Times Picayune - April 21, 1908 - Lombardo gets it. West End musical contract goes to a newcomer.

The Committee of the New Orleans Railways Company which has had the West End attractions in charge has determined to give the musical contract to Lombardo, an Italian musician, who has a band of players here and was the lowest bidder for the concession. Several other bandmaster have been seeking the contract. It was understood that Paoletti, of this city, was the lowest. Mr. Lombardo will be required to give a bond, and in case this is not given then the next lowest bidder will come up for consideration. President Hugh McCloskey said that the management of the Company considered that it was the duty of the officers to give the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

New Orleans Item - April 29, 1908 - Lombardo Band gets contract, McKee to provide moving picture shows.

Contracts have been signed and all plans definitely arranged for the attractions which are to amuse the patrons of West End this summer.

Music is to be furnished by one of the finest military bands ever organized in the South. It will consist of thirty-five pieces and four vocalists, and will be under the leadership of Prof. G. B. Lombardo, a director of national note.

As heretofore announced the formal opening has been set for Sunday night, May 10.

Times Picayune - May 3, 1908 - West End Music - Prof. Lombardo preparing for the season's opening.

'It is my intention to employ the best of the home talent available said Prof. G. B. Lombard, leader of the military and which is to play at West End yesterday. I wish to deny the statement being circulated that it is my intention to employ out-of-town players to
the exclusion of all other. The fact of the matter is I have already engaged a number of New Orleans players.

'I also wish to deny the report that nonunion men will be allowed to play in the West End band. I will employ only union men. Should it be necessary for me to engage high-class soloists from Northern and Eastern cities they will be made to join the musicians' union here before they will be admitted into my organization. Even if I were not an enthusiastic supporter of unions I could not possibly use nonunion men I have already made contracts with union men, and that would to play with any person not a member of the union.

'I have been told that professional jealousy had led certain person to make a complaint to one of the officers of a union here, with the idea of having a boycott declared are so ridiculous that it is sac reply necessary to deny them. And I am certain the New Orleans public will see through the motives of maligners.'

Prof. Lombardo is probably the youngest band director in the United States. When he was only 5 years old he played the violin with such remarkable skill that it was to easily seen where his life work was. At 17 he was graduated from the Royal Academy of Music at Venice and since that time has won triumphs in five countries, the United States, Switzerland, Italy, France and Germany.

During the eleven years he has been in this country Prof. Lombardo organized the Royal Bank of Italy which added to the brilliancy of the season at Atlantic City. The Royal Italian Band which filled a fourteen weeks' engagement at Chestnut Park, Philadelphia, and the Venice City Royal Band, which was well received in virtually all of the large cities of the East and North. Prof. Lombardo also directed the Imperial English Grand Opera Company in the successful tour of this country.

'The greatest director of the age is the way the New York herald refers to Prof. Lombardo.

'Lombardo is more like a fine concert who take the bit in is teeth and bolts with it,' says the same paper. 'With his music he makes one feel that life is worth the living after all. He has a rending
of his own. At times his genius show itself in a way that is terrifyingly beautiful and the audience wonders how he has arrived at such tremendous results.'

    Prof. Lombardo has already been active __ and declares his band will be in excellent form the next Saturday night when West End will be formally opened.

New Orleans Item - May 3, 1908 - Much home talent in West End Band

    'I wish to emphatically deny that statement now being circulated that I am planning to employ only out-of-town talent in the military band which is to play at West End this summer,' said Prof. G. B. Lombardo yesterday.

    'I have already engaged a number of New Orleans musicians and will employ all I possibly can. I may have to send away for a few soloists, but will not do so if I can obtain high-class artists here.

    'Under no circumstances will a non-union man be allowed to play in the West End Band. Even if I were not a union man myself I could not do otherwise, as the union men whom I have already engaged would not work, with non-union men. Should I employ out-of-town soloists, they will be made to join the New Orleans Musicians' Union, of which Prof. W. J. Braun is the president and which has a membership of sixty-eight.

    'I have been told that professional jealousy has led certain persons to make a complaint to officers of one of the unions and to have endeavored to have him use his influence to declare a boycott on West End. However, the charges are so obviously absurd and untrue and the motives of my maligners so apparent that it is certain that nothing can occur to mar one of the most successful season in the history of West End.

    Prof. Lombardo is probably the youngest band director in the United States. When he was five years old the remarkable skill with which he played the violin gave indication of his life-work. When he was seventeen years old he was graduated from the Royal Academy
of Venice and since then he has won triumphs in five countries—the United States, Switzerland, Italy, France and Germany.

During the eleven years he has been in the United States Prof. Lombardo organized the Royal Band of Italy, which added to the brilliancy of a season at Atlantic City; the Rossini Italian Band which filled an engagement of fourteen weeks at Chestnut Hill Park, Philadelphia, and the Venice City Royal Band which was heartily received in virtually all of the large cities of this country. Prof Lombardo also directed the English Imperial Opera Company during a successful tour of the United States.

'The greatest musical director of the age,' is the way that New York Herald refers to Prof. Lombardo.

'Lombardo is more like a fleet courser who take the bit in his teeth and bolts with it,' says the same paper. 'With his music he makes one feel that life is worth the living after all. He has a reading of his own. At times his genius shows itself in a way that is terrifyingly beautiful and the audience wonders how he has arrived at such tremendous results.'

Prof. Lombardo has begun preliminary rehearsals at the Washington Artillery hall and it is expected that his band will be thoroughly organized which West End is formally opened next Sunday night.

May 7, 1908

Times Democrat - May 7, 1908 - West End

West End will be formally opened Saturday night, when the patrons of the popular lakeside resort will have an opportunity of
hearing Prof. G. B. Lombardo's band and of witnessing the other entertainment which will be provided by the New Orleans Railway Company.

It is probable that beginning next week Prof. Lombardo will devote every Wednesday night to 'ragtime' and other popular music, and every Friday night to operatic selections.

**New Orleans Item - May 9, 1908 - West End**

A band concert by Lombardo's Military Band, illustrated songs, moving pictures and selections by grand opera vocalists will make up the entertainment which is to be offered at West End which opens tomorrow night.

Prof. Lombardo has arranged an attractive programme of popular and operatic music for the opening night, and those who have heard his organization rehearsing predict it will meet with instantaneous approval.

**Times Picayune - May 11, 1908 - West End opens**

As for the band, Prof. Lombardo may be a musician, but there is considerable of a something in the shape of harmony and volume that is lacking the personnel of the organization. It was apparent even to one who knew very little of music that is No. 5, the march, 'Amity,' the musician will the brass horn and the horn-blower at Lincoln Park beat a city block, and he predominated in several of the numbers, and was allowed to prevail, without a get back from the director. In the and a couple of violins are expected to answer the purpose of the flute and the oboe, and any musician will know that when descriptive pieces are called for the defect will become apparent. But of all the musical outraged perpetrated on a public was the accompaniment of the band to Signorina Pezzat, one of the members of the Italian Opera Company. The audience recognized in her a songstress or rare voice and gave her a hand of recall. It was plain that Lombardo had not rehearsed her or the other members of the Milano Opera company to any extent, or else the orchestral department of the bad was all to the bad. There was hardly an en-
core for the band, and it is questionable if ever a West End audience went home more unsatisfied as the one last night. There is everything radical wrong with the opening of West end this season, and it behooves the management to get to work on it at once.

**New Orleans Item** - May 11, 1908 - West End

The opening attendance at West End was excellent in every way, it being estimated that over 6,000 persons attended the lakeside resort. The programme was an attractive one, and won praise from the audience. It consisted of excellent music by the military band of Prof. G. R. Lombardo, of the Royal Academy Venice. Fourteen selections were played, among them a number of classics from Wagner and Verdi.

**New Orleans Item** - May 12, 1908 West End

Lombardo's Military Band, McKee's moving pictures, Kaspar Welk's illustrated songs and selections by four former members of the Milano Opera company make up the entertainment the New Orleans Railways Company is offering this week at West End. Tonight's programme will include the duet from 'Rigoletto,' by Signroina Simzi and Signor Ballestri, in addition, Prof. Lombardo has added a number of popular airs to the musical bill.

**New Orleans Item** - May 13, 1908 - West End

Here is the music programme for tonight at West End:
New Orleans Item - May 14, 1908 - West End

The management has provided for an entire change of programme for Sunday night. Prof. Lombardo, as he will do the rest of this week, including tonight, will include ten or twelve popular airs in his concert programme.

'I am delighted with the reception I have been accord,' said Prof. Lombardo yesterday. 'Of course, I have been at some disadvantage in opening under short notice, but I believe that it will be generally conceded within a few weeks that I have the best band that has ever played at West End.'

The fact that Prof. Lombardo has received many beautiful bouquets every night would indicate that his organization has already made many friends here.

New Orleans Item - May 17, 1908 - West End

Tonight will mark the opening of the second week of the summer season at West End and the New Orleans Railways Company has arranged to carry an immense throng quickly and comfortably to the lakeside.

There is to be an entire change of programme tonight in every department of the entertainment. Prof. Lombard's Band will offer fourteen selections, all of which will be of the light and popular kind.
In addition he will play a number of pieces for which requests have been mailed to him.

Prof. Lombardo's band will be strengthened and augmented Tuesday by the arrival of several soloists from New York.

'I am certain that by the end of this week the New Orleans public will say that my band is the best that has ever played at West End,' said the leader yesterday.

**Times Picayune - May 18, 1908 - West End**

The opening of the second week of the summer season at West End yesterday was attended by throngs of people who numbered into the thousands. The trains were kept busy all day and evening hauling people to this popular resort.

There was an entire change in the programme of entertainment from last week, which was superior to that of the previous week. Prof. Lombardo's band proved one of the features. A musical programme of fourteen of the latest selections composed the concert, which was greatly enjoyed. In addition a number of selections were played by request, which proved an addition to the usual programme.

- Dunlap Commander March - F. Hubberis
- Love's Rosary Waltz - Leo Fewist
- Poet and Peasant Overture - Von Suppe
- Peggy - Foxtrot - N. Morat
- Faust
- Boy Scout March - William Pepper Company
- Trene-one step - Feist
- Echoes from the Opera - Mendelsohn
- Chong-a Ling's Jazz Bazaar - Feist
- Sunny South - Selection ending with
- The Star Spangled Banner.

**New Orleans Item - May 19, 1908 - West End**
Excellent music by Lombardo's Band claimed to be one of the bet organizations in the country, ten moving pictures, two illustrated songs and selections by six former members of the Milano Opera company, make up the programme being offered to the patrons of West End this week.

Last night the big audience joined in the chorus of 'I'm Afraid to Go Home in the Dark,' led by Kaspar Mack. The words of the chorus were flashed on the moving picture canvas, and even those who were seated a hundred yards away were able to read the song.

Prof. Lombardo is keeping the promise he made to develop the West End Band into one of the best ever heard in New Orleans.

New Orleans Item - May 24, 1908

Prof. Lombardo's programme will be made up almost entirely of popular music, the list of selections being the most attractive he has offered since he has been at the lakeside resort.

New Orleans Item - May 24, 1908 - West End

With an augmented band and the benefit of two week's constant practice, Prof. Lombardo's Band begins the third week of its engagement at West End tonight and it is expected that the attendance will be the largest of the season.

Mr. McKee received a new lot of fifty moving pictures Friday and ten of these will be shown tonight.
Prof. Lombardo's programme will be made up almost entirely of popular music, the list of selections being the most attractive he has offered since he has been at the lakeside resort.

Although the season is only two weeks old the attendance at West End up to date which includes only two Sunday nights, has passed the 70,000 mark.

**New Orleans Item - May 26, 1908 - West End**

Five songs, twelve selections from Lombardo's Band and then moving pictures are the features of the entertainment offered the first part of this week at West End.

Five songs are also on the programme. among these are 'Dreaming,' sung by Sig. Balestri and Kaspar Wieck's two illustrated songs, 'A Cozy Little Flat' and 'Only You, Little Girl Only You.'

There are many popular airs among those played by Prof. Lombardo's Band and a variety of subjects treated in the moving pictures.

**New Orleans Item - May 31, 1908**

The following will be the complete programme at West End tonight:

**Times Picayune - May 31, 1908 - West End**
Everything on the programme at West End tonight will be new, and it is expected that the largest crowd of the season will be present on the occasion of the opening of the fourth week at the lakeside resort. There will be new songs, new selections by Prof. Lombardo's Band and new moving pictures. Prof. Lombardo is now negotiating for several vaudeville numbers, and expects to be able to make an interesting announcement within the next several days. That the band, which was hurriedly organized by Prof. Lombardo is now one of the best in the south is the general opinion. Prof. Lombardo has had a rocky road on travel, but, in the opinion of his friends, he has triumphed over those who sought to displace him. His organization now numbers forty-three pieces, and included among the personnel are the leaders of four other bands in New Orleans, men who have spent the greater part of their lives here.

**West End**

*Every Night.*

Modern Moving Pictures and Illustrated Song Recitals,

In charge of Mr. J. M. McKeen.

Three Times Each Night.

*Also a Large Military Band*

Under the direction of PROF. G. B. Lombardo (Royal Academy, Ventea) Presenting the latest Music—Popular and Operatic.

June 2, 1908

New Orleans Item - June 4, 1908 - West End

The musical programme for the remainder of the week will be as follows:

**March, “Popularity”, Cohan; Overture, “Jolly Robbers”, Suppe; Vocal Number, Selected; Waltz, “Esquima”, Walteurfel; A.— Loraley Paraphrase, B.— Sextette, from “Lula”, Nievadba; Popular Airs, Selected; Selection from the “Mikado”; Sullivan; Country Dance,” Nevil; “It Happened in Norland”, Herbert; Potpourri, from the Opera, “Bohemian**
New Orleans Item - June 4, 1908 - Big crowds of students will hear 'Varsity Song' by band.

Tomorrow night will be Tulane Night at West End. The Tulane 'Varsity Song' has been arranged for band by Prof. Lombardo, leader of the resort's musical organization, and a large party of Tulane boys and Newcomb girls, with a number of the instructors, are going to the lakeside to spend the evening.

The 'Varsity Song' is an old and popular number with Tulane and Newcomb, and has been sung before and after many an athletic victory. However, it has never before been arranged for playing in concert by a large band. The request for its playing was made by the university's department of music, and it is expected that a large representation from the varsity will be present.

Times Picayune - June 4, 1908 - West End

Part of the programme at West End was changed last night, new moving pictures being shown and Prof. Lombardo's Band playing new music. the music programme follows:

"Popularity March," Cohan; "Jolly Robbers," Suppe; medley of popular airs; "Mikado" selections; "It Happened in Nordland," Herbert; "I'm Happy When the Band Plays Dixie," Vandeveer; "Cinderella," Powell; "Rolling Girl" selections, Francis, and six other pieces.

New Orleans Item - June 10, 1908 - West End

Part of the programme will be changed tonight. Prof. Lombardo's band offering a long list of popular music, including a number of 'ragtime' pieces. The popular leader's organization is
pleasing all classes at the resort, his playing of operatic music being praised by those to whom classical selections appeal and his popular airs delighting those who like such.

**New Orleans Item** - June 21, 1908 - Complete programme at West End tonight.

The following will be given by Prof. G. B. Lombardo's Band:

![Programme](image)

**Times Picayune** - June 22, 1908 - West End music programme:

![Programme](image)

**New Orleans Item** - June 23, 1908 - West End

Lombardo's Band, with forty-three musicians playing, is offering a nightly a concert of fifteen popular airs, and the
organization is one of the features of the entertainment at the lakeside.

**New Orleans Item** - June 26, 1908 - West End

Lombardo's Band is offering a concert of popular music every night.

**Times Picayune** - June 29, 1908 - West End

Last night's music was excellent, Prof. Lombardo and his band playing several pleasing selections, as well as the latest up-to-date songs and dances. Tonight's band programme is:

1. March—"The Red Devil" ........ Rivela
2. Waltz—"Wein, Wein and Gesang" Strauss
3. Overture—"La Zingara" .......... Balfe
4. "Rabes in Toyland" ............ Herbert
5. "Invitation a la Valse" .......... Weber
6. Paraphrase—"Lonely" ............ Nesvalba
7. "The Gate City" ................. Woldop
8. Selections from "Norma" ......... Bellini
10. "Excepts from "Macbeth" ....... Verdi
11. "The Strollers" .................. Engisander
12. Caprice Heriquest—"The Awakening of the Lion" ............ Kontski
13. Waltz Suite ..................... Holman
14. "The Time, the Place and the Girl" ............ Howard

**New Orleans Item** - June 30, 1908 - West End

Lombardo's band and cooling breezes are the chief attractions at West End this week. Lombardo's band offers a concert of new popular music.

**Times Picayune** - July 13, 1908 - West End - Music programme:
New Orleans Item - July 1, 1908

Prof. Lombardo's Band of 45 musicians gives a concert every night, when the intent popular and operatic music is played.

New Orleans Item - July 29, 1908

Lombardo's Band is heard in a concert of popular and operatic music.
New Orleans Item - August 10, 1908 - West End

Prof. G. B. Lombardo, director of the West End Band was presented with a handsome gold watch and a fine baton last night by the members of the musical organization which is playing at the lake side.

The presentation was made during the concert and was a complete surprise to the popular leader. He was about to gave the signal to commence selections from 'Traviata' when the three members of the band left their seats, and, walking to the front of the stage, bowed and gave him a package. Within he found the watch and baton. He responded with a brief speech and the audience and members of the band united in applauding him. Within the watch was the following inscription: 'To Prof. G. B. Lombardo, from members of the West End Band, August 9 1908.'

New Orleans Item - August 17, 1908 - Honored by his organization

Prof. G. B. Lombardo, leader of Lombardo's Brass Band at West End was last night presented with a gold medal, studded with diamonds, the trophy being the gift of the members of his organization, which has delighted the patrons of the lake-side resort this summer.

The medal, which is about the size of a silver dollar, is beautifully engraved and contains several large diamonds. It bears
the inscription 'To Prof. G. B. Lombardo, Leader of the West End Band.' 

The presentation was made last night on the amusement platform, the trophy being handed to Prof. Lombardo by Mr. Terrance Tranchina, proprietor of the West End Hotel, and Major Juste Fontaine.

Prof. Lombardo bowed his acknowledgement and expressed his gratitude for the remembrance. The big audience was greatly interested in the presentation and when Prof. Lombardo faced the crowd and displayed the gold badge on his breast he was enthusiastically applauded.

**New Orleans Item** - August 17, 1908 West End band leader is honored by is organization.

Prof. G. B. Lombard, leader of Lombardo's brass band at West End was last night presented with a gold medal, studded with diamonds, the trophy being the gift of the members of his organization, which has delighted the patrons of the lakeside resort this summer.

The medal, which is about the size of a silver dollar, is beautifully engraved and contains several large diamonds, It bears the inscription, 'To Prof. G. H. Lombardo, leader of the West End band.'

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Prof. Lombardo bowed his acknowledgement and expressed his gratitude for the remembrance. The big audience was greatly interested in the presentation and when Prof. Lombardo faced the crowd and displayed the gold badge on his breast he was enthusiastically applauded.

**New Orleans Item** - August 23, 1908
Lombardo's Band will offer a programme of popular music, Prof. Lombardo, the able director of the organization has just received a lot of new music from New York, among which are various hits from the shows which are the reigning successes of roof gardens and other summer amusement places.

New Orleans Item - August 26, 1908
Lombardo's Band offers a concert of popular music every evening.

New Orleans Item - August 31, 1908
Lombardo's Band plays the following programme:
Lombardo's band is heard in a concert of popular and operatic music.