

# Buescher Cornets

## Elkhart, Indiana

Ferdinand A. Buescher (bisher) started as an apprentice for Conn in 1876 and by 1888 had become a foreman there. He later starts a metal shop which became Buescher Manufacturing Co. in 1894 then incorporated as Buescher Band Instrument Co. in 1904. This is an attempt to show a history of the cornets this company produced from 1894 until 1963.

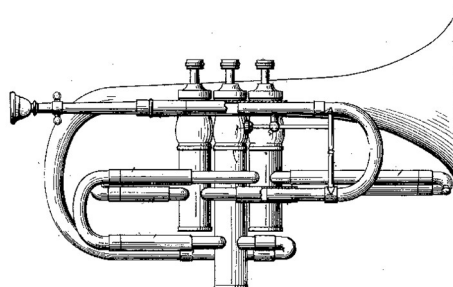
The earliest cornet I could find is #65 which is a typical style from that time with tuning shanks (Horn-u-copia.net).



#287 c.1989 (auction photo)



Buescher's first patent is for his Epoch valve system and this patent drawing below is from his October 1900 application which was awarded patent #670,365 in March 1901. These early cornets are distinguished by their different length valves.



#471 c.1900 closely follows the patent drawing (J. Solomon)



At this point they are using the “True Tone” name and Buescher Mfg Co



#6xx c. 1901 with the tuning slide stop shown in the patent (MetzlerBrass.com)





#1144 c. 1901, an early fixed lead pipe design (auction photo)



#1469 Epoch model c.1902 with three valve lengths (Horn-u-copia.net)



#2064 Epoch model c.1902



#2464 c.1903 (author's photo)



#2589 Epoch model c.1903 (author's photo)



#2965 Epoch model c.1903 (auction photo)





#3038 c.1903 (auction photo)



#3280 Epoch model with even valve lengths c.1904 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#3300 Epoch model c.1904 (auction photo)



#34xx Epoch model c.1904 (MetzlerBrass.com)



#3633 Epoch model c.1904 (National Music Museum)



In April, 1904 they incorporate as the Buescher Band Instrument Co. and jump to #5000

#5000 Epoch model c.1904 (auction photo)





#5xxx Epoch model with short valve three c.1904 (MetzlerBrass.com)



#5xxx Epoch model c.1904 (MetzlerBrass.com)



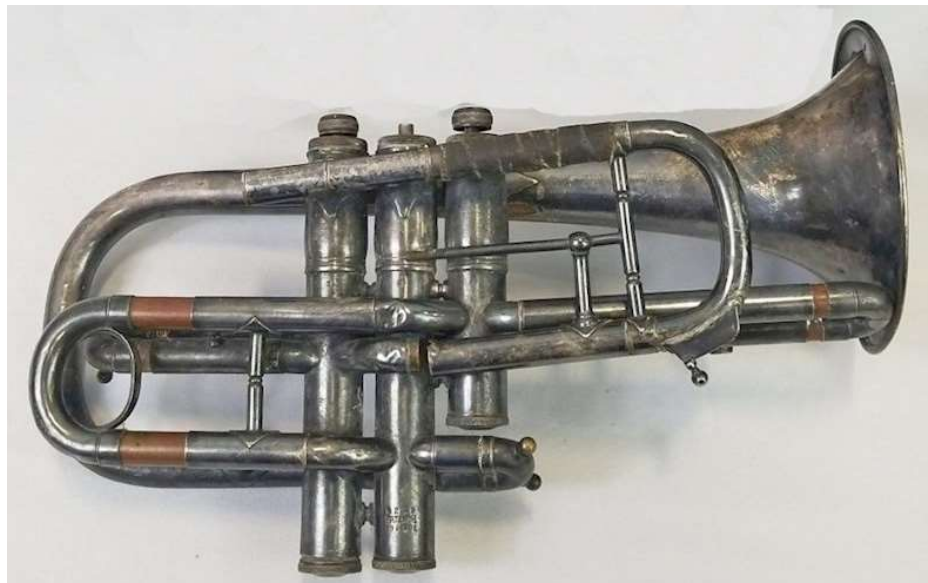
#5068 Epoch model c.1905 (auction photo)



#5141 Epoch model c.1905 (National Music Museum)



#5258 Epoch model c.1905 (auction photo)

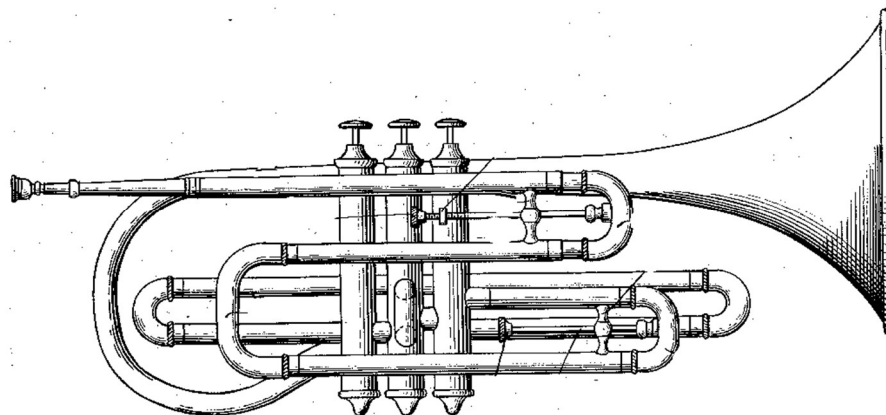


#5758 Epoch model c.1906 (Horn-u-copia.net)





In 1906 he is granted a patent for this design with three tuning slides (love that bell flare!).



#59xx Epoch model like the 1906 patent (MetzlerBrass.com)



#5907 Epoch model c.1906 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#6214 Epoch model c.1906 (auction photo)



#6607 Epoch model c.1907 (auction photo)



#6765 Epoch model c.1907 (auction photo)





#6939 Model 12 with Bb tuning slide c.1907 (AncientPoint.com)



#8228 #3 Long model c.1908 (auction photo)

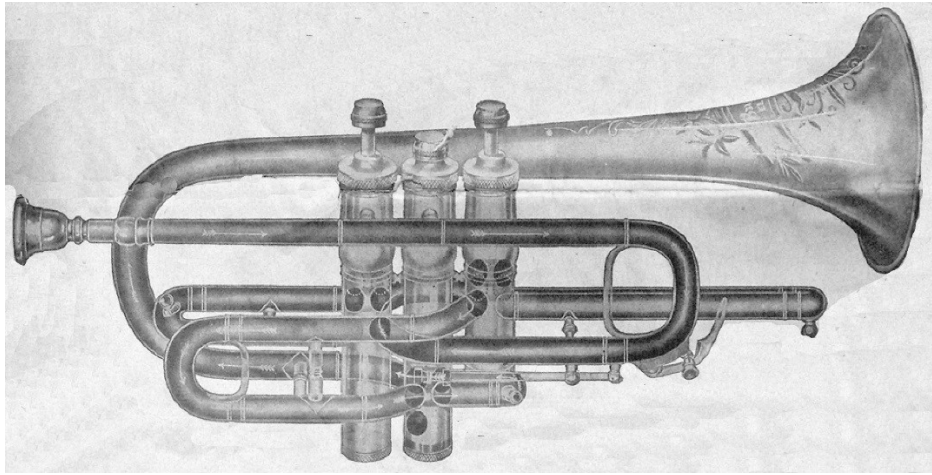


#8949 Epoch #1 model c.1909 (N. DeCarlis)

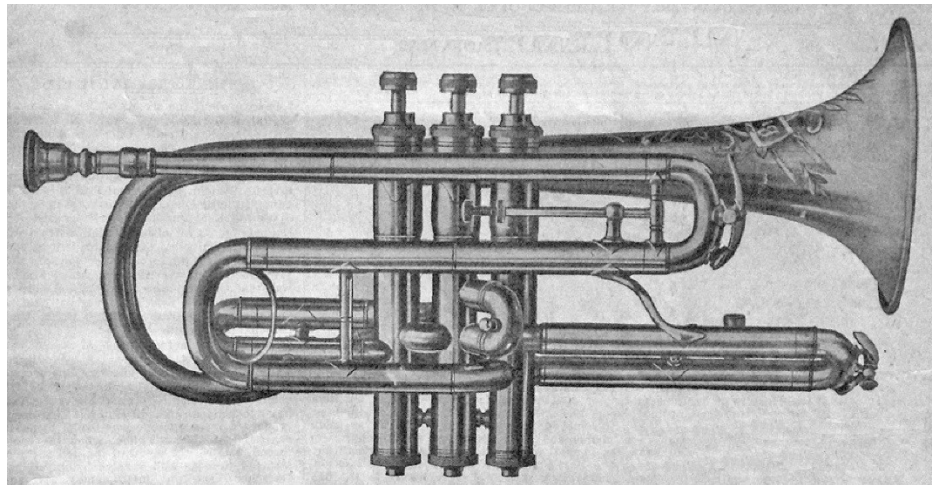


Here are some illustrations from their 1909 catalog found at Horn-u-copia.net.

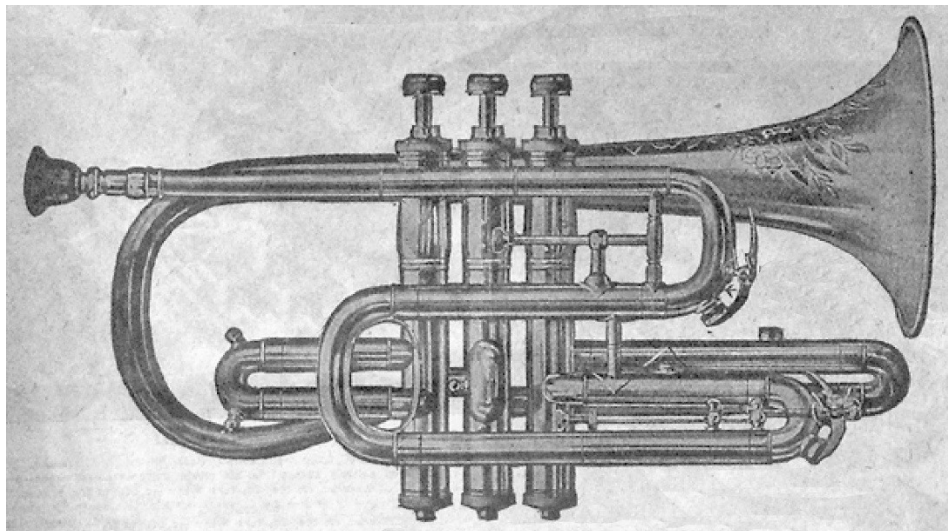
Model #1 with Epoch design



#3 New Long Model Epoch

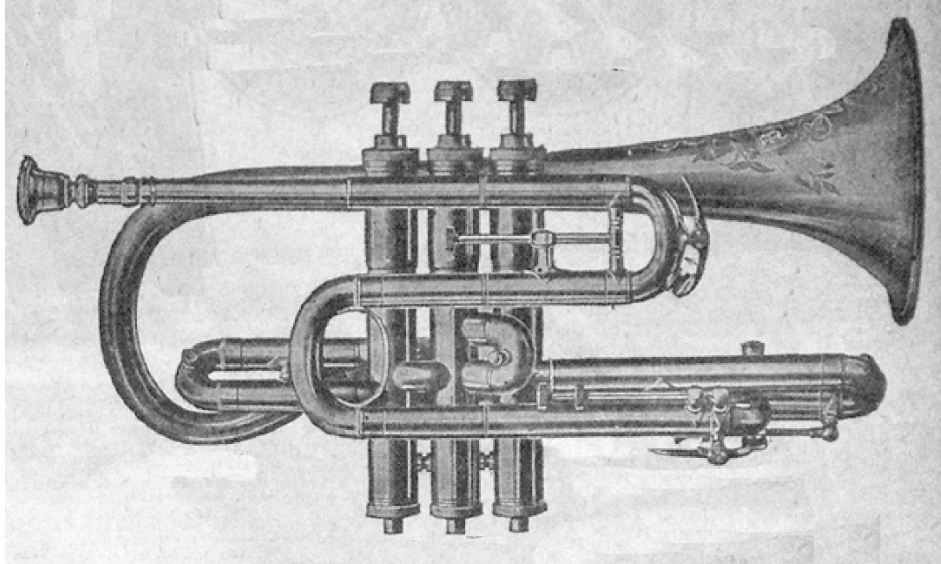


#7 Multi-Pitch Cornet

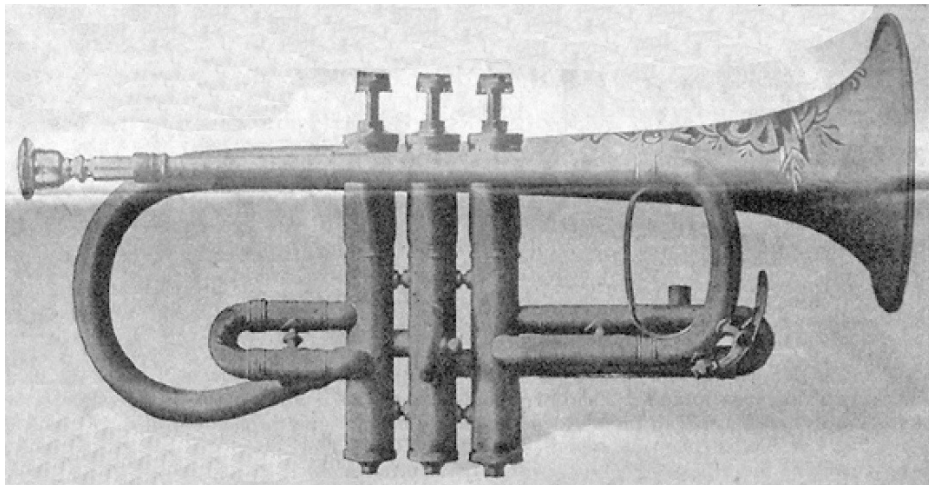




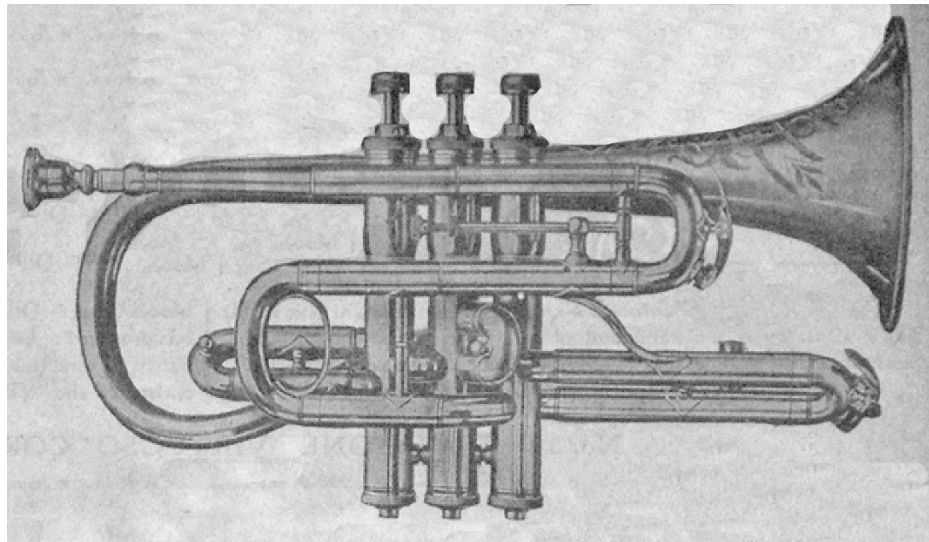
#10 Multi-Pitch with Epoch design



New #10 Long model Eb Cornet

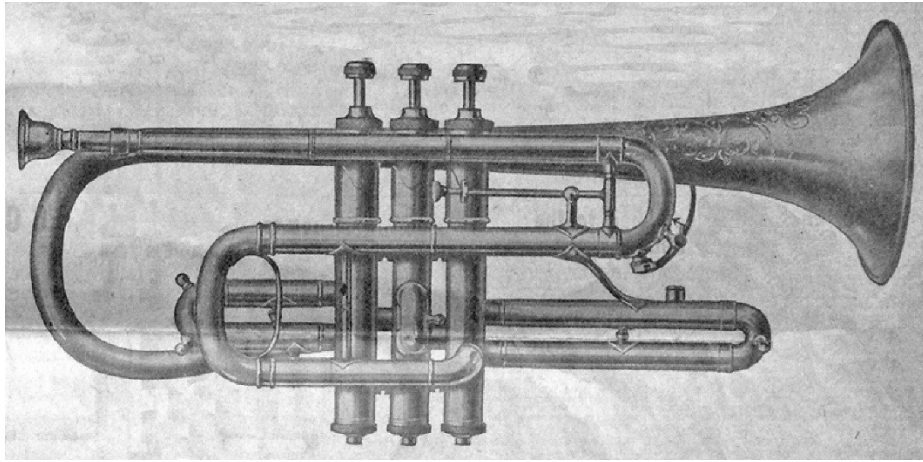


#12 Transposing Cornet in C/Bb/A with Epoch design





#14 Virtuoso model in Bb / A



Cornet mouthpiece models c.1910: C = cornet; 1 = Levy; 2 = Emerson; 3 = Courtois; 4 = Liberati; 5 = Arban; 8 = Bartlett; 9 = Chambers; 10 = Buescher; 12 = Knoll; 14 = True Tone; 15 = Artist's

#9840 Virtuoso model c.1909 (auction photo)



#11000 Transposing model c.1910 (MetzlerBrass.com)



#11214 Transposing model c.1910 (auction photo)



#11363 Multi-Pitch #7 model c.1910 (auction photo)



#11415 Buescher Grand model c.1910 (author's photo)





#11723 Epoch #12 Transposing model c.1910 (National Music Museum)



#12677 Epoch #12 Transposing model c.1910 (auction photo)

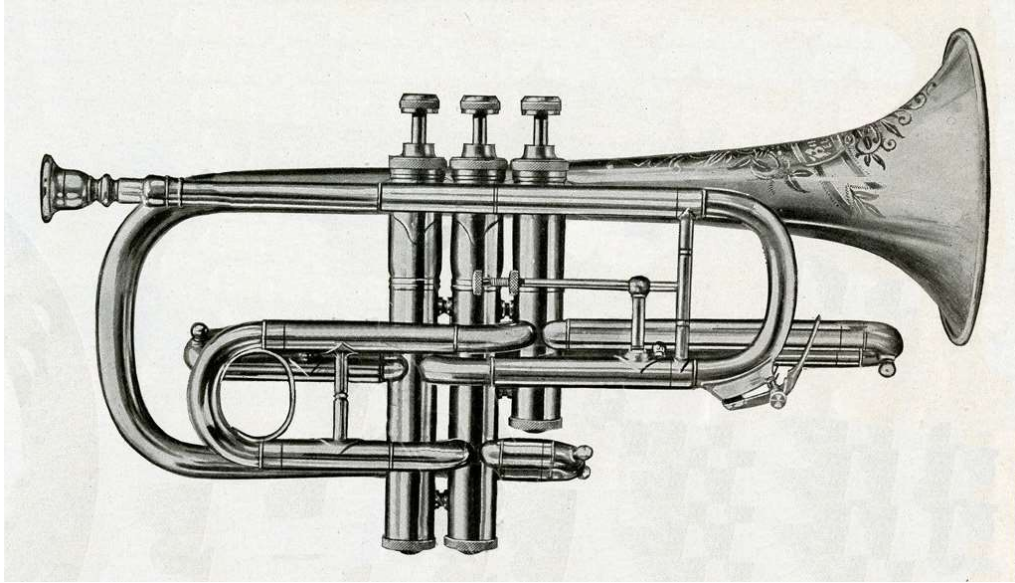


#13544 Model 4 c.1911 (auction photo)

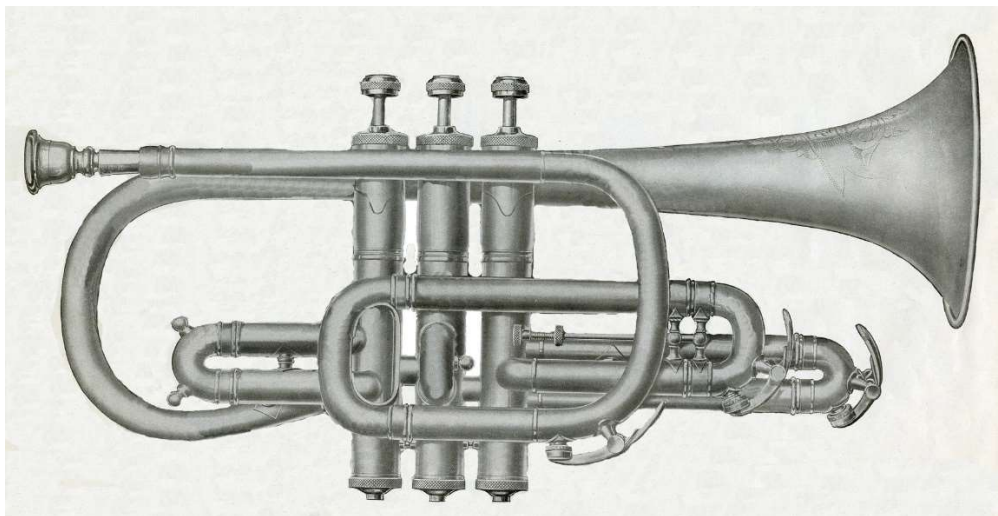


1911 Catalog Images

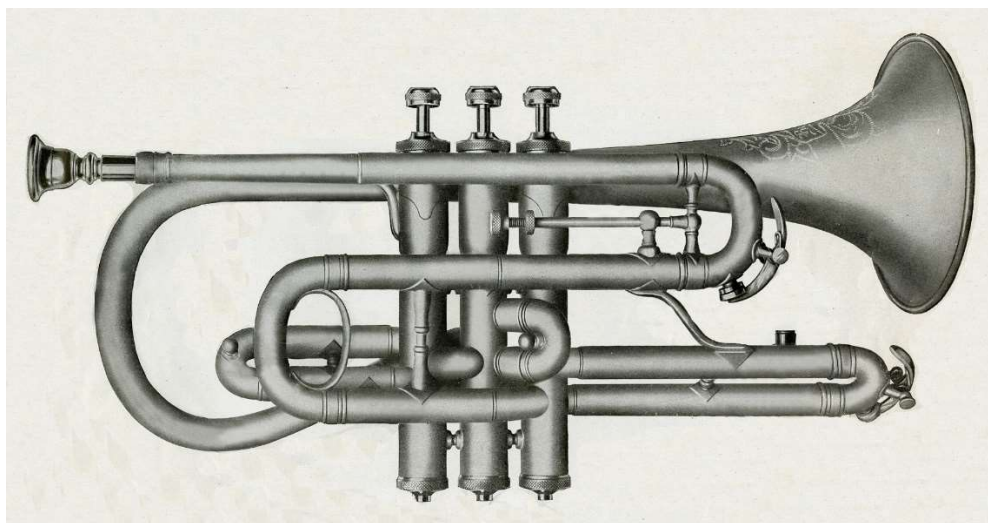
Model 1 Epoch



Model 2

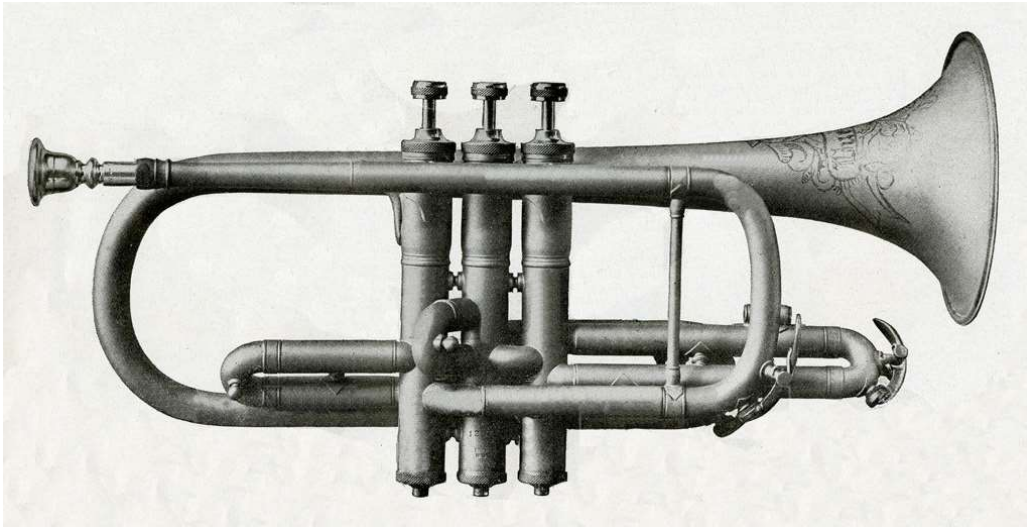


Model 3

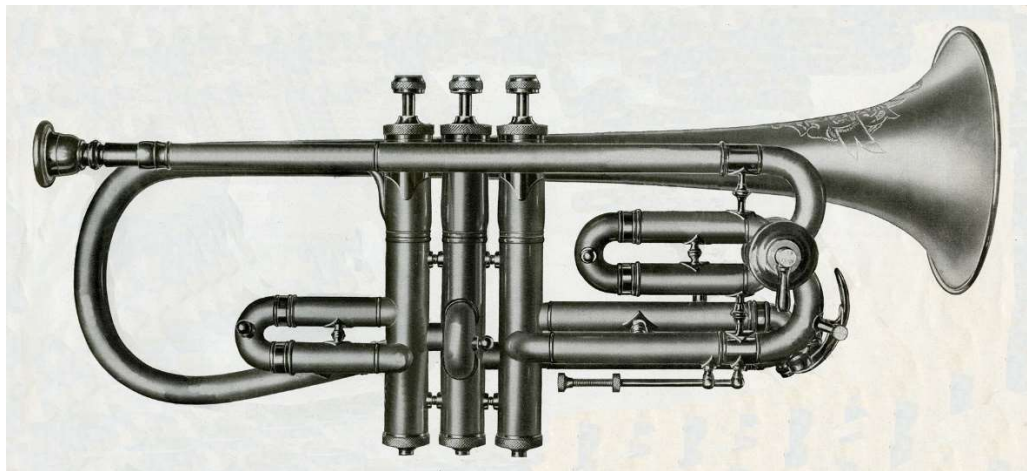




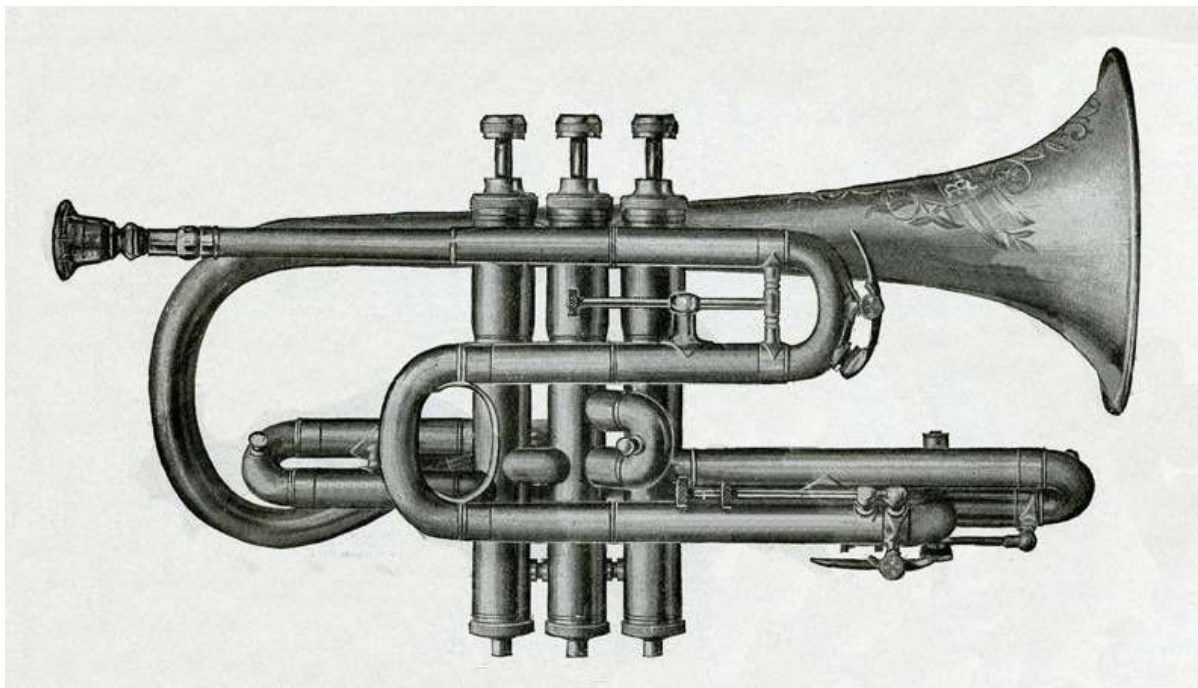
Model 4



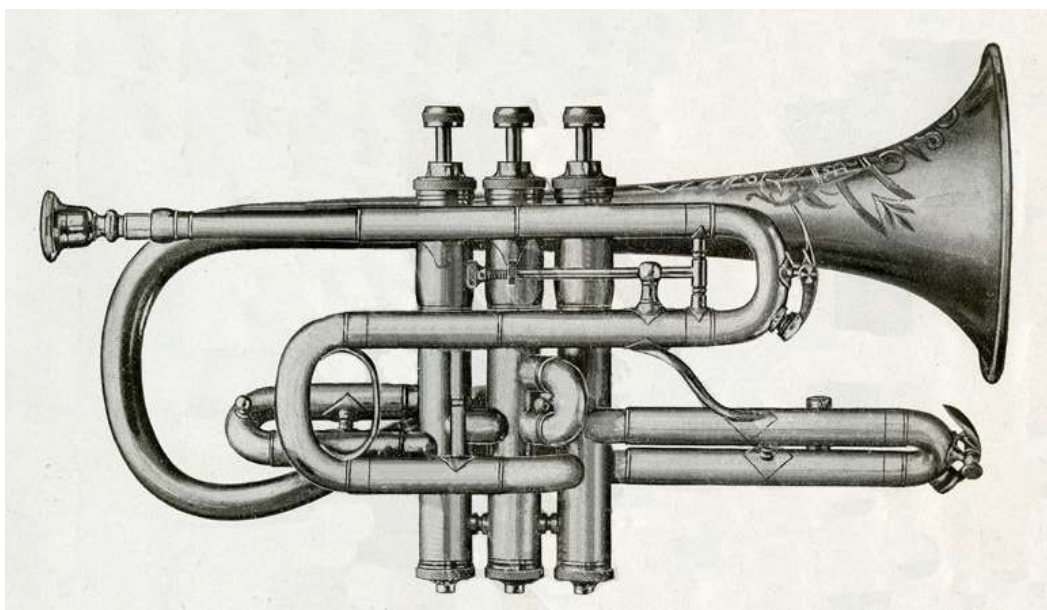
Model 6



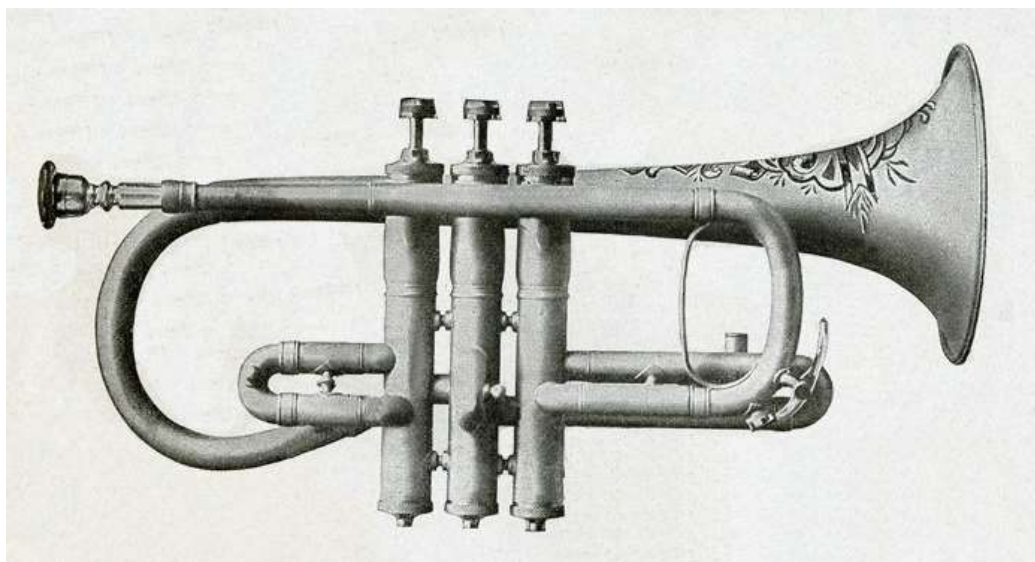
Model 10



Model 12



Model 19 in Eb



#13924 Epoch model 3 c.1911 (auction photo)





#14324 Transposing model 12 c.1911 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#14345 Model 10 c.1911 (auction photo)



#14465 Model 12 c.1911 (auction photo)



#14469 Model 12 c.1911 (auction photo)



#16401 Model 6 c.1912 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#17752 Model 14 Virtuoso c.1912 (author's photo)





#18046 Epoch Model 12 Vocal w/Bb tuning slide c.1912 (auction photo)



#20751 Epoch Model 12 w/C slide c.1913 (author's photo)



#22165 Model 15 c.1914 (author's photo)

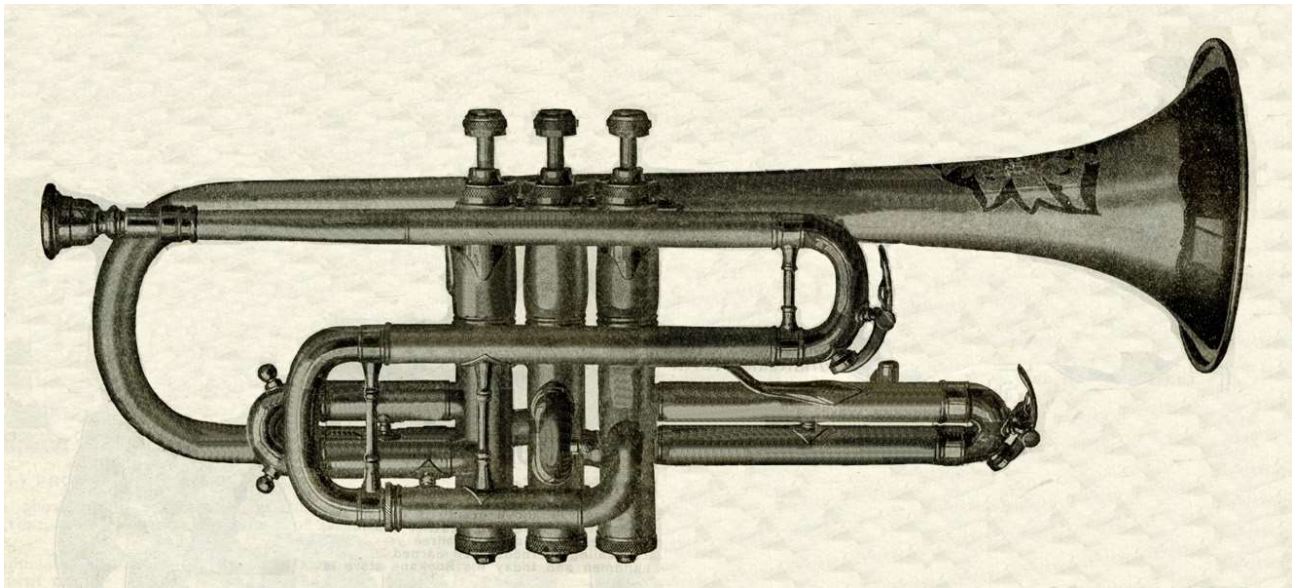




#23557 Model 15 c.1914 (auction photo)



1917 Model 15 catalog image



#35068 Model 15 c.1917 (auction photo)

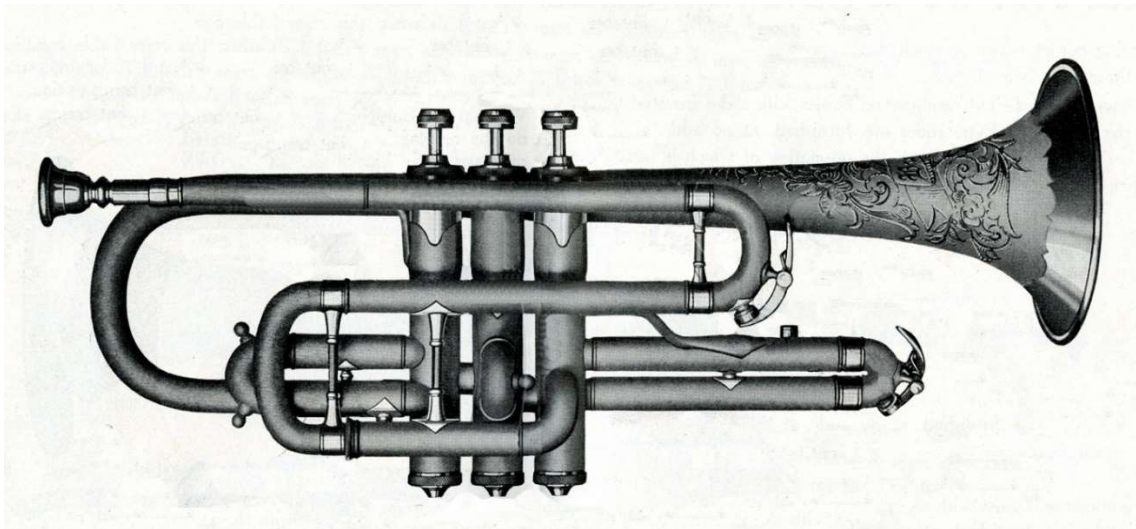




#37655 Model 15 c.1917 (auction photo)



1918 Model 15 catalog image



#53067 Model 15 c.1918 (auction photo)



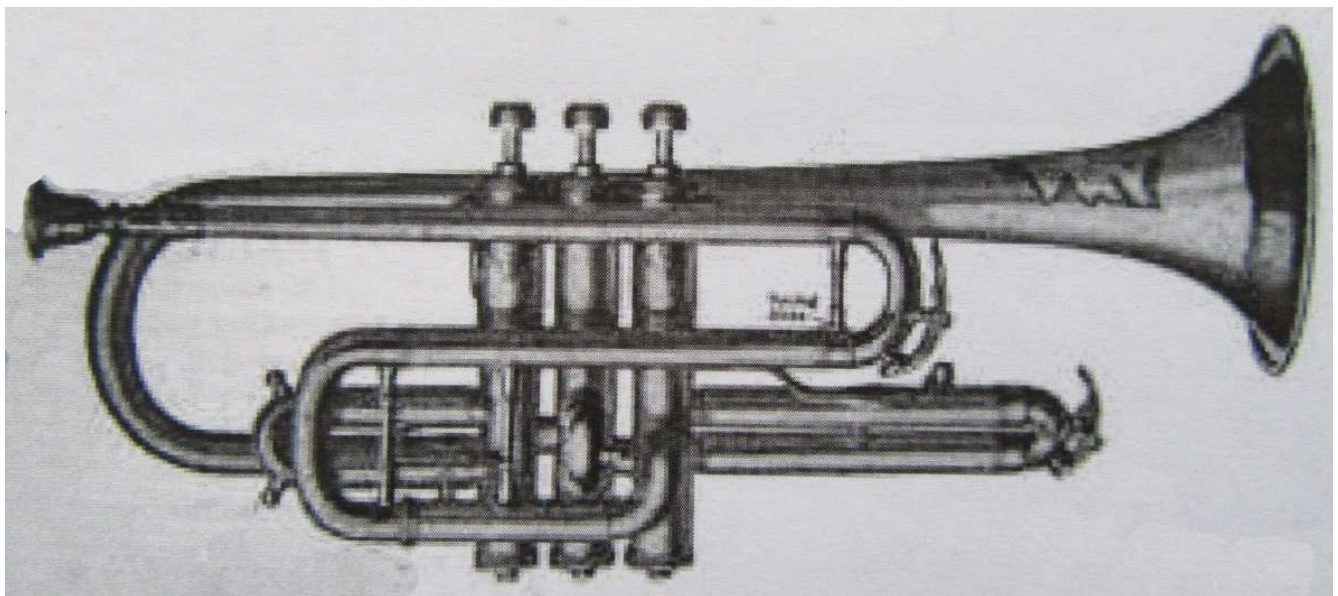
#59404 Model 15 c.1918 (auction photo)



#610xx Model 15 c.1918 (auction photo)



1919 Model 15 ad image





#74953 c.1921 (auction photo)



#79742 Model 15 c.1919 (auction photo)



#86864 Model 16 c.1920 (auction photo)



Model 15 #96165 c.1922 (auction photo)



#100xxx c.1922 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#118780 Model 14-22 c.1922 (auction photo)



#118791 Model 14-22 c.1922 (auction photo)





#122384 Model 15 c.1923 (Horn-u-copia.net)



#140xxx Model 14-22 c.1923 (MetzlerBrass.com)



#148514 Model 15 c.1923 (author's photo)



#169642 Model 14-22 c.1924 (auction photo)



Cornet #177724 model 14-22 is purchased new in 1925.

#195727 Model 15 c.1926 (author's photo)



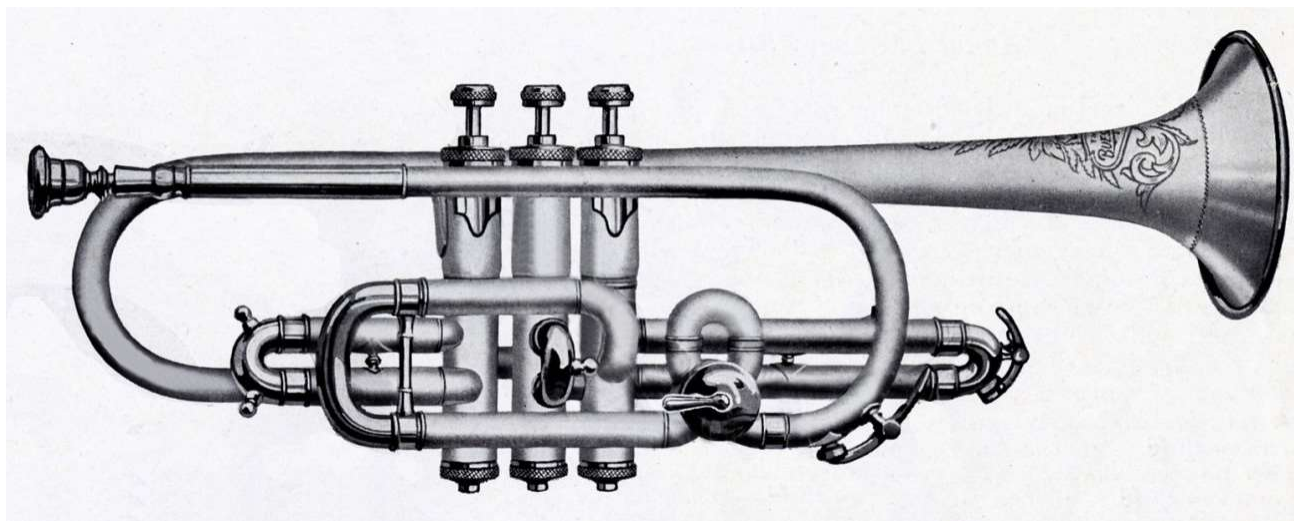
#226579 Model 15 c.1927 (auction photo)



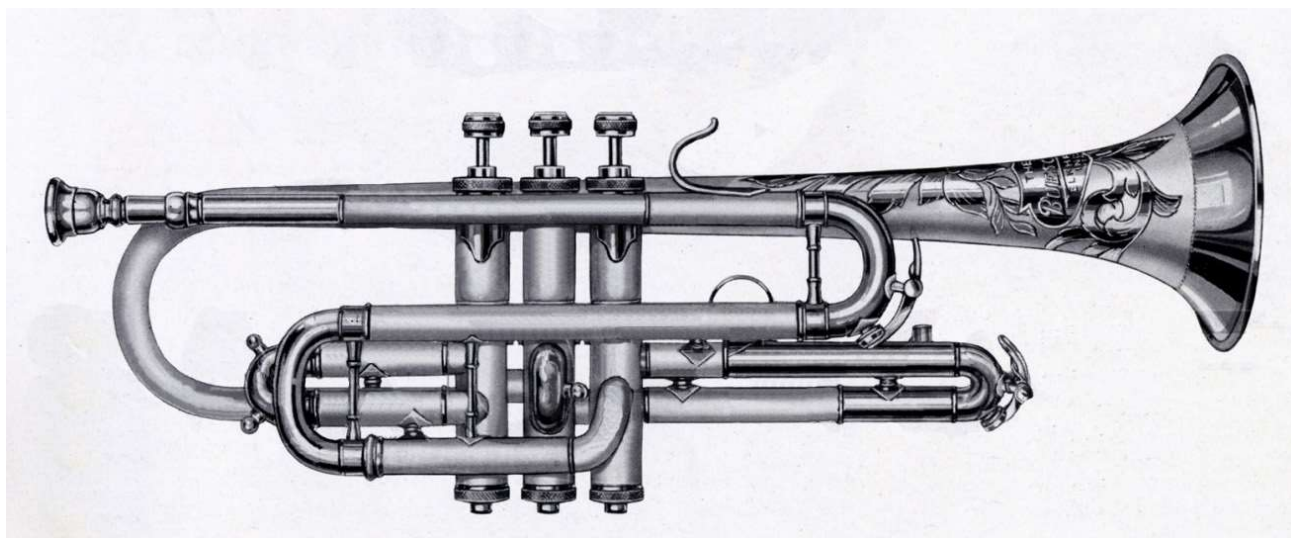


1928 Catalog images

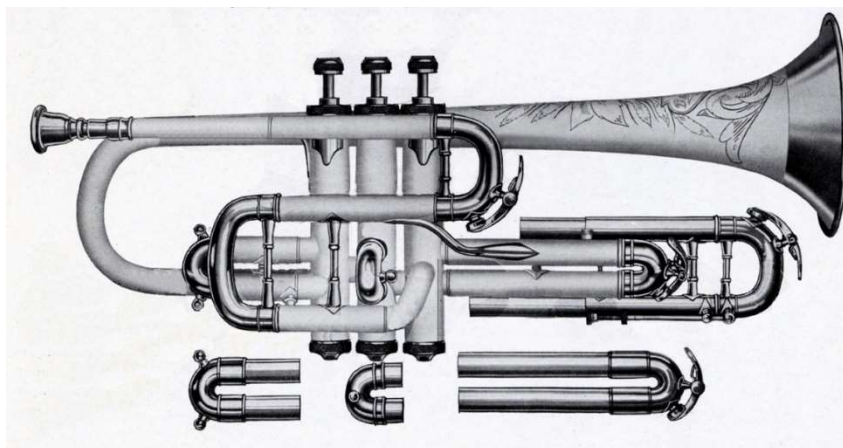
Model 250



Model 253



Model 255



**Model Number 255**

(Formerly No. 15, C, Bb, A)

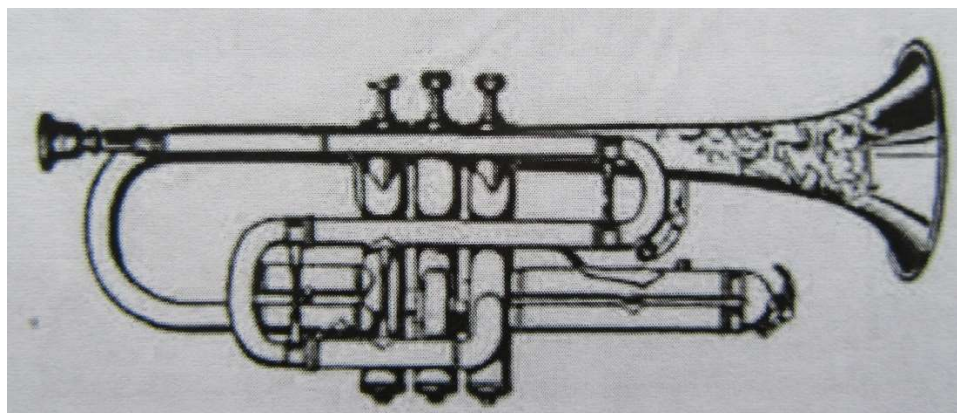
*Illustrated at Left*

This beautiful instrument will appeal to those who prefer the Cornet to the Trumpet for Home entertainment and Church or Sunday School festivities. Like Trumpet Number 210, it is built in the key of "C" enabling the player to read direct from music written for the piano, organ, voice, violin and other "C" Instruments without transposing. It's tone in the "C" key is remarkable for its fine vocal qualities, sweet and resonant, blending beautifully with male and female voices or with piano or organ. For Band or Orchestra engagements, the Bb and A Slides (see illustration) are used. This puts the Cornet in Bb with quick change slide to A. When in Bb it is precisely like and has all the qualities of Model No. 253. Made in low and high and low pitch. Length, 16 inches. Diameter of bell, 4½ inches. Weight, 2¼ lbs.

#247564 Model 255 c.1928 (author's photo)



1929 ad illustration showing no real design change in 20 years.



New, short-action, duo-cone valve design coming out November 1929 as well as Aristocrat models.

1930 Popularity Model 250

The "Popularity" Cornet

The "Popularity" Cornet is made in B $\flat$  with rotary quick change to A. Supplied in either low or high and low pitch. Length, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$  in. Diameter of bell, 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. Weight, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds.



## Model No. 250

This beautiful model is not a Trumpet, but a long model Cornet built upon long graceful lines. It is very popular among all classes of players, and is well suited for any kind of engagement from playing the "hottest" jazz music to taking solo parts with military band,

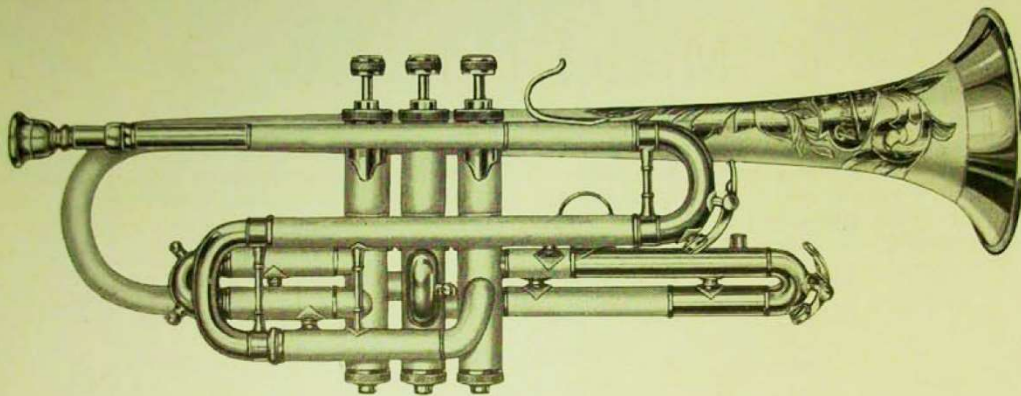
and the youngster who plays at home or with amateur orchestra will delight in its fine tone and easy blowing qualities. Some of the foremost dance orchestra Trumpeters use this model for their most captivating effects. If you like a long model Cornet, try this model.

### PRICES

Finish	Low Pitch		Finish	High and Low Pitch	
	Cash	Lease		Cash	Lease
A . . . . .	\$ 80.00	\$ 84.00	A . . . . .	\$ 85.00	\$ 89.25
E . . . . .	100.00	105.00	E . . . . .	107.00	112.25
J . . . . .	160.00	168.00	J . . . . .	170.00	178.50
K . . . . .	175.00	183.75	K . . . . .	185.00	194.25
L . . . . .	220.00	231.00	L . . . . .	232.00	243.50

See Page 28 for Description of Finishes and List of Free Equipment.

## 1930 Soloist Model 253



## The "Soloist" Cornet

The "Soloist" is made in B $\flat$  with quick change slide to A. It can be supplied in either low or high and low pitch. Length, 17 inches. Diameter of bell, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Weight, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds.

## Model No. 253

This is one of the latest Buescher models. It is beautiful in design, and has a wonderful tone. For solo work or Military and Concert band it cannot be excelled. There is no limit to its volume. Its tone cannot be forced to "split" or "break". The full impact of the

tongue-stroke, the undiminished vigor of your blowing, all the subtleties you aim at in expression, are fully and faithfully reflected in the alluring alliteration that marks the fine tone-qualities of this Buescher Cornet from one extreme of its long scale to the other.

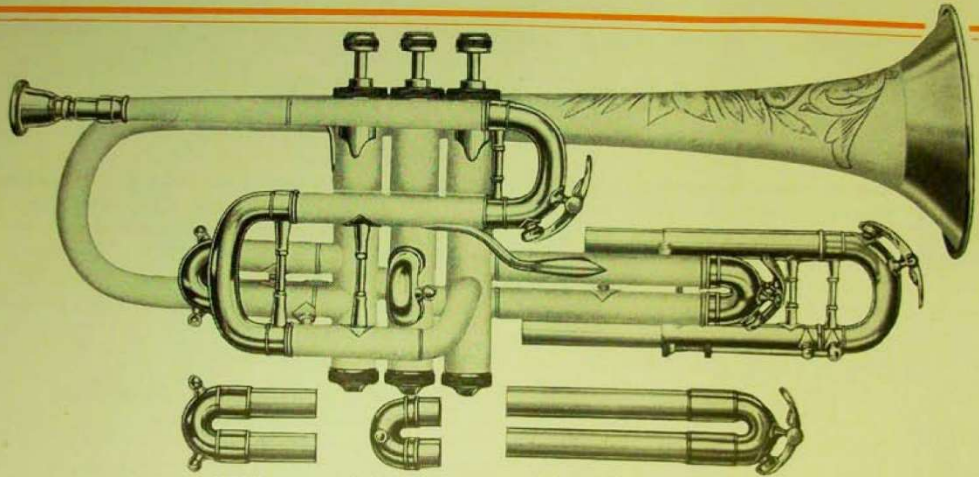
### PRICES

Finish	Low Pitch		Finish	High and Low Pitch	
	Cash	Lease		Cash	Lease
A . . . . .	\$ 70.00	\$ 73.50	A . . . . .	\$ 75.00	\$ 78.75
E . . . . .	90.00	94.50	E . . . . .	97.00	101.75
J . . . . .	150.00	157.50	J . . . . .	160.00	168.00
K . . . . .	165.00	173.25	K . . . . .	175.00	183.75
L . . . . .	210.00	220.50	L . . . . .	222.00	233.00

See Page 28 for Description of Finishes and List of Free Equipment.



1930 Vocal Model 255



The "Vocal" Cornet

The "Vocal" Cornet is made in C with changes to B $\flat$  and A. It can be supplied in either low or high and low pitch. Length, 16 in. Diameter of bell, 4½ in. Weight, 2¼ pounds.

Model No. 255

This beautiful instrument will appeal to those who prefer the Cornet to the Trumpet for home entertainment and Church or Sunday School festivities. Like Trumpet number 210, it is built in the key of "C" enabling the player to read direct from music written for the piano, organ, voice, violin and other "C"

instruments, without transposing. Its tone in the "C" key is remarkable for its fine vocal qualities. For Band or Orchestra engagements, the B $\flat$  and A slides (see illustration) are used. This puts the Cornet in B $\flat$  with quick change slide to A. This model is the finest "C" Cornet made. Try it!

PRICES

Finish	Low Pitch		Finish	High and Low Pitch	
	Cash	Lease		Cash	Lease
A . . . . .	\$ 75.00	\$ 78.75	A . . . . .	\$ 80.00	\$ 84.00
E . . . . .	95.00	99.75	E . . . . .	102.00	107.00
J . . . . .	155.00	162.75	J . . . . .	165.00	173.25
K . . . . .	170.00	178.50	K . . . . .	180.00	189.00
L . . . . .	215.00	225.75	L . . . . .	227.00	238.25

See Page 28 for Description of Finishes and List of Free Equipment.

1931 Soloist Model 253





1931 Vocal Model 255



1931 Aristocrat Model 260



1931 Maestro Model 262





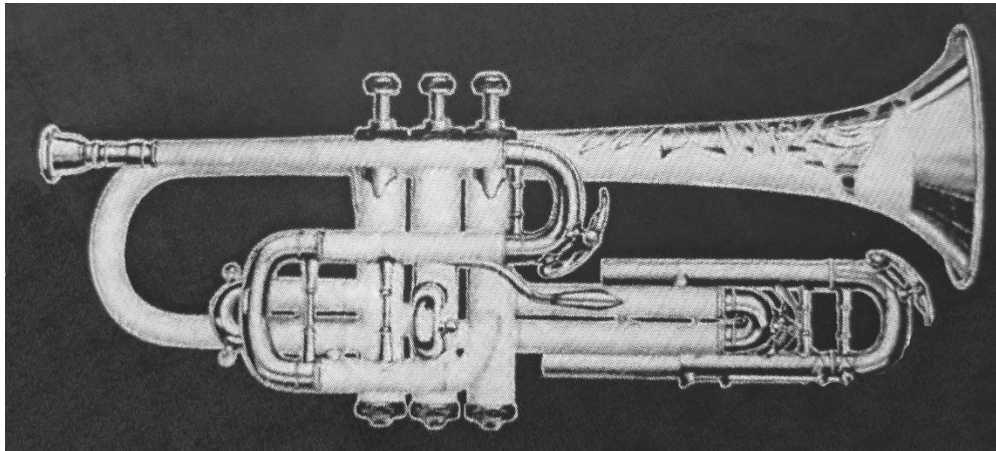
1933 Aristocrat Model 262



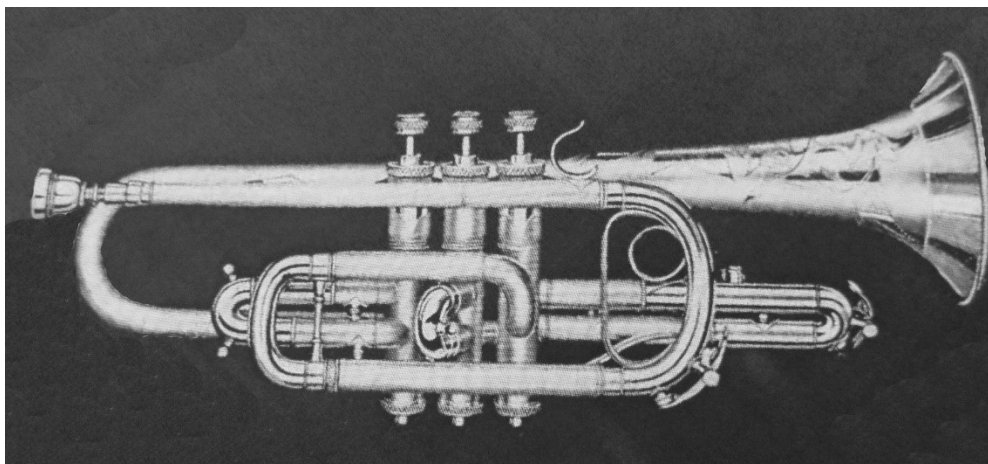
1933 Custom Built Model 265



1935 Model 255

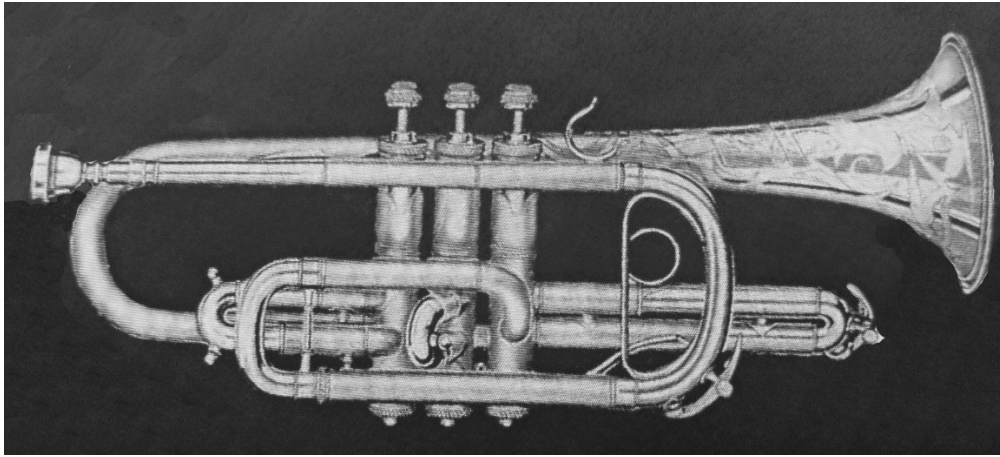


1935 Model 262 Aristocrat





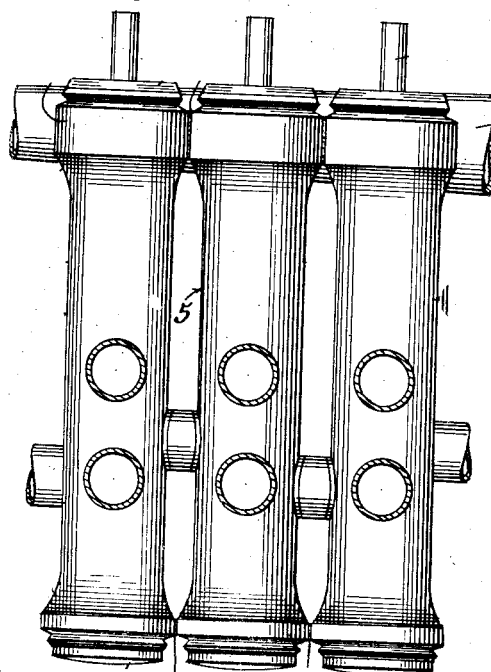
1935 Model 265 Custom Built



#282061 Model 265 c.1937 (auction photo)



1937 – Buescher applies for a patent on the “400” model valve block in February. Cornets and trumpets marked “Pat Apld For” have serial numbers in the high 280000s.



#2880xx Aristocrat c.1938



#289650 Model 275 c.1938 (author's photo)



400 Cornet #291115 Model 275 c.1938 (auction photo)



Buescher receives patent #2,132,329 in October of 1938 for the 400 design.  
The lowest serial number with the patent I have found so far is #298016.



1939 catalog illustration for the 400 model 275



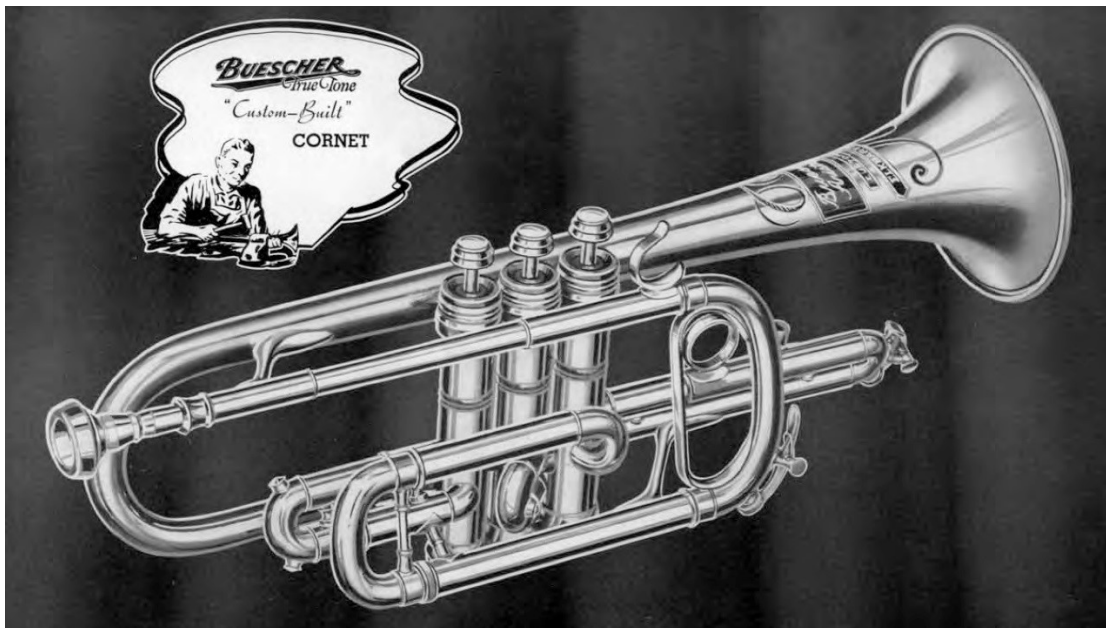
1939 Model 261 Aristocrat



Model 262



1939 Custom Built model 266



#296914 Model 275 "The 400" c.1940 (author's photo)



#305084 Model 275 "The 400" c.1945





Model 275 #310xxx c.1946



1948 Prices: #245 = \$132.50, #265 = 162.50, #275 = \$287.50

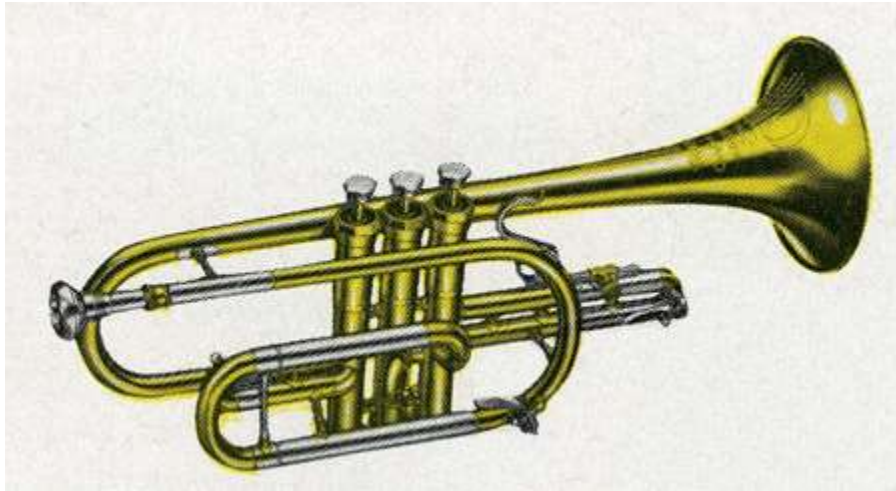
1954 Catalog illustration for model 275



1954 model 257 Aristocrat



1955 new Model 264 Aristocrat large bore



1955 Model 275 "The 400"



#353858 Model 275 c.1956 (author's photo)





#358316 Super 400 c.1957 (auction photo)



#358718 Super 400 c.1957 (auction photo)



1959 Model 229 Aristocrat



1959 Model 235 Super Aristocrat w/new nickel silver bell



1959 Model 240 "The 400" (no image)

1959 Model 260 Super 400



#378681 Aristocrat c.1962 (auction photo)





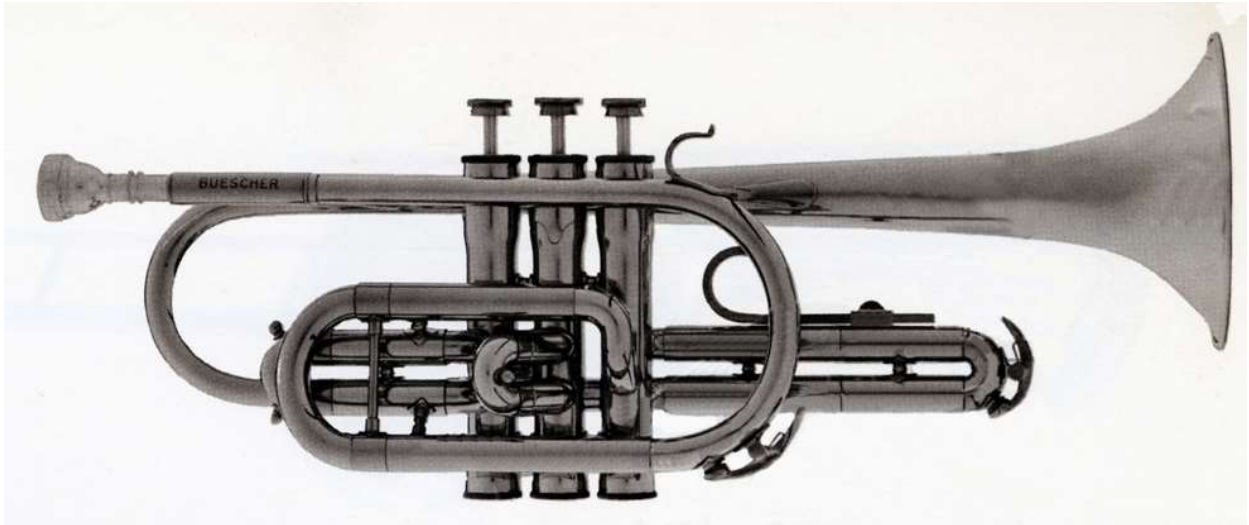
400 Cornet #381xxx c.1963 (auction photo)



Buescher was purchased by Selmer in 1963.



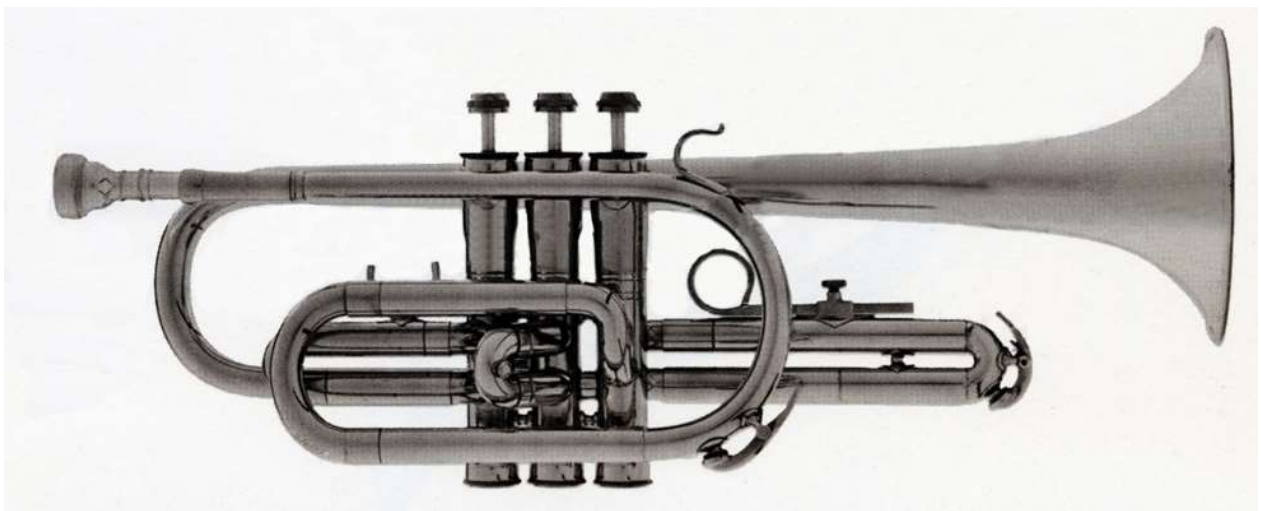
1966 Model 229 Aristocrat



1966 Model 235 Super Aristocrat



1966 Model 250 "The 400"

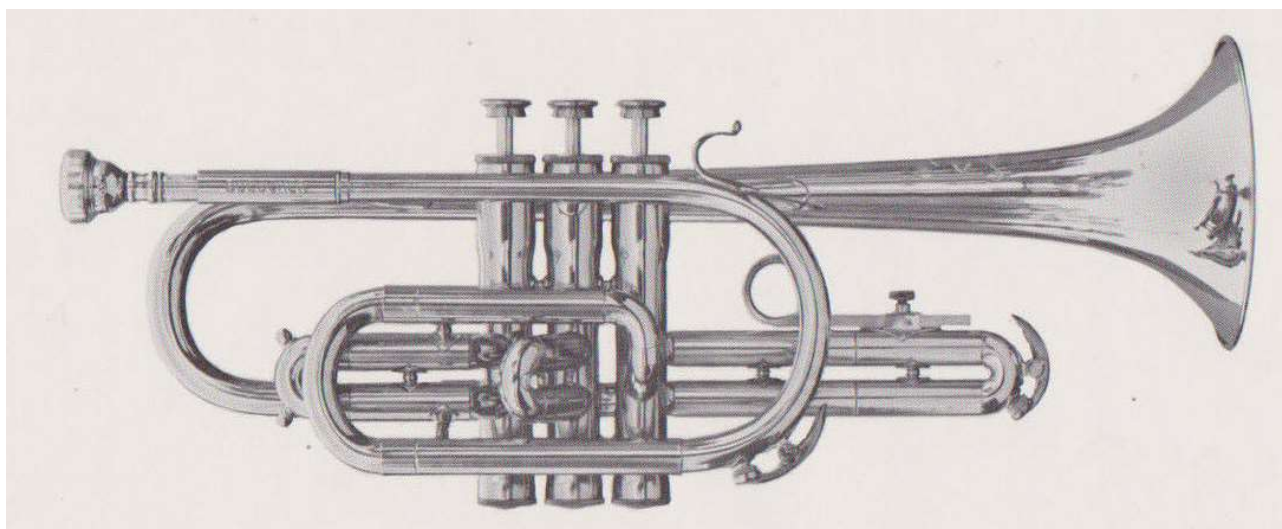




#494015 Aristocrat model c.1968 (auction photo)



1970s Model 229 Aristocrat



1983 – Production ends around #900000.