Scioto

Scene

by BARBARA KALFS





Raymond Connett of Piketon, 90, directs Adelphi Band on Capitol steps in shadow of Chief Justice John Marshall. (Gazette photo by Barbara B. Kalfs)

Faithful followers

THERE'S NOTHING like a hometown crowd to put a little extra pizzazz into a performance. The Adelphi Band in its 100 years of playing may never have sounded better than last week in Washington, D. C. After the hour-long concert on the Capitol steps, the bandsmen, 25 strong, gave another concert on nearby Alexandria Square in Alexandria, Va., where George Washington and Robert E. Lee attended church.

Adelphi Band enthusiasts are legion and there were 82 on the two buses which went from Ross County to the 100th anniversary concert. Among them was MARY LESHER of Adelphi who is in her 70's and has followed the band since she was two years old and first saw it in a Memorial Day Parade.

The performers included MERRILL "MO" JUNK who flew in from Lake Charles, La., and the JOHN CRYDERS, father and son, who drove all night from Joliet, Ill. Rounding out the musical roster were residents of Adelphi, Piketon, Circleville, Greenfield, Baltimore, Kinnikinnick, Lancaster, Hallsville, Marion, Waverly, Kingston, Amanda, Laurelville, and Meade.

Making it a real family enterprise were fathers Herman Hinton, John Cryder and Ed Bennett and their respective sons, Herman Hinton Jr. and Glenn Hinton, John Cryder and John Bennett, grandfather Gene Gildersleeve and his grandson, Jimmy Fletcher; brothers Herman and Curtis Hinton and Jeff and John Matthew plus Don Waliser, newphew-cousin to the Hintons.

The NBC-affiliate, WRC-TV, was on hand filming the concert which was on a segment on the evening news... rain The program highlighted Ohio composers such as and all. Chillicothe's Will Huff as well as Henry Fillmore and Karl L. King. Lloyd Savage, retired Chillicothe City School music supervisor, gave the audience of tourists and Congressional folks something extra as concert announcer. The venerable but vital Raymond E. Connett wielded the baton and took bows with a verve belying his 90 years.