## **Hornola Mute**

## **Detroit, MI**

- 1893 Willard Bryant opens a music store at 36 Gratiot Ave, Detroit (photos 1 & 2 c.1900).
- 1901 Millard founds Newell, Millard, & Thomas with George Newell (1865-1933) and Newell L. Thomas (1853-1930) in Grand Rapids to make band insts; #29 Canal St (*MTR*).
- 1903 George Newell moves instrument factory to Detroit and forms the Bryant-Newell Co. with Willard Bryant at #218 Woodward Ave., using "Rex" brand name. "A new factory for the manufacture of musical instruments will shortly be built in Detroit." Bryant had purchased a half interest (Detroit Tribune, Feb).
- 1904 Bryant is doing well with the band inst. business (MTR).
- 1906 Willard Bryant Music House, #218 Woodward, manufacturer of Rex band instruments. Bryant & Newell Thomas receive patent #839,547 for a piston valve spring.
- 1920 Bryant address at #218 Woodward becomes #1420. His partnership with Newell may have ended at this time.
- 1923 Bryant runs ads in *The Music Trades* for his Hornola mute. An article in May says that they have been on the market for four months. The earliest ad is Dec. 1922.
- 1924 The Hornola mute has sold for two years and is very popular. They are sold by Willard Bryant from his store in the basement of #1420 Woodward Ave, Detroit, below the Cable Piano Co store (*Music Trade Review*, January).
- Willard Bryant Music House moves to #1425 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor; E. E. Herrick manager; manuf., dealer, & imp.







