

# Macanart Mute Co.

Bristol, CT

- 1923 Trumpeter R. J. McFarland approached his purchasing agent Marion Wentworth Hart (1891-?) in October about a better-quality mute since he didn't like the metal ones. They developed one made from Pyralin, which was lightweight and didn't absorb moisture (*Dupont Magazine*, April 1925, see below).
- 1924 The Macanart Mute Co. starts selling their trumpet & trombone mutes.

THE DU PONT MAGAZINE

## Pyralin Joins the Orchestra

And serves most satisfactorily as a mute for trumpets and trombones

**I**N October, 1923, R. J. McFarland, a trumpeter of many years' experience, came to me with a problem. I was then purchasing agent for his orchestra. He wanted a mute with properties that mutes at that time did not possess. He wanted to get away from the metal mute—and the non-metallic ones were either frail or were made of moisture-absorbing materials. The mute he sought was not yet made.

It happened that I had just purchased some Pyralin toilet articles for my wife, so I suggested the Pyralin mute. The idea appealed to him and together we started to develop it with the plan of equipping our own orchestra only, but the results so encouraged us that we decided to perfect our mute and put it on the market. After nearly a year of experimenting, the Macanart mute as it is today was produced.

Our mute possesses all the qualities of other good mutes, without their disadvantages. By this we mean that while some metallic mutes are excellent in tone

By M. W. HART  
Macanart Mute Co.

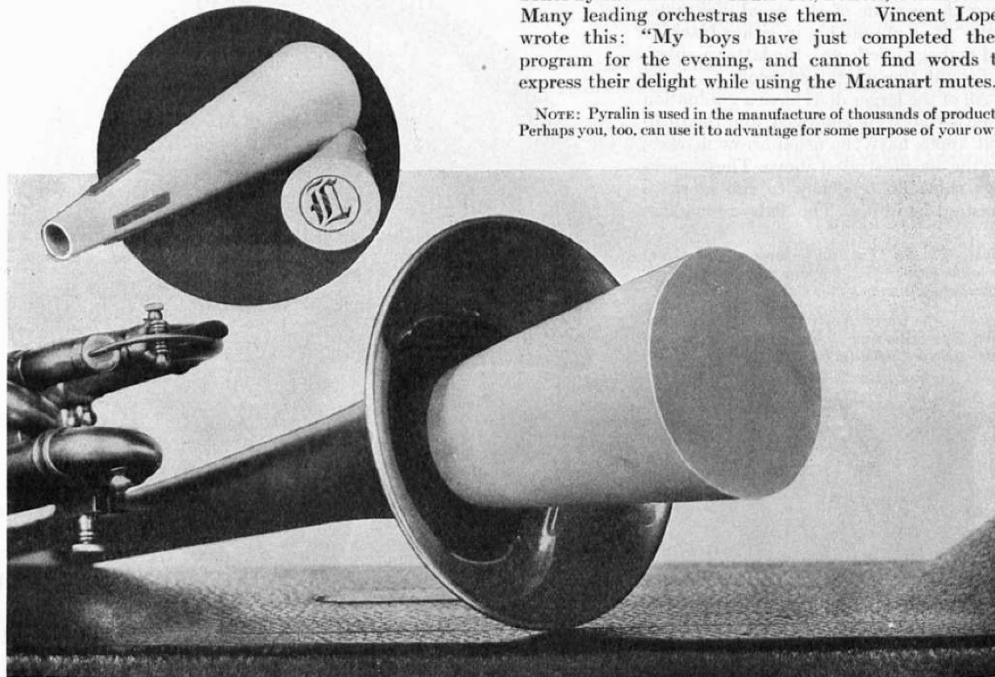
and in "snap" or "pep," they have the disadvantage of being heavy, or likely to dent and tarnish. Fiber mutes are excellent and inexpensive, but not moisture-proof. The black mute, with many desirable properties, is rather fragile. And we know of no mute that does not have corks which are likely to come off, if attached with shellac or glue.

Our Macanart mute is extremely light in weight. It will not dent, is practically unbreakable, is absolutely moisture-proof, is non-metallic. It does not scratch easily; if soiled, it can be washed without ill effects; it holds its corks permanently, and is ideal in tone. Thus, we have overcome the disadvantages mentioned, but that is not all.

The Macanart correctly mutes all tones possible on the instrument both in high or in low register, which is unusual. It offers practically no resistance to the player; it is free-blowing. And this Pyralin mute is beautiful and is also well adapted for monogram decoration.

These mutes are made for both trumpets and trombones by the Macanart Mute Co., Bristol, Connecticut. Many leading orchestras use them. Vincent Lopez wrote this: "My boys have just completed their program for the evening, and cannot find words to express their delight while using the Macanart mutes."

NOTE: Pyralin is used in the manufacture of thousands of products. Perhaps you, too, can use it to advantage for some purpose of your own.



The Macanart mute is held in place by corks; see picture above. Note the one with engraved initial letter

Ads appear in *Music Trade Review* in 1926 and 1927.



**Mr. Dealer—  
Just a Moment!**

Do you know that players all over the country, in ever increasing numbers, are choosing the MACANART mute as the finest product of its kind? Do you realize that many of these players could have bought the MACANART from you if you had been prepared to deliver? Send your order now and be ready for the Fall and Winter demand.

**Macanart Mute Company**  
Bristol, Connecticut



**DEALERS  
JOBBERs**

You would be surprised at the number of mail orders we are receiving from your general territory, particularly since we advertise so little. We believe that between the both of us we can do more yet, and we want to establish connections with you. Please write us for further information.

**Macanart Mute Company**  
Bristol, Connecticut

In February of 1927 they announce new lower prices for the mutes. Trumpet went from \$3.25 to \$2 and trombone went from \$5 to \$3 (*MTR*).

1930 Marion Hart is now living in Bedford, MA and working as a commercial furniture salesman (census), so I am assuming the business is closed by this time.

1940 Marion Hart, meat store clerk, Bedford (census).

1950 Marion Hart, food sales, Bedford (census).