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ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (1911)

Words and Music by
IRVING BERLIN

Arrangement by the
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Verse $\text{♪} = \text{♪} \text{ } \text{♪} \text{ } \text{♪}$

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Oh, my hon-ey, — oh, my hon-ey, bet - ter hur - ry and

Oh, — let's go, bet - ter

let's me - an - der. Ain't you go - in', — ain't you go - in'

Ain't, oh, ain't

to the lead - er man, rag - ged me - ter man? Oh, my hon - ey, —

to rag - ged Oh, let's

Alexander's Ragtime Band

10 oh, my hon - ey, 11 let me take you to 12 Al - ex - an - der's

go, let

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 10 through 12. It is written for a piano in G major (one sharp) and 8/8 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure 10 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 11 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 12 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

13 grand - stand, 14 brass band. 15 Ain't you com - in' a - 16 long?

Ain't

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 13 through 16. Measure 13 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 14 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 15 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 16 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

Chorus 17 come hear, 18 come hear

Come on and hear, come on and hear Al - ex -

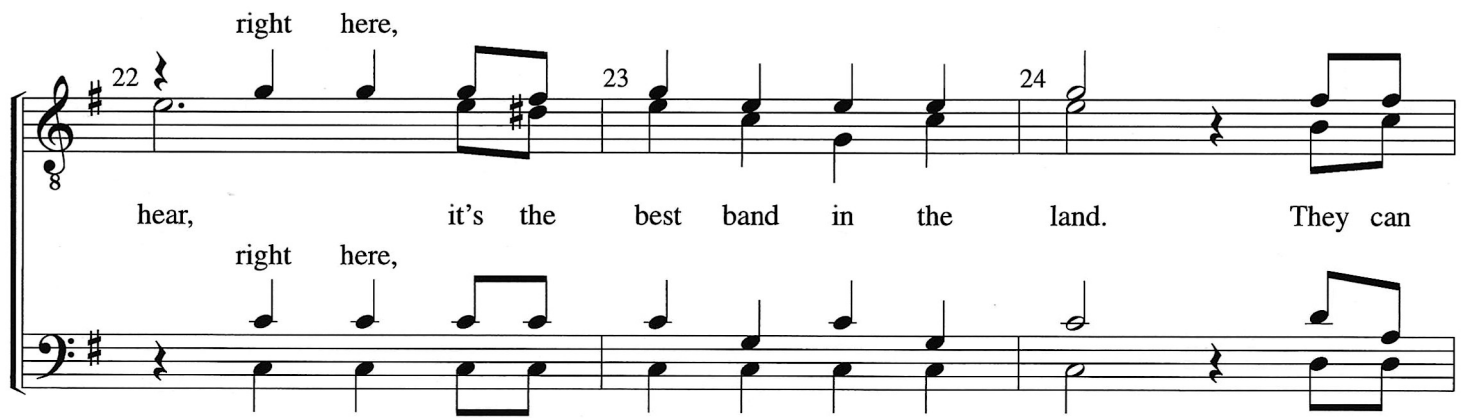
come hear, come hear

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 17 through 18. Measure 17 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 18 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

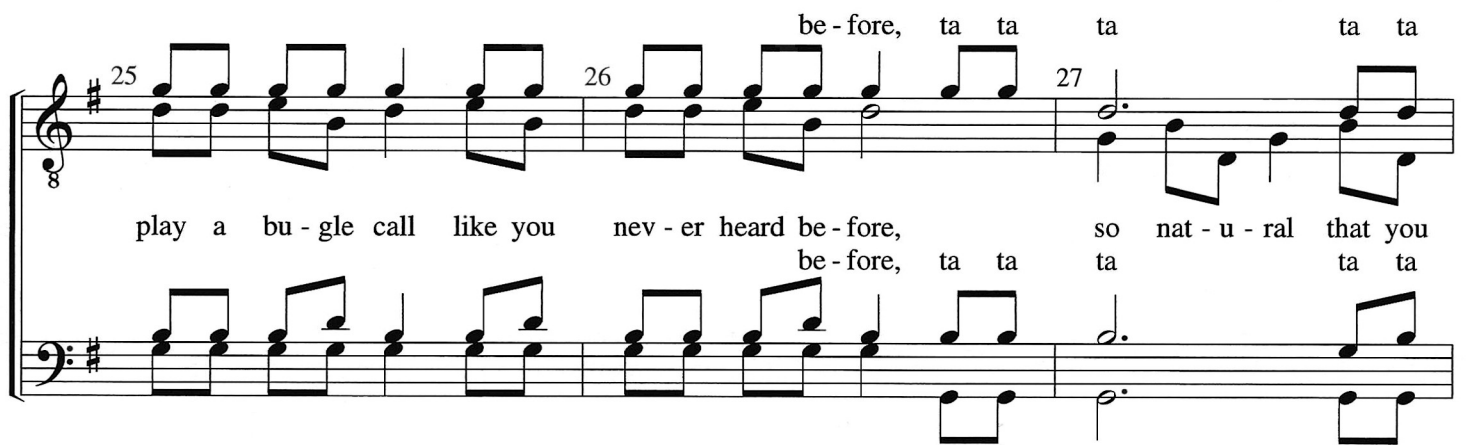
19 an - der's Rag - time Band. 20 Come on and hear, 21 Come on and hear,

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 19 through 21. Measure 19 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 20 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 21 has a whole note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

right here,
hear, it's the best band in the land. They can
right here,



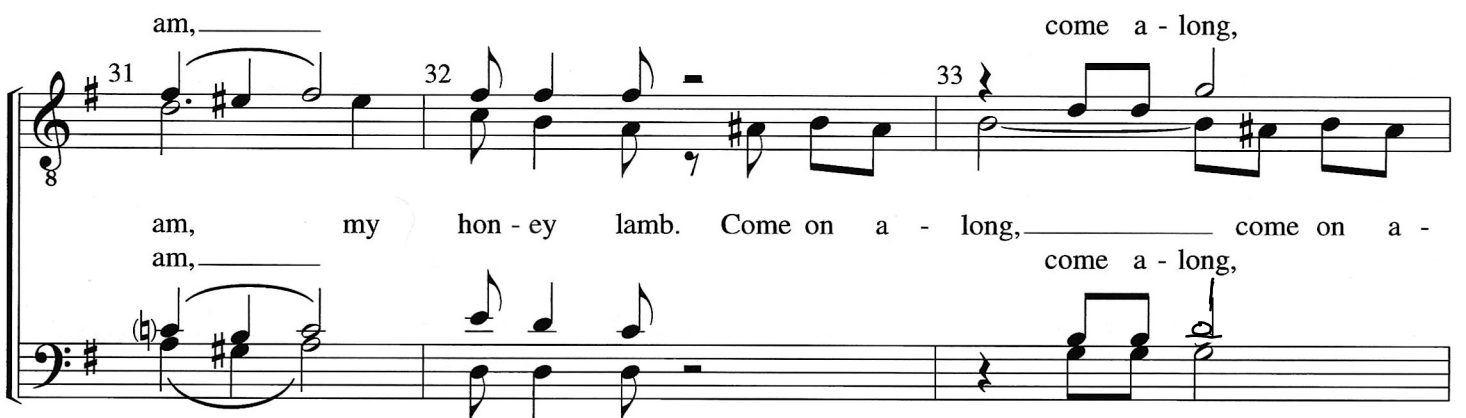
be - fore, ta ta ta ta ta
play a bu - gle call like you nev - er heard be - fore, so nat - u - ral that you
be - fore, ta ta ta ta ta



ta ta ta ta That's just
wan - na go to war. That's just the best - est band what
ta go ta ta That's just



am, come a - long,
am, my hon - ey lamb. Come on a - long, come on a -
am, come a - long,



Alexander's Ragtime Band

[illegible]

to the man, to the man

37 38 39

man, up to the man who's the lead - er of the

to the man, to the man

band. And if you care to hear that "Swanee River"

come on and hear, _____

played in rag - time, come on and hear, _____ come on and hear, come on and hear, _____

come on and hear, _____

— come on and hear Rag - time, Rag - time Band.

46 47 48

hear hear, come on and hear Al - ex - an - der's Rag - time Band.

— come on and hear Rag - time, Rag - time Band.

Tag

49 50 51

Hear that mu - sic, ain't it grand? — It's the best band

52 53 54

in the land, rag - time band!

Performance Notes

Irving Berlin was one of the most successful songwriters of the twentieth century. His first hit from his Tin Pan Alley days was *Alexander's Ragtime Band*. Berlin wrote hundreds of songs, including *God Bless America*, *White Christmas*, *What'll I Do?*, *Puttin' on the Ritz* and *Steppin' Out With My Baby*.

Although one of the most gifted musicians of his time, Berlin was not formally trained. He learned piano by ear and played all his songs on the black keys. In order to change keys, he had a custom piano built. This piano had a special lever that would allow him to shift keys so as to not write all songs in F#.

Enjoy the quick tempo and contagious energy this song inspires. At measure 53 the performer is invited to take great liberties with the note values, enjoying the final chords.