## STUDENT OUTLINE

#### A. Posture

- 1. Head and body erect.
- 2. Chest high, shoulders relaxed, belt line loose.
- 3. Weight on both feet when standing.
- 4. Sitting posture same as standing.

#### **B.** Holding the Instrument

- Sitting or standing, mouthpiece must come directly to lips without lowering head.
- 2. Shoulder strap necessary with upright tuba when standing.
- 3. Right hand must not support instrument.
- 4. Thumb ring used only to steady valve fingers.
- If player is young, bass stand may be used for Sousaphone in sitting position.

### C. Breathing

- 1. Posture is very important.
- 2. Breathe through corners of mouth. Fill lungs. Expand diaphragm. Do not raise shoulders.
- 3. Before blowing tone tighten diaphragm muscles to compress air in lungs. Have breath ready in roof of mouth before tongueing tone.

#### **D. Production of Tone**

- 1. Keep lips well apart.
- 2. Release air stored back of tongue and keep blowing. Same action as spitting seed from tongue.
- 3. Embouchure (lip formation) tighten corners of mouth and point chin.
- Tongue position end of tongue at tip of upper teeth. Syllable
  Ta or Ti never Tut.
- 5. Blow through the horn never against it or the lips.
- 6. Always blow out never hold back the breath.
- 7. Hear a good tone frequently.
- 8. A bass tone is mellow and round at all times even in ff playing.

#### E. Technical Devlopment

- 1. Learn the pattern exercises.
- 2. Do not neglect the low register.

#### F. The Language of Music

- Every exercise and tune is written for a reason. Practice with that reason in mind.
- 2. Learn the terms, signs, etc.
- 3. Learn the speed of the metronome marks.
- 4. Pay attention to dynamics, breath marks, styles of tongueing.
- 5. Play the duets with your teacher or with a friend in the band.
- 6. Play the solo before an audience.

#### G. Care of the Instrument

- 1. Keep the horn and mouthpiece clean with warm water.
- 2. Do not dent the horn it affects blowing and intonation.
- 3. Keep corks in good shape.
- 4. Use the right lubricant for valves and slides.
- 5. Own a good mouthpiece.

# PART I

## LESSON 1





