

Theophil Marcus (TM) Koeder

Pekin & Naperville, Illinois

- 1884 Koeder is born on December 6th in Saline, Michigan.
- 1894 Koeder is now living in York, Michigan.
- 1900 Koeder moves to Elkhart, Indiana with relatives and works for Buescher soldering buggy dash rails (SKB).
- 1902 Koeder goes to Chicago & makes valves for Holton (SKB).
- 1905 Koeder marries Lillian Hausen of Chicago. At about this time, he starts working for Taylor & Horn, #94 Dearborn St, making brass instruments (photos 1 & 2).
- 1906 Son Edward Theophil Koeder is born in Chicago (census).
- 1910 Theodore Koeder, clerk, #3237 Lemoyne St, Chicago (directory). Son Leonard is born (census).
- 1911 Koeder moves to Elkhart & works for Blessing (SKB).
- 1912 Koeder is in the Elkhart City directory as instrument maker. Later that year he moves back to Chicago to work as a shop superintendent for Holton (SKB).
- 1915 Koeder is still in the Chicago City directory.
- 1917 Koeder moves to Minneapolis to be the superintendent for the Kenny Band Instrument Co (SKB).
- 1918 The draft registration lists him at #311 North Church St. in Elkhorn, WI and working as an assistant supervisor for Frank Holton & Co. He helped Holton move from Chicago to the new factory in Elkhorn (SKB).
- 1919 Koeder returns to Chicago and helps Charlie Horn (formerly Taylor & Horn) open a new business in Naperville, IL called Blorite Instrument House. The factory is on Washington St in the old Hunt building opposite the YMCA (SKB) (trumpet photos 3, 4 & 6). An ad in August "Boys Life" for Blorite Instrument House, Naperville, IL, selling US Army & Navy bugles to the Boy Scouts.
- 1920 Ad in *Popular Mechanics* for "new Triple Tone trumpet" in C/Bb/A, Blorite Instrument House, Naperville, IL. They are selling cornets, trumpets, trombones, fifes, bugles, & drums (ad at right).
- 1920 Ad in August *Musical Messenger* for Koeder repair shop in Naperville (top of page 2; he probably started his own shop in addition to working at Blorite).



- 1921 The Blorite factory burns in March and Horn moves back to Chicago as a musician (dir). Koeder continues his own business in Naperville.
- 1922 Ad below for T.M. Koeder, instrument repair & Majestic model trumpets, cornets, and trombones (photos 2, 3 & 5). The mouthpiece shown in the ad and in photo 4 follows 1910 patent #962,479 of Leon Taylor (Taylor & Horn) and apparently used later by Koeder.

YOU CAN PAY MORE MONEY, BUT YOU CAN NEVER BUY A BETTER TRUMPET
 Write for New Booklet giving description of Majestic Cornets, Trumpets and Trombones, also Price List.

MAJESTIC TRUMPET



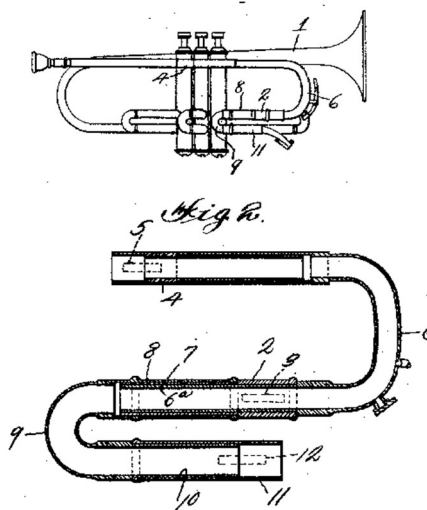
We have helped others with
OUR SPECIAL LINE OF MOUTHPIECES
 NOW LET US HELP YOU

First-class Clarinet, Saxophone and all kinds of Band Instrument Repairing

T. M. KOEDER, Naperville, Ill.

PROMPT SERVICE RIGHT PRICES

- 1923 Theophil M. Koeder, band instruments, #22 Water St; T.M. (Lillian) Koeder, horns & musical instruments, #74 W. Jefferson Ave, Naperville (directory). Koeder builds a new two-story block shop at #721 E. School Ave and lives on the second floor (SKB, photo 6).
- 1924 Koeder registers the "Majestic" trademark (SKB).
- 1925 T.M. Koeder (LE), musical institute mechanic & Julian (phone book). Koeder granted patent #1,527,589 for a double tuning slide design for changing keys on a cornet, which shows up on cornet #3080 (page 3, photo 1).



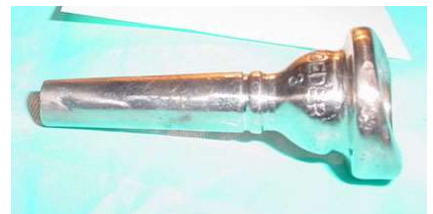
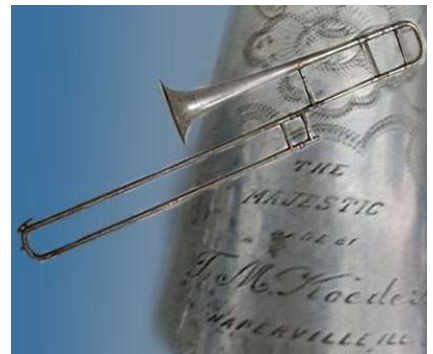
Is Your { **Cornet** in need of a new valve?
Saxophone in need of new pads, instrument dented and generally in need of repairs?

IF SO, SEND SAME TO

Koeder's Repair Shop
 Naperville, Illinois

SPECIALISTS IN REPAIR WORK

Everything repaired here from a cornet to a helicon bass



1926-1927 T.M. Koeder, musical instruments, #721 School Ave., Naperville, IL (phone book).

1928-1938 No Koeder in Naperville phone book.

1928 The Hurtt-Jones-Koeder Co. begins production on August 13th in Pekin at #110 Court St making Majestic model cornets, trumpets, cornet horns, trombones, & bugles. Incorporated with \$25,000 capital. They also have the Hurtt Tuport line of trumpets, cornets (photos 2 & 3), & French horns. Koeder was the designer and head of all manufacturing and was said to have had 25 years experience (*Presto*). The Hurtt cornet follows Frank Hurtt's design patent #41,613 from 1911 (photo 4).

The company formed in 1928 by Hurtt, Jones & Koeder seems to have been very short-lived as by 1930 the name had changed to the Jones-Koeder Co. So who were these two other men?

Frank L. Hurtt: (1876-1948)

1910 Orchestra musician living in Peoria. His wife Minnie and brother-in-law Joseph were both also listed as musicians in the census.

1918 Hurtt is listed as an inmate at the Peoria State Hospital (draft).

1920 Hurtt files for a patent on a brass mouthpiece with a telescoping adjustment (photo 5).

1922 Hurtt granted patent #1,436,631 for mouthpiece with half assigned to George LaCroix of Peoria.

1928 Hurtt is said to be a renowned trumpet soloist (*Presto*).

1930 Hurtt is listed as an orchestra musician in the census as well as being an inmate at the hospital again; a possible reason for him leaving the company.

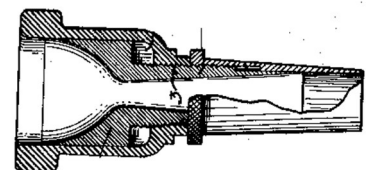
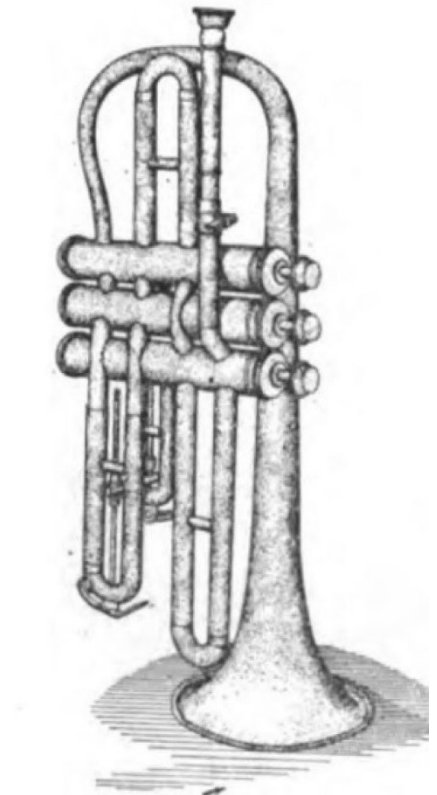
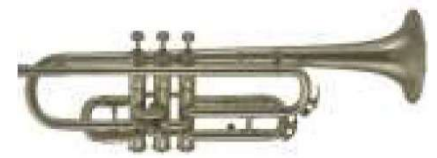
1940 Musician for Federal music project (census).

Howard G. Jones: (1873-1960)

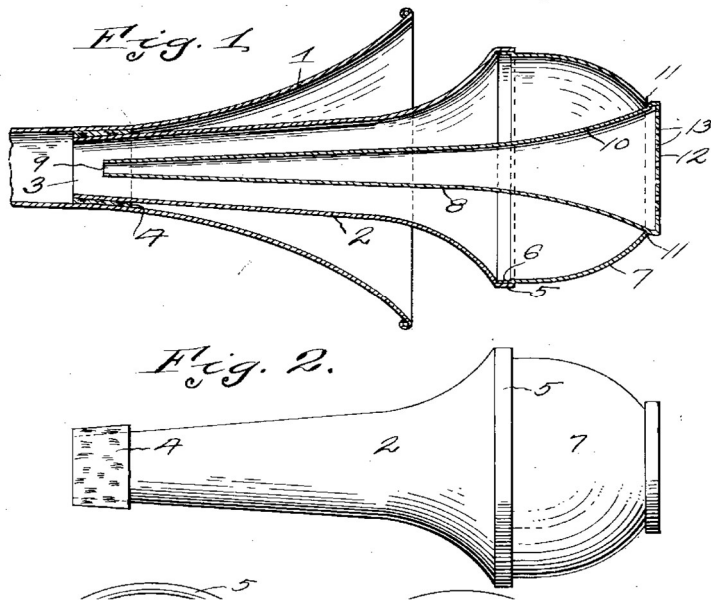
1920 Waterworks manager, Pekin (census).

1928 Owner of the Pekin Wagon Co. (*Presto*) (he was probably the money behind the company).

1960 Jones dies in California.



- 1930 Production of Jones-Koeder instruments has increased and now includes clarinets, alto horns, & mellophones with a baritone now in development (*Presto*, July). H.G. Jones is president of the company. Koeder at #710 S. 9th St (dir).
- 1930 Leonard Koeder (1910-1983) wins a local trumpet competition and later competes with honor in a state event at Chicago. He plays a Majestic trumpet (photo 1) & his plans are to finish college then return to work at the factory (*Music Trade Review*, October).
- 1932 Koeder is at #710 South 9th St. in Pekin & is sec.-treasurer of company.
- 1934 The Pekin company goes bankrupt and Koeder starts working for Lyon & Healy in Chicago while also trying to rebuild his business in Naperville (SKB).
- 1939 T. M. Koeder, #721 E. School Ave., Naperville (phone book). He goes back to business full time for himself and lives above the shop (SKB).
- 1941 Patent #2,244,205 is granted to Koeder for a mute design.

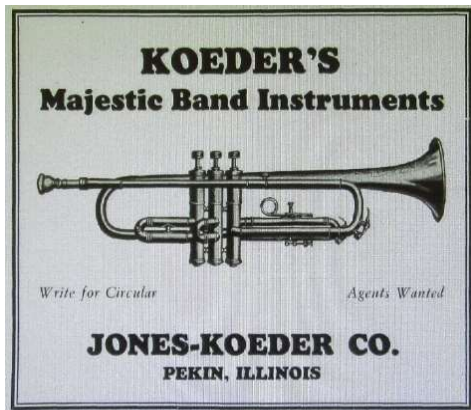


- 1942 Draft registration for Koeder shows him still in Naperville. All brass production stops during the war (SKB).
- 1946 Son Leonard (Bud) moves back to Naperville to help run the shop (SKB, photo 2 is TM & Bud in the shop).
- 1950 Leonard T. Koeder, #140 S. Loomis, Naperville, IL (cen.)
- 1952 Koeder builds a Cape Cod style home next to the shop (photo 3).
- 1956 or 1957 They have a fire in the shop (SKB).



- 1971 Koeder sells his shop to son Bud then later dies in Naperville on November 30.
 - 1978 Bud retires and closes the shop (SKB).
 - 1980 The shop is sold to Ron Collier, who had worked ten years for Schilke, to start Brasswinds, Inc. making baroque-style brass trumpets & trombones (SKB).
 - 1983 Leonard dies: he was a professional trumpet player, a 50 year member of the Naperville Municipal band, and owner of Koeder Music from 1924-1979 with his father (obit.).
 - 1984 Collier is still working at the shop (photos 2 & 3 from news article).
 - 1985 Collier moves to Chicago; #8131 S. Campbell St.
 - 2016 The old shop has been renovated into a home and the property was sold for \$1.1 million.
- (SKB) = History timeline provided by TM's granddaughter Sheila Koeder Bornmeier in 2017.

Two ads below are from 1930.



Here are some photos of T.M. and his wife Lillian from 1941.



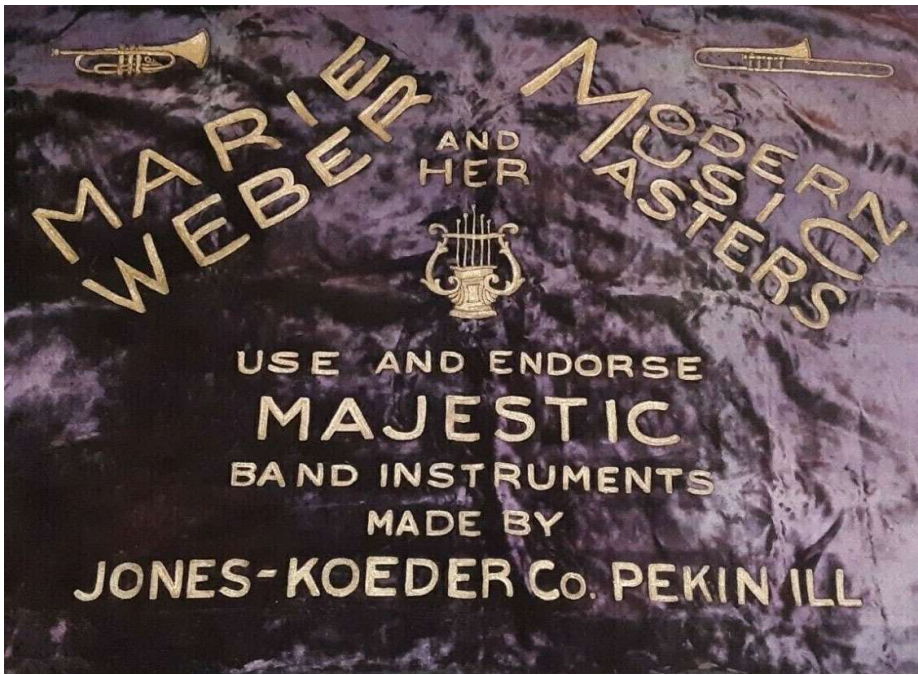
The girl in the center is their granddaughter, Sheila, who supplied me with these photos and much of the information here.

Instrument photos from Horn-u-copia.net and auction sales.

Mellophone #604



Parade Banner from 1930-1934 Period



Rare Jones-Koeder Heraldic trumpet c.1934 (author's photos).



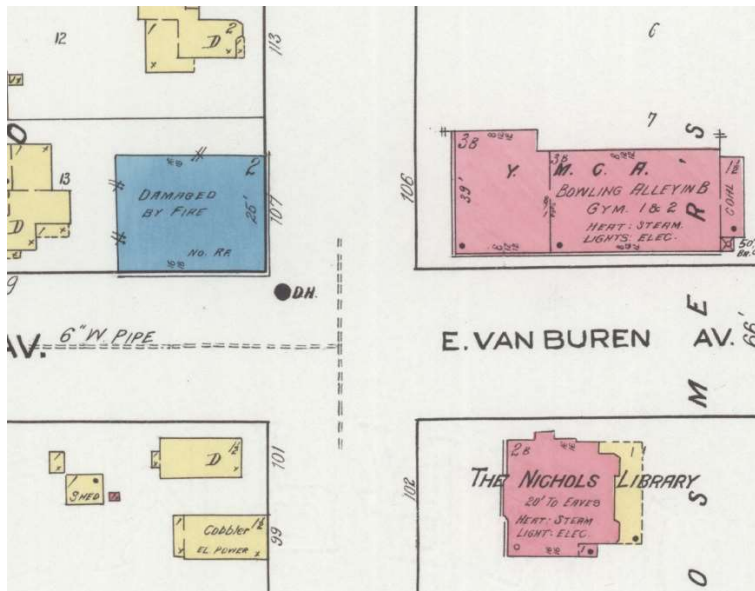
Unique Bb/A stop mechanism



Koeder Locations:

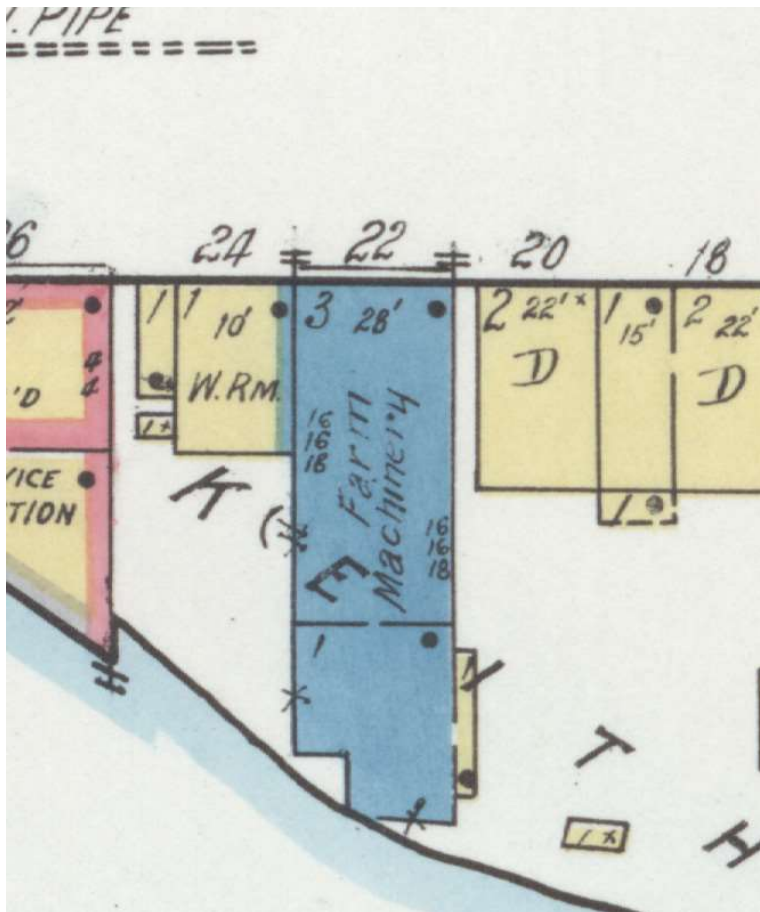
#107 Washington St, Naperville: Blowrite factory 1919-1921

1921 Sanborn map showing 50'x65' building damaged by fire.



#22 Water St, Naperville: Koeder shop until 1923

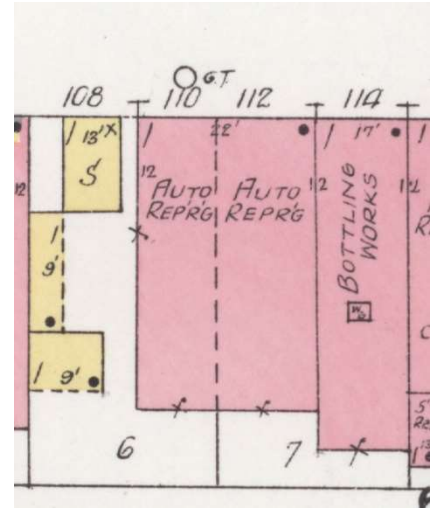
1921 Sanborn map lists this building as "Farm Machinery".



Hurtt-Jones Co.

#110 Court St, Pekin 1928-1934

1925 Sanborn map labels this building "Auto Repair".



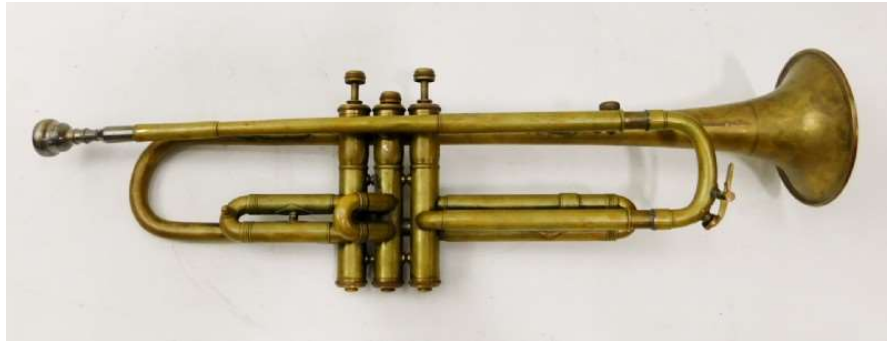
Charlie Horn in 1923

Cornet player, conductor,
and partner in the Taylor &
Horn and Blowrite
businesses.

Majestic trumpet #161



Majestic trumpet #274 (below & top right)



Majestic trumpet #807



Majestic trumpet #1252



Model 2B #3052 (below & photo 3)



Trombone #3062

Advertising

May 1921

— MAKE THIS YOUR SERVICE STATION —

IS YOUR CORNET IN NEED OF A NEW VALVE?
SAXOPHONE IN NEED OF NEW PADS AND ADJUSTING?
INSTRUMENTS DENTED AND GENERALLY IN NEED OF REPAIRS OR PLATING?
IF SO, SEND SAME TO

KOEDER'S REPAIR SHOP NAPERVILLE, ILL.
SPECIALISTS IN REPAIR WORK
EVERYTHING REPAIRED HERE FROM A CORNET TO A HELICON BASS

June 1921 Majestic Cornet matching 1925 patent at right.

SAVE FROM \$25.00 TO \$50.00 BY PURCHASING A
"MAJESTIC"



If you are looking for the best high-grade cornet on the market today, write for price list, also reasons why we can sell this instrument at so great a saving to the trade:

First Class Band Instrument Repairing, At Lowest Prices

T. M. KOEDER, Manufacturer, - - - Naperville, Ill.

October 1921 now adding Trumpet & Trombone.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE BEST? WE HAVE IT AND CAN PROVE IT

Majestic Cornets, Trumpets, Trombones

POSITIVELY THE BEST HIGH-GRADE INSTRUMENTS ON THE MARKET TODAY



Send for descriptive circular today, which also explains our free trial offer. Satisfaction guaranteed, and you save money by purchasing a MAJESTIC. First-class saxophone and band instrument repairing. Special line of mouthpieces. Also good bargains in second hand instruments.

T. M. KOEDER - - - - - Naperville, Ill.
ORDERS TAKEN NOW FOR HOLIDAY DELIVERY

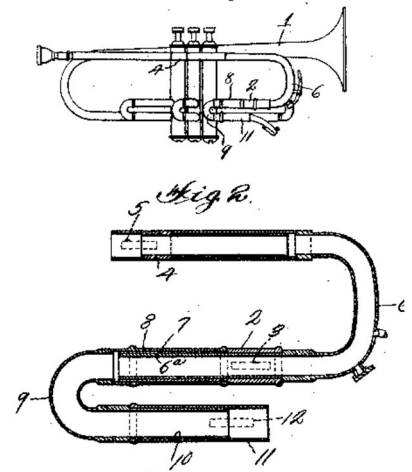
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March 1921



Have You Tried a Majestic?

CORNETS
TRUMPETS
and TROMBONES

The Best High Grade Instruments on the Market Today
Write for Prices and Descriptions
BARGAINS IN SECOND-HAND INSTRUMENTS
SPECIAL LINE OF MOUTHPIECES

First-class Saxophone and Band Instrument Repairing at Reasonable Prices

T. M. KOEDER, NAPERVILLE, ILL.

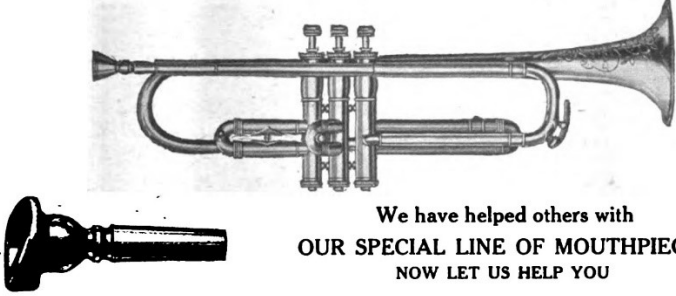
January 1922



June 1922

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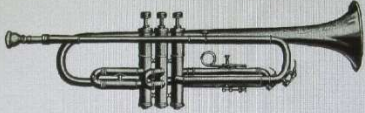
1930

Looking for a Thrill?
 try a
MAJESTIC



KOEDER'S MAJESTIC BAND INSTRUMENTS
 made by
JONES-KOEDER CO. Pekin, Ill.
 Brass and woodwind repairing
 Write for circular

KOEDER'S Majestic Band Instruments



Write for Circular Agents Wanted

JONES-KOEDER CO.
 PEKIN, ILLINOIS

1930

October 1922

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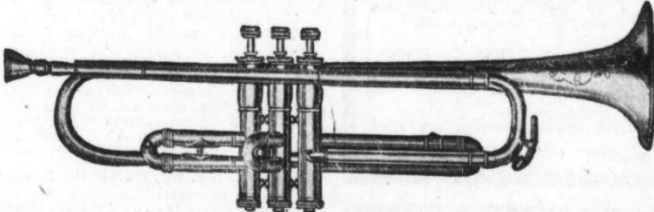
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T. M. KOEDER, Naperville, Ill.

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1924

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 Built to Suit the Most Discriminating Musicians



Mouthpieces of all descriptions at the right price. All kinds of band instrument repairing. Write us today for catalog and prices.

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The HURTT
 Adjustable Mouthpiece
 Made for
TRUMPETS
 Combination
TRUMPETS AND CORNETS
 and
TROMBONES
 Any desired cup depth
 No springs—no loose parts
 Send for circular
HURTT-JONES CO.
 PEKIN, ILLINOIS

PATENTED

March 1928