Leroy Anderson with Arthur Fiedler before a 1954 Boston Pops concert with both conducting. The concert was at the 25th reunion of Leroy Anderson's Harvard class of 1929.

Leroy Anderson (1908–1975)

"Leroy Anderson's music has thrilled millions of Americans and indeed the entire international music world for over sixty years."

— Erich Kunzel, conductor

1908 June 29, born in Cambridge, Massachusetts to first-generation Swedish parents.

1919 Began piano and music studies at New England Conservatory of Music.

1925 Composed, orchestrated and conducted the Cambridge High and Latin School orchestra in the class song for his graduation; entered Harvard College, studied harmony with Walter Spalding, counterpoint with Edward Ballantine, canon and fugue with William C. Heilman, and orchestration with Edward B. Hill and Walter Piston.

1926 Played trombone, Harvard University Band (through 1929).

1929 Awarded a B.A. magna cum laude in Music from Harvard College; elected to Phi Beta Kappa; continued in Graduate School, studied composition with Walter Piston and Georges Enesco; studied organ with Henry Gideon and double bass with Gaston Dufresne of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

1930 Awarded an M.A. in Music from Harvard University; tutor, Division of Music, Radcliffe College; continued in Graduate School with studies in German and Scandinavian languages (through 1934).

1931 Director of Harvard University Band (through 1935).

1936 Arranged and conducted *Harvard Fantasy*, a medley of Harvard songs, his first arrangement for the Boston Pops Orchestra; moved to New York City.

1938 *Jazz Pizzicato* premiered by Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops.

1942 Married Eleanor Firke; entered U.S. Army, served in Iceland; later Chief of Scandinavian Desk, Military Intelligence Service, Washington, D.C., released as Captain in 1946.

1945 Conducted the Boston Pops in premieres of *Promenade* and *Syncopated Clock*.

1946 Orchestrator and arranger for the Boston Pops (through 1950).

1949 Moved to Woodbury, Connecticut with his wife and children.

1950 First recording session for Decca Records; recorded his own works, often in their first performances, until 1962.

1952 Received gold record for one million sales of his recording of *Blue Tango*.

1954 Conducted his music with the Boston Pops, and other orchestras in the U.S. and Canada (through 1974).

1958 *Goldilocks*, his only musical, opened October 11 in New York City.

1975 May 18, died in Woodbury, Connecticut.

1988 Elected posthumously to the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

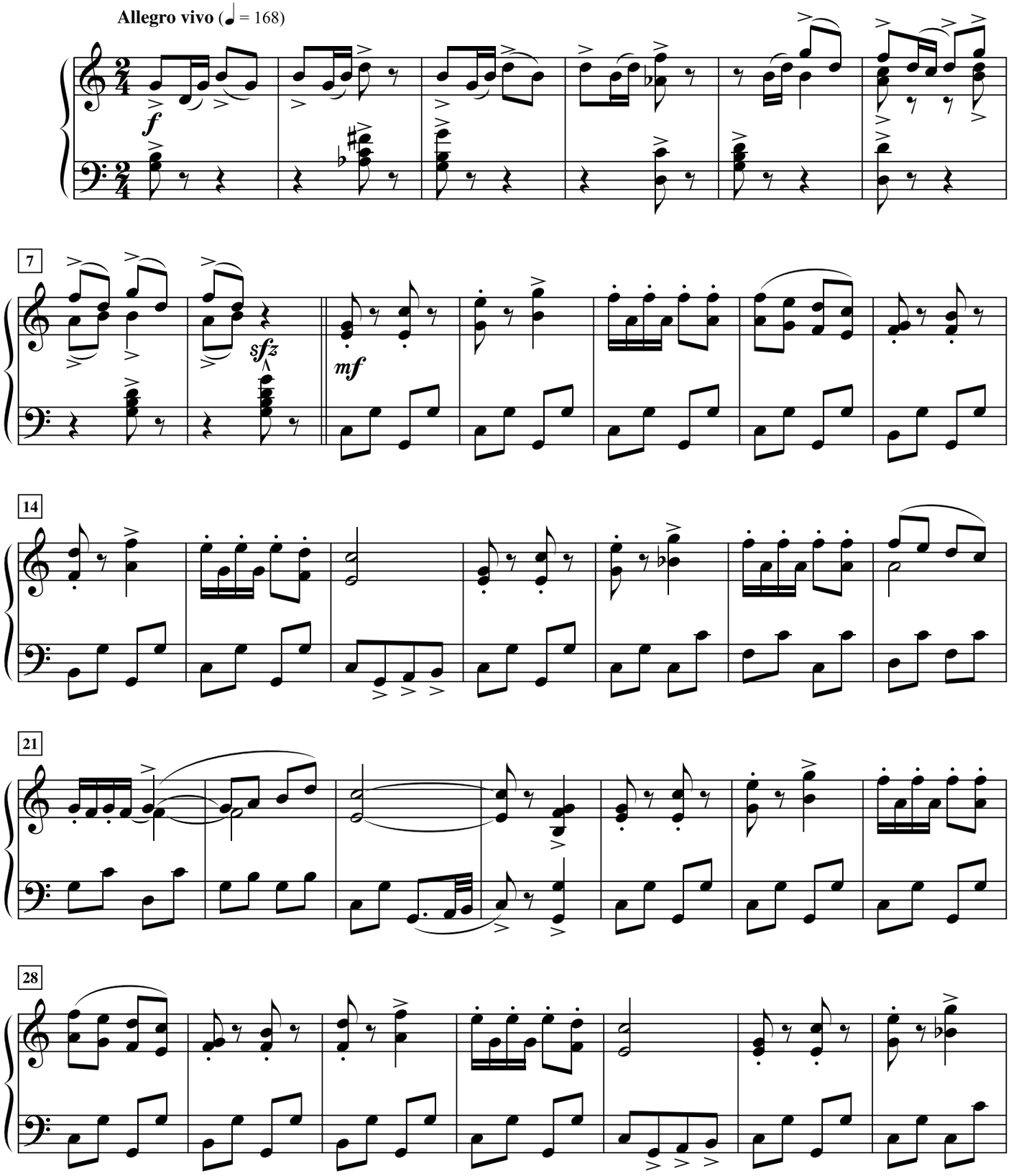
1995 Harvard University named new band quarters Anderson Band Center in honor of Leroy Anderson.

2003 Leroy Anderson Square dedicated at composer's boyhood home—12 Chatham Street—in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Leroy Anderson at home in 1953.

Bugler's Holiday

Leroy Anderson



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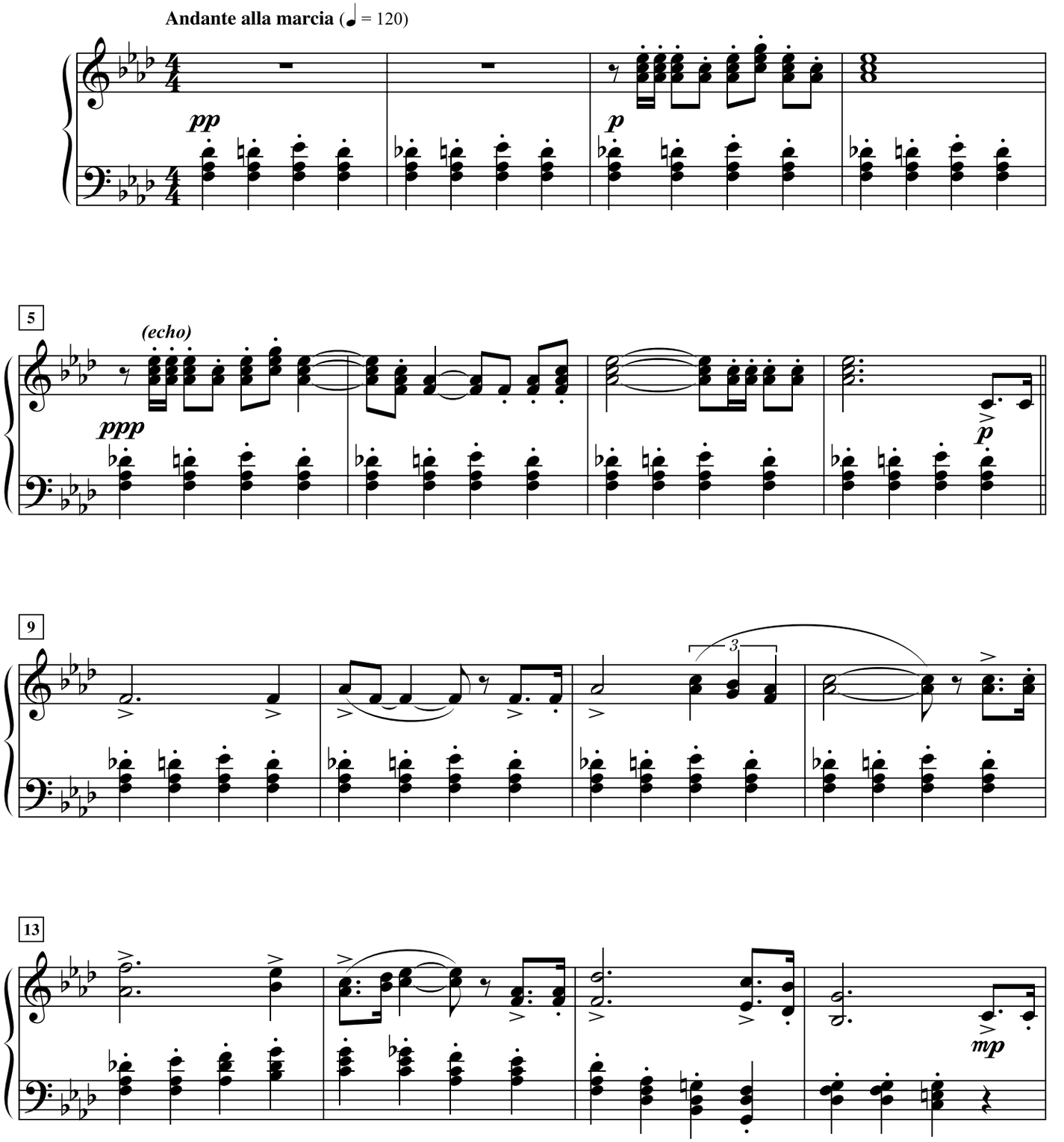
The Phantom Regiment

Leroy Anderson



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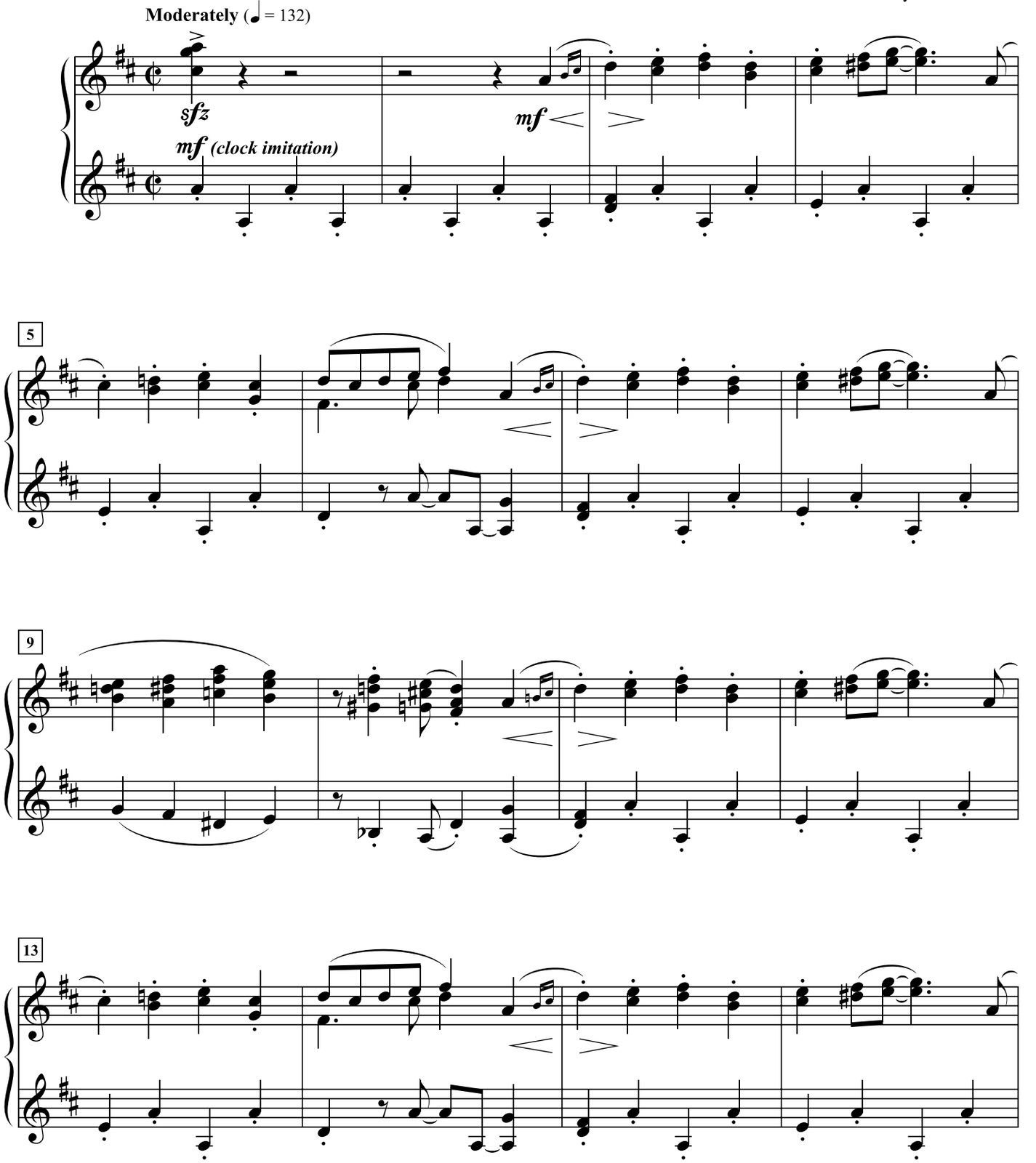
The Syncopated Clock

Leroy Anderson



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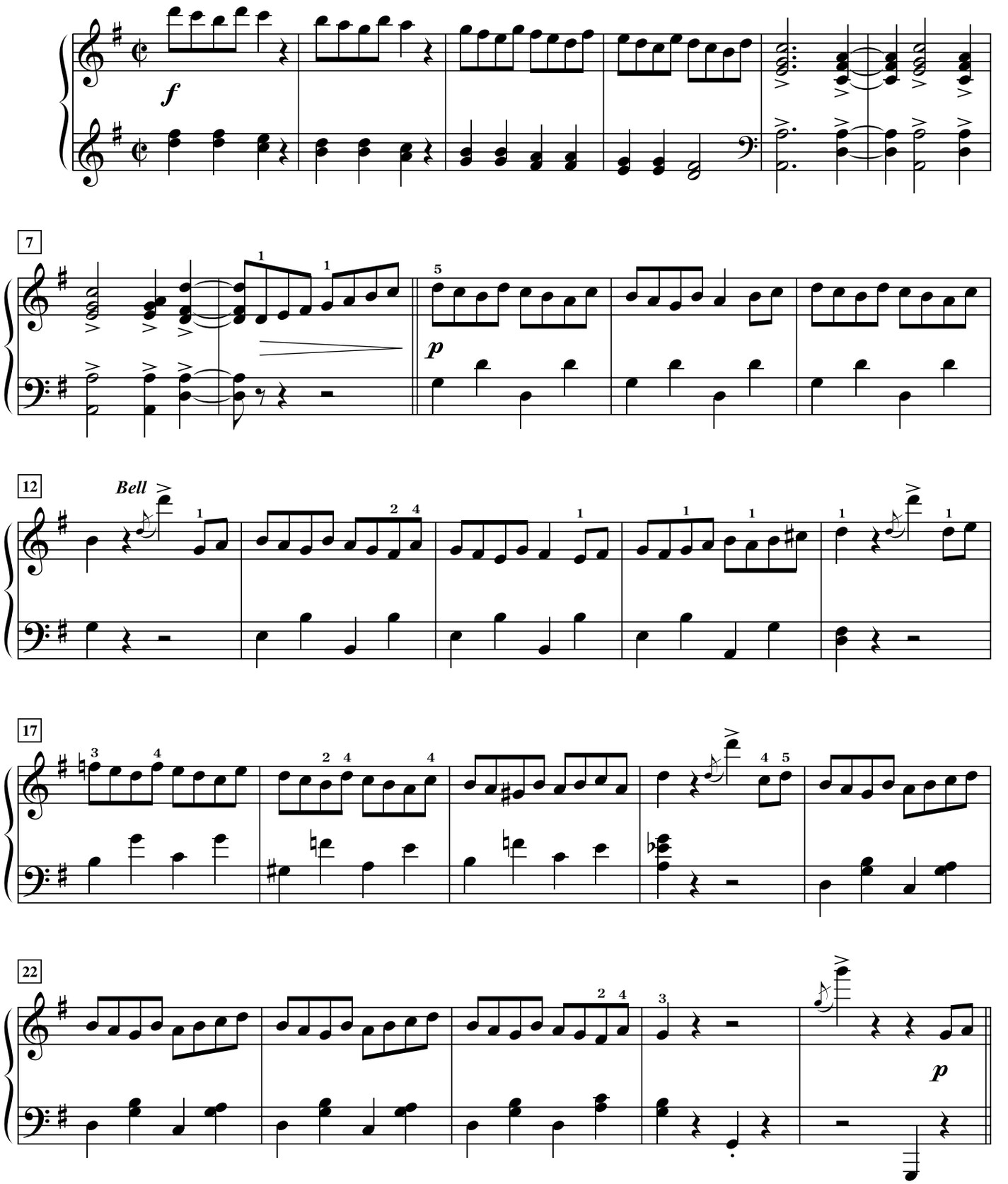
The Typewriter

Leroy Anderson

Allegro vivace (𝅗𝅥 = 160)



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