

America's Most Celebrated Custom Built Brass Instruments This book is dedicated to musicians who appreciate fine instruments for their intrinsic worth . . . to directors whose ideals are lofty . . . to audiences whose musical tastes are discriminating . . . and to the industry as a standard by which all fine musical instruments may be judged.

The House of Olds

LSOO Before the turn of the century, when American craftsmen were learning the principles of band instrument manufacture from their European forebears, there was one instrument that presented extraordinary difficulties. That instrument was the slide trombone, which had remained static for generations, despite the skill of Old World craftsmen . . . it was awkward, acoustically bad and little used. In the early nineties, F. E. Olds, himself a fine trombonist, set out to solve the problem and to build a trombone that would meet his own exacting requirements. The fact that he did accomplish his purpose has gone down as one of the most brilliant achievements in band instrument history; for he developed a slide trombone so flexible and so superb in tone and action that composers and arrangers began to call upon it more and more, eventually making it one of the most popular of all modern instruments.

If it were not for the genius of F. E. Olds in creating the modern slide trombone and assiduously working on its perfection throughout his lifetime, thus making it the model and the pacemaker for all manufacturers ever since, the world would probably never have known the ultimate greatness of the outstanding trombonists of today. For without it, such artists would never have had the opportunity to find the proper expression for their talents. It is no wonder, then, that F. E. Olds has come to be universally recognized and hailed as the "Father of the Modern Trombone."



His passion for fine, exquisitely wrought brass instruments pursued him throughout his life; and, before his passing, he laid the groundwork for the Olds Trumpet ... a beginning which his son, R. B. Olds, continued to completion. In fact, the son determined to carry on the esteemed tradition established by his distinguished father, and went on to develop a complete line of trombones, trumpets, cornets and French horns ... all embodying that superlative quality which has marked the Olds trombone as the finest the world has ever known.

It is interesting to note, in connection with the development of the modern slide trombone by F. E. Olds, that he is credited as the first manufacturer to use nickel silver exclusively . . . the first to draw inside slide tubing of one piece of nickel silver . . . the first to use conical bore slides . . . the first to straighten tubing without grinding it . . . and the first to specialize in lightweight slides. Today, those exclusive features which mark all Olds instruments as the world's finest, are largely attributable to the inventive genius of the illustrious founder of the House of Olds.

Upholding a Great Tradition

R. B. OLDS, son of the founder of the House of Olds, proudly carries on the tradition established by his eminent father, devoting all of his energies and creative ability to the production of instruments worthy of his illustrious name. The progress made since he was called upon to take over the helm at the Olds factory is a real compliment to this energetic young executive... and his daily contact with artists in every phase of musical activity assures instruments that most satisfactorily meet the musical demands of the day.



A M E R I C A'S MOST CELEBRATED CUSTOM-BUILT BRASS INSTRUMENTS

Special Instruments

That superlative quality which has always been associated with the name of Olds is truly characteristic of this newest line of Olds instruments. Designed to be made available at popular prices, they retain those exclusive features which have made these fine brasses famous throughout the entire world... features that make for rich, pure tone; smooth action; easy blowing and smart modern design. The Special Line is unique in that it brings Olds quality within the reach of all those better musicians who realize that a fine instrument is essential to the ultimate in musicianship. Special instruments are priced from \$110.

Standard Instruments

For two generations, Olds Standard instruments have been looked upon as the "Standard of the Brass World." They have consistently set the pace for all others, keeping abreast of discoveries in the science of metallurgy and the physics of sound, with constant improvements which have maintained for them their enviable reputation. They are especially in demand because of the exclusive Olds formula heat-treated bells which produce a richer tonal quality and greater responsiveness... their comfortable streamlined braces; swift, dependable action and distinctive design. They truly represent that standard of quality which has established Olds as the favorite among discriminating musicians everywhere.

Super Instruments

All of the artistry and ingenuity at the command of Olds' master craftsmen have gone into the creation of Olds Super instruments. Though costly, they are greatly in demand, and among the most popular in the entire family of Olds instruments. Artists the world over acclaim them for their glorious tone quality and their unparalleled responsiveness . . . achieved by the tone control band spun around the bell. In addition, there are the host of other features, exclusive with Olds, which more than justify their name of "Super," important among which are their light, yet sturdy modern design patented Olds Alloy braces...comfortable and streamlined, with double-curved hand-grips. Here, indeed, is Olds genius at its zenith, in exquisitely crafted instruments that are beyond compare.



Special Instruments

The Special Trumpet

Distinctively Olds in every respect, the Special Trumpet has those exclusive features which have made Olds brasses the favorite of artist players everywhere. The bore is ideal for general band and orchestra use, for it produces a rich, mellow tone that blends with any instrumentation. It is unusually free blowing and easy in the upper register; has a big, natural hand-grip; is perfectly balanced; has a feather-light short action, with the keys set low for freedom on rapid passages; and is equipped with combination slide to "A" with tuning stop. Like all Olds instruments, it has fine nickel alloy slides, valve balasters and braces. A custom-made instrument, truly worthy of the Olds tradition, now obtainable at a cost which makes it available to all serious musicians.

NO. 11-OLDS SPECIAL TRUMPET

Finish 1—Brass, clear-lacquered, with case \$110 Finish 2—Silver, gold bell, with case \$135 Prices include cases



Special Instruments

The Special Cornet

Everything that is desired by the featured cornetist is to be found in this fine cornet by Olds . . . round, full-bodied tone; perfect intonation; exceptional blowing ease; flexibility and great carrying power. The valves are long, producing the design so desirable in a cornet, plus a large, comfortable hand-grip. In addition, it has a large, full-throated bell; light, short action; durable nickel-silver trimmings and valve slides . . . and famous Olds hand craftsmanship throughout. Equipped with combination slide to "A" with tuning stop. Mr. R. B. Olds, who is particularly enthusiastic over this new instrument, calls it "A real cornet player's cornet." It is indeed a characteristic product of Olds which the discriminating musician will recognize as a costly instrument at a popular price.

NO. 10—OLDS SPECIAL CORNET

Finish 1—Brass, clear-lacquered, with case \$116 Finish 2—Silver, gold bell, with case \$135 Prices include cases



Special Instruments

The Special Trombone

The superior musical and mechanical quality of the Olds trombone is recognized the world over, and this new horn keeps faith with that tradition. It is built to the approved and most desirable size for producing smooth, velvet tone in high and low registers with unusual blowing ease. The generous throat and bell provide the tremendous carrying power necessary in bands and concert orchestras. Tuning slides, hand grips and hand braces are of durable nickel alloy. The slides are light and fast; the big braces are accurately spaced to fit the hand; and the perfect balance assures maximum comfort for every type of playing. Developed by experienced Olds craftsmen who take real pride in their work, the Special Trombone is an exquisite instrument, ideal for every musical requirement. Available in 7 or 7½ inch bell.

NO. 12-OLDS SPECIAL TROMBONE

Finish 1—Brass, clear-lacquered, with case \$110 Finish 2—Silver, gold bell, with case \$135 Prices include cases



No. 15—Olds Special French Horn; brass, clear-lacquered, with case . . . \$150



Standard Instruments

The Standard Cornet

One of the instruments which has established Olds as the "Standard of the Brass World," and fully deserving of the acclaim accorded it by artists everywhere because of its all around musical excellence. This year, many new features have been added which make for maximum flexibility and fullness of tone, as well as for a playing ease which is truly delightful. The tempered bell has an increased diameter, giving greater power with no loss of tonal richness; and the valves have been lengthened to allow a more comfortable hand-grip. Like all Olds cornets and trumpets, it has the famous short, fast action. All valve slides, braces and valve balasters are of Olds nickel-alloy and the pistons are electroplated with pure nickel. A cornet worthy of the name Olds.

NO. 20—OLDS STANDARD CORNET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered		\$135
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell		\$160
Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished		\$285
Prices include cases		



Standard Instruments

The Standard Trumpet

More and more musicians are recognizing the necessity for instruments created to meet specific playing requirements, and that is one important reason why this and all other Olds instruments are so much in demand today. They are made to the exacting requirements of artist-players, by experienced craftsmen who know their needs—and cater to them. The Standard Trumpet maintains its ever-increasing popularity because of this, and because it incorporates those exclusive Olds features which have made Olds the Standard of Excellence the world over . . . the tempered bell . . . newly streamlined bracings . . . short, light and fast valve action . . . simple, sturdy mechanical construction with carefully balanced conical proportions to assure a true scale. Distinctively rich in tone, flexible and responsive.

NO. 21-OLDS STANDARD TRUMPET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered			\$135
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell			\$160

Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished . . . \$285

Prices include cases



Standard Instruments

The Standard Trombone

Worthy of the plaudits of top ranking players everywhere, the Standard Trombone incorporates those exclusive features which have made it a favorite among professional musicians for many years. Its beautiful modern design, effortless action and smooth richness of tone are truly indicative of that superlative quality which has always characterized Olds brasses. The patented duo-octagonal "fluted" slide action and the tempered bell combine to produce a trombone which is capable of amazing results, both in tonal quality and performance. The tuning slide is in the bell portion, with weighted braces to counter-balance the lightweight slides. Has new streamlined hand-grip, light, strong and comfortable. Bell diameter comes in either 7 or $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Tuning-in-slide model available on order.

NO. 22—OLDS STANDARD TROMBONE

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered		\$135
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell		\$160
Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished		\$285
Prices include cases		



The Super Trombone

Thrilling masterpiece of a true craftsman's art, the Super Trombone maintains its supremacy among professionals because nothing has been spared to make it a real "artist" instrument. Into its creation go the finest materials in the world . . . the most modernly scientific design and the utmost in craftsmanship. And, in addition to the Olds patented Duo-Octagonal slide action, the entire instrument (with the exception of the bell) is made of hard-drawn nickel alloy. The bell is of pure bell bronze with nickel alloy tone control band. It is available in 7 or 7½-inch size. Other features include patented hand-grips, of one-piece construction, which make for greater comfort in playing. The light response, balance and flexibility combine with a distinctively rich tone to produce a trombone of flawless performance and unparalleled musical excellence.

NO. 32—OLDS SUPER TROMBONE

Finish 1—Polished bronze and nickel silver, clea	r-		
lacquered			\$150
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell			\$17
Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished			
Prices include cases			



The Super Cornet

There's plenty of reserve power in this custom-crafted Super instrument; and it has no peer for richness of tone, easy blowing, fine intonation and flexibility. The smooth, effortless action is fast, light and dependable . . . the gratifying result of more than a generation of meticulous workmanship in the factory of F. E. Olds & Son. The streamlined form and bracing make for easier handling as well as for greater beauty of appearance; and the spun band around the bell permits fortissimo playing without blasting. The valves are plated with pure nickel, and special nickel alloy is used freely throughout all contact points. A marvel of modern acoustical engineering, the Super Cornet carries on the proud tradition of Olds in unparalleled excellence of tone and performance.

NO. 30-OLDS SUPER CORNET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered			\$150
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell			\$175
Finish 3-Gold-plated, engraved and burnis			
Prices include cases			



The Super Trumpet

The magnificent tonal quality and flawless action of the Super Trumpet allow the player to make the most of his musicianship . . . and to give to his listeners that pleasure which justifies the purchase of a costly Super instrument. Embodying many of the characteristics of the French Horn, it is built of extremely lightweight brass of a special composition, with a spun reinforcing band around the bell. Very easy blowing, light in weight, and perfectly balanced . . . it feels "natural" right from the start. Has the famous Super streamlined braces and is reinforced at all points of wear with durable nickel silver. All the refinements expected of an Olds Super instrument are present in this deluxe trumpet—plus the beauty of design which typifies Olds exquisite craftsmanship.

NO. 31—OLDS SUPER TRUMPET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered .			\$150
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell			\$17
Finish 3-Gold-plated, engraved and burnished	l	9.	\$300
Prices include cases		*	





The Recording Cornet

Introducing a principle of construction never before attempted in the manufacture of high grade cornets, the Recording Model is truly elegant in its simplicity of construction. The compact design makes it lightweight and perfectly balanced; yet permits the maximum of conical tubing in mouthpipe and bell, resulting in unusually powerful and resonant tone. It is free from abrupt turns or sharp air pockets; and the middle valve is recessed to make for a "natural" and comfortable hand-grip. The tempered bell gives great carrying power with quick response; and its extreme flexibility permits it to handle with ease the most difficult cornet passages. Here, indeed, is the ultimate in Olds genius, interpreted in an instrument which inspires pride in its possessor . . . pride in owning the finest cornet money can buy.

NO. 40—OLDS RECORDING MODEL SUPER CORNET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered						\$175	
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Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell \$200

Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished . . . \$325

Prices include cases



The Recording Trumpet

Originally designed for recording with prominent motion picture studio orchestras, the Recording Model Super Trumpet has a "punch" unlike that of any trumpet ever built. It is powerful, yet rich and mellow in tone quality because it has the exclusive Olds tone control band spun around the bell. Perfectly balanced, extremely flexible and responsive . . . and unusually easy blowing. The middle valve is recessed, creating a semi-circular hand-grip which is really comfortable. Has a dual leaderpipe which enables the mouthpipe to be adjusted to the individual characteristics of the bell . . . and a host of other exclusive features which make it a pleasure to play, and which permit the performer long hours on the job without fatigue. For the artist who needs a trumpet of exceptional performance.

NO. 41—OLDS RECORDING MODEL SUPER TRUMPET

Finish 1—Polished brass, clear-lacquered			\$175
Finish 2—Silver-plated, gold bell			\$200
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Finish 3—Gold-plated, engraved and burnished \$325

Prices include cases



The Featherweight Trombone

The lightest, fastest trombone ever made—the handsome new "Featherweight" model by Olds. It offers to the artist new worlds of achievement and new possibilities in musical execution heretofore unknown. Although extremely light, no sacrifice is made in strength. The tone is rich and clear and unbelievably easy to produce, yet powerfully resonant and full. Slide section, braces and tuning slides are of hard-drawn extra strong nickel silver. The bell is of lightweight Bell Bronze with nickel silver reinforcing band. It can be furnished in 7 or 7½-inch size: slide and bell locks available upon request. (If not specially ordered, trombone will be furnished without them.) Especially designed for the virtuoso capable of using, appreciating and caring for the most exquisite trombone ever created.

NO. 52-OLDS FEATHERWEIGHT TROMBONE



The Olds French Horn family sets new standards for musical and mechanical excellence . . . with valves larger and lighter . . . divided tone-forming columns in the double horn, assuring correct proportions in both Bb and F horns . . . with thin, resilient, well-tempered tubing and the exclusive Olds nickel silver reinforcing band around the bell. Quick response, accurate intonation and rich, mellow tone. All three horns are extremely light with strong, tubular braces, giving a solid and highly vibratory "feel." The adjustable, frictionless Olds Alloy valve bearings require no oiling; and the dual valve stop pins assure dependable valve action. Many fine symphony men have adopted Olds French Horns and find in them features superior to any they have ever used.

No. 35—Single "F" Horn, 3-valve, with extra slide for "Eb", nickel silver and polished brass, clear lacquered . \$185
No. 45—Single "Bb" Horn, 5-valve model, nickel silver and polished brass, clear lacquered \$250
No. 55—Double Horn, "Bb" and "F", 4-valves, nickel silver and polished brass, clear lacquered \$285

Prices include deluxe form-fitting cases

