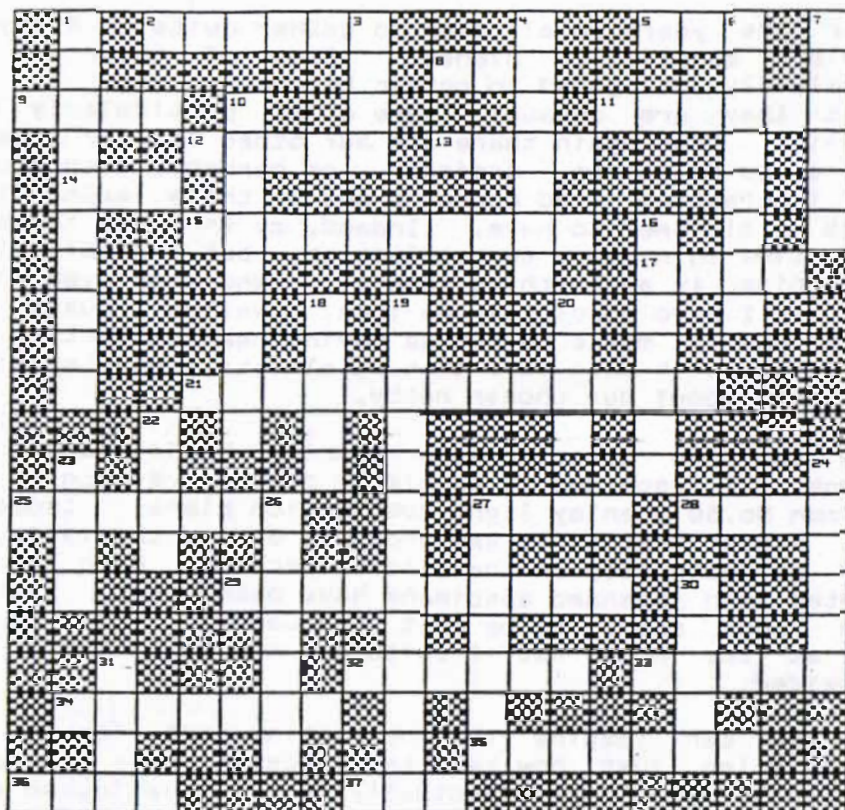


CROSSWORD - PLANEMAKERS 1

Challenge your knowledge of planes and planemakers with this unique crossword specially designed for our members. All clues are taken from the noted references which have been the only ones used. The solution will appear in the next Newsletter.

Nigel Lampert

PLANEMAKERS 1



ACROSS CLUES

2. Legendary Scottish maker of dovetailed planes. Established 1840.
5. Early London maker of wooden planes beginning in 1753.
8. Transitional maker responsible for metal stop-chamfer plane.
9. From Vineland New Jersey, this maker produced a "self-setting" plane.
11. Made planes in Clerkenwell, London and ceased business in 1877.
12. American maker of fine levels and transitional planes.
13. John _____ of London Road, London made wooden planes from about 1812 to 1832.
14. Worked in Bristol from 1815 to 1821.
15. Wooding's widow apprenticed Thomas _____ and Robert Fitkin. Made planes 1740-1760.
17. Worked at 58 John Street, Aberdeen from 1865-1882. First name was James.
21. Maker of 1500 hand tools when taken over by Millers-Falls. Noted for fine drills.
25. English maker of very early combination plane patented in 1844.
27. Birmingham wooden plane maker from 1775.
28. English maker of metal planes who worked in Westminster in 1859.
29. Worked in York. First name begins with an "I" on early planes.
32. Born in 1825. Worked as a cabinetmaker. Experimented with cutter adjustments. Leonard _____
33. James _____ worked in Silver Street, Sheffield from 1787 making joiners' tools.
34. Early London maker from 1770. A set of his tools has survived in the Seaton chest.
35. Competitor (1888 - 1941) to Stanley. Made a unique "double side matching plane".
36. Third quality Mathieson tools were marked "Tertius _____".
37. Thomas _____ made planes in Birmingham about 1812.

DOWN CLUES

1. One of the few families where a woman is recorded as a planemaker. Of Hull 1857 - 1864.
3. Planemaker of 22 Little Queen Street, Westminster from about 1817. Early stamp is in script.
4. Early planemaker whose master was Wooding and whose wife continued his business.
6. Transitional plane maker of Auburn, New York. Made quality metal planes. Ceased in 1880.
7. Wood/metal plane maker of renowned fame. First recorded in business in Lambeth in 1873.
10. Legendary Scottish firm which began in 1792 and closed in 1962.
16. Birmingham maker with a range of very fine rabbit and block planes. Taken over in 1933.
18. Early Westminster maker from 1748-1775.
19. American maker, especially of bit braces and drills. Taken over in 1978.
20. London maker working in Queen Victoria Street in 1925.
22. This English firm of planemakers worked in Tottenham Court Road and produced fine tools.
23. Thomas T. _____ was apprenticed to William Cogdell in 1744. Very few of his planes sighted.
24. At one stage Richard _____ worked in Edgware Road London. Ceased business in 1852.
26. Regarded as the first significant American plane patentee.
27. Major British manufacturer sold to Record in 1962. First quality tools marked with a shamrock.
30. Competitor to Stanley 1900-1920. Maker of a distinctive "iron beading plane".
31. Thomas _____ worked in St. Michael Winchester from 1830-1850.

References:

- Goodman, W.L. British Planemakers From 1700, Arnold & Walker, Suffolk 1978
- Smith, R.K., Patented Transitional Planes In America 1827-1927, North Village Pub. Co., Lancaster, 1981
- Barlow, R.S. The Antique Collector's Guide to Value, Windmill Pub. Co., EI Cajon, California, 1989

STILL A MYSTERY ?

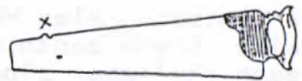
While browsing in a Melbourne secondhand bookshop recently, I came across an interesting little book titled 'PICTURE PARAGRAPHS' - subtitled: Things Seen in Every-Day Life Explained And Illustrated. Also shown on the title page: Selected From "Pearson's Weekly" - 475 Illustrations - Publisher: C. Arthur Pearson Ltd. London 1913.

One of the illustrated paragraphs is headed: TO HELP THE WOODWORKER which reads and is illustrated as shown further on. The opening sentence stating: 'On every saw of reputable make may be seen the little projection' is of course an exaggeration. However, what is interesting is the reason given for the existence of the projection - that of dislodging small pieces of wood or sawdust in the sawcut without further deepening the cut by using the saw's cutting edge. I have not seen this explanation before.

There was mention of the projection (or 'nib' as it is referred to) by the Editor in the March 1990 issue of the Early American Industries Association 'CHRONICLE', in which the most popular theory given, is that the 'nib' has no practical use whatever and that it is ornamentation only.

To Help the Woodworker.

On every saw of reputable make may be seen the little projection marked by a cross in the illustration. It is extremely helpful to those who handle a saw though many do not know the use of it. Sometimes obstructions, such as small pieces of wood or sawdust, get into a saw-cut. When this happens the saw should be turned round to the straight edge, and by the aid of the projection the obstruction can be pulled out. If the removal is attempted on the saw's cutting edge instead, the teeth will probably cut the wood, and make the groove deeper than is required.



"HAND" HACK SAWS



This saw is manufactured specially for use of structural iron workers, particularly in places and positions where the ordinary hack frame cannot be used. It is a SPECIAL temper, hollow ground for clearance, made regularly 12 points to the inch for cutting iron and steel, and 10 points to the inch for copper and brass. Unless otherwise ordered 12 points will be sent.

CAUTION—Teeth in this saw cannot be set. In sharpening use $5\frac{1}{4}$ slim taper file.

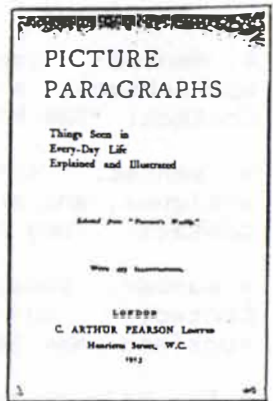
| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|
| 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 26 | 28 | 30 |
| 520.75 | 23.00 | 25.00 | 28.00 | 30.25 | 32.50 | 36.00 | 39.00 per dozen. |
| Packed one-third dozen in box. | | | | | | | |

There is also the theory that the purpose of the 'nib' is purely to provide a starting nick for the saw's cutting edge.

It is interesting to note that in the 1914 Disston Catalogue, that even saws designed for cutting metal are shown with a 'nib' - so it is unlikely that the 'nib' is provided for the purpose of providing a starting nick - to do this, the 'nib' would need a sharp cutting edge which it does'nt have.

There are no doubt many other theories - what is yours ? - or better still, have you seen an explanation given in a manufacturer's catalogue ?

Ken Turner,
of THE COBWEB - Melbourne.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More on Tool Restoration

Richard Davidson, Melton, Victoria

I was interested to read Terry Butcher's comments on cleaning. The problem is where does one stop in the cleaning process? And, for the tool to be usable, it must be tuned and adjusted, for moulding planes, cleaning and sharpening is not enough. I agree with the gradual cleaning process for old planes, but the irons should be cleaned of rust, not left to "continue corroding".

* * * * *

"The Autobiography of James Agate - A Shorter Ego"

Julian Rose, East Kew, Victoria

I was interested in the discovery of the old joinery as mentioned in the Newsletter (August, 1991). It may interest other members to know that James Agate was a well-known newspaper commentator and critic in the thirties. I believe that he wrote for the Daily Express and Sunday Express.

* * * * *

The Mystery of the Saw Nib - Still a Mystery

Ken Turner, "The Cobweb", Malvern, Victoria

(Editor's note: Ken also enclosed a further excerpt from a recent Early American Industries Association Journal which suggested that the hooked nib was used for removing roof slates during roof repairs. We agreed that this novel explanation seems most unlikely).

* * * * *

WANTED OR FOR SALE

* Wanted: Metal depth stop lower section for right hand Mathieson dado plane. Skate must be 2 1/2" to 2 5/8" long, 3/8" wide, with rectangular brass screw block 3/4" long starting 1/4" to 5/16" from one end. Complete plane considered (any size or condition).

Contact: Richard Davidson

* Wanted: Useable old No. 4 plane blades - Boxwood spokeshaves. Also 2" chisel, any type.

Contact: Tom Mintsenikos

* Wanted: Antique bottles pre 1930s. Also any small antiques, and antique furniture in any

Contact: condition. Tony Norris

* Wanted: Edward Preston tools to buy or possibly swap.

Contact: Bill Strid,
Auckland, New Zealand.

* For sale or swap: Stanley No. 7 with corrugated bottom.

Contact: Nigel Lampert

* Wanted: Norris or Spiers cutters in good condition

- Union No.2 cutter (1 5/8" wide)

- Frog for No. 602 Bedrock plane

Contact: Nigel Lampert

* Wanted: Alex Mathieson & Son No. 8 plough plane iron. Also brass depth gauge for A. Mathieson & Son, Glasgow sash fillister plane.

Contact: Ted Payne

* Wanted: Front knob for No. 120 Stanley block plane

- Back iron & cutter for type 1 No. 113 Stanley circular plane

Contact: Laurie Lewis

* Wanted: Grecian ogee moulding planes for use in traditional joinery. Other interesting profiles also sought. Details of condition and price requested.

Contact: Boy Crosbie

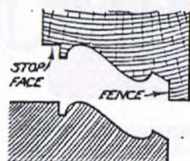


FIG. 1. FRONT VIEW OF
[GRECIAN OGEES PLANE]

* Wanted: Stanley No. 5 1/2" base or complete plane - type 9, patent dates March 25 '02, August 19 '02. Cutter width 2 1/4". Plane was broken on site work, very keen to revamp and use again.

Contact: Henry Black

(

* Wanted: Cutter to suit mitre plane - 2 1/4" snecked iron. Ward cutter preferred.

Contact: Jack Richards

HTPA POLO SHIRTS AND WINDCHEATERS

The Association has adopted the logo illustrated for identification on official Association shirts and windcheaters. The centrepiece of the logo is a Bailey Smoothing Plane No.35

The colour chosen for these garments is royal blue, and the logo is printed in white.

A batch of polo shirts has been acquired and offered to members. Members who have seen the shirts agree that they are very attractive, and about half the batch has been sold.

Shirts in the following sizes as presently available -20, 22 and 24. The price is \$25.00. Sizes are a poor guide, as manufacturers use a variety of standards. A better indication of fit is chest measurement - for a satisfactory fit the body of the shirt, measured under the arms, should be about 10 to 12 centimetres greater than the chest to be enclosed. The shirts in stock measure 106, 108 and 110cm respectively.

Unfortunately the size range of the shirts chosen stops at size 26 and we have a number of members wanting larger sizes. We are still seeking suitable shirts to satisfy this requirement.

We plan to place an order for additional shirts and for windcheaters shortly. The price is likely to be \$25.00 again, although larger sizes may cost more, depending on the source of supply chosen.

Please ring Doug McIver to place orders or for further information.



Exhibition

The 8th Annual Exhibition
of finely crafted woodwork
by Victorian Woodworkers Association members

1st - 17th November, 1991

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Daily

Doncaster Gallery

Rear of Doncaster Municipal Offices

699 Doncaster Rd.

Phone: 03-848 9735 B.H.

Melway Map 33F12

Ample off street parking

Demonstration Weekend

Saturday 16th November

Sunday 17th November

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| • Wood Turning | • Carving | • Chainsaw Milling |
| • Whittling | • Cabinet Making | • Timber Sales |
| • Old Tools | • Blacksmithing | • Tool Sales |
| • Upholstering | • Coopering | • Woodwork Market |
| • Chain Saw Sculpture | • Pole Lathe | • Club Projects |

1st Doncaster Scout Hall

Rear of Doncaster Municipal Offices

699 Doncaster Rd.

Melway Map 33F12

Light Refreshments Available

President

Watson Cutter

Secretary

Frank Ham

Treasurer/Membership

Ian McIntosh

National Trust Caine Tool Sub-Committee

Doug McIver (Chairman)

Frank Ham

Kees Klep

Nigel Lampert

Program Director

Kees Klep

Newsletter Editor

Nigel Lampert

Librarian

Kees Klep

Club Tool Curator

Keith Sutherland

Display Co-ordinator

Tony Derrett

Catering

Ben Rasalam

