

PIPE LOVERS

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN



WHO ENJOY A PIPE

25c

July, 1948



This Issue: **The First Calabash Pipes and the Fair Sex** ♦ **Grading Tobacco** ♦ **What's New**

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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. Is chamise any good for making pipes?—J. M. L., Portland, Maine.

A. Chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) is used experimentally only. I do not know of any commercial use being made of this wood. It is similar to sorrel, but not as suitable for pipe making.

Q. What is meant by the term "tobacco is sleeping"? The phrase is encountered occasionally and usually appears in quotation marks, which probably means the term is loosely applied.—T. L. P., Cincinnati, Ohio.

A. The term "sleeping" when applied to tobacco, means that the tobacco is undergoing its many years of storage in order to improve its flavor and aroma. This process takes many months and even years, depending upon the leaf.

Large warehouses are made especially for this curing process, and during these years of inactivity the tobacco is said to be "sleeping."

Q. Where is the center of the pipe making industry in this country?—D. H., Providence, Rhode Island.

A. New York City is the center. Of the pipes made in this country more than half are made in New York City, Brooklyn, and nearby suburbs. Pipes are also made in Chicago, Indianapolis, Seattle, and a few other cities in small amounts.

Q. I have heard that rhododendron root is being used commercially in the manufacture of pipes. Can you tell me whether or not this is true?—R. A. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

A. Yes, rhododendron is being used commercially in the manufacture of pipes. At least one factory makes its pipes of rhododendron exclusively.

It makes up into a nice looking pipe and is very sweet smoking.

Q. How large can the bowl of a pipe be and still give a good smoke? This refers to the saying that a pipe with a big

bowl gives a good smoke. Just how far is this true?—F. C., Columbus, Ohio.

A. After the diameter of the bowl gets so big there is too great an air surface to keep lighted with normal draws, and my guess is that any bowl larger than an inch and a half would give difficulty in remaining lighted.

A diameter of an inch gives a good smoke, and an inch and a quarter is about as large as you ever see actually being used. From this size on you may find it difficult to keep the pipe lighted.

Q. When and where was tobacco first grown?—H. R., Twin Falls, Idaho.

A. I do not recall ever having read any accurate account as to where or when the first tobacco was grown. Authorities agree that it is of Western Hemisphere origin, and when Columbus discovered America in 1492 he found that Indians had been growing and cultivating it for an untold number of years.

Evidences of tobacco have been uncovered in some of the mounds and shrines in Central America which go back several centuries. It may have been used for religious ceremonies and rituals long before it was inhaled, but conclusive proof as to times and places and uses is still subject to debate.

Q. I have seen pipes with a small hole in the bottom and would like to know what this is for?—F. L., Orlando, Fla.

A. The hole is placed in the bottom of the pipe bowl to permit an intake of air. This dilutes the smoke and makes it milder by doing so, and is preferred by some smokers who find the smoke full strength a bit too strong.

The air hole also permits moisture to drop from the heel, thereby keeping the bottom of the bowl somewhat drier than usual, and also allows the pipe to dry out more rapidly than usual.

Everyone a Soldier

WHEN THE French occupied Berlin in 1806, the German rule forbidding smoking on the street was ignored by the army of occupation. This made the Germans extremely displeased, and as soon as the French returned home two years later, the Germans immediately put the smoking ban once more into effect.

The law was clearly posted everywhere, but in these two years the people had become so used to smoking wherever they felt like it that it became increasingly difficult to enforce the edict.

A certain police official, von Eckert, reporting in the Prussian Secret State Archives in Berlin in July, 1809, said the situation had gotten out of hand. Police restrictions were being ignored.

"Last evening," he reports, "I sent Constable Schultz to stop three young men from puffing on their pipes on the promenade. As soon as they saw him coming they disappeared into the night."

The population waged a silent but stubborn war against the law. Finally the Prussian police had to post at every street corner of Berlin a bill threatening all who smoked in the street with a fine of five thalers or eight days' imprisonment, and to publish the same notice in the *Berliner Intelligenz-Blatt*.

The next day a police report stated that all of the posters had been removed by "mischievous persons" and smoking was continuing as usual.

THERE WERE constant afrays on account of smoking between the population on one side, and the military and the police on the other—and sometimes between soldiers and police.

The citizens laughed at the soldiers for merely taking their pipes away, and on Dec. 22, 1809, there was a fight between four hussars smoking pipes in the street and the police, who came off worst in the fray.

The following June the Chief of Police at Berlin issued a formal decree which specifically forbid smoking not only in the streets of Berlin but in Charlottenburg and the Tiergarten as well. Transgressors were told they

would be arrested, their pipes confiscated, and given a fine of five thalers, or corresponding punishment. The penalties were to be increased upon a repetition of the offence. Insubordination would bring instant arrest.

The military was called upon to enforce the rule, but often the soldiers themselves were seen sneaking a few puffs from their pipes.

Then the police began to attempt to arrest the offending soldiers, putting into effect the law that they, the soldiers, were supposed to be enforcing. In general, it was quite a mess.

THEN, SUDDENLY, in 1813, a wave of enthusiasm swept over Germany, rousing the people to war with the hated French, and numerous Germans enlisted in the army. The ban against smoking received second consideration. Soldiers were seen everywhere on the streets, and all were puffing away on their long pipes.

Feeble attempts were made to stop them, and the situation finally came to a head. A policeman, trying to stop a man who was smoking in the street, attempted to take his pipe away from him. The policeman was at once surrounded by four "other creatures with lighted pipes" who, he reported afterwards, insulted him and beat him up.

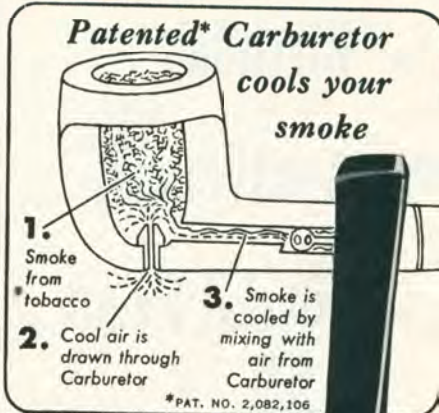
The people cried "Let the soldiers smoke. They are the military. Surely this need not be denied them."

The Berlin police, looking at it from a patriotic standpoint, said that henceforth soldiers would not be prohibited from smoking their pipes when and where they chose, but the restriction was not lifted for the civilians.

Had they tried harder to effect a general enlistment of new soldiers, they could not have done better. "Smoking permitted by the army," was the cry, and the rush was on to join the colors.

Then the people, soldier and civilian alike, began to smoke their pipes in public. "There is no difference. We are at war. Everyone is a soldier now!" And as the law died a violent death, pipes were smoked freely in public from that time on.

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THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN WHO ENJOY A PIPE

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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. 7

July, 1948

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Meet the Staff

(In response to numerous requests from readers asking for information about the men who publish this magazine, PIPE LOVERS is presenting this series of thumbnail sketches each month on the men who constitute the editorial staff. This, the fourth of five, concerns George Cushman, Editor and Publisher. Next month, Ken Brown, Associate Editor.)

THE RESPONSIBILITY for any publication lies with the editor or publisher and PIPE LOVERS is no exception. In this case, both posts are covered by one person, George W. Cushman, the man who started the magazine three years ago.

Finding that pipe smokers, collectors, hobbyists, amateur pipe makers, and all men who like pipes had no source of information on the subject, Cushman decided to do something about it. He felt that there were enough men sufficiently interested in the subject to support a pipe magazine, and his contention has proven true.

Cushman began writing for magazines more than 14 years ago. His articles were generally of a technical nature, and have appeared in numerous national magazines. He has written four books.

In 1937 he became associate editor of a hobby magazine and six years later assumed the editorship of a motion picture trade magazine in Hollywood. It was while he was in this position that he conceived the idea for PIPE LOVERS.

CUSHMAN believes that pipe smoking is an art, and as such every man has a right to his own opinion on the subject. As editor, he keeps the pages open to everyone for the clear expression of ideas on the many phases of pipedom. Several times he has published articles with which he did not agree, but if the idea had merit or was plausible, he permitted the article to appear in order that all sides of a question may be presented.

He does not claim to be an authority on pipes. He prefers to content himself with the many problems that confront a publisher and leave the actual articles to experts on the subject. However, no one can long remain an editor

of any publication without becoming pretty well acquainted with the subject concerned in the publication.

Cushman tries to have each issue well rounded with a little something for every reader, whether he be a collector, a "gadgeteer," an avid smoker, a pipe maker or tobacco blender. Men who enjoy pipes have numerous interests, he finds, and a pipe magazine should cover them all.

There are still a few not yet covered, and he intends to add a couple of more departments as soon as he can locate the proper experts to handle them.



CUSHMAN

THE INTERESTS of his readers are his first consideration, and he scans every letter thoroughly in an effort to see just what pipe smokers want and what they don't want in the magazine. His original plan for PIPE LOVERS included adventure articles and "outside" departments on music, drama, books, and other things that make for good reading.

This was tried just once (in the first issue) and he soon found that pipe lovers want only pipe articles in their magazine. So, from the second issue on, Cushman has included only pipe information in PIPE LOVERS.

It is his intention to increase the size and scope of the magazine, but Rome wasn't built in a day, and it takes time to do such things. With the ever increasing readership and the continual support of pipe and tobacco manufacturers, it appears that PIPE LOVERS will soon be expanding with more pages, more articles, pictures and departments.

As a pipe smoker, Cushman says any pipe is a good pipe if it gives a good smoke. He is continually trying out new tobaccos in order to become better acquainted with the variety of today's modern blends.

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WE RECEIVED a letter from Kenneth Shelly in Saginaw, Mich., this week, and among other things he asks "Why don't pipe manufacturers stamp the weight of the pipe on the shank?"

We'll confess this is a new idea, to us at least. And what is more, the idea seems to have some merit.

Of course, few pipe smokers know how much their pipes weigh, and if you were told your pipe weighed an ounce and a half it would be meaningless, simply because you probably have never considered your pipes from a known weight standpoint.

But most do know which of their pipes are too heavy for them to hold comfortably in the mouth. Either a pipe is too heavy, or it isn't. To that most men will agree.

Shelly's idea is that if pipes were stamped with the weight, you would then become familiar with the weight you like best, or, in other words, the weight beyond which pipes are not comfortable for you, and you would, therefore, buy fewer pipes that you later discard because they are too heavy to give comfort.

In order to get an idea of what various pipes weigh, we experimented with a few. The lightest one weighed just one ounce, and the heaviest was over 2½ ounces. All the rest were in between.

We noted that the average pipe weighs between 1½ and 1¾ ounces. The large, hand carved pipes usually weigh over two ounces.

SOME OF this writer's favorite pipes were placed on the scale (favorite from a weight standpoint) and the weight was found to be 1½ ounces. Pipes that weigh more than this were not too comfortable, and pipes weighing over two ounces are best smoked while reading or doing something of a similar nature in which one hand is free to help support the pipe.

When you go to select a new pipe, it is difficult to tell the differences in weight when you handle so many in the dealer's store. Furthermore, the weight on the jaw is far different than the weight in the hand as you lift first one and then the other.

PROBABLY the best method would be to merely stamp the weight in ounces on the shank of the pipe, with fractions to one-eighth of an ounce being enough. Another system would be to use numbers, the number representing the weight in eighths of an ounce. Thus a pipe with a number 11 would mean 11/8 of an ounce, or 1¾ ounces. A number 18 would mean 18/8 of an ounce, or 2¼ ounces. A 23 would be 2¾ ounces, and so on.

If, for instance, you found a 14 was your limit, you would then not purchase any pipe above this number.

Yes, it has its merits, but what would the manufacturer say. What would he think of it? We haven't discussed it with any pipe manufacturer, and obviously his first reaction would be that it would mean another costly operation which would have to be passed on to the buyer.

Also, he might think he would lose sales because smokers would buy fewer pipes. However, it would seem he would sell more pipes because the smoker would then be assured the weight factor in his new pipe would be satisfactory, and he would not hesitate to buy.

It is an interesting subject with several angles. We would like to invite comments from all readers on this matter, and especially pipe manufacturers as to what they think of the idea. We'll report on your comments—both for and against—in a couple of months. Think it over. Discuss it with your pipe smoking friends, your pipe shop dealer, and then send us your views.



Briar Stem

DEAR SIR:

I was glad to see mentioned in the June issue a briar pipe with a briar stem. I have long been looking for such a pipe as I would like to see if there is any difference in the taste as compared to the conventional hard rubber stem.

The general opinion is that a briar or wood bit does not last as long as a hard rubber bit—that it is chewed in two quickly.

If, however, there is some compensation in taste between briar and hard rubber, this more than overshadows the fact that the wood does not last as long in actual usage.

TOM HARTMAN,
Boston, Mass.

Iron Man

DEAR SIR:

The little iron man on page 174 of the June issue has much more to say than give us merely a laugh. The caption is that he can't tell one tobacco from another.

I have been just like him. More than once I have reached the point where all tobaccos taste alike. When this happens my pipe ceases to give me any enjoyment. The only remedy I have found is to put the pipe away for a week until I need its companionship again.

Friends have told me to switch brands in such instances, but this doesn't work. So I just leave all my pipes alone for a week. When I light up again it is almost like a new experience—the taste is really there. Then I am not like the iron man in the cartoon.

ROGER HUFFY,
Canton, Ohio.

Pipe Drying

DEAR SIR:

Regarding the article on drying pipes by Nick Post in the June issue, I would like to say that I have used this method for some time and find it very satisfactory. However, I do not recommend placing the pipe directly on the calcium chloride or even on a piece of cloth over it.

If the jar is not air-tight, or the calcium chloride regenerated often, it will in short order absorb enough moisture to become quite sloppy. Perhaps many readers are familiar with the use of calcium chloride on dirt roads to hold down the dust, and its corrosive effect on automobile fenders if not washed off.

In this sloppy state it is quite acid because of the presence of ionic hydrochloric acid. In Mr. Post's favor I must admit that the effect on waxed or varnished briar should be negligible.

I use a regular laboratory dessicator that is air-tight, and the pipe bowl rests on a porcelain plate above the drying agent. This drying agent is anhydrous calcium sulphate impregnated with cobalt chloride, and is sold under the name "Drierite, Indicating, No. 8 Mesh." It changes from blue to red when it is spent. I have been using the same original pound for the past two years, regenerating as Mr. Post prescribes.

T. L. CARSON,
Tulsa, Oklahoma

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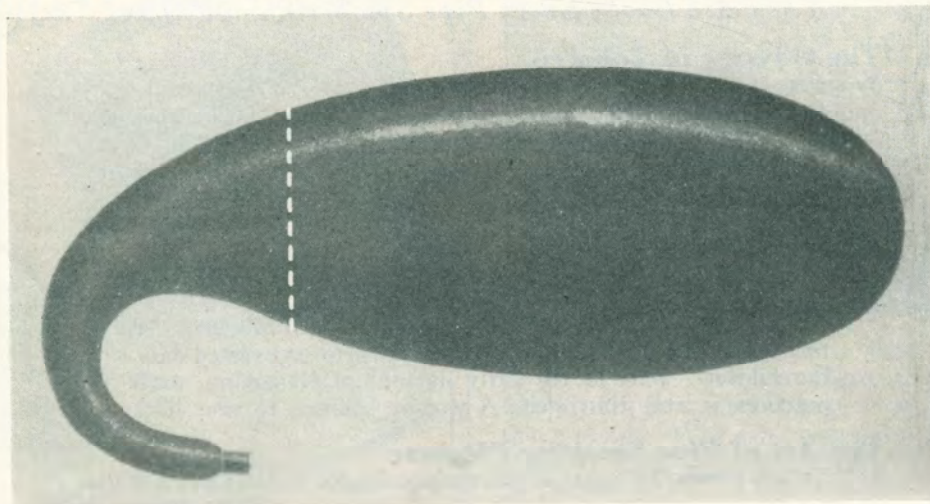
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PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE

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This is a picture of the complete Calabash gourd as it is grown in the field. The white dotted line indicates where the gourd is cut in two and shows the section that will be used in making the Calabash pipe.

The First Calabash

Here is the Story of How the Calabash Was Introduced to the Outside World as Told by the Man Who First Exported Them

By H. L. BLATTER

(Of Blatter and Blatter, Montreal, Canada)

I EXPORTED the first Calabash pipe from South Africa. This unusual pipe shape originated in the southern tip of the Dark Continent and owes its popularity almost entirely to the Boer War.

Prior to the beginning of this conflict in 1899 the Calabash was practically unknown to the outside world. Soldiers who fought in this war were principally from Canada, New Zealand and Australia and they purchased these "gourd" pipes which they took home with them as souvenirs after the war was over.

This was the first time these countries had ever seen one of these pipes and, since they gave a good smoke, were considered more than just a novelty. But it wasn't until later that the pipes were exported in any great numbers for sale to smokers in other countries.

In 1899 my parents were residing in Birmingham, England. My brother,

Ernest, and my sister, Marguerite, decided they would like to move to South Africa and go into business for themselves.

I was but a lad of 16 at the time, yet after they had gone I wanted to join them. So, three months later I sailed for the tip of the dark continent where I found my brother and sister had opened a small store on a side street. A few weeks later we decided to move to a busier section of Cape Town.

For the next three years during which the war was being fought we encountered good business. The thousands of soldiers were free spenders and a war boom was on. We were kept busy in the manufacture of these gourd pipes since the soldiers all wanted to take one or two back home as a souvenir.

I might mention that Calabash pipes and ostrich feathers were the only articles sold to the soldiers that were truly of South African origin. Frankly, we could not produce these pipes fast enough.

WHEN THE WAR ended in 1902 and the business boom was over. There were some refugees who lingered, but they were not sufficient to keep the business at the same tempo it had been going for these three war years.

And so, with plenty of pipes but no customers I had a choice of two things to do—either find some new customers for my Calabash pipes, or else sell out and move to Canada.

I went to England to see if I couldn't create a market there for the Calabash, but all of the pipe firms just laughed at me. They said the gourd pipe was just a novelty—a passing fad—and would soon be forgotten, in spite of the fact that it gave a good smoke.

I returned to South Africa discouraged, leaving the unsold pipes in England. It didn't seem worth the trouble and expense to bring them back with me.

But as it turned out I learned that

my attempt to sell the Calabash in England had been a few months premature, for the following year when I returned to London I found a ready demand for the pipe. I sold all of those I had stored there the year previously, and obtained orders for hundreds more—all at a handsome profit.

This, it might be said, was the real beginning of the Calabash pipe outside of Africa. The pipes which had been sold to the soldiers and taken home with them as mementoes had been of tremendous advertising value, and as the word got around all smokers were eager to purchase one of these odd pipes made of a gourd grown in South Africa. Today the Calabash is familiar to pipe smokers in every land.

GOURD SMOKING originated in Africa many years ago. When the Dutch founded Cape Town in 1652 a close contact between Europeans and South African native peoples (in the first instance the Hottentots) was effected.

Dakka-smoking was in full swing, although tobacco sprang into popularity soon after, sometimes smoked alone, but more often mixed with the dakka. Due to the strength of the latter the Hottentots preferred a water filtering pipe and water pipes were popular.

These were often made out of gourds either wholly or partially. The large ball of the gourd held the water while the neck served as the stem and the tip end (where the gourd joined the vine) was placed in the mouth.

Sometimes the gourd served only as the shank, and sometimes it was the whole pipe. The natives would clean out the gourd, let it dry thoroughly, and then put it into use as a pipe.

The gourd was preferred because first and most of all it was ready made. The humble native spent no effort in making his pipe—nature did it for him. Second, it was cheap and plentiful.

The gourd which we used and which is used today is the Calabash gourd (*Lagenaria vulgaris*) and from which the pipe gets its name. This family of plants includes the cucumber, melon and squash. It is ideal for a pipe because it is light in weight, has a large air space which is conducive to a cool smoke, colors well, and takes a meerschaum or clay tobacco bowl insert.

The Calabash has always been a rather expensive pipe because of the fact that since no two of the gourds ever grow quite alike the pipes cannot be mass produced and must be hand made. Each meerschaum insert is fitted into a cork ring to insure an air-tight connection and permit no seepage of air, and



Page from an old pipe catalogue shows the pieces which composed early Calabash.

this in itself is an individual operation with each pipe.

The connection between the stem and the shank also calls for a careful fitment by hand for the same reason. Thus it is clear to see why the Calabash can truly be considered a hand made pipe and why it costs more than an ordinary one.

THE GRACEFUL lines of the Calabash give the pipe a warm spot

The Calabash is an object of beauty, and since nature forms the gourd, no two are alike. It is light in weight and features a removable tobacco bowl of meerschaum.



in the heart of the true pipe smoker, and its large size makes it a favorite for fireside smoking.

Mark Twain, the famous Missouri author, was quite devoted to his Calabash, having favored this style in his later years. And the Calabash almost became a trade-mark of Sherlock Holmes, Conan Doyle's famous detective. Pictures of this fictional sleuth nearly always showed him with his hunting-type cap, his large magnifying glass and his ever faithful bent-necked gourd pipe hanging from his lips.

The best gourds are still grown in Africa, although attempts have been made to grow them elsewhere. But very few pipes are made there at this time. Instead the gourds are shipped to pipe factories located here as well as in Europe and other places where the meerschaum bowls are fitted and the stems inserted. They are then given the manufacturer's trademark and shipped to pipe shops everywhere.

A well-made Calabash will appeal to the discriminating pipe smoker as possessing the much valued characteristics of the long German pipe but in a much more convenient form. Since the bowl occupies but a small part of the hollow neck, there is sufficient space to form a receptacle below the bowl that answers the same purpose as the lower bowl of the German pipe in keeping juices from entering the stem and mouth.

There is quite an art to growing the gourds and in correctly preparing them for their subsequent use as a pipe, but this description we shall leave for discussion in a later issue.

TOBACCO, FROM the time it is harvested until it reaches the pipe, is usually graded about three times, depending upon the tobacco leaf itself and upon the subsequent processing which it must undergo.

The tobacco grower grades it first, followed by the dealer and finally by the manufacturer.

Of the three, the first is the most important, and if expertly done no subsequent grading is necessary.

The reasons for grading the leaf are numerous, but to the grower the primary reason is monetary, for certain grades of leaf will sell for 10 times as much as other grades.

As is customary with growing plants, the top leaves are the youngest and therefore the sweetest and the most tender, while those at the bottom were the first to grow and are therefore the oldest, toughest and strongest.

Since the grading operation, done by the grower at harvest time is by far the most important of the three, it is the one which we shall discuss here.

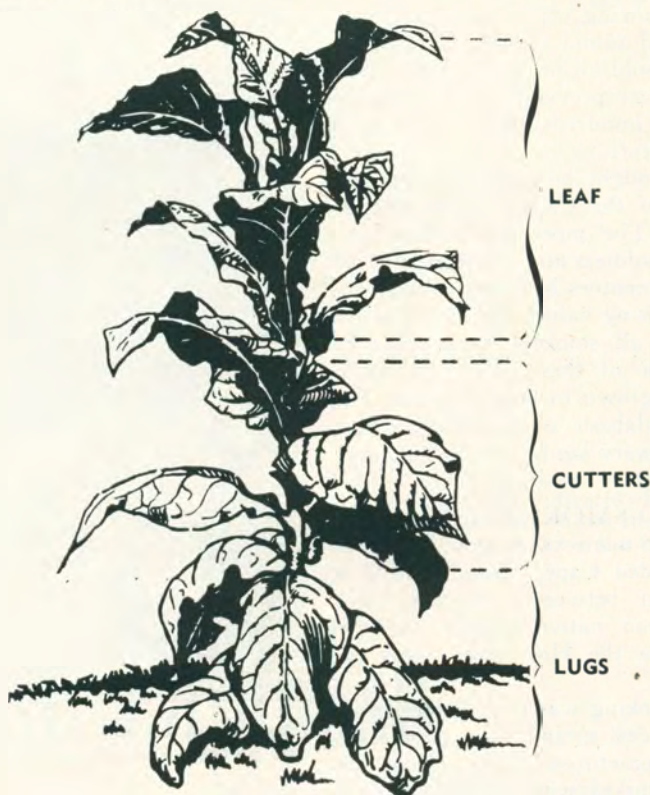
As a class, growers today sort the tobacco the same as has been done for many years, despite the fact that manufacturing processes have changed, requiring a somewhat different use of the leaf. However, it seems better to let the custom remain as it has for many decades, simply re-grading the tobacco after it has been purchased in the warehouse.

Further, some manufacturers have their own method of grading the tobacco and prefer to do it in their own factories according to their own standards and methods.

For the most part, however, the grading as done by the farmer stands, and it is purchased by the dealer or manufacturer in this condition.

THE TOBACCO GROWER has learned from experience that his grading operations must be done carefully and correctly.

Throughout most of the burley districts, only two classifications of the plant are observed, the "leaf" and the "lugs." The latter is composed of the lower leaves that usually have blemishes or are in some way injured. Perhaps they are too dry or are over-ripe. Since the "lugs" compose a large per cent of the grower's crop, he cannot afford to ignore it, so he markets it, knowing that it will bring only a small sum on auction day. There are exceptions, however, when certain market conditions will result in the "lugs" bringing a higher price than the generally superior "leaf," such as when there is a scarcity of the lower product.



How Tobacco is Graded

The Grower Divides His Leaf Into Several Classifications Before It Can Be Used by the Manufacturer

By THOMAS MOORE

It is not uncommon that these classes will be further divided into sub-classes, depending upon the requirements and wants of the buyer.

The grading of burley is carried out during the stripping operations and when a full compliment of men is available each worker is assigned a separate grade, requiring in all about six individuals. The first worker strips the sand leaves from the bottom of the plant which are usually small, thin and dry.

This grade is known as "flyings," and is used in granulated smoking tobacco.

The plant is then passed to the second individual who strips off the next two or three leaves. These are longer than the "flyings" and show less imperfection, but are thin and light bodied. This is known as the "trash" grade—usable, but not the best.

The third man removes the "lug" grade furnished by the next two to four leaves of the plant that are of full size

and relatively free from injury.

Next comes the portion of the leaf grade known as "bright leaf" and is used to a large extent in pipe mixtures which employ burley.

The fifth man picks the thicker, heavier and stronger "red leaf" grade which is also used to a great extent in pipe mixtures, and the last man gets the "tips" grade which constitutes the top two or three leaves. This, incidentally is not as choice and is considered of lower grade.

It is usually in this manner that the leaf is brought to market, after having been tied in hands from 12 to 15 leaves in a hand in the better grades, and from 15 to 20 leaves or more in a hand in the cheaper grades. The grower keeps the tobacco well moistened to prevent it from harm due to drying out.

THE GRADING of Maryland tobacco is practically the same as that applied to burley except that there are three fundamental grades — "seconds", "bright leaf" or "crop", and "dull leaf" or "second crop". The "seconds" correspond to the "lugs" in burley. The "bright leaf" usually constitutes the principal portion of the crop.

Dark air- and fire-cured tobacco is graded at the time of stripping under conditions similar to those for burley. The terms applied to the grades are "trash", "lugs", and "leaf". The "leaf" is then usually subdivided into heavy leaf, thin leaf, and short leaf.

And, as if this were not enough, each of these is again divided according to quality and color. The grower has learned through experience that it pays to make these subsequent gradings because the price paid him for his crop is based on the poorest leaf in the pile. Thus by removing the low grade leaf, he is assured of a higher sale price.

The grading of flue-cured tobacco is much different from other tobaccos. In this instance the tobacco is not graded until after the tobacco has been cured, as differing from the afore mentioned tobaccos which are graded as soon as they are stripped from the stalk.

After flue-cured tobacco has been hanging in the heated barns, it obviously is very dry and brittle. The first step is to replenish it with moisture.

The opening of the barn doors and windows is sometimes sufficient to accomplish this end due to the normal amount of humidity in the outside air. In cases where the outside air is quite dry, however, the floor of the barn is then sprayed with water.

About two days later the tobacco will have picked up enough moisture to per-

mit handling without damage. It is then stored in a special building called the pack house. The grading room, often times a lean-to, is generally located on the north side of the pack house. It contains a maximum number of windows to permit as much light as possible.

The ordering room is most conveniently located between the barn and the grading room. It must be kept humidified, even if by nothing more than a large pan of water on a stove.

Since flue-cured tobacco is harvested by priming or picking the leaves from the stalk, and since several separate primings are made, this method of harvesting automatically separates the crop into its major grades. The differences in the properties of the various leaves of the plant depend largely upon their position on the stalk.

It becomes, then, simply a matter of keeping the different leaves separated when they are pulled from the stalk.

Until market day the tobacco is stacked in large "bulks" which are covered with tarpaulins in order to retain the moisture content.

THE SOLE purpose for grading tobacco, at least from the grower's standpoint, is so that it will bring a higher price from the buyer, usually referred to as the dealer. He, in turn, is willing to pay a higher price to get his tobacco all in uniform lots. The manufacturing process is greatly expedited, and except when the manufacturer must further grade or sort the tobacco, there is nothing more to be done to the leaf.

It should be pointed out that cheaper grades do not necessarily mean inferior tobacco. A good pipe mixture requires several different kinds of tobacco to create a well rounded blend.

For instance, a fully mature leaf, such as those at the bottom of the plant, contains more starch than the more expensive leaves higher up on the plant. These lower leaves are less desirable and therefore bring a lower price on auction day. *But*, during subsequent curing processes this starch changes to sugar, and in some mixtures a leaf with high sugar content is required.

It is interesting to note the prices which the various grades bring. In 1944 the average top price for the best flue-cured leaf was 50 cents a pound, whereas the average low was 29 cents a pound. Burley the year before varied from 57 cents to 18 cents.

One of the greatest variances in recent years was in 1935 when the best flue-cured grade brought 42 cents, and the lowest grade realized only 4 cents a pound, less than one-tenth as much. Almost as great was burley the following year which varied from 61 cents to 6 cents.

It isn't always the best grades that produce the best smoke, but the manufacturer has to have some basis upon which to select the tobacco he will blend. He prefers good, clean, uniform leaf and he is willing to pay more for it in this condition, although there are numerous formulas which call for a less expensive grade in order to produce a superior aroma as it comes from the pipe.

Grading of tobacco is done in a variety of ways. Here ripe leaves have been picked from the growing stalk in the field. With some tobacco the whole stalk is hauled in.



Was it a Pipe?

Odd Smoking Contraption Served As Combination Suitcase, Cane and Cupboard as Well as Pipe

By E. H. FIELDS

WHAT IS SAID to be about the craziest pipe ever invented (or created or dreamt up) was that seen on the street of a small village some miles south of Vienna in the early 1800's. A rather eccentric and not too expert cabinet maker came along the street one day smoking this odd looking contraption much to the amazement of his fellow townsmen.

The man, well along in years, was a bit of a recluse and was known only as Herman. No one seemed to know his last name.

He was very fond of his pipes, of which he had a few, made mostly of apple or cherry wood. He was seldom seen without a pipe in his mouth and most of them were well worn, often partly charred.

The modern word "gadgeteer" describes him perfectly, for he was always tinkering around trying to perfect everything he owned, which wasn't a great deal.

His pipes didn't suit him. They were always sufficient within themselves, perhaps, but Herman seemed to want to "take his smoking stand along with him" whenever he went for a smoke.

It must have been this urge or idea that started him off on his creative splurge. No one saw the monstrosity while under construction, but when it appeared on the street for the first time everyone had to look a second and then a third time.

It was a "thing," crudely made of wood, which smoked. It was a long, narrow, square box looking contraption, in the top of which was an indentation for tobacco—serving as the bowl. Extending from the bottom of the bowl was a long hollow reed stem which reached easily to the mouth.

The oddity was approximately three feet long containing four sides which were less than four inches in width. Of course the pipe bowl was in reality a minor part of the affair, and yet smoking seemed to be its primary reason for existence.

At the bottom of the box were four pegs so placed that they served as legs and permitted the box to remain upright when desired. Squarely in the center of the bottom was a fifth peg, longer than the rest, removable, and which served to support the box when the owner used it as a cane. At the top was a curved handle which became a cane handle when the box was used in this manner.

One of the four sides was hinged and served as a door. Inside the long box were a series of shelves and hooks, and on these the eccentric owner kept his precious tobacco — he couldn't afford very much—cleaning tools, and all the



"I can't play a note, but this is an ideal way to smoke tobacco."

other implements he required to keep his pipe in tip top shape.

BUT THERE was lots of room left in this odd looking device. This he filled with anything and everything he could cram in there which he might use as he walked along the street. In fact anything a man carries in his pocket today would be found resting inside this long combination cane-pipe-suitcase.

Herman continually tinkered with his pipe-dream in an effort to make it serve him more efficiently. Soon he began to add hooks on the outside in order that he might carry more of his belongings.

In effect it was a suitcase, for it carried practically every small item the odd fellow possessed, and it smoked besides.

Herman didn't appear to be exactly proud of his Rube Goldberg invention and didn't display any great enthusiasm to demonstrate its features. He seemed, instead, to consider it a necessity, and a convenient one at that, and the fact that no one else cared to duplicate his effort didn't concern him in the least. He didn't try to advertise its versatility, nor did he attempt to take orders and go into the business of building them, although it was plain to see he considered his "pipe" a thing he simply could not do without.

No picture or drawing of the queer gadget exists, or at least has ever been found. The description presented here appears in an old manuscript written by an obscure German writer who lived at the time and who describes the pipe as something he saw while in the village. It attracted his fancy and he got the story from his friends who lived in the town and who watched the "pipe" take shape during the past several months.

SOME OF THE present day smoking contraptions could almost be likened to Herman's monstrosity. At least some of them try to include practically everything but the kitchen sink, and it seems Herman's almost had that.

It is a wonder that he did not add a water receptacle and try to do a bit of water pipe smoking, or perhaps add a few more bowls so that each could dry out before it was again smoked.

Smokers looking for something new to create which will serve a multitude of uses might give Herr Herman's gadget serious consideration. No doubt a portable radio could be added, perhaps a two-way communications system, a nest for a few homing pigeons, and a frozen food locker in which to store some food to be eaten on the way.

I feel sure Herman would have included them in his odd affair if they had been in existence at the time.



Tobacco Labels

Colorful Little Cardboards Were Used to Increase Tobacco Sales

By LOUIS P. TROEGER

GET THE complete series" reads the notice on the back of the label. "This is but one of 25. Complete your set of these famous actresses as quickly as possible. One is contained in each package of our finest tobacco." The idea, of course, was not only to get you to buy a certain brand of tobacco, but to get you to buy at least 25 packages of it. You'd have to, if you expected to complete a series.

Some of these labels were on the outside, whereas others were on the inside. Those on the outside were made as at
(Continued on page 222)



THERE'S A MAN in London who will bet you \$13 to your five that your lighter won't work the first time. The story is that he makes good money on the deal.

He makes no stipulation as to the kind of lighter you have, but he knows from experience that the average smoker gives little consideration to his lighter. If only a minimum amount of care were given, this Britisher couldn't continue his money-making scheme.

Most smokers who own a lighter know how to fill it, but that's about the only attention it ever gets. When the thing doesn't work, away it goes to a repair shop, or perhaps into the desk drawer where it is forgotten.

Filling a lighter is a necessary operation, of course, but there are a number of other operations that should be performed occasionally — depending upon how often you use your lighter, and how you treat it in between times.

Most lighters, when they are first filled, emit a bit of the fluid onto the flint or spark wheel, and when they are wet a good hot spark is almost impossible. Don't cuss the lighter. Wipe it off as best you can and then set it down for a half hour or so until all of the fuel evaporates and leaves the flint and spark wheel dry. An old story to you veterans, but it's strange how few fellows who have just purchased their first lighter know about this.

Did you ever fill your lighter and then find it needed a drink again the next day? This means there is a leak somewhere and you'll have to do something about it. Lighter fluid evaporates rapidly and a lighter must be as near

air-tight as possible if one filling is to last a normal length of time. Perhaps the cap does not fit tightly. The wick may be defective. The bottom may be bent thus permitting the vapor to escape.

The insulating ring around the small screw cap in the bottom of some lighters may have become lost, thus allowing the fluid to leak out. Also, the absorbent filler may have in some way become defective. Each of these should be checked, and if the trouble is not found, let your local repair man look it over.

THERE ARE good flints and bad flints. Four for a dime may turn out to be cheaper than six for a dime when in actual use. Any flint gives a spark, but a good flint gives a big, healthy spark and lowers your percentage of misses.

As flints wear down they should be replaced, or another flint placed in back of the one in use to give it more pressure against the spark wheel. In lighters where the pressure is adjustable, it should be kept tight, or you'll swear the darn thing is no good.

Suppose for instance you have just placed a new flint in the lighter but still it refuses to give off a good fireworks display. If you're sure the spring tension is correct and everything else is in line, then check your spark wheel.

This little fella with the 32 teeth may need a tooth brushing. He is well made for the accumulation of dust, lint, and other foreign matter that makes him quite impotent when he is flicked.

An old tooth brush may do the job, or, if too large, you can get a regular spark wheel brush made especially for the purpose of keeping him clean. And incidentally, the best time to do this dental operation is just after you have filled the lighter and he is saturated with lighter fluid, which, by the way, is a darn good cleaning solvent. And if no brush is available, use an ever handy pipe cleaner. It is a good substitute.

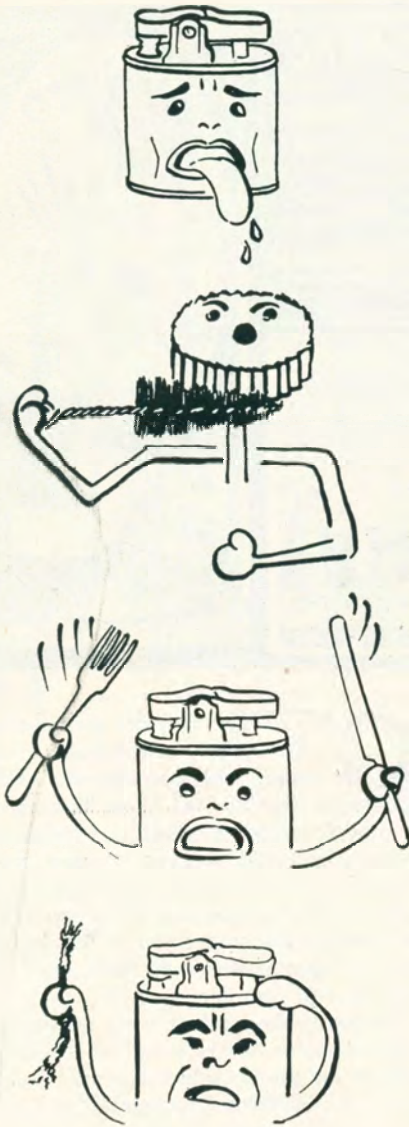
Another thing, too, this guy may have a few teeth missing. It does happen in the best of lighters.

If he does, it means a trip to the dentist for an overhaul, which in this case usually results in a new set of teeth.

THE WICK isn't supposed to burn, but there are times when it will, and that's not good. About the time your lighter needs a drink you're probably out to the ball game and the fluid is at home.

So you baby the thing along and coax a flame out of it. Yes, you can get a flame, but if the lighter is dry, it's the wick that is burning.

(Continued on page 219)



Keep That Lighter Ready

A Few Simple Precautions and Reasonable Care Will Keep any Lighter in Tip-Top Condition

By DALE WILLIAMS

(Illustrations courtesy of Art Metal Works, makers of Ronson Lighters)

AND NOW they want our pipes! First they cut off their hair, then they started taking our jobs, next it was wearing our pants, and now they're after our pipes. Yep, the one pleasure we thought was ours and ours alone is now being invaded by the fair sex.

Well, brothers of the bowl, what should we do? Welcome them into our fraternity, or hang up the "keep out" sign? To take a more realistic view of the situation, we won't do the former, and the latter is impossible, so, there the situation stands.

For some time now I have noticed women are taking to what we always considered "our own." Mostly they do it because they like it, and not to show off. I don't recall ever having seen a woman and a pipe together in a restaurant, on the avenue, or anywhere else in public, although I have heard of such things.

Instead, it seems, our feminine devotees prefer the privacy of their own home when they partake of a bowlful.

Of course, there are those who pose with a pipe for the publicity it affords them, such as our well known movie actresses, but then again there are others who have a more reasonable view of the matter such as Veronica Lake. Her husband is an inveterate pipe smoker, but like the most of us he dislikes breaking in a new pipe. Yes, you guessed it, she breaks them in for him.

"I enjoy it," she says. "They're not bad, even when new, if you smear honey in the bowl first. I've found a little lemon helps, too."

Barbara Carrol recently walked into a New York pipe shop and "tried on" several pipes. After finding a couple that suited her she made her purchase and left.

Elizabeth Paine is another who takes her pipes seriously, for, she says: "I smoke them because I like them. Can you think of a better reason?"

SOME HOLD the view that it is but a fad and will pass in time. Of this school is Sheila Walker, college student, who, after finishing her studies recently at a Canadian university, settled herself in her deck chair on the steamer bound for her home in British Guinea, hauled out her corn cob pipe and lighted it. "I have a surprise for the girls back home," she said. "I'll bet it starts a new fad."

That's just what it turned out to be at the University of Iowa about three years ago when many of the college co-eds packed a Missouri meerschaum. The idea was all the rage for a while,



Evelyn Shaffer accepts a light from her husband, Gerald, as she sits down for a moment of relaxation. She says she enjoys the cool, light smoke of a Calabash.

Pipes and the Fair Sex

Women Pipe Smokers are Shy on The Subject, But They Have Their Preferences the Same as We Men

By CARL ACKERMAN

but when the fuss died down, so did the pipes.

The trend to feminine participation in our favorite diversion is difficult to determine because seldom does it reach the headlines, as did the above instances. I have heard of many quiet women in private life who enjoy a pipe now and then, but upon investigation I find they sort of close up and refuse to say much more than a word or two on the subject. And never do they want their name mentioned.

One of the most avid of these is a woman in her thirties who lives in one of our western states. Her husband "belongs" and she became interested in his pipes. He then became interested in her

interest and the two of them decided to do a bit of research on the subject. They even went so far as to employ a clipping service to send them any information concerning women and pipes.

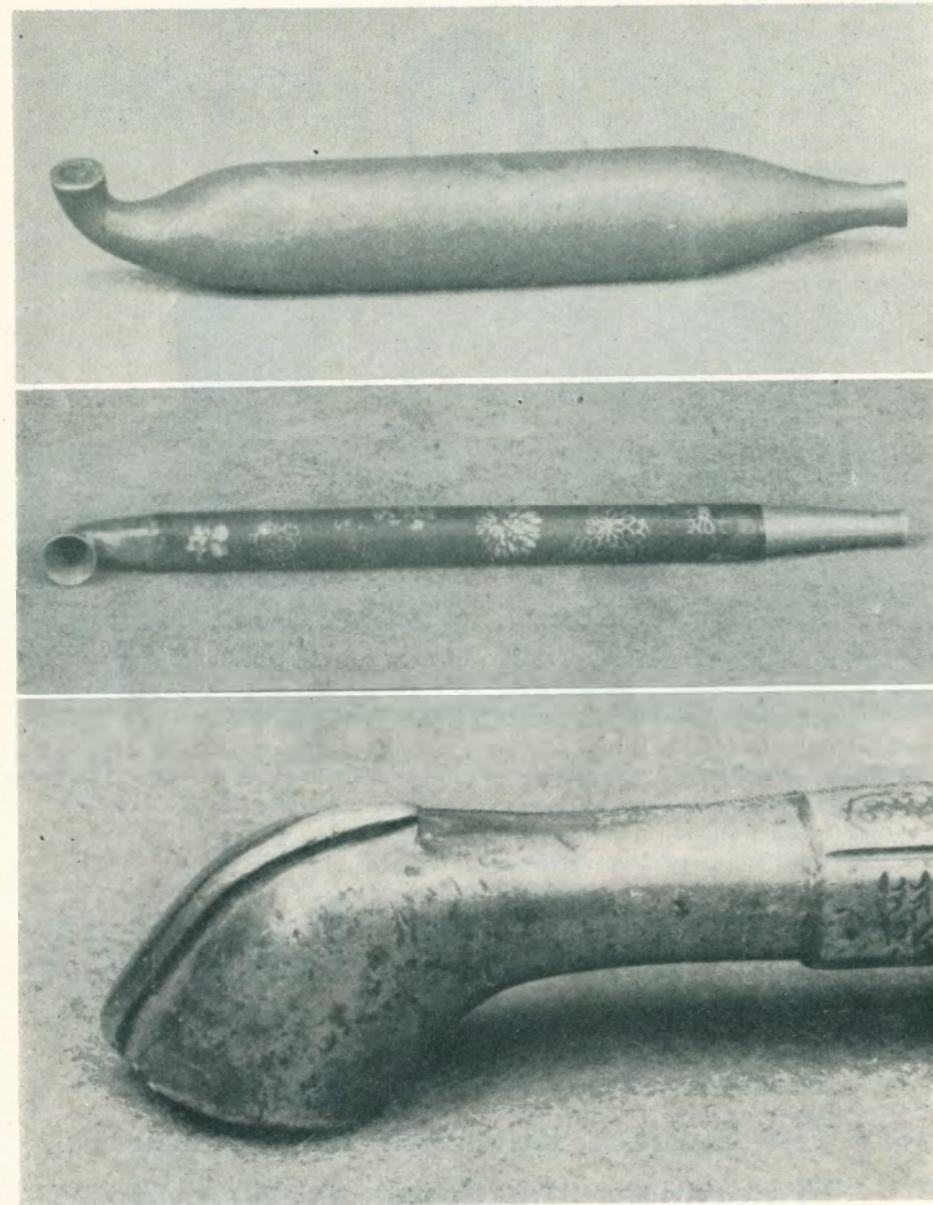
The wife enjoys a pipe with her husband in their own home, but never partakes "in public."

Another admirer of the briar has made a thorough study of the subject, and knows pipes from inside out. And although she speaks from experience, I have never seen her smoke one of her pipes. This she reserves for the privacy of her own apartment, where she and her husband have some of the finest pipes I have ever seen.

(Continued on page 220)

The

COLLECTORS' PAGE



Top, an ancient Kiseru pipe 7½ inches long used during the Yedo era. Center, lady's pipe used in 1603. Pipe in lower picture shows small ridge on bottom of pipe bowl.

this lady and asked her just what it was she had and if I might see them. As might be expected, I began to size her up and tried to determine in my own mind just what approach I should use in an attempt to get her to let me have the pipes in case I decided they were something I wanted.

What I saw made my breath practically stop. And as she unfolded the story behind them I could see that any price she would ask would be far beyond my means, so I began to look at them as a visitor and not as one who was considering making a trade or a purchase.

The pipes were centuries old. One of them, a 16 inch long Japanese brass pipe, was used as early as 1624. She was well versed in the history of these pipes and the custom of pipe smoking in Japan.

She explained that the long slender Japanese pipes were modelled after Chinese ones. Ancient records show that tobacco was first planted at Nagasaki, the only Japanese port open to trade and commerce, though there is every reason to believe that tobacco leaves for smoking purposes had been introduced into

Japanese Temple Pipes

Collector Describes Unusual Find
Of Ancient Metal Pipes Used in
Japan Over Three Centuries Ago

By ED COPELAND

EVERY PIPE collector looks forward to the time when he can run across an unusual and valuable pipe, one that is different from the usual piece, and something his friends do not have.

I experienced that sensation recently when I was fortunate enough to acquire some very old and very rare Japanese pipes. I can assure you it is a thrill that doesn't come often.

While talking pipes to a friend he told me that a woman he knew had visited the Orient 20 years ago and had brought back some very rare and very unusual pipes from Japan. He didn't know too much about them, but he was under the impression the woman had no great interest in them and that she might consider disposing of them.

I didn't waste any time in looking up

Japan some years earlier from which it is believed that smoking had gradually become a habit among a limited number during the latter years of the tycoon Toyo-Tomi.

Although it is not really known what cast of a pipe was used, that of the middle and lower classes seems to have been made up of a reed stem and a bamboo bowl.

Pipes with a bamboo stem and a metal bowl took the people's fancy when smoking became more popular.

The long stem pipe gradually became to be used in the house only, and the short type often seen so much today was popular outside of the home, always in the company of the tobacco pouch.

Most interesting of all was to learn that some of the more decorative pipes were at one time smoked in the Japanese Temples and were therefore known as Japanese Temple pipes.

THE PIPE shown at the top of page 208 is a Kiseru pipe made of iron and measures 7½ inches long. It was used by Ky Ka Ku during the Yedo era. Just below it is another Kiseru pipe of the same era which was used by a court lady in waiting and dates back to 1603. It measures over seven inches and the elaborate design is in gold. This style of pipe was used for over 250 years.

I was interested to note that one pipe had the resemblance of a resting arm underneath the bowl. This brass pipe which was used in the early 1600's employed this metal ridge to keep the hot bowl from burning table tops or other objects with which it might come in contact.

The pipe, pictured third on the opposite page, is 16 inches long and is made of brass. The general use of long pipes in early days shows that type was used more by the women at home than the men. This pipe has a beautiful floral pattern in relief.

What I considered to be the most

beautiful of the pipes this woman had were the two shown at the bottom of this page. The one on the left, including the close-up view, is about the most beautiful pipe of its kind I have ever seen. It is a big Kiseru Japanese pipe with a relief pattern in gold and silver which actually defies description. The pipe is quite heavy, and was used by professional wrestlers and Kyokaku, a Japanese prototype of Robin Hood during the Yedo era.

This pipe, almost a foot long, besides furnishing its owner with a good smoke,

also served him as a weapon when necessary.

Just how the relief work was accomplished seems to be a mystery. By some unknown process the metal was pulled or combed, probably while it was hot, and left to cool in a most unusual pattern.

It is mostly gold, with the little dots or eyes being of silver.

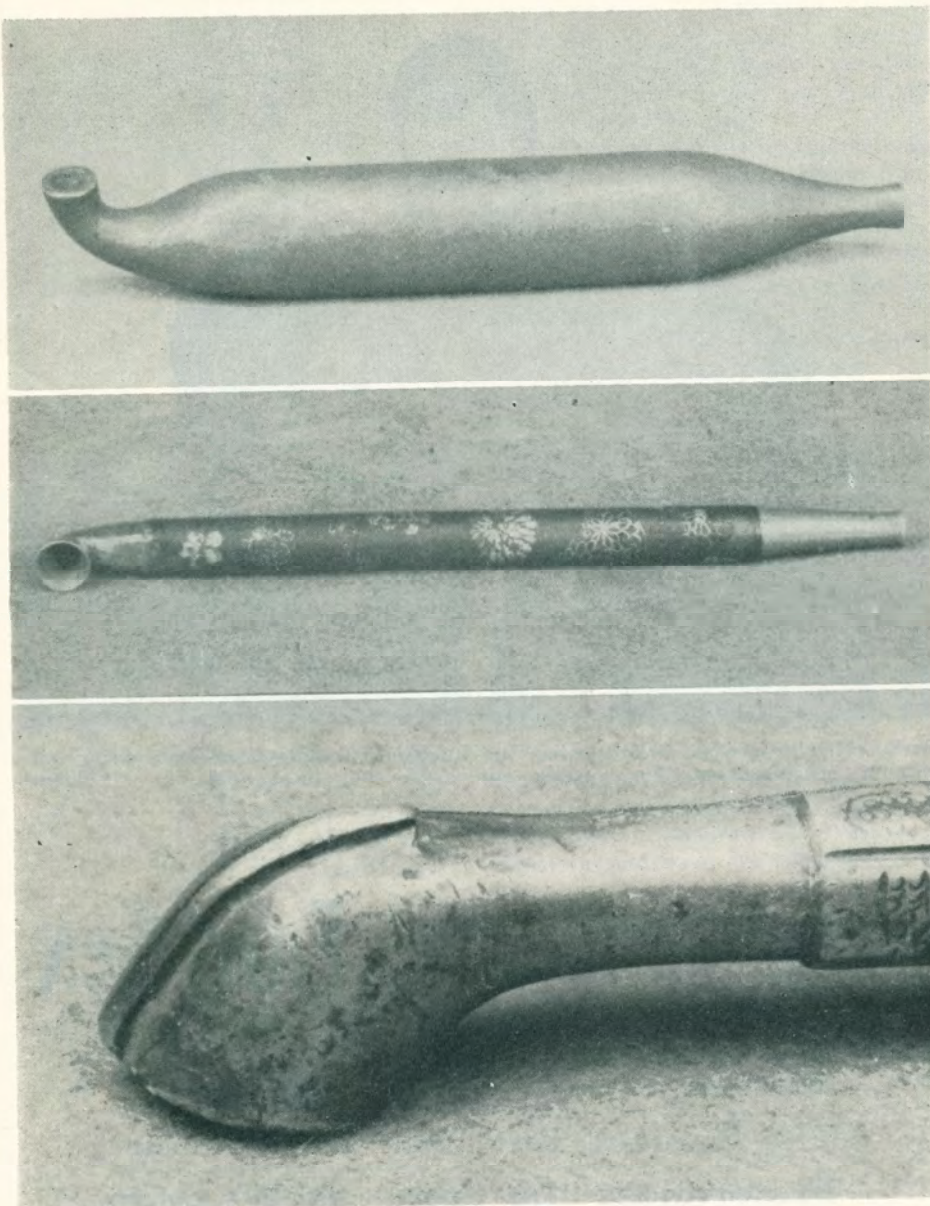
The pipe shown at the right (both full view and close-up of the design) is also a Kiseru. It is made of iron and is very

(Continued on page 219)

Left, professional wrestler's pipe of gold and silver used during Yedo era. Right, dragon design of gold and silver has been hammered into iron pipe by secret process.



The COLL



Top, an ancient Kiseru pipe 7½ inches long used during the Yedo era. Center, lady's pipe used in 1603. Pipe in lower picture shows small ridge on bottom of pipe bowl.

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LECTORS' PAGE

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Although it is not really known what cast of a pipe was used, that of the middle and lower classes seems to have been made up of a reed stem and a bamboo bowl.

Pipes with a bamboo stem and a metal bowl took the people's fancy when smoking became more popular.

The long stem pipe gradually became to be used in the house only, and the short type often seen so much today was popular outside of the home, always in the company of the tobacco pouch.

Most interesting of all was to learn that some of the more decorative pipes were at one time smoked in the Japanese Temples and were therefore known as Japanese Temple pipes.

THE PIPE shown at the top of page 208 is a Kiseru pipe made of iron and measures 7½ inches long. It was used by Ky Ka Ku during the Yedo era. Just below it is another Kiseru pipe of the same era which was used by a court lady in waiting and dates back to 1603. It measures over seven inches and the elaborate design is in gold. This style of pipe was used for over 250 years.

I was interested to note that one pipe had the resemblance of a resting arm underneath the bowl. This brass pipe which was used in the early 1600's employed this metal ridge to keep the hot bowl from burning table tops or other objects with which it might come in contact.

The pipe, pictured third on the opposite page, is 16 inches long and is made of brass. The general use of long pipes in early days shows that type was used more by the women at home than the men. This pipe has a beautiful floral pattern in relief.

What I considered to be the most

beautiful of the pipes this woman had were the two shown at the bottom of this page. The one on the left, including the close-up view, is about the most beautiful pipe of its kind I have ever seen. It is a big Kiseru Japanese pipe with a relief pattern in gold and silver which actually defies description. The pipe is quite heavy, and was used by professional wrestlers and Kyokaku, a Japanese prototype of Robin Hood during the Yedo era.

This pipe, almost a foot long, besides furnishing its owner with a good smoke,

also served him as a weapon when necessary.

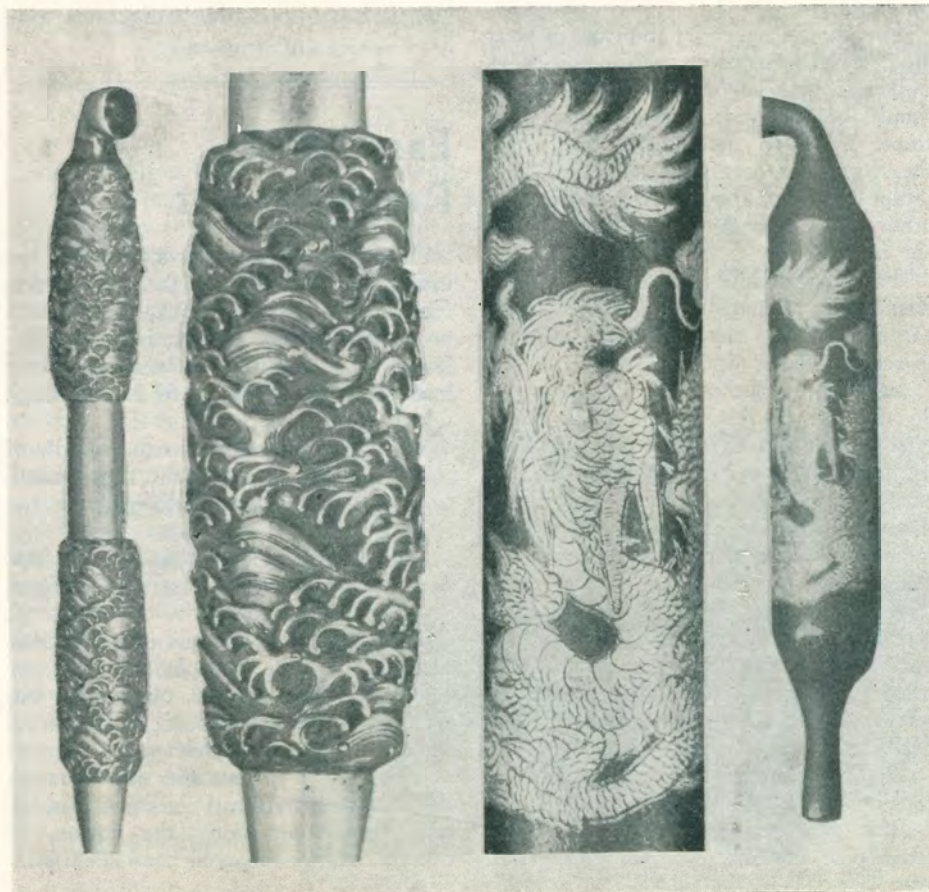
Just how the relief work was accomplished seems to be a mystery. By some unknown process the metal was pulled or combed, probably while it was hot, and left to cool in a most unusual pattern.

It is mostly gold, with the little dots or eyes being of silver.

The pipe shown at the right (both full view and close-up of the design) is also a Kiseru. It is made of iron and is very

(Continued on page 219)

Left, professional wrestler's pipe of gold and silver used during Yedo era. Right, dragon design of gold and silver has been hammered into iron pipe by secret process.



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 L. & H. Stern, Inc., of Brooklyn, N. Y.)

ANY MAN is proud of a fine pipe and likes to keep it in first class condition. Follow these friendly suggestions and your pipe will give you distinguished service, grow sweeter day by day.

The tobacco should not be "packed" in when filling your pipe. Instead, let the bulk of the tobacco just fill the bowl without pressing it.

Never hold the pipe by the end of the mouthpiece or stem while emptying it. To do so risks breaking either the stem or the shank. Instead, grasp the bowl firmly in the palm of the hand and tap gently. Don't knock it on hard surfaces but remove the ash and wattle by loosening it with the spoon of a pipe tool and gently tapping the pipe on the palm of the hand.

You should never let the cake in your pipe exceed 1/16 of an inch in thickness. When it gets beyond this thickness, it should be removed. Danger is likely to result if sharp instruments are used, therefore the careful owner will not scrape his pipe bowl with knives, or other sharp instruments when removing the cake.

The cake should always be removed with a pipe reamer or a dull edged knife. Of course some cake is always allowed to remain in the pipe.

In cleaning the pipe bowl and stem, do not use liquids, steam or so-called pipe cleaning compounds. Instead, keep the pipe clean by running a pipe cleaner through the bowl and stem once a day. This absorbs the moisture and residue which is formed while the pipe is being smoked.

After cleaning, it is best to leave the pipe in the open so it may air and dry out. When such airing is done, care must be taken to see that the pipe is not left in the sun, as this causes the bit to deteriorate and discolor.

Don't refill a pipe that is hot. Let it cool before repacking.

It is not a good practice to smoke the same pipe continuously, as pipes need rest.



PIPE CRAFT

Helpful Hints and Ideas that Make Pipe Smoking More Enjoyable

MY FAVORITE BLEND

(Each month the editors of PIPE LOVERS award to the person sending in the best "Favorite Blend" a Rogers Air-Tite Tobacco Pouch, courtesy of Rogers Imports, Inc., of New York, N. Y. All contributions should be addressed to the editor.)

A good outdoor smoke is this one which I find ideal for this time of year:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Shredded Plug Burley..... | 2 oz. |
| Virginia | 1/2 oz. |
| Perique | 1/4 oz. |
| Aromix | 1/4 oz. |

It is full bodied and tastes fine when smoked slowly in a large bowl.

—DAVE SCHNEIDER,
Knoxville, Tenn.

Easy Wick Replacement

As a pipe- and gadget-lover, I'm naturally fond of my pipe-lighter. However, replacing a used-up wick, which is a problem with any lighter, is doubly difficult with my model because of the inaccessibility of the small hole through which it runs.

(The hole is located in the middle of the open tube in which the flame burns and is almost impossible to reach by any normal means.)

The "wired wicks" sold by most tobacco shops would at first thought seem to be an ideal solution.

In case you aren't familiar with them, these have a fine wire, held in place by a band of thin metal completely encircling the wick, extending on out from the end of the wick itself.

The idea is to pass the wire through the hole and then pull the wick through from the other side (the cotton, of course, must be removed from the lighter first).

However, these wicks defeat their own purpose, as the metal band usually will not go through the hole at all; even if it were small enough in diameter, the edges of the metal almost always project slightly and catch.

My solution is to make my own "wired wick," substituting a piece of transparent "Scotch" tape for the metal band to hold the wire in place.

The tape adds virtually no width of its own to the wick, and if put on carefully and tightly actually compresses the wick itself somewhat, making replacement a much easier task.

A length of fairly heavy thread may be used instead of the wire if desired. In any case, the end of the wire or thread laid against the wick should be doubled back after the first winding of tape is placed around it and another winding put on, thus assuring that it will not slip out.

The tape is easy to remove after the wick is in place.

—LARRY SHAW,
Schenectady, N. Y.

Paper Discs Align Stem

If your pipe has a screw mount stem, you have no doubt had trouble with slippage and have noticed that in time the stem will not line up properly with the shank.

This may be due to a number of causes such as the inner threaded portion in the shank turning slightly to the right.

In order to correct this condition, it becomes necessary to return this portion to its original position, which is a few degrees in a counter-clockwise direction.

This is practically impossible to do with the tools ordinarily owned in the home workshop.

Since this remedy cannot be performed easily, I ran across another idea which does the job just as well.

Briar Insert Repairs Bit

I have noted several instances where readers who break their shanks make a small metal connecting link which fits into the shank opening and also into the stem opening.

This connection is all right, it serves well, but I somehow do not go for metal adapters or filters or anything else of a foreign nature in my pipes.

So when one of my pipe stems broke, I proceeded to do a repair job on it, keeping away from any metal inserts in the process.

As may be seen in the accompanying illustration, the problem was solved by making a small wooden connector out of briar.

It is not a difficult operation, but requires a little care and patience to do the job so that a snug fit results.

This is to go to your local stationery store and purchase a few round gummed paper reinforcements (the kind with the hole in the center and are just the size of candy lifesavers).

Take one, moisten it, and place it on the end of the shank. Screw the tenon into the shank and see if the error in alignment has been corrected. If not, use another paper disc, and even a third if necessary.

If some of the paper sticks out beyond the side of the pipe shank, it can be removed with a razor blade or a file.

If it shows up white against the brown shank, a bit of ordinary household iodine will color it to blend with the briar, or if it is against the black rubber stem, a bit of India ink, lamp black, or common black shoe polish will complete the job.

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Corning, N. Y.

First of all a hole must be bored in the hard rubber stem. This should be approximately the same size as the mortise in the shank. If possible it should be just a shade smaller, although this is not at all necessary.

A piece of briar or other wood is then placed in the vice (or lathe) and a one-eighth inch hole drilled through the center. It is then turned down until one-half of it fits snugly in the hole in the stem. The other half is also turned down until it fits into the shank. The first fit (in the stem) should be so tight that once placed it is difficult to remove, while the shank fitting should be just tight enough to permit removal of the new connection at will.

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The idea is to open the lips a very small fraction of an inch when drawing on the pipe. This allows a very small portion of air to enter along with the smoke, and the effect in the mouth is practically the same.

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PIPE

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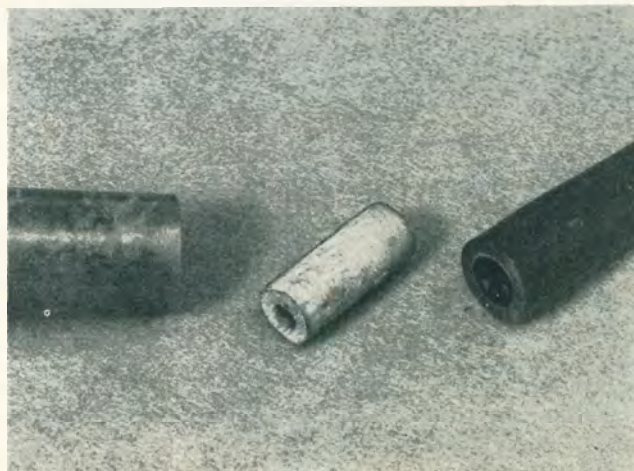
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Austin, Texas



WHAT'S NEW?

New Pipes By Biltmore

The Biltmore Pipe Corporation has announced two new pipes which are now being offered to pipe smokers. These are the Cromwell and the Biltmore DeLuxe, both of which are described by the manufacturer as being made of high grade imported briar.

The Cromwell features the Dry-Well Smoke Purifier, has a metal band on the shank, and features an interchangeable comfort bit.

The Biltmore DeLuxe features a sterling silver band, and a seacham inner bowl that is porous and will absorb nicotine and tars.

The DeLuxe is available in most of the standard shapes and styles.

The firm also announces resumption of the manufacture of all styles and shapes in their standard pipes, the Blue Ribbon, the Reserve and the Executive.

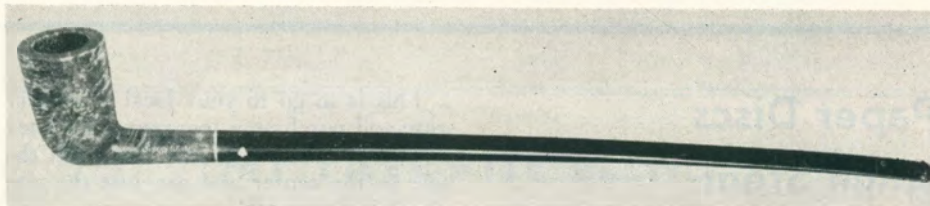
Collier Cob Pipe

The Collier, an aristocratic corn cob pipe, has just been announced by the Missouri Meerschaum Pipe Company of Washington, Missouri.

The pipe, said to be the most extensive ever offered in the corn cob line, is made from a specially cultured cob and features a long stem. The new Collier sells for one dollar, which is believed to be the highest priced corn cob pipe ever made.

Lighter Firm Is Organized

A new firm to be known as Lighter Parts, Inc., has been organized in Pittsburgh, Penna. Jack Levin, well known in pipe and tobacco circles in that area, heads the new company and states that lighters of all kinds are repaired promptly and efficiently.



Kaywoodie Churchwarden Is Again in Production

Is Made Of Briar

The Kaywoodie Pipe Company has just announced that its Churchwarden model is once more available, having been discontinued during the war years.

This familiar style is almost a foot long, and is made of the best briar obtainable. The long stem insures a cool smoke, and the Churchwarden, now as always, is a cool pipe for solitary meditation.

It is available in most states and may be obtained in three different sizes and price ranges.

Pipe Cleaner By the Yard

Over ten feet of pipe cleaner is wound in a new type plastic-cased container which is said to be no larger than a pocket watch.

The product, manufactured by the Nupak Pipe Cleaner Co. of Pasadena, Calif., is easily carried on the person where it is instantly available for use.

It is known as the Rola and permits a cleaner to be cut off at any length desired, although a notch appears at every six inches in order to facilitate cutting the cleaner at standard lengths. There are 20 such sections.

The pocket piece consumes a mini-

mum amount of space and sells for only a dime.

Hookah Features Colored Glass

Colored glass decanters are now fastened in the new series of Turkish Hookah water pipes which are being manufactured by the Century Briar Pipe Company of Brooklyn. Besides the customary transparent glass, amber is also available.

The firm has recently announced a newly designed crystal decanter in multi-colored Turkish decorations. The later models are available with one or two smoking cables.

When two cables are employed in smoking a water pipe, it is necessary that one must be shut off while the other is in use, otherwise the second tube will not operate properly.

Big Ben By Benjamin

The Benjamin Briar Company of Brooklyn has announced a new pipe style known as the Big Ben, which is described as a sturdy looking, bent stem number.

It has a large meerschaum bowl which fits into the briarwood without making any bulky appearance.

New Plastic Pouch Has Several Novel Features

Air Tight Construction

A new type tobacco pouch known as the Lucifer has just been announced by the Armstrong Enterprises of New York, N. Y.

The pouch is made of plastic and is shaped to fit the pocket. As illustrated here, there is a sliding section on one side which is pushed to one side to permit easy filling of the pouch.

On the opposite end there is another sliding section which uncovers a small round hole just the size of the pipe bowl which permits easy filling of the pipe. A slight tapping on the case sends even damp tobacco into the pipe bowl.

The air-tight construction keeps the tobacco factory fresh, and the shape of the Lucifer keeps the tobacco in its original large pieces, preventing it from becoming powdery as is often the case with conventional type pouches.

It holds a full two ounces of tobacco and is transparent, thus permitting a full view of the remaining contents at any time.

Sir Arlington Is Revealed

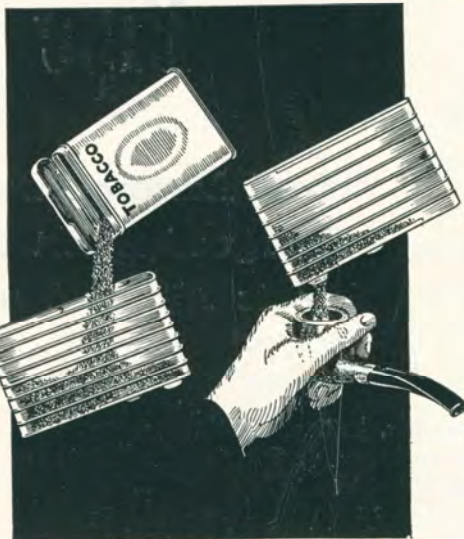
The Sir Arlington, a new style designed by the Arlington Briar Pipe Company of Brooklyn, N. Y., is now being shipped from the factory, according to a recent statement by company officials.

The design is said to be a combination between the Oom Paul and the squat bulldog, and is available in either a rustic or virgin finish.

New Bowers Pipe Lighter

Pipe smokers should find "Pipe-A-Lite" to their liking, for it has been designed especially for pipe smokers.

A product of the Bowers Manufacturing Company of Kalamazoo, Michigan, the new lighter which is known as the Bowers No. Three makes pipe lighting a simple task. Company officials say the new lighter is now available in the



majority of pipe shops throughout the country.

Inside the Bowl

By CHIC WILLIAMS

The National Pipe Hospital, headed by John F. Crider, has been opened in Silver Lake, Indiana. . . .

Pipe shop operators have noticed a recent increase in the number of requests and inquiries from the public for odd and unusual pipes, mostly by collectors. . . .

Practically all items discontinued during the war are now available. . . .

Moore Krier, Civil War veteran of Willow Grove, Penna., recently celebrated his 100th birthday by requesting a new pipe and a can of his favorite tobacco. . . .

The first 1000 pipe smokers attending the new Universal motion picture "All My Sons" in a Brooklyn theater recently were presented with a package of Edward G. Robinson tobacco—a gift of Robinson who stars in the film. . . .

The American Legion has awarded the Custombilt Pipe Company of Indianapolis a citation for its policy of hiring disabled veterans in its factory. . . .

Tapered pipe cleaners with a strong, almost unbendable wire core, are rumored in the near future. . . .

New Device Uses Water To Break in New Pipes

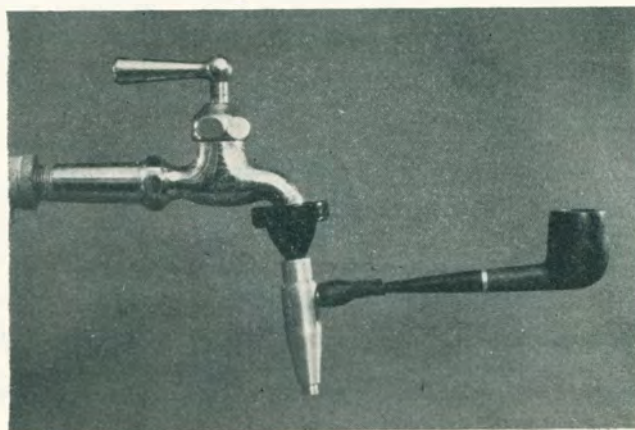
Simple to Operate

Pipe smokers who dislike those disagreeable moments of breaking in a new pipe will be interested in the new "Kake-A-Pipe" which is now being offered by A. Larry Stone of Palos Verdes Estates, California.

The device is extremely simple to use. It is fastened to an ordinary water faucet as is shown in the accompanying illustration, and the bit of the pipe is then placed between the rubber lips extending out on the right hand side.

The pipe is filled with tobacco and the water then turned on as the match is applied. The pipe will smoke and the cake begins to form. It should be allowed to smoke slowly, and the speed is regulated by the rate of flow of the water.

It can be turned on full force until



the tobacco is lighted, but should then be cut down until the pipe smokes very slowly.

A check valve prevents the water from backing up in the pipe. When the bowlful has been smoked the pipe should be allowed to cool before the process is repeated. It should then be continued until a good cake formation has been started.

The device is made of aluminum and with care should last a lifetime.

COMPLETION of the reorganization of the National Order of Pipe Smokers has just been announced by the national offices in Atlanta, Georgia.

Fifty pipe smokers have become charter members, and have elected Albert I. Almand to serve as president, succeeding Dr. Horace Grant, the Order's first president who passed on some twenty years ago.



ALMAND

Secretary of the group is Thomas H. Lewis, prominent Atlanta attorney.

President Almand announces that membership cards will be mailed to all

members in the very near future, and it is his hope that local chapters will soon be formed in various cities throughout the country.

Numerous persons have expressed their approval of the Order's idea which is simply to promote peace and good fellowship. Says Herman Hancock, one of the charter members and City Hall Reporter for the Atlanta *Constitution*: "I am proud to be a member of one organization which is not out after something. That should be the objective of every good citizen. I am glad to join you."

The Lockheed Pipe Club (Burbank, California) has already notified President Almand that their members are backing the reorganization 100%.

The Order plans to follow the same pattern laid out by its founder, Dr. Grant, who conceived the idea of a nationwide group of pipe smokers in 1919. In 1922 the group obtained its charter, and grew rapidly for five years until the death of its leader.



Interest in re-establishing the Order sprang up last year, and it is once more in full swing.

Pipe enthusiasts interested in obtaining membership should write the president enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for a reply: Albert I. Almand, 333 Holderness St. S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

New Clubs

SUNBURY, PENNA

A new pipe club for Sunbury is planned for the near future, according to C. L. Shingara who writes that he and his

Pipe Clubs

Final Arrangements Completed in Reorganization of N.O.P.S. Group Elects Almand as New President

brother, both pipe collectors, are interested in getting a few of the fellows together and start the ball rolling.

There are many interested pipe smokers in his vicinity who would welcome such a club, he says—a place where they could pool their ideas and enjoy the tales of other pipe enthusiasts.

Smokers in Sunbury and nearby towns should get in touch with Shingara and join in the fun. His address is 225 Walnut Street.

FT. WAYNE, INDIANA

A pipe club in Ft. Wayne may be announced soon. One of the pipe manufacturers and a couple of the leading pipe shops are putting their heads together and seek the cooperation of anyone interested in order to get the group under way.

Suggestions on the formation and operation of a pipe club have already been forwarded. Smokers interested should contact Alfred L. Shiel, 712 So. Harrison Street, in Ft. Wayne regard-

ing full particulars and the time and place of the initial meeting.

ESSEX, MARYLAND

Whether a new "club" has been formed in this town is a matter of interpretation, but the following letter was recently received from an enthusiastic clubber there.

DEAR CLUB EDITOR:

I see in the March issue that Dr. Knowlton and Charlie Malcolm think they have something unique in the form of a two-man pipe club. Well, I wish to state that I have something even more unusual—a one-man pipe club!

Yes sir, I've tried and tried to get someone interested in forming a club here, but all to no avail. I've become discouraged, so I hold meetings all by myself. At least, I'm assured of 100% attendance. There is no discord or arguments, and no trouble at all as to dues.

The late Dr. Horace Grant, founder of the N.O.P.S., with his wife and daughter.



PIPE CLUBS

Are you a member of a pipe club? Would you like to join or help form one in your community?

If so, write in and tell us and we will promptly advise you as to the name and address of the nearest club in your community.

If there is no club in your town or locality, we will put you in touch with other pipe smokers interested in forming a local pipe club if you so desire.

Write to

PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE

Long Beach 12, California

Club Directory

Due to the greatly increased size of the pipe club directory it will henceforth appear only in alternate months in order that more space may be available for the presentation of club news.

The only trouble is that when one of the members gives a talk, there is no audience, and when the membership is present, there is no speaker.

All kidding aside, though, I would like to get together with some of the local pipe smokers, and I hereby issue this invitation to get in touch with me and see if something can't be done about it.

FRANK O. HUNTER
1617 Rickenbacker Rd., Apt. G
Essex 21, Md.

Clubber Hunter is entitled to an increase in membership. Here's hoping his appeal finds a host of interested smokers in the Baltimore area.

Club News

BURBANK, CALIFORNIA

Jere Bowden was chosen secretary of the Lockheed Pipe Club at a recent meeting.

Bob Bernard, of Dudleigh Richardson's in Hollywood, spoke to the club on the various kinds of tobaccos and how they are blended.

Franklin Lewis, Oppenheimer representative, conducted a question and answer period which proved popular.

TORONTO, ONTARIO

The Pipe Smokers' Club of Canada invites anyone interested to attend their meetings which are held the first and third Wednesdays each month at the 48th Highlanders' Club on Church Street in Toronto.

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

A pot-luck supper is scheduled for the July meeting by members of the Long Beach Pipe Club. Pete Willems has designed a new club card which has been approved by the group.

A SUGGESTION

Although through the club page we try to give a brief summary of the happenings of each club, space often prohibits a thorough report. It would be a fine thing if every club would mail a copy of its club paper or bulletin to the other clubs in order that a more complete resume of the various club activities may be made known. The exchange of ideas made available would result in much practical gain for all groups.

JULY, 1948

Pop's Pipe Club Night

The Applecart Really Gets Upset In the Brewster Household When It's Time for Pipe Club Meeting

By GEORGE M. BREWSTER

(Of the Topeka, Kan., Pipe Club)

WE HAVE a pipe club here in my town, and we meet at the homes of the members once every two weeks. While I am not the oldest member in years, or age, I am considered and referred to as an old-timer. You understand, I'm an old hand at trading pipes, and have quite a reputation of always making a trade with a future trade in mind. The other members try pretty hard to out-do me, but that doesn't very often happen, I mean out-doing me.

I can't speak for the rest of the gang, but I do know that the pipe club night is one event my family never gets a chance to forget. When I first get up the morning of pipe club night, I always let the wife and boy know that that night is Pop's pipe club night. All arrangements must take into consideration "Pop's pipe club night".

My family uses that expression quite a bit. First the boy starts his phone calls, with: "Say, Bud, can we go in your C-Wagon tonight, I can't use our jalopy—you know—Pop's pipe club night." (C-wagon apparently means a car costing over a thousand bucks, if it is a sporty convertible, and Bud's is, it is sometimes referred to as a "woo-wagon", by the younger generation, I mean.)

Invariably my wife gets a call for an evening of bridge with the girls and again, "Sorry, Neva, but we will have to play out here because I have no way to get into town—Pop's pipe club night."

NEXT WE GET an invitation to play small stakes poker (my wife really loves poker), in that event the discussion is more prolonged;—"Jack, dear, Karl and Gladys want us to play poker tonight, what do you say—Oh, I forgot this is pipe club night, which would you rather do?" Of course, I'm heming and hawing and looking at the

floor, however, just before I attempt an answer she says into the 'phone: "Sorry, but this is Pop's pipe club night, etc., etc."

Well, naturally I'm beginning to feel like a heel, and then I get a 'phone call from one of my friends who does not care for pipes. Of course he gives me a rather rude blow, by asking me to go fishing with him that evening. This requires a lot of thought but finally I tell him: "Sure sorry, Ed, but this is pipe club night, and I have some bait to use on some fellows who think they know pipes." That takes care of that except I'm a little irked because Ed gives a kind of dirty laugh before he hangs up. I have tried to impress upon our friends the dates when my pipe club meets, but they still call us on those days.

That just about clears the way for pipe club, as far as outside engagements are concerned.

Next comes the usual conversation concerning the evening meal. My wife always comes forth with the following monologue: "Tonight you go to Bill's for pipe club. That's fine, I won't have to get much for dinner, because you always say Bill has so much good food." No answer is necessary because the statement itself settles the matter. That's what I mean by monologue.

THEN MY WIFE smiles and says: "Jack, dear, be sure and bring home some good recipes." Well, now that's not so funny, because one of the best cake recipes we have, I got from Kelly at a pipe club meeting. The only reason my wife smiled was because one night in a mixed crowd, the girls were talking about cooking and I blurted out about a fine cake recipe I got at a pipe club. It seemed queer because all the girls

(Continued on page 221)

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

**John H. Wagner,
Allentown, Penna.**

If one were asked "What is the minimum number of friends a man should have?" it would be about as easy to answer as the question this month, for a pipe is a man's real friend. But if some figure must be stipulated, I would say seven.

Why? Well, one reason is to give each pipe a good rest between smokes. Given a chance to dry out, become clean and fresh, a pipe will always, if well broken in, please its owner.

A change is always welcome. A new pipe each day gives a man a lift, for it allows him freedom of style, size and shape—a pipe to fit his every mood,—at home, in the office, or out of doors.

**Bob Caldwell,
Enid, Oklahoma**

The minimum number—if a fellow wants to treat his pipes and himself to the best possible—is determined by multiplying the number of pipefuls you smoke in a day by 7.

Say for instance you average 9 pipefuls a day. You would then need 63 pipes, in order that after each is smoked once it receives 6 days rest. Experts say never refill a warm pipe, and don't smoke a wet pipe. Therefore, after each pipe is smoked once it should be allowed to rest for the remainder of the week.

Personally, I do not have this many pipes, but I have found that a pipe gives its best when it has been smoked once and then allowed to rest for from five to seven days, or until it has thoroughly dried out. However, I question the advice against filling a hot pipe for a second smoke. I have done it numerous times and can detect no harm. But I do go along with the theory that a wet pipe should not be smoked.

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

"What is the minimum number of pipes a smoker should have and what are your reasons?"

**Kenneth Shelly,
Saginaw, Michigan**

I would say that the more pipes a smoker has, the better smoke he will get from each one. Rotate them evenly.

**R. Entenmann,
Atlantic City, N. J.**

I suppose the minimum number is one, but it would surely take a beating, and I for one would get mighty tired of smoking the same pipe all the time. It would be like reading the same book over and over, seeing the same movie night after night, or seeing the same friend all the time.

I have tried to obtain as many different pipes as I can, from small, clear finish bowls to large, massive, hand carved jobs. As you smoke them they become old friends, and although some will eventually take a back seat in preference to new ones, you reserve a space for them in your collection.

As the number of pipes I own grows slowly, I receive an ever greater amount of enjoyment from them as a whole, and I do not believe there is a minimum number.

**Meyer Cohen,
Brooklyn, N. Y.**

Fourteen. That gives a smoker two pipes a day, a large bowl and a small bowl. This provides him with a long smoke or a short smoke, as the occasion demands.

**Frank Dinello,
Chicago, Illinois**

I would consider no less than 14 pipes as a minimum number of pipes a smoker should have. If he is a confirmed pipe smoker, he will know that a pipe must be absolutely dry to get the full benefit of his enjoyment. He knows that a pipe with a wet heel will not smoke properly and might crack.

Fourteen pipes takes care of the full week—two pipes a day. The procedure is obvious. While one pipe is cooling off, you are smoking on the other. This will give your first pipe a chance to air out. With only seven pipes you cannot do this.

Being strictly a pipe smoker, a pipe is almost always in my mouth. My collection numbers 365—and I am on the way for my second 365 pipes. Every one of these pipes are smoked; no rare items. A pipe, to me, is for smoking—not to hang on the wall to look at unless it is a part of a collection of an historical era.

**Bud Emling,
Bonfield, Illinois**

It depends entirely upon the smoker, how many pipefuls he smokes in a day, and most of all whether or not he is a wet or dry smoker.

The slow dry smoker can get by with less pipes than the fellow who smokes fast and whose pipes are always gurgling.

Also, it depends upon the quality of the pipes, for good ones give better service than cheap ones. I would say six is a minimum for any smoker, yet regard-

NEXT MONTH

AUGUST—*"What bearing do you believe the size of the shank hole has on the coolness of the smoke?"*

(Answers must be received by July 3)

SEPTEMBER—*"What improvements would you recommend the manufacturer make on present day pipes?"*

(Answers must be received by August 4)

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.

less of how many he has he needs them all.

W. Y. C. Humes,
Los Angeles, Calif.

I would say 14 pipes. This allows two for each day in the week. They should be smoked alternately, allowing one to cool and dry out before again being smoked. At day's end they should be cleaned and allowed to dry thoroughly for a week before being smoked again.

W. C. Robertson,
Seattle, Washington

First, never smoke the same pipe more than twice in any one day. Second, never smoke the same pipe for two consecutive smokes. Third, never smoke the same pipe on two consecutive days.

Follow this simple rule and you will soon learn the minimum number of pipes you need. The number obviously will vary with each individual and therefore no definite figure can be given.

Darrel McCord,
Duluth, Minn.

A man needs an assortment of pipes depending upon his likes. Perhaps three, perhaps ten, perhaps thirty. Who can say? It's like how many ties or how many pairs of shoes a man should have. You wouldn't smoke the same pipe all

the time any more than you would wear the same shoes all the time.

There is a place for tennis shoes, and that is the tennis court. Men don't usually smoke a white meerschaum on the street, yet they keep one at home.

For the street, three pipes (to allow each to dry out). For painting the barn, one pipe—an old one, to get spattered with paint. A big good looking billiard for when company comes, and at least one good pipe to smoke and enjoy when reading at home alone.

That's a foundation. From there on add whatever you must have.

Jack Barnes,
Vinton, Iowa

Speaking from experience, I have a drawer full of pipes, and I am always buying more, so I don't think there is a minimum, any more than there is a maximum. I want to get a good assortment that will allow me the right kind of smoke at the proper time, but as soon as I get this many I am always out looking for a new replacement.

Thirty pipes would be the minimum if the man is a real pipe smoker, for then the pipes could dry, but just as important, he wouldn't get tired of any one style or shape.



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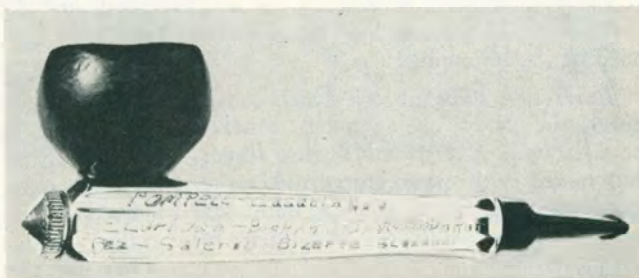
PIPE DIARY

WHEN Lt. Col. Allen M. Eldridge left for the Mediterranean sector during the war he took his metal-shanked pipe right along with him. The more he smoked it the more it became inseparable to him. Then one day he decided to turn it into a diary, or, perhaps more accurately speaking, a log of his travels.

And so he etched into the metal surface such names as Constantine, Salerno, Bizerte, Tripoli, and the other places where he had visited as he was sent on Army Air Force duty from one war scene to another.

His pipe, now seven years old, has been giving him faithful service ever since, and with its many names is one of his most valuable possessions and war souvenirs.

The illustration shows how the wooden bowl has become worn, and this may or may not be the original bowl, for with



this type pipe the bowls are interchangeable.

But the metal shank, with its inscriptions forming a historical record, will remain for many years giving its owner smoking satisfaction as well as serving as a reminder of unusual places he visited in a worn torn world.

Moving?

When sending a change of address, please be sure to include your old as well as your new address. This is important. Thank you.

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A Subscription To
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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.

STAMP COLLECTORS, model builders and lion tamers may have had a head start on us blenders as far as a hobby goes, but from the response this department has had, we'd say we were catching up with hobbyists in all other fields.

Numerous readers wrote in about their blending problems, and where we were able to lend a hand, we were glad to do so. If you have a blending problem, send it in.

Now for a quick review of what you need to get started in this wonderful pastime of blending. Purchase the following for the present, and you will see that not only can you have inexpensive fun and a grand hobby, but you will find it vastly interesting as well.

You should have at least four ounces each of the following:

Burley. A base tobacco which constitutes the body of a blend. Smoked straight will give you a burley flavor, but mixed with other ingredients serves as a base upon which you can build several tastes according to the other ingredients added.

Latakia. Adds mellowness and flavor to a mixture. Very rich in taste and should be added to a blend carefully.

You wouldn't smoke straight Latakia (or would you?) and normally there would be anywhere from 1-5 ounces of this in a blend.

Perique. A leaf very similar to thunder and lightning and applied to a mixture with care and possibly at the rate of only 1-3 ounces to a blend—more if you like it, of course, but remember this is something like moonshine and not all of us can drink from a jug.

Virginia. This usually comes out either in ribbon fashion or in flake. (They cut this tobacco in the other

ways, too, but for your purposes use one of these cuts or even both.) Has no pronounced taste of its own in a blend unless specially flavored. Sniff at a fresh jarful and you will note it has a nice aroma. Serves the chief purpose of adding color to a blend and has good burning qualities. Proportionately used at the rate of about 2-6 ounces in a mixture.

Cavendish. A member of the Virginia family and a mild ingredient that adds taste to a blend. You can use anywhere from 2-10 ounces of this to a pound and still get tobacco. There is another form of this known as Weed's Cavendish, which is dark in color and has its own very distinctive flavor and can be added to a blend with varying amounts depending upon the taste of the user.

THERE IS NO end to the number of tobaccos and flavors you can use in blending. According to a recent article by the Editor, they are using herbs. We will do some botany research and see what sort of mixture can be had from tulips, dandelions and snapdragons. They say that gladiolas ought to make a good smoke. But being old fashioned we will stick to tobacco as we know it. We wouldn't mind smoking rosebuds, but how can you get those long stems in a small bowl?

Anyway, along with the four ounces of these few and basic blending tobaccos, obtain some glass jars to keep them in and attach the clay humidifiers to the covers. Also buy one of those gadgets to attach to a bottle of water, so that you may freshen your tobaccos whilst blending with a fine spray of water. You can also use one of those syringes they have for watering small flowers. (Flowers agin!) You also need a scale. This is all, unless you want to add a blending bowl or a sheet of newspaper to

spread on a table. All in all for a few dollars you are set. Then try this new formula:

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Burley | 1 oz. |
| Latakia | ¾ oz. |
| Perique | ½ oz. |
| Cavendish | 1¾ oz. |
| Virginia | ½ oz. |

After you have mixed this, experiment a bit with varied amounts. You will soon find out what you like and don't like. Then you will discover other blending tobaccos to experiment with.

The most important thing to remember about blending is this: Don't leave tobacco or crumbs around wherever you did your blending—no use getting the little woman on the warpath, because blending is fun as well as of deep interest. And a little tobacco on the floor isn't as dangerous as slipping on petals—just in case you decide to smoke herbs and flowers.

We're anxious to please you in this column, and would appreciate your suggestions as to how we can serve you better, so drop us a line.

KEEP THAT LIGHTER READY

[Begins on page 206]

No great harm has been done, but when next you fill the lighter, take a pair of scissors and cut off the burned tip of the wick. A small section should be pulled out to serve from now on. A charred wick doesn't give top performance.

The best insurance against a charred wick is to give your lighter a drink before it gets thirsty and not wait until it runs dry.

In time your wick will become shortened due to these lengths being cut off, and eventually it will be so short that it won't reach the cotton packing inside the lighter case. When this condition arises it means the wick will receive no fuel and will not ignite. Try as you will, you can't light a dry wick.

This means only one thing—a new wick. Now don't let that scare you, for it isn't half as difficult as you imagine. If you try to thread the wick up from the bottom, you may be an old man be-

fore you get the task done, but if you use a small piece of wire, or even a long pin, and edge the wick in from the top, you'll find it takes only a few moments.

First, though, it is a good idea to take out the cotton packing through the bottom of the lighter. Grasp the end of the new wick and pull it out through the bottom so that only an eighth of an inch remains on top.

The bottom end of the wick is now coiled around the cotton and the whole mass is re-inserted in the lighter.

Should the cotton packing appear damaged or otherwise not in good shape, simply replace it with prime absorbent cotton. The lighter should be filled with the cotton, but not packed or stuffed to capacity.

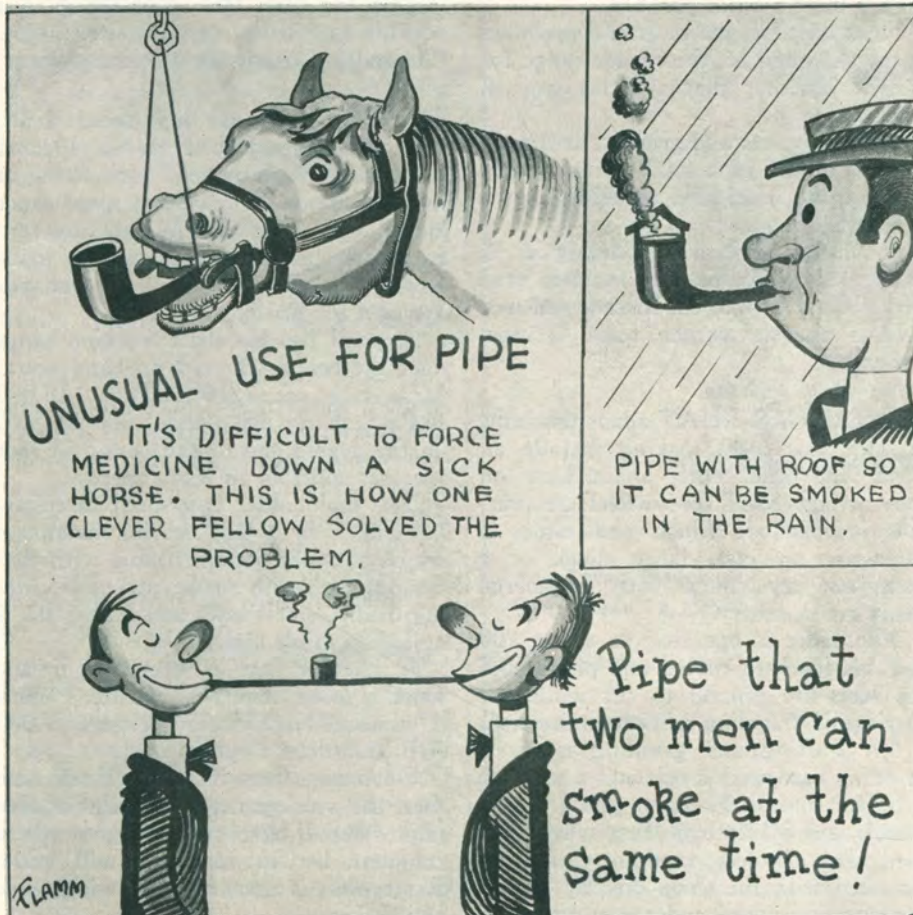
When filled and lighted for the first time the new wick may give off a black smoke. This means too much of the wick is exposed and it should be pushed back into the lighter until it gives a good flame with no visible smoke, and generally without any flicker.

Practically all lighters will work when they are in tip top condition. Give yours the care it deserves and you can then hunt up this Britisher and make yourself some easy dough.

PIPODDITIES

By George R. Flamm

Source of any item depicted sent on request.



JAPANESE TEMPLE PIPES

[Begins on page 208]

simple in shape, but the silver and gold inlay work is exquisite. The dragon design which is made of the two precious metals was hammered into the iron wall of the pipe—a long and tedious hand process.

This pipe was also used as a weapon when the occasion arose.

THE MORE I handled these pipes the more determined I became to obtain them for my collection. I began to dicker with the lady (what pipe collector doesn't know the meaning of the word "dicker"?) and I soon found that she didn't realize the value of these old pieces. Furthermore she wanted to dispose of them, so was willing to discuss the matter with me.

Well, to make a long story short, I ended up with the pipes, and among all of the fine specimens I have, these, to me, top them all. The workmanship alone is as fine as I have ever seen on pipes as old as these, and the fact that they are over 300 years old puts them sort of in a class by themselves.

There were nine pipes in the lot. I have no idea what their value might be,

although it is my guess that a museum would gladly pay a good sum for them, for they are extremely rare, and probably very few of them are in existence today.

PIPES AND THE FAIR SEX

[Begins on page 207]

THE QUESTION of pipe shapes and sizes preferred by our lady friends has interested me to a considerable extent. Those who will voice an opinion seem to prefer just about the same kind of pipe as a man. During the last few years several pipe manufacturers introduced a small bowl intended especially for the ladies. Many were bought and smoked, but it appears the woman who really took to the art seriously soon left the small bowl on the shelf and took to a man-sized model.

A bigger bowl smokes cooler, they claim, and tastes better, too. Yes, they are heavier, but a woman who likes her pipes soon gets used to that the same as a man does who takes up pipe smoking for the first time.

When it comes to the type of tobacco they prefer it seems there is as much variety and diversity of opinion as among men. I would suppose the highly perfumed mixtures would receive the feminine vote, but those who will voice a preference seem to prefer a light, mild, and only slightly aromatic mixture.

The editor of this magazine has told me there are several women subscribers, but a survey of them resulted in very few replies. My conclusion is that although they enjoy their pipes, they prefer to enjoy them in total privacy. And that's all right with me.

It is not my intention to start a crusade for or against the invasion of milady into our once totally masculine ranks. I am simply reporting the meager facts as I have found them. It might be worth adding here, however, that the great majority of men I have talked to resent the intrusion. One such instance was when a lady asked to join the Mohawk (New York) Pipe Club. The members didn't want to offend her unduly, so they told her that if she would come to the next meeting and sit in a chair in front of all the members and smoke a pipe continuously throughout the entire meeting (which lasts from four to five hours) she could then join the club. This, they figured, would put an end to the situation.

It did. But not the kind of an end they hoped for. "Oh," she said, "that's nothing. I do that every night." Result: An amendment to the constitution limiting the club to men only.

THE REPAIR BENCH

Conducted by
W. H. PACKER



(Readers who have questions or problems concerning pipe repairing may write direct to Mr. Packer, who conducts this column each month. He may be reached at 112 E. 12th Ave., Homestead, Penna. There is no charge for this service, but you must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for your reply.)

THE MACHINES and hand tools in a pipe repair shop represent the personal preference of the craftsman. They are selected from what was available to him at some particular time and they suit his way of working.

It would be unfair for him to insist that these were the only right tools for the work, or that these particular brands and models are the best available. Other repairmen with equal ability but with different working habits would select different equipment. Thus, one right answer to the question, "What tools shall I buy?" is not possible.

I can only list the tools and machines in my shop and let the reader judge for himself whether they suit his way of working.

A lathe, buffer and grinder, drill press and some kind of a small rotary power tool are the most used machines in the pipe repair shop.

An adequate lathe, including a $\frac{1}{4}$ H.P. motor, can be had for less than fifty dollars. It will cut threads and will hold a church warden stem between centers.

CHANGES THAT adapt this lathe for fast stem making include an extra long dead center and a knob on the carriage hand feed wheel. A four-jaw independent chuck and either a three-jaw universal lathe chuck or a three-jaw key chuck with a tapered shank are necessary.

The lathe is operated at about 700 R.P.M. for both rubber and plastic and the tools are ground to cut while the carriage is traveling in either direction.

My buffing and grinding rig is a grinding head with a belt and a separate $\frac{1}{3}$ H.P. motor. 5" coarse grit grinding wheels and 8" cloth buffing wheels are used. An obsolete vacuum cleaner is mounted with the scoop directly behind the grinding wheel and serves well as a

dust collector. A wheel dressing tool and a pair of safety goggles are needed to keep the wheel in good condition. "Tripoli" buffing compound is used for polishing both rubber and plastic.

A bench drill press with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " key chuck and driven by a $\frac{1}{2}$ H.P. motor easily takes care of all the drilling jobs. Mine is equipped with a box type switch on the wall and a toggle switch on the housing where it can be instantly reached should an accident occur.

An angle vise with a swivel base is bolted to a permanently mounted milling vise on the base. With this set-up it is possible to drill at any measured angle. The milling vise is a great time saver.

TWO SETS of high speed drills, wire gauges No. 1 to No. 40, and fractions $\frac{1}{16}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " are kept in marked stands. A few high speed taper length drills $\frac{3}{32}$ " and $\frac{1}{8}$ " are also very frequently used. Several carbon drills from $\frac{5}{8}$ " to 1" with $\frac{1}{2}$ " round shanks are used for drilling bowls.

A small flexible shaft machine hangs over the bench where I do hand work. It is rated at $\frac{1}{10}$ H.P. at 18,000 R.P.M. direct drive and 5,000 R.P.M. on the geared end of the motor. A foot rheostat controls all lesser speeds.

The tool holder is a small three-jaw key chuck in a ball bearing handpiece which does not become heated with continuous use. With an assortment of sanding drums, small saws and burrs, this is an indispensable tool.

A circular saw is necessary if any work is to be done with plastic. I use a 6" crosscut blade running close to 7,000 R.P.M. to cut 1" plastic.

Obviously there is more listed here than the average man will acquire over night, but I have tried to give you a complete list so that you will know about what is necessary for doing work of this kind.

POP'S PIPE CLUB NIGHT

[Begins on page 215]

laughed and then wanted to know if we did any knitting at pipe club. Well, I still maintain you can be a he-man and smoke pipes and also discuss recipes.

Seven-thirty rolls around and I have just finished helping with the dishes, tidying up the house and taking the boy's dog for a walk. (It seems like I always get the privilege of doing these chores when I'm going to pipe club.)

I don't have to fuss around packing my pipes because they have been packed in cases since late the night before . . . that is, all except the Peterson bulldog I'm going to be smoking when I get to Bill's front door.

About this time I pick up my pipe cases and as I start for the door I make my usual last minute speech: "Is there anything else I can do for you, dear, before I leave?" Then, of course, the usual answer: "Yes, dear, there are a lot of little things I want you to do, and you don't have to be the first one there everytime do you? You can be a little late this one time, can't you?" By this time I'm kicking open the screen door, pipe cases are stacked up to my chin. I barge right on out. For once I'm boss. This, you will remember, is Pop's pipe club night.

EIGHT O'CLOCK and as usual I am the first to arrive at Bill's. Soon the rest of the gang arrives, all smoking pipes and commenting very highly on the beauty and fine smoking qualities of each.

These remarks do not fool an old hand like me, for I know each pipe, and also that they are extolling the virtues of the pipe for only one reason: The pipe is for trade.

Bill begins: "I wouldn't trade this pipe for anything." I recognize the sign—Bill is too obvious with a remark like that. Now, I mustn't appear too obvious to get it.

So I ignore Bill and turn to Karl. He, too, is getting ready for action because he is telling what a wonderful rough billiard he has with the white "S" on the stem.

Bill doesn't want my pipe, and I don't want Karl's, but Bill would go for this rough billiard with the white "S".

So I strike up a trade with Karl. Bill is mad. He thinks I really *want* Karl's rough billiard. Instantly he wants it, and makes an offer. I end up with Bill's pipe.

Pop's pipe club night has gotten off to a fine start.

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
- Evolution of the Pipe
- Chinese Water Pipes
- How Meerschaum's Are Made
- What Is Amber
- The First Blend
- The Six Frankfurters
- Selecting a Humidor
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- What Is Deer Tongue?
- What Is a Record Pipe?
- Setting the Color of a Meerschaum

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MISCELLANEOUS

• **SALES** agents wanted. Nationally advertised Engineer pipe. See advertisement page 217. Write today for proposition. GERHOLT INDUSTRIES, Romeo, Michigan.

• **PIPES** made to order. You draw the design, I make the pipe. \$5.00 to \$7.50. Jumbo sizes slightly higher. Send your design today and ask for quotation. Stems repaired. J. H. BRADSHAW, 1124 Linden, Long Beach 2, California.

• **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.

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• **POWHATAN** Indian Pipe. Send a dollar bill for genuine "Powhatan" hand made Indian clay smoking pipe, replica of famous original Virginia antique. Long reed stem combined with porous clay bowl saturated with honey before kilning gives delightful smoking enjoyment. Postage prepaid. PAMPLIN PIPE CO., Box 100, Richmond, Virginia.

• **FIRST** quality pipes—straight grains—virgins. \$5 each postpaid. Send check or money order. PAVEAU, 9 East 48th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

• **ENJOY** clean sweet pipes. Wizard Pipe Sweetener is easy to use and guaranteed to clean and sweeten strong, sour pipes. One ounce bottle and 12 white fluffy absorbent cleaners, 25c postpaid. Money-back guarantee. GENERAL PRODUCTS, Box 993, Owensboro, Kentucky.

• **BLEND** your own pipe mixtures and enjoy the best. Write for free booklet "Tobacco Blending Made Easy", stating your preference of aromatic or non-aromatic tobaccos. GREEN RIVER TOBACCO COMPANY, Box 990, Owensboro, Kentucky.

TOBACCO LABELS

[Begins on page 205]

tractive as possible in order to get you to try the tobacco inside, but the manufacturer who offered a number of different cards in a series always placed them inside the package so that you would have to buy the package in order to know which picture you had been lucky enough to obtain.

These forceful little attention getters first began to appear around 1880. They served as a sort of a premium, it being thought that smokers would go for the little cardboards and would want to collect all in a certain series.

James B. Duke is credited as having originated the idea, and it worked very well until every company put out so many different labels that the public became so confused the labels ceased to become an asset to a packet of tobacco, and they died a natural death.

They were nearly always a riot of color. The Oporto label, upper right, contains every color of the rainbow, all of which are beautiful, and the artist's palette is in gold.

Some of the names given tobacco in those days were more than just unique. There were Big Deal, Crack Shot, Big Ring, Last Issue, Buffalo Bill, Hay Pole, Bull or Bear, White Seal, Red Seal, and Blue Seal—the latter three put out by different companies—Boss Sweeper, New Broom, Big Grizzly and Humpty Dumpty, to name a few.

THE LABELS illustrated here are some I obtained from an old lithographer who used to be an official of the Carqueville Lithographing Company, the firm that usually made the litho engravings for the large tobacco companies. I have had these for over 35 years.

I remember where I learned my trade some of the journeymen would send me out with a note to the nearest tobacconist to get a bit of tobacco for them, which was usually either Climax or Piper Heidsieck.

Some of the tobacco then available defied description. Take for instance Big Ring. On the label it is described as "Something entirely new, dainty delicious and delightful — flavored with Peach Brandy and Clover Honey. Percolated through minced Muscatel Raisens." It was a product of the Wilson-McCallay Tobacco Company of Middletown, Ohio, a firm that put out fine products and who seemed to specialize in fancy flavoring techniques.

Most popular of the labels, or, I should say, the cards inside the package, were those of people, either sports figures, famous actors and actresses, or soldiers. They were always ahead of scenes showing famous places, such as Niagara Falls or Yellowstone Park, or scenes of famous events such as the Revolutionary or Civil War battles. Contemporary scenes and events led his-

torical happenings in popularity, as might be supposed.

The cards had a certain educational value, for on the back of each card in one series which depicted famous Heroes of History was a complete biographical sketch of the man described. Another featured reproductions of crests of various organizations and lodges, and gave a short resume on the reverse side which told all about that particular club or group. Some organizations went so far as to ask the tobacco manufacturers to include their insignia on the cards.

Some of the labels or cards which included the price show a marked contrast to amounts paid today. On the back of the Adelaide Detchon card (lower left) may be read "Lorillard's Tiger Fine Cut—Two Full Ounces for 5 cts. Caution: Be sure every package has revenue stamp affixed."

The little cards did not serve as premiums or inducements of any kind. They were merely pretty little cards designed to attract the eye and create a desire to collect more of them into a complete set.

Sales zoomed upon introduction of this added feature, and prompted the other companies to join in. But like any craze or fad it failed to last.

Many of these colorful bits of paper have long since found their way into collections both private and public where they serve to remind one of a bygone day when you spent your money not for the tobacco but for the picture the package contained.

Headquarters for PIPES and TOBACCOS

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DEALERS: WRITE TODAY FOR DETAILS ON HOW YOUR SHOP CAN BE LISTED ON THIS PAGE



A Cartridge of Tobacco

NOTHING NEW for pipe smokers? Only the blind can say that. Certainly there is something new—constantly are new things being discovered and invented.

An excellent example of this is the tobacco cartridge which was first announced last fall. Readers of PIPE LOVERS heard about this new idea for the first time. The cartridge is not made of paper, but of spun glass.

It is, easily carried in the pocket, instantly ready to be placed in the pipe. Each cartridge carries just enough tobacco for one full pipe load. No ashes to spill—the spun glass sack soaks up the juices—and when the load is smoked, out comes the sack, ashes and all.

Something new? It certainly is. But where did you first hear about it? In

the pages of PIPE LOVERS, for this is the one magazine that keeps you up to date on all that is happening in the world of pipes.

It's the monthly pipe magazine that many predicted couldn't last *because there wasn't enough information available on the subject of pipes to keep it going.*

There is always something new to talk about, and the field of pipes is no exception. There always will be something new, and PIPE LOVERS will bring it to you, regularly, each month.

Be sure to get your copy as soon as it is published. It is available from your favorite newsstand, pipe shop, and wherever magazines are sold. It is the only magazine on the subject of pipes, and as a pipe smoker you cannot afford to be without it.

If you have friends who are pipe smokers, send us their names and addresses and we'll gladly send them a sample copy in order that they may see first hand the features of this new magazine.

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