

Lyons Band Instrument Co.

Chicago

- 1920 William H. Lyons (1896-1989) is living in New Trier, IL with his cousin Howard R. Lyons (1899-?). William is a manager for a phonograph company and Howard is an assistant in a clothing store (census).
- 1928 The company is started by cousins William H. and Howard R. Lyons, along with Clarence L. McCreery, as a school band rental program. #17 West Lake St, Chicago (dir).
- 1936 They start *The Lyons Band News*.
- 1940 All three partners are still with the business. Clarence is listed as an employee (census).
- 1942 Lyons is still located at #14 West Lake St (draft).
- 1948 Lyons is now at #223 West Lake St (dir).
- 1969 New address is #688 Industrial Drive, Elmhurst, IL.
- 1970 Lyons is purchased by Selmer and moved to Elkhart. Any instrument production ends.
- 1990s Lyons name is sold and is currently Lyons Music Products, a division of Woodwind & Brasswind.

Brass instruments with the Lyons name are all stencils that apparently came from various sources. Their two models are "Challenger" and "Monarch". Finding the sources would be a matter of checking the receiver for a country of import or matching the design to a known maker.

One of the Monarch trumpets is made by Harry Pedler & Sons (photo 6 on right) and is their ART model. I had one Monarch trumpet with a serial number within 100 of a Pedler ART trumpet, and they are identical. These have short action valves with bottom springs and are well made student horns. These date to the 1940s and 1950s.

Photos are from Horn-u-copia.net.

