

The TOOL SHED

NUMBER 63

SEPTEMBER 1990



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CRAFTSMAN, STEVE ZLUKY (OUR OUTGOING PRESIDENT) by Jack Whelan

Steve Zluky is one of the founding members of CRAFTS; one of the group that gathered at Ed Bragg's home in December of 1977 to establish the club. He was elected President in 1978, and served in this capacity until he chose to retire this year. Under his guidance, CRAFTS grew from fewer than eighty members to its present family membership of 364 (604 members, including spouses).

Steve gets things done. He has recruited able people to accept the major responsibilities of Club operation, and given them authority to carry these out. He didn't interfere, but made sure that deadlines were met and was always ready to assist as needed to get the job done. The less glamorous jobs--the dog work--he didn't farm out but accepted them himself. As an example, your TOOL SHED (until this year) was delivered to Steve as a "master" by the Editor. Everything beyond that--maintaining the mailing list, arranging for publication, stuffing envelopes, licking stamps, and mailing--he took on, with Harry O'Neill's help.

You've seen Steve in the important job of Floor Manager at our auctions. This is only a

small part of the effort that he puts into our major fund-raiser. After helping Joe Hauck in the solicitation and collection of consignments, he handles the description of the tools for the catalog and has it published. His home has been the warehouse for the consignments, and he does the recruiting of hands and trucks to get them to the auction site.

The amount of effort Steve devoted to CRAFTS would have filled all of the free time of an ordinary mortal. Yet he is chairman of Social Studies at Watchung Regional High School, does

contracting jobs during the summer, and has made time to restore and enlarge a delightful 1857 home in Whitehouse, doing most of the work himself. The expansion includes a display room for his treasures; not limited to tools, but including antiques of many varieties. He occasionally parts with some of these at Antique shows, trading as Shaving Horse Antiques.

In all of these activities he is aided and abetted by his charming wife, Markay. Most of you know her as a mainstay of the accounting crew

at the auctions.

Pennsylvania is a favorite hunting ground for his tools, combining the hunt with family visits. He particularly likes the metal planes made by Edwin Hahn in Wilkes-Barre, PA. (1908 - 1918.)

(Continued on page 2)



Steve Zluky



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 to June 30. Membership fees may be sent to the Treasurer: Helen Whelan, 38 Colony Court, Murray Hill, N. J. 07974.

The Tool Shed

Published five times a year for members of CRAFTS of New Jersey. Coeditors: Frank W. and Mary Alice Kingsbury, R. D. 1, Box 316, Glen Gardner, N. J. 08826. Articles, especially about New Jersey tools and trades, are encouraged and may be sent to the editors.

collecting and I encourage you to consider setting up a small display, maybe one table. There might even be a prize by popular vote for the best display. Other games will also be set up for all ages. Don't forget the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.....or was it the Most Unusual, the Most Beautiful and the Ugliest tool. The popular Chinese auction will again be offered to those with a sporting spirit.

Ken Vliet, Picnic Chairman

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CRAFTSMAN, STEVE ZLUKY

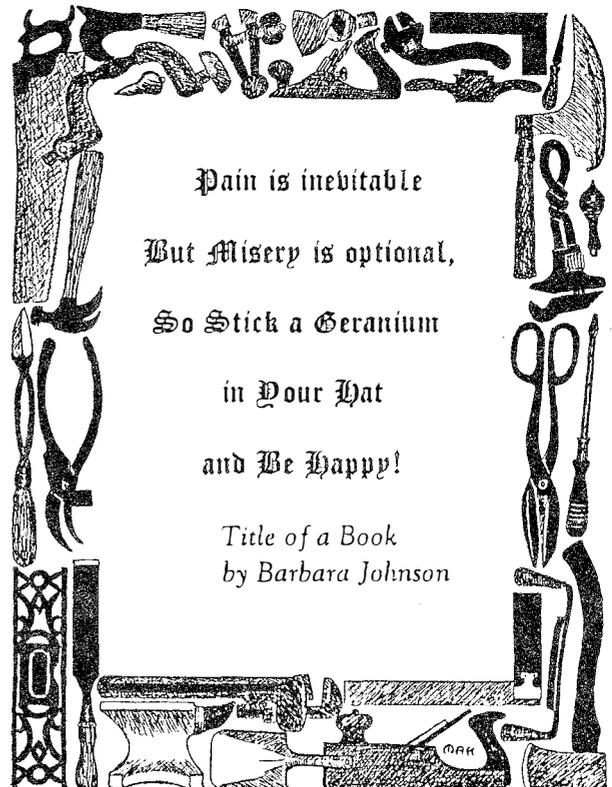
(Continued from Page 1.)

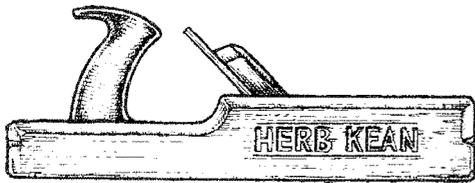
Not having Steve as President will take some getting used to. But in his role as President Emeritus and as a Director, you can count on him to backstop the new guy and to continue his efforts to improve CRAFTS.

* * *

SEPTEMBER 16 WILL BEGIN OUR '90 - '91 YEAR

How would you like to come to a picnic? It's almost that time of year again. CRAFTS Tool Club would love to see all members and friends come out for our annual event, Sunday, September 16, beginning at 10:00 A. M. If not a picnic, how about a tool swap with food, drink and assorted activities? Either way we will be holding forth at the Brady Camp in Pottersville, New Jersey the same as last year. The facilities provided at this location--shade, parking, covered building and fields--should be adequate for any weather. I anticipate sunny and seventies, and I'll bet my best wrench on it! All members should bring folding chairs, a dessert and stories or tools to swap. We all like to see what others (men and women) enjoy





Kean Kuttin's

THE LONE STAR STATE

When a good story crosses my mind, I'm generally compelled to pass it along. And, if it happens to be about tools, that makes it even more compelling. Almost all my tales originate in New England, either via personal experience or the cracker barrel environment. But this one happened in the unlikely tool state of Texas.

Years ago, when I was a real person (i.e. before my retirement), I used to make regular trips to Houston to sell for my company. They were always interesting and even exciting, as I managed to hobnob with real Texans and do real Texas things. However, I always lost at the game of one-up-manship that Texans play in business and in life. To them it was a fun thing; but to me it was frustrating. I rationalized that in business the seller was supposed to lose at gold and poker, but I still wanted to win something besides an order for my company. Well, my chance was soon to come.

On a particularly successful trip, my Texas customers took me to a Prison Rodeo just north of Houston. It was actually held in a prison by the prisoners. It was wild, and I mean wild! We bet on every event, and I lost them all. What was an "eastern city boy" supposed to know about rodeos anyhow?

As the rodeo was a yearly "happening", the merchants in the county took advantage of the enormous crowds and the holiday atmosphere that came with them. They set up "vending stations outside the stadium and sold everything from food to prison crafts. It was just one humongous flea market. We stopped to sample every kind of Texan and Mexican food known to man. While I was picking the jalapeño peppers out of my enchiladas, I spotted a table

with some old tools. It was like a letter from home, something I could identify with.

I wandered over with mixed emotions. Should I demonstrate my tool knowledge and let my buddies in on the buy, or should I hog all the tools for myself? They were beauties; all English and in decent shape: spill planes, dove-tailed smoothers and panel planes. We're talking about a time when English tools were in vogue, and reasonably expensive . . . but not these! The vendor apologetically explained that he got them for cleaning out a house. Even so, he must have figured that we were "live ones" and he would try what he felt was a high asking price. After much hemming and hawing he offered me the entire lot for \$150.

Now Texans are not necessarily impressed with "Yankee trading". In fact, just the opposite is what gets their interest. So I took out three fifty dollar bills and handed them quietly to the stunned vendor. That got everyone's attention, particularly since they knew it was not my style. They started questioning me even before we got out of earshot of the vendor. I must say they were quite impressed at the true market value of those old tools. And, as most people are, they were intrigued with the history and functions of the pieces. I was in my glory.

It's not true that Texans buy whatever it is that strikes their fancy, but they do seem to worry less about money, and get more out of life. It didn't take long before they decided to have a tool or two for each of them. They realized that these antiques were personal things to me, and treated them as such when they made their offers to buy them. I reluctantly surrendered my precious cargo at a reasonable profit, and everyone was happy.

So, all those great English tools stayed in Texas, except for one spill plane that I still have. But, more important to me was the thought (that brought a smile to my face as I was flying home) — I finally won one.

AN UNCOMMON COOPER'S PLANE

by Jack Whelan

The drawing shows a plane that crops up infrequently, and usually provides a puzzle for its owner as to its function. Mine, from the collection of late CRAFTSwoman Erna Stenzler, has no maker's mark; the iron is by I. A. Braunschweig. Most of the other planes of this type I'm aware of are also unmarked. The style, the three screw arms, and the fact that they are unsigned, although obviously professionally made, suggest Continental origin.

There are two exceptions that I know of: one in Ken Hopfel's collection, and another reported by Carl Bopp, were both made by John Veit (Philadelphia 1857-99). Although made in Philly, they look (to me) more in the Continental idiom than American. It's tempting to speculate that they were made to order to replace a tool brought over with a European cooper.

No reference to this tool has been found in English or American sources. One very similar (screw-arm knobs on top instead of bottom) is pictured in a Swiss publication.¹ It is described as being used to thin the edge of a barrelhead. The moveable fence is guided by one side of the head, while the cutter reduces the thickness of the head from the under side, as required to permit inserting it in the croze.

English and American coopers performed this task with a heading knife, a large curved drawknife kept very sharp. The bevels were cut, one on either side of the head, by eye. There is a plane, quite different from the present one, which was used in this country for the same purpose: it, too, is quite rare so that it could not have been popular. It has a plane body mounted on a trammel, which is swung from a

pivot fixed in the center of the head.

The plane pictured is not intended for the usual barrel: the curvature of my fence fits a head of 48 inch diameter. The French name given by M. Robert for the tool (*Rabot pour fonds de seilles*) translates literally as "plane for pail bottoms" but it seems clear that the word "seilles" must have been also used for some vessel rather larger than a pail. A similar tool, with stock and fence joined by a single stave (as in a post croze) rather than screw arms, is shown in a LaChappelle catalog.² This does not have the circular guiding rail on the stock, and is

billed as for "heads of any size".

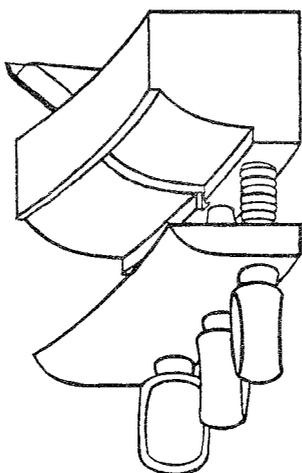
Both French and German names given: "*Rabot pour entailler les fonds*", or plane for cutting bottoms; and "*Einschneidhobel*", cutting or knotching plane "for bottoms of any size". (In both France and Germany, it seems, barrels do not have "heads". they have "bottoms".

It is clear that the tool works on barrelheads, but it will cut a bevel (rather a cove) on only one side of the head: in contrast to our double

bevel. So, in spite of the two references found, we are left without a clear understanding of the use of the plane. It's hard to picture raising a cask in the conventional manner if it has 48 inch heads. The largest one (the famous Heidelberg tun) is cylindrical rather than barrel-shaped: I don't know how it was built, but fitting staves to two heads seems possible. The cutting of a head with only one bevel, and a curved one at that, doesn't seem to me to offer an advantage in such a procedure.

My mentor, Carl Bopp, offers the suggestion that it was used to make large vats, such as were used to water stock. (These were called "backs" in England, and "back work" was a specialization of the cooper's trade.) As shown in the PBS film "Ben's Mill", these were raised by

(Continued on next page)



CLUB MEMBERS WRITE A NEW BOOK

CRAFTS members, Herb Kean and Emil Pollack, have just completed a new book, COLLECTING ANTIQUE TOOLS, which they feel will fill the needs of new and existing collectors for a practical and convenient guide. COLLECTING ANTIQUE TOOLS describes and illustrates over 700 of the most important antique tools with emphasis on those that are both available and affordable; ones that also have visual appeal and historic interest.

The book covers such practical aspects of collecting as:

- Where to find antique tools
- How to buy and sell them
- Tips on cleaning, restoring and displaying
- Books to read
- Clubs and organizations to join
- Common and not so common pitfalls to avoid
- and Materials used in tools.

Both authors are well known to members of CRAFTS. Herb has been a long-time collector of antique tools as well as a dealer, auctioneer, and restorationist. Originally educated in forestry, he spent years as a professional forester. He was one of the founders of CRAFTS and has served as a director for the past ten years. Emil is an enthusiastic antique tool collector who, along with his wife, is the author of A GUIDE TO AMERICAN WOODEN PLANES AND THEIR MAKERS and the SUPPLEMENT to the "GUIDE". He is the editor of PLANE TALK, the quarterly journal covering the field of planes. Emil has been a director of Early American Industries Association and also CRAFTS.

Copies of COLLECTING ANTIQUE TOOLS are expected to be available in late September or early October.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Roger K. Smith is now gathering new information on patented planes and their makers for inclusion in PATENTED TRANSITIONAL & METALLIC PLANES OF AMERICA, VOLUME II. If you have any planes or information such as advertisements, etc., not discussed or shown in the first edition, please write or call.

Full credit will be given for information used, and we will pay expenses for photography of planes, etc. This book should be available in the fall of 1991.

Contact Roger K. Smith, Box 177, Athol, Massachusetts 01331. 1-508-249-5990.

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COOPER'S PLANE (Continued)
fitting the side staves, individually knotted as a croze, to a bottom. Here a deep bevel or cove on the bottom side has an advantage: the bottom could then rest on the ground for support, rather than letting the ends of the staves carry all of the weight. This makes sense: but it would be nice to have documentation.

The plane was discussed at Pollack's Plane session at the Mystic meeting of E.A.I.A., and the above represents the combined knowledge of the experts assembled there. I would be pleased to hear from any of you who can add to this. If you have unusual planes, unreported in the accessible plane literature, and can offer ideas on their use, why not write them up for the TOOLSHEED or for PLANE TALK? Emil Pollack and I are putting together a book on the form and function of wooden planes around the world, and would like it to be as complete as possible. We'd also like your informal communications: if new to us, we will be sure to acknowledge your contribution.

¹ J. F. Robert, LES RABOTS, Cahier #1, Musee du Bois, Lausanne, Switzerland, 1985.

² LaChappelle, General Catalog #12, 1945.

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VETERINARY OPERATING TABLES AND HOBBLES

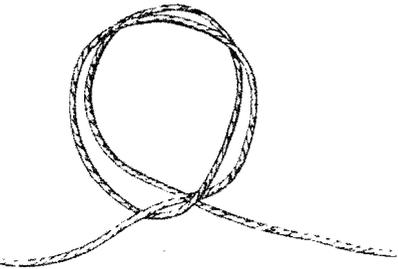
by Raymond R. Townsend

We are familiar with the fine equipment and facilities of our physician and our hospital, but when we take our pet animal to the Veterinarian we do not see his facilities. Were we to do so we would find his equipment is every bit as good as that of the above.

Should our dog require surgery, it is necessary to first prevent the animal from biting. A simple method is to apply a tape around his jaws.

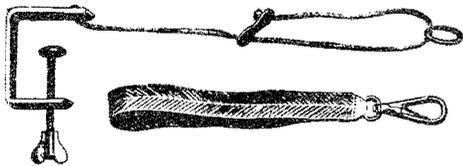
The best method to accomplish

this is to hold his jaws with a clove hitch. The two loops are made in reverse directions and folded on each other so that they fall as shown in the illustration.



Clove Hitch

The next step is to fix the animal in the most convenient position for performing the operation and, at the same time, to afford the minimum risk of injury. For minor operations all that may be necessary is to have an assistant hold the animal. For longer, more delicate

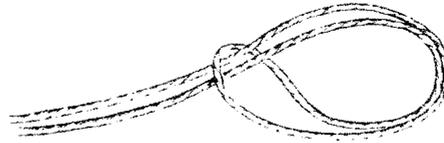


Hobble

operations it is best to secure the animal with hobbles on a suitable operating table. Pictured is a portable type of hobble. It consists of a clamp which can be placed on the edge of an ordinary kitchen table, a tape (to be passed around each leg), and an adjustable sliding cord by which the length may be adjusted as neces-

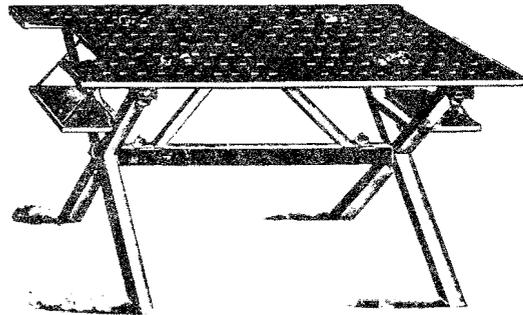
sary. For improvised hobbles, make a slip noose in the center of each of four pieces of

tape and then fix the loose ends to the legs of an ordinary kitchen table, or to nails or hooks driven into its edge.



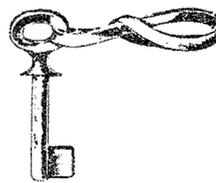
Slip Noose

The operating table is essential in every canine practice. An excellent table is illustrated below. The top is made of metal or some hard wood so that it will bear constant washing. If wood is used, it should be about 1 inch thick. The top should be about 2 1/2 by 5 1/2 feet which will meet the requirement for all breeds of dogs. The front is in the form of a semicircle,



Operating Table

as this sometimes affords an advantage when operating upon the parts which overhang it. The keyholes are placed in parallel rows at intervals of about 3 inches; the long part of the hole is made to point toward the center of the table.



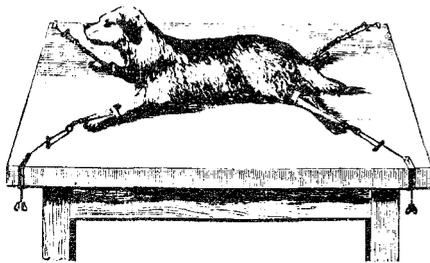
Key Hobble

The key which fits into these holes is made of brass or other metal, shaped like an ordinary solid key, but having a

shoulder or rim running just underneath the loop in order to prevent it from passing too far into the hole in the board. The hobble consists of a piece of tape passing through the ring on the key, with its two ends stitched together.

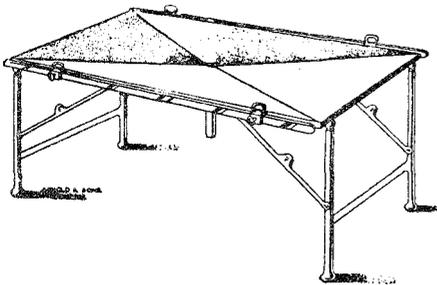
OPERATING TABLE (Continued)

To secure the animal, the clove hitch is placed on the jaws as described; then the hobbles are tightly applied around each leg (in the forelegs, above the carpus or elbow, and in the hind legs above the tarsus). The forelegs are secured by passing the keys through two of the holes in the table and giving them a twist; then using the hind hobbles in the same way, pulling the hind legs down simultaneously. The main precaution is to see that the legs are sufficiently wide apart and well stretched out to allow no violent struggling.



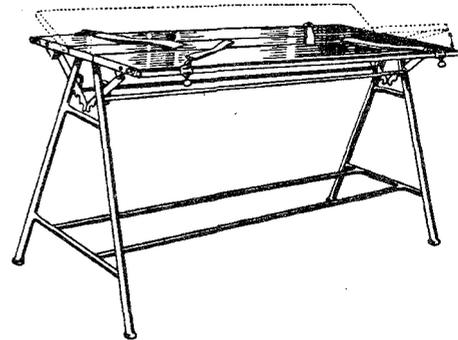
Dog on Ordinary Table with Hobday's Hobbles

When a plain table top is used, without the keyholes, the hobbles are attached to rings or clamps on a sliding bar affixed to either side of the table, using the hobbles pictured previously. Note the hooks for attaching the hobbles on the collapsible metal table illustrated below.



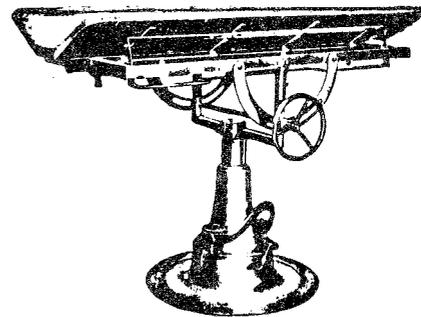
Metal Operating Table (Collapsible)

Another type of metal operating table has an adjustable top (note the hobbles are in place in this illustration). The dotted line shows how the sides may be adjusted.



Metal Operating Table with Adjustable Top

A modern adjustable operating table, shown below, illustrates another type of veterinary equipment, that is in use in today's canine practice.



Modern Operating Table (Arnold's)

I must admit that I had never considered what equipment my DVM might have. These are only a few of the very fine facilities he utilizes. The next time I take my dog to my veterinarian, I plan to ask if I may see his operating room Most revealing.

Source: McCunn, James, HOBDAV'S SURGICAL DISEASES OF THE DOG AND CAT, 4th Edition, Baltimore 1939, William & Wilkins Company.

NOTE: The illustrations presented are still applicable today even though the book was printed 50 years ago. Editor: F W K / D V M.

**Open Thy Mouth
and I Will Fill It.
--Sign in Dentist's Office**

EARLY SHEEP AND WOOL INDUSTRY --- PART II

by Barbara Kes Farnham

THE WOOL INDUSTRY

The sheep have been shorn and we have numerous fleeces to be processed either commercially or as a cottage industry. A wool tester is used in the industry to determine the general wool quality. A small quantity is pulled from the center of the rolled fleece. The early one (illustrated in Part I) is much like those used today. We can now determine what the use of the wool will be. How fine is it? Shall it be spun for sweaters or woven? Is it best for a rug or blanket?

Most of the tags and belly wool are removed from the fleece. We might throw the tags into the humus pile, and the short belly wool would make good insulation if properly processed. Some commercial companies might use these. The best wool is then washed (scoured) in warm water with a gentle detergent such as Palmolive or Ivory and then rinsed again in warm water, not hot or cold. At this point the wool is generally dyed, if desired, with a natural or commercial dye, rinsed again to remove excess dye, and dried on racks. When dry, the wool is teased or pulled apart and then carded for spinning. Longer fibered wool is combed for worsted and spun tighter. The shorter fibers provide a softer wool fabric than the worsteds.

The commercial process is somewhat more complex: (1) Sorting - similar to home processing and determined by usage.

(2) Dusting and Opening - to remove as much dirt as possible before scouring and opening up the fleece for more effective washing.

(3) Scouring - the wool is moved through tubs of warm water with soap or detergent, to remove most of the grease and dirt, and rinsed. There is slight agitation by means of forks or

parallel rakes. It is raked up, squeezed and placed back in wash solution. The water is squeezed out by rollers, after the final rinse, and it is placed in dryers (4) which circulate warm air. High heat is avoided.

(5) If vegetable matter or burs remain, these may be removed by a bur picker or by chemical carbonizing. Care must be taken not to damage fibers of the wool. For the home processor this is done by hand. Some will use a picking machine but this often tears or chews up the wool, damaging it.

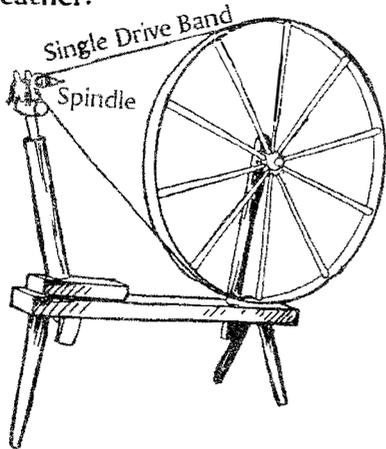
(6) Blending, Oiling and Mixing comes next. Layers of wool are given a light spraying of oil and mixed by machine. Again this is done by hand in the cottage industry. The handspinner might spray the wool with a mix of 10% mineral oil and water if the wool has become too dry, perhaps by overwashing.

(7) Carding removes more of the foreign matter and also separates the fibers that cling together. This is done with cylindrical drums, covered with fine wire teeth, that revolve in opposite directions. The cards form the wool into batts or roping (roving). The home processor uses small drum carders, similar to the commercial, or hand cards. The hand cards are, of course, the early method. The wool is laid on one card and drawn across with the other card, then pulled across the first, repeating several times and removing from one by rolling off. The resulting wool roll is called a rolag. The fibers are fluffed and soft.

(8) Combing is the process used next when worsted is desired or for long staple. The wool fibers are laid parallel to each other. These combed fibers are called combed "sliver" and wound into a ball a foot or more in thickness. This is further processed into a finer diameter or "top". The home processor uses a flick for making these slivers for worsted and it replaces carding. The flick or flicker is a single, small hand card with (Continued on next page)

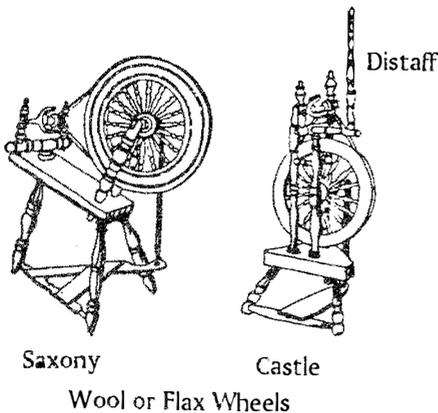
THE WOOL INDUSTRY (Continued)

a handle about six inches long. It is most efficient when the wool is held against a board or piece of leather.



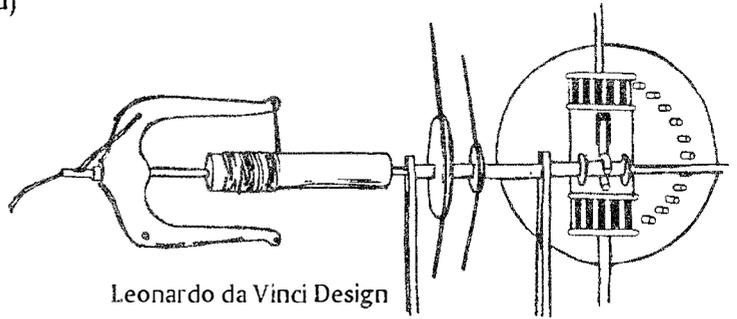
The Great "Wool" Wheel---With Spindle Head.

(9) Spinning is the drawing out and twisting of the wool fibers into yarn. Commercially there are various types of machinery; best known is the "mule" or jenny. Hand spinners use drop spindles or a variety of spinning wheels. We think of the big "wool" or walking wheel in relation to wool, but the small sitting wheel, frequently called the "flax" wheel, is also used for wool. Most flax wheels have a distaff from which the flax is drawn and a smaller orifice into which it is fed. A distaff is rarely used for wool and then on a stick for use with the great wheel. Roving is placed on this distaff and it is held in one hand while the other is feeding the spindle.



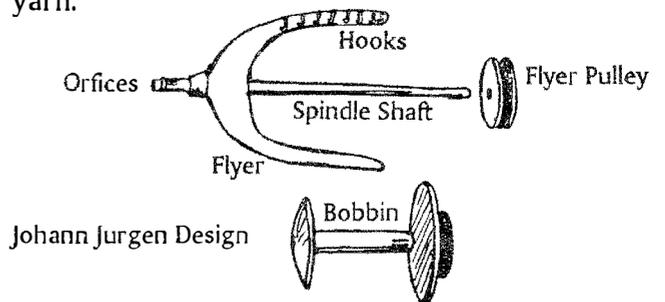
Saxony Castle
Wool or Flax Wheels

When using the small sitting wheel of the Saxony or Castle type, the rolag is held in the

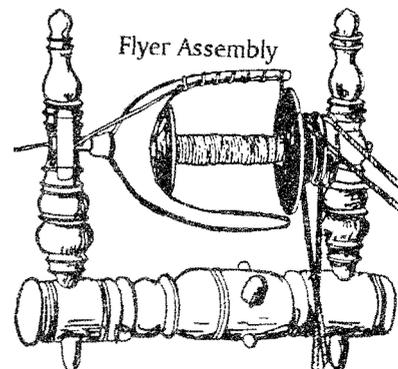


Leonardo da Vinci Design

lap or perhaps a long piece of roving is wound onto a cone and fed from the floor. This type wheel utilizes a flywheel instead of a spindle and was originally designed by Leonardo da Vinci. The yarn is generally moved from hook to hook as we move across the bobbin. Today we have an innovation which automatically moves the spun yarn across. We consider it new . . . but it isn't. Leonardo planned this on his original flywheel. However, Leonardo's flywheel was not used. It took Johann Jurgen of Holland in 1530 to make spinning wheels with a redesigned flywheel which has come down to us today. But it omitted this "new" innovation of the flyer sliding back and forth to distribute the yarn evenly on the bobbin. Jurgen used little hooks on which the spinner manually moved the yarn.

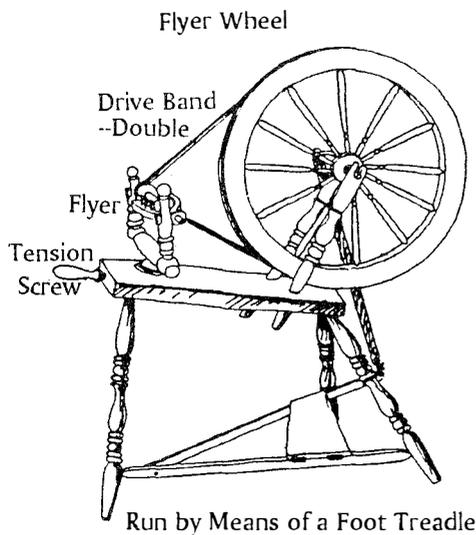


Johann Jurgen Design

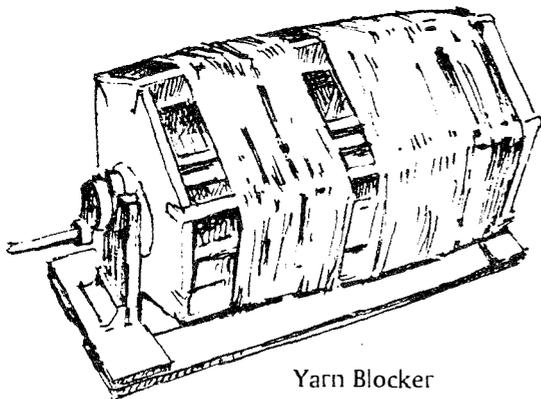


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THE WOOL INDUSTRY (Continued from page 5)



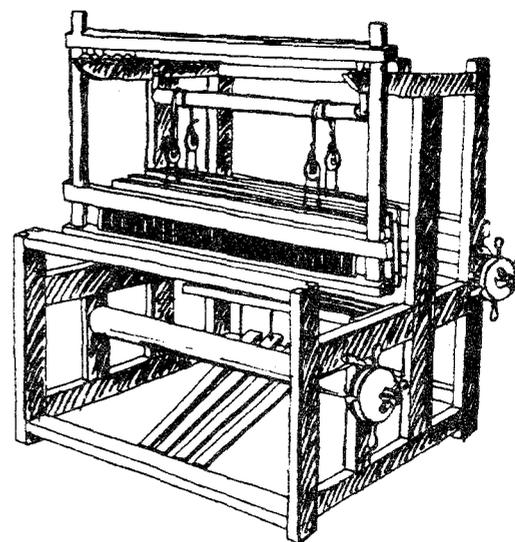
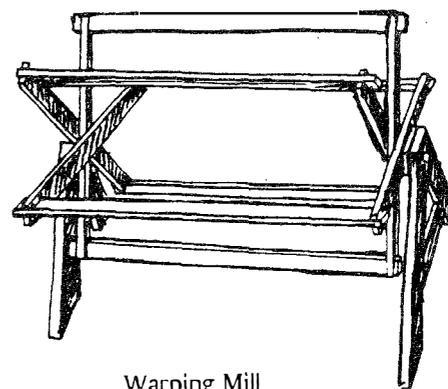
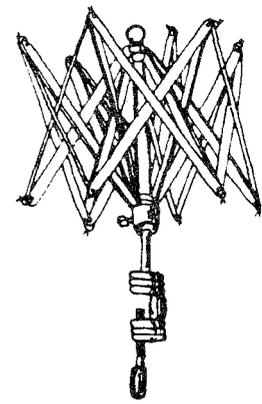
After spinning, the yarn is run off the bobbins onto the yarn winder which counts off the yards and makes skeins. The wool is then dampened and hung on rods with heavy weights to dry. This blocks the wool so that it will be under even tension for knitting or weaving.



Sometimes a drum yarn winder or blocker is used. It is perhaps more efficient. A niddy-noddy can be used in place of a yarn winder to measure off the wool for skeins. A swift has many uses. It is primarily used for unwinding different sized skeins. The skein can be placed on it for winding into a ball or used directly off the swift.

(10) The yarn has been spun and is ready for weaving or knitting. Weaving is the method by

which most fabric is made. It is the interlacing of two or more sets of yarn, the warp and the waft or woof. The yarn for the warp is measured off on a warping mill. The weaving is done on a loom. There are tapestry looms similar to those used by the Navajo Indians for their rugs. There are also various simple or complex looms for cloth, blankets, belts, coverlets, etc. with two or more harnesses. With more harnesses, the designs can be more complicated.



THE WOOL INDUSTRY (Continued)

Knitting is the process of making cloth from one continuous yarn by catching up one loop into another. In felting, sheets of wool fibers are matted together with moisture, heat and pressure.

Another innovation which jumped through the centuries and was thought to be rather new is the knitting machine. The first one was invented in 1589 by William Lee. It was a stocking frame, as stockings were one of the few garments knitted at this time. Vertical sinkers drove up and down, forming yarn into loops, while "bearded" needles retained the loops. There were 8 needles to the inch, producing 600 loops per minute. It is said that Lee took his invention to Queen Elizabeth of England for a patent. She refused him because she would not wear the coarse-knit wool stockings it produced. He proceeded to develop a machine for silk (20 needles to the inch) but the Queen died before he had finished. He took the machine to France where it was better accepted. By 1782, however, there were 20,000 stocking frames in English homes.

(11) Dyeing and Finishing. Color was added by dyeing or printing. Wool may be dyed before spinning, after the yarn is spun, or after the weaving of the fabric. In the blanket industry, teasels are used to tease or fluff the nap. Teasels can often be found growing along the wayside . . . one of nature's early tools.

* * *

TOOLS FOR SALE - The editor has received a number of pictures of a tool collection. The tools are available individually or all together from: Mr. Gil Yoffredo, 100 Evergreen Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002. 201-858-4979.

* * *



WANTED - Cast brass, J. Popping planes, J. Erlandsen mitre plane, J. Popping mitre plane. Dominick Micalizzi, call 201-521-0666 during business hours.

WANTED - PARAGON, Pistol grip style speed indicator! Shark wrench - Richards Mfg. Co.! & other unusual wrenches!
Howard J. Price, 61 Connelly Rd., New Milford, CT 06776, 203-354-9983.

AUCTION - National Antique Tool Auction by Brown Auction Services, Bud Brown, Mgr., Samuel Ferraro, Auctioneer; Saturday, Oct. 13, 1990, at Wilson World Hotel, Exit 22, Pennsylvania Turnpike (on US Route 10), Morgantown, Pennsylvania. Dealer sale, Friday, October 12 1990, 1 to 7 P.M. Admission - \$2.00 or Current Catalog. Auction preview October 12, 1 to 7 P.M. and October 13, 8 to 10 A. M. For hotel reservations call 800-342-2276 from out of state or 800-248-2276 in PA and mention "Tool Auction" to receive a Special Rate.

* * *

BOOK AVAILABLE -- PATENTED TRANSITIONAL & METALLIC PLANES IN AMERICA, 1827 - 1927.

This book has just been reprinted--same high quality with 41 full-color plates, etc. Over 340 pages--20 pages updated and 16 pages of new information, including Stanley Nos. 45 & 46 Type Studies and information on the Shuttle Plane. Available now @ \$55.00 post paid.

NOTE: If you already have the first edition of this book a 36-page loose leaf supplement with the new pages is available @ 13.50 post paid.

Available from the author, Roger K. Smith, Box 177, Athol, Mass. 01331. 1-508-249-5990.

* * *

MEETING NOTES

JUNE 10, 1990

TOOL DISPLAYS---Chuck Granick's display included a "Set of 19th Century Mother Planes", "Some Tools by George Wheatcroft, Newark, N.J.", and "Some Tools by Philadelphia Makers". Exhibited were braces, spokeshaves, watchman's clackers, and saw handles by Bagshaw & Field, E. Mills & Co., and by John Booth & Sons, and Booth Mills & Co. The tools displayed were beauties and were clearly and attractively labelled.

Alex Farnham's display table held two interesting exhibits. His T-handled tools included augers, reamers, a wool tester, a meat hook, a sugar devil, a turn screw, a hay hook, etc. On the other half of the table were wooden toy tools, models for patents and patterns for production including those carved by amateurs, by apprentices and by highly skilled craftsmen.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING---The amended BY-LAWS were voted on and adopted (our constitution had been unchanged for 12 years). Harry O' Neill presented the slate of officers and they were duly elected:

President--Jack Whelan, Vice President--Joe Hauck, Secretary--Barbara Farnham, Treasurer--Helen Whelan, Co-Editors of the Tool Shed--Frank W. & Mary Alice Kingsbury. Board of Directors--Herb Kean, Harry O'Neill, and Steve Zluky. Leaving the Board is Fred Shippey. Don Kahn will be replacing him as program chairman.

SPEAKER---CARL BOPP effectively related "How Planes Were Made in Philadelphia" utilizing three unique inventories from a family of plane makers. The inventories were taken to settle the estates of George White who died in 1824; his father, Jacob in 1833; and Israel White, his son in 1839. The first inventory occupied 2 pages (97 lines) and listed everything used to construct planes from the exact number of birch

billets drying in the attic down to the brass adjustment screws. Carl demonstrated how the white birch was cut to the length of the plane, then split so that the bottom of each plane would be formed of the sapwood close to the bark (to wear evenly). It was then dried for four years. Tools and equipment included 12 workbenches at \$1.50, 50 chisels (5c each), a grindstone, lathe, axe & chopping block, stove & pipe (for melting and tempering) and much more.

In 1833 when Jacob White died at the age of 78, 32 pages (over 700 lines) of inventory were recorded. The same man, Peter Corrigan, did all of the title searches and James Silcox, a plane maker, signed the papers. This second inventory listed the items found on each floor including attic and back attic of the shop. The third story held shop equipment, sundry equipment, satinwood (for arms?) and new planes. There were well equipped workshops on the second floor and in the basement (first floor). There were even 491 planes in the hall of the dwelling, as well as hardware and miscellaneous items in Mr. Israel White's rooms, and planes, shop tools and lumber in the rear of the residence. The total value was \$2,365.27 1/4 including over 3,000 planes.

Six years later when Israel White died the inventory was only two pages and totalled \$2,160.91. It included 3 lots of beechwood.

COMING EVENTS

CRAFTS MEETING DATES for the 1990 - 91 year.

(on Sundays)

September 16 (Picnic)

November 18, 1990

February 3, 1991

April 7 (Auction on April 6), 1991

June 2, 1991

THE TOOL SHED deadlines for contributors are 1 month in advance of the meetings.

AUCTION---October 13 (see notice on page 11)