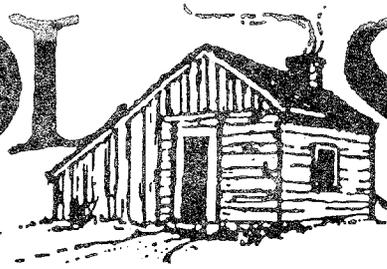


The TOOL SHED

NUMBER 70

FEBRUARY 1992



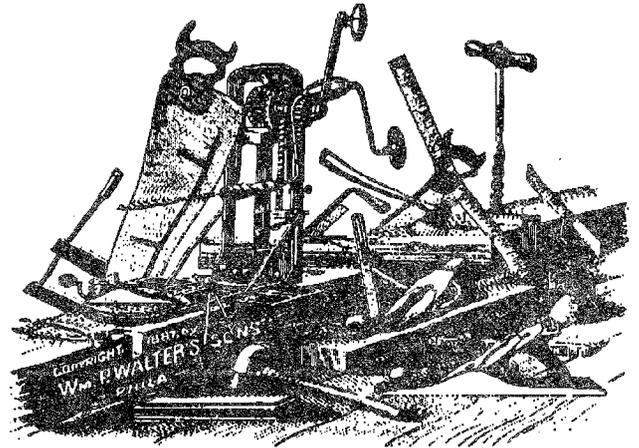
A Journal of Tool Collecting published by CRAFTS of New Jersey

Tool Prices - Then & Now by Herb Kean

In the September 1987 *ToolShed*, I wrote an article on tool prices taken from 1979-1987 auctions. The data I used was what was easiest to collect at the time, and perhaps not totally representative of what I would go after today. But, I did hold onto all the individual numbers, and what I'd like to do in this article is to compare the old prices to those today, in an effort to see "where we are going."

The current price base that the original data is being compared to is the 1991 prices listed in the *Price Guide* that Emil Pollak and I will be bringing out in March-April 1992. In this book we list each tool's price range for the "Good" condition, and give the reader a table of percentages to get to any other condition. As almost all of the original data was taken in a time period when condition was not as important as it is today, only raw prices are involved in the original database. As an arbitrary decision, in order to compare "apples to apples," I made the assumption that the average condition in those earlier auctions was halfway between "Good" and "Good plus", which I think is reasonable for a mix of National and Club auctions. I adjusted the prices taken from the *Price Guide* accordingly.

Where wooden planes were evaluated, I separated the seven 18th c. makers that were tracked. Our *Price Guide* groups plane makers' imprints by value categories, and prices each plane type within that category. For all but the seven 18th c. makers, I used Category III-1, which is composed of the most common imprints. I felt this was a fair average between no imprints and a few that I may have originally



used in categories slightly more valuable than III-1.

To make it easier to get a "feel" of the results, and to try not to infer false accuracy, I used the following symbols as comparisons between the original data and the *Price Guide*. Today's prices are:

UP over 50% from the original prices:	+++
UP between 25% and 50% from the originals:	++
UP between 10% and 25% from the originals:	+
SAME within \pm 10% of the originals:	*
DOWN between 10% and 25% from the originals:	-
DOWN between 25% and 50% from the originals:	--

The dollar figures given in the center column (in each table) are the averages of the original data, which is followed by the comparison symbol. The number in brackets directly following the tool name is the number of original samples taken for that item.

continued on page 8

February 2, 1992 Crafts Meeting
CRAFTS member Dominic Micalizzi will present a program on drilling (boring) tools. A variety of tools from his collection will be displayed.

CRAFTS of New Jersey

Collectors of Rare and Familiar Tools Society
of New Jersey

President . . . JOHN M. WHELAN, Murray Hill
Vice President . . . JOSEPH G. HAUCK, Lebanon
Secretary . . . BARBARA FARNHAM, Stockton
Treasurer . . . HELEN WHELAN, Murray Hill

The purpose of CRAFTS of New Jersey is to encourage interest in early trades and industries, and in the identification, study, preservation and exhibition of tools and implements used and made in New Jersey as an integral part of our heritage.

Membership in CRAFTS is open to anyone who shares the above interests. Annual dues per person or couple are ten dollars for the membership year of July 1 through June 30. Membership fees may be sent to the Treasurer: Helen Whelan, 38 Colony Court, Murray Hill, NJ 07974.

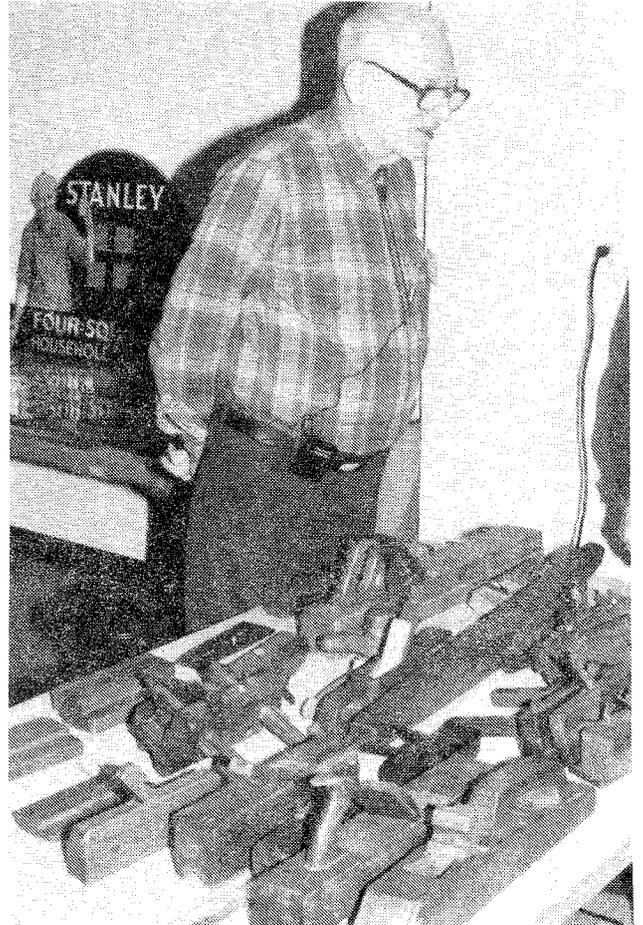
CRAFTS of NJ meets at the HOST Masonic Lodge, High Bridge. Take I-78 to Route 31 exit at Clinton. Go north on Rte. 31 two miles to second traffic light at the High Bridge exit. Turn right and go about half a mile to Dennis Ave. Turn left, then straight to the Masonic Lodge (on the left). Tailgate sales in the parking lot begin at 1 P.M.; meeting is at 2:00.

THE TOOL SHED

Published five times a year for members of CRAFTS of New Jersey. Editor: Stuart Shippey, 251 Hillside Ave., Chatham, NJ 07928-1732. Articles, especially about New Jersey tools and trades, are encouraged and may be sent to the editor. Text can be hand written, PC ascii, *Word Perfect*; FAX 201 301-9780.

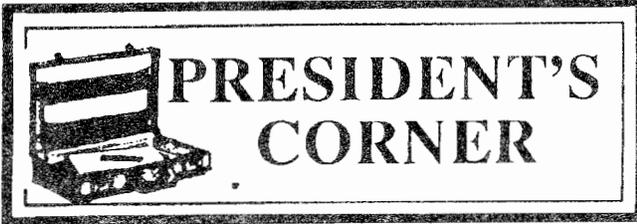
In Memorial

We regret the loss of Lee Donnelly, a long-time CRAFTS member. We extend our sympathies to his wife Mary Jane and family.



Jack Whalen's talk on Wooden Planes at the November 11 CRAFTS meeting

Jack Whalen gave a very thorough presentation on the history of Wooden Planes at the last CRAFTS meeting. He started with ancient Egyptian scrapping tools (pulled) and Viking planes, then explained the evolution of grips for long and short planes. At each point, Jack showed visual examples or recreations he made. The separation of joiners and carpenters and the start of wood-working professions were mentioned. Jack's many drawings (including exploded views) traced the evolution of planes during the golden age of woodworking (1600-1800). This excellent presentation was only a sample of Jack's forthcoming book on a very definitive discussion of the wooden plane.



The number of you who came on a miserable day to hear me talk about my passion was most gratifying. I hope I didn't disappoint you.

The current economic slump hasn't decreased our costs. Insurance and hall rental have increased significantly. We're trying to hold them down by returning to programs with talks by (unpaid) club members for most of our meetings. Our members who have spoken in the past (barring the last one) have been at least as interesting as the best hired lecturers. Let us know if you disagree. Better yet, if you have an enthusiasm for a tool topic that you'd like to share with your fellow club members, please let our program chairman (Don Kahn) know.

By this and other economy measures, we hope to be able to hold dues at the current level at least for next year. You can help! Recruit your tool collecting friends who don't yet know what a bargain *CRAFTS* is. Please pay your dues promptly when the *TOOLSHED* reminds you to, to save us postage for dues reminders.

The long-awaited price guide supplementing *Collecting Antique Tools* should be available this Spring. From the parts I've seen, Emil Pollak and Herb Kean have exceeded expectations and the work will be of major importance to us. *EAlA*'s book list also has some attractive titles, and Roger Smith's new volume is coming soon. The literature available today is a delightful change from the Club's early days, when there was very little information on paper.

Acquiring tools now is much different from when garage sales, flea markets, and one or two dealers were the only sources. I started my collection by looking for Butcher chisels, and it was a great day when I found even one! Times have changed, and we old-timers may be stuck in a time warp in our writing. We'd like to hear from the newcomers to collecting, how they started, what they're interested in, and how they find their acquisitions.

The availability of tools in these greater quantities has encouraged (and made possible) a greater degree of specialization than we grew up with. We've seen wrenches go from "junk and old iron" to a major specialization, and measuring devices have become another (to the point where it is sub-specializing). Even plumb bobs have their own newsletter, beginning its second year (*The Plumb Line*, 10023 Saint Clair's Retreat, Fort Wayne, IN 46825). Bill Frey is doing his best to corner the trammel point market, and one of these days I'll persuade him to share his knowledge with us.

For several years, we've had a line on our membership application forms asking for your particular interest and area of specialization. Often the new members have answered this in very general terms (woodworking tools, for example). After a few years of membership, many of you have narrowed your interest. Elsewhere in this issue you will find means of updating this information (or for the earlier joiners, for providing it). If your response shows that you think this is worth doing, we will organize the input to make sure that members with common interests can be in touch with each other. I often get inquiries from people who wish to dispose of tools from estates or other sources, and would like to know who might be interested. With a specialization list, I'll be able to direct them to you more accurately.

The "Whatsit" session at the *Mercer Museum* in Doylestown, PA was well received. Some of the items submitted stumped the panel, but those who attended got a clearer picture of the variety of gadgets out there in the old attics. The *Museum of Early Trades and Crafts* in Madison has asked us to participate in another such tool identification session this spring, and it is now in the planning stage.

Welcome to new members! Joining us since the last *TOOLSHED* are Wally Butler (Brick), Doug & Carol Chatten (Carlisle, PA), Charles & Cherie Fisk, Jr. (McLean, VA), Dr. William & May Shepard (Paramus), and Thomas Vetri, Jr. (Perrineville). *CRAFTS* attracts many members from beyond New Jersey, and we try to make the *TOOLSHED* and our programs interesting and timely to them as well.

The Lowly Adjustable Hollow Auger

by Joe Grasso

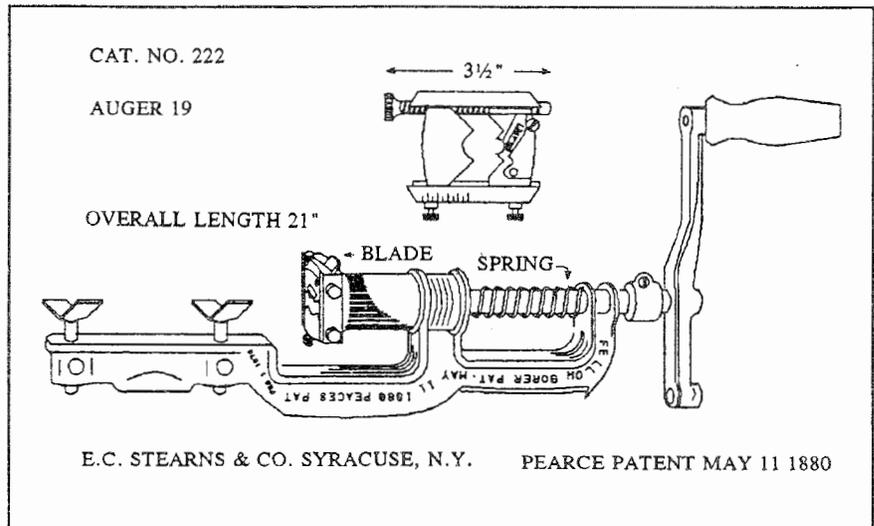
Most of us old tool buffs has an area of interest that sets us apart from the next *Joe Toolie*, be it braces, rules, primitives, recycled files, or whatever. Sometimes, it's one particular maker that may fascinate you, or maybe tools for making windows, or certain profiles on molding planes. This article is about my particular peccadillo, the adjustable hollow auger (AHA); even it's acronym is funny.

The hollow auger is the Rodney Dangerfield of the tool world; *it don't get no respect!* You've got to have thick skin to collect them. Other collectors love to poke fun about these misunderstood tools and their collectors. You also have to put up with a certain degree of loneliness because other AHA collectors are usually "in the closet", and won't admit to having an interest in public. I did find an ally last year in the *Tool Ads*. He's from Colorado and collects and uses them in his chair making business. We share whatever information we come across because there is very little written on the subject.

I got my last piece at one of the Beitler auctions and Barry Hercheler started the piece up by saying, "Have you ever seen a tool as ugly as this one?" I waited all day for it to come up so I sheepishly held my number up as I slumped down in my seat. I won it on the first bid.

That's another thing that bothers me; just once I'd like to get into a bidding war over one. As a rule, they don't go further than a few bids. I'd feel better if I knew that someone else appreciated them other than myself. AHA's are one of the few tools around that you can still get for between fifteen and thirty dollars. In today's tool market that's rare.

Like wrenches, it's fascinating how so many different design ideas were conceived to do the same basic job, and they did the job well. Whenever I get a new one, I tune and hone it and then try it out. When the blade is set



correctly it's a very efficient and satisfying tool to use. I've got quite a few, and just when I think I've them all, another variation shows up.

Two of my favorites (shown on facing page) are jumbo versions of a more common standard size. They were used by wheelwrights to put tenons on spokes. The handle or brace for these is incorporated as one piece.

Another favorite is the E.C. Stearns fellow borer (illustration above). It is a Pearce patent hollow auger mounted on a frame. The spoke gets clamped to the frame as the tenon is formed, much like a portable lathe. I don't know why Stearns called it a *fellow borer*; guess it had a nice ring to it.

In cataloging my collection I was forced to create sketches because many AHA's don't have makers names or patent numbers. I suspect it was because there were many patent infringements and the maker chose to remain anonymous. I have sketches like those accompanying this article of all the basic styles, and I'll be happy to send a set to anyone interested. Don't worry, I won't tell a soul you asked.

I hope that this article serves as a stepping stone and finally gives the hollow auger its place in the sun. Who knows, it might even launch them off into being the new wave in tool collecting!

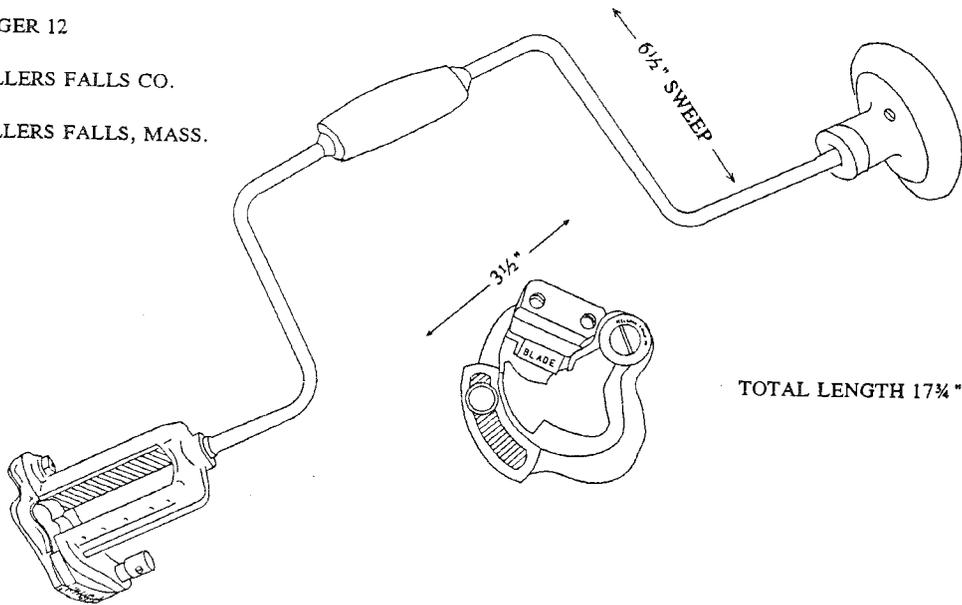
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AUGER 12

MILLERS FALLS CO.

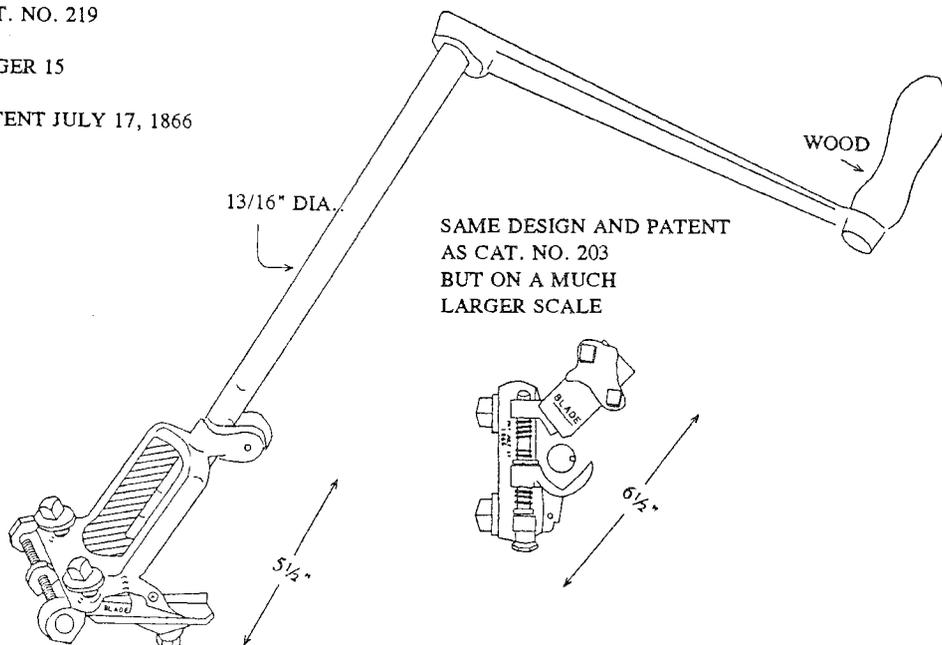
MILLERS FALLS, MASS.



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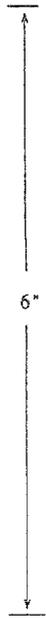
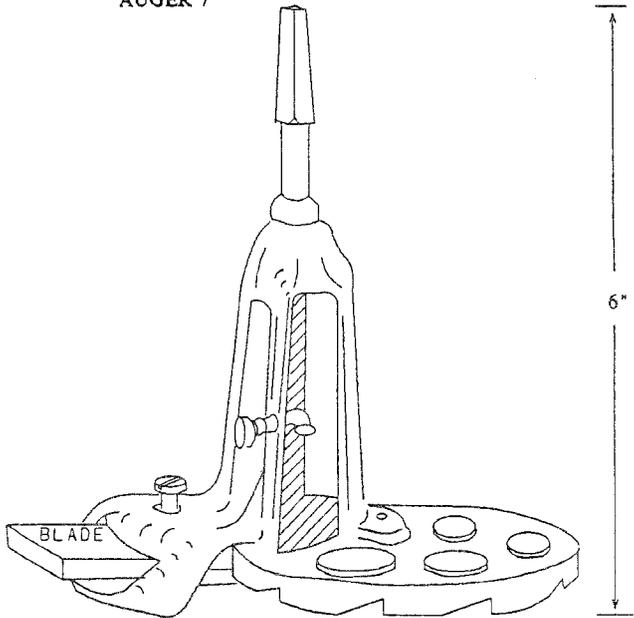
AUGER 15

PATENT JULY 17, 1866



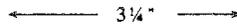
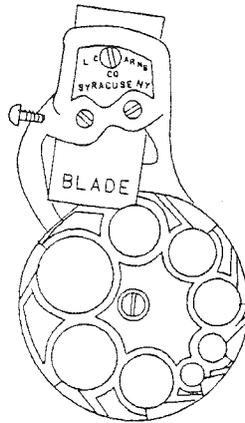
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AUGER 7



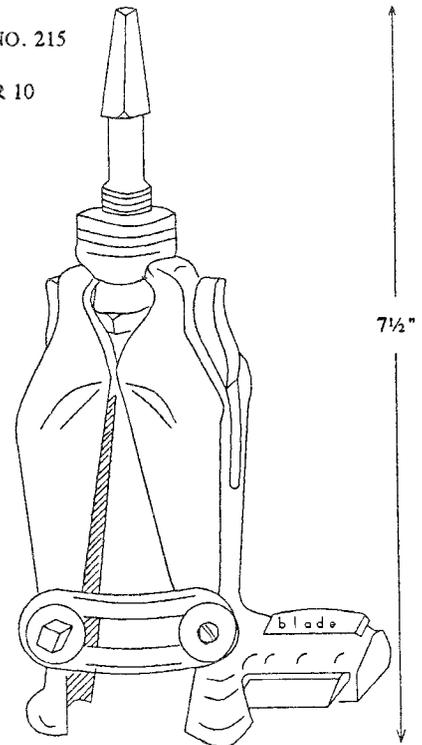
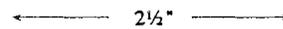
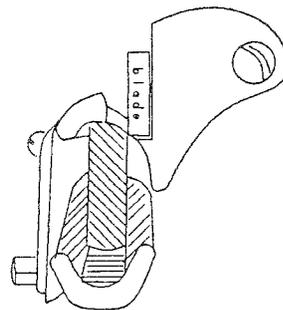
SAME AS BONNY'S PAT AUG. 2, 1870

L.C. STERNS
SYRACUSE, N.Y.



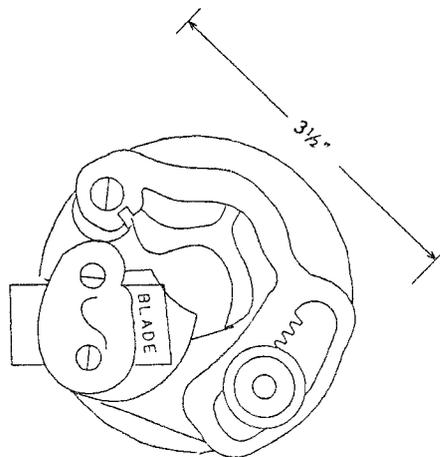
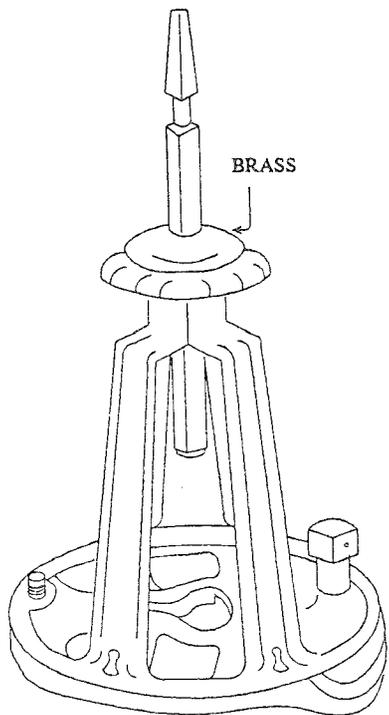
CAT. NO. 215

AUGER 10



CAT. NO. 207

AUGER 5



SIMILAR DESIGN TO STERNS PAT. 72

An American Will Cut Down a Tree
by James Laurent

In 1787 Thomas Capner left his native England and settled in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Although by this time the true frontier had disappeared in New Jersey, vestiges of it remained. The process of transforming timberland into plowed fields had been underway for a century, but most of the land was still virgin forest. In the area around Flemington, Capner observed, "there seems to be 4 times as much wood as cleared land."

It is not surprising that the inhabitants of the region were accomplished in their use of the axe. Nor is it surprising that Capner was impressed by his neighbor's abilities. His training in England enabled Capner to become a millwright in America, so he knew something about tools, and he could appreciate a master's touch. Interestingly, when he wanted to send a memento of his adopted land to a young friend back in England, he chose two miniature axes.

The following is taken from a letter written by Capner from Flemington, N.J., in 1787, shortly after his arrival in America. Note his use of the term "crooked ax" (because of the "crooked" handle) for broad axe. This excerpt can be found in Hubert G. Schmidt's *Rural Hunterdon* (New Brunswick, N.J., 1946). The original letter is in the *Capner Papers*, Hunterdon County Historical Society.

I have sent Samuel two little wooden axes. They are all the kind that are used here. With the least [i.e., smallest] they fell trees, cut wood, etc. If they want to square pieces of timber or trees, they cut them down or they line out the thickness they want. They then stand the tree out, notch two [sic] the line about a foot apart and split it off in small blocks. They then with the crooked ax stand on one side of it and hew it so true that you would think it was plained [sic]. They are likewise very dextrous with the small ax. Brother John says an American will cut down a tree whilst an Englishman is looking where to begin.

* * *

Advertisement

FOR SALE: Antique and quality used tools for the collector and woodworker; also many related items. Sensible prices; satisfaction guaranteed. Send LSASE for list. Louis Schmidt, 1362 West Front Street, Lincroft, NJ 07738-1119, (908) 741-4223.

Charles & Walter Jacob's Display
at the Nov. 10 CRAFTS meeting



Tool Prices - Then & Now continued

BORING TOOLS

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Cagehead brace (40) avg. of 2 & 3 bar styles	\$ 152	- -
Cooper's brace (9)	\$ 230	*
Gent's brace (14)	\$ 22	-
Plated Sheffield brace (45) avg. of signed & unsigned	\$ 99	*
Primitive brace (72) all 13 styles averaged	\$ 171	-
Ultimatum, ebony, Wm. Marples (26)	\$ 386	*
Boring machine, fixed model (15)	\$ 58	+ +

MEASURING TOOLS

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Mortise gage, ebony (14) brass stem and fenceplate	\$ 56	*
Blaisdell mortise gage (8)	\$ 227	*
Double calipers (11)	\$ 59	*
Greenleaf log calipers with pinwheel (4)	\$ 512	+ + +
Traveler (24), 50% hand forged, 50% factory made	\$ 30	*
Stanley, brassbound level, mahogany, 24"-30" (9)	\$ 59	*
Stratton, brassbound level, rosewood, 22"-30" (23)	\$ 88	+ +
10" (5)	\$ 216	*
6½" (9)	\$ 334	+
Davis, iron, inclinometer 12" (5)	\$ 151	+ +
Stanley shrink rule #30½ (7)	\$ 16	*
#36 & #036, all makers rules except Stanley (7)	\$ 136	*

SAWS

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Stair saw (4)	\$ 26	*
Bow saw & Turning saw (33) beech	\$ 36	*

WOODEN PLANES

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Simple molder, H&R, rabbet or bead F. Nicholson (9) I. Nicholson (9) C. E. Chelor (7) (all in Category I-7) Jo Fuller (20) Sleeper (11) A. Smith (9) Lindenberg (8) (all in Category II-5)	\$ 820	+ + +
Moving filletster (23) Category III-1	\$ 39	+
Screw arm, handled plow Cat. III-1, beech (54)	\$ 87	*
boxwood (16)	\$ 255	*
rosewood (36)	\$ 385	*
Complex molder (74) Cat. III-1, an average of 3 times as many irons under 1¼" as over 1¼"	\$ 38	+
Cornice (7) Cat. III-1 (iron 2¼")	\$ 119	+ +
Crown (9) Cat. III-1 (iron 4")	\$ 308	+ +
Widow tooth router (5) unmarked	\$ 24	*
Coach router (26) unmarked	\$ 23	+
Toothing plane (12) unmarked	\$ 20	+
Sun plane (17) unmarked	\$ 58	*
Croze (25) unmarked	\$ 36	+ +
Howel (15) unmarked	\$ 40	+ +
Windsor beader (7)	\$ 130	*

OTHER TOOLS

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Blacksmith's vise (8)	\$ 26	+ + +
Miter jack (26)	\$ 71	*

continued on next page

METAL PLANES

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Stanley # 1 (16)	\$ 483	+ +
Stanley # 5 (8)	\$ 32	--
Stanley # 8 (6)	\$ 52	*
Stanley # 9 (8)	\$ 906	*
Stanley #10 (12)	\$ 79	+ +
Stanley #45 complete (23)	\$ 92	+
Stanley #55 complete (19)	\$ 286	+
Stanley #113 (20)	\$ 58	+ +
Stanley #140 (11)	\$ 79	+
Stanley #212 (4)	\$ 700	+
Stanley #444 (8)	\$ 944	--
Phillips plow (7)	\$ 293	+ +
Siegley plow (5), 4 complete & 1 with 1 cutter	\$ 124	-

EDGE TOOLS

TOOL NAME (samples)	1979-87 AVERAGE	PRICE CHANGE
Broad axe (45) all 5 styles averaged	\$ 38	+ +
Goosewing axe (30) 60% European, 30% unsigned American, 10% signed American.	\$ 198	+
Gooseneck mortise chisel (12)	\$ 47	-
Slick 3" (24)	\$ 32	+ + +
Drawknife (6)	\$ 6	+ +
Chamfer knife (7)	\$ 28	*
Cooper's adze (12)	\$ 22	*
Cooper's axe (10)	\$ 50	+

Of the 60 line items, 5 were + + +, 13 were + +, 11 were +, 24 were *, 4 were -, 3 were --. That's 29 up, 24 same, and 7 down.

Before you make too much out of this, particularly if you play up the 1990-1991 recession, remember the average 8 year spread between the initial and final prices. What I consider more encouraging is the record breaking auctions in 1991. Even though the material was considerably better, there still was a significant improvement in the bidding. It was almost as if tools finally achieved full collectible status.

I'll comment on some of the results. Some may be just "quirks of data".

- + + + **3" slick**: the timberframing frenzy.
- + + + **Greenleaf log calipers**: Dramatic rare measuring tool, that has always been considered "upper crust".
- + + + **Planemakers before 1780** eg. the *Nicholsons* and *Chelor*: the cream of collectible wooden planes. They have signature, time of origin, and provenance, aside from being of historical importance.
- + + + **Plane makers 1780-1820** eg. *Fuller*, *Sleeper*, *A. Smith*, and *Lindenberger*: Not as early as above, but almost all else.
- **Stanley #5**: Everyone has one, including the users. We lack an underbelly of new collectors, interested in "starter" tools.
- **Stanley #444**: Came out like a "house of fire," until they all came "out of the wood-work." A phenomenon some other tools share.
- **Cage head brace**: Braces took a hard hit the past 5 or 6 years, and so did primitives and some "iron". Cage heads are unfortunately all three. But, they are coming back!
- + + **Boring machine, Broad ax, Drawknife**: Could be Timberframers again.
- + + **Cornice plane**: Planes have come into the spotlight and cornice planes are at the upper end of desirability.
- + + **Crowns**: same as above but more so.
- + + **Stanley #1**: No question that this "lil darlin" is going all the way.
- + + **Stratton level**: Still a "handsome" piece loved by the decorators.
- + + **Davis inclinometer**: Recent auctions show increasing interest in these levels.
- + + + **Blacksmith's vise**: Defies all reason. (Maybe the users want them in their shops.)
- + + **Phillips plow**: Part of the patent plane trend; again a stride toward becoming a true collectible with signature, time, and provenance.
- + & + + **Cooper's axe, croze, howel**: There is a renewed interest in coopers' tools.
- + **Goosewing axe**: People have finally come to their senses.
- **Primitive brace**: Terribly under-rated because it doesn't have signature, time, and provenance.

Hope you enjoyed the presentation.... Herb

Research Wanna-bes
by Joe Hauck

Several months ago I picked up a bound volume that had been turned into a scrap book for the sermons of DeWitt Talmage. The last hundred or so pages were not pasted over and revealed that the book was the *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents*. I did not know such a text existed. However, in talking to others, I came to learn that it was been used by several tool book authors.

The book lists the patents in numerical order for the year (in my case 1867) and gives a short description of the patent and who received it. I believe the front of the volume provides an index by subject and inventor, but I'm not sure because Mr. Talmadge's work has totally covered the original text. Just thumbing through I found both interesting and amusing patents. Number 66,174 Edward H. Roe, Jersey City, N.J. a handsaw (listed below). Patents 65,946 and 7 were awarded to Christopher Richardson for saw related patents. There are quite a few related to phones as well. Once you find a patent you are interested in you still must go to a library that has the full patent filings. This book is only an index.

As luck would have it, at least for us in Central New Jersey, someone just recently donated a set of these volumes from 1843 to 1920 to Rutgers University. They were in the Science and Medical library when I called, but had not found a permanent home. I would advise you to call ahead (908 932-2895). Happy hunting, and are there any DeWitt Talmage fans out there?

66,174.—EDWARD H. ROE, Jersey City, N. J.—*Handsaw*.—June 25, 1867.—The pressure of the screw on the back of the blade strains it and removes lateral kinks from the edge.

Claim.—The application of a screw or its equivalent to a back saw, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

Victorian Houseware
Hardware and Kitchenware

This new 1992 book by Ronald S. Barlow illustrates 2,000 Victorian factory-made antique and collectible household tools. The engravings may be used for graphic design, advertising, or craft purposes. The book includes a seven page index in front listing the contents by item category. A *Price Guide Section* at the back gives "educated guess or estimates". The only wood-working tools found are shown below. The book (\$19.95 + \$2 shipping) is available from:

Windmill Publishing Co.
2147 Windmill View Road, Dept. D
El Cajon, CA 92020

The Douglas Axe Manufacturing Company.
Hunt's and Sharp's Hatchets and Edge Tools.

Shingling Hatchet Lathing Hatchet

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Broad Axe, Pittsburg Pattern.

BROAD AXES.

Western Pattern. Pennsylvania Pattern.

Assorted from 11 to 13 inch Cut, and from 6½ to 8 lbs., . . . per dozen, \$32 00 Assorted from 11 to 13 inch Cut, and from 5½ to 7½ lbs., . . . per dozen, \$32 00

Exasperating Episode

by Howard J. Price

It was 7:00 A.M. on a raw and foggy April morning as I arrived at my favorite Flea Market. I had donned warm clothing and heavy boots for protection against the elements, but nothing could protect against what was in store for me.

As the fog lifted, it revealed a long and winding "gypsy caravan" of vehicles in various stages of decay and of every type known to man. As they made their way slowly onto the field, they were directed to their assigned positions by the Maestro of the Flea Market and his Elves.

I began to feel that this would be a special day for me. Little did I know just how special it would be. As I made my way among the dealers, I noticed other tool collectors from such prestigious organizations as ATTIC, Mid-West and E.A.I.A. The competition would be fierce. The very sound of a trunk lid opening or the screech of a van door was enough to bring a hoard of "vultures" swarming around the unsuspecting dealer.

And now, the plot thickens. I spied a dealer with whom I have had many fruitful transactions in the past and stopped to pass the time of day. I quickly determined that he had no wrenches for me and started to move on. Then it happened! In a voice I shall remember forever, he called out, "Are you interested in wooden planes?" Now, common decency dictates that you stop, look and admire. But I was marching to a different drummer that morning and called out, "No thank you", and marched on.

I am sure you have all raced ahead of me to the conclusion and you are right! Hours later as I was browsing in the vicinity of the exit, a voice called out, "Do you know anything about wooden planes?" My heart stopped and ice water ran in my veins as I turned to see one of the aforementioned tool collectors heading toward me carrying something in his hand. I also noticed that he was walking "two feet off the ground".

He thrust towards me a very primitive wooden plow plane and in fiery letters plainly marked on the end of the plane was the inscription:

C.E.CHELOR
LIVING* IN WRENTHAM

For those of you whose hearts have not also stopped, Francis Nicholson may be the earliest documented plane maker in America and Cesar Chelor was his black slave, freed upon Nicholson's death in 1753. As far as I know, Cesar Chelor made some of the finest planes we know of between 1753 and 1784. Only six planes of his planes have been located to date!

If you were to auction this plane, the bidding would probably start at \$2,000.00. A well known dealer offered a similar plane in 1988 for \$4,200.00! More than likely you would not touch or clean it but wrap it in a blanket and take it to a museum, Christy's or other experts in the field of primitives. My friend bought this plane for very little money; the very same one offered to me a few short hours before.

It is said that "hope springs eternal" and I shall return to that Flea Market in hopes that whoever watches over fools and tool collectors will give me another chance.

* * *

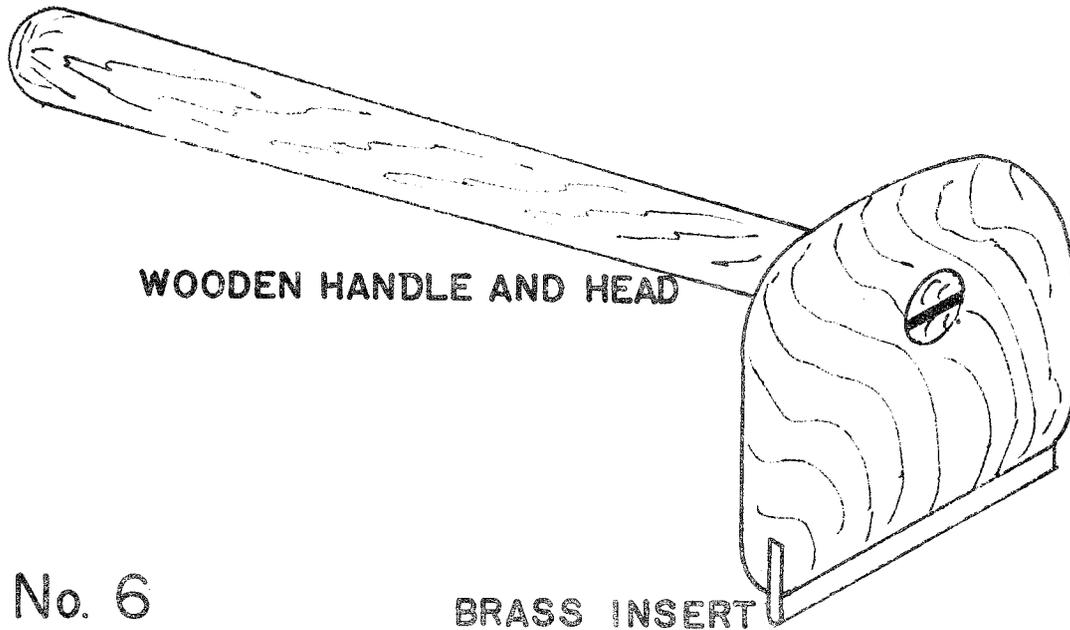
A Phobia We Would All Like to See Cured by Louis Schmidt

RHYKENOGICOPHOBIA - A persistent fear and/or avoidance of woodworking planes and most tools in general, experienced mainly by females. Very often the phobia-provoking stimuli (tools) are endured with intense anxiety. Repeated exposure to the stimuli almost invariably leads to an immediate and often prolonged anxiety response [e.g. pouting, tantrums, avoidance, crying, seizures, etc.] There is no cure or prescribed treatment for this phobia and the DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS, 3rd Edition Revised, has yet to recognize this phobia. However, it is certain that many tool collectors readily recognize these symptoms in their wives and/or girl friends.

* * *

We, the unwilling, led by the unqualified, have been doing the unbelievable for so long with so little, we now attempt the impossible with nothing Sign in an Antique Store.

WILLY TELLUS WHATSIT



Willy starts the year with an easy one. These are cabinetmaker's tools, always craftsman-made and varying in size and shape. The insert is usually 3-5 inches long. One was identified at the last whatsit session, and it is pictured in a popular reference book. Answer next issue.

* * *

CRAFTS Calendar of Events

February 2 - meeting at High Bridge

February 29 - TOOLSHED deadline

April 4 - Auction, Clinton Holiday Inn

April 5 - meeting at High Bridge

Auction Update by Joe Hauck

Things are well underway for our annual April auction. The lists should all be in by now and the February meeting is the deadline for tool delivery. I have notified a number of woodworking magazines, so our auction can be included in their calendar of events.

As always, I will also distribute flyers and posters at the February meeting. Your assistance in getting these displayed in the NY, NJ, and PA area is greatly appreciated. Some suggested places are large antique centers and shows, as well as lumber yards and tool supply stores.

Once again, we will not know until the week of the sale, if we will be setting up Friday night or Saturday morning. Therefore, we will call the set-up volunteers around Wednesday or Thursday before the sale.

P.S. The early lists look good. Some items: a Stanley #9 cabinet makers plane, a Stanley #72 chamfer plane, a J. Colton screw-arm fillister, and a Mockridge & Son witchet.