

G. C. Jenkins Co.

Decatur, Illinois

- 1892 Grover Cleveland Jenkins is born in El Paso, Illinois (passport application & WWI draft record).
- 1910 Jenkins moves to Decatur (passport).
- 1917 Jenkins is an unemployed musician in Decatur (draft) and serves in the military.
- 1920 The G. C. Jenkins Co. music store is founded, according to a later ad shown below.
- 1922 Jenkins travels to Germany & France and is listed as a musician (passport, photo top right, photo 3 is 1924).
- 1928 Son James Bowman Jenkins is born on March 1.
- 1930 Music store owner in Decatur (census).
- 1942 Music store & factory at #502 E. William St., Decatur (draft record).
- 1947 Ad on p.2 from *International Musician*. Other ads found are from 1946 to 1948 and are for percussion instruments.
- 1953 A new 30,000 sf factory is built at #1014 E. Olive St. The percussion business is now called Jen-Co and they make percussion instrument line marimbas and bells and import accordians, woodwinds, and brass from Europe.
- 1955 Jenkins receives design patent 175,224 for a bell tree.
- 1959 The G.C. Jenkins Co employs 25 people in their 44,000 sf factory at 1014 E. Olive St in Decatur (snathanieladams.com).



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 Quintet; Doc. West, Teacher of New York; Billy Dorn—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

1967 Founder Grover Jenkins dies on June 30 (VA records).

1976 The business is sold to the Decatur Instrument Co.

1982 James Jenkins dies this year (Find-a-grave).

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



"JENCO" STANDARD MUTES
Sold by Better Dealers

No. 45 "Jenco"
Trumpet with sliding stem cup. All aluminum. **\$3.00**

No. 45 — "Jenco"
Trombone with sliding stem cup. All aluminum. **\$5.50**

No. 27
No. 27 Cornet or Trumpet — Black or white grained fiber mute with metal ring around top. Has adjustable bell spun of polished aluminum. Price.....list **\$2.90**

No. 27 Trombone — Black or white grained fiber mute with metal ring around top. Has adjustable bell spun of polished aluminum. Each.....list **\$3.90**

No. 55
No. 55 Cornet - Trumpet — Heavy black grained fiber mute with white fiber bell. Brass ferrule reinforcement on small end. Three cork holders. Each.....list **\$2.90**

No. 55 Trombone — Heavy black grained fiber mute with white fiber bell. Brass ferrule reinforcement on smaller end. Three cork holders. Each.....list **\$3.90**

No. 20
No. 20 Cornet or Trumpet — Made of quality black or white grained fiber. Metal ring around top and bottom. Solid cork holder. Price.....list **\$2.90**

No. 20 Trombone — Made of good quality heavy black or white grained fiber. Metal ring around top and bottom. Solid cork holder. Price.....list **\$3.90**

No. 38
No. 38 Cornet or Trumpet — Spun entirely from highly polished aluminum, with three cork holders. List..... **\$2.20**

No. 38 Trombone — Spun entirely from highly polished aluminum with three cork holders.....list **\$3.90**

No. 35
No. 35 Cornet or Trumpet — Spun entirely from highly polished aluminum with knob at end. Three cork holders. List **\$1.40**

No. 35 Trombone Mute — Spun entirely from highly polished aluminum with knob at one end. Three cork holders. List **\$3.90**

ORDER THROUGH YOUR JOBBER
G. C. JENKINS CO.
Manufacturers
DECATUR, ILLINOIS U. S. A.