

C. G. Conn Mutes

Elkhart

1879 Conn is selling a mute said to be the Hoch patent of 1879.

1887 Conn ad says the Wonder Solo model cornet is sold with the "Hoch patent bell mute" (no patent has been found).

Early cornets often came with the "doorknob" style Conn mute (photos 1-3). Is this the Hoch mute?

Theodor Hoch: (1842-1906) He was a world-renowned cornet soloist who came to the US from Germany in 1872 and lived in New York until his death in 1906. He was naturalized in 1891 and lived for many years at #1055 Halsey St in Brooklyn. In addition to his playing, he also wrote many pieces for cornet and is said to have taught C. G. Conn how to play. In 1888 he was given a presentation Conn cornet by the city of Elkhart that was said to be worth \$1,000 and had an engraving that took two months.



1882 This interesting Conn mute came with a cornet from 1882 and is said to make a sound similar to a Harmon mute.



Conn also made mutes for trumpet (right) and trombone (below).



Here is a mute that came with a 1911 cornet.

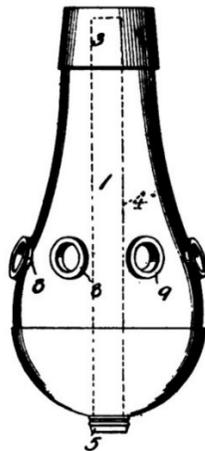


Conn Wonder mute with domed end.



Conn is granted patent #911940 in 1909 for this mute. One possible example is at right and just labeled "Pat Appld For". The bottom rotates to vary the opening size.

911,940. BELL - MUTE FOR CORNETS. CHARLES G. CONN, Elkhart, Ind. Filed July 9, 1908. Serial No. 442,741.



A bell mute comprising a pear-shaped body provided in the enlarged outer end thereof with threaded tubular openings having flat annular seats at the inner ends of said tubular openings; and threaded rings adapted to screw into said tubular openings to clamp various materials therein.

