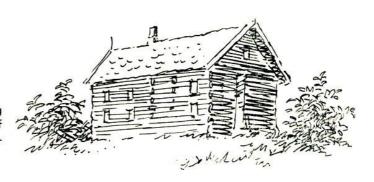
# SILEHAMA SILEHAMA



# G. Darsens Pipefabrik &



The old factory building where the foundation of traditions and high quality was established.

G-Larsen's Pipe Factory Ltd. was founded in 1844. During the first years, meerschaum pipes were the main article in the line of production. In those days the Briar root which is now the most common material for pipes, was not used. The factory took up the production of Briar pipes as early as in the 1860-ties, and within a short time it became the dominating article, although meerschaum pipes are still being made.

The Briar root, Erica Arborea, is a growth of the heather family, which is found on the coast of the Mediterranean, in North Africa and on the islands in the Ægian. The best quality comes from Greece, some of the islands in the Ægian and from the interior of North Africa close to the Sahara.

The Briar root requires special care and treatment in order to make good pipes. First of all the root is dug up, the stem or branches are cut off, and then the root and the subterranean part of the stem are buried again. It is kept buried for a certain period of time, then it is taken up and cut into blocks, which again are cut in smaller pieces, suitable for making pipes. Afterwards the wood is boiled, as this process steps up the seasonning of the material. The pieces must be dried slowly before they are ready to be turned into pipe bowls. First class roots are difficult to obtain, owing to limited supply. In this respect, an old and recognized firm like G. Larsen's Pipe Factory is in a most favorable position. Trough connections established long ago, the firm is always able to obtain the best roots in the market. As material for making the stem on the briar pipes, ebonite of the highest quality is used.



The Meassurements refer to length and height in mm. All shapes can be obtained in the various qualities.

The making of the pipe, — in the right way — is equally important as the root itself. With modern technical facilities, the making of pipes can be done very nearly by machines alone, but a good pipe cannot be made in that way. Craftsmanship combined with modern machinery is the only way to ensure that each pipe gets the individual handling which is required. Step by step in the process, the nature of the root can ble more easily recognized, and all pipes which are not in every respect equal to the high standard required, are scrapped without mercy.

Before the pipes leave the factory, they have to pass the last scrutination, where they are stamped with the quality marks:



Meerschaum is a porous white mineral which in natural state mostly is found in Turkey. It can easily be cut and shaped, and is highly suitable for pipe-making. Limited supply of first class raw material has, however, caused a comparatively high price on these pipes. The meerschaum pipes are fitted with a stem of amber, or — if that is not obtainable, — of artificial amber.

Even to-day, more than 200 years after the original meerschaum pipes were first made, the pipes are still turned out completely by hand. At G. Larsen's Pipe Factory, the production was for years under management of the well known wood cutter, Lars Prestmoen. He was taught by the founder of the factory, old Mr. Gudbrand Larsen and his son, August M. Larsen. In the



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The factory building which after the latest extension was completed in 1965.

same way as his teachers, Prestmoen was just as much artist as a craftsman. His work in meerschaum and in wood is recognized both inland and abroad. The production is now carried on according to the same principles and traditions, and the excellent quality of the pipes is exactly the same today as more than 120 years ago.

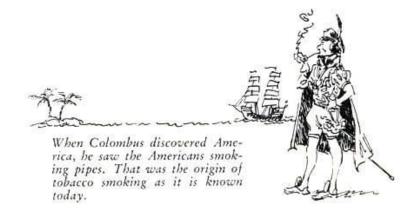




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The Factorys Sale in Lillehammer



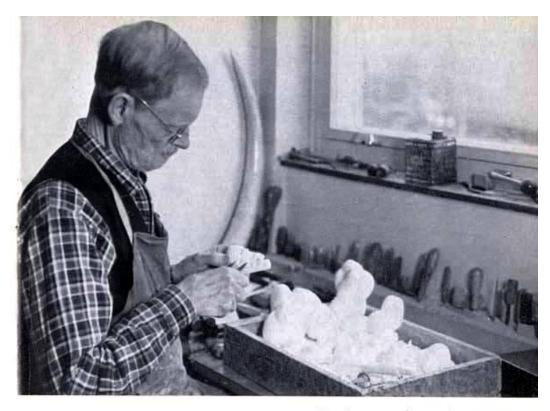








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Genuine meerschaum pipes are cut by hand — today as 200 years ago. Here is Lars Prestmoen making a pipe bowl.

\*The really first class meerschaum comes all the way from Eski-Schehir in Turkey.\*







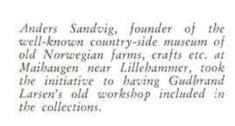




The measurements refer to length and height in mm. All shapes can be obtained in the various qualities.



Interior from the fitting section.













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## LADIES PIPES in the following qualities: Lillehammer GL Queen — Lillehammer GL Lady — Lady GL

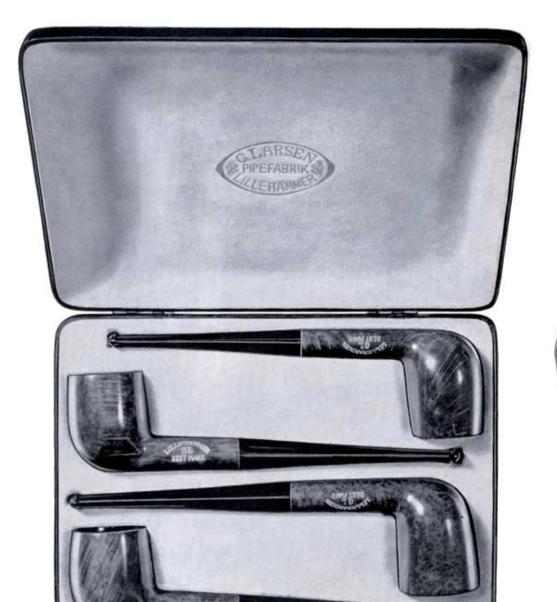


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The cases are all hand made and lined with genuine leather.

#### Tips for breaking-in and care of the Briar pipe.

The pipe should be filled about half, preferably with tobacco which is not too dry. Do'nt press the tobacco into the bowl too hard, — just lightly. Smoke slowly all the way down. This is repeated 5—6 times, but between each filling the pipe must be allowed to cool. Then the pipe is filled with the normal quantity of tobacco, which is pressed lightly and smoked all the way down another 5—6 times. In this way a thin protective layer is formed within the bowl, which prevents excessive burning and then the pipe can be smoked according to taste.

To avoid fouling, we would like to give the following advice:

- 1. Never leave a pipe half-smoked with ashes in it.
- 2. When leaving a pipe, one should make sure that the smoke tube is completely open so the air can circulate. The pipe will then be dry and smoke sweetly when used the next day.
- 3. A man who smokes much should, if possible, have a number of pipes and use them in turn, in order to allow the pipes time to dry.
- 4. If the walls of the bowl are getting clogged, a carbon cutter should be used for cleaning. It is also advisable at the same time to clean the smoke tube in stem and bowl with a pipe cleaner moistened with spirit. A knife or a similar sharp instrument should never be used to remove carbon.

### Breaking-in and handling of the meerschaum pipe

should be done with great care. The pipe should be filled up and smoked very slowly, in order to avoid over-heating. This applies especially to the lower part of the bowl. The process is repeated till the pipe takes a yellowish colour, and later turns yellow-brown. Having reached the stage where the wax is bound within the meerschaum and the pipe has taken a brownish colour, it may be smoked in the usual way. The breaking-in of a meerschaum pipe does not taste so well, but the smoke gradually becomes better and better, and more aromatic. It can be compared with enjoying a good wine, rich and full in taste. If carbon has to be removed from a meerschaum pipe, it must

It carbon has to be removed from a meerschaum pipe, it must be done with great care. Knives and other sharp instruments should not be used, in order, to avoid cutting through the bowl by accident.