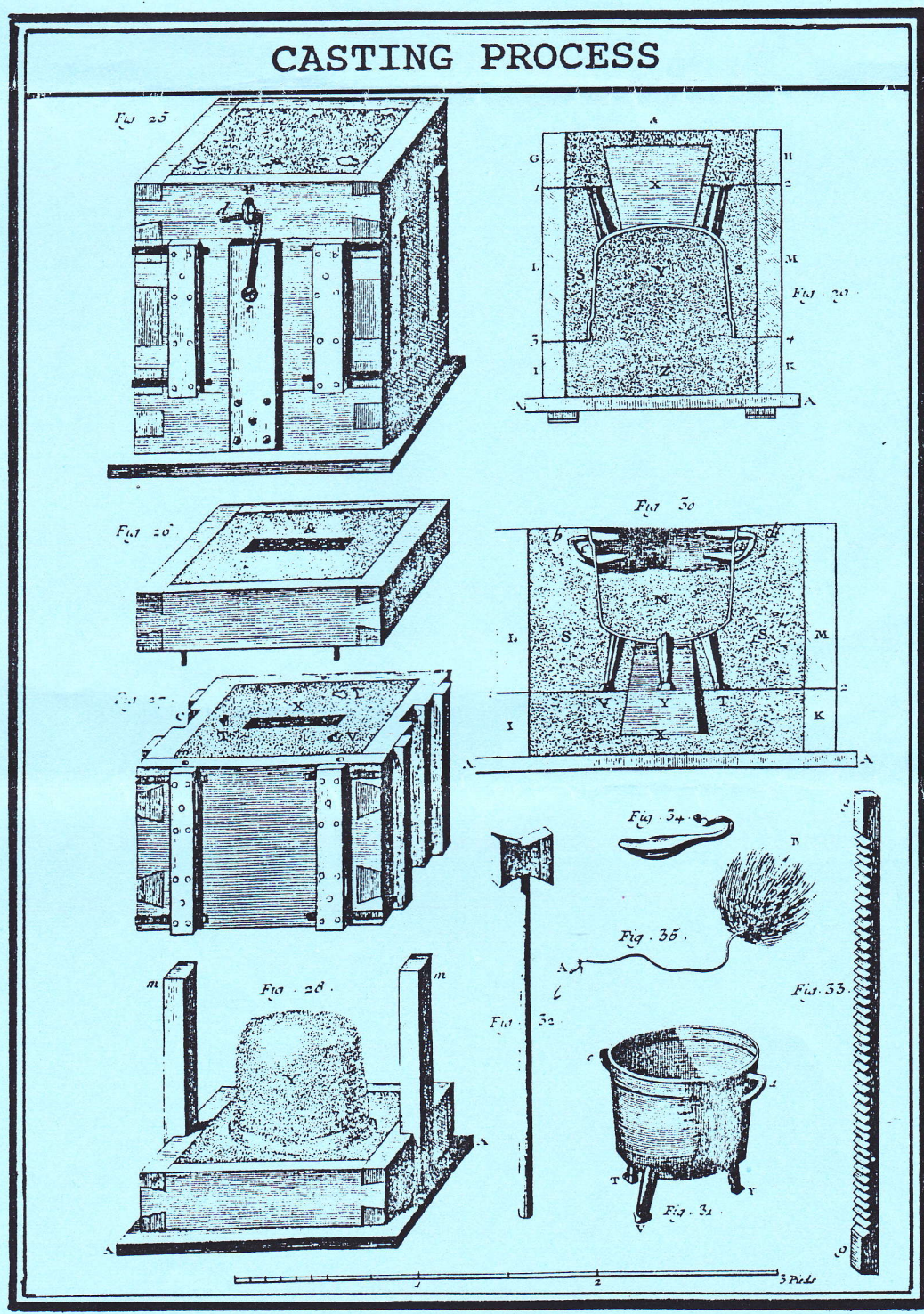


THE TRADE TOOLS GROUP INC.  
 TTTG NEWSLETTER NO.15  
 FEBRUARY 1994



'The History of Tools is the History of Man'

# THE TRADE TOOLS GROUP

GREGORY'S  
PAGE 6

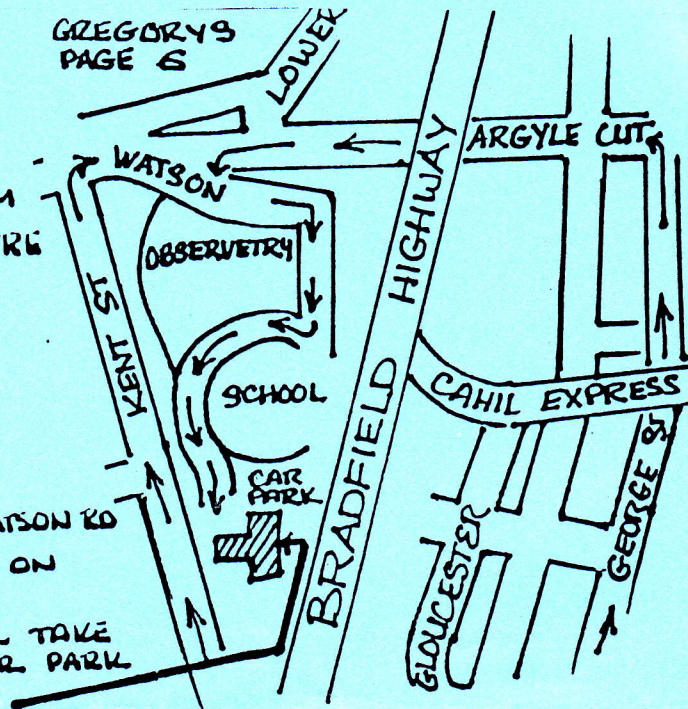
## MEETINGS:

THE ANNIE WYATT ROOM  
NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE  
OBSERVATORY HILL

## TIME:

COMMITTEE 7.00  
GENERAL 7.30

DRIVE OR WALK UP WATSON RD  
PASS THE OBSERVATORY ON  
YOUR RIGHT  
FIRST RIGHT ROAD WILL TAKE  
YOU UP TO A FREE CAR PARK  
FRONT ENTRANCE



DRIVE UP EITHER KENT ST OR GEORGE ST

## CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence to any committee member of TTTG should be addressed to:-

The Secretary, TTTG Inc.  
Mr F. Murrell  
C/- Mann Judd Associates Pty Ltd  
159 Kent Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contributions for the newsletter should be forwarded to the above address and endorsed "Attention Editor".

### NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8TH

AT THE ANNIE WYATT ROOM, NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE, OBSERVATORY HILL. COMMENCING AT 7.30PM SHARP

#### PROGRAMME:

1. BOB CROSBIE WILL EXHIBIT AN ASSORTMENT OF CLAMPS & CRAMPS.
2. GUEST SPEAKER GEORGE PROUDMAN (MASTER STONEMASON) PROMISES TO CAPTURE EVERYONE INTEREST.
3. DRAWING OF THE DOOR PRIZE.
4. HENRY BLACK (OUR CLUB PATTERNMAKER) WILL SHARE WITH US SOME OF THE SECRETS OF HIS TRADE AND DISPLAY SOME OF HIS TOOLS AND PATTERNS.
5. MEMBER PARTICIPATION - FRED MURREL WILL CONDUCT OUR "WOTS IT" AND NEW ACQUISITION SESSION.
6. WE'LL UNPACK A MYSTERY TOOLBOX AND ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY THE TOOLS AND THEIR USES.
7. SUPPER
8. BROWSING FOR OUR MEMBERS - WE INVITE YOU TO CHECK OUT
  - \* OUR BOOK LIBRARY (SEE OUR LIBRARIAN, SID BAILEY)
  - \* TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE EVENINGS DISPLAYED TOOLS
  - \* PARTAKE IN OUR SECOND TOOL SWAP.

**TTTG Inc.**  
**THE TRADE TOOLS GROUP**

**TTTG NEWSLETTER NO.15**  
**FEBRUARY 1994**

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New address for correspondence

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Mortice Chisels	Bob Crosbie
This month's cover	

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Classified Advertisements

**"DEADLINE" FOR NEXT ISSUE:** March 1994

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Any opinions expressed are those of the contributor.

**SPECIAL MEETING**

Friday, March 25  
7.00 p.m.  
Redfern Town Hall  
71 Pitt St, Redfern

**Guest Speaker:** Ken Roberts  
speaking on Norris and Spiers planes

**VISITORS WELCOME!**

## NICK MASTERMAN

Nick Masterman died on Sunday January 2nd after a short struggle with the asbestos induced disease Mesothelioma.

Nick who was 45, served his shipwright apprenticeship at Cockatoo Dockyard in the late 60s. He then undertook further studies in Naval Architecture here and overseas in Japan and Europe. A keen sailor since childhood, Nick had a mould from an oldtime Balmain boatbuilder, Bert Hancock, from which he produced 10ft sailing dinghies at his Numa St workshop on Long Nose Point. "Masterman Wooden Boats" also produced a "Butcher boat", an 1860 predecessor of the racing scull with sliding seat, quite fast in the water.

The restoration of the steam yacht ENA was possibly the most ambitious work undertaken by Nick; a very complex and demanding job in which he managed a large number of disparate trades to produce a first class result.

A long standing member of the Woodworkers Group and a founding member of TTTG Nick had very strong ideas about the use of Cockatoo boatshed as a working museum. He was recently elected as an independent alderman on Leichhardt Council where he played an effective role advocating a return to a smaller scale of working, living and playing in one's own suburb, the Balmain peninsular in particular.

A memorial service was held on Friday January 7th at the Campbell St. Presbyterian Church in Balmain. The church, hall and street were full of people, who after the service boarded one of several ferries or the yacht Boomerang and took a trip up harbour where ENA had a head of steam up. After much tooting the armada arrived back at Elkington Park via Long Nose Point and thence to the Riverview Hotel; or as Nick termed it "The Office". Farewell Nick.

## BUSHFIRE LOSS

In the recent bushfires, Mike Hendrickson suffered serious damage to his wheelwright workshop adjacent to Old Sydney Town. Most of his larger machines were spared but Mike lost almost \$50,000 worth of timber and a significant number of hand tools, many of them of historic value.

Mike's good humour and optimism seems undented by the experience but TTTG wishes him well in getting his business underway again.

## A VOTE OF THANKS

A special vote of thanks goes to Maurice Brown for the very interesting show he arranged for our last meeting in December. We had a variety of talks with many examples of tools for illustration as well as a number of educational and entertaining videos. The task of transporting all the tools and equipment to and from the lecture theatre must have been enormous. We all enjoyed the meeting immensely. Well done Maurice!

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I was proof-reading my notes on Saturday 8 January, a day few New South Welshmen will forget for some time, and in my report I was saying how we had had a good year in '93 and how '94 was going to be even better etc etc when I realised how vulnerable we and the earthly things we collect are.

I was wondering how many of our members of the day were actually endangered by the fires and if they were concerned about their tool collection, as I had suddenly become.

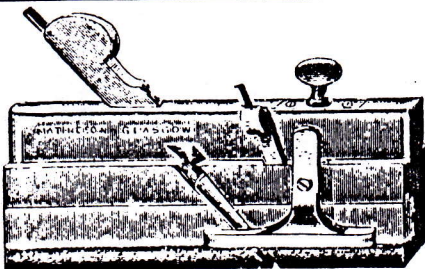
Though I had little to fear of bushfires here in downtown Redfern, the possibility remains - we did have a massive factory fire right next door about only three years ago and my wife and I spent a lot of time hosing down the house until the police evacuated us, our dogs and our cats while the firemen took over. Mercifully our house was unharmed - but what if it hadn't been and my collection of tools had become nothing more than a pile of cinders. A personal loss - yes - I've invested a lot of time, a financial loss - this too is a big consideration as I'm sure we've invested a lot of money into it as well, but the biggest loss would be the availability of the pieces themselves. I'm just the custodian in my lifetime and then they go on to someone else after that and I do have a couple of antique items, almost irreplaceable, of great interest and therefore quite valuable in that context.

We must therefore give thought to the protection of our collections for this very reason - we all have the rare odd item or two - that should be preserved. I do not mean rushing out and doubling one's insurance, but perhaps investing in a good fire-proof chest in which to store the best items should such an emergency arise.

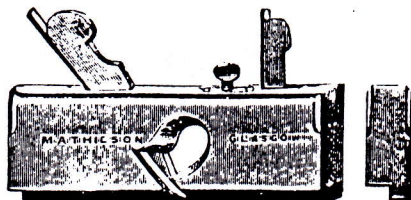
So I bring this matter to your attention and trust you will all give it some serious thought, and may I also wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year

*Tony Bulcher*

### MATHIESON'S PLANES.

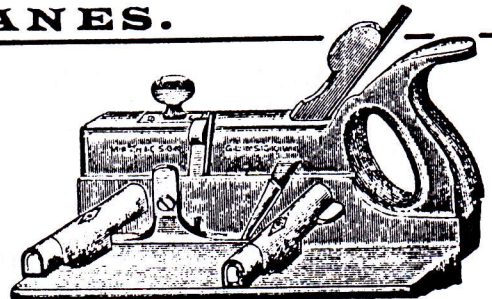


No. 187.



No. 190.

Raglet, Trenching or Dado Planes, Screw Stop—  
(No. 190)  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $1$   $1\frac{1}{2}$   $2$   $2\frac{1}{2}$   $3$   $4$   
6/6 6/6 6/6 6/6 6/6 7/- 7/-



No. 186.

Bash Fillister (No. 186)—  
Nos. 3 4 6 8 10 12  
14/6 16/- 20/- 22/6 24/- 26/6

Moving Fillisters (No. 187)—  
No. 20, 7/6; No. 21, 8/6; No. 22, 11/-

## **REPORT ON THE LAST MEETING - TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER, 1993**

Well, so close to Christmas, "everyones busy" we still had 34 members and guests attending the meeting.

Ralph Hawkins kick-started the night off with a grand display of "Froes", demonstrating their use, how they were made and lot of examples of articles which could be made with them. Ralph then showed us an 18 minute video tape featuring the restoration of Coolamine Homestead, 1883 in Kosciusko National Park. Bushman Mark Garner showed us precisely how to select and cut timber starting with the cross-cut saw, felling axes, the froe, the broad axe and the draw knife, all to produce drop-slabs. Even if we don't feel fit enough ourselves we now know the meaning of "hard yakka" and what our pioneers did to build a home.

"An enthusiastic collector of rakes" would be an understatement for Ralph Hawkins, who produced his entire collection of convict and 19th Century rakes. Made for garden work, hay raking and roadbuilding some clever blacksmithing was done to produce the various shapes and styles.

The door prize, a useful one metre rule marked off in inches, drawn by my guest Carolle Allen was won by Simon Sadubin.

Then Bob Crosbie to the floor who demonstrated a 19th Century Barnes Tenoning machine. Bob captured everyones curiosity trying to work out why such a well designed machine over 100 years old appeared to have never been used. Apparently its merits were offset by the fact it took some time to mark out and set up the tenon beforehand. Bob's promised to return (with the machine) after regrinding the cutters to equal his grandfathers cut-throat razor, and treat us all to a perfect demonstration at a later meeting.

Then me, well, its a bit hard to talk about myself, but here goes. To reinforce and elaborate on our previous meetings I presented some visual material on Cast Iron and how it sparked off the Industrial Revolution. That in fact Britain is very concious of its Industrial Heritage and there are plenty of places to visit especially the Midlands. Brian Evans, our previous guest loaned me a couple of 5 minute videos on Coalbrookdale in Shropshire, England. Most helpful Brian, and an appropriate "follow on" from your talk.

To compliment Ron Brileys' talk on foundry work (August 93) I presented a 16 minute video by Jack Thomas who took us right through the stages of producing sand castings before our very eyes.

Terry Butcher conducted the "Wots it" and recent acquisitions and, as always his extensive knowledge of tools stood out.

A good deal of interest was shown in our tool swap whilst some others chose to get to know members at the same time, complimented by nibbles and drinks provided by our caterer Mario Dato.

**Maurice Brown**  
**Programme Organiser**

### **1994 MEETINGS**

#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- \* TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8TH
- \* TUESDAY APRIL 12TH
- \* TUESDAY JUNE 14TH
- \* TUESDAY AUGUST 9TH
- \* TUESDAY OCTOBER 11TH
- \* TUESDAY DECEMBER 12TH

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- \* TUESDAY MARCH 8TH
- \* TUESDAY MAY 10TH
- \* TUESDAY JULY 12TH
- \* TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH
- \* TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

**ALL 7.30 P.M. SHARP, IN THE ANNIE WYATT ROOM, NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE  
OBSERVATORY HILL, SYDNEY.**

**EDITOR'S NOTES**

**RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY**

The Secretary, Mr P. Gregson, resigned at the last committee meeting for 1993.

The Public Officer, as specified by the Articles of Incorporation, will assume the position of Secretary until the elections for office bearers are held at the next annual general meeting.

Members are advised that the NEW ADDRESS for all correspondence,

The Secretary, TTTG Inc.  
 Mr F. Murrell  
 C/- Mann Judd Associates Pty Ltd  
 159 Kent Street  
 SYDNEY NSW 2000

Please adhere to the groups one address policy. Any correspondence or inquiries should be sent to the above address. All offers of donations should be made in writing to TTTG Committee.

Editor

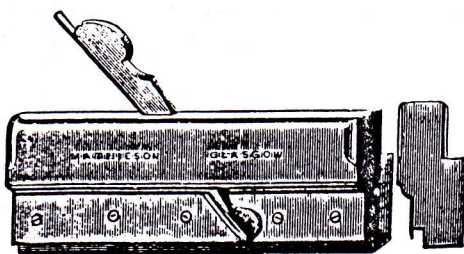
**TOOL SALE AT MEETING DECEMBER 14, 1993**

Our first miniature Tool Sale and Swap was conducted at the last meeting and, I must say, that panic buying was not in evidence, in fact, I felt members were pretty slow in coming up to the table for a peruse. It was a bit disappointing for sellers as most of the items remained on the table until closing time.

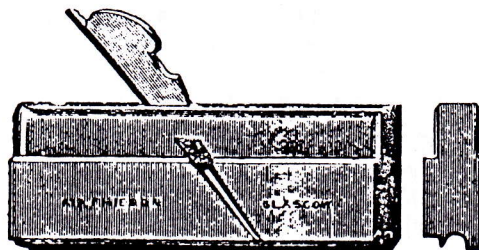
One item, however, did go. Terry's priceless chisel (\$300) went missing. Will the \*!&!#!! responsible please return it next meeting!

But let us persevere. Next meeting bring along three (3) items you would like to sell or swap and please mark them somewhere with a sticker or label with your name and the value of the item, and we'll have another shot at it.

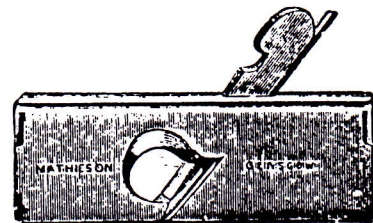
**MATHIESON'S PLANES.**



Grooving.



No. 196.



No. 198.

Tongue and Grooving or Matching Planes—

Mathieson's Bead Planes (No. 196)—

Rabbet Planes—

$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{7}{8}$
7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6

$\frac{1}{2}$	3-16	$\frac{1}{2}$	5-16	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
2/6	2/6	2/6	2/6	2/6	2.6	2/8	3/6

$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Mathieson's (No. 198)	2/8	2/8	2/8	2/8	3/-

# STONE MASON'S TOOLS

Lee McDonnell

(extracts from Purchase, W.R., Practical Masonry. 1895)

## TOOLS USED IN MASONRY

Trammel heads & Rod  
36

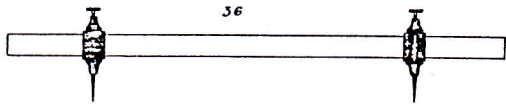


FIG. 37



LEVEL

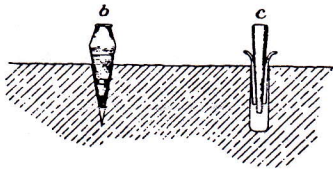
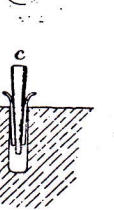
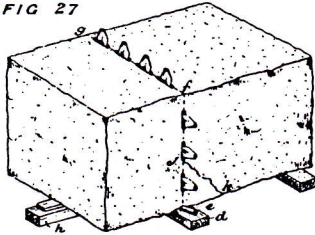
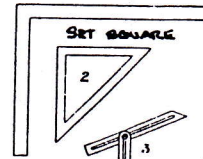


FIG. 27

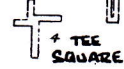


COPING or SPLITTING BLOCK BY WEDGES

FIG. 1 SQUARE



SET SQUARE



TEE SQUARE



BEVEL



MALLET



HAMMER



PUNCH



POINT CHISEL

## TOOLS USED IN MASONRY



10 ROASTERS



11 ROASTERS



12 BROAD CLAW



13 BROAD CLAW



14 CHISELS



15 CHISELS



16 CHISELS



17 CHISELS



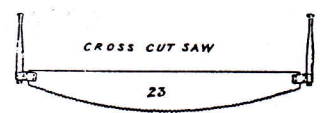
18 PITCHING JUMPER



19 PITCHING JUMPER



20 CROSS CUT SAW



CROSS CUT SAW

21

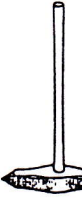
22



24



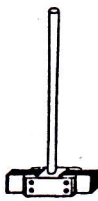
32



33



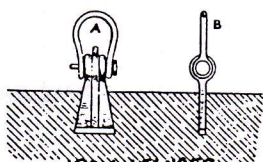
34



35

## TOOLS USED IN MASONRY

FIG. 28



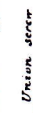
IRON LEWISSES

29

30



Hook  
Links for coupling up Frames

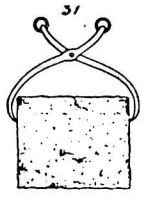


Chain anchor



Collar

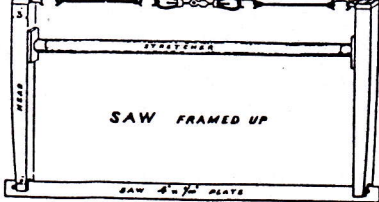
26



31

END VIEW of SAW

FIG. 25

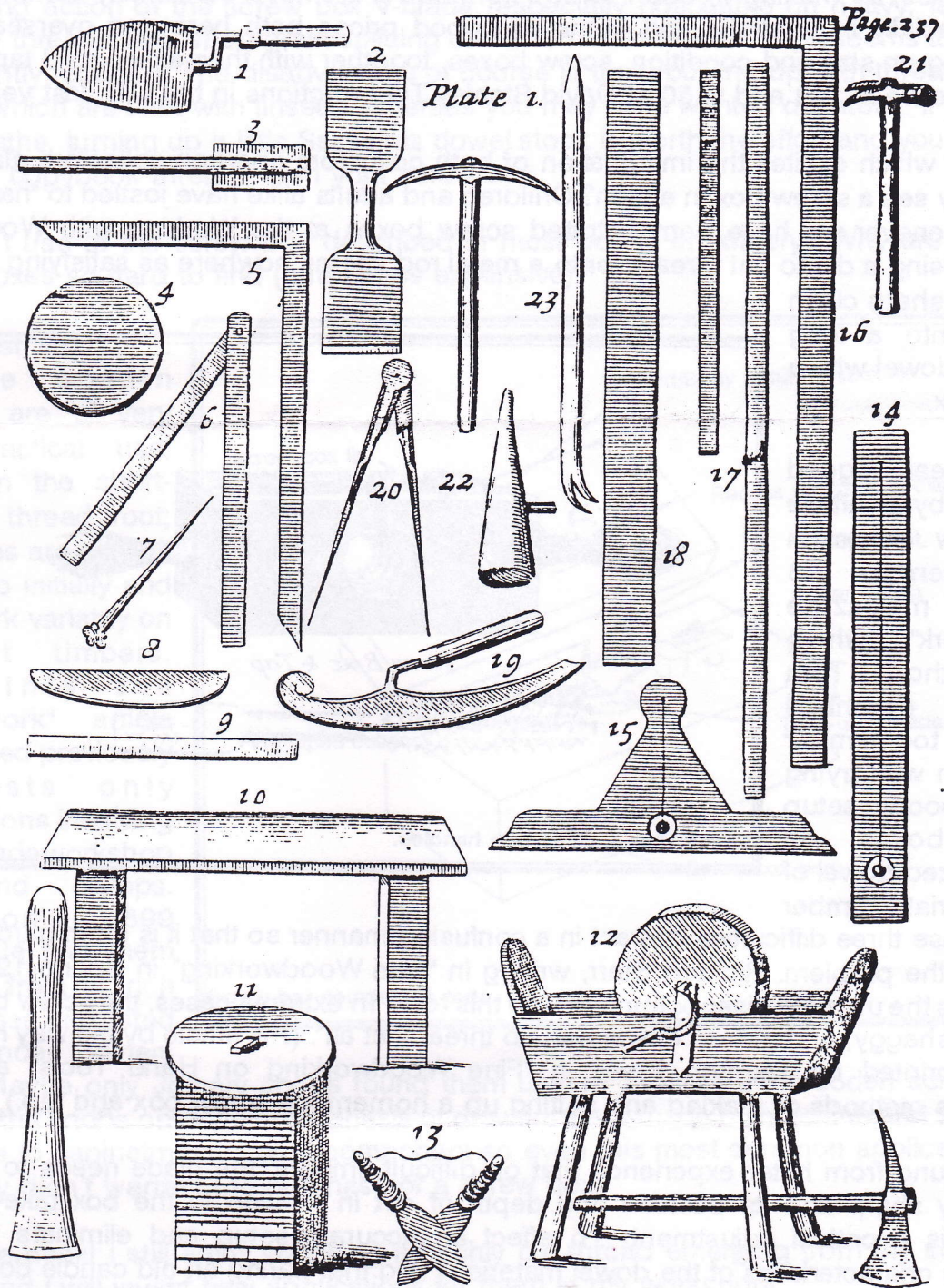


SAW FRAMED UP

SAW 4" x 1/2" BLADE

## BRICKLAYER'S TOOLS

(extracts from Moxon, Joseph. *Mechanick Exercises or the Doctrine of Handyworks*. 1684)



- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1. <b>A</b> Brick Trowel</p> <p>2. A Brick Ax,</p> <p>3. A Saw</p> <p>4. A Rub-stone,</p> <p>5. A Square,</p> <p>6. A Bevel,</p> <p>7. A small Trammel of Iron,</p> | <p>8. a Float Stone,</p> <p>9. A Little Ruler,</p> <p>10. A Banker,</p> <p>11. Rubbing-Stone</p> <p>12. A Grinding-stone,</p> <p>13. A Pair of Line Pins of Iron,</p> | <p>15. A Level,</p> <p>16. A Large Square,</p> <p>17. A Ten Foot<br/>and a Five Foot Rod,</p> <p>19. A Jointer of Iron,</p> <p>14. A Plumb Rule</p> |
|--|---|---|

## SCREW BOXES

Mike Williams

Screw Boxes, for making wooden screws from dowel are not a particularly common tool, especially in Australia and command good prices both here and overseas. Depending on size and condition, screw boxes, together with their associated taps, fetched between £40 and £150 at David Stanley Tool Auctions in the U.K. last year.

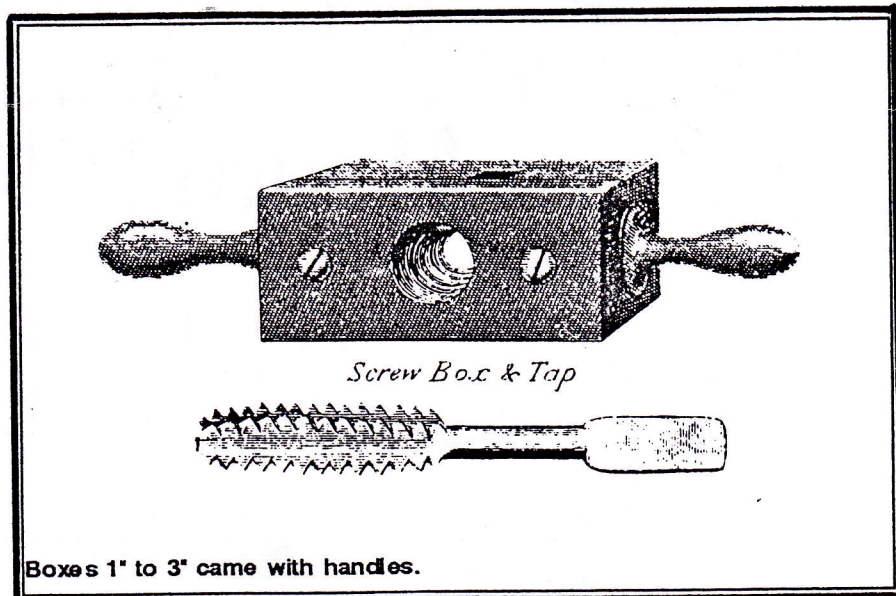
What is it which excites the imagination of both collectors and non-collectors alike when they see a screw box in action? Children and adults alike have jostled to "have a go" whenever we have demonstrated screw boxes at the Working with Wood Shows. Using a die to cut threads onto a metal rod seems nowhere as satisfying as turning a sharp clean thread onto a long piece of dowel with a screw box.

I have been jogged into print by an article on screw boxes in the December '93 U.S.A. magazine "Woodwork" where the author, Tom Toldrian, described his only too familiar frustration with trying to use poorly setup screw boxes on poorly sized dowel of inappropriate timber

type. These three difficulties interact in a confusing manner so that it is often hard to pinpoint the problem. Richard Starr, writing in "Fine Woodworking" in Spring 1977 describes the ultimate disappointment with this tool; "In extreme cases, the screw box leaves a shaggy, undersized dowel with no threads at all". (His article by the way has been reprinted by Taunton Press in "Fine Woodworking on Hand Tools" and describes methods of making and setting up a homemade screw box and tap.)

I have found from bitter experience that on difficult timbers, the blade needs to be extremely sharp and its position and depth of cut in relation to the box take-up threads is a critical adjustment. To effect an accurate setup and eliminate the unknown characteristics of the dowel material, I find that paring an old candle down to the appropriate size and threading it with the screw box shows me the various setup inaccuracies without damage to the blade or take-up threads.

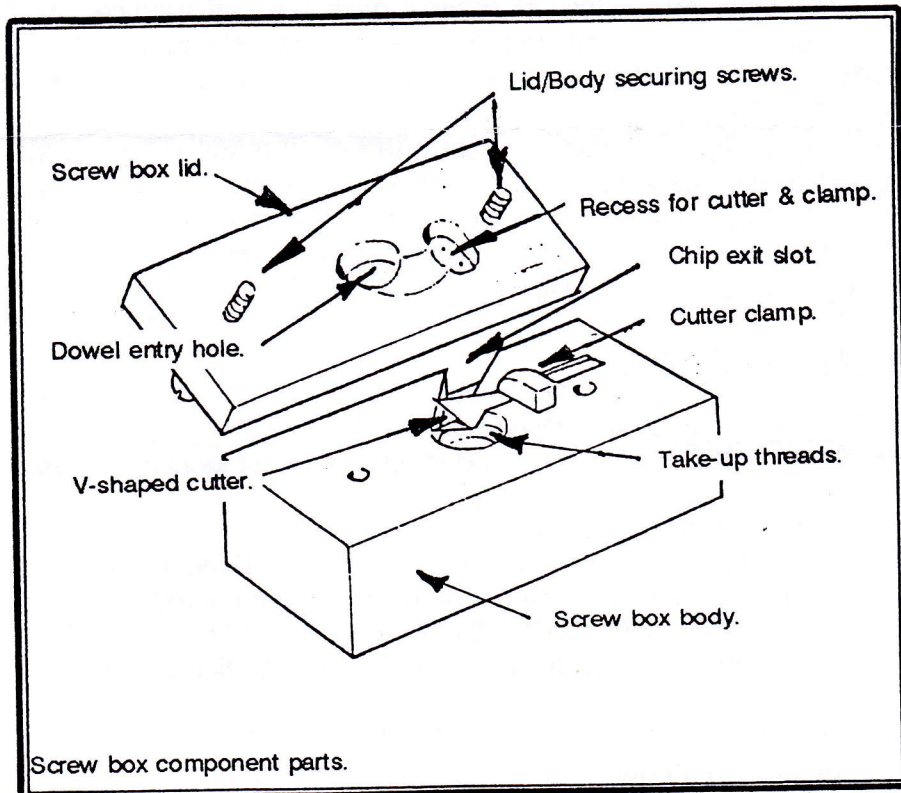
Richard Starr suggests that the most consistent and predictable timber for making wooden screws in a screw box is Yellow Birch. In Australia Southern Sassafras is also superb for this purpose but neither timber is readily available as accurate dowel stock. I have found that even the most splintery hardwood can be used successfully



in a screw box if you stand the dowel upright in a small saucer of linseed oil for a couple of days, so that the oil is drawn into the pores by capillary action in the same way as cricket bats used to be oiled. The oil-filled pores do not crush as easily during the cutting action of the screw box V-blade (especially noticeable on heavy, large diameter threads) and short grain splitting of the vulnerable thread tops seems to be significantly reduced. The disadvantage of course is that you end up with threaded dowels which are shot with linseed, whereas you may have wanted dry stock. If you have a lathe, turning up a little Sassafras dowel stock is worth the effort and you will produce copybook threads from your screw box.

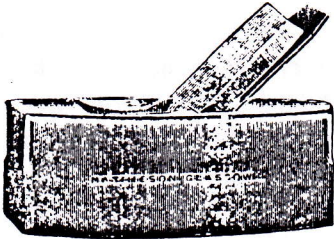
Why isn't use of the screw box described in most books on joinery? Why are old screw boxes so hard to find (and hence expensive)?

I suggest that it is because wooden threads are of very little practical use, weak on the short-grained thread root; the boxes are difficult to set up initially and they work variably on different timbers. Certainly the "Woodwork" article mentioned previously suggests only applications involving homemadeworkshop jigs and clamps. Mathieson's 1899 Catalogue had them in sizes from 1/4 inch to 3 inches and listed them under Joiners



Tools. Maybe only Joinery shops found them useful? Most of the wooden screws holding the knobs onto Victorian chests of drawers were made by machine and were available to cabinetmakers as a component so even this most common application probably didn't warrant the purchase of a screw box.

What the heck! I still enjoy watching a freshly cut thread emerging from my screw boxes and I will invent new applications for them in my workshop!



No. 193.

Smooth Planes—

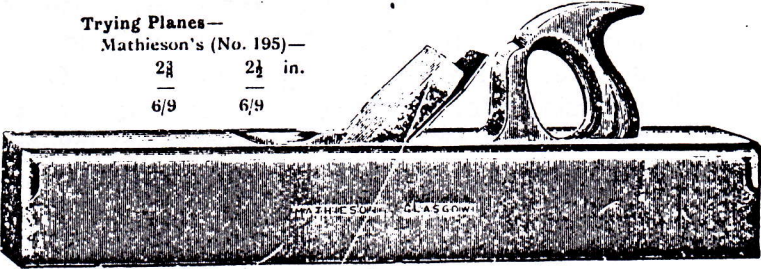
2	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4 in.
3/9	4/-	4/3	5/-

Mathieson's (No. 193)

## MATHIESON'S PLANES.

Trying Planes—  
Mathieson's (No. 195)—

2 1/4	2 1/2 in.
6/9	6/9



MATHIESON'S GLASGOW

## MORTICE CHISELS

Bob Crosbie

There are several types of woodworking chisels made expressly for cutting (chopping) mortises.

The Common or Joiner's Mortice Chisel This is a heavy chisel intended for general morticing in soft or hard woods. The handle is oval and without ferrule. As with all true mortice chisels the blade is wider than it is thick and tapers in width from tang to bevel. The best quality were ground truly parallel in thickness, common quality were slightly tapered. The bulk of the blade is wrought iron with a back layer of fire welded steel. Sizes are to match standard plough irons, but the same size plough iron is always nominally thicker. As mostly these chisels were used to mortice framing or doors this was to allow panels to enter grooves freely. Common sizes used for joinery  $\frac{3}{8}$ ",  $\frac{1}{2}$ ",  $\frac{9}{16}$ ". The  $\frac{1}{2}$ " was the most commonly used,  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " doors.

Some manufacturers listed, at greater price Cabinet Mortice Chisels, these were same pattern but perhaps slightly smaller. Common cabinet size  $\frac{5}{16}$ ". Sizes of both Joiner's and Cabinet from  $\frac{1}{8}$ " to  $\frac{7}{16}$ ", larger sizes were listed by some makers.

Sash Mortice Chisel A lighter chisel with turned ferrelled handle and leather tang washer. Intended to mortice sash stiles but also suitable for cabinet work. For deep mortises the Joiner's Mortice Chisel should be used. Sash mortice chisels are suitable for shallow mortises, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", and soft woods. Common sizes: Joinery  $\frac{3}{8}$ ", Cabinet  $\frac{5}{16}$ ". Made from wrought iron laid with steel.

### Special Mortice Chisels

Drawer Mortice, or bolting iron

Small unhandled chisel used in fitting cabinet locks to drawers.

Lock Mortice Chisel (Swan-neck chisel)

Large handled chisel with curved blade. Used to clean out lock mortises when hanging panelled house doors. Cutting edge curved to

- a) cut end grain of tenons;
- b) lever out waste and flatten mortice bottom.

Both Sash and Lock Mortice can have beech, ash or box handles; Joiner's mortice beech or ash handles. Wrought iron "steeled".

Mortice Chisels for special trades, e.g. Millwrights, Wheelwrights hurdle makers. These may form topic for a future article.

Modern Forms of Mortice Chisel Improved mortice chisels were made early this century. These include:

Socketed Mortice Chisel

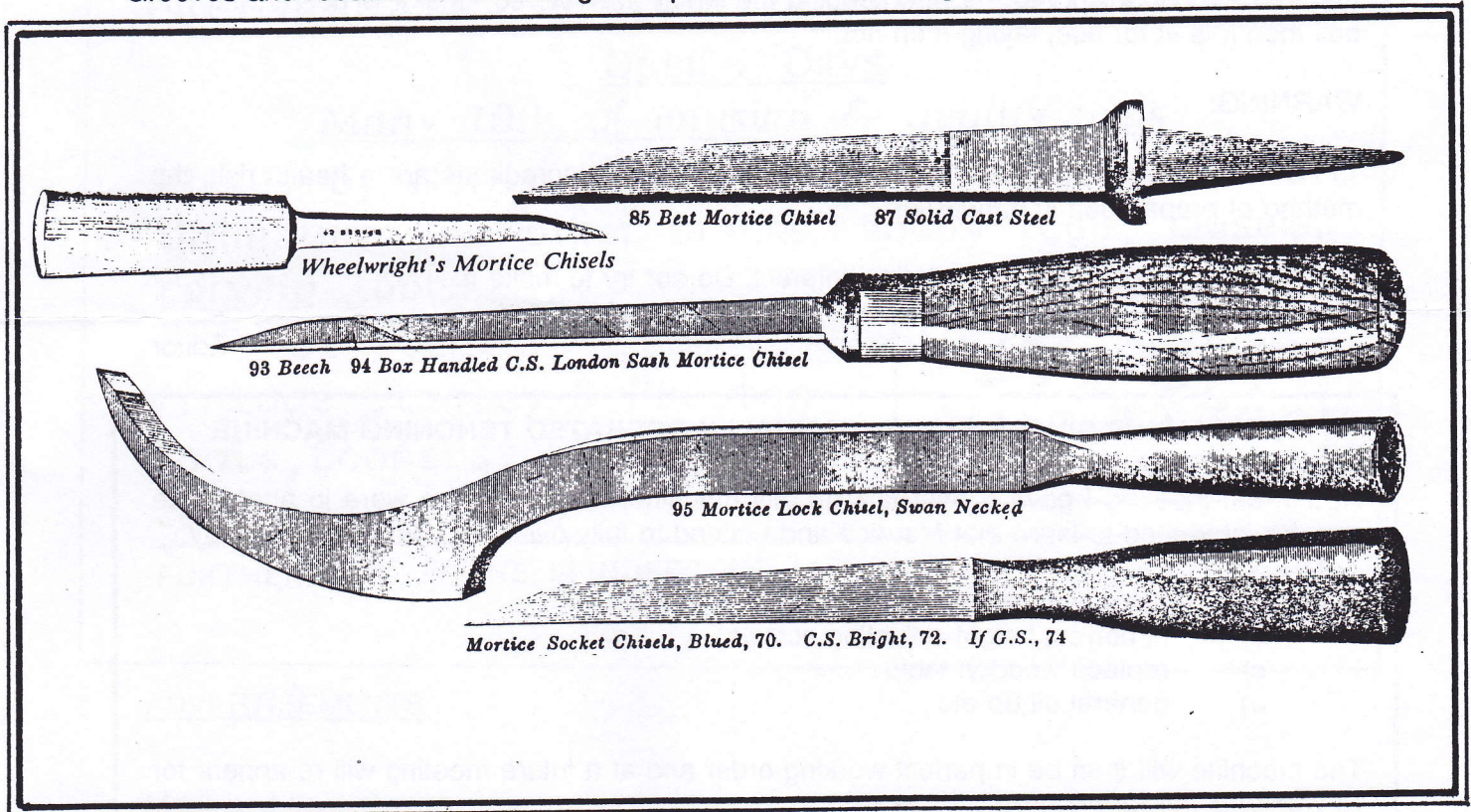
Long chisel with hooped ash handle, wide tapered blade. Made in sizes  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{9}{16}$ ". Not to be confused with socket firmer chisels where blade is thinner; these are not suitable for morticing.

So called Mortice Chisel, The Registered Chisel.

This is correctly the Registered Ships Chisel, a heavy firmer chisel. Some time in this century in NSW the schools were issued with this chisel. Titan-made and supplied to schools a "Registered Mortice Chisel". This chisel is totally unsuited to morticing. Yet generations of woodwork classes have been taught to use this "mortice chisel". Arguably the greatest influence on the decline of woodworking skills this century with the possible exception of the disc sander.

Use of Mortice Chisel As with all cutting tools mortice chisels must be correctly sharpened for the work in hand. The bevel should not be too long or hollow ground. If it is so ground the steel back will be weakened and the edge will snap off with the blows used to drive the chisel into the wood. The bevel should be slightly rounded or buttressed. The back must be perfectly flat. The chisel should be struck with a mallet. For through mortises do not try to lever out the waste or core. After both sides have been chopped drive out the core with a "core driver". The sides of mortises should be carefully pared with the firmer chisel. Wedge space should be chopped last. Do not undercut sides or ends of mortises. The through mortice relies on a good fit for strength. Only glue the shoulder and wedges.

Grooves and rebates and mouldings are planed after morticing in hand work.



## EDITOR'S NOTES

### THIS MONTH'S COVER

With this illustration TTTG Inc goes multicultural. We seem to have devoted a lot of space in recent issues to pattern making and it is interesting to realise that the basic concepts were understood by the eighteenth century in Europe, and much earlier in China. Methods were perfected by the Industrial Revolution in the British Isles. Our country was of course partially a product of England's industrialisation in the late eighteenth century.

Australia has a long history of engineering. Most of this is forgotten. Sydney's first large Foundry, iron and brass, was established in His Majesty's Lumber Yard Sydney in about 1818. The first large commercial foundry was established in the late 1840s. the gold rushes further stimulated local engineering. If members are observant they will often notice fine examples of early Australian engineering. For example some of the superb structural cast iron work on older Railway Stations was made in Sydney.

Which brings me to the point of these Notes. Yes there will be more on casting and pattern making at the next general meeting. We will be shown the progress of a job from the pattern maker to the machine shop.

I am sure Maurice Brown will again give us a night to remember.

## RECIPE FOR LACQUER FOR CARRIAGES. 1805

Pine Varnish	4 pounds
Tar	3½ pounds
Linseed Oil	1 gallon
Dry Red Lead	3½ pounds
Spanish Brown	2½ pounds
Tallow	1½ pounds

Let the varnish, tar, linseed oil and tallow be well mixed over a slowish fire, before you put the lead and Spanish into the pot, keeping the whole well stirred, until it is nearly ready to boil then it is fit for use, laying it on hot.

### WARNING:

TTTG Inc. does not recommend the above recipe. Some ingredients are a health risk, the method of preparation is dangerous.

The recipe is reproduced for historical interest. Do not try to make it.

Editor

### **THE BARNES SINGLE ENDED MANUALLY OPERATED TENONING MACHINE**

At the last meeting I gave a brief talk on this machine. Members who were in attendance may be interested to learn that Maurice and I intend to fully overhaul this device, namely

- a) have cutters surface ground;
- b) fit correct height adjusting screws;
- c) replace wooden table
- d) general oil up etc

The machine will then be in perfect working order and at a future meeting will re-appear for "**a working demonstration**".

If anyone has any information, old catalogues etc., we would be pleased to hear from you.

Bob Crosbie/Maurice Brown

P.S. Any volunteers to restore the Group's **hand operated Morticing Machine**.

### **MATHIESON PLANES**

Every second wooden plane you pick up will probably have a Mathieson stamp. The world of planes seems to be over populated with this brand. Mathieson was in business for a long time and only ceased trading in the 1950's. Even so why are there so many Mathieson planes in Australia?

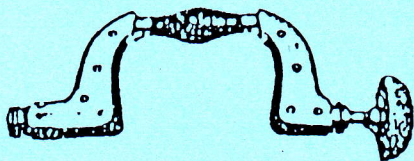
I recently saw a 1937 McPherson's Catalogue (Sydney and Melbourne tool company) 1937 and every type of Mathieson was still listed, hollows, rounds, rebate moulding, bench planes. No doubt if you asked for the ploughs and fillisters they would be in the storeroom.

This is not so great a revelation. If anything just a plea to give the users an even chance. Collectors there are millions of Mathiesons, they are not rare, they are not even going to be scarce. However they are excellent tools so why not let some poor user buy some at a reasonable price.

Editor

P.S. Yes, many of the planes I use are Mathieson's.

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