



IRVING BERLIN'S

OPENING CHORUS

B. G. DE SYLVA

Presents

William
GAXTON

Vera
ZORINA

Victor
MOORE

in

LOUISIANA PURCHASE

With Irene Bordoni

*Music and Lyrics
by*

IRVING BERLIN

Book by

MORRIE RYSKIND

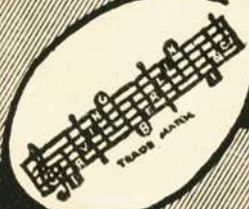
*Based on a Story by
B. G. DE SYLVA*

Directed by EDGAR Mc GREGOR - *Dances by* ROBERT ALTON
Costume and Scenery Designed by THOMAS LEE

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Bardelle

Made in U.S.A.

Opening Chorus

From the Musical Production
"LOUISIANA PURCHASE"

Music and Lyric by
IRVING BERLIN

Moderato

Be-fore we start the show, We'd like to have you know, The char-act-ers por-

trayed in our mus-i-cal cha - rade Have not been based on per-sons liv-ing or

dead They've all been made up out of the au-thor's head, in-

stead. The things that we re - veal, Nev - er hap-pened they're not real In

spite of what you've heard or what you've read _____ The pol-i-ti-cians

we in-ves-ti-gate _____ Could come from Maine or Kan-sas or Mon-

ta-na _____ So we laid our sto-ry in a myth-i-cal state _____ A

myth-i-cal state we call Lou-is-i-an-a _____ With-in our sim-ple plot

You'll no-tice quite a lot of ref-'ren-ces To crooks who have mon-keyed with their books And

with those gen-tle- men we're not too gen-tle _____ If they seem like men you've

read a-bout, It's pure-ly ac - ci - dent-al. The law says shows like this one can get

by with one re - stric-tion _____ it must be fic-tion _____ We've

tried to stay with - in the law That's why we laid our scenes _____ in New Or-

leans _____ A cit - y we've in - vent-ed, So that there would be no fuss. If there

is such a place it's cer-tain-ly news to us. A-gain the same old word,

No mat-ter what you've heard The vil-lains in our show Are just char-act-ers and so, If an

ar - row seems to strike Some - one who's in - ves - ti - gat - ed If he

This system contains the first four measures of the opening chorus. The vocal melody is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part in treble clef and a left-hand part in bass clef. The lyrics are: "ar - row seems to strike Some - one who's in - ves - ti - gat - ed If he".

looks to you just like Some - one to whom you're re - la - ted, Don't go

This system contains measures 5 through 8. The vocal melody continues in the same key and clef. The piano accompaniment features a more active right-hand part with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are: "looks to you just like Some - one to whom you're re - la - ted, Don't go".

out and sue, We don't mean you, it's fic-tion. So

This system contains measures 9 through 12. The vocal melody has a slight melisma on the word "fiction". The piano accompaniment continues with harmonic support. The lyrics are: "out and sue, We don't mean you, it's fic-tion. So".

don't be tem-per - 'men - tal If you're sons of mil - lion - aires, Don't start

This system contains measures 13 through 16, which conclude the opening chorus on this page. The vocal melody ends with a long note on "men-tal". The piano accompaniment provides a final harmonic setting for the phrase. The lyrics are: "don't be tem-per - 'men - tal If you're sons of mil - lion - aires, Don't start".

trem-bling in your bree-ches, When a char-act-er de - clares That you're dir-ty sons of

rich-es. Don't go out and sue, We don't mean you, The

like-ness is pure-ly ac - ci - dent-al _____ So please bear this in

mind Our show is of the myth-i-cal kind _____ The

book is myth-i - cal — The score is myth-i - cal — To

make them myth-i-cal was our on-ly chance — The scen'-ry's myth-i-cal — The

clothes are myth-i-cal — And now we'll let our myth-i - cal show ad-

vance And go in - to our myth-i - cal dance —