

# Benson Music House

Minneapolis, MN

- 1888 Peter Benson (1867-?) emigrates from Sweden to Minneapolis (other dates given in the Census are 1877 & 1887).
- 1891 Benson & Ekstrom, guitar manufacturers, #510 Cedar Ave., Peter Benson & Charles Ekstrom (dir).
- 1892 Peter Benson, guitar manufacturer, #510 Cedar Ave. Granted patent #487,820 for guitar music rack.
- 1893 Peter Benson, guitar maker (dir).
- 1894 Peter Benson, music dealer, #1126 S. 17<sup>th</sup> St (dir).
- 1896 Peter Benson, books & musical instruments, #1204 Washington Ave. S. Peter was naturalized this year.
- 1897 Peter Benson, books, musical inst., bicycles, #1204 Wash.
- 1898 Peter Benson, books, manuf. of musical inst. & cases, musical merchandise, #1225 Washington Ave. S. (dir).
- 1899 Manuf. of high-grade guitars & mandolins, #1225 Wash.
- 1909 Manuf. & importers of high-grade musical instruments.
- 1920 First year listed as Benson Music House, Peter Benson, proprietor, #1225-1229 Washington Ave. S. (dir).
- 1936 WPA photo of Benson Music House, #1225 Wash. (top).
- 1940 Peter and wife Helga are living at the Scandinavian Union Relief Home in Minneapolis (he probably lost the store to the depression or sold it sometime after 1936) (census).
- 1898 ad below shows new store & manufacturing facility.

Cornet at right c.1900 made by B&F in Austria (auction photo).



ESTABLISHED 1891

**P. BENSON**  
MANUFACTURER OF  
**Musical Instruments**  
AND  
**CASES**

DEALER IN  
**Books,**  
**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,**  
**STRINGS, MUSIC BOOKS etc.**  
WHOLESALE & RETAIL

PUBLISHER OF  
"GUITAR KLANGEN"

HAVE YOU SEEN  
THE  
"BENSON" GUITAR?  
MAY 1897  
Write for Particulars.

1225 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.