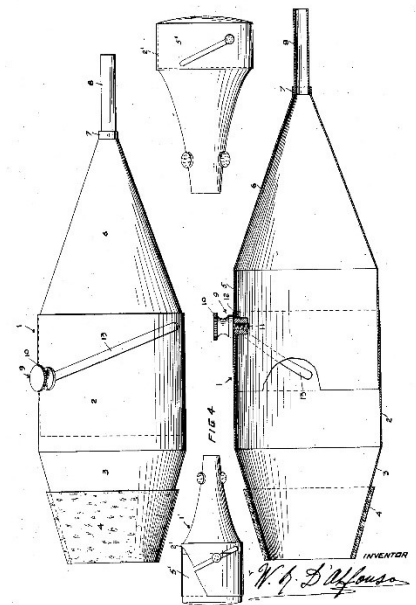
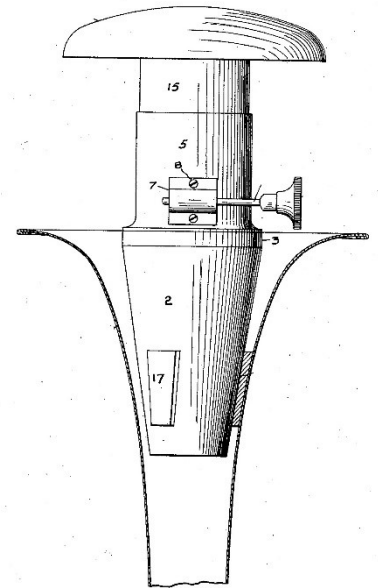


Universal Telescope Mute Co.

Los Angeles, California

- 1877 Guillermo Romeo D'Alfonso is born on April 22 in Buenos Aires, Argentina (WWI draft).
- 1905 D'Alfonso emigrates to the US (census).
- 1909 He marries Freida Simon in New York City (marriage record).
- 1914 He is now going by William Romeo D'Alfonso, a musician living at 237 N. Bunker Hill in Los Angeles (son Peter's birth certificate).
- 1918 He is a musician at the Graumann Theatre in Los Angeles and living at 2123 Duane in LA (WWI draft).
- 1919 He is naturalized as a US citizen.
- 1920 William R. D'Alfonso, orchestra musician, 6018 Colby St, Oakland, CA (census).
- 1921 He files for a patent on a tone modifying mute on August 1, and a telescoping mute on October 27. He is living in Oakland and his assignor is the Universal Telescoping Mute Co. of LA (patent record).
- 1922 W. R. D'Alfonso, musician, 6018 Colby, Oakland (city directory).
- 1923 New press machines have been installed in the factory which could bring daily production up to 6,000 units (*The Music Trades*, March 17).
- 1923 He receives patent #1,467,422 on September 11 and #1,468,066 on September 18 (patent record). The ad below is from the January edition of "The Music Trades".



—AN UNSURPASSED AMERICAN INVENTION—



UNIVERSAL TELESCOPE MUTES For BRASS INSTRUMENTS

Indispensable for Symphony Orchestras and Bands. Patents pending in the U. S. Patent Office and Principal Foreign Countries.

W. R. D'Alfonso, Inventor.

MUTES FOR BARITONE AND TUBA MADE TO ORDER.
Agents Wanted Everywhere—Must Have Bank Reference

THE UNIVERSAL MUTES CO., Inc.
P. O. BOX 486 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

- 1924 He receives Canadian patent 241,532 on July 15 for his mute.
- 1925 William is gone from the city directory and only his wife is listed. She is remarried by the 1930 census.