

G. C. Jenkins Co.

Decatur, Illinois

1892 Grover Cleveland Jenkins born in El Paso, Illinois (census)

1910 Jenkins moves to Decatur (census)

1917 Jenkins is an unemployed musician & jeweler in Decatur (draft record)

1920 the G. C. Jenkins Co. music store is founded according to a later ad below (top photo from 1924 passport)

1942 music store & factory at #502 E. William St., Decatur (draft record)

1953 a new 30,000 sf factory is built at #1014 E. Olive St.; the percussion business is now called Jen-Co; they make percussion instruments line marimbas and bells and import accordians, woodwinds, and brass from Europe

1955 Jenkins receives design patent 175,224 for bell tree

1967 founder Grover Jenkins dies

1976 the business is sold to the Decatur Instrument Co.

2000 Decatur Instrument Co. closes

Brass instruments are labeled "G C Jenkins Impig. Co" which is probably "importing company". Probably all European imports with his name added.

Instrument photos from Horn-u-copia.net



Jen-Co Vibra Bells



JEN-CO Vibra Bells, the choice of topnotch artists in music entertainment. Used with pride by these professionals: Jack Conners of Radio and TV; Xavier Cugat; Marjorie Hyams and George Shearing; Quiéfel; Doc West, Teacher of New York; Billy Darr-Toscanini, N.B.C.; Lou Singer, Recording Studios in Hollywood, and Freddie Albright—Teacher in New York. JEN-CO offers a Vibra-Bell for every demand.

AT ALL MUSIC STORES

Mfd. by **G. C. Jenkins Co.** Decatur, Illinois
Est. 1920