

J. W. York & Sons

Mouthpieces

Crean model:

One of the earliest cornet mouthpieces I have seen from York is a Crean model (photo 1). These were named after cornet soloist and teacher Stephen Crean (1858-1913). Crean was born in England in 1858 and emigrated to New York in 1879

Weldon Model:

The Weldon model cornets have serial numbers in the 1100 to 2400 range which date them to the 1899 to 1900 period. These were named for well-known cornet soloist and teacher Alfred F. Weldon (1862-1914) of Chicago. York also made the Weldon model mouthpiece. (photo 3)

Weldon was born in Hartford, CT and moved to Chicago in 1874. He was a bandmaster for many years and by the time of the 1909 photo at right, was teaching at the Siegel-Myers School of Music in Chicago. He developed the Weldon system of playing and his most famous pupil was Buhumir Kryl.

Boston Model: cornet below; unknown source of name



- 1882 York starts his music business in Grand Rapids, MI
- 1887 name change to York & Son with Frank joining
- 1898 name change to York & Sons with Charles joining
- 1913 York receives a design patent for the Al-Tru cornet
- 1926 name change to York Band Instrument Co.
- 1940 York is purchased by Carl Fischer



1970 the York factory closes

At right: cornets Crean, Weldon, Boston & Besson models

Below cornet Al-Tru models



York & Son cornet #2 below c.1887-1898



York Band Inst. Co. trumpet #44 so after 1926



At right cornet Al-Tru #40 and Euphonium #14

