

PIPE LOVERS

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN



WHO ENJOY A PIPE

25c

August, 1948



This Issue: Evolution of the Pipe ♦ What is Amber?
The Truth About War Surplus Pipes ♦ ♦ ♦

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Questions and ANSWERS

By **KEN BROWN**

If you have any questions 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 envelope for your reply.

Q. I am making a study of the Indian Peace Pipe which was often referred to as the Calumet. Can you refer me to any information or articles on this subject?—**J. S., Buffalo, N. Y.**

A. Two articles which may be of help to you on this subject appeared in the January (1947) issue under the title "The Calumet" and in the June (1947) issue entitled "A Half Million in Pipes."

Since the calumet is the name given the Indian Peace pipes you may find it referred to often in books about the American Indian.

Q. Can you tell me how many pipe manufacturers there are in the United States?—**F. G., Chicago, Ill.**

A. Including the large manufacturers and the individuals who make pipes commercially, I should guess about 400. This is a guess as I do not know. In our files we have a list of over 200, and I should think there are probably as many more whose names we do not have.

Q. What is the difference between a hookah and a narghile?—**J. P., Enid, Oklahoma.**

A. Both are water pipes, and are practically the same in construction except that the narghile uses a cocoanut as its water receptacle.

It should be clarified a bit by saying that originally narghiles were all made of cocoanuts, but later on they were made of metal and other substances, following very closely the original pattern, so much so that at first glance the commercially made metal narghiles appeared to have been actually made of cocoanuts.

Today any water pipe which is patterned after the original cocoanut design is called a narghile.

Q. Does a flaw in the wood hurt the smoking quality of a pipe. I have heard

this argued many times in many ways and everyone has a different theory. Can you please straighten me out on this? **P. S., Oakland, Calif.**

A. And this question probably always will be argued, too. The reason is that a lot depends upon the flaw, where it is in the pipe, and how it travels in relation to the grain of the wood.

A surface flaw on the outside wall of the pipe will not affect its smoking quality, but on the inside the chances are that it will begin a burn-out.

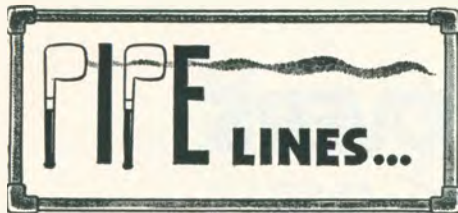
A thorough discussion of this subject is scheduled for next month's issue and I suggest you read it. It will make this controversial subject much clearer in your mind.

Q. Is it true that bent shanks accumulate less moisture than straight shanks? **R. L., Dayton, Ohio.**

A. I have never thought that this was true, and I see no reason to believe that it is. In my opinion this theory comes from the fact that moisture has more trouble in going uphill in a bent shank. As a result the smoker seldom gets moisture in his mouth when he smokes a straight shank. Therefore he erroneously assumes that the bent shank collects less moisture.

Q. Most advanced smokers or veteran smokers, especially the enthusiastic ones, seem to insist upon a virgin finish. Why? What is wrong with other finishes? **C. K., Red Oak, Iowa.**

A. Nothing. Sometimes a dark finish is employed to cover up a number of flaws, but not always. Dark colored pipes in the higher price brackets which are made by reputable manufacturers are all made of good briar, and this is easily proven by removing this finish. The preference is mostly personal, that's all.



Moist Tobacco

DEAR SIR:

I would like to pass along this little tip which I have found is a good one for keeping tobacco moist, and which I have never seen in your magazine.

I have tried numerous substances for keeping tobacco moist in the pouch, such as slices of apple, an orange peel, and so on, but the one I like best is a piece of celery.

This works exceptionally well, is slow to dry out yet gives off its moisture plentifully, doesn't give an offensive or foreign aroma to the tobacco like some of them, and doesn't mold, as do the others.

R. J. MARUSICH
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Real Briar

DEAR SIR:

I should like to call your attention to one of the questions which appeared in your June issue.

The question, which appeared on page 162, had to do with the wordings "genuine briar, real briar, native briar" and so on. Your answer was that these meant the pipe was made out of briar grown in the States, and that only pipes stamped "imported briar" were made of briar grown in the Mediterranean sector.

For the benefit of any English readers you may have, I feel you should state that here in Europe no manufacturer of pipes would stamp a pipe "real briar" and "genuine briar" unless it was made from briar root, i.e. *Erica aborea*, and the stamping of laurel wood, rhododendron, or any other wood with the mark "briar" would be a case of misrepresentation, subject to prosecution in the courts.

Your readers can therefore rest assured that when buying any imported pipe stamped "real briar," it is made from the roots of the *Erica aborea* which grows in the countries bordering on the Mediterranean.

ALAN L. ADLER,
Oppenheimer Pipes, Ltd.
London, England

¶ Thanks for your interpretation of the markings as used on European made pipes. A project for the future is adoption of uniform markings regardless of where the pipe is made.—Ed.

Truth Hurts

DEAR SIR:

I don't know whether I am pleased or very unhappy over the article on the first Calabash pipe which I read in last month's magazine.

Although I am glad to know when the first Calabash pipes were exported, I will now have some explaining to do regarding an old Calabash pipe which was given me some years ago by a man who said it had been in his family for almost 100 years. I thought I had an old pipe.

I guess it isn't as old as I have been told it was. You exploded my story concerning the age of the pipe. It's the truth that hurts.

JOHN CRONLIN,
Salem, Oregon

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MEERSCHAUM: Jan., '46; Feb., Aug., '47; Jan., '48.

PIPE MAKING: Feb., June, July, Aug., '46; Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., '47; Feb., '48.

TOBACCOS FOR BLENDING: Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., '46; July, '47; May, June, '48.

WATER PIPES: May, Oct., '46; Jan., May, '48.

HISTORY OF PIPES AND TOBACCOS: Jan., Dec., '46; Mar., Apr., Aug., '47.

CAKE, BURN OUTS, ETC.: Apr., Nov., '46; May, Nov., '47.

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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. 8

August, 1948

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Cover—This Chinese woman's pipe is 75 years old and features silver ends connected with a mahogany shank. The design is that of the Chinese water lily. The coolie holder is hand carved, and the Buddha tobacco holder, made of magnolia wood, features a removable face which reveals the tobacco held inside. From the Stanley Schultz collection.

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Pipe Lovers Magazine is published monthly by Cushman Publications, editorial and business offices located at 532 Pine Avenue, Long Beach 12, California. George W. Cushman, owner and publisher.

Entered as second-class matter January 21, 1946, at the post office at Long Beach, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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Ideas and opinions expressed in signed articles do not necessarily represent those of the magazine.

Subscription rates: To addresses in U. S. A. and possessions, \$2.50 per year, two years \$4.50; foreign countries including Canada and Mexico, \$3.50, two years \$6.50, single copies 25c, foreign 35c. Back issues the same. All subscriptions are payable in advance and should be sent to Pipe Lovers Magazine, 532 Pine Avenue, Long Beach 12, California. Report change of mailing address promptly giving both old and new address. Allow two weeks for change to take effect.

Advertising rates and requirements sent upon application. Publisher reserves the right to ask to see samples of products advertised and to request references from new advertisers.

Manuscripts and photographs submitted for editorial consideration must be accompanied by return postage. Publisher cannot assume responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts.

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 last of the series, concerns Ken Brown, Associate Editor.)

THE MAN with all the answers on PIPE LOVERS' staff is Ken Brown, small in stature, perhaps, but mighty big when it comes to knowledge of pipes.

Ken feels he knows very little about them and is continually bemoaning the fact that there are no sources of information available on the subject. Actually, however, he has devoured every book and article which has anything to do with pipes or tobaccos, and is virtually a storehouse of information.

It is for this reason that PIPE LOVERS chose him to take care of readers' inquiries and questions pertaining to pipes and all things related to them.

Perhaps from this one would gather that Ken knew it all. Far from it. He is often stumped with questions which he receives in the day's mail, and nothing gets him excited more quickly than some inquiry which he cannot solve.

Then he dives into action. He exhausts all the reference material at hand (which is a small library in itself) and sometimes ends up writing a few letters in an effort to obtain the information desired.

WHEN SOMEONE asks Ken what his hobby is he replies "Research on pipes." He has been following that hobby for over ten years, and he never lets up. He has received many letters, he declares, which have sent him off on a long search in an entirely different line of thought—a branch of pipe lore he has not considered before.

Ken first took up pipe smoking 12 years ago and, as he puts it, "I just puffed. I thought a pipe was something to hold tobacco, and that was all the attention I gave it."

Then, a couple of years later his girl friend (now his wife) gave him

a very fine Algerian briar pipe for his birthday. This was by far the nicest pipe he had ever owned, and his interest in pipes began.



KEN BROWN

Ever since then he has been actively collecting all the data and information on the subject that is possible to obtain.

Collecting, he says, never bothered him until, a few months later, he found that he had quite a large number of pipes which had been given to him by friends, plus a few which he himself had purchased.

"Whether I wanted to admit it or not," he says, "I suddenly realized that I was a collector."

HE HAS never paid much attention to a pipe unless it gave him a good smoke, and he has seldom cared for pipes purely for their beauty or history. He wanted pipes that he could smoke and enjoy, and if they weren't capable of giving a good smoke, he either hid them in a bottom drawer or got rid of them by trading or selling them.

But recently, he admits, the collector's bug has bitten him, and a good bite it has been. He says now he is going to have two collections—one of pipes he can smoke, and the other of the finest old pieces he can find, from old clays to fine meerschauams.

Ken's favorite style is a bull moose, and he smokes this style almost to the exclusion of all others. He long ago lost track of how many pipes he has, but it is safe to say that he could smoke a different pipe every day for almost two years without once repeating.

Tobacco? He doesn't smoke any one kind or type all the time. He prefers a light aromatic, although there are several to which he switches for a change. And when he can't find just what he wants, he blends his own.



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IN THIS column last month we commented on a suggestion we had received from a reader in Michigan who asked why pipe manufacturers never stamped the weight of the pipe on the shank.

We presented a few opinions both pro and con on the subject and requested readers to send in their opinions.

We got far more reaction to this idea than we had imagined we would.

Although we have not made a careful tabulation, we would guess that roughly 80 per cent of the letters were in favor of the idea.

Mr. Sarason, head of the Burton Pipe Company of Detroit, says, "The idea has merit. In my opinion it would be a good thing, but, of course, it would mean a more expensive product since the pipe would have to be handled at least two more times than ordinarily.

"However, it might not be so bad," he continues, "because certain shapes of bowls will all weigh the same. At one time when I sold pipes direct to the customer I used to take a postal scale along with me.

"I used the scale to prove to the buyer that the pipe was indeed as light as he thought it was."

HE GOES on to say that if the marking by the manufacturer should become impractical, each dealer could employ a small postal scale for the purpose.

Several dealers do just this thing, he says.

Mr. Carl Knight of St. Louis, Mo., pretty well sums up the general opinion most frequently expressed when he says, "In a pipe shop we are often confused by so many pipes, and after handling so many the weight factor is not too apparent.

"After we are home and have smoked a new pipe for a while it

often becomes too heavy (or too light) and is no longer smoked. We don't like the pipe because it is too heavy.

"If the weight were marked on the pipe we could then make our purchase with greater assurance."

Of the few letters which were against the idea was one from Lewis V. Hogoboom of Oakland, California, who says, "It wouldn't mean a thing. The length and type of stem are also determining factors as far as the 'pull of gravity' on a pipe bowl is concerned.

"A light weight bowl with a long stem would be pulled just as much as a heavier pipe with a shorter stem."

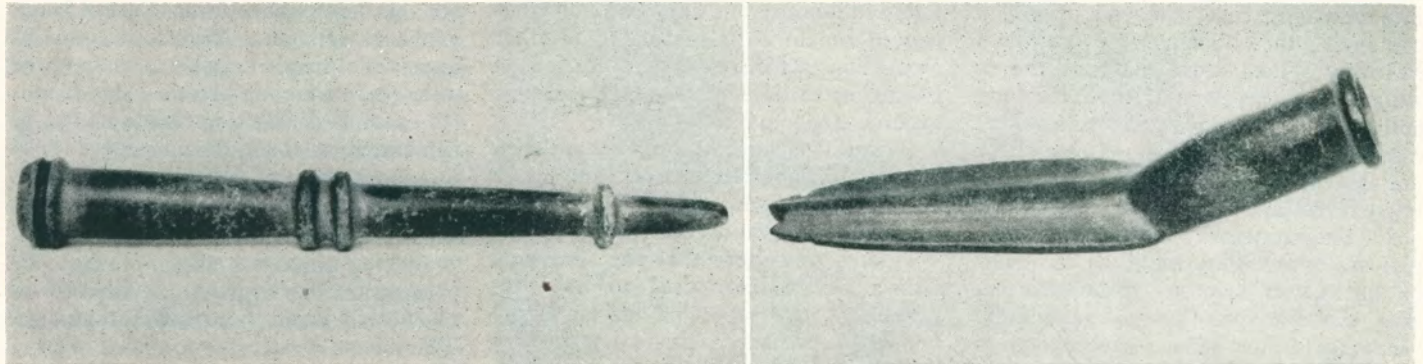
HE FURTHER goes on to explain that a heavy pipe with a flush type bit will be more difficult to support than the same pipe with a saddle bit. "This is because," he says, "with a saddle bit more of the bit can be carried between the teeth, which is, in effect, shortening the bit."

Another reader stated that the weight would have to be split into at least eighths of an ounce in order to be of value. Then, he explained, as soon as the pipe had a cake, the weight would be thrown off.

But the great majority of letters were in favor of the idea. Most of them stated that although the system would not be perfection in itself, it would be a helpful guide in buying a new pipe.

If a sufficient number of different opinions is received within the next few weeks, we shall comment on them again in a month or so. If you feel inclined to voice an opinion either one way or the other on the subject, please feel free to do so.

Several of the country's pipe manufacturers have expressed an interest in the subject and might do something about the matter if a sufficient opinion is expressed.



The first pipe was tubular in shape, the tobacco being rolled in a cylinder and placed in one end. It was not until many years later that the outer end of the tube was bent upward at a slight angle, thus forming the first resemblance of a bowl.

The Evolution of the Pipe

The Time it Was First Used is Still a Mystery, Although Indications are that The Tube Pipe Was Known 2000 Years Ago

By THOMAS MOORE

TO CHART the evolution of the modern tobacco pipe is to attempt the impossible, and the reason is that there are so many missing links. Whether or not the pipe shape as we know it today was invented to fill a definite need, or whether it developed over a period of several decades or centuries remains a debatable question, but from the evidence at hand it would seem that the latter is the more plausible of the two.

Before we can begin a description of how the pipe evolved, we should take a quick glance at the smoking practices many centuries ago and the methods employed.

Historians are generally agreed that man first inhaled smoke when it had an agreeable taste or odor. The lighting of fires for the purpose of sending smoke to the heavens in an effort to contact the gods is one of the first uses of fire solely for the smoke.

Various leaves and herbs were ignited

according to the customs of the different rituals and the primitive tribes which practiced this form of worship. It was soon found that some herbs and leaves gave off a smoke which had a pleasing odor to the nostrils. It is in this way that incense was born.

It was the early custom to light a small fire over which the native would stand and then inhale the smoke. Different leaves gave off different aromas with varying effects to those who inhaled it.

It is known that such practices were carried on as early as 3000 B. C. and are substantiated by inscriptions which have been found in the pyramids in Egypt. From here the practice spread throughout the other countries of the world, and is mentioned in both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

NOW WE approach the first of the "missing links," so to speak, for it has never been conclusively shown

that any implements were made for the express purpose of inhaling the smoke, at least in the Old World. The burning of incense and the use of the smoke was primarily for religious or ceremonial purposes.

But during all this time the Red Man on the North American continent was experimenting with a new plant (tobacco) which gave off an entirely different smoke when burned. This smoke, these people found, had a mild relaxing effect when inhaled, and the plant was burned as often for this purpose as for its part in any religious ceremony.

When Columbus set foot on these shores in 1492 he found the Indians so interested in inhaling the smoke that they had improvised and put into use small Y shaped tubes. The two upper openings fitted into the nostrils, while the smoke entered the lower opening and thereby was concentrated somewhat as it was inhaled. This is not generally

considered to be a pipe since it did not actually hold tobacco.

Now comes another missing link—that of transposing the Y shaped tube into one long tube, the end of which contained the burning tobacco leaf. What was used from the time the Y shaped tube was popular until the long hollow tube became the accepted smoking medium? Was this one grand change, or did it evolve through a series of other implements, and if so, what were they?

If the drawings and other hieroglyphics which were found in the ruins of the Mayan cities are to be believed, then the pipe was known some 2000 years ago. The Mayan civilization is thought to have begun a century before Christ, and reached its highest point around 500 A. D. Drawings which have been unearthed show individuals with straight tube pipes in their mouths. One of these drawings is reproduced at the left of the illustrations on this page.

In this instance the man is lying on his back and is smoking the pipe in a vertical fashion.

HOWEVER, NO proof has been presented to show that the Mayans inhaled the smoke or even tasted it. It is likely that these crude affairs were nothing more than portable incense burners, and by blowing through the hole at the bottom the smoke could be made to raise skyward. Also, the tube could be pointed in any desired direction and the smoke aimed accordingly.

The Mayan cities suddenly vanished through some catastrophe, and many of their unanswered secrets perished with them, leaving the true use of these tubes unknown. If they were actually used for smoking, it would seem that the art would not have been lost between that time and the year Columbus found the natives employing the less satisfactory

Y shaped tubes. Perhaps some day some one will account for the missing link from 700 A. D. to 1492.

Some of these missing links have been found in more recent times through findings in Indian burial grounds and other excavations which have been carried on from time to time by various geographic societies and museums.

By studying these findings we are able, in a rather humble sort of way, to be able to piece together what actually occurred in the evolution of the pipe.

Historians believe that the first pipe was a device improvised to hold together a group of rolled leaves. Large hollow reeds served this purpose very well, and the leaves, after being rolled, were inserted in one end of the tube while the native inhaled on the other end.

Since reed burned, someone thought of trying stone, and the first pipe was born. An example of this "first pipe" is illustrated at the top of page 231. This pipe is some 25 inches long and was unearthed on Catalina Island. It was used many years before Columbus landed. This find would indicate that West Coast Indians had employed the pipe before those inhabiting Eastern shores, since no pipes were reported as having been seen by Columbus' men.

HOW LONG the straight tube was used is anybody's guess. It may have been a few years or a couple of centuries, although the shorter length of time is indicated. Its development seems to have been pretty general all over the Western Hemisphere, although it is most likely that some Indian tribes progressed more rapidly in pipe design than others.

The next step was to bend the outer half of the pipe upward so that the leaves would have less tendency to fall

out and also permit the user to smoke the pipe without having to tilt his head backward.

This was soon followed by rounding out this outer end to form a sort of bowl, and here, it seems, progress stopped for some time, since the pipe now appeared to be perfect from a practical standpoint. An example of this stage is the stone pipe illustrated at the right on page 231. It was unearthed in Wisconsin and indicates considerable attention was given to its formation.

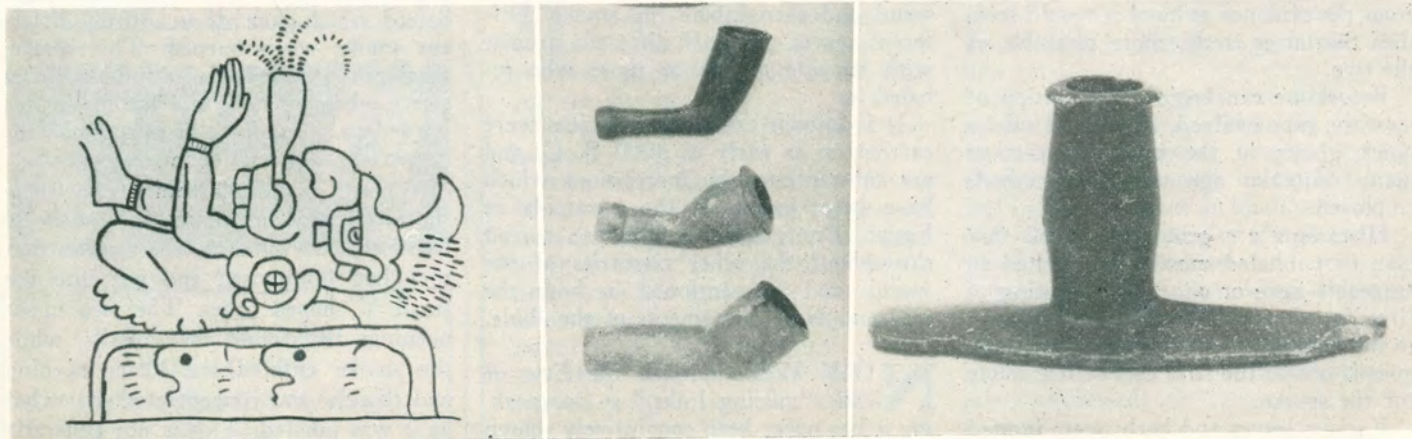
By the time the angle reached approximately 45 degrees, the smokers of the world were pretty well satisfied. This shape continued for well over a century, and, as far as Churchwarden and similar clays are concerned, may be said to still be in use today.

When pottery pipes were first used is a matter of speculation simply because the substance itself is not such that it will survive many years of rough treatment, and many of those that were buried were soon destroyed. But from the few that have been unearthed and which have found their way into museums, a little more knowledge concerning the fascinating history of early pipes may be found.

In the center illustration shown on this page may be seen three pipes, one of which is made of pottery and which dates back to pre-Columbian times. The pipes are crude in construction but show the "style" of that era. The top two are made of stone and were found in North Carolina, while the one at the bottom is made of pottery and was unearthed in Liberty County, Georgia.

Were it possible to ascertain the probable date of these pipes, the chronological description would be much easier to record, but historians know only that such sites were "pre-Columbian" and we

Left, this drawing found in the ruins of a Malayan temple shows the vertical position in which the early tube pipes were smoked. Center, primitive pipes showing the angle between bowl and shank. They are of American origin. Bottom, monitor pipe.



must be content with no more information than that.

It would appear that tribes in the northern latitudes of the continent were more advanced in their pipe making. Whereas the Indians in the southern sections were using the small Y shaped tubes, pipes with a definite bowl were being employed in what is now the United States, and more advanced designs were in use by Indians in what is now Canadian territory. An example is the "monitor" pipe shown on the opposite page and which was uncovered on Wolf Island, one of the Thousand Islands in Ontario. It is thought to be pre-Columbian since it was found at a "non-contact" site.

THE PIPE among South American natives was also progressing, and judging from pipes found there the same improvements were being made in bowl construction and design. The top illustration on this page shows three pipes which were unearthed at the "Los Tamarindos" site on the shores of Lake Tacarigua in Venezuela and which date back at least five centuries.

The similarity which remained for many years is shown by comparing these early Indian pipes of South America with some of the first English clays pictured below them. In general pattern they are remarkably alike, even though the white English clays were later by at least 200 years. This indicates little change in pipe pattern during this period.

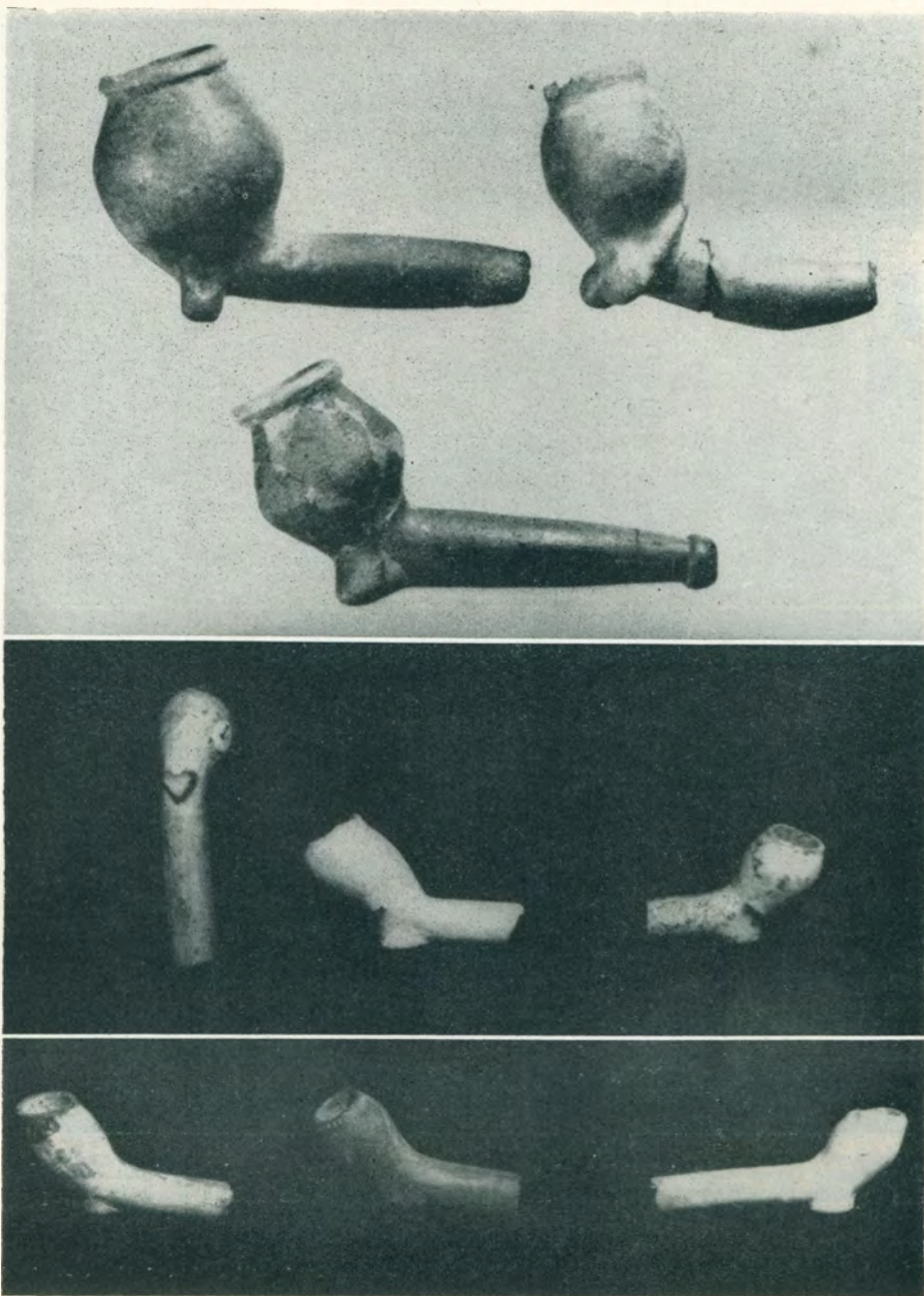
The third and last major change to appear in pipe design is the placement of the bowl at right angles to the shank. Examples of the bowl at 90 degrees are found in mounds and other excavations, but they were the exception rather than the rule.

Numerous decorative pipes with an upright bowl would indicate the advantages of a bowl in this position were known at an early date, but the fact that this style did not come until later adds to the belief that the style was purely for ornamental purposes, since few "regular" pipes of this early era are found with a 90 degree bowl.

The change to the upright bowl has been the slowest of all, and may be said to be still going on, for the present day Irish clays remain at the 45 degree angle.

The conversion began in the latter part of the 17th Century, mostly in Europe, where smokers found the upright bowl was the best solution. There it has remained and probably always will, for where else can it go?

It is interesting to note that the size and shape of the bowl have not changed. They have remained about the same for



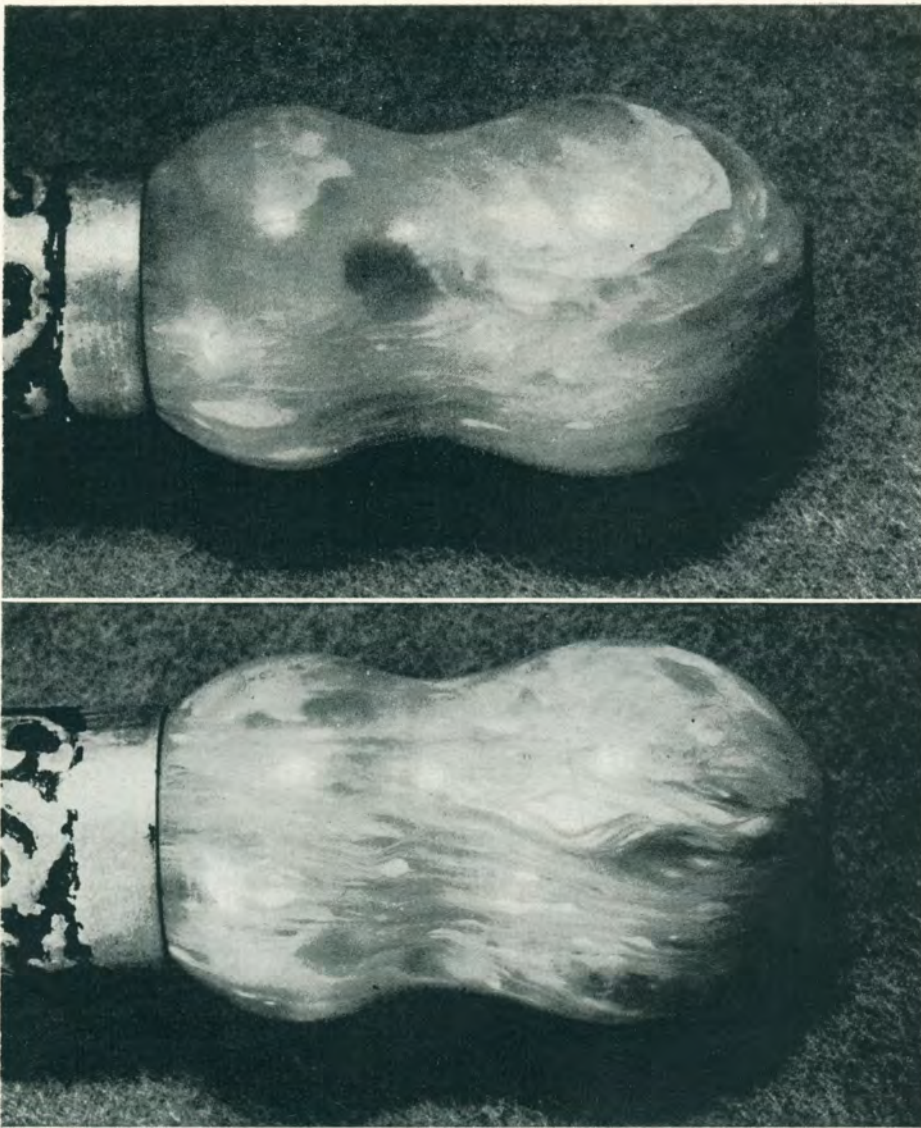
The bowls have taken definite form on these early pipes. Top, pre-Columbian pipes from Venezuela. Below, early English clays of a much later era, the 17th century.

centuries, although the once long stem has been shortened.

Pipes intended for smoking day in and day out have always been plain, and probably always will be. Pipes in every conceivable shape and style have been made and sold and will no doubt continue for centuries. And although these pipes were smoked considerably up to 50 years ago, the present pipe enthusiast prefers to let the ornate piece rest on a mantle or in a display case while for true enjoyment he selects a small, portable, light weight pipe of wood, usually briar.

It appears doubtful that there will be any subsequent change in pipe style or shape, and the pipe as we know it today which has evolved from its primitive hollow reed to the modern design is satisfactory in practically all respects and leaves little to be desired by the 20th century smoker.

The evolution and development of the various individual pipe shapes which were created and used by the peoples in different parts of the world have not been touched upon in this discussion, and since each is a story in itself, these we shall leave for a later date.



Two views from opposite sides of an amber mouthpiece scarcely an inch long show the rapidly changing graduations in this ancient substance dating back to antiquity.

By FRANK E. SMITH

AMBER, ITS HISTORY, and the fascinating story it has to tell, is one of the most interesting of all objects connected with pipes and pipe lore. Its use as pipe stem material dates back over 200 years, but amber itself dates back more than twice as many centuries.

All pipe enthusiasts are familiar with this golden yellow substance which has been used for pipe bits, often being considered the best of all substances ever discovered for the purpose.

Its high price prevents it from appearing on only the finest pipes, the

price now said to be five dollars an inch and up, depending upon the quality.

The reason amber is preferred for stems is twofold: First, its genuine and unmatched beauty, and second, its durability and resistance to biting by the teeth in spite of its relative brittleness.

But neither of these were the reasons why amber was first used as a pipe stem. The Turks are credited with having first used this substance in this manner.

And the reason? Amber, for centuries, had been considered to have medicinal values and was used in the treatment of numerous diseases. The Turks, in their custom of passing the pipe from mouth to mouth, felt that if the bit were made of amber it would prevent the transmission of infection as the pipe was passed from one smoker to another.

Thus was amber first used as a pipe stem.

Obviously, only the finest pipes were used on festive occasions, and consequently only the most valuable were equipped with the beautiful amber. In this way the substance was considered befitting only the finest pipe, and an amber stem has more or less been associated with fine pipes ever since.

AMBER DATES BACK to antiquity, and its formation began probably before man existed on earth. During the Miocene period, which geologists estimate was several hundred thousand years ago, the northern part of Europe had a tropical climate.

The Scandinavian countries, northern Germany and the Baltic coast of Russia had an abundant vegetation. Trees, unhampered by man's axe, grew large and plentiful, and much of the region was covered with a thick forest.

The cone bearing evergreens emitted a sticky, yellow jelly-like liquid called resin and which fell to the ground. Sometimes it was glutinous and formed icicles on the limbs while other times, under the heat of the noonday sun it would fall in drops as any liquid.

These jelly-like masses were quite sticky and soon ensnared various kinds of crawling and flying insects which soon were trapped in the mass and died there, and as the resin engulfed them it served as a preservative. Other objects

WHAT IS

besides insects would also be held by the golden substance.

Time passed, and as it did so the northern climes became colder and the forests withered and fell. The resins remained to become fossilized, keeping the little insects, snails, twigs, bits of bark and similar objects well preserved.

Much of the forest floor began to sink and in time became submerged and the "Blue Earth" came into existence. Old lands vanished and new lands appeared. The one time tropical forest had disappeared beneath the ocean's surface.

The Glacial period came and passed. The Baltic Sea was formed. Its waves, pounding against submerged beaches and cliffs, loosened the fossilized rem-

nants of these coniferous, age-old trees and carried them far out to sea. Then with each violent storm particles of the substance would be washed up onto the beach.

FOR MANY decades no one knew what this beautiful material was composed of or from whence it came. The name amber which was given it is generally believed to have been derived through the Spanish from the Arabic *anbar*.

The pieces of amber were gathered at ebb tide and were highly regarded as an object of ornamental beauty. Since it was not unduly plentiful it was continually in demand. Its procurement became big business.

With the exception of metals and ivory, there is no article of commerce of which the history can be traced so far back as that of amber. It was the search for tin and amber that, at a very remote period, first brought the ancients into the wilder regions of the west and north of Europe. A thousand years be-

ished between southern and northern Europe, and then began to falter. An increase in amber gathering expeditions especially to new sites slowly began to flood the market, and gradually the price began to drop. Finally, there was little demand for the product, since every housewife had all the amber beads she wanted, and because new objects, especially Roman coins, began to have more value.

Amber practically disappeared until the year 933 when it once more begins to appear in history. The demand was slow and due to the relative scarcity of the substance by this time it suddenly had value once more.

It has been valuable ever since, although in modern times its demand as beads and other ornamental objects has never been as great as for diamonds and numerous precious stones.

AMBER IS FOUND in numerous grades of quality. There are many theories behind the different types, which vary from absolutely crys-

primeval forest are the beech, birch, alder, hornbeam, poplar, oak, willow, fir, pine, and cypress, the last three being those most generally responsible for the resinous deposits.

Where the flow of the yellowish substance from the tree was watery, numerous objects were caught by it and this resulted in the cloudy amber, a good illustration of which is shown on the opposite page.

Where the flow was more solidified and less sticky, its masses remained transparent and account for the crystal clear pieces that are found.

Johann C. Aycke, one of the best authorities on the subject, is of the belief that much of the better amber comes from diseased trees whose trunks turned into this yellowish liquid, and as the trees died this substance hardened into what is today's best amber. The few large pieces of amber which have been found and which indicate the formation of tree growth or sections lend credence to this theory.

Amber is found all over the world, but only in the promontory of Samland, in East Prussia, has it ever been found in great quantities. Elsewhere it turns up only in very small amounts.

It varies in color from dark earth-brown to black and from a deep yellow to a rich hyacinth red. It has been found in small amounts in other colors ranging from blue to green, although its familiar golden yellow predominates. The opaque varieties are the most valuable.

In the few sections where it has been mined, it has been found in three distinct layers of earth strata. The lowest, known to scientists as the *blue earth*, contains by far the most and the finest quality. This stratum stretches from

(Continued on page 252)

This Ancient Substance Which Dates Back to Antiquity has Long Been a Favorite Material for Pipe Stems

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Since man was dependent upon the sea to provide the supply of amber (very little has been mined) the supply depended upon the weather, and the price would vary depending upon the amount accumulated and taken to the great amber markets of the old world. Hatria was one of the largest of these markets.

Amber often ranked with gold in value, although it varied greatly in quality whereas the quality of gold always remains the same.

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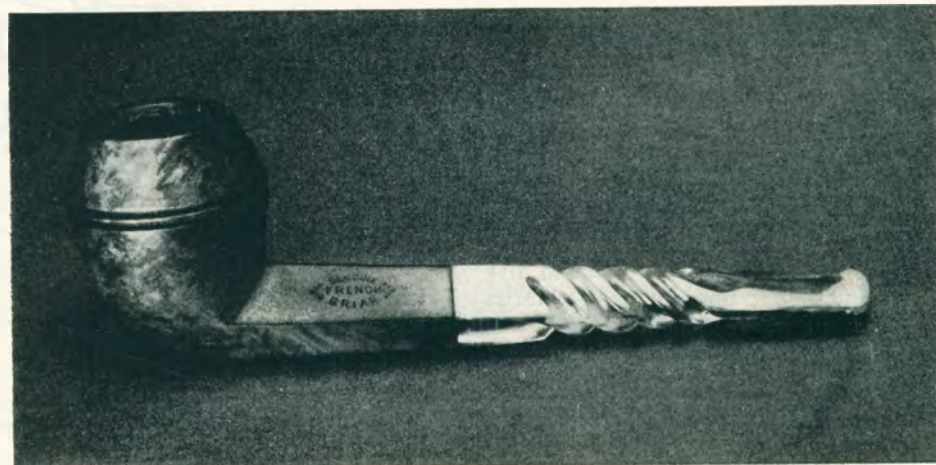
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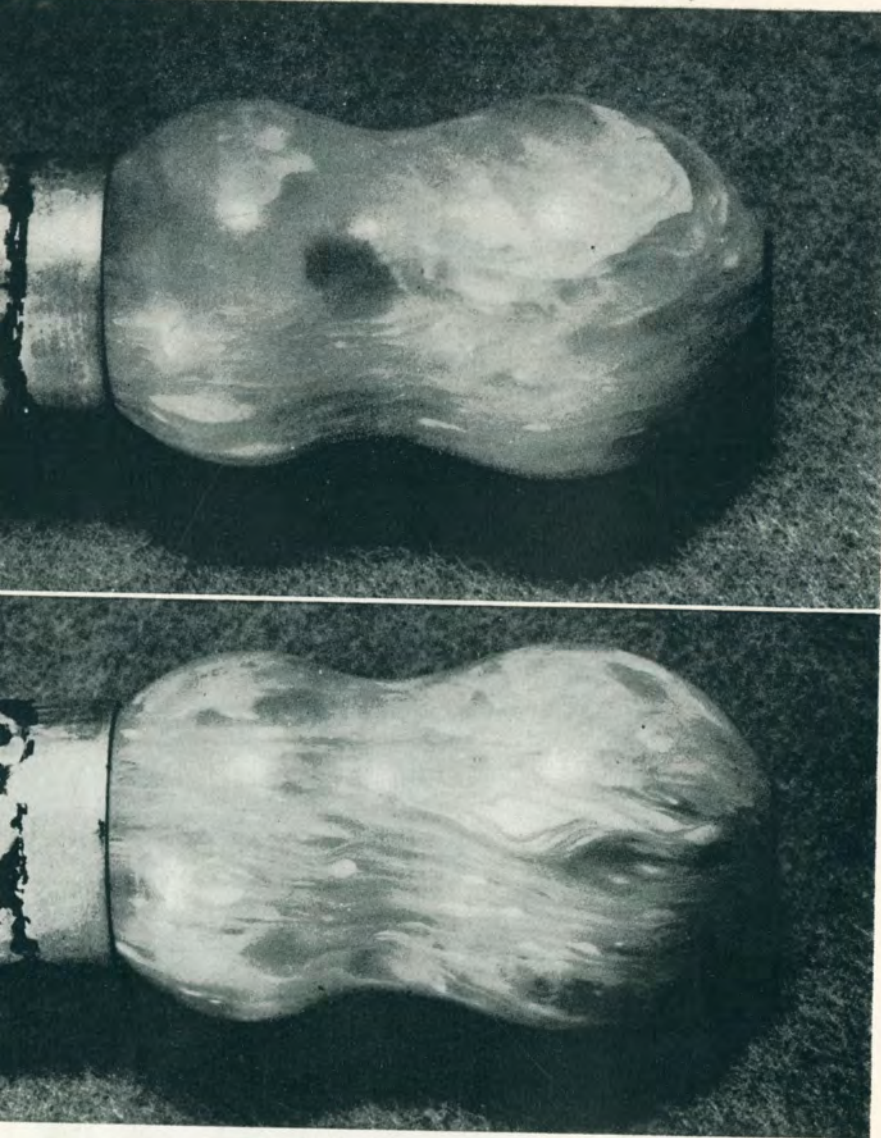
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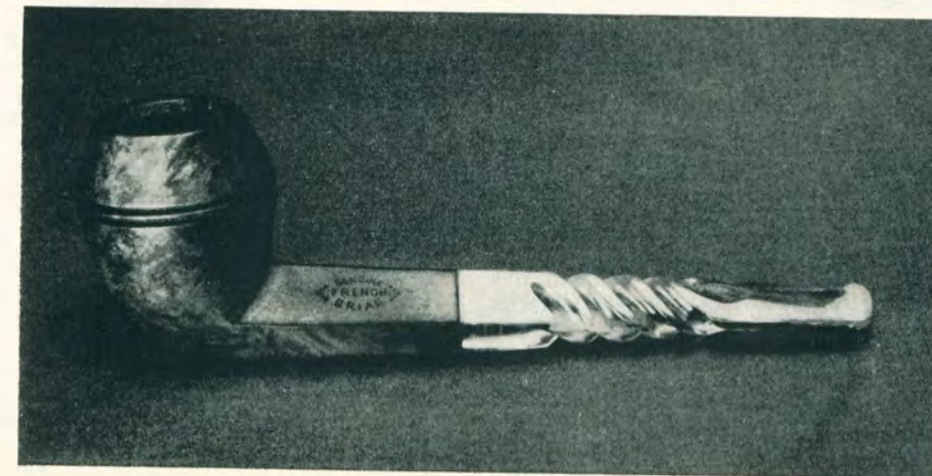
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AUGUST, 1948

By FRANK E. SMITH

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The Truth About War Surplus Pipes

This Article Gives You the Real Low
Down on Why Huge Lots of Pipes are
Now on Sale at Extremely Low Prices

By JAMES MORRISON
(Staff Writer)

RECENTLY IN the papers numerous ads have appeared announcing huge sales of "fine" pipes at ridiculously low prices. Often the ads announce something like "10,000 briar pipes, \$3.50 to \$5 values for only 89 cents while they last. Well known brands—in original boxes."

These are, to put it bluntly, war surplus pipes. Seldom have they appeared in reputable pipe shops, or, if they have, they have been correctly labeled for what they are and sold accordingly.

Generally these sales have appeared in such places as war surplus stores, jewelry stores, and at bargain counters in variety stores.

If they are such good pipes, why are they being offered at such low prices? A good briar pipe will keep, so why "dump" them on the market in such numbers?

Simply because they are war surplus does not mean that they are of poor quality, or defective in any way. In many instances the quality of briar as well as the quality of workmanship is as good as the manufacturer was able to offer during the war years of 1943 and 1944.

Therefore, in order to get the real picture we must go back four to five years and look in upon the pipe factories in this country.

When hostilities began, shipments of imported briar from Southern Europe ceased to arrive in this country. Stocks in local warehouses were soon exhausted, and as the demand for pipes increased

the manufacturer had two alternatives—go out of business, or use the best wood at hand.

The hills of North Carolina had been furnishing laurel and other domestic briars for some time, but not in any great numbers. Now, all of a sudden, orders began to pour into these mills from pipe manufacturers for large orders of briar burls.

The mills had no stockpile on hand, and since it takes from one to two years to properly cure a briar burl and make it right for pipe making, they were confronted with a problem.

WHAT LITTLE stock they did have on hand was soon exhausted, and it now became a matter of merely digging up the root and shipping it to the factory, with a minimum of curing being given the briar. In other words, the wood was quite "green."

The manufacturers well knew that pipes made of this green, wet burl would not give the owner a good smoke, but with a mounting wartime demand for pipes, not only from the public who suddenly found money flowing freely, but also from the government, they had to use this inferior wood or else go out of business.

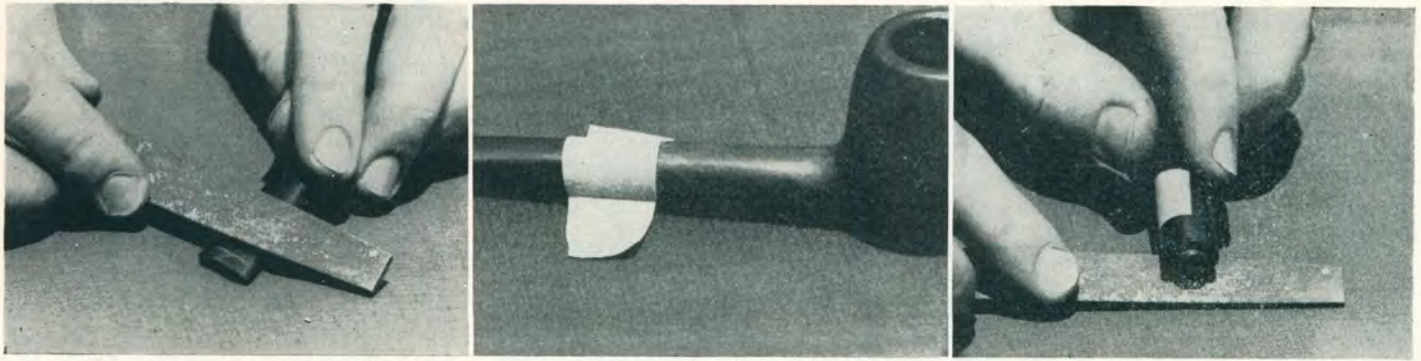
Now the fact that this wood was inferior is no reflection upon the briar grown in this country. It is of the same botanical family as that grown in the Mediterranean sector, and many experts claim that when it is processed correctly few smokers can tell it from the imported variety.

Thus the wood was not inferior, but the lack of proper curing rendered it inferior. But, good or bad, it went into pipes, and went on sale everywhere.

One or two well known manufacturer-
(Continued on page 250)



"Copy Cat!"



Left, it takes but a few moments to file new teeth grips in a broken stem. Center, a piece of adhesive tape protects the stem when working on the shank. Right, new tenon is filed to replace one that has broken. Tape serves as guideline.

YOU DON'T HAVE to be a carpenter, mechanic, or machinist to keep your pipes in good repair. In fact, you don't need a machine shop or an elaborate set of tools, either. You can do a lot with not much more than a file.

The fellow who has a little spare time and who is willing to devote a few minutes now and then to keeping his pipes in tip top shape will find it not only fascinating to watch the old pipe transformed, but will learn a lot about pipe care in the process.

When the lip on the end of a pipe stem becomes broken or bitten off, new notches for teeth grips on the end can be easily made in a minute or two. It may turn out to be more practical than artistic perhaps, but at least it will enable you to continue using the stem until a new one can be obtained.

Hard rubber files easily, and although the lip cannot be as deep as originally, it will suffice. The edges are then rounded and smoothed off and the pipe is ready to be filled and lighted again.

When working on a shank, such as doing a refinishing job, and it is not advisable to remove the stem, its glossy surface can be protected from file or sandpaper scratches by wrapping it tightly with adhesive tape.

When the tenon in a pipe breaks, it is but a simple matter to file the old stem down to make a new one. The task is not a quick one, unless the worker has a lathe handy, in which case a new tenon can be made in a matter of minutes, but I have frequently repaired broken stems with no more than a file.

Of course, the repaired stem will be a tenon's length shorter than it was originally, and it may not fit as snugly as a professional job, but it will keep the pipe in service for a long time. The exact length of the new tenon can be

Fix it Yourself

You Don't Have to be a Carpenter Or Machinist in Order to Make a Simple Repair on a Broken Favorite

By FRANK K. YOUNG

marked as illustrated above (right) with a piece of Scotch tape. This permits the file to keep the line even at all times. Frequent measuring is necessary to insure a good, even fit.

IF THE SHANK is only slightly split, the crack can be tightly closed and the splitting stopped by use of a metal ferrule of the correct size. If you have none on hand, perhaps you can make one that will serve the purpose.

I once obtained a strong and durable brass ferrule from the wooden handle of an old-fashioned screwdriver. If you merely wish a strong band to prevent the shank from further spreading, you can get one by filing out a section of a large brass cartridge casing.

When a bowl cracks or burns out, the good stem may be made to fit an undamaged bowl whose stem is broken. Sometimes, the hole in the shank can be slightly enlarged to accommodate a stem with a larger tenon.

If the tenon is too small, it can be enlarged to the desired thickness by wrapping it tightly with a narrow strip

of gummed paper tape. Should the stem be slightly smaller than the shank, the shank can be sanded down to make a smooth, even joint.

Heating the tenon and then pressing it against a table top will cause it to enlarge sufficiently to also fill the hole in the shank.

Small nicks and scratches will sooner or later appear on the sides of the bowl and on the shank. Fine sandpaper is preferred over a file in removing them since the sandpaper is less likely to change the contour of the bowl that might occur with a file if it were used improperly.

If the scratch is very deep and the worker is particular, it may be necessary to remove an equal amount of wood from the opposite side of the bowl in order to retain the symmetry of the pipe.

Such preliminary work should be followed with very fine sandpaper, and lastly the application of crocus cloth which leaves a very fine finish in itself.

Obviously the stain will have been removed in these spots, and it may be

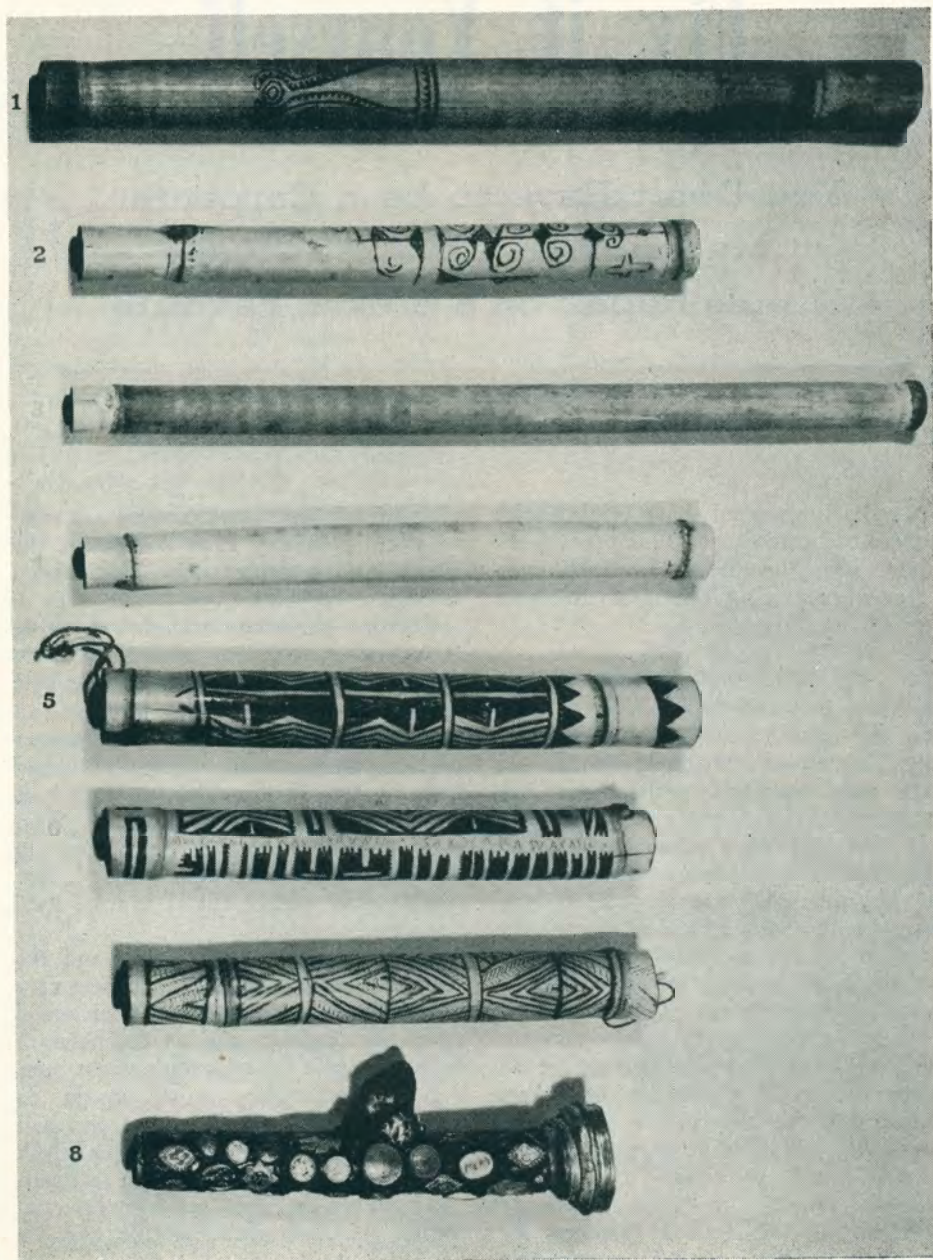
(Continued on page 252)

Papuan Trade Pipes

Choice Mountain Grown Bamboo is Used in Making These Pipes Which Are Smoked in an Unusual Manner

By W. C. HARVEY

The pipes are made of thick sections of bamboo, with holes in one end and on one side. Why the pipes are made and how they are smoked are told in the article.



A MORE INTERESTING pipe from the standpoint of why it is made and how it is smoked does not exist than the famous bamboo pipe made by the natives of Papua.

From an artistic viewpoint, or as a work of art, the pipes have little to offer, for they are little more than a large section of bamboo with two holes, one on the side and one in the end.

How do the Papuan natives smoke these pipes? They don't. Strange as it seems they make lots of pipes, but they don't smoke them, or at least more than just a few of them.

The reason is that the Papuan makes his pipe not to smoke but to trade, and it is constructed from a standpoint of how much it will bring in barter from another tribe.

One reason it is so easily traded is that the Papuans live at a high altitude in the mountains of New Guinea. This is where the largest and best bamboo may be found, and the coastal inhabitants do not have access to it.

During the years these mountain people have discovered that their large bamboo pipes have a rich trading value with their many neighbors and create these pipes for that reason alone.

THE PIPES ARE exclusive to these people, and in exchange bring ornaments, weapons, food, and numerous other commodities which the mountain native does not have.

In making the pipe, the Papuan selects a nice piece of bamboo, often three inches in thickness, removes the nodules from within, and thus forms the tube. If the section chosen has solid ends, so much the better. If not, end pieces are made and inserted.

A small hole is made in one end, and another is placed along the side, usually near the opposite end from the first hole.

The markings on these pipes are distinctive and they can be identified as to the clan that made them. They are identical with markings which will later be tattooed on the chest, back, arms, or legs of a young man who is being initiated into manhood as he approaches maturity.

The method of smoking the pipes is even more strange. The pipes are traded to numerous tribes including the Gudangs of Cape York, the Murray Islanders, the Dalrymple Islanders, and various others.

It is the custom of the smokers to take a small cone of green leaf and insert it into the small hole on the side of the pipe. The cone is then filled with

(Continued on page 253)

INTEREST IN pipe smoking contests was revived last month with two such events being held, one in this country and the other in Canada.

In Pensacola, Florida, the first round of a pipe smoking tournament was held at Bowman's Pipe shop. The photo at the right shows the contestants just before the preliminaries got under way.

According to Arthur D. Bowman, who sponsored the contest in the southern city, 20 men competed whose ages ranged from 18 to 82.

The winner was C. E. Roose who kept his pipe going for 41 minutes and 35 seconds. Mr. Chesser was second, puffing away for 36 minutes and 30 seconds while a close third at 35 minutes was Walter Johnson.

Each contestant was given a normal pipe load (1/16 oz.) of Mixture No. 79 tobacco which had been carefully weighed previous to the contest and placed in cellophane envelopes.

The bags were then placed on a table and each contestant was allowed to make his own selection. There were several more bags than contestants, so the last man still had a choice.



This is the scene of battle shown just before the boys lighted up at Bowman's Pipe Shop in Pensacola, Florida. C. E. Roose outsmoked these other 19 entrants to win.

Two More Pipe Smoking Contests

Two matches, kitchen type, were given each contestant, but only one light was allowed. The second match was to be used only in case the first one broke or failed to fire.

Three judges governed the proceedings, one of whom served as timekeeper. It was up to the three to decide when any of the contestant's pipes had gone out thus eliminating him from the contest.

The shortest smoking time was one half minute. This contestant failed to get his pipe properly lit and as a result it went out almost immediately.

A sizeable crowd was on hand to watch the proceedings and the whole show was of interest to young and old alike. As soon as the marathon had begun,

many of the spectators began to pick favorites and root for them.

Mr. Poulton, the 82 year old contestant, was the leading favorite and found many of the audience cheering for him. He was indeed a perfect picture of pipe smoking contentment. (He is seated closest to the camera in the above picture.)

However, his pipe had been incorrectly lighted and this was the cause for his pipe to go out in only 17 minutes. His elimination was a keen disappointment to the crowd.

Three more contests in Pensacola are scheduled and by the time this appears

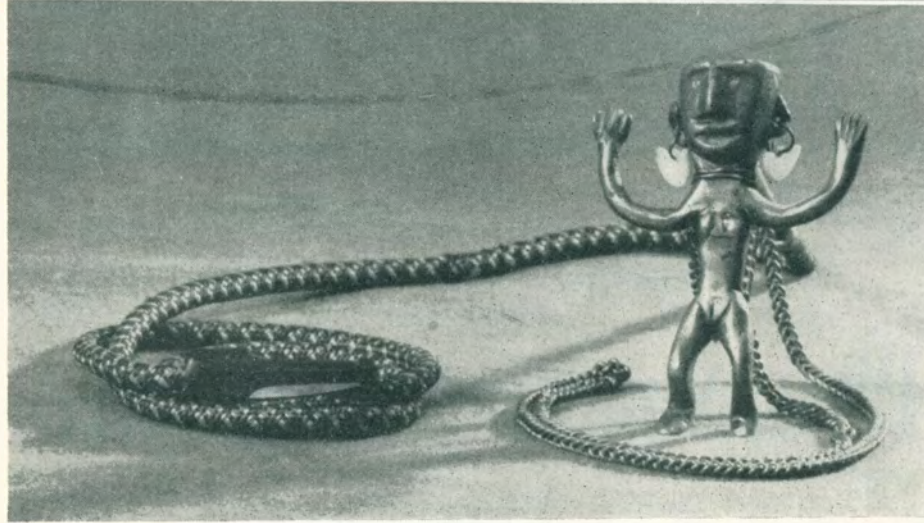
(Continued on page 252)

WINNERS IN PIPE SMOKING CONTESTS

As reported to PIPE LOVERS Magazine

- CHICAGO, ILL.—Joseph Johnson, 87 min. 45 sec.
- SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—Alfred Nessler, 88 min. 55 sec.
- NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.—Franklyn Sullebarger, 64 min. 42 sec.
- PENSACOLA, FLA.—C. E. Roose, 41 min. 35 sec.
- TORONTO, ONT.—Leslie Welch, 40 min.

(Times are not comparable since bowl sizes and amounts as well as brands of tobacco were not the same in all contests.)



Top, this Austrian or German meerschaum with ivory bit is thought to be about 200 years old. Bottom, metal figurine pipe of India shows native craftsmanship.

THE AVERAGE collector begins by attempting to obtain every kind and type of pipe he can lay his hands on. This is as it should be, for there is no better way to learn pipes than by actually owning them and then studying them.

Unless the collector is well fixed financially and has a mansion in which to display his pipes, he will soon find that his collection is beginning to "take over the house" and he finds breathing room at a premium,—he must soon hang his hat outside.

When this time comes, the collector is often faced with the question of whether he should collect all kinds and types, or specialize on one particular class of pipe to the exclusion of all others.

There are sound reasons behind either choice besides the problem of adequate

display space and a somewhat unlimited supply of capital.

The collector who specializes on certain types, such as, for instance, carved meerschaums, will obviously have fewer pipes, and he will find them much harder to obtain. This will be offset by the fact that his collection will appear unified and will be more than a heterogeneous accumulation of odds and ends.

On the other hand, the collector who spreads his interest over all pipes is continually finding something new and different, and his collection seems to be ever changing, to himself as well as his friends.

Specialists often are active in groups of two or three, with a meerschaum collector, a porcelain collector, and an Indian collector keeping an eye out for the others' interests. If the first spots an unusual tomahawk pipe he will im-

mediately advise the third, and versa.

The general collector must alone, and he keeps an eagle eye on any pipe he can find. If he is a collector, he will obtain every pipe he sees, for although he may have like it, or not want it himself, he sooner or later run across someone has been looking for this very specimen and can effect a very profitable trade.

The specialist may further divide his collection as to certain types (such as meerschaums of animals only) or created during a certain period (such as 19th century porcelains) and will delight in the more vigorous search necessary by this narrowing down of the field in which he works.

His activity will not be nearly so great as the general collector who acquires as many different kinds and varieties as he can.

SOME OF THE nation's best known collectors are specialists. Among the chosen fields are carved pipes all made by the col-

The COLLECTORS' PAGE

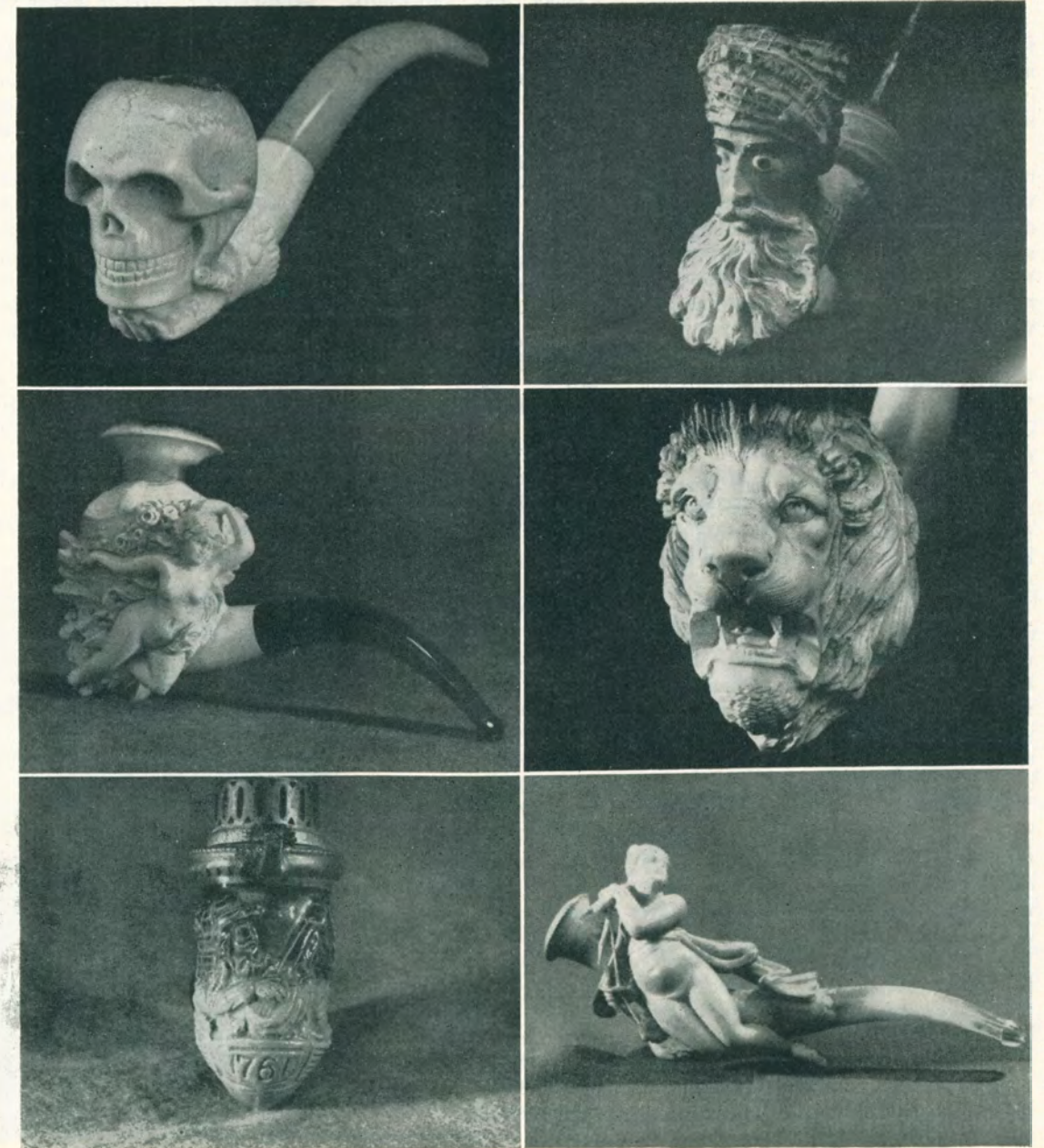
Specialized or General?

Advantages pointed on Both Sides of the Coin Regarding Specialized or General Collections

By IS

(Pipes illustrated from Schultz collection)

Top, left, a very fine meerschaum skull with amber stem. It is of Austrian manufacture and is 50 years old. Right, bearded Turk by Jacob Gambier, famous French clay pipe maker. Center, left, delicate hand carved meerschaum by one of the Austrian masters. Right, lion's head made of Italian meerschaum in Venice 50 years ago. Bottom, left, commemorative pipe made in 1930 to honor Austrian event of 1761. Right, flute playing nude of meerschaum with stem of amber, 75 years old.



himself, miniatures of famous collector's pieces, early English clays, or modern English briars.

One midwest collector will have only Indian pipes in his collection, and a California enthusiast will accept only pipes which do not look at all like pipes.

But practically all collectors start out as general collectors, and they do not turn to specialization until an interest in that particular field arouses them to the extent that they cease to consider any other pipe and exert all their energies in obtaining only those items related to their chosen field.

(Continued on page 254)



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The COLLECTOR

Specialized or Generalist?

Advantages are Presented on Both Sides of the Question. Specialized or Generalist?

By BOB ADAMS

(Pipes illustrated from the Standard Catalog of Pipes)

LECTORS' PAGE

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Breaking In the New Pipe

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BITTER "break-in" is eliminated from some pipes by a secret—and exclusive oil processing that removes all tars, tars, and foreign substances, leaving the briar clean and hard as petrified wood.

Thus your new pipe is conditioned for instant smoking pleasure. So don't apply rum, alcohol, or any other "break-in" treatment to the bowl as this only retards the natural course of mellowing.

However, you can get more from a new pipe by giving it careful consideration. Given the proper treatment, your new pipe will respond with a satisfying smoke that will grow more enjoyable as the years add to its mellowness. Following are a few simple guide-lines that will help you care for a fine pipe:

1. When filling the pipe, tamp the tobacco down gently from side to side. You should never press it down heavily since air circulation is needed between the particles of tobacco.

2. Fill the pipe only half way for the first eight or ten smokes as this starts the cake to form from the bottom of the bowl and is essential if a proper cake is to result in the pipe.

3. For the first few pipefuls smoke slowly in long, measured draws all the way to the bottom of the bowl. Do not knock the ashes out immediately, but instead allow them to remain in the pipe until it has cooled. The ashes absorb excess moisture and are an aid to building up the "cake."

4. Never scrape the inside of the bowl with a sharp instrument or knock the pipe on hard surfaces. In removing excess cake, use only a pipe reamer intended for the purpose, and leave a layer of cake at all times.

5. Make certain that the "cake" in the bowl never becomes too thick. Since the "cake" expands more rapidly than briar when heated, it may cause the bowl to crack or split.

6. Make sure the pipe is cool and bowl quite dry before refilling. The pipe should be cleaned daily.



PIPE CRAFT

Helpful Hints and Ideas that Make Pipe Smoking More Enjoyable

Pass 'Em Along

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Just what, I did not know, so I decided to look around furniture shops and similar stores for an idea.

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the drawers are revealed.

This looked to me as though it might be the answer to a tobacco blender's dream, and inside of a couple of minutes it was in my car headed home with me.

One of the drawers is subdivided into four sections, and I intend to partition off some of the other drawers in the same way. The cabinet is indeed easy and convenient to use, and I would recommend one of these old sewing cabinets to anyone for this purpose.

The only major alteration which will have to be made will be to add strips of felt to the top of each drawer to in this way render the compartments as near air tight as possible. As it is, they are a close fit, and a small humidifier in each drawer keeps the tobacco at just the right moisture content for blending and smoking. But the felt strips will decrease the frequency with which the humidifiers have to be soaked with water.

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Long Beach, Calif.



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The idea is to take an ounce of any smoking tobacco and mix into it the amount of ordinary tea usually contained in one teaball.

The tea has a soothing effect upon the tobacco and the smoke has a mild, satisfying, pleasing taste and feel in the mouth.

Different tobaccos, the same as different brands and kinds of teas, will bring different results, and those who

are experimentally inclined may want to experiment in this direction.

And as for keeping the pipe clean and in a sweet condition, you will find it does a swell job, believe it or not.

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I like to keep my pipes clean and looking nice, and spend a lot of time in polishing and shinning them, the metal ferrule included.

The briar and hard rubber retain their shine much longer than the metal ring, however, especially when the pipe is placed in a rack and not handled. Moisture and chemical gasses in the atmosphere bring about a quick tarnish, at least in this locality.

For a simple yet 100 per cent effective remedy, ask the wife (mother or girl friend) to borrow her bottle of colorless nail polish.

A very thin coating of the liquid is now placed on the metal ferrule which serves as an airtight seal. Being transparent, of course it cannot be seen, and it keeps the high gloss of the ferrule for an indefinite period.

And, just as easily, if for any reason it is desired to remove the coating, a bit of polish remover does the job in a few seconds.

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Lubrication with pencils and powder does not remedy the situation, it merely eases it for a temporary period. Later, the stem must be re-lubricated again.

What I do when the stem is too tight is to put some scouring powder or pumice on the tenon of the stem and also in the shank hole.

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Also, since the action is uniform over the entire surface of both areas, an even job is assured, and the owner knows that when he gets through he will not have a lop-sided, poorly fitting and poorly aligned stem.

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WHAT'S NEW...

Small Briar Diskets in Pipe Prevent Wet Heel Will Fit Most Pipes

Will Fit Most Pipes

Something new in the way of a wooden disc which prevents wet heel and keeps a pipe drier has recently been introduced by the Disket Company of Chicago, Ill.

The item is known as a disket and fits snugly into the standard pipe bowl. The sides are slightly tapered, thus allowing the disket to fit the slanted wall of the pipe.

The arrangement of holes permits the tobacco to be burned around the edges as well as just in the center, and permits the tobacco to burn clear to the bottom by keeping it dry. Tobacco particles are also prevented from entering the shank.

The little grates come six to a package and may be used repeatedly. When they become too dirty they can be instantly replaced.

The diskets are made of American briarwood and at this time are available only in the one standard size which fits most pipes. However, the manufacturer states that a smaller and a larger size are contemplated in the near future.

* * * * *



The diskets will be welcome news to thousands of smokers who have often used buttons and similar substitutes in the bottom of the bowl in an effort to keep the bottom dry and at the same time prevent slugs and tobacco particles from entering the shank.

Air-Tight Can Is Developed

The Can Manufacturers Institute has announced the development of a metal can for smoking tobacco that is claimed to be as nearly air-tight as it is possible to make a soldered can.

The Institute states its engineers have spent years of researching in the development of the container.

One of the outstanding features of the can is the hinge at the back that is formed from the solid body of the can, thus eliminating all openings. The top is said to be a perfect friction top that closes the can completely.

In announcing the new container, the Can Institute stresses the point that the content of the can is protected almost indefinitely and that the smoker will find it difficult to purchase stale tobacco.

Furthermore, the owner can smoke the contents at his leisure, be assured that the tobacco will remain fresh and moist, and that the last pipeful will taste as delightful as the first.

Rubber Pipe Tip Relieves Teeth from Undue Strain

Helps Prevent Tongue Burn



A new rubber tip for use over the end of the pipe bit has been perfected and is now being marketed by the Murphy Pipe Tip Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

The article is a small, almost inconspicuous rubber tip which is described as odorless and tasteless, yet firm enough to feel comfortable to the teeth. It helps protect both teeth and pipe bit from undue strain.

It helps prevent tongue burn and provides a cooler smoke because of an expansion chamber which allows the

smoke to expand and cool before entering the mouth. The vertical egress causes the smoke to cool still more by changing the plane in which the smoke is traveling from a horizontal to a vertical direction.

Also, the vertical egress is said to prevent moisture from the mouth from entering the pipe stem.

An additional feature is that the tip need not be removed while the pipe is cleaned. As illustrated here, a cleaner can be inserted in the stem and shank through holes in the tip.

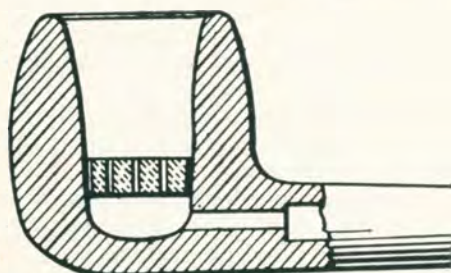


Diagram shows location of disket in bowl.

Marxman to Expand Its Series of Carved Heads

New Designs Being Made

It isn't every pipe enthusiast that can spend \$100, \$200, or \$500 for a very handsome hand carved pipe, yet many pipe lovers have a yen for items such as these in their collection.

With this thought in mind the Marxman Pipe Company of New York, makers of the famous Marxman Heirlooms, have created a line of hand carved heads which sell for a nominal sum yet which retain the individuality and craftsmanship of the higher priced models.

The pipes, created by old-line craftsmen, include the Indian Squaw, Knight in Armor and Monkey, shown above, as well as a Steer With Horns, a Horse, a Bulldog, Friar, Devil and Skull. Each carries the Marxman guarantee.

Marxman officials report the hand carved line has received such enthusiastic acceptance from pipe smokers thus far that they have decided to expand this unusual line and at the present time are working on additional numbers which will be announced in the very near future.

Pipecraft, Ltd. Is Organized

A new pipe company known as Pipecraft, Ltd., has been incorporated in Brooklyn, N. Y., by I. N. Moss of that city.

No statement as to the kind or type of pipes the firm will manufacture has as yet been made public.

Cherrywood Pipes Being Imported

Pipes made of imported cherry wood (weichsel) are now being imported into this country and distributed here by Ernest Lind of New York.

These pipes, Lind pointed out, are available in two styles with one type having a flat base and the other having a round base. The flat type can be used as a desk pipe, the flat base being used



as a stand.

He further stated that the retail price of \$1 which is being asked for the pipe is the lowest in years for this type of imported cherrywood pipe.

New Lighter Can't Get Lost

The new Zippo Loop lighter, recently placed on sale by the Zippo Manufacturing Co., of Bradford, Penna., is fashioned the same as the windproof Zippo pocket lighter, but has a sturdy "loop" connected over the hinge. This

loop can be fastened to a chain, strap or cord, and can never be left on a log or dropped. The "loop" does not in any way interfere with the mechanism of the lighter and it offers the smoker the assurance that his lighter will always be on hand.

The same exacting standards and unconditional guarantee, backed by a time honored free repair service, which have always characterized Zippo lighters, are incorporated in this new model, according to the firm.

Enlarged Bowl On Kleensmok

A new enlarged bowl on the Kleensmok Pipe has just been announced by the Kleensmok Pipe Company of Johnson City, Tennessee.

The new bowl contains 50% more tobacco than in the standard bowl, giving the owner an increased amount of smoking time from each pipeful.

The construction of the pipe remains the same and features the lower bowl which contains tobacco serving as a filter through which the smoke from the upper bowl must pass.

The Kleensmok is hand made of Italian briar and is available only in natural finish.

Finding the Ideal Blend Simplified With New Bar

Each Formula Is Recorded

One of the newest innovations to assist the pipe smoker in locating his ideal blend is this new LaFond Tobacco Bar which is now appearing in pipe shops throughout the country.

Dealers are installing the bar for the purpose of helping pipe enthusiasts to obtain a blend which suits their taste perfectly.

The pipe smoker can have available at his own request the personal tobacco blends that he alone desires. The five master blends can be rebled to suit the smoker's own particular taste.

He will then be able to purchase his own tobacco barrel, suitably humidified, with his own name burned into the wood in his own signature. The formula of



his own private blend is recorded so that when he wants a refill of his own mixture, the clerk can blend it for him and place it in his own barrel.

The bar, brain child of Joe LaFond of Detroit, also includes numerous accessories for pipe smokers such as pouches, lighters, tools, cleaners, sweeteners, reamers, and current pipe magazines.

WHEN MEMBERS of the newly formed club at Flint, Michigan, start for a meeting they leave their favorite briars and meerschams on the rack at home and select a corncob pipe, for they know that if they are caught smoking any other, they will get fined \$10.

Strict or not, that is the rule of the newest, and perhaps most unusual of the nation's many pipe clubs.

According to a description of the club which has been sent in by Paul Spaniola, Michigan's most enthusiastic pipe man, the Corn Cob Club of Flint was originated by Albert Lefers. Just why the group forsake all their other trusty pipes and smoke only a corncob at meetings is not explained.

The club started out with a limited membership of 12 members, but it has grown rapidly and now has 16 members—all corncob devotees.

The interest in the club is so keen that the members meet every Wednesday night from 8 to 10 p. m. Their report did not include what is covered on their program, but it is apparent they must have a good time to keep coming back for more every week.

It isn't women, for they have taken care of that problem by passing the regulation that no women will be permitted to attend meetings.

The group recently chose John Bowden as president, and Ernest Lenz was selected as treasurer.

The club has listed its address as 2406 Lewis Street, which no doubt is where the club holds its meetings. Whether this is the home of one of the members, a cafe dining room, or special club meeting room was not reported. Judging from the picture of the group above, it might be any of the three.

The \$10 fine for smoking anything but a corncob pipe shows the boys mean business when it comes to enforcing the rule. It's corncobs and nothing else for this organization.

Is this the first "specialized pipe club" in the country? Is there a meerscham club somewhere, a manzanita club, or a clay pipe club? We have no record of any such group but would appreciate hearing of any similar formation along specialized lines.

The Flint Corn Cob Pipe Club apparently has the distinction of being the first pipe club to limit its scope of activity, or at least its condition of membership to one particular field of pipes.

Knowing other clubs are interested in their programs and activities, we trust they will keep us informed of what goes on there each Wednesday night so that we may pass the information along to



These men constitute what is probably the oddest pipe club in the world, the Corn Cob Club of Flint, Michigan. Members cannot smoke any other pipe at meetings.

Pipe Clubs

Novel Michigan Group Will Smoke Only Corncob Pipes at Meetings, With Fines Given for Violations

other readers who might be interested in this type of club for future consideration.

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**

New Clubs

LEGION, TEXAS

Members of the Veterans' Hospital at Legion, Texas, are preparing to organize a pipe club, according to a recent report from Fred E. Fawcett.

"Several of the boys have been reading about the activities in other clubs around the country, and have decided to get going in the same way," writes Fawcett.

He has requested a copy of the mimeographed pamphlet "Suggestions on Organizing a Pipe Club", which was written and prepared by the editors of PIPE LOVERS and which is available to all new groups upon request.

Although Fawcett did not mention his mailing address, those in and near Legion who would like to join the group

or assist in its formation can probably reach him through the Veterans Hospital there.

Club News

ELKHART, INDIANA

Fred Beals has been appointed Indiana State Leader of the G. I. Pipe

Smokers' Club. He reports he is now making arrangements to go to the Percy Jones Hospital in Battle Creek, Michigan, for the purpose of distributing pipes and tobaccos to the patients there.

BURBANK, CALIF.

Members of the Lockheed Pipe Club have made the final selection on their club blend. From eight original mix-

tures the club narrowed this number down over a period of several meetings, and finally made their selection last month. The blend will soon be available in small packets, and will be obtainable in pipe shops in and near Burbank.

At a recent meeting the group saw three of the seven series of lantern slides from the PIPE LOVERS Magazine

(Continued on page 252)

PIPE CLUB DIRECTORY

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

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

ARIZONA
PHOENIX—
JACK MEYERSON
432 W. Washington

CALIFORNIA

BURBANK—
LOCKHEED PIPE CLUB
Rand Miesemer
4644 Verdugo Road,
Los Angeles

GLENDALE—
ED COPELAND
117½ W. Wilson

HOLLYWOOD—
C. W. DAVISON
726 N. Gramercy Place

LAGUNA BEACH—
FRED S. WHITFORD
160 Ruby St.

LA JOLLA—
HARRY B. OKEY, JR.

LING BEACH—
ROBERT SHERBONDY
338 Walnut

JS ANGELES—
S. COLTON
2065½ West 6th St.
CY PRUNER
3807 S. Hill St.

MONTEROSE—
C. E. YAGERLEHNER
3432 Las Palmas Ave.

PALM SPRINGS—
A. W. MURPHY
P. O. Box 968

SAN FRANCISCO—
ROBERT H. PURCELL
830 Hyde St.
FRED PARDINI
730 Avalon Ave.

SANTA MONICA—
ED KOLPIN
220 Santa Monica Blvd.

WHITTIER—
JACK CONGER
242 S. Bright

COLORADO
DENVER—
HENRY F. KOKENZIE
4211 Green Court

DELAWARE
WILMINGTON—
VINCENT PARKINSON
639 Robinson Lane, Shipside

DIST. OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON—
HILTON J. PATTON
24½-14th St., S. E.

FLORIDA
ORLANDO—
JOHN C. CALDWELL
P. O. Box 2987
MIAMI—
JIM HARVEY, SR.
Box 1310, Route 1

GEORGIA
ATLANTA—
BEN EUBANKS
Fulton Co. Ct. House

ILLINOIS
BERWYN—
JOSEPH SEBEK
3732 Lombard Ave.

CHICAGO—
HAROLD CLAUSSEN
2604 Milwaukee Ave.
WILLIAM HORN
1348 N. Lawndale Ave.

DE KALB—
C. R. MILLER
231 E. Lincoln Hwy.

DES PLAINES—
R. J. VANASEK
338 Warrington Rd.

GALESBURG—
FRED M. RAINEY
963 E. Main St.

INDIANA
FT. WAYNE—
ALFRED L. SHIEL
712 So. Harrison St.
INDIANAPOLIS—
PAUL H. CHILDERS
223 N. Alabama St.

LAFAYETTE—
DON E. DEUTCH
Box 200, Cary Halls,
West Lafayette

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

KANSAS
TOPEKA—
KARL L. KNOLL
2835 Burlingame Rd.

WICHITA—
WHITNEY WOODBURN
1305 N. Vassar

MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS—
WILLIAM J. ZIEGLER
47 Maryland Ave.

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

ESSEX—
FRANK O. HUNTER
1617 Rickenbacker Rd.

MASSACHUSETTS
BOSTON—
DON MacAFEE
655 Broadway,
Everett, Mass.

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

MICHIGAN
DETROIT—
JOHN F. MORAN
19481 Steel Avenue
CARL ROSSOW
18624 Brady Avenue

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

FLINT—
ARROWHEAD PIPE CLUB
Howard Wood, Sec.
517 Bush Street
THE CORN COB PIPE CLUB
2406 Lewis Street

LANSING—
LEONARD DEASON
2014 Beal Ave.

SAGINAW—
KENNETH SHELLY
2009 Handley St.

SWARTZ CREEK—
PAUL SPANIOLA
Paul's Tavern

MINNESOTA
ST. CLOUD—
AL TSCHUMPERLIN
MINNEAPOLIS—
BURTON G. STARR
709 N. Fremont St.

MISSOURI
KANSAS CITY—
BOND PERLETH
3722 Wabash
ROGER NAVRAN
621 W. 57 Terrace

NEW JERSEY
EAST ORANGE—
A. S. WEINER
10 Main St.

NEW YORK
AMSTERDAM—
M. M. ORANTE, JR.
80½ Forbes St.

FLUSHING—
S. N. LAKIN
65-35 170th St.

HEMPSTEAD—
DONALD E. SMITH
76 Prospect St.

NEW YORK—
W. P. COLTON, JR.
145 E. 74th St.

ST. ALBANS—
ANTHONY GREGORIO
113-40 196th St.

SCHNECTADY—
MOHAWK PIPE CLUB
C. A. Piercy, Pres.,
Box 27, Ballston Lake

UTICA—
JAMES F. PRONTEAU
1614 Clementian St.

OHIO
ASHLAND
BOB WALLS
305½ Cleveland Ave.

CINCINNATI—
JOHN F. GALL
3758 Montgomery Rd.,
Norwood, Ohio

CLEVELAND—
LEO STOOR
15201 St. Clair Ave.

DAYTON—
WM. L. DAHLE
1946 N. Main St.

GREENVILLE—
E. R. HUFNAGLE
P. O. Box 35

STOW—
P. V. RISINGER

TOLEDO—
JOHN A. MURPHY
1581 Jermain Dr.

OREGON
PORTLAND—
WALTER H. POST
6114 S. E. 87 Ave.

PENNSYLVANIA
GREENCASTLE—
ROSS S. PEARSON
33 E. Baltimore St.
LANCASTER—
GEORGE KING
523 N. Lime Street
PHILADELPHIA—
B. B. CHERRY
6107 N. 8th St.
PITTSBURGH—
MELVIN H. TELES
5423 Howe St.
SUNBURY—
C. L. SHINGARA
225 Walnut Street

TENNESSEE
MEMPHIS—
JACK ANDERSON
62 Madison Ave.

TEXAS
COMMERCE—
RALPH McDONALD
1108 Main St.
LEGION
FRED E. FAWCETT
Veterans' Hospital
LUBBOCK—
W. M. GOLDMAN
1302 Ave. N

VIRGINIA
NORFOLK—
L. H. LEEGE
Box 1921

WASHINGTON
SEATTLE—
CARL W. BROOME
943 12th Ave. North

WEST VIRGINIA
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232 W. Michigan St.

CANADA
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Z. FOXEN
4186 Clarke St.
TORONTO—
LEWELLYN LEWIS
233 Bay Street

National Associations

(Enclose stamped self-addressed envelope when writing)

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

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

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

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

Carl E. Miller
Wilmington, California

In my humble opinion the shank opening has a great deal to do with the coolness of the smoke. In fact, I would say it is the greatest factor of all those involved in obtaining a cool smoke.

By shank opening I am talking about the amount of air space encountered from the bottom of the bowl to the mouthpiece.

Obviously, when the smoke leaves the bowl of the pipe it is very hot—just about as hot as it can possibly be.

If it enters a small, short, straight tube leading to the mouth it will go by the most direct and fastest route and will have no time to cool. As a result it reaches the mouth in a very hot condition.

But if it enters a large chamber with, for instance, several cubic inches of air space (made possible in an extra large or extra long shank) it will not go directly to the mouth but will remain there for a few seconds between draws and will obviously become greatly cooled.

The water pipe is an excellent example of how the smoke can become cooled by passing through a large air space en route to the bit and subsequently the mouth. Try smoking a water pipe without any water in it and notice how cool the smoke is. And so, by employing as large an air space as possible in the shank, the smoke will be cooled accordingly and in proportion.

John Lunsford
Alliance, Ohio

I believe the coolness of the smoke depends more upon the type of tobacco used and the smoker himself, than on the size of the shank hole. However a shank hole that is too small often clogs up and becomes a nuisance. Also a

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 bearing do you believe the size of the shank hole has on the coolness of the smoke?"

shank hole too large will often convey hot particles of burned tobacco and sometimes sparks into the smoker's mouth.

Naturally it is impossible to set a standard size shank hole because of the many different sizes, shapes and designs of pipes.

I have found through experience that a shank hole of about 3/16 of an inch works very well. It is not too small to clog easily and is large enough to pull an adequate supply of smoke into the shank to cool between puffs.

Johnie Kirk
Prosper, Texas

I would say from experience that if the shank hole is too small, the pipe will smoke hot whereas if the hole is large; I would say, 3/16 inch instead of the regular 1/8 inch it will allow a free draw and will guarantee a cooler smoke.

The pipe with a small shank hole cuts down the draft thus keeping the heat all in the bowl making a hot smoke and we all know that too much heat spoils the taste of tobacco and is harmful to the bowl.

George M. Brewster
Topeka, Kansas

In my opinion, based upon my own pipe smoking experience, the size of the shank hole has considerable bearing on the coolness of the smoke.

If the pipe does not have a large enough shank hole to permit free draft the smoker has to do some hard puffing with the result the tobacco really fires up and the bowl becomes hot, resulting in a hot smoke.

If the shank hole is at least equal to the size of hole made by a number 16 drill the draft will be free, the pipe will almost smoke itself and you don't have to puff so hard as to create too much fire in the bowl.

I rebore the shank hole in all my pipes with a No. 16 drill welded onto a handle made of welding material of the same size. This gives a large enough opening to permit free draft and easy smoking, with the result—a cooler smoke.

R. M. Schirmer
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

If by "coolness of the smoke" is meant the temperature of the smoke issuing from the bit, theoretical considerations would indicate that a cooler smoke would be obtained with a large shank hole as the result of a longer residence time in the shank with a greater area for heat dissipation.

However, I believe it would be impossible to detect a significant difference with an ordinary briar pipe.

If on the other hand "coolness of the smoke" is measured by the presence or absence of tongue bite, I know the size of the shank hole can have a very marked effect.

Several years ago I picked up a beautiful old straight grained briar in an

NEXT MONTH

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

OCTOBER—*"What words of advice would you give to the beginning pipe smoker to assist him in obtaining the maximum of smoking pleasure?"*

(Answers must be received by September 5)

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.

out of the way news stand. Being very pleased with this obviously excellent specimen, I was dismayed when it gurgled strangely while being smoked and gave me a severe case of tongue bite.

A local pipe maker patiently listening to my problem looked the pipe over, and cured the trouble with the twist of a drill. As he explained it, the shank hole was too small. Part of the moisture produced during the combustion of the tobacco is condensed in the cool shank. Instead of being harmlessly trapped there, it was being drawn into the mouth with the resulting "hot" smoke.

Robert Danby,
Indianapolis, Indiana

For a long time I have been thinking that the ideal construction in the pipe shank should be a large hole with a small entrance from the pipe bowl. That is, the shank would be hollowed out as usual, only it would be hollowed out with as large a bit as possible.

This bit would go to within a 16th of an inch of the pipe bowl. Then, through this 1/16 of an inch would be a very fine hole, not over 1/16 of an inch in diameter, or certainly not more than 3/32 of an inch.

My reason is obvious. This would create a very large space in the shank where the smoke would come, being pulled through the small hole from the bowl when the smoker draws on the mouthpiece.

Obviously the smoke would come into this chamber at a rapid rate, but with this great amount of air space the smoke would be slowed up in its travel and as a result have time to cool off.

G. S. Markey,
White Plains, N. Y.

I have pipes with various sized holes in the shank, and without exception I have noticed that the larger the hole, the cooler the smoke.

The reason for this, it seems to me, is that, assuming the draw is equal in either instance, the smoke coming from a large hole comes with slower force than when coming from a small hole. (The same principle applies as when water is forced through a garden hose. The smaller the opening, the greater the force of the water when it comes out.)

A large opening gives the smoke a chance to spread out, and as it does so it strikes the tongue not only more slowly, but in a widened area, and as a result the concentration of smoke is not as great and it seems much cooler to the tongue.

NEXT MONTH

You'll be reading these articles in the September issue:

FLAWS—WHAT ARE THEY? is a subject about which much is argued, but about which very little seems to be understood. This is an unusual discussion, about a somewhat mysterious topic. Well illustrated, you'll agree it casts a new light on an interesting phase of pipes.

PIPES OF PUMICE may startle you, but when you read Russell Hoadley's account of a man who makes pipes of this substance you may want to try one yourself. He tells you how to go about it, and the type of a smoke you will enjoy.

CHINESE WATER PIPES are not uncommon, yet their history and their odd construction are little known to the average pipe enthusiast let alone the general public. This article tells you something about them, their history and their one time popularity.

THE HOUSE OF FRYER is the twentieth in a series of articles describing the history and growth of leading pipe and tobacco manufacturers. This one tells as interesting a story as any yet to appear.

(Above schedule subject to change)

PLUS

All the other regular features including The Collector's Page, What's New, Pipecraft, Pro and Con, Questions and Answers, Blends and Blending, which are full of vital information every issue.

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New Renewal

He Learned About Pipes

THE TRUTH ABOUT WAR SURPLUS PIPES

[Begins on page 236]

WILLIAM KENYON was a pottery maker. He lived in the outlying suburbs of the great city of London in the 1850's. He enjoyed a good business in making dishes, pots, small statuary and other objects from the baked earth.

In searching around for a new medium which would give him a different approach to his art, old Uncle Bill, as he was known to the townspeople, one day saw a tobacco pipe made of pottery and decided that here indeed was something new to try.

Now Uncle Bill didn't smoke. In fact he never had, but that had little to do with his desire to turn out some really fine examples of his art. He soon learned that a pipe could be made in almost any desired shape or style and still be acceptable to the public.

Although he was far from an artist, he did conceive some wierd ideas, but they sold from the start, and as the word spread that he was making some unusual pieces, his fame spread. Men interested in obtaining the odd and out of the ordinary pieces came to his shop, with some occasionally commissioning him to create something special according to their own ideas. A pottery pipe by Kenyon was a welcome addition to any mantel piece or China closet, and business continued to grow.

Uncle Bill made all the pipes himself, letting the less interesting work of making dishes and statuary be completed by two assistants. He was enthralled by his own pipe craftsmanship, yet never once did he ever have the desire to light up one of his own products and see if it smoked satisfactorily. Actually, he didn't know how, even if he had wanted to, and anyway, he thought, his work was much too beautiful to be contaminated with tobacco leaves and smoke.

His satisfaction came entirely from the many townspeople and travelers who looked him up and bought his wares. For nearly two and a half years he had never had a complaint—had never had one of his pottery pipes been returned for any reason.

But one day that record was broken. Kenyon received his first complaint in almost two and a half years of pipe making. A Squire of London wrote him saying the pipe he recently purchased wouldn't smoke, and he explained the reason why. It was then that Uncle Bill learned for the first time that a tobacco pipe must have a hole through the stem!

ers had a sufficient amount of well seasoned imported briar on hand to last out the scarcity, and at least two others refused to put their trademark on an inferior pipe. That is why some pipes became impossible to obtain for three or four years.

Without a doubt the biggest purchaser of pipes during the war was the government. These pipes went to ships stores, P X's, and similar outlets where they were sold to members of the armed forces. Like many other items, the government bought far more than were necessary, and after V-J day they were sold in job lots of several thousand each at a low price, many in their original cardboard boxes and stamped \$3.50 and \$5.

GENERALLY THEY were purchased by shopkeepers who spied a chance to "get rich quick," but of course by merchants who knew little or nothing about pipes.

At first they went on sale at only a slightly reduced price—the shopkeeper was out to make a killing.

But he underestimated the knowledge of the average pipe smoker. First, he found that pipe smokers who would spend money for pipes in that price range usually bought them in pipe shops or at established and reliable pipe departments of other stores. He found they spotted the pipes for what they really were and would not buy them.

Then, deciding to unload them quickly, he advertised big sales and tried to dispose of them for a dollar each and less.

Many such stores were filled—with bargain hunters, but seldom with real pipe smokers. This is proven by the fact that pipe shops kept right on doing business as usual, and, since the pre-war quality in pipes was beginning to return, they found these gigantic war-surplus sales did not affect them too greatly.

Such sales really did a lot to dissuade many men from becoming pipe smokers. Several men, hearing of the sales, decided now was the time to buy a pipe and begin what they had always yearned to do—smoke a pipe. Not knowing pipes, they purchased two or three and tried them out. But the green, improperly cured briar did not give them much pleasure, and they quit in disgust saying "Pipes are not for me."

But men who knew pipes found these "bargains" to be just the kind of pipe they had been forced to buy during the war in many instances, and decided they

had had enough. They would wait for the real article to come back again.

So, let's re-emphasize that it was not the fact that the pipes were war surplus, or that they were home grown briar that made them inferior, but the fact that the great demand cut the curing process down to nothing and forced the manufacturer to use green wood.

He didn't like it any more than you did, but it was that or nothing at all, and with a big investment in factory buildings, machinery and equipment, no one can blame him for doing exactly what he did—using the best material he could obtain.

Many of the pipes in these lots were seconds to begin with. One woman of my acquaintance had been told by her husband to go in and buy him a dozen of these pipes. She did, and then came to ask me if they were any good. I had to be honest and I told her that even at that cheap price she was getting no bargain. "If you can find some with the words 'imported briar' stamped on them," I said, "you would then have a good pipe."

She went back to the store, later to return. She said she had spent almost half an hour pawing over the pipes on the counter and had found two which were stamped "imported briar," and which she held up for my inspection. In the bowls of both were bad flaws, one being so deep as to make the pipe worthless. I showed them to her and she thanked me and left, whether to exchange them or not, I do not know.

None of the several pipes she showed me carried any trade-mark, and the workmanship was distinctly third class. No real pipe smoker would be seen with one.

Some smokers have asked, can this wood now be cured? The answer is no, for the proper curing consists of boiling the briar burl for several hours to remove the natural sap and then letting them dry out in properly ventilated rooms where there is no danger of cracking the wood due to too rapid drying. Such steps with a pipe would not improve it and in nine times out of ten would render it worthless for any further use.

These "bargains" will soon be gone, and when the beginning smoker has learned his lesson he may try a better pipe of good quality—providing his opinion of pipe smoking has not been ruined altogether through his experience with these "war surplus" pipes.

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.

LIKE THE TOE of an old shoe, there is an expression that turns up every now and then: A woman is a woman, but a good pipe gives a good smoke.

This of course, has no bearing on the fact that the gals are trying to get into the act. Just the other day we were casually discussing female pipe smokers who do give the old briar bowl a whirl on the side when either brother or daddy ain't lookin', and the fact was that in Queen Victoria's time all the skirts had smudges on their thumbs from tamping down a pipeful.

What I'm getting at is that members of the fair sex read this magazine, and one especially either blends her own already or is considering same.

It was bad enough when a man had to come home and eat his dinner out of a can while the wife was either bowling with the girls, or seeing the same movie over for the third time. The situation is worse when the better half uses the kitchen for blending and uses up all that tobacco and tells pappia to eat downtown because she's mixing burley with Latakia on the table, instead of steak with potatoes. Rough!

THE USE of perique varies with the particular blend as well as the smoker's taste for this tobacco. Actually, you needn't feel as though you can't use perique because it is very strong and you neither like the taste nor the aroma.

The way to use perique is the way you'd use a fine sauce or some other flavorful ingredient. Either the perique should merely suggest its presence, or else it should just be there to add body and vigor and solidify the mixture, without its own influence being overpronounced in the tasted flavor of the mixture.

So many pipe smokers have written

in saying they don't like perique and in listing the tobaccos they do like, they always include standard blends containing perique. Invariably they are smoking perique and liking what they smoke and they still say they dislike perique while smoking it all the time. Maybe it's stylish.

WHILE WE are on the subject, there seems to be confusion regarding perique and Latakia. One smoker will examine a mixture, and, sorting out the black leaf will say: Aha! here is perique. And by the same token he will say it's Latakia. Both seem blackish. And because they are black it seems they must be *very* strong.

And so we say to him, "When you see that black leaf, just take up a piece and taste it. If it is strong in taste and slightly bitter, that's perique, but it won't do you any harm and it's good for you. And if the black leaf has a flavorful taste and isn't bitter, why that's Latakia, and it's good for you, too. It's good for your mixture—both of those ingredients, and don't be afraid of them. They won't bite."

Perhaps, though, all of this has been to no avail and you are one of those who still prefers his mixtures without perique. Here is one to suit you in that respect, providing of course that you will accept a bit of Latakia:

Burley	4 oz.
White Burley	3 oz.
Cavendish	3 oz.
Virginia Flake.....	3 oz.
Latakia	3 oz.

I suggest you try a few pipefuls without the Latakia. After you have become accustomed to the flavor of the blend then add the Latakia by degrees and notice the difference.

"BLEND-R-KIT"

Blend Your Own Favorite Mixtures

Now you can enjoy blending at home with the "BLEND-R-KIT" containing the Seven Basic Blending tobaccos: White Burley, Maryland, Virginia Shredded, Black Cavendish, Latakia, Virginia Bright (Flake) and Perique. To get you under way, the kit comes complete with formulas, and then you make up your own as you go along. For Blending is Fun! — with

"BLEND-R-KIT"
only \$2.69 complete

Send stamps or money orders only.
Shipped postpaid. No C.O.D.'s.

HELLENZEE TOBACCO COMPANY
325 Ocean Avenue Brooklyn, N. Y.

DEER TONGUE

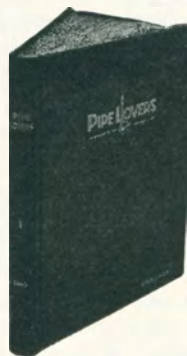
Like tobacco, Deer Tongue is a plant and a mighty good flavoring agent in pipe mixtures. It adds a mild sweet flavor and aroma. Give it a trial in your pipe mixtures. Finest quality granulated just ready for quick easy blending 15c an ounce postpaid.

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Adjustable, - Removable
No Wet Heels, No Clogged Stems
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Prepaid Anywhere
Last for Years

FOR A BETTER SMOKE USE A SPIRAL
The World's Most Practical Pipe Screen
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This is the sure way to preserve every issue for safe keeping and future reference. Bound volumes for 1947 containing all 12 issues are still available. The binding is the same attractive maroon leatherette as was used for 1946 issues, so that the two volumes will match perfectly.

The price remains the same, \$6 postpaid. Bound volumes make an ideal gift for any occasion.

ORDER YOURS TODAY

Send for yours now. We are finding a greater demand than last year due to the increased number of readers. Send check or money order TODAY. Specify which you want Volume I (1946) or Volume II (1947). Both volumes include full and complete index.

PIPE LOVERS MAGAZINE

532 Pine Avenue Long Beach 12, Calif.

WHAT IS AMBER

[Begins on page 234]

Kraxteppelin to Rantau, and is entirely below sea level. Mining has been carried on at Warnicken and at some other spots. The mined variety is said to be less pure than that given up by the sea.

Amber is divided into numerous classes and sub classes. The first contains pieces of certain sizes and weights. And when it comes to color, transparency, and design, the classes are almost limitless. From one town alone come 58 different categories.

In the working of amber for pipe bits, the pieces are first cut into long sections an inch or less in depth and width. They are then either filed to shape by hand or turned on a lathe. Next they are rubbed smooth with pumice-stone and water and finally polished with any good polishing powder.

When a stem has to be bent, it is first soaked in oil thus preventing the surface of the amber and the opening of the bore from drying up when heat is applied prior to the bending process.

THE STEM is heated slowly and evenly and then bent with the greatest care. Not all qualities of amber will bend readily, and some will bend only in certain directions, and the knowledge of an amber expert is required.

The slightest speck or defect, almost invisible to the unaccustomed eye, may be sufficient to cause the amber to break at the first attempt to bend it, spoiling the piece and rendering futile all the labour spent in shaping it.

Some kinds of amber may be bent repeatedly, but the operation is seldom repeated with success on the ordinary quality.

Some types of cloudy amber are made clear by being soaked from 12 to 24 hours in warm oil, the temperature of which is gradually increased without being allowed to reach the boiling point. The color of the material is darkened by the process, and it is in this manner that some amber is colored artificially.

Among the many imitations of amber, perhaps the best is the production of a mixture of copal, camphor and turpentine. This composition bears a very near resemblance to the real substance. It melts in ether, however, while the genuine amber remains unaffected.

On a modern pipe, the amber bit is more valuable than the bowl, whether it be of briar, meerschaum, or any of the other pipe materials. Only in the

higher price brackets today are pipes available with the genuine yellow substance, and its popularity as a pipe bit from a practical standpoint has long since given way to the more acceptable, even though less satisfactory hard rubber.

Were the two priced the same, it is now doubtful that amber would be the more popular of the two. Its romantic history which began long before man made tracks on this earth gives it a sentimental value which all other pipe stem substances lack, and this, plus its present day scarcity and high price, place it in the collector's class.

It will always be thought of and described as "tops" in pipe stem manufacture, but, like meerschaum, its greatest day has passed.

PIPE CLUB NEWS

[Begins on page 246]

slide library. Included were the series on Meerschaum Pipes, Miniature Pipes, and Odd and Unusual Pipes. The slides are available upon request to clubs for showing at meetings. There is no charge for their use.

N. O. P.

In last month's issue it was stated that 50 pipe smokers had become charter members. This should have stated that 50 pipe smokers have become members.



—Courtesy of Pathfinder Magazine

The State of Georgia has limited the number of charter members to 14.

Albert I. Almand, president of the group, mentions that local or individual state charters may be granted upon request and approval of the Grand Lodge Charter members.

TORONTO, ONTARIO

A pipe carving contest was recently held among veterans of the Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. The event was sponsored by the Pipe Smokers' Club of Toronto who provided all of the materials. About 20 veterans competed.

Greg Clark, well known writer, offered a prize of \$25 for the best pipe carving in the shape of a muskellunge head. Other prizes were also given for excellence in the pipes carved.

PIPE SMOKING CONTESTS

[Begins on page 239]

in print will have been held. It is Bowman's idea to have the first, second and third place winners in each of the four primaries meet in a final contest to declare the champion.

There are several fine prizes which will be given to the winners, among which are briar pipes, jet lighters, Rogers tobacco pouches, Sutliff's No. 79 tobacco, subscriptions to PIPE LOVERS Magazine, and also ribbons for the champion and runners-up.

THE TORONTO contest was held at the Sunnybrook Hospital in that city and was sponsored by the newly organized Pipe Smokers' Club of Toronto. It is said to be the first such contest conducted in Canada.

Walking off with top honors was Leslie Welch, veteran of World War II, who won first place by smoking a corn-cob. The official time was 40 minutes.

Much interest was displayed in the contest, and although the time was not as long as in some other contests, the affair was considered successful, with plans for another Canadian event being considered in the future.

FIX IT YOURSELF

[Begins on page 237]

necessary to remove the finish on the entire pipe and re-do it. Previous articles have dealt with how to refinish a pipe so we won't repeat the directions here.

Should the owner prefer a "virgin" finish, all he needs to do is to apply a bit of hard wax to the wooden bowl and rub it in thoroughly and briskly with a soft cloth. Of course a power buffer

PIPE LOVERS

does a better job, but a little time and patience, not to mention a bit of "elbow grease" will result in a pipe of which you may be proud.

These are the general troubles that occasionally befall a pipe, and with normal care and attention given to these directions, there is no reason why you can't keep all of your pipes in working condition.

PAPUAN TRADE PIPES

[Begins on page 238]

tobacco or sometimes *Pitcheri*, a plant which grows in this section of the world and is in many ways similar to tobacco. It is lighted in the usual fashion.

Preparing the pipe to be smoked in its odd manner usually falls to the women members of the tribe. The woman opens her mouth and completely covers the cone and lighted tobacco with her lips. The cone, obviously, cannot be very large.

She then blows, forcing the smoke into the cavity of the bamboo, keeping her hand over the hole in the end of the pipe as she does so.

In a few moments' time the hollow bamboo tube is full of smoke. The leaf cone is then withdrawn and the pipe with smoke enclosed is handed to the husband or the man who is to do the smoking.

He places his hand over the hole in the end in order to keep in the smoke, and then inhales the smoke from the same hole in which the leaf was inserted. He uses his hand meanwhile as a valve to allow the requisite air to enter at the other end.

This gives the native a very cool smoke, and when the pipe is empty he returns the pipe to his wife or mistress who again inserts the cone of tobacco, lights it, and repeats the process.

The first account of the Papuan trade pipes was made by the distinguished naturalist H. M. Moseley, who discovered the oddity in 1874 while with the Challenger Expedition. Since that time the practice has been reported by numerous visitors to that section of the world.

Civilization has not changed the practice, and the fact that some contacts have been made with the modern age are indicated by the bottom pipe in the illustration on page 238. It has been covered with a sticky, tar-like substance into which have been inserted several coins of various nations, insignias, buttons, and other decorative ornaments. And at one end appears the rim of a flashlight! One wonder how much it brought in the traders' market.

AUGUST, 1948

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.)

IN THE repair bench mail, questions about the selection of tools are leading all other inquiries by about three to one. Some suggest that such a shop must be full of tricky inventions and gadgets that are not available to the average man. Actually, a moderately well equipped model making shop or a good hobby shop is ready to do pipe repair work at anytime.

A list of the small machine tools was given in the July issue. The following list of hand tools and odd items will handle practically all repair jobs. Again, this is my own selection—the things that are within arms length when I start to work on a pipe. Some men will probably think that the list is too small. Others will insist that most of them are unnecessary. Anyhow, here is my list:

For measuring and laying out: A 12" combination square with center and protractor heads. This tool serves as a scale, try square, depth gauge and angle measuring device; a set of 3" toolmaker's dividers, inside and outside calipers; two Starrett small hole gauges, 2/10" to 4/10" for measuring the insides of shanks; a caliper rule for measuring the thicknesses of stems to be duplicated; a carpenter's marking gauge for laying out pipes and marking locations of bands on shanks; two drill gauges, one for wire gauges and one for fractions; a thread gauge measuring from 9 to 40 V threads per inch.

TOOLS for holding and grasping things: a 4" jaw swivel base machinist's vise solidly mounted on the workbench; a hand vise for holding small parts and drills over 1/8"; two pin vises for drills smaller than 1/8"; a pair of long nose pliers and two pairs of tweezers for picking small particles out of shanks; a pair of cutting pliers for cutting lengths of pipe cleaner and short-

ening metal filters; regular pliers for general work and fishing stems out of hot water; a few small C clamps and adjustable wooden jaw clamps for holding cemented shanks.

Threading tools; two tap wrenches to take taps from 1/8" to 1/2"; die stock for 1" round dies; assorted taps and dies, all the different sizes and gauges available between 1/8" and 1/4" and a few from 1/4" to 1/2".

Cutting tools: A 14" back saw and a coping saw for shaping briar blocks; a hack saw and 18 tooth blades for cutting antler and plastic; some small chisels made out of 3/32" drill rod; a pocket knife does duty as a scriber and scraper as well as the usual work of carving.

Files are very important: Soft metal files, flat mill files, flat bastard files, half round files, small square files, all kinds and sizes from 6" to 10" lengths. And a set of a dozen swiss needle files for small work. Files are used constantly on rubber and plastic and sometimes on wood.

OTHER ITEMS: A one unit electric hot plate and a one quart pan for boiling water to bend stems; a file brush and a wire brush for cleaning taps; small probes made out of drill rod for cleaning smoke bores; sponge rubber and chamois pads to help you get a grip on smooth surfaces; a drill and tap table; small brushes for staining bowls; and don't forget a hammer—a one pounder is about right for breaking stems away from the cemented-in connector-filters.

I do not intend to imply that you cannot repair pipes with less equipment than the above. Far from it. It would probably be best to start in with the minimum essentials and then add to your set of tools as the need arises.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

FOR SALE

• PIPE shop for sale, including complete repair setup. Only pipe shop in Santa Clara County. Ideal location, good lease, present owner Lt. Cdr. Naval Air returning to service. Couple can net \$100 per week. Short hours, closed Sundays. \$1000 plus fixtures and inventory. Write or call BOB BOYCE PIPE SHOP, 58 S. 1st, San Jose, Calif.

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

• IMPORTED French pipes—straight grains—aged virgin Algerian briar. \$5 each, postpaid. Send check or money order. ARTHUR MARTINEZ, 509 Fifth Avenue, 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.

PIPE MAKING

• STERLING silver bands 8 to 21 m/m. 7/16 wide, 40c each, 6 for \$2, 12 for \$3.65. Nickel Silver, 35c each, 6 for \$1.75, 12 for \$2.80. All sent postpaid. WALTER DeLONG, 609 Russell Ave., Indianapolis 4, Indiana.

• UNPOLISHED seconds, \$5.00 pipes, 2 for \$1.00. Long Italian briar blocks 3 for \$1.00. Complete pipemaking kit, large size block, bit, condenser and instructions, \$1.00. Free literature. CARVAPIPE, 2829-V Dixie Highway, Hamilton, Ohio.

WANTED

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

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

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

TOBACCOS

• A REAL smoke for your pipe. Do you like a straight tobacco that is cool, mild, and long burning? Unusual cut, finest imported, domestic tobaccos. Trial size 30c, 8 oz. \$1.50, 16 oz. \$2.75 postpaid. Everything for the smoker. ADE'S PIPE SHOP, 5314 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles 43, Calif.

MISCELLANEOUS

• SALES agents wanted. Nationally advertised Engineer pipe. See advertisement page 230. 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.

SPECIALIZED OR GENERAL

[Begins on page 240]

The illustrations this month indicate a variety of pipe types, some old and expensive, some new and unusual. Those on page 240 depict a very old Austrian or German meerschaum with an unusual ivory bit dating back to the 18th century, and below it a metal figurine from India that illustrates crude native craftsmanship. The head forms the bowl and the smoke outlet is in the rear. The flexible tubing and modern rubber mouthpiece is without a doubt a very recent replacement.

The skull on page 241 is as nice a piece of pipe making as any collector could ask for. The meerschaum bowl itself is excellently done even to the characteristic cracks near the top of the skull. It is complete with amber stem.

To its right is a bearded Turk made of French clay by the famous French pipe maker Jacob Gambier.

Below left is an excellent piece of meerschaum hand carving by one of the old Austrian masters. It is said to be about 75 years old. The human form is carefully done, and the background shows careful thought as to detail.

The lion's head is made of Italian meerschaum and was carved in Venice

before the turn of the century. It possesses fine detail and has a lifelike appearance.

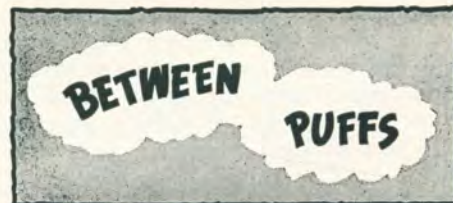
Below it is a flute playing nude which was made in Vienna some 75 years ago. The stem is of rock amber, while the pipe itself is of top quality meerschaum.

To its left is a very unusual although not necessarily valuable pipe. Unlike postage stamps and booklets and numerous other commodities which have been issued or manufactured to commemorate some historical event, pipes have seldom been made as a commemorative object. This one, however, is just that.

Tyrolean in style, it commemorates an early Austrian event in the year 1761.

By studying a pipe collection one soon learns much about the collector himself. Even the general collector has his preferences, whether for fine old pieces, pipes only in perfect condition, pipes typical to a certain country or era, or pipes with a fascinating history.

But all collectors have one thing in common, and that is that the implements man has long used for tobacco holds an ever increasing interest for them.



Molly Firth, of London, known as "Molly Cutpurse," was the first woman pipe smoker on record.

Dentist to sweet young patient in chair: "Sorry, but I'm all out of gas."

Patient: "Jeepers, do dentists pull that old stuff too?"

What this country needs is fewer people telling us what this country needs.

Anyone who appears before an audience without preparation should disappear without delay.

The teacher wrote "I didn't have no fun at the seashore," then asked Johnny how to correct the sentence.

Came the answer: "Get a boy friend."

Then there's the story of the lawyer who sat up all night trying to break a widow's will.

A man's greatest mistake is to suppose that grass widows are green.

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Nueces Hotel Bldg.
- SAN ANTONIO—
BLOCK'S PIPE SHOP
208 Broadway
HARKNESS PIPE SHOP
101 W. Commerce Street
- MAX ITZ
423 N. St Marys Street
- WASHINGTON**
PUYALLUP—
BEALL'S
- SEATTLE—
WISEMAN'S PIPE SHOP
4234 University Way
- SPOKANE—
HOLT PIPE SHOP
Main & Howard
- TACOMA—
DON'S
902 Broadway
CITY CIGAR STORE
902 Pacific Avenue
- WALLA WALLA—
KELLY CIGAR STORE
9 S. Second Street
- WISCONSIN**
MADISON—
TOBACCO BAR
617 State Street
- MILWAUKEE—
UHLE'S SMOKE SHOP
232 W. Michigan Street
- WYOMING**
CASPER
CON-ROY CIGAR STORE
Consolidated Royalty Bldg.

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



A new blend is created . . .

FEW PERSONS realize the tremendous amount of research and experimentation that must go on "behind the scenes" when a new pipe mixture is developed.

Untold hours of research are followed with a survey of retail tobacconists in order to obtain first hand the latest information on likes and dislikes of pipe smokers.

Then begin countless days of experimentation—various tobaccos are blended, tested, discarded. In the case of an aromatic blend certain well known flavors are tried out—all in an expensive and costly effort to bring you, the smoker, more enjoyment from your favorite briar.

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tobacco manufacturer expends in this direction. It is a long and tedious procedure, receiving little appreciation, and with such terrific competition it often results in financial failure.

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Long Beach 12, California

