor of Rome has decreed the establishment of special classes for mentally defective children.

No Slouch

Thomas A. Edison, interviewed on his recent birthday, shook his head modestly over a voting contest that had made Henry Ford, Mussolini and himself the three greatest men living. "Only posterity," Mr. Edison said, "can know what men among us today are really great. Voting contests are no good, for each of us chooses his great men according to his own peculiar taste.

"A pawnbroker was discussing this voting contest with his wife the other day. 'Edison, Mussolini and Ford, hey?' he said. 'Well, dey was great men, yes; but do man vot invented interest yasn't no slouch.'"

More Than Fur Deep

Mary Katherine had a little alley cat on which she lavished all her young affections, and when it was lost she refused to be comforted. Grandma bought her a beautiful Angora kitten, but Mary Katherine was still loyal to the loved and lost.

"See, dear," grandma said one day, stroking the thick yellow fur, "don't this one much prettier than the other little kitty?"

Mary Katherine gulped and her brown eyes filled.

"But, grandma, she got over. It's the inside of a cat that counts!"—Kansas City Star.

Watch Your Weight

The best index of good health, says the Kansas City Times, is the weight. Mothers know this and weigh their babies regularly in order to be sure that they are well. People who are ill usually lose weight. But it is not healthful to be overweight. Fat people are less resistant to disease. To be too fat results in strain upon the heart. Watch your weight; keep it near the average for your age and height and you will have good health.