

PIPE LOVERS

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN



WHO ENJOY A PIPE

25c

April, 1948



This Issue:

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♦ **Pipe Stems**
♦ **Collecting**

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Questions and ANSWERS

By KEN BROWN

If you have any question concerning pipes, tobaccos, or related subjects, Mr. Brown will be glad to answer them for you. Write to him in care of this magazine. Be sure to enclose a self addressed stamped envelop for your reply.

Q. Which type of grain gives a better smoke, birdseye or straight grain?—R. D. E., St. Louis, Mo.

A. As far as I know, there is no difference in the smoking qualities of different grains. Some smokers may disagree with me on this, however. When it comes to grain, I believe it is a matter of beauty from a collector's standpoint.

I have heard some smokers claim their straight grains are the best smoking of all, whereas others believe the birdseye grains give a superior smoke. Just what the difference is, I have never had explained to my satisfaction. I would appreciate hearing from smokers who believe there is a difference and can explain just what it is.

Q. I was interested in the article in the March issue concerning the pipestone used in making pipes. However, the article did not mention how the stone is cut or carved, that is, what implements are used. Can you answer this more fully?—S. M., Albany, N. Y.

A. When the pipestone is first taken from the ground it is quite soft and pliable and can be worked with a file and similar instruments used in soft stone carving.

The pipestone hardens in a short while. The carving, therefore, must all be done shortly after the stone is taken from the ground while the stone is still relatively soft.

Q. In a recent advertisement I read that during the process of seasoning the briar blocks they are steamed in large vats to remove bitter juices and to tighten the grain of the root. What are the juices removed and why is it desirable to tighten the grain?—K. L., Memphis, Tenn.

A. The juices are the natural sap of the wood, which, if not removed in this manner would work out while you were smoking the pipe and give a very bitter taste.

The grain is tightened in order to

keep the block from splitting while drying. This improves the quality of the pipe and lengthens its years of service.

Q. What is the source of your answer in the February issue regarding smoke and its change of color upon being exhaled? As a research engineer I am quite interested in the answer you gave to this.—R. M. S., Bartlesville, Okla.

A. The source, (since I don't claim to be a scientist) is the famous British scientist Lord Kelvin, and I assume you know of him. He died in 1907. His answer appears on page 198 of the "Textbook on Tobacco" published some years ago by the late Carl Avery Werner, long recognized as an authority on all phases of tobacco.

Q. I have several good pipes on which the stems are badly discolored and no longer have the original black finish. We have no repair shop in town, and I do not possess a buffing wheel. How do you suggest I bring back the original black lustre of the stem?—K. H., Newark, Ohio.

A. I do not know of any really good substitute for a power buffer. However, I would suggest you clean the outside of the bit thoroughly with warm water and soap. This should get some of the grease and slime off. Carbon tetrachloride or any other cleaning solvent could also be used.

A small amount of wax can now be applied to the bit and a soft flannel cloth then is used to polish it. Hard brisk motions will bring the best results. Although you may not be able to duplicate the high gloss obtainable with high speed buffers, you should be able to do a satisfactory job.

Q. I am planning on opening a pipe shop before very long and would appreciate the names of one or two trade magazines which you believe would be of benefit to a person going into this type of business.—C. E. W., Salt Lake City, Utah.

A. There are several, two of which

PIPE LOVERS

are: *The Retail Tobacconist*, 1860 Broadway, New York, N. Y., published biweekly, subscription price \$2 per year, and *The Tobacco Leaf*, 80 Wall Street, New York 5, N. Y., published weekly, subscription price \$5 per year.

Q. Would the layman have any good results in making clay pipes at home? If so, what kind of clay should be used, and how does one go about baking them?—F. L. R., Lima, Ohio.

A. The primary thing needed is a mold. Once this is obtained, it is not difficult to make clay pipes. Most any good quality, pure clay that can be baked can be used. Certain kinds of clay require different temperatures in baking, and the store or manufacturer from whom you obtain the clay can best advise you as to the amount of heat required.

An article on the making of clay pipes will soon appear, possibly in next month's issue.

Q. Can you please tell me who operates Factory No. 3, First District of Missouri?—G. P., Boone, Iowa.

A. This factory is listed as being operated by the Christian Peper Tobacco Company of St. Louis, Mo.

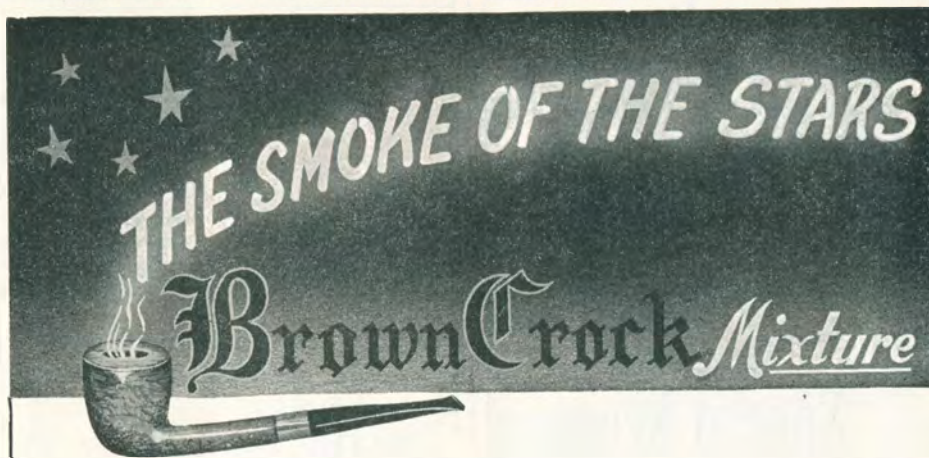
Q. How can domestic briar pipes be told from European briar? That is, what do you look for in the way of distinguishing marks?—T. P. O., Frankfort, Kentucky.

A. The only way you can learn the difference between these woods is to study each of them over a period of many weeks. Even then you may not always be able to tell definitely one from the other. They are both from the same family botanically and are identical in many ways. The difference in climate and geographical location accounts for what little visible difference there is, but after considerable practice you should be able to tell some difference.

Q. Does a thick shank cool the smoke or is its only reason simply for its appearance?—J. G. B., Bronx, N. Y.

A. I should say nine-tenths appearance, one-tenth cooling of the smoke. Careful laboratory tests would probably show that a thick shank does cool the smoke to a slight degree, but I feel sure this would not be sufficient to be noticeable by the smoker. Length of the stem would be a greater factor.

Of course a thick bowl smokes cooler, but the heat is much greater in the bowl than in the shank, and there is more heat to be absorbed. I have never heard of any actual tests having been made on this subject.



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PIPE LOVERS

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN WHO ENJOY A PIPE

Dedicated to the Interests of Over 20,000,000 Pipe Smokers

THE NATIONAL PIPE MAGAZINE

Vol. III - No. 4

April, 1948

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Cover—When not at sea these old Broadstairs, Kent (England), fishermen prefer the smoke of a long shanked Churchwarden.

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Meet the Staff

(In response to numerous requests from readers asking for information about the men who publish PIPE LOVERS each month we present with this issue the first of five thumbnail sketches dealing with the editorial staff. This month's sketch concerns Jim Morrison, Associate Editor. Next month, Bob Barnes, Art Editor.)

BEHIND the scenes in any magazine are a lot of jobs which aren't always visible to the reader, yet someone has to do them or they wouldn't get done. For instance there is much work after an article has been selected for publication. It must be carefully read for errors which have to be corrected. Doubtful facts must be verified, dates, places, and names must be checked to make sure they are correct.

Part of the article may have to be re-written for clarity, or it may be too long for appearance in one issue. It is part of Associate Editor Jim Morrison's job to look after these "un-glamorous" yet important tasks that are carried on behind the scenes.

He shines when it comes to research work and is well versed on practically any subject. And what information he doesn't know he can find in a hurry in any library.

He likes to break loose once in a while and prepare an article "on his own." Readers will long remember his most recent epic entitled "Pipe Inventors" which appeared in the February issue, and before that his fresh approach to "Tobacco Cartridges" last fall.

AT PRESENT Morrison is working on an article entitled "The Evolution of the Spur," which deals with the little "heel" or "point" on the bottom of clay pipes. He is often stymied due to the scarce amount of material on the subject of pipes, but he always comes through with a bell ringer, and you can bet that any article Morrison writes is true and authentic.

Morrison had a series of sport and adventure articles worked up which were to have appeared in PIPE LOVERS in 1946. But the overwhelm-

ing opinion of readers was that they didn't want any articles in the magazine unless they concerned pipes or tobaccos, so Morrison's hard work had to be thrown away.

In college at Grinnell, Iowa, Morrison became interested in journalism and worked on the college paper. Coincidentally, he and Cushman, PIPE LOVERS' editor, were on the staff of the college paper at the same time. (But that was more years ago than either cares to admit.)

Morrison has worked on small country weeklies and big metropolitan dailies. He can write any kind of an article from on-the-spot news to his friendly, informative features you read within these pages. During the war he left the journalism field to serve his country as a laboratory technician in charge of inspecting airplane parts.

With the end of hostilities, however, he couldn't resist the urge to return to the field of journalism.

Morrison is frank to admit he is no expert on pipes and tobaccos. At least, that is his opinion. But he has managed to garner a wealth of information about them, and he is continually thinking up new ideas for articles on the subject and then tying up the loose ends until the article is ready for publication.

He has a nice, free, easy style, one that makes for fast reading, yet his points are well emphasized and his facts presented in a manner that causes them to stick in the memory of the reader.

He receives as many "letters to the editor" as any member of the staff, and well he should, for his efforts merit this recognition. Jim is a fine addition to the staff and the quality of the magazine is kept high by his efforts.



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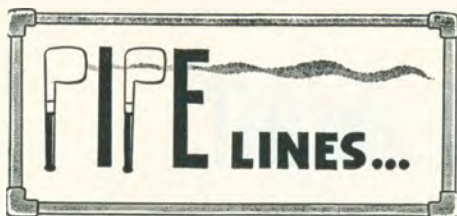
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PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE

532 Pine Avenue Long Beach 12, Calif.



Inlay

DEAR SIR:

In answer to Mr. Reid's letter in the March issue, I believe I may be able to help him out. One of my first days in China (Peiping) I went to a place called a Bazaar. As I strolled along my eyes fell on some meerschaum pipes. They were definitely collectors' items, and the price ranged from \$4 to \$10 American money. But since I was badly bent all the time, all I could bring back was a water pipe and a few smaller pipes.

I ran across a shop where they did this sort of inlay work. I let them work on two of my pipes, and they really are wonderful. One is a Chinese scene and the other is a dragon on either side of the pipe with a Chinese boat on the front.

The name and address is Te Sheng Ho, 62 Flower Street, Peiping, China. This may be a long way to go for inlay work, but I can recommend the quality of the job this man does.

E. B. Voss,
Overland, Mo.

A Mystery

DEAR SIR:

I am asking your readers for some assistance. In one of my periodic trips throughout the neighboring vicinity in search of pipes I recently came across the one whose picture I enclose.

I have never seen a pipe quite like it, either in shape or design. It is made of silver throughout, and I thought it might be of French origin from the "fleur-de-lis" design on the bowl, but friends tell me this is not the true fleur-de-lis design.



I have asked a large number of pipe men about the pipe, but no one as yet has given me any satisfaction. There are parts of the pipe that are "similar" to other pipes, to other designs and styles, but it doesn't seem to classify readily with any known pipe pattern.

Any help that your readers could furnish would indeed be appreciated, for I have become very interested in this pipe, especially since it seems so mysterious at least in regard to its background and origin.

ED COPELAND,
2326½ Honolulu Ave.,
Montrose, Calif.

☞ Readers who can clear up the mystery of the pipe's shaded past should write to the owner direct.—Ed.

Bound Volume

DEAR SIR:

You do not do justice to your bound volumes. I received Volume II today, and it was much better than I expected. In fact, it is so well done that I want you to rush Volume I by return mail, check enclosed. Quality deserves praise and I am glad to give it to you. Our business is growing. We have outgrown our present quarters and are looking for a larger location.

POUZARD PIPE REPAIR SERVICE,
Casper, Wyoming

Moisturizing

DEAR SIR:

Have any of your readers ever experimented with objects beside orange peel, apple and bits of fresh coconut for keeping the tobacco in the pouch or humidor in prime condition for smoking?

I have often wondered if possibly there aren't other substances which would do the job and at the same time impart some fragrant or otherwise exotic new flavor to the tobacco. If so, let's hear about some of these things.

C. J. MCGARR,
Albuquerque, N. M.

Old Pipes

DEAR SIR:

I think every pipe enthusiast and collector should be forced to read Robert Lacy's article on Page 76 of the March issue. Brother! How many times have I had some would-be expert tell me about some pipe of his and how it came over on the Mayflower or was with Noah in the ark, or some other indication of its extreme age.

The typical collector, (of pipes, antiques, and other things) simply drools over the age of an object. I don't think age is half so important as the actual workmanship involved.

The Napoleon pipe looked to be a good piece of workmanship. I'd like to know how old it really is. Wouldn't you?

DON SEARLES,
Springfield, Ill.

New Pipes

DEAR SIR:

Where are all the new pipes and other things we read about each month on the news page? I keep thinking the end will soon be reached, but every month there are a lot of new items introduced.

The places where I buy my pipes and tobaccos have never heard of most of them. The great variety of new pipes is amazing, also. How do so many manufacturers sell enough pipes to keep in business?

CARL C. GROVES,
Elizabeth, N. J.

Blends and Blending



By GEORGE ALPERT

If you have any questions concerning tobacco blends or blending Mr. Alpert will be glad to help you. He may be addressed at 401 Broadway, New York 13, N. Y. Be sure to enclose a self addressed stamped envelope for your reply.

WE HAD an opportunity recently to be in Canada, and while there we most naturally purchased a number of different brands of Canadian pipe mixtures.

Some of our own popular tobaccos, particularly the 15c packages are sold there, and they are sold under the American name, but in Canadian packages and not in the familiar wrappers as we see them.

My interest, however, was more in the Canadian-made mixtures and I anxiously broke into the packets to see what the different mixtures looked like.

One was a coarse cut mixture of medium bright Virginia, dark Virginia, some burley and a sprinkling of Latakia—mild, but sharp. The Latakia isn't as "flavorsome" as I think it might be, but on the whole the mixture is tasty with a true Virginia tang.

Another was coarse and practically all dark Virginia with very little Perique. This should appeal to those who go in for the English imports featuring a straight Virginia tobacco—too potent for users of mellow and mild slightly aromatic blends.

THE MAIN similarity we found in the Canadian tobaccos aside from the high prices (on an average of 35c per pack for one and three-eighths ounces) is that they do not burn as well as we expected. They were inclined to dry out quickly once the package was open, but they do stay fresh for a time before the seal is broken. Less expensive than in the States are the mixtures made in England and sold in Canada.

For those who may travel in Canada, we hope you will do a bit of experimenting and try some of the Canadian mixtures. Forget your old stand-bys and try some of these for a new taste thrill. Canadian mixtures, although of course

all different, have a certain similarity—call it what you will—perhaps a "nationality" all their own.

One thing to remember is that the Canadian lives in a cold country, where snow in July isn't too uncommon. A hot night is almost unknown in most sections of the country. Therefore his smoking requirements are different than ours. He likes a rugged, full bodied smoke when out doors, and for those long winter evenings when he must remain by the fire, the tobacco that might please you and me wouldn't be worth smoking to him.

ON THE whole, I am of the conviction that the United States leads the world in the creation of better blends. Our variety is amazing when compared to the limited types made in other countries. The same goes for pipes.

The only conclusion we can set forth here is that the United States is the Pipe Smoking Center of the World through its inventiveness and interest in developing greater and more interesting tobacco blends and in creating new shapes of pipes to suit every taste.

For a formula on a Canadian-type mixture, we suggest the following:

2½ oz. Virginia coarse cut
1 oz. Light Cavendish
½ oz. Latakia

This is an easy one to put together, and we suggest you try it. If it proves too "sharp" or "bitey," add an ounce of good burley and that will give the blend a little more stability.

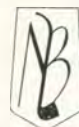
By the way, quite a few home blenders have sent in their comments on some of the blends we have offered, and we are glad you are trying them and in many cases like them. You'd be surprised how easy blending really is, and it's a lot of fun.

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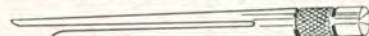
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FROM ENGLAND comes word that the populace is trying out something new—herb smoking. Yes, it seems that tobacco, for the present at least, is taking a back seat to a mixture of coltsfoot, red clover flowers, rose leaves and lavender.

Here is a chance to make a lot of comical observations, and no doubt the humorists may do that very thing, but the smoking of herbs other than tobacco is something we have often wondered about. The Indians chose tobacco, and we have been right along with them ever since.

Yes, in the many years in between there have been numerous other plants which have been tried in the pipe, but none has ever become very popular—at least for a very great length of time.

Some have been used as part of a mixture, but have never been a very great part of the tobacco blend.

So perhaps these Englishmen have something, not necessarily a better smoke, and then again who can tell? The report states that the demand is "phenomenal" and you can interpret that word any way you like. It says "hundreds of thousands of people who used to smoke tobacco are now smoking herbs."

WELL, IF hundreds of thousands of pipe smokers have forsaken "the plant devine" for a mixture of 50% coltsfoot, and the rest red clover flowers, rose leaves and lavender, it commands our attention.

Frankly, we have never tried such a mixture, so don't know whether we are missing "The Arcadia Mixture" or not. A packet of the new blend retails at 45 cents an ounce, including purchase tax. Perhaps one of the biggest reasons for its sudden popularity is explained when it is remembered that pipe tobacco is now selling in England for 80 cents an ounce.

With inflationary prices in England as well as elsewhere the financially

hard pressed pipe smoker may be most happy to save a few cents and puff away on the herbs, thereby saving himself nearly 50%.

The mixture was originally produced and sold for the relief of sufferers from catarrh. The demand has become so great that the manufacturers are said to have had to ration the supply to their customers. This varies from one sixth to one third of the original order.

S F. MAYES, director of one of the companies marketing an herb blend says, "The raw material is limited by labor difficulties. If the labor were available, I do not see why there should not be millions of herb smokers."

No description of the smoking quality of the mixture was given. We wonder, therefore, if it smokes slow and cool, or whether it is a fast, hot smoke. These factors would have considerable bearing on whether or not it would continue to gain and keep new devotees. We also wonder if it smokes best in the conventional briar, or if other pipe substances are preferred.

Just how long these herbs have been in use is not stated in the report, so it is hard to tell whether or not this is but a passing fad, an inexpensive substitute during high prices, or a mixture which will encounter a sufficient number of followers to carry on for years.

Some may go so far as to predict the herbs will make tobacco a thing of the past. Without even sampling the coltsfoot and rose leaves we'll not be a party to such a prediction. In some 400 years tobacco has been free from any competition, and we believe it will keep the great majority of its followers in the next 400 to come.

However, just out of curiosity we would like to give this new English product a try. If hundreds of thousands like it—at 45c an ounce, then there must be something to it.

Between Us Girls

She Really Got Tired of Seeing Pipes All Over the House, and When She Finally Decided to Force the Issue She Found She had Acted a Bit too Hastily

By HELEN SEARS

THIS ARTICLE is strictly for us women folks—it doesn't concern you men, so turn the page and go on about something else. We women want to let our hair down and compare notes. We want to talk among ourselves privately for a moment.

My husband was a pipe smoker when I met him. I liked his pipe at the time—used to help him select his new ones. And when we were first married I didn't mind. But before long it seemed that he was always buying a new pipe, when really we should have been buying a new toaster, a floor lamp for the living room, saving for a new car, or buying baby booties. But no, nothing was as important as a new Oom Paul, a curved stem bulldog, or a fancy hand carved oval.

There were pipes in the parlor, pipes in the den, pipes in the bedroom—in the car—the tool shed—everywhere there were pipes.

Then came blending. He heard you put so much of this with so much of that, then you kept it sealed in a jar for 48 hours with a teaspoon of rum or something, and then you were supposed to dream of a night in a harem as you smoked it.

HE MIXED his first batch in the kitchen. For a week everything we ate had a pungent tobacco flavor. Junior reached his hand in the cookie jar one evening just before bed time for his usual sleepy-time snack. Out came

his little fist clutching a handfull of dark stringy stuff. "Hey, mommie, what's this? A new kind of shredded wheat?"

One look and I knew what had happened. The cookie jar had been pressed into service as a humidor for a new utopian mixture.

Things went from bad to worse. Next I found the kitchen had become an experimental laboratory. Bill had heard about a new way of cleaning sour pipes. The place looked like a chemistry lab with all kinds of bottles, glass tubing and what not.

For an hour he was at it, fumigating all of his prized briars. When he was finished we had to move to mother's for 10 days. No one could stand the smell in that kitchen!

That was just about the last straw—or so I thought. Four nights later he came in the front door with a big package under his arm. I stared at it, and then at him. With a big smile he unwrapped it, and I saw a big pipe with a porcelain bowl, fully 2 feet over all.

I knew. Bill was now a pipe collector.

HE EXPLAINED how he was going to tear out the north wall and install a big built in glass cabinet, with fluorescent lights and everything. His first pipe had only cost \$45, and he had his eye on several others.

The showdown had arrived. It was either his pipes or me. We couldn't both live in the same house. This was it. I gave it to him straight from the

shoulder. Either the pipes left—or I did.

Well, he replied, I suppose the pipes can go, but, dear, you know as well as I do that my pipes are a part of me, and wherever they go I will go, too.

I hadn't counted on that, and yet I should have known that to separate Bill from his pipes was about as easy as mopping up the Mississippi River with a dish rag.

Then he just stood there and grinned at me. The rat. He knew I'd weaken. I always had. The decision I thought was up to him suddenly boomeranged. Now it was mine to make. I keep him and his pipes, or I keep neither.

WELL, HE DOESN'T stay out all night with the boys playing poker—he hasn't missed a Sunday working in the yard for over a year—he never fights or argues with me—his only vice is those darn pipes—and, well, after all he *would* look extremely odd if he didn't have a pipe in his mouth. He wouldn't be the same. And without his pipes our house wouldn't be his castle.

Perhaps if I tried real hard I could learn to understand Bill's interest in pipes—his constant desire to look at them, be with them, smoke them, and be continually tinkering with them. I often think he cares more for them than he does for me. And, in a way, I guess he does.

Honest, girls, think twice before you try to separate your man from his pipes. There are worse things he could love, ya' know.

ONE OF THE most romantic pipe styles in the history of smoking, and yet one about which so little is actually known, is the Churchwarden. Of the many pipe shapes to have been smoked by man during the past 400 years, this long stemmed aristocrat is the only one which has been consistently manufactured for commercial sale, almost without interruption since it was first introduced some two centuries ago.

There is something picturesque about a Churchwarden. It is an artistic style and was the favorite of all painters in the eighteenth century who wanted to depict a scene including smokers. A Churchwarden was the shape the artist chose to place in the hands of his subjects.

The pipe itself is a product of evolution. It was never dreamed up by a pipe maker and produced over night. In order to more clearly understand the background of its origin it is necessary to go back a few hundred years and study smoking conditions at the start of the seventeenth century.

Although pipes as such were not in abundance among the American Indians, the Red Man had used, to some extent, hollowed out pieces of baked earth. They were generally crude affairs. The use of such pipes may have been introduced to England with the return of the first unsuccessful Virginia colonists in the year 1586. At least, such a reference is made by the early historian, William Camden, in the year 1615.

The English at once began to duplicate the earthenware pipes and found certain kinds of clay to be most satisfactory for the purpose. Thus was born the clay pipe.

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With the price of tobacco so high, it was only the elite who could afford to smoke tobacco at all. In the public inns the pipes were often passed around from smoker to smoker in order that many persons could enjoy a puff or two from one bowlful.

Besides clay pipes, the walnut shell was also popular. This pipe was simply made by using one half of a walnut shell and a long straw as the stem. Although not as handy and convenient as the more common clay, it was not as easily broken and was popular among the poorer classes.

The delicate nature of the clay prompted considerable experimentation with other substances, especially metal. The same style of a small bowl and a straight stem was incorporated, but metal never received very much popularity because the taste was not the same as when clay was used, and the public simply would not use the metal pipe.

In an attempt to improve the smoke in the metal pipe,

the long stemmed pipe, and smokers who approved of the long stem asked for the same design in clay. For a while such requests were turned down since it was believed that a long stemmed clay pipe would break so soon as to not be worth the making. However, some experiments were tried, and the clay "Churchwarden" was born. This is said to have been in the latter part of the 17th century.

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pipes were so named after the church attendants who smoked them and preferred the style because of its looks and appearance. There is no authentic basis for this belief, and none of the early historians or pipe authorities have ever offered any proof of this theory.

Although the real reason why Roden perfected and popularized the long stemmed clay is a matter of speculation, it is noted that many smokers disliked the tobacco oils and bitter juices which soon entered the mouth from the stem of a short pipe, and preferred the long stem because it gave a dry smoke.

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Churchwarden with almost any long stemmed pipe. The true Churchwarden style has a definite design of its own, and should not be regarded as any pipe with a long stem, clay or otherwise.

The true Churchwarden is not less than a foot long, with 15 to 18 inches being about average length. It is made all in one piece; there are no joints or sections which come apart. They are usually made of white clay, although in museums and some private collections examples may be seen which are made of sheet copper, iron or silver.

The bowl is relatively small, being a carry-over from the early days of the first English clays when tobacco was expensive and the bowls were not much larger than a thimble. The bowl is set at an angle of about 60 to 70 degrees from the stem, and the characteristic spur remains as a symbol of the past when pipe makers

stamped their name or trademark on the bottom of each pipe.

Although the Churchwarden bowl is similar to the average clay pipe bowl, it is the stem that finally distinguishes the style. The long stem has a slight curve which is responsible for giving the pipe its unusual appearance, and makes it a true Churchwarden.

Some models were produced which had a thickening of the stem near the center, and it was at this spot that the pipe was held between the fingers. Since insulation from heat was found unnecessary when smoking the long stemmed Churchwarden, this slight bulge at the center disappeared, but even today there is often a small ribbing or other grill at the center which serves to facilitate easier handling of the pipe.

A GOOD example of Churchwardens and the proper method of holding them appears on this month's cover.

Roden's long clay Churchwarden cannot be classed as an overnight hit, but the early English smokers did begin to smoke them in ever increasing numbers as the advantages of the longer stem became apparent. Roden apparently had a head start over other contemporary pipe makers and his Churchwardens were in great demand by London clubs and cof-

fee-houses of his time.

His family had been pipe makers as far back as 1681. His business was subsequently taken over by a Mr. Southorn who continued to make fine pipes and who received honorable mention for some of his masterpieces at the Exhibition in 1851. In 1868 he introduced steam power into his factory and was then able to produce a million and a half pipes a year.

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there was an era when considerable decoration was in vogue. As noblemen and others of high rank took to the

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Bowls molded in relief, painted in color by hand, and shaped in numerous forms were to be found. Pipe makers tried to outdo each other in bidding for the smokers' business. Only in more stable substances than the fragile clay, however, did such pipes become profitable, for only the wealthy could or would spend a fat price for a highly ornamented clay only to have it easily break into a dozen pieces at the slightest jar.

At the height of their popularity, the Churchwarden sold for but a few cents a piece and in the taverns and inns they were served with each glass of ale. If the pipe were broken all the smoker had to do was to reach for another.

As for the pipe makers, they preferred clay to any other substance, especially metal, because once a man bought a

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Today the Churchwarden is often employed on special or festive occasions. Its use in public is rare indeed, although there are some old timers in small European villages who can be seen in public puffing away on their long stemmed clays.

Some groups of smokers allow only the smoking of the long white Churchwarden at certain times such as an election or installation of officers, an annual meeting, or some special event. The members of a Pennsylvania pipe club always smoke a Churchwarden on their last meeting before the end of the year, and as the hour of adjournment arrives, each member throws his pipe into the fireplace where it breaks into many pieces—a symbol of the passing of another year, and that with a new year just ahead, a new pipe begins a clean, fresh start for the future.

IT IS PRETTY certain that no other pipe design has been used as extensively as the Churchwarden in symbolizing pipes and pipe smoking. Coats of arms, trademarks, advertising insignias and numerous other designs and decorations nearly always include the familiar long curved stem of this famous style in their theme. Although so seldom used that many persons have never seen one, it is never-the-less recognized everywhere by the public in general as the once popular instrument of smoking that it was.

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(Continued on Page 124)



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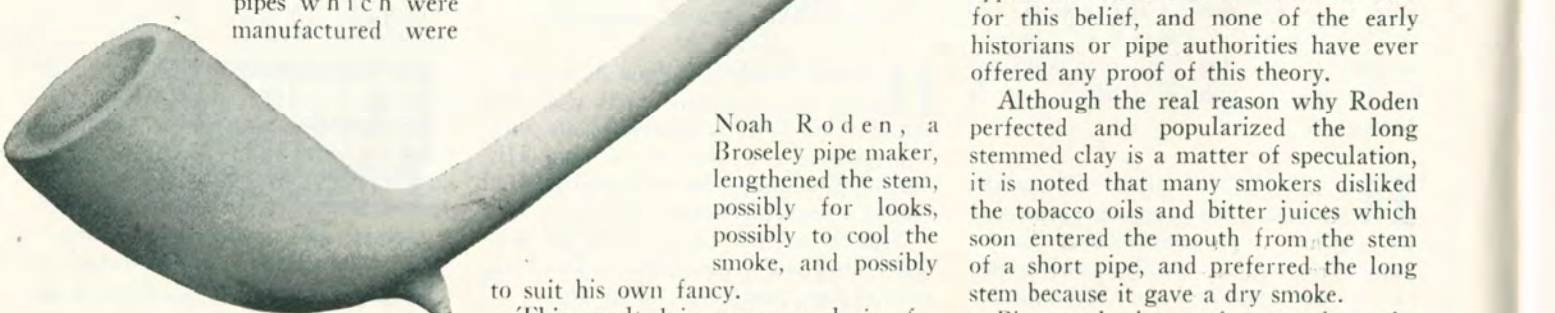
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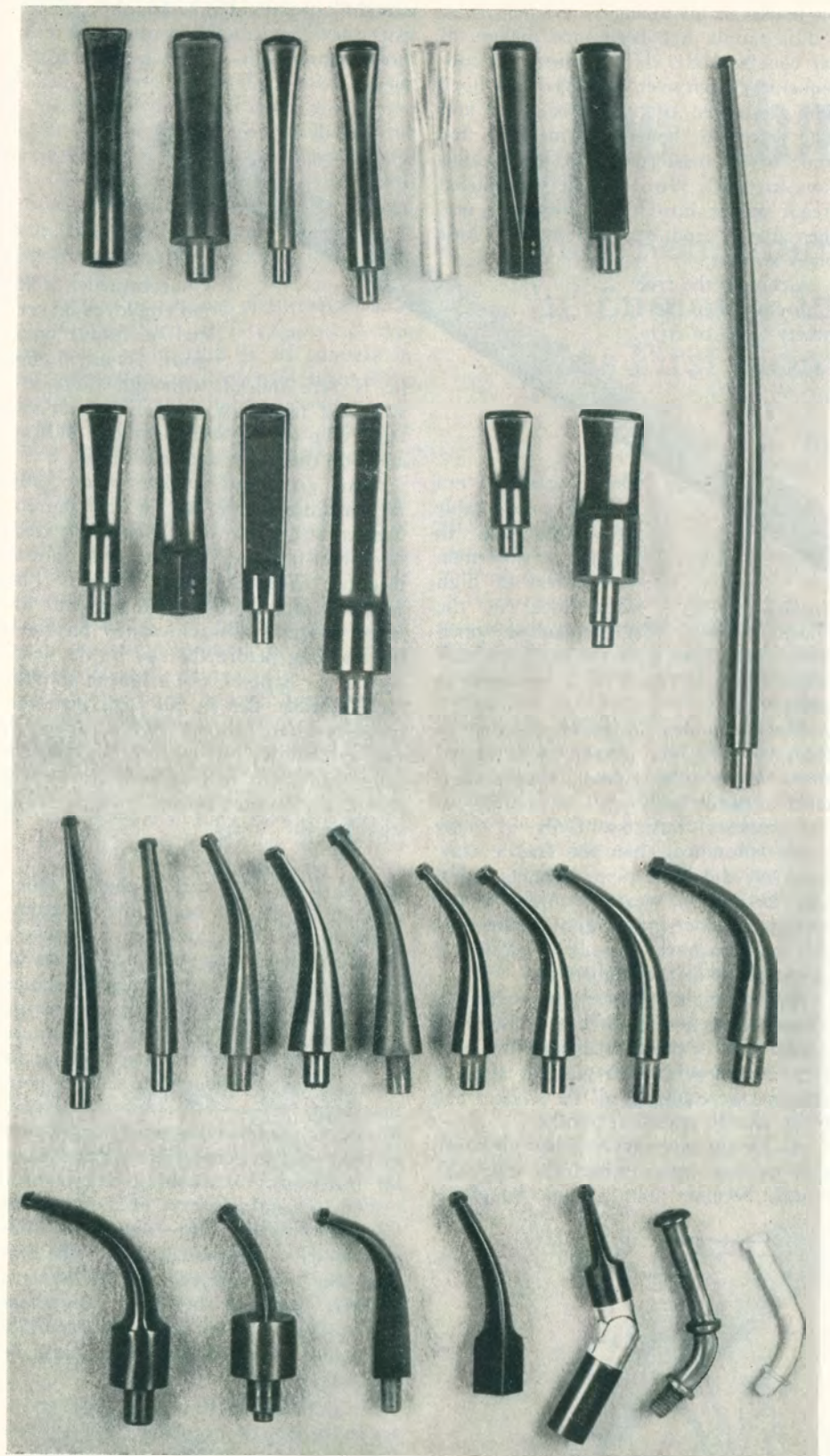
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Today's many pipe styles often call for a stem design of their own. These are but a few of the many in use today. They are fully described in this article.

DID YOU EVER select a pipe because of the stem it had? Or do you usually look only at the bowl of the pipe and make your selection solely on its merits? Most smokers

never give much thought to the bit when buying a new pipe, yet it has a lot to do with the enjoyment the pipe is going to give you in the days ahead.

Illustrated on this page are examples

Let's Talk About Stems

Numerous Substances are Used, But Hard Rubber is Preferred By Most Pipe Smokers Today

By HAL HEINTZELMAN

of thirty pipe stems which may be seen in any pipe shop today. At least 25 of them are to be found on the modern pipe. Although at first glance many will appear to be identical, no two illustrated are alike.

Pipe stems, or bits as they are also called, may be made of any material which possesses certain definite requirements. These are: the taste of the smoke must not be adversely affected, the material must not be inflammable, it must be tasteless, it must be durable, and it must be light in weight.

Also, it is advisable that such material be not so hard as to render difficulty in cutting or shaping, it should have a pleasing appearance, and should be capable of producing a gloss or polish in keeping with the pipe.

These many restrictions have ruled out numerous substances which have been tried out during many decades, and the three which are generally in use today are amber, hard rubber, and plastic, together with numerous substitutes.

Looking at the subject from the standpoint of the pipe manufacturer, he obviously wants to give the best stem he can and at the lowest production cost. Although amber is a fine substance, its cost is prohibitive, and an amber bit on a pipe today would cost far more than the briar bowl. Plastic is satisfactory, but some kinds are tasteful and they often discolor with use.

THUS ALMOST by process of elimination the manufacturer settles on hard rubber. It possesses all of the desirable requisites and few of the unwanted ones, thus it makes an ideal stem for any pipe. Its chief detriment is that it is subject to breakage.

Hard rubber stems are generally of two types: Those formed by molding, and those cut by hand from a piece of solid block rubber. From a smoking standpoint there is very little difference in either, but due to the fact that so many pipes today are custom made, the pipe maker often has trouble in finding a stock shape that will fit his creation, and he is required to turn his own bit to fit.

Furthermore, there is a certain appeal to the owner of a pipe when he knows

that the stem as well as the bowl has been made by hand.

Looking at the subject from the standpoint of the pipe smoker, he is the one who must finally decide what material he wants in his pipe stem. He wants no taste from the stem, no change of taste in the smoke, light weight, and durability. Appearance is also of importance, but most of all the stem must be comfortable in the mouth and easily held between the teeth while smoking.

The latter requisite depends upon the pipe maker and his craftsmanship. The lip of the stem and especially the thickness of the stem just behind the lip are important. They must be correctly formed if the stem is to feel comfortable in the mouth.

SPEAKING OF the individual stem itself, each style or shape has its own purpose, and this usually is to match up with the pipe shank and bowl. Let's study them for a moment. The top row shows a number of standard, straight stems, all of which are used on pipes commonly smoked today. The first one (reading left to right) is a plastic stem, and is preferred by some smokers while accepted as satisfactory by many. From the width at the bottom where it joins the shank, it is easy to see that it was made for an average size shank.

Contrast this to the stem next to it, which is a hard rubber stem but which is intended for a much larger shank, as is indicated by the much larger diameter. The width of the lip on both is about the same, so that in the mouth both bits would have about the same feel, yet the pipes obviously are of different sizes.

Now let's compare both of these to the third stem, which has a shape all its own.

It is easy to see at a glance that it was made for a pipe with an abnormally small shank. So small is the shank, in fact, that the stem must widen out at the lip end in order to be wide enough to be held comfortably in the mouth.

The fourth stem might be considered somewhat of a combination of the two, for it has a lip of standard width, and the point where it joins the shank is also of standard width, but the center portion is narrowed considerably. The reason? None except for appearance. The small pear and apple are often found with bits of this design for, with a curve in the bowl, the curve in the stem is employed to give a sort of counter-balance.

The fifth stem is transparent and is made of lucite. It is not generally employed in higher priced pipes, but is used to some extent in the more popular priced lines.

These first five stems are all standard shapes, straight and round. There are many variations, but these serve to illustrate the general classifications.

The last two on the top row are similar except that they are so formed as to join square or diamond-shaped shanks. The first was made for the bulldog shape, while the second is intended for a square shanked poker, panel, octagon, or any of numerous styles employing a square shank.

The long stem at the extreme right is a hard rubber stem intended for the Churchwarden style. It has a slight bend.

PICTURED IN the second row are a few of the numerous saddle bit styles which are favored by many smokers. The saddle bit is a good looking style and gives a very finished ap-

pearance to many pipe shapes. In fact, a saddle bit is almost mandatory with the bulldog and certain others.

The saddle bit is more comfortable in many cases, especially when the teeth are not adjusted to the ordinary round bit. Some smokers cannot hold a round bit at all, and, also, some do not enjoy the saddle. Close to the lip, however, there is very little difference in either. The difference is found further along on the stem.

As shown in the first two saddle bits pictured, both round and square stems are shaped into the saddle. The third is a new type of saddle recently introduced by a New York pipe firm and is called the comfort bit. It is extremely thin and is flat on both sides, so much so that when held in the mouth the bit feels about half as thick as the conventional saddle.

The length and size of the pipe shank often has a lot to do with the length and size of the stem. The Canadian, for example, with its long wooden shank, or the club would not look very well proportioned with a long stem. Consequently, a short stem is used. And, on large pipes with a relatively short shank, the difference must be made up in the stem. That is the reason for an occasional long, large stem, such as the fourth one shown. Again, the lip is approximately the same as the others, but the bit grows much larger as it approaches the shank end.

The two short saddle bits at the right are similar in proportion, but they differ considerably in size. Obviously both are made for pipes with long shanks. Of all the lips shown, the one on the right is the only one which is much wider than the rest. This has been nicknamed the "fishtail" because of its resemblance to a fish's tail. This particular one, however, is not quite as pronounced as some in which there is a marked widening of the lip from the center portion of the bit.

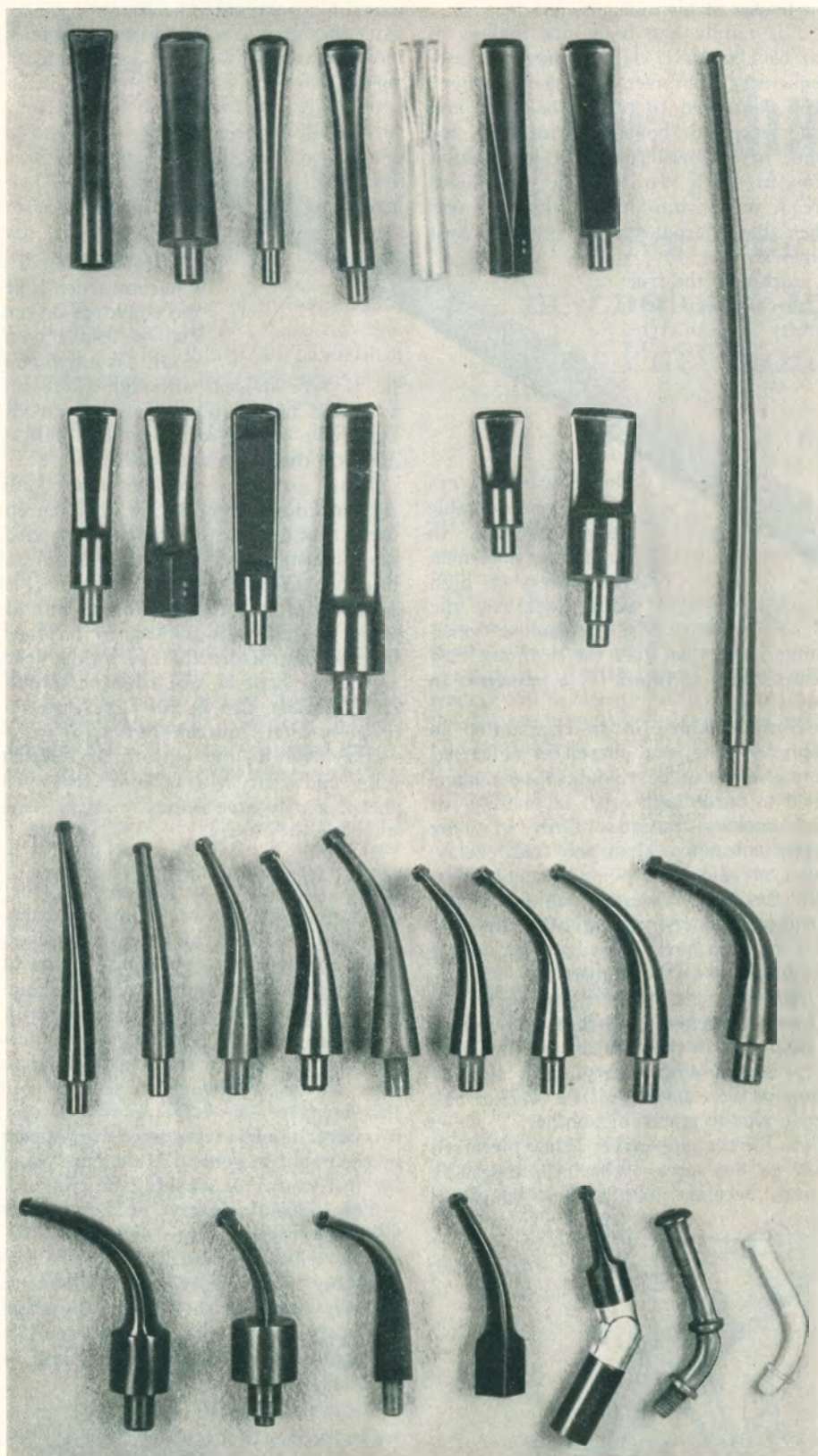
Although this style is not overly popular, it does have a certain following among men who find it gives greater smoking comfort and rests more easily between the teeth.

OF THE NINE stems in the third row how many can you classify as to the type or style of pipe they are intended for? If you really know your pipes, you should be able to guess right on most of them.

But for those who cannot do too good a job of matching, the following pointers may be of help. These are all bent stems. They all go with bent pipes. If the pipe is properly made, there is as much bend in the shank as there is in the stem. Or,

(Continued on Page 124)

Let's



Today's many pipe styles often call for a stem design of their own. These are but a few of the many in use today. They are fully described in this article.

DID YOU EVER select a pipe because of the stem it had? Or do you usually look only at the bowl of the pipe and make your selection solely on its merits? Most smokers

never give much thought to the bit when buying a new pipe, yet it has a lot to do with the enjoyment the pipe is going to give you in the days ahead.

Illustrated on this page are examples

of thirty pipe stems which may be seen in any pipe shop today. At least 25 of them are to be found on the modern pipe. Although at first glance many will appear to be identical, no two illustrated are alike.

Pipe stems, or bits as they are also called, may be made of any material which possesses certain definite requirements. These are: the taste of the smoke must not be adversely affected, the material must not be inflammable, it must be tasteless, it must be durable, and it must be light in weight.

Also, it is advisable that such material be not so hard as to render difficulty in cutting or shaping, it should have a pleasing appearance, and should be capable of producing a gloss or polish in keeping with the pipe.

These many restrictions have ruled out numerous substances which have been tried out during many decades, and the three which are generally in use today are amber, hard rubber, and plastic, together with numerous substitutes.

Looking at the subject from the standpoint of the pipe manufacturer, he obviously wants to give the best stem he can and at the lowest production cost. Although amber is a fine substance, its cost is prohibitive, and an amber bit on a pipe today would cost far more than the briar bowl. Plastic is satisfactory, but some kinds are tasteful and they often discolor with use.

THUS ALMOST by process of elimination the manufacturer settles on hard rubber. It possesses all of the desirable requisites and few of the unwanted ones, thus it makes an ideal stem for any pipe. Its chief detriment is that it is subject to breakage.

Hard rubber stems are generally of two types: Those formed by molding, and those cut by hand from a piece of solid block rubber. From a smoking standpoint there is very little difference in either, but due to the fact that so many pipes today are custom made, the pipe maker often has trouble in finding a stock shape that will fit his creation, and he is required to turn his own bit to fit.

Furthermore, there is a certain appeal to the owner of a pipe when he knows

Talk About Stems

Numerous Substances are Used, But Hard Rubber is Preferred By Most Pipe Smokers Today

By HAL HEINTZELMAN

that the stem as well as the bowl has been made by hand.

Looking at the subject from the standpoint of the pipe smoker, he is the one who must finally decide what material he wants in his pipe stem. He wants no taste from the stem, no change of taste in the smoke, light weight, and durability. Appearance is also of importance, but most of all the stem must be comfortable in the mouth and easily held between the teeth while smoking.

The latter requisite depends upon the pipe maker and his craftsmanship. The lip of the stem and especially the thickness of the stem just behind the lip are important. They must be correctly formed if the stem is to feel comfortable in the mouth.

SPEAKING OF the individual stem itself, each style or shape has its own purpose, and this usually is to match up with the pipe shank and bowl. Let's study them for a moment. The top row shows a number of standard, straight stems, all of which are used on pipes commonly smoked today. The first one (reading left to right) is a plastic stem, and is preferred by some smokers while accepted as satisfactory by many. From the width at the bottom where it joins the shank, it is easy to see that it was made for an average size shank.

Contrast this to the stem next to it, which is a hard rubber stem but which is intended for a much larger shank, as is indicated by the much larger diameter. The width of the lip on both is about the same, so that in the mouth both bits would have about the same feel, yet the pipes obviously are of different sizes.

Now let's compare both of these to the third stem, which has a shape all its own.

It is easy to see at a glance that it was made for a pipe with an abnormally small shank. So small is the shank, in fact, that the stem must widen out at the lip end in order to be wide enough to be held comfortably in the mouth.

The fourth stem might be considered somewhat of a combination of the two, for it has a lip of standard width, and the point where it joins the shank is also of standard width, but the center portion is narrowed considerably. The reason? None except for appearance. The small pear and apple are often found with bits of this design for, with a curve in the bowl, the curve in the stem is employed to give a sort of counter-balance.

The fifth stem is transparent and is made of lucite. It is not generally employed in higher priced pipes, but is used to some extent in the more popular priced lines.

These first five stems are all standard shapes, straight and round. There are many variations, but these serve to illustrate the general classifications.

The last two on the top row are similar except that they are so formed as to join square or diamond-shaped shanks. The first was made for the bulldog shape, while the second is intended for a square shanked poker, panel, octagon, or any of numerous styles employing a square shank.

The long stem at the extreme right is a hard rubber stem intended for the Churchwarden style. It has a slight bend.

PICTURED IN the second row are a few of the numerous saddle bit styles which are favored by many smokers. The saddle bit is a good looking style and gives a very finished ap-

pearance to many pipe shapes. In fact, a saddle bit is almost mandatory with the bulldog and certain others.

The saddle bit is more comfortable in many cases, especially when the teeth are not adjusted to the ordinary round bit. Some smokers cannot hold a round bit at all, and, also, some do not enjoy the saddle. Close to the lip, however, there is very little difference in either. The difference is found further along on the stem.

As shown in the first two saddle bits pictured, both round and square stems are shaped into the saddle. The third is a new type of saddle recently introduced by a New York pipe firm and is called the comfort bit. It is extremely thin and is flat on both sides, so much so that when held in the mouth the bit feels about half as thick as the conventional saddle.

The length and size of the pipe shank often has a lot to do with the length and size of the stem. The Canadian, for example, with its long wooden shank, or the club would not look very well proportioned with a long stem. Consequently, a short stem is used. And, on large pipes with a relatively short shank, the difference must be made up in the stem. That is the reason for an occasional long, large stem, such as the fourth one shown. Again, the lip is approximately the same as the others, but the bit grows much larger as it approaches the shank end.

The two short saddle bits at the right are similar in proportion, but they differ considerably in size. Obviously both are made for pipes with long shanks. Of all the lips shown, the one on the right is the only one which is much wider than the rest. This has been nicknamed the "fishtail" because of its resemblance to a fish's tail. This particular one, however, is not quite as pronounced as some in which there is a marked widening of the lip from the center portion of the bit.

Although this style is not overly popular, it does have a certain following among men who find it gives greater smoking comfort and rests more easily between the teeth.

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(Continued on Page 124)

Belgian Smokers

They Don't Fill the Bowl, But
Rest a Ball of Tobacco on Top
In Order to Get a Dry Smoke

By ALBERT GOORIS

WHEN I WAS a little boy in Belgium and Northern France I was always fascinated by the old timers and in watching the way in which they were always "preparing" their clay pipes for a smoke. I use the word "preparing" deliberately because it could not be said that they were filling their pipes for such was not the case.

The tobacco they used was admirably suited for the purpose. It was not like the tobacco we use in this country today. Instead it was cut thin, and was long and stringy. It sort of reminded me of a ball of absorbent cotton or steel wool.

It was so homogenous that you could hold a mass of it together like a pitchfork does a pile of hay.

Now whether it was made that way for a specified purpose, or whether pipe smokers merely took advantage of that characteristic, I do not know.

The smoker would take a certain amount of the tobacco and press or roll it gently into a small ball. This little pellet would be slightly larger than the bowl of the pipe.

He would then sort of rest it on top of the bowl, wedging it in just enough to hold it, much as you would insert a stopper in a drain. As a result, 2/3 of the bowl was empty.

Now, what was the purpose behind all this? It was simply that through experience the smoker had learned that the soaking of the tobacco by the condensation draining into the pipe bowl was making the smoke stronger and less palatable as the pipeful was getting down.

The favorite was the clay pipe, and it was used almost exclusively. It had been found necessary, due to the fact that the draft hole was small and cylindrical, so

lengthen the stem considerably, for otherwise the smoke would be hot and would tend to bite the tongue.

But while the long stem did decrease the heat it also increased condensation to a very great extent. For this reason the "plugging" of the pipe with an air space underneath the tobacco was employed, and the soggy, wet heel in the pipe was eliminated.

No self respecting Belgian smoker would light his pipe with a match when he was in a cafe or tavern. On a table there was a recipient which was called a "chauffette" made somewhat like an urn with two handles and filled with fine glowing charcoal for lighting the pipe.

For those who filled their pipes a pair

of tongs were hanging on the side with which to pick up a live coal and place it on top of the tobacco.

Clay pipes were very cheap. They cost but one or two cents each according to their length, and their lives were very short indeed. Many smokers would buy a new pipe every week because clay pipes would absorb a lot of moisture and tobacco juices. As a result they would get quite strong in a short time.

In those days pipes were smoked almost exclusively. Up until the war began 60% of all Belgians who smoked preferred pipes. Today, however, that figure has been reduced to 50%, and clay pipes, still popular, are slowly giving way to the more modern briar. Tobacco types, too, are changing, and our own American types of leaf and plug cut are beginning to supplant the native preparations.

Approximately 50 million pounds of tobacco will be smoked in Belgium this year, and about 2/3 of that amount will be imported from this country, the balance being Turkish and home grown tobacco.

During the war it was necessary to ration all tobacco in Belgium, but such rationing has since been lifted and as far as I know there is at present a sufficient supply to meet the demand.

The Belgian, the same as the Dutchman or the Irishman, was at one time a picturesque figure with his white clay pipe giving off white wisps of smoke, but here as in other parts of the world the streamlined, modern customs of the Western world are having its effects, and the early native customs of pipe smoking are rapidly disappearing.



"What do you mean? ONE pleasure at a time?"



Left, sheets of tobacco may be purchased at most tobacco stores and used to line the inside of the bowl. Center, the tobacco is trimmed flush with the top. Right, the smoker's favorite mixture is placed in the bowl in the usual manner.

Plug Makes the Cake

A Slice of Cut Plug Tobacco Lines the Inside of the Bowl And Starts a Cake Formation

By EARLE HARRIS

OF GREAT CONCERN to all pipe smokers is how to best break in a pipe. It appears there are two primary objectives: To reduce the unpleasantness of the first few pipefuls as much as possible, and to start a good, even cake formation.

There are hundreds of ways, and each smoker has his own pet method. The one I employ is the best of all, I feel, although few smokers have ever heard of it, and yet it is extremely simple.

The process, simply, is to line the bowl first with a piece of sliced plug, then fill the pipe with any good pipe tobacco. The illustrations above show the three primary steps.

For those who are unfamiliar with sliced plug, it may be described as a

"sheet" of compressed tobacco, not unlike a slice of minced ham. It is made by stacking the tobacco leaves one upon top of the other and then compressing them under pressure.

This forms a "plug" of tobacco leaves. This plug is then sliced crosswise in special machines made for the purpose, and each cut gives a slice of tobacco about one sixteenth of an inch thick. These slices may be purchased in small sheets as shown in the left photo above.

The proper name to ask for is sliced plug, and it is generally available where pipe tobaccos are sold.

IT WILL BE noted that the "grain" of the tobacco runs one way in the slice. A section of the slice is now placed

inside the pipe bowl in such a way as to make a lining which completely covers the inner wall, with the grain running up and down. The top of the slice may be trimmed even with the top of the bowl with a pair of scissors, and the finished lining should look about as it does in the center illustration.

Sometimes I line the inside of the bowl with a bit of honey before I insert the sliced plug, but this is optional. It does, however, have the advantage of serving to hold the plug in place more easily.

The final step is to simply fill the bowl with your favorite tobacco and then light up. There is no change in the way the pipe is filled or lighted. The tobacco is tamped down in the usual manner and the match applied. The pipe can be filled clear to the top.

The cake formed by the sliced plug will not burn if you smoke slowly. As additional pipefuls are smoked this slice begins to cement itself to the bowl wall and slowly becomes the cake.

One of the advantages of this system is that the very first pipeful is mild and mellow and tastes like a well broken-in pipe. You would never know you are smoking a new pipe for the first time.

At the end of the first pipeful some dull pointed instrument should be used to dislodge the ashes. They should then be emptied with care in order to prevent damaging the plug lining.

Additional pipefuls are smoked in the same manner, and with each additional pipeful the plug lining becomes more hardened and slowly begins to form the

(Continued on Page 126)



Above, this Dresden type figurine is delicately carved of meerschaum and is the owner's favorite. Below, a contrast of expression, also carved of meerschaum.

IF YOU'RE interested in fine quality collector's pieces, then you should spend an hour with Sidney Terrell, Altadena (California) collector, who prides himself on quality rather than quantity in his collection.

If you would ask Terrell, he would say he isn't a collector, "For my collection contains only a few dozen pieces I picked up in my travels in Europe during the war," to quote him directly. But any collector would give a month's sal-

ary to own some of the choice items this young ex-army engineer brought home with him.

Second to none in his collection is the delicately carved young lady at the top of this page. The pipe, meerschaum with a pure amber stem, is as beautiful a piece of carving as may be seen anywhere. Terrell says he has never seen anything to match it. He obtained the pipe from the curator of the Maison Reichenback in Brussels, Belgium. It is not a very

The COLLECTORS' PAGE

Meerschaum Clay and Briar

The Rare as the Common Are
Found Among Pipes this Veteran
Picked up While Serving in Europe

IGE LEIGHTON

old pipe, having been carved since first World War by a Belgian man now deceased.

The smile and expression on the young woman's face is most lifelike and indicates the ability of the carver. The owner states he has been offered \$1500 for the pipe, but has refused it. The pipe never been smoked, but Terrell plans on breaking it in before long in order to color it.

The second pipe, also of a woman's head, was presented to Terrell by a curator in Southern Europe. The pipe suffered some damage in the bomb of Munich, but the damage was not extensive.

The figure has a certain mood about it which is not common in pipe carving. The pipe is well made, although it lacks the fine detail found in the pipe shown above it. It is said to be quite old, Terrell treasures it among his choice pieces. No value has been placed on this pipe which is also made of meerschaum.

One of the most unusual pipes a collector has ever seen is shown at

top of this page. The "chimney", itself an unusual design for bowl caps, is made of sterling silver. The bowl is made of meerschaum and the lower portion which also forms the shank is made of one kind of amber, while the stem is made of another. The meerschaum bowl has been fused onto the lower amber section by some sort of a secret process.

When Terrell obtained the pipe it had been smoked by an expert who had colored the bowl lightly, but very evenly. It is the only one of this type he has ever seen, and further details of its odd construction are unknown by its owner.

Terrell does not know how old the pipe is, nor its value. Its rather plain lines would indicate manufacture of many score years ago. He obtained it in Austria.

The pipe in the center isn't a valuable piece, and could be made by almost any pipe making expert, yet it was a new one to Terrell. The pipe consists of an ordinary briar bowl, a shank of plain cherry wood, and an every day hard rubber bit. But the combination of briar and cherry wood is not common.

Terrell says the reason for this unusual combination is that the smoker obtains the advantages of the taste of tobacco smoked in a genuine briar bowl plus the flavor offered by cherry wood as the smoke passes through the shank of this substance. It also helps greatly to absorb the heat generated by the burning tobacco.

The pipe was made in France—an example of French creative genius in pipe making.

Molded clay pipes are inexpensive little affairs and can usually be purchased for a few cents. However, generally the work is so poorly done that pipe smokers, let alone collectors, never look twice at them.

Terrell felt the little pipe at the bottom, which is a clay pipe molded in the likeness of King Alexander of Belgium, was an exception. It has good contour and extremely fine detail for pipes made by such mass production methods. The pipe

(Continued on Page 126)

Top, an unusual pipe of meerschaum and amber fused into one piece. Center, briar bowl with cherrywood shank and a stem of hard rubber. Below, clay pipe made to resemble meerschaum.





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Belgo Canadian's 25th Year

THE BELGO CANADIAN Manufacturing Company of Montreal, Canada, is this year celebrating its silver anniversary, marking the end of a quarter century of activity in the field of pipe making and allied interests.

It was 25 years ago that a man by the name of Fisher organized the firm. He had noted how difficult it was to obtain certain European made commodities in Canada and he felt something should be done about it.

First, however, he conducted a quiet investigation to see if a market existed in his country for foreign made goods. Surely, he thought, if a market does exist, there must be some reason why no one else has previously tried to supply it with the imported items.

He decided to start slowly at first—to sort of feel his way along before investing his money in a lot of worthless, slow moving merchandise.

His first contracts were with Belgian exporters and for the first few years he sold a number of varied articles from this European country.

Among these first few shipments were some smoking pipes and he noticed that the sale was rather good among his Canadian customers. He decided the sale of these Belgian pipes would bear further investigation and experimentation.

It was in this way that Fisher became interested in pipes. He wanted to specialize on pipes and smokers' articles such as pouches, lighters, humidors, ash trays and so on.

With his field of specialization now decided upon he proceeded to obtain the best products in the line he could find. He wrote to American pipe manufacturers and negotiated with them for American made pipes. He found, however, that with the much higher labor costs in this country than elsewhere he simply could not carry on a profitable business in American made pipes.

He received quotations from European pipe firms whose prices, due to cheaper labor, offered him a pipe which could be distributed in this country at a fair profit, and the importation of European made pipes began in large quantities.

FISHER BECAME more than mildly interested in pipes. True, they

A Scarcity of Imported Pipes During the War Forced this Firm To Begin Manufacturing its Own

By J. HARTE

were the source of his livelihood, but he wanted to know more about them, the wood used in their manufacture, the men that made them, where they were made, and so on.

He learned that most of his pipes were coming from one of the pipe capitals of the world—St. Claude, France. This little village, just a stone's throw from Switzerland's Lake Geneva, is familiar to pipe smokers everywhere for its extensive pipe making activities.

Pipes were also imported from other countries, notably England and Italy, which were turning out fine pipes of top quality briar. Fisher insisted on getting the best pipes he could, for he soon learned that there is always a buyer for a quality product, and it didn't cost him any more to sell the best.

By 1939 Fisher's Belgo Canadian Company was handling imported pipes and smokers' articles almost exclusively. The well known brands were readily accepted by Canadian smokers.

Then Hitler decided to begin his big show. Suddenly it became difficult to get shipments from Europe. Fisher knew something would have to be done if he was to continue in this type of business. Like all importers of European goods he had to obtain similar articles from sources closer to home.

The high labor costs of American made pipes still prevented him from trading with United States pipe manu-

facturers. Either he would have to close down his business, go into another line of trading, or—try making pipes himself.

BY THIS time Fisher's three sons were beginning to work into the business. All agreed that the problem would have to be met, but just how was the puzzler. Although they knew a lot about pipes, the actual making of them was something else again. Should they, at this crucial time, establish their own pipe factory and actually make pipes to supply their many customers?

That appeared to be the best solution, so a search was made for a suitable factory in which the necessary machinery could be installed and operations begun.

The building was not large, but it was adequate. The Fishers knew materials of all kinds would soon become scarce due to the demands of war, so every effort was expended to get the building equipped and operating just as soon as was possible.

The first stumbling block was to obtain good briar from which to make the pipes. With the European supply now cut off entirely, practically the only source of wood was their neighbor on the south, the United States.

Was there a supply of European briar? If so, no American company cared to share their stock. They would need it to make pipes in their own New York factories in the months and possibly years ahead.

Was there any briar in Canada? Not a block. There wasn't even one pipe factory in Canada up to that time. What, then, could be done.

The Fishers investigated the results that had been obtained with domestic

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the nineteenth in a series of articles describing the growth and development of leading pipe and tobacco manufacturers. Another will appear next month.

substitutes, such as American dogwood, ivy and laurel, and they also studied their own hardy Canadian maple. What receptance pipes of these woods would have with Canadian smokers they did not know, but it appeared that the answer would soon be known.

By 1942 the number of persons employed in the small brick factory had risen to five, and with the increasing number of sales for the company's pipes there was only one thing to do, and that was to find larger quarters.

In spite of the many war time restrictions the company made the move, and the manufacture of pipes rapidly increased. It was in this year that Mr. Fisher senior died, leaving his three sons to carry on the business he had founded as a small importing firm some 20 years before.

AS ORDERS continued to increase in the war years that followed, the three Fisher sons found that even the new building was not going to be large enough to house all of the factory operations. They had managed to obtain numerous pieces of equipment in an effort to keep up with the demand for their pipes.

In 1946 it became necessary to expand once again and they added another section to their factory. The new addition now gave them a modern and complete plant, with facilities for storing their own wood, separate rooms for each pipe making operation, a room where factory repairs are made, and last but not least an experimental room where new designs are drawn up and tested.

The new addition also makes possible added space for the manufacture of several smokers' accessories which now augment the company's line of pipes.

Although the Fisher brothers were not satisfied with the pipes they made of local woods, they had no other alternative. What they lacked in the way of quality wood they hoped to make up by expert craftsmanship.

A careful and thorough study of pipe making was made, not only by themselves, but by the men they hired to learn the pipe-making art. Information from the United States was obtained, and many experimental pipes were made which never reached the smoker's mouth. The Fishers looked forward to the day when they might have top quality European briar with which to make their pipes.

That day came with the cessation of hostilities in Europe. Briar from the Mediterranean area began arriving a few months later, and the factory craftsmen, now trained and experienced on "war

(Continued on Page 125)



Top, Belgo Canadian's Montreal plant in 1942. Next below, addition completed in 1946. Next, lighter wick department; bottom, experimental room. Linked at right, top, frazing machine; center, sanding; bottom, final buffing operation.

WHAT'S NEW?

New Phil-O-Matic Pouch Simplifies Filling of Pipe

Made of Plastic

Novel yet practical is the new Phil-O-Matic Tobacco Pouch which should be welcome news to pipe smokers who dislike spilling their tobacco when they fill a pipe.

Made to handle any brand of fine cut tobacco, it can be used when the hands are wet, greasy, or covered by gloves or mittens.

An easy-to-operate piston pushes the tobacco into the pipe and tamps it properly. Fingers never touch the tobacco.

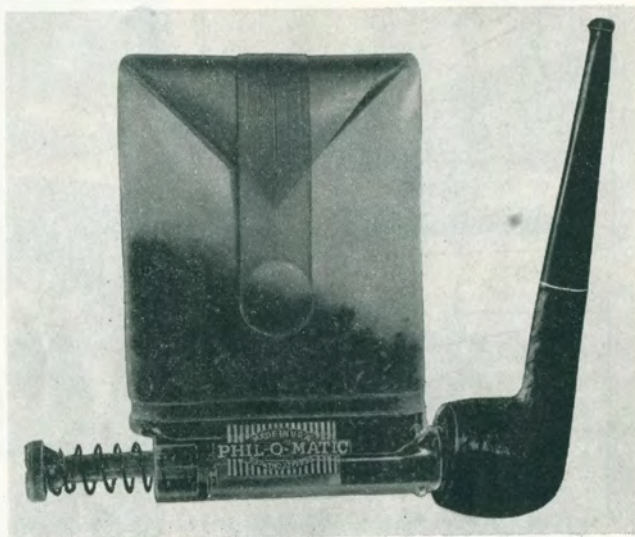
What is more, the tobacco is never exposed to the air, thus it stays fresh longer. The pouch holds a good supply, slips easily into the pocket, and is easy to fill or clean. It is made of acrylic and vinyl plastics. The fastening strap slips out of the way when the pouch is filled.

A flick of the finger on the plunger releases the spring and the action begins. The plunger is then pushed back and forth at will, filling the bowl with tobacco and packing it at the same time.

Heine's Now Unrestricted

Heine's Blend, which has been on a quota basis for about six years, is no longer so restricted and the supply is once again about equal to the demand, according to a recent announcement by officials at Massillon, Ohio.

The one pound tin, also discontinued for a while, is again available, it was said.



Another flick of the finger and the plunger is once more locked in position where no tobacco can escape.

The new pouch is manufactured by the Phil-O-Matic Company of Springfield, Ohio.

Powahatan's Available

The original Powahatan clay pipe is once more available, according to word from the Pamplin Smoking Pipe Company of Richmond, Virginia.

Production was temporarily halted during the war because the long special reed which is used for the stems was not available.

The pipe is said to be the oldest one in continuous commercial production in the country. The bowl is still made by exactly the same methods handed down from Virginia slaves, and the molds used today are the same ones used in those times.

The clay, before being placed in the

mold, is saturated with honey and then worked with the hands. After kilning the pipes are polished and upon smoking begin to turn a rich dark red and then brown.

Stag Lighter By Nimrod

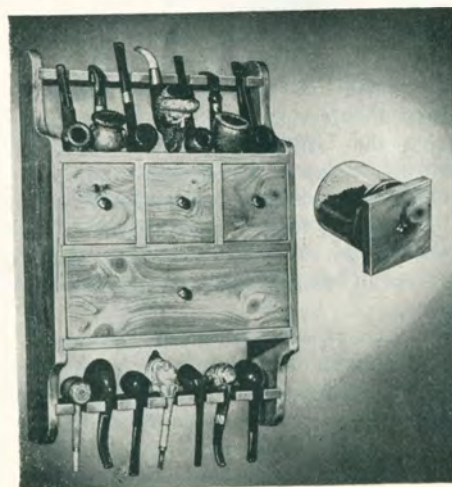
A new pipe lighter known as the Stag is now being offered by the Ward Nimrod Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, the same firm that makes the Nimrod pipe lighter.

The new product is similar in design to its familiar brother in that it offers the famous down-draft pipe lighting action and is windproof. The new Stag is very small and weighs only $\frac{3}{4}$ of an ounce.

"Pipe Man's Pipe Rack"

Ideal for office or den is the new "Pipe Man's Pipe Rack", an attractive piece of furniture made by Yield House in North Conway, New Hampshire.

Features of the rack, besides space for accommodating 14 pipes, are the air tight jars which hold tobacco moist and fresh, and the three drawers which are especially constructed for the purpose, the large drawer for holding cleaners, reamers,



PIPE LOVERS

filters, pouches, and other material, and the fact that it is fastened to the wall instead of taking up valuable desk or table space.

It is 13 inches wide and 18 inches tall, is made of $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick knotty white pine, and features brass knobs. It was designed for convenience of the user and makes an attractive gift for a pipe smoking friend.

Precision Made Pipe Reamer

Something new in the way of pipe reamers is this precision-made instrument recently announced by the B. A. C. Machine Company of Boston, Mass. The three cutting knives are adjustable to any pipe bowl, and the rigid construction insures a clean, even job.

The reamer measures nearly six inches in length and besides the knives which are held by a tight spring arrangement is a removable bit used to clean out carbon deposits or other dried matter in the shank.

Just above the grided handle is the adjusting knob which, when rotated, adjusts the cutting knives. The top knob is fastened to the bit.

The size of the reamer permits sufficient leverage in cutting hard and gummy cake formations. Since all three knives are of the same dimension, each performs its own cutting operation, thus resulting in a clean cut each time.

When closed, the knives will fit the smallest bowl, and upon opening can be set to any desired diameter to fit most any pipe bowl.

New Pipes By Stern

Two new pipes, both made of imported briar, have been announced by the L & H Stern Company of Brooklyn, N. Y. The Purex Preferred comes with hand cut yellow bakelite bits and is available in smooth finishes.

The Filter King DeLuxe is a filter

pipe equipped with the Purex double sure lock connection and is similar to the Stern Filter King. Both pipes are reasonably priced.

Invitation By Emperor

The Emperor and Continental Briar Pipe Companies extend a cordial invitation to New York visitors to make use of their show rooms at 608 Fifth Avenue. For those who have paper work to do or letters to write, a desk and typewriter are available.

Mail sent to this address will be forwarded or held as requested, and visitors will find the switchboard operator ready to take calls or handle messages.

Featured on one wall is a large relief map of the Mediterranean area which shows the places briar is grown.

New Blends In New York

Five new pipe tobaccos have recently been announced by the Tobacco Center of New York.

Included in the new assortment are Checkerberry, a mixture incorporating a new type of aroma; Cocanut, a blend cured in husks of cocanut; Royal Emblem, a tobacco similar to the higher-priced imported brands; Mellonut, a straight smooth mixture, and Smokers' Paradise, a wine-flavored mixture.

No Flame On New Match

A new match developed during the war by the Diamond Match Company is unique in that when struck it develops an intense amount of heat instantly—enough to light the tobacco in a pipe—yet no flame or light is visible.

It is of the safety match variety, and must be struck on the side of the box in which it comes. Since there is no flame to be extinguished, it can be used in a strong wind of gale force. It makes pipe smoking easy in any kind of weather.

Century Offers Water Pipe

A newly designed water pipe is now being offered by the Century Briar Pipe Company of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Constructed similar to the high-price imported pipes, the hookah made by Century has the same details of the elaborate European product. Considered by many to be the coolest smoking pipe in the world, the bowl is placed over a glass jar, which is part of the hookah. The smoker draws smoke through the water and through a long extension cable.

Shipments have already left the factory for distribution to pipe shops throughout the country.

Pipe With Pistol Design Is Manufactured by Arjen

Bowl is Detachable

Pipe smokers and collectors, especially those who have a weakness for the odd and unusual, will be interested in the new pistol pipe recently announced by the Arjen Briar Corporation of Fairview, N. J.

It is an attractive-looking pipe designed to give a cool smoke and convenience to the user in taking care of it. It has a detachable bowl which makes it a simple matter to clean all parts with comparative ease, and is light in weight.

The pipe itself is black with a gold

colored ring around the bowl at the point where the bowl is screwed in. As a pipe it is average size, being approximately five inches in length.

The manufacturer has tried to combine the novelty theme with a good smoking pipe. It is popularly priced.



Breaking In the New Pipe

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Believing that breaking in a new pipe is of primary interest to all readers, PIPE LOVERS presents in this column each month the recommendations suggested by America's leading pipe and tobacco manufacturers. This month's suggestions come from the Bertram Pipe Company of Washington, D. C.)

BEFORE SMOKING your new pipe for the first time, moisten the inside of the bowl with the finger dipped in port or sherry wine. (If no wine is available, use clear water.)

Do not dip the entire pipe in either wine or water. Load the pipe with tobacco fairly firm around the sides and light the entire surface evenly.

Remember, it is not the man who gets the most smoke who derives the greatest benefit from his pipe, but the man who smokes slowly and coolly.

Another thing, don't allow your pipe to "cake" too much. "Cake" is carbon and has a different degree of expansion than the briar. If left to accumulate in a pipe it frequently causes the bowl to crack. A good briar pipe, being completely porous requires no "cake" or carbon to absorb heat and moisture.

The walls of the pipe perform that function, allowing only the coolest and driest of smoke to reach the mouth.

It is important that the pores of the briar be kept entirely flush. To clean your pipe we therefore suggest that an ordinary pipe cleaner be dipped about one half its length into a good liquid pipe sweetener or grain alcohol and the pipe thoroughly swabbed out with this dampened cleaner.

You may also swab off the outside and inside of the bowl with the dampened cleaner. After allowing the pipe to dry for a moment, wipe off the outside of the bowl with a soft cloth and you will be amazed at the beautiful luster brought back to the bowl.

We suggest that after cleaning your pipe in this manner your pipe be allowed to dry out for at least 12 hours before smoking again.

It is a good policy to continuously rotate your pipes in smoking so that each pipe will have a chance to dry out.

The perfect smoke is the cool, dry smoke, since it is the heat and moisture in ordinary pipe smoke that causes the delicate tissues of the throat and mouth to become dry and irritated.



PIPE CRAFT

Helpful Hints and Ideas that Make Pipe Smoking More Enjoyable

Notches Filed On Pipe Bowl

A cooler smoking pipe can be made from any old briar by employing a three corner file and a bit of elbow grease. Although the pipe may not be a thing of beauty when you are finished, at least you can be assured of a cool smoke.

Take an old pipe which smokes warm, and file a series of notches vertically on the outside of the bowl wall. These notches should be quite deep, although of course, they should not come so close that the bowl wall is thinner than a sixteenth of an inch.

The notches should be made as close together as possible, and an ordinary billiard bowl could probably accommodate about 13 or 14.

The result is that the amount of wood surface exposed to the air has been greatly increased, and since more air can touch the wood of the bowl, more heat is radiated, and the smoke is thereby cooled accordingly.

It will also be found that the pipe bowl itself stays cooler and can be more easily held in the hand, since so much heat goes out through the notches.

ROBERT JARRELL,
Baker, Oregon.

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Send all contributions, with photos and diagrams when necessary, to the editor. This is your page. The other fellow wants to know what you've discovered that makes pipe smoking more enjoyable, the same as you like to read about his, so send yours in today.



Belt Loop Holds Pipe

Carrying the pipe tucked into the trousers or the belt is nothing new, but it isn't entirely practical, either, because the looseness of the trousers and also the belt often causes the pipe to slip out, fall and break.

The system that I have discovered is a sort of a combination of these ideas, but it is an improvement in one very important detail.

As illustrated above, the system is to insert the pipe underneath the belt and at the same time underneath one of the belt loops. This will be found to be quite snug and will hold the pipe firmly with practically no danger of the pipe coming out.

Pipes with a large shank probably cannot be held in this manner, since there is not enough room within the belt loop. But pipes with average or small shanks can be held tightly and considerable body movement is permissible without the pipe slipping out and becoming broken or damaged.

DON E. DELUTCH,
Greenfield, Indiana.

New Menthol Procedure

I have found that certain times I like the light feel of a slightly mentholated tobacco. I do not know how many prepared tobaccos of this type are available, but certainly not many. But with a small amount of experimentation I have discovered a way of mentholating pipe tobacco.

Tobacco thus treated often tastes good when one has a cold or is tired of the usual brands and wants a refreshing change.

A small amount of menthol crystals is obtained from the corner drug store—a quarter's worth being sufficient — and also a pint bottle or so of cheap rubbing alcohol.

The menthol crystals are poured into the alcohol and stirred until dissolved. The pint of solution is sufficient to mentholate about two and a half pounds of pipe tobacco.

The solution is now poured over the tobacco that it to be mentholated. This is probably best done by first placing the tobacco in a small jar or large tumbler.

In a few moments the tobacco will have soaked up much of the solution. The excess is now poured off, and the wet tobacco placed in a large strainer. The liquid can be used again and again, so should be saved by storing it in a well stoppered bottle. Its brown coloration comes from the tobacco but does not harm it in the least.

After the tobacco in the strainer has drained thoroughly, the tobacco should be spread out on a large plate or similar receptacle in order for the alcohol to evaporate. When this has taken place, the tobacco will remain impregnated with the menthol and will give a fully mentholated smoke.

The tobacco thus treated should be stored in a tight humidor since menthol is inclined to evaporate somewhat rapid-

ly, although of course not nearly as fast as the alcohol.

This mentholating process is a good one for bringing stale tobacco back to life, and if some old, dried up tobacco is lying around the house, try this method of restoration before throwing it out.

It is not to be meant that the menthol will serve to humidify the tobacco, for it does not do this. It does recondition it, but moisture must be added as well. This is best done in the normal manner and should be undertaken after the tobacco has "set" in the humidor for about three days.

The menthol will not dissolve in water, and for this reason alcohol has to be used. However, it is perfectly all right and the tobacco will not be harmed or changed in any way. The menthol and alcohol solution cannot be used in the ordinary humidifier located in the lid of most humidors. Menthol will not transfer to the tobacco in this manner.

ROY HOLLINGSWORTH,
New York, N. Y.

Home Made Moistener

If the small clay moistener in the top of your humidor becomes damaged or in some other way is no longer useful, a new one can be easily made of plaster of Paris. A few cents worth of the powder can be secured at a nearby drug store.

There are numerous ways to make a new moistener, but the easiest is to dig out the broken pieces of the old one and then use the recess as a mould for the new one about to be made.

Some of these moisteners are made with a hole in the center, a screw being placed through the hole to hold the moistener in place. A thin coating of grease placed around a nail can be used to form a hole in the newly made moistener. The nail is withdrawn as soon as the plaster of Paris has set. When hard, the new moistener can be screwed into place exactly as the original one which came with the humidor.

In cans or other containers in which no provision has ever been made for a moistener, a small ball shaped casting can be made and suspended with wire from the top of the lid.

Plaster of Paris is very absorbent and holds a lot of water. When placed in an air tight receptacle of any kind it will serve the purpose very well. Humectants such as rum, wine, and various extracts are equally effective.

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Perique	1/2 oz.
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There is no bite, but plenty of flavor and aroma.

EDWARD M. BANGS,
Davisville, Penna.

(The editors have selected Mr. Lesser's letter as the most interesting of those received in answer to the April question and a Darnley of London pipe is already on its way to him.)

Henry M. Lesser,
Washington, D. C.

As far as I am concerned, the only way to make a fairly good guess as to whether or not a contemplated pipe will turn out to be a good smoker is to take it apart and look inside.

Too many times pipe smokers are fooled by the beautiful finish and grain that is applied by the "experts" direct from the bottle. But most of them forget to touch up the inside of the shank and that's the best place to detect young, almost green briar.

It gives me the best lowdown on a good pipe, and so far I've hit it right.

George M. Brewster,
Topeka, Kansas

In selecting a new pipe I can almost always be sure of a good smoking pipe if I select one which meets the following specifications:

1. Large bowl, thick walls, and a bore of not less than $\frac{7}{8}$ inches.
2. Large, husky shank, not necessarily long.
3. The hole in the shank should not be smaller than that made by a No. 16 steel drill, and the hole should open into the bowl at the very bottom and be perfectly centered.
4. The hole in the stem must also be large enough to permit free draft, and there must be no metal gadgets.
5. Proper balance is necessary to insure comfort in holding the pipe.

A pipe with all of these requirements is almost sure to give a good smoke.

B. J. Minzyk,
Berkeley, Calif.

In selecting a pipe for the purpose of a good smoke and not for the satisfaction

Pro and Con

"I wholly disapprove of what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it." — VOLTAIRE.

This is the page set aside for the reader to discuss controversial questions pertaining to pipes and pipe smoking. Letters may be shortened, but the opinions expressed remain unchanged. For the most interesting letter received each month the editors will award a Darnley of London pipe, courtesy of the Imperial Mercantile Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION

"In selecting a new pipe, how do you tell whether or not it will turn out to be a good smoking pipe?"

of esthetic desires, I believe the requirements are few and simple.

Since a pipe should not heat up, a thick-walled bowl chamber is preferred. And when lighted, the tobacco should burn evenly around the complete circumference of the bowl and completely to the bottom. This is possible only if the hole from the shank into the bowl chamber is in the exact center of the bowl and exactly at the bottom. Thus even burning is conducive to an even cake extending all the way down.

A curved stem prohibits the backlash of unpleasant juices.

All of the above deal only with the structure of the pipe. The briar and finish are also important. The briar should be close-grained and fairly uniform in grain structure to insure equal, all-around porosity. A virgin finish permits the pores to breathe properly and the pipe to become mellow throughout.

Edward Chosa,
Glendale, Calif.

Experts have always said that there is no foolproof method of selecting a fine smoking briar, and my own experience of 18 years bears out that fact.

Here again, the brand, workmanship, briar and finish cannot be accepted as a guarantee of anything.

However, I keep my eyes peeled for a good sized pipe cut from a block of very dense "birdseye" or "pinpoint" briar. Style and shape are not too important. Years ago I found that practically all of my favorite briars ran to that type of briar hardly without exception. That was enough for me. I've been a convert ever since.

Anthony Harris,
Beverly Hills, Calif.

When I buy a pipe purely for smoking quality, I some times have to sacrifice beauty.

The pipe must be of aged imported briar with no bad flaws. Domestic briars may be very sweet but I do not think they retain their smoking qualities over a period of years.

The next thing is the style. I find a curved-stem pipe such as an Oom Paul is ideal because the juices have little chance of traveling up the stem. However, when I want a straight-stem pipe, I always choose one with a fairly long shank which can absorb the juices and keep the smoke sweet and cool.

I always avoid the use of metal filters, which I believe conduct heat and condense moisture.

Dick Wells,
Lincoln, Nebr.

Pipes in my opinion cannot be looked at and classed as either going to be a good or bad smoking pipe. I generally require that the pipe I buy have a fairly thick bowl.

I am a firm believer that the future smoking qualities of a new pipe are up to the smoker. The type and amount of care in the breaking in of the new pipe is the reason.

NEXT MONTH

MAY—*"What size, shape, and design of the bowl chamber do you prefer and why?"*

(Answers must be received by April 3)

JUNE—*"What method do you use to sweeten a sour pipe?"*

(Answers must be received by May 3)

Address all letters to "Pro and Con" in care of this magazine. Anonymous contributions will not be used. Send a picture of yourself if you wish. As many letters will be used as space will allow. Suggestions for future questions are also welcome.

One of the finest smoking pipes in my collection is a corn cob that cost me the total sum of 35 cents. And one of my worst smoking pipes cost me 20 times the price of the corn cob. The same amount of care and breaking in was given to each pipe. They were both purchased within a few days of each other. So how can a pipe smoker tell in advance the smoking qualities of a new pipe?

Paul A. Ferrara,
New Orleans, La.

If the pipe is of close grained, hard, good quality, imported briar you can be practically positive that it will be a good smoke, especially if it is made by a reputable pipe company. I have quite a few pipes in my collection and every one that fulfills these requirements is a fine smoke.

John Lunsford,
Akron, Ohio

I have found that a pipe is pretty likely to become a good smoker if the stem and shank combined measure at least four inches in length. I like a thick bowl wall, not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

The reputation of the manufacturer of the pipe has a lot to do with the smoking qualities of it. I prefer the imported briars with curved stems. Also, I prefer a heavier pipe for cooler smoking.

I. E. Miner,
Cornell, Ill.

Fineness of grain or texture, good draw, and a well proportioned bowl and tobacco chamber are the qualities I consider as to the smoking quality of the pipe.

The grain texture indicates the age of the briar. The manufacturer's reputation also carries considerable weight with me.

A pipe won't smoke well without a good draw and correct bore of the tobacco chamber.

George R. Hays,
Richmond, Indiana

After over half a century of pipe smoking I do not believe *anyone* can tell whether a pipe will be sweet and good when smoked until after it is tried.

When I was in Dublin in 1936 I became well acquainted with a pipe expert who had spent 27 years in one of the big pipe factories and 20 more in a retail pipe store. He agreed that no one could tell before a pipe was smoked whether or not it would turn out to be a sweet pipe.

INTERESTING ARTICLES

are on the way

IN COMING ISSUES

Here is a partial list of articles which are scheduled to appear in coming months:

- Flaws—And What They Mean
- Keeping Tobacco Moist
- The Calabash
- Chinese Water Pipes
- How Meerschaums Are Made
- What Is Amber?
- How to Smoke a Water Pipe
- The Six Frankfurters
- Selecting a Humidor
- The Story of Briar
- Evolution of the Spur
- What Is Deer Tongue?
- How Tobacco Is Graded
- Setting the Color of a Meerschaum

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New Renewal

Pipe Clubs

Two Midwest Clubs with Large Memberships Organized; Other Groups Reveal Much Activity

THE MIDDLEWEST holds the club spotlight this month with the announcement of two new clubs recently formed with relatively large memberships and a big turnout at the initial meetings. Several additional new clubs in other parts of the country indicate the unabated interest in pipe club organization.

DES PLAINES, ILL.

A newly formed club known as "The Treaty Elm Pipe Club" has been organized in Des Plaines, according to R. J. Vanasek, who was instrumental in getting the group under way.

A total of seventy-five men are now members of the club and at the first informal meeting temporary officers were elected and the name of the club chosen.

In a few days the club plans to hold its first formal meeting which will include a dinner and entertainment at which time permanent officers for the year will be elected. Membership cards have already been decided upon.

These Des Plaines boys look like they're out to have the biggest club in the land. They expect at least a hundred at their next meeting. They have a good series of programs lined up for future meetings, and early indications are that this club will be one to watch in the months ahead.

All pipe smokers in Des Plaines and vicinity are cordially invited to join the group, and full particulars may be obtained from Vanasek at 338 Warrington Road.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Another club which is already going places is the new Milwaukee Pipe Smokers' Club. At the initial meeting held January 28 at the Medford Hotel thirty-three members were present.

Officers elected were: J. H. Uhle, President; M. K. Paulsen, Vice-Presi-

dent; Don Reynolds, Secretary; Don Cyganik, Treasurer; and John A. Kronburger, Sgt.-at-Arms.

The group meets the second Wednesday evening of each month. A total of sixty-nine members attended the February meeting. The program included the showing of the Mastercraft Pipe Company's motion picture, "A Man's Pal," after which the company's local representative, Manny Kupferberg held an open forum discussion and answered questions.

The club was scheduled to appear over a local television station as guests of a Milwaukee store. A skit was planned in which six club members gang up on the announcer and convince him he should smoke a pipe.

The Milwaukee Pipe Smokers are off to a fine start. It's a safe bet that this group will be heard from often.

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

A new pipe club in Saginaw is now being organized by Kenneth Shelly of that city. He has asked for assistance in forming the new group, and states there are several men in Saginaw who are interested in the idea.

Shelly has issued an invitation to all pipe enthusiasts in the vicinity of Saginaw to get in touch with him regarding details of the first meeting. He may be reached at 2009 Handley Street.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Pipe smokers in Phoenix are envious of the good times those in other cities are having through organized pipe

clubs and have decided to do something about it, writes Jack Meyerson.

They are planning to form the first pipe club in Arizona, and cordially invite everyone in Phoenix to join the club if interested. Full details may be obtained from Meyerson at 432 W. Washington.

COLTON, CALIFORNIA

A pipe club in Colton looks very promising, according to a recent communication from that city. A number of pipe smokers are interested in organizing a club and have requested a copy of this magazine's set of suggestions on the subject.

Jack Vaugall in nearby San Bernardino is assisting the group in getting under way, and he invites inquires from those in the vicinity who are interested. His address is 415 E Street.

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

A new pipe club in Annapolis, Md., is in the formative stages, according to William J. Ziegler of that city.

Mr. Ziegler has informed the club editor that there are several interested persons in and near Annapolis, and he would like to have them get in touch with him so that plans for an initial meeting can be made.

Ziegler's Annapolis address is 47 Maryland Avenue, and he welcomes calls from all pipe smokers in the area who are interested.

FLUSHING, N. Y.

A letter from S. N. Lakin expresses his desire to organize a pipe club in Flushing, and he is eager to get in touch with others who might also be interested.

He states he would like to hear from those in or near Flushing who have the desire to form a pipe club. His present address is 65-35-170th Street in Flushing.

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

At the first meeting of the Birmingham club a name was selected by the group. Henceforth they will be known as "The Companion Pipe Smoker's

It looks like a pipe, but actually it is a gavel shaped like a pipe made and used at meetings by Crescenta-Canada Club.



Club." Interest is keen in the club, since it is the only one of its kind in Alabama, and Ben Waas, founder of the club, reports an active future.

LANCASTER, PENNA.

Six enthusiastic pipe smokers got the Conestoga Pipe Club off to a good start here recently. H. B. Moseman was elected president, and George King secretary. The club plans to meet once a month.

Dues are \$1 per month, most of which is slated to purchase pipes and tobaccos for veterans in hospitals. The club has lined up some interesting subjects for future discussion at meetings, and invite

all pipe smokers in Lancaster to join up. Secretary King's address is 523 N. Lime St.

Club News

TOPEKA, KANSAS

George Becker and Jack Jackson, Kansas City pipe men, were guests of the Topeka Pipe Club at their most recent meeting. Becker exhibited several of his bench made pipes and also some made by G. B. Leverett, another Kansas City pipe carver. The club was fascinated by the expert quality of work these men are turning out.

MONTRÖSE, CALIFORNIA

New officers recently elected by the Crescenta-Canada Pipe Club are Floyd Dietlein, President, Lou Himmerlich, Vice-President, and Dick Scholle, Secretary-Treasurer.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

The Mohawk Pipe Club is planning a year book which will include a picture together with a brief biography of each member of the club.

Milton Newman, of Newman Brothers Pipe Company in Brooklyn, N. Y., recently spoke to the club about briar, its curing and processing.

PIPE CLUB DIRECTORY

Pipe clubs already formed or now in the process of organization are listed below. Persons interested in joining these groups should contact the name given.

ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM—
BEN WAAS
1724 Jefferson Ave., S. W.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX—
JACK MEYERSON
432 W. Washington

CALIFORNIA

BURBANK—
LOCKHEED PIPE CLUB
Rand Miesemer
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Los Angeles

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3432 Las Palmas Ave.

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FRED S. WHITFORD
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LONG BEACH—
ROBERT SHERBONDY
338 Walnut

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ED COPELAND
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DON E. DEUTCH
Box 200, Cary Halls,
West Lafayette

IOWA

DAVENPORT—
FRANCIS O. WALSH
1113 E. 15th St.

KANSAS

TOPEKA—
KARL L. KNOLL
2835 Burlingame Rd.

MARYLAND

ANNAPOLIS—
WILLIAM J. ZIEGLER
47 Maryland Ave.

BALTIMORE—
C. BARCLAY YOUNG
3714 The Alameda,
"Ednor Gardens"

ESSEX—
FRANK O. HUNTER
1617 Rickenbacker Rd.

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON—
DON MacAFEE
655 Broadway,
Everett, Mass.

WORCESTER—
J. L. BYRNE
5 Pearl St.,
Milbury, Mass.

MICHIGAN

EAST LANSING—
JAMES APOSTLE
Quonset Hut No. 16,
Michigan State College

LANSING—
LEONARD DEASON
2014 Beal Ave.

SAGINAW—
KENNETH SHELLY
2009 Handley St.

SWARTZ CREEK—
PAUL SPANIOLA
Paul's Tavern

MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY—
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National Associations

(Enclose stamped self-addressed envelope when writing)

THE G. I. PIPE SMOKERS CLUB—Joe Coniglio, 86 Ave. "S", Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE NATIONAL ORDER OF PIPE SMOKERS—Albert I. Almand, 333 Holderness St., S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

THE SOCIETY OF PIPE SMOKERS—Ben D. Keller, Fayetteville, West Va.

LET'S TALK ABOUT STEMS

[Begins on page 108]

to be technically correct, the difference from the angle of 90 degrees between shank opening and bowl is corrected in the bend in the stem.

To put it another way, this means that if the bowl opening and the shank opening are drilled on lines at right angles to each other, the stem will be straight.

For an example, consider the conventional billiard. The bowl is at right angles to the stem. No correction is therefore required in the stem. The lip of the pipe must always be at right angles to the bowl, the perpendicular axis of the bowl. (There are exceptions, of course, such as some forms of the Woodstock and its many variations.)

Take for instance the half bent. If the angle between the bowl opening and the shank opening is 70 degrees, then there is a difference of 20 degrees from the conventional right angle, and the bit must be bent at an angle of 20 degrees in order to correct the line up of the lip and bowl.

For an extreme example, consider the Oom Paul, in which the angle between bowl opening and shank has been reduced to zero due to its U shaped design. The stem must be corrected to a full 90 degrees, and this would, of course, mean a full right angle bent in the Oom Paul stem.

Another way of describing the problem is to say that the bend in the shank must be duplicated in the stem.

Knowing this factor, it would now be simple matter to make a rather close guess as to the type of pipe each bit is intended for which is shown in the third row.

The first has a very slight bend, and, being long and slender, is no doubt intended for the author or prince, as is the second bit. The third is for a small slightly bent pipe, possibly a half bent. The fourth is for a bull moose. This is clearly indicated by the sudden widening of the stem at the point where it joins the shank.

The fifth, sixth and seventh are for well bent pipes such as the curved, the round shanked bulldog, and similar bent shapes. The eighth and the ninth are for full bents and styles similar to the Oom Paul. In fact, the last one might fit very well on an Oom Paul except that this shape usually takes a saddle bit. An Oom Paul is shown at the left on the bottom row.

In certain styles where the shank is large but the stem is short, the sudden tapering to the lip which would be required is not too becoming, and quite recently a variation of the saddle has

been employed. This is illustrated second from the left in the bottom row. This style is quite a favorite with massive bent pipes using short, stubby stems to conserve pocket space.

The third is the square bent used on special styles, and the fourth is a diamond bent, intended for the bent bulldog. The last three illustrate the folding stem, consisting of a metal hinge used in folding pipes, a horn bit and a bone bit, both of which are used in many European styles.

STEM MANUFACTURERS as well as pipe manufacturers have never stopped long enough to define their stems by name. There are a few classifications, such as those already discussed, and another which is inserted into a tapered mortise in the shank where it is held by friction.

But for proper names of each type, none exist. Some manufacturers list their standard styles by number, but by

the time the pipe manufacturer gets through shaping them to suit the particular style of pipe he is making, he has indeed created a new design. And as the styles and shapes of pipes are ever changing, pipe stems must change, too. Some extreme styles cannot be fitted with a commercially made bit, and an entirely new design must be cut by hand. So, when it comes to bits, you can expect anything.

There is much to be said regarding the design of the lip and the hole which goes through it, and a discussion of this subject will be left for a later article in this series.

THE CHURCHWARDEN

[Begins on page 106]

in recent years. In fact one manufacturer has recently announced a "combination" pipe, a more or less standard bowl with which is furnished two stems, one of normal length and the other of Churchwarden proportions. Thus the owner may "make up" his pipe to suit the occasion.

There is no special trick to smoking a

PIPODDITIES

By George R. Flamm

Source of any item depicted sent on request.



Churchwarden. The bowl is simply filled and lighted as with any pipe. Since the bowls are usually quite thin they get hot rapidly, and it is necessary to hold the pipe by the stem.

The porous clay tends to absorb much of the tobacco tars and juices, and the pipe seldom has a wet heel.

The porosity of the clay may have an uncomfortable sensation in the mouth as it tends to absorb the saliva and cause the lips to stick to the stem. To prevent this the tip of the stem should be varnished or covered with a coat of shellac or similar substance. If neither are available or if it is desired to smoke the pipe at once, a piece of Scotch tape wrapped around the end of the stem does very well. The pipe can now be smoked in complete comfort.

The Churchwarden was most popular in the middle of the eighteenth century, but due to its limitations it had to give way to more acceptable means of smoking. Although its practical days are done, it will no doubt live forever in poetry and song as the most romantic and picturesque of all pipe styles ever to have been created.

BELGO CANADIAN

[Begins on page 114]

pipes," were able to immediately start production on a quality product.

Although the factory today turns out a large number of pipes, the name Fisher, which is used as the trade-mark, appears only on the best pipes produced.

"This pipe is now being supplied in 15 standard shapes most popular with Canadian smokers," says Bernard Fisher, one of the trio now in command of the Montreal firm. Fisher says he believes their de luxe pipes are as fine both in quality and workmanship as can be found anywhere. At least he has an ever increasing sales record to back him up.

Pipe making in Canada was unknown before the war, all pipes in that country being imported from the mother country or other European nations. "But since the war started," says Fisher, "several factories have sprung up and there are now six or seven which are operating in Canada and which produce a substantial part of Canadian requirements."

As the company looks with pride upon its accomplishments during its first quarter century it feels it will continue to expand in a similar manner during the next 25. A sincere desire to faithfully and honestly serve its many customers is the policy it has so successfully followed in the past, and it sees no reason to make any change in that policy in the years that lie ahead.

THE REPAIR BENCH

Conducted by
W. H. PACKER



(With this issue Pipe Lovers inaugurates a new regular department of special interest to the repairman, both amateur and professional. W. H. Packer, who will conduct the column each month will assist the reader in repair problems. He may be reached at 112 East 12th Ave., Homestead, Penna. Be sure to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your reply.)

WHEN the mail man leaves me an insured oversize box, I know without opening it that it contains a meerschaum pipe. There will be a letter of history with it, too. Also, there will be a letter which explains the repair work to be done. In this instance the stud in the pipe is too badly worn to hold the stem in place. The threads, which were nearly forty to the inch are almost gone. A new stud must be made and fitted.

Removing the old stud is the trickiest part of the job. One slip here, and the beautiful meerschaum may be no more. It is fragile material. To the repairman who has never before made a repair of this kind, the procedure should be about as follows:

Dress the grindstone to get a clean sharp cutting surface and grind off the stud even with the end of the shank. Then use successively larger drills to cut out all of the old stud. Wrap the shank in a piece of clean chamois so that it will not slip and hold it in the left hand. Grasp it near the end of the shank.

Hold the drill in a small hand vise and drill with the right hand—slowly. By having both parts in the hands, it is possible to feel the slightest binding of the drill or tendency to bite in too deeply.

AFTER ALL the old stud is removed, use a small burr in a rotary power tool to roughen the surface of the hole.

The material for the stud must be porous enough to hold the cement, and yet close grained enough to take threads without breaking. Deer antler is very close to the original material in these qualities and I have never had any complaints about its durability.

The center of the antler is pulpy and not suited for this work. Cut off about an inch of the antler down near the burr where the dense white outside material is the thickest. Then cut out a piece of

the hard white stuff about 5/16" square.

Drill a 3/32" hole through it. Remove the drill for cleaning frequently, but do not use any oil which will get into the pores and affect the efficiency of the cement.

Put the piece in the lathe between cone centers and turn it down to size. The end that will go into the shank will, of course, be whatever size hole was left when the old stud was removed. The threaded part of the stud should not be less than 1/4" in diameter in an ordinary size pipe.

THREAD the stud with an ordinary die. Twenty threads to the inch is about right. The original thirty to forty to the inch was much too fine. Use ceramic cement to fix the stud in the shank. Put it aside for at least two days to become thoroughly set before trying to fit the stem.

All amber colored stems are not amber. Some of them can be threaded and some of them cannot. The only way to find out is to try to countersink the hole in the stem. If the material chips and flakes, it cannot be threaded and that is all there is to it. There is nothing that can be done except make a new stem of some material that can be threaded.

If the stuff comes off in shavings when you try to drill it, it can be threaded. Assuming that you are fortunate, use a No. 7 wire gauge drill to drill the hole in the stem. Tap it with a 1/4" 20 bottom tap.

Now screw the stem onto the stud. The chances are that it will not line up properly with the shank. To correct this, use a soft metal file to shave off some material from the end of the stem. Take off just a little at a time and bring things into line by the trial and error method. The most you can lose in stem length is 1/20" which no one will ever notice.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified advertisements are an inexpensive way of reaching pipe smokers everywhere. The cost is low—10c per word or 70c per line. Minimum, \$2.00. Cash must accompany order. Closing date, first of the month preceding month of issue.

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• FOREIGN or American Indian pipes in first class condition. Send photograph or drawing and state price. BOX 53, Pipe Lovers Magazine, 532 Pine Avenue, Long Beach 2, California.

WANTED

• WANT to buy meeschau blocks in any quantity. Send prices and description. C. E. MILLER, Box 21, Wilmington, California.

• DUNHILL Pipe Book and Pritchett's "Smokiana". CY PRUNER, 3807 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, Calif.

• COPY of Dunhill Pipe Book. ED COPELAND, 2326 1/2 Honolulu Ave., Montrose, California.

• I PAY \$1 for pictures of pipes to add to my collection. Any and all kinds and types of pictures considered. If you have a picture of an odd and interesting pipe, that's what I want. BOX 54, Pipe Lovers Magazine, 532 Pine Avenue, Long Beach 2, California.

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MISCELLANEOUS

• EARN EXTRA MONEY selling subscriptions to Pipe Lovers to your friends. Liberal commission. You can also work up a profitable income by obtaining orders for monthly shipments to pipe shops and newsstands. Easy, spare time work. Every pipe smoker is a customer. Write today for full details and commission allowances. PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE, 532 Pine Ave., Long Beach 12, California.

• WANTED Copies of February and March, 1946, and March, 1947, issues. Will pay full price (25c) for each copy in good condition. PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE, 532 Pine Ave., Long Beach 12, Calif.

PLUG MAKES THE CAKE

[Begins on page 111]

cake. The process should not be hurried, and if done correctly will find favor with even the most critical smoker.

CARE IS necessary to make sure the pipe is not jarred or knocked during the formative stages of the cake. The sliced plug is quite brittle and until it begins to cement itself to the bowl wall the pipe should be handled carefully. Once formed, which will require several pipefuls, the pipe can then be treated the same as any other.

The plug itself will not ordinarily burn but little with each pipe load. There is little if any taste to it as the pipe is smoked, leaving the full aroma of the smoker's favorite tobacco to be enjoyed. But even if there is some taste from the plug, it is flavorful and satisfying.

In the event that the cake becomes chipped or damaged before the cake is

properly formed, it is but a simple manner to remove it and begin again with a new plug lining. It is also possible to take an old pipe which has a defective cake, ream it out, and then start over again with this process. Nothing is gained, however, by placing the sliced plug in a pipe bowl which already has a cake.

An additional feature which should be mentioned is that the pipe smokes very cool since the sliced plug lining serves as a sort of insulation and, in its early stages is very porous with a lot of air space. This absorbs much of the heat and gives a cool smoke.

Also, the lining will absorb a certain amount of moisture from the burning tobacco, and gives a somewhat drier smoke, too.

I have shown this process to a lot of pipe smokers, most of whom have tried it, and once tried, it seems to become their favorite method of breaking in a new pipe from that time on.

MEERSCHAUM, CLAY, BRIAR

[Begins on page 112]

could hold its own with many a hand carved piece. It has a certain resemblance to meerscham, and the maker has done a remarkable job of painting it to resemble a well colored meerscham pipe. It's willow stem and ivory bit set it off as something just a bit different from the general run of molded clay pipes.

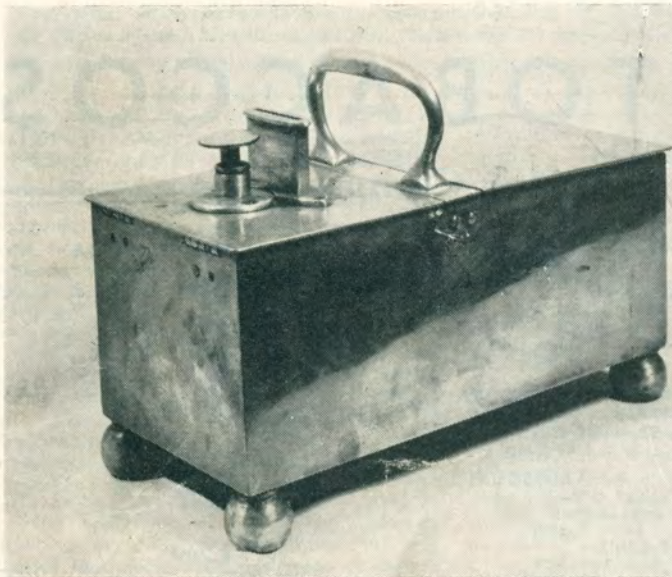
Terrell spent a minimum amount of cash in obtaining many of these rare specimens. Although money was scarce in Europe during and right after the war, he found that some items he possessed were greater in demand by persons in the war torn countries than money. A fine pipe, worthless in many instances to the owner, could be traded for a bar of soap, a few pieces of warm clothing, or some other much needed object, and was often considered a bargain trade.

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JONES TOBACCO DEPT.
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Dealers: Write today for details on how your shop can be listed on this page.



Tobacco by the Penny?

COIN BOXES for pipe tobacco? Something new? Perhaps so in Sir Walter Raleigh's time, but hardly today. The shiny brass box pictured above was introduced into England in the late 1600's or early 1700's where it was placed on the counters of the inns and "smoking clubs."

This one holds approximately a pound of tobacco. The smoker would insert an English penny in the slot and the lid would fly open exposing the tobacco. The smoker then helped himself to a bowlful.

The tobacco coin box has long since given way to the handy two ounce package, conveniently purchased anywhere and carried in the pocket. But in this modern era of coin operated machines someone, somewhere, may dress it up and bring it out in some new style, and pipe smokers will once again have something "new" to talk about.

The history of pipes and tobacco contains a maze of oddities of all sorts—some fact, some fiction. This oldest of American customs is little known, even by those who enjoy its favors.

Stories about pipes and tobaccos seldom appear in print. Perhaps it is because the modern smoker often gives such little thought to a subject which is so close to him.

But there are other smokers, men such as yourself, who are vitally interested in tobacco in all its fascinating branches—persons who like to delve back into the dust covered pages of time and learn about the customs which marked the first uses of tobacco.

Even today there are new oddities which appear in this connection, let alone the many, such as the coin operated tobacco box before revolutionary times, which preceded the 20th century.

In an effort to assist the student of tobaccopipea, this magazine was brought out almost three years ago. Its purpose is to provide you, the pipe smoker, with information concerning items both old and new—developments which may give you more smoking enjoyment today, or enlighten you on odd smoking customs of the past. The newer, more practical items are announced on our news page, while those of yesteryear often appear

on the collector's page and in general articles.

The editors of PIPE LOVERS are continually striving to bring you interesting facts on this fascinating subject, overlooked for so many years in printed form. It is for the purpose of supplying this long wanted and much needed information that the magazine was created. In its pages now and in the days to come will be found many of the tales and legends long obscured in its interesting history.

This monthly magazine is for you, designed to give you the information you have long been seeking. It is available from newsstands, from pipe shops, or by yearly subscription.

PIPE LOVERS

THE NATIONAL PIPE MAGAZINE

532 Pine Avenue

Long Beach 12, California