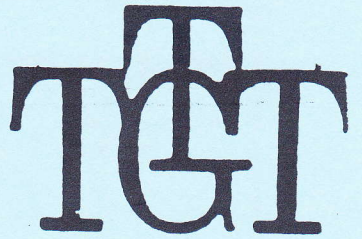
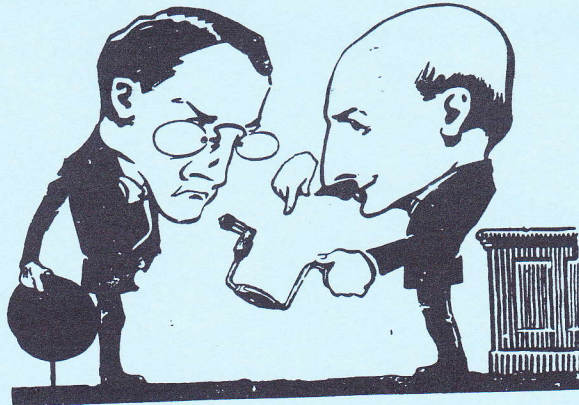


THE TRADITIONAL
TOOLS GROUP INC.



TTTG NEWSLETTER NO. 34
APRIL 1997



**“YES SIR! DANKS’ GUARANTEE
EVERY TOOL THEY SELL”**

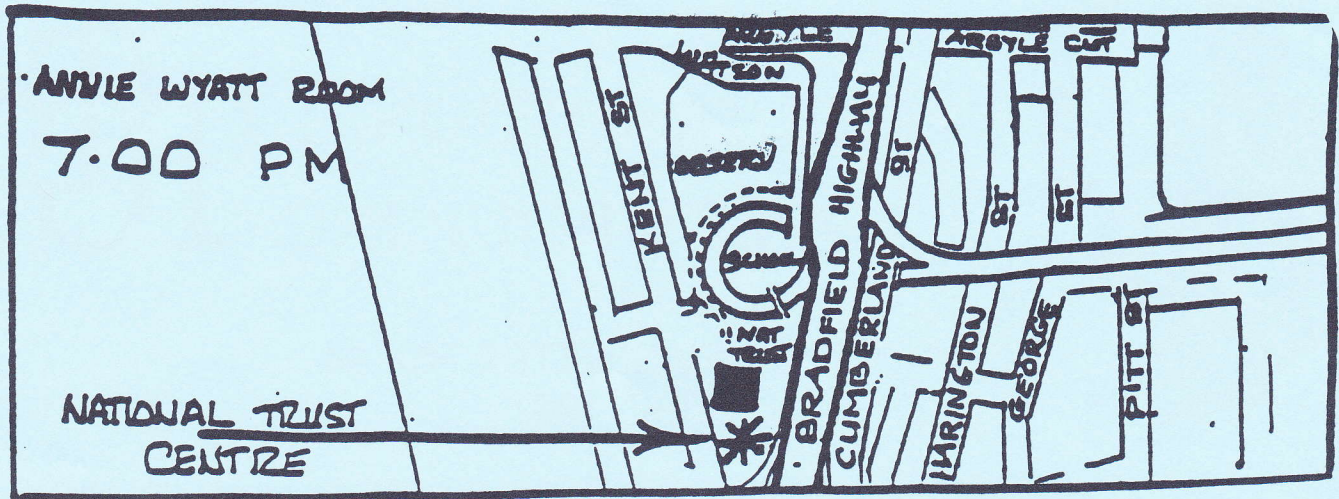
And will replace free any tool proving defective.
Guaranteed Tools from Standard Makers for

**FITTERS—MACHINISTS—
WOODWORKERS, ENGINEERS.**

We make a special reduction to university students and
apprentices on production of teachers, or Employers card.

John Danks & Son
PROPRIETARY LIMITED.

324—330 Pitt Street, Sydney.



OUR NEW POSTAL ADDRESS

The Secretary
T.T.T.G. Inc.
P.O. Box 240
GROSVENOR PLACE
SYDNEY N.S.W. 1220

NEXT MEETING- TUESDAY 8th APRIL

AT THE ANNIE WYATT ROOM, NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE, OBSERVATORY HILL
COMMENCING AT 7.00PM SHARP

PROGRAMME

1. IS BLACKSMITHING A LOST ART? OUR THEME FOR THE EVENING IS TRADITIONAL BLACKSMITHING. THE BLACKSMITH COMBINED THE SKILLS OF UNDERSTANDING HIS MATERIAL, HIGH MANUAL DEXTERITY, SPEED OF WORKING AND LEGENDARY STRENGTH. COME AND ARGUE WITH OUR SPEAKERS OVER FIRE WELDING, SILICA FLUX AND THE ADVANTAGES OF REAL WROUGHT IRON OVER MILD STEEL. THIS PROMISES TO BE A LIVELY EVENING.
2. SHOW AND TELL. RAID THE SHED TO BRING ALONG ANY BLACKSMITH'S TOOLS WHICH YOU HAVE; FULLARS, SWAGES AND FLATTERS.
3. OUR LIBRARY HAS BOOKS AND CATALOGUES OF BLACKSMITH'S TOOLS.
4. SUPPER BY MARIO DATO.

TTTG Inc.

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP.

TTTG NEWSLETTER NO.34.
April 1997.

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Bob Crosbie.

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Cover illustration from:

The University of Sydney "Peter Nicol Russell" School of Engineering
Blacksmithing, Fitting, Machining, Patternmaking. 1927 page 24.

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Any opinions expressed are those of the contributor.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Observant readers will notice a change in type face from previous newsletters. The promise of the new (second hand) TTTG computer has not been realised.

Due to problems with software the editor has reverted to the use of his Mac. When suitable software is installed the TTTG computer will be back in service.

This issue of the newsletter has as its theme the topic of mechanical engineering. Woodworking of any type is totally excluded. For a long time I have wanted to do such a special issue of the newsletter.

Tool collectors generally have little awareness of engineering tools. Given the quality of metal working tools this lack of appreciation is curious. This is discussed in Collectors Page. Readers not familiar with the skills of the traditional metal worker may discover a new world of interest.

Sydney's manufacturing history is pursued. Sydney Engineers in the 1920s lists a number of businesses and asks readers to contribute any information about these firms.

The article Brown & Sharp Micrometer reproduces material from the company's 1926 catalogue. This reflects a great deal of the history and sophistication of machine shop technology in the early decades of this century.

Chasing Tools discusses a little known but essential machinist tool and shows how this object has all the inherent appeal of more exotic devices. Ascetics and big names combined in a prolific and affordable tool.

Mike Hendrikson is a long time member TTTG. Mike rang me to tell me about his book. A couple of days later he gave me a copy of the book for the TTTG Library. As usual Mike was very modest about his achievement and asked for no favours.

Book Review reviews The Secrets of Wheelwrighting. TYRES by M C Hendrikson. The book is a gold mine of information and is well written with clear illustrations, fine layout and quality printing. This is a limited edition and Mike is offering a discount to members. I can only suggest you get in quick and send your cheque to Mike.

The next General Meeting is a "member's night". The theme is Blacksmithing. This is a chance for members to bring in examples of smith's work for discussion. There will be a couple of surprise speakers to give some direction to the evening.

I hope even the wood workers gain something from this issue.

PREVIOUS MEETING

Tuesday 11 February 1997.

Robert Hayse-Gregson gave a talk on the subject of repairing old clocks. Members present gained an insight into the making of traditional clocks and an awareness of the need to use correct techniques when repairing old clocks.

A lively interchange with members, especially Sid, allowed Robert to cover a vast quantity of information. I am sure every one went home a lot wiser for the evenings.

TTTG expresses our appreciation to Robert.

Like all speakers he is entitled to a free advertisement in this newsletter.

Henry Black brought along a selection of books for sale at discounted prices. The TTTG Committee quickly met, declared a quorum, and resolved to buy books to the amount of \$100 for the TTTG Library.

See the Librarian to find out about the new titles.

What other association offers two months borrowing rights?

As usual Fred's Whats Its kept everyone thinking and maybe arguing!

NEXT MEETING

THEME NIGHT: BLACKSMITHING

Members are invited to bring for discussion any tools of the:

The Blacksmith

and any examples of

Smith's Work

The discussion will be preceded by a brief description of the mystery of smith's work when the properties of wrought iron and cast steel will be explained in simple terms.

IN COMMITTEE

11 March 1997.

Initially it looked like this meeting was not going to happen. 7.30 pm saw a quorum present and the meeting was declared open. First agenda item was a long list of apologies. Then to general business. Matters discussed were;

- Publication of Committee Agendas
- Membership
- TTTG Insurance
- Newsletter negotiations with Hand Tool Preservation Association (Australia)
- Newsletter direction
- Software for TTTG computer
- TTTG promotional material
- Negotiations regarding ornamental lathes (Tasmania)

Non Agenda items included discussions of;

- Terry and Fred; latest purchases
- Bob and Ray; Boxwood or Birch

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Just read newsletter 33. Congratulations on the information on White Vinegar. Have read a lot of nonsense about rust over the years. All the weird mixtures and chemicals, especially that Molasses mess. Rust is an oxide so all you need is a pickle, ie mild acid. White vinegar is of course perfect.

Why not put some dye in the white vinegar and sell it as rust remover!
!Market it to the wallys, any way thats enough from me.

Dear Editor,

Does any reader know where I can buy white vinegar wholesale.

Dear Editor,

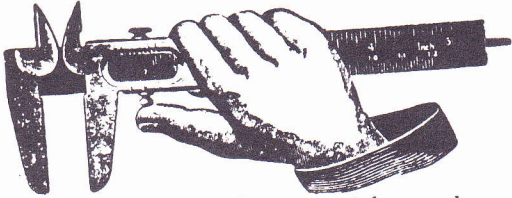
Will cheap brown vinegar work?

If any member can answer these questions please contact the editor.

PATENTS

"Columbus" Caliper Squares.

L 107 — "Columbus" Caliper Squares

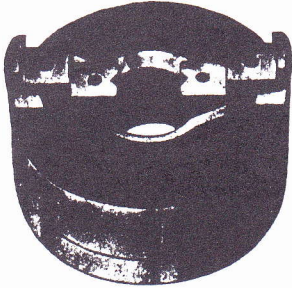


With a 5-inch scale accurately made and graduated for taking external or internal measurements. Slide extension for depth gauge. Has lock thumb-screw. Nickel-plated and leather pocket. Metric and English graduations, with vernier reading up to 1/10th millimetres and 128th inches. Price, 5/6 each.

L 108—“Columbus” Caliper Squares, Large Size

With instantaneous Thumb Grip with Vernier. Much heavier than L107, and well finished. Price, 13/6 each.

Brassworkers' Patent Spiral Two-Jaw SELF Centering Chuck.



This Chuck has all the special features of three-jaw self-centring chuck (including hardened spirals in all sizes), and was designed to replace the ordinary two-jaw chuck actuated by a right and left-hand screw, over which it has the following advantages:—

Extremely large hole passing right through the centre, allowing the work to pass into or through the chuck. This is impossible with the ordinary chuck, on account of the screw passing across the centre hole.

The jaws can be actuated by either of the two pinions provided, instead of at one point only, as in the ordinary chuck.

Greater gripping power, and much more rapid in action.

False jaws can be pinned to either step of the jaws proper; they are of simple construction, being simply short pieces cut from a planed bar. Users can make these themselves at a small expense. Special shaped false jaws, for holding exceptionally tight, or if the work to be held is very deep, are made to fit on both steps of the jaws proper, and are held by two set screws instead of one.

Two keys are supplied with each chuck—one for operating the chuck, one for screwing and unscrewing the false jaw pins.

Illustrations:

McPherson's Engineers' and Manufacturers Catalogue No.34 (1933).

Woodies Books

Woodies Books, Suppliers of The Finest Woodworking Books Available.
Send self-addressed stamped business size envelope for Catalogue.
1289 Barkers Lodge Rd. Oakdale 046- 809494

COLLECTORS PAGE

Collectors are drawn to rarity and/or quality in materials and workmanship. These characteristics are usually reflected in monetary value. The market for old tools is often distorted by the machinations of dealers. Even so most collectors are motivated by more than greed. The fascination of tools as objects possesses the majority of collectors.

Have a close look at any tool made for metal workers. Tools for any metal trade are always well made while those for the finer trades are superb. Materials, construction and accuracy are always appropriate to the function of the tool. Metal workers rarely complain about the quality of the tools they use.

Many engineering tools display characteristics which appeal to collectors. Probably only lack of engineering knowledge prevents such tools being coveted by tool collectors. In terms of initial cost, design and material quality many metal trades tools are in the same league as the finest tools made for high class joiners.

To whet your appetite here are some examples of collectable engineers tool.

Die Maker's Squares.

in particular those by L S Starrett.

Combination Squares.

the original Starrett and copies by Brown&Sharpe and Moore & Wright.

Vernier Calipers and Dial Calipers.

especially early Brown & Sharpe, Starrett and Moore&Wright.

Micrometers.

especially the original Brown&Sharpe range and copies by Starrett.

Gauges, Screw Pitch, Radius, Thickness, Thread, Drill and Tapping.

Starrett, Moore&Wright, Brown&Sharpe.

Bell Centering Punches and Automatic Centre Punches.

especially Starrett.

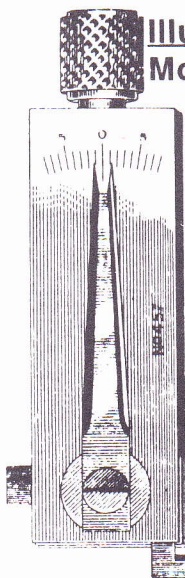
Adjustable Parallels.

Starrett, Brown&Sharpe

A good way to begin collecting engineer's tools is to start buying the common place and relatively inexpensive tools. Calipers in particular are readily available and are of many types and sizes. Types of calipers include Inside, Outside, Jenny, Lock joint, Transfer, Inside thread and Tool- makers.

Illustrations:

Mc Pherson's Engineers' and Manufacturers Catalogue No.34 (1933).



Die Maker's Square, No. 457

No. 457A—Square, with straight blade only.

Price, 20/- each

No. 457B Square, with offset blade only.

Price, 28/6 each.

No. 457C—Square, complete with straight and offset blades.

Price, 32/6 each.

No. 457C complete, sent, unless otherwise ordered.

L 82—Die Maker's Square, No. 453

No. 453A—Square—

Price, 18/9.

No. 453B — Square,

with either bevel or narrow blade—

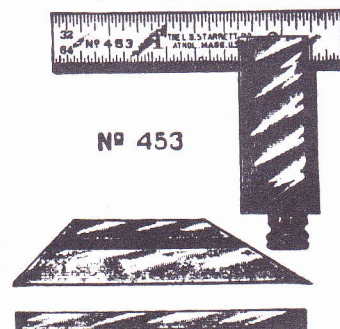
Price, 21/6.

Bevel blade will be sent with No. 453B, unless narrow ordered.

No. 453C—Square, complete—

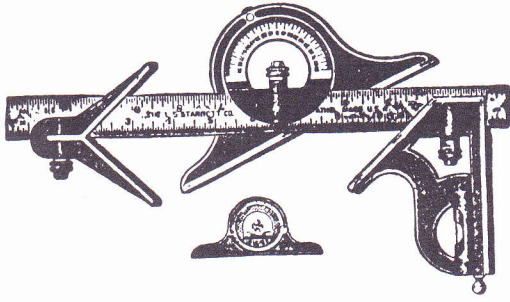
Price, 24/6 each.

No. 453C sent, unless otherwise ordered.



**L 92—Starrett Combination Sets,
No. 9**

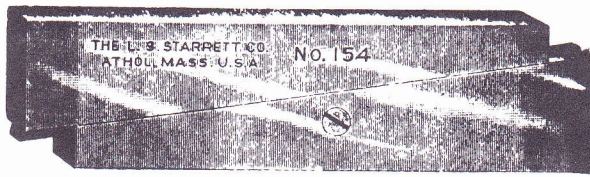
With Hardened Blade.



Set complete—

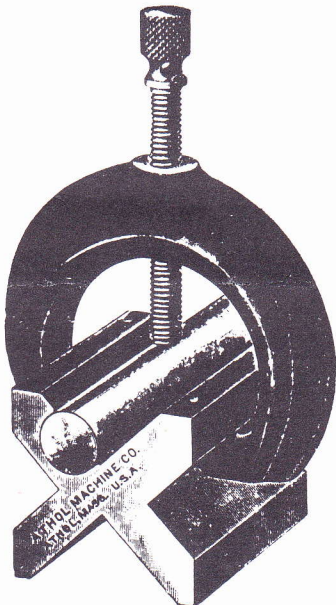
9 in.	12 in.	18 inch
37/6	39/6	45/- set

L 747—Adjustable Parallels, No. 154



These Parallels will be found very convenient for use in connection with milling, planer, and shaper vices, taking the place of the large number usually required, also for levelling up work on planer, drill, press, etc. They give any height from $\frac{1}{8}$ inch to $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

L 748—Drill Blocks and Clamp

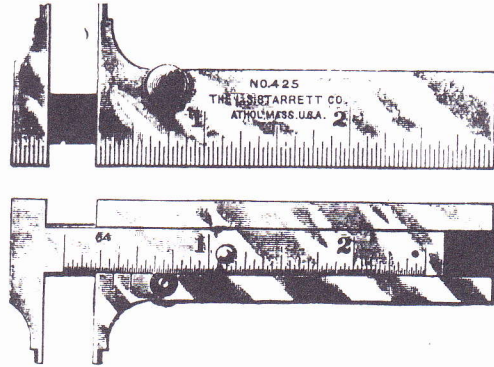


These Blocks are designed to be used singly or in pairs in connection with drill presses, and for laying out work, prick punching, etc. The blocks may be used close together or separated, and are kept in line by a spindle passing through friction bushings.

268C.—Complete set of blocks and clamp.

Prices on application.

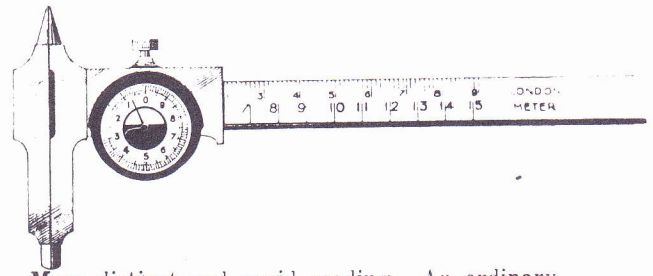
**L 104—Starrett Pocket Slide Calipers
No. 425**



Graduated in 32nds and 64ths. The improved clamping device is a valuable feature.

3	5 inch
25/-	29/6 each

L 105—Dial Calipers

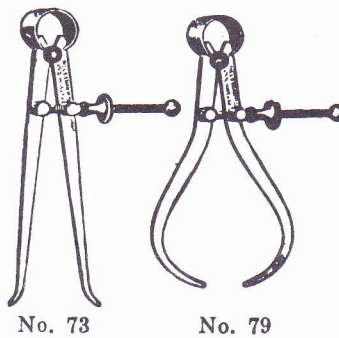


More distinct and rapid reading. An ordinary pinion gears with a partially enclosed tooth. A pointer is fitted upon the pinion. The pointer as well as the dial are protected by a strong disc of glass. The jaws are of steel. 6 inches.

With dial having two graduations for direct readings of 128ths and 100ths of an inch.

Price, 37/6 each.

**L 1—Outside and Inside Calipers,
Nos. 73 and 79**



No. 73

No. 79

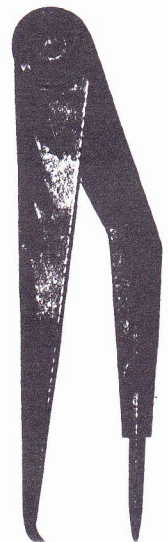
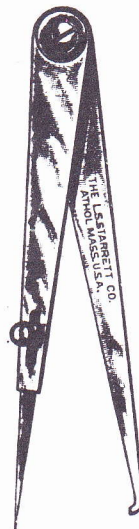
**L 6—Firm-Joint Hermaphrodite
Calipers**

No. 41

4	6	8
4/9	5/6	6/6
10 inch		
7/6 each		

No. 243

4 inch	6 inch
4/9	5/9



SYDNEY ENGINEERING 1920s

One indication of the extent and sophistication of engineering in Sydney in the 1920s is the advertisements in the University of Sydney "Peter Nicol Russell" School of Engineering publication Blacksmithing, Fitting, Machining, Patternmaking. 1927.

Some of the firms advertising are listed below.

TTTG members with information about these concerns are requested to send details to the editor.

Benson Brothers Limited. Machine Tools

76-78 Liverpool St. Sydney.
(also Melbourne & Adelaide)

Paul & Gray Limited.

Engineer's Supplies
82-4 Sussex St. Sydney

Scruttons Limited. Engineers

Suppliers & Machinery Merchants
161 Clarence St. Sydney

Alfred Snashall Limited. Agent for Kelly & Lewis

85 Pitt St. Sydney

Alan H. Reid Limited.

All Engineers Fittings
261 Clarence St. Sydney

The Austral Engineering Supply Co., Limited.

Agent for Cambridge Pyrometers
490-492 Kent St. Sydney

Hoskins Iron and Steel Company Limited.

Iron Masters.

Wattle St. Sydney and at Rhodes
Also at Lithgow, Wongawilli (South Coast) and Brisbane.

John Danks & Son Proprietary Limited.

Tool retailers
324-330 Pitt St. Sydney

The Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co., Ltd.

Pneumatic Tools
2 Harrington St. Sydney

Parke Lacy Hardie Ltd.

Machine Tools
60 Clarence St. Sydney
(also Newcastle)

Sydney Engineering 1920s.continued

The Eagle and Globe Steel Co., Ltd.

Associate Co., Arthur Balfour & Co., Ltd. (Sheffield)

Steel Merchants

379-381 Kent St, Sydney

McPherson's Proprietary Limited. Established 1860

"The Engineer's Depot"

51-65 Bathurst St. & 447 George St. No. 9 Victoria Building Sydney

Neptune Oil Co., Ltd.

Cutting Oils, Graphite etc.

365 Kent St. Sydney

Bradford, Kendall Limited.

Electric and Tropenas Converter Steel Castings

Botany Road, Alexandria, Sydney

Gardener, Wearn & Co., Pty., Ltd.

R&M (British) Ball and Roller Bearings

225 Clarence St. Sydney

Poldi Steel Co. (Australia) Ltd.

Steel Merchants

343 Sussex St. Sydney (also Melbourne)

Babcock & Wilcox Ltd

Foundry

Regents Park (Head Office Union House George St. Sydney)

Thos. Robinson & Son (Aust) Ltd.

Woodworking Machinery

75-91 Harbour St. Sydney, Works Alexandria

and Rochdale England Branches all States

J.C. Ludowici & Son Ltd. Pioneer Leather Belting. Since 1858

Power Transmission

"Pioneer House" 117 York St. Sydney

Gordon Marr & Sons Ltd.

Engineers & Founders, Blacksmiths & Boilermakers

Bourke & McEvoy St. Waterloo

Sonnerdale Ltd. Engineers

Gear Manufacturers

3-11 Bridge Rd. Petersham

W.H. Plumb

"The Toolmaker"

Kendall St. Woollahra

J. Murray More

Iron & Steel Merchants

Phillip St. Redfern

CHASING TOOLS

Everyone interested in old tools has probably seen a Chaser. Few will have known what this simple but curious tool is or how it is used. Most metal tradesmen can name a chasing tool but very few can use a hand chaser.

So what is a Chaser? In simple terms it is a form tool used to clean up machined screw threads. Chasers are made to match all standard screw threads and to finish external and internal threads.

Modern chasers are used in the lathe tool post. Hand chasers are hand held, in a handle, on the tool rest. The hand held chase can strike a thread and was used for brass, iron, ivory and wood.

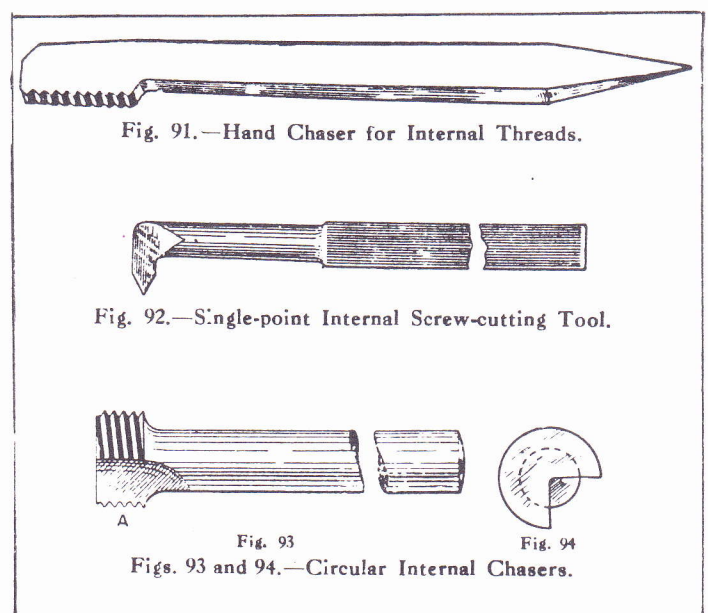
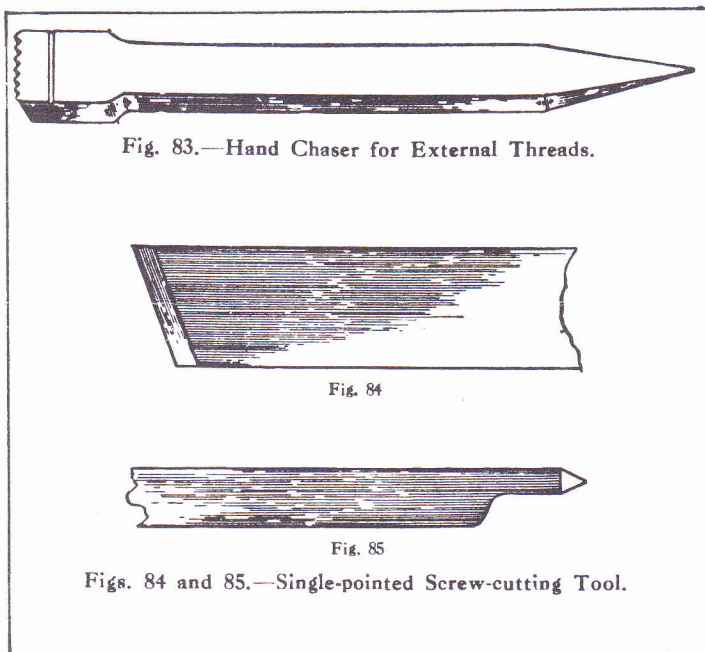
The illustrations show the form of hand chasers.

Apart from how the tools are used the interesting feature of the chaser is the manufacturers' mark. Australian companies, such as P&N (Patience and Nicholson, Victoria), are common.

With older chasers well known names are represented. These include Preston and Alex Mathieson. Less well known makers include Thos. Chatham Birmingham and Thos. Lal Ltd England.

Chasers are well made tools usually with a clear maker's mark. As they match standard screw threads, and older non standard threads, the variety is immense. Chasers are ascetically pleasing, widely available and affordable.

Why is such a collectable tool ignored by the tool buffs?



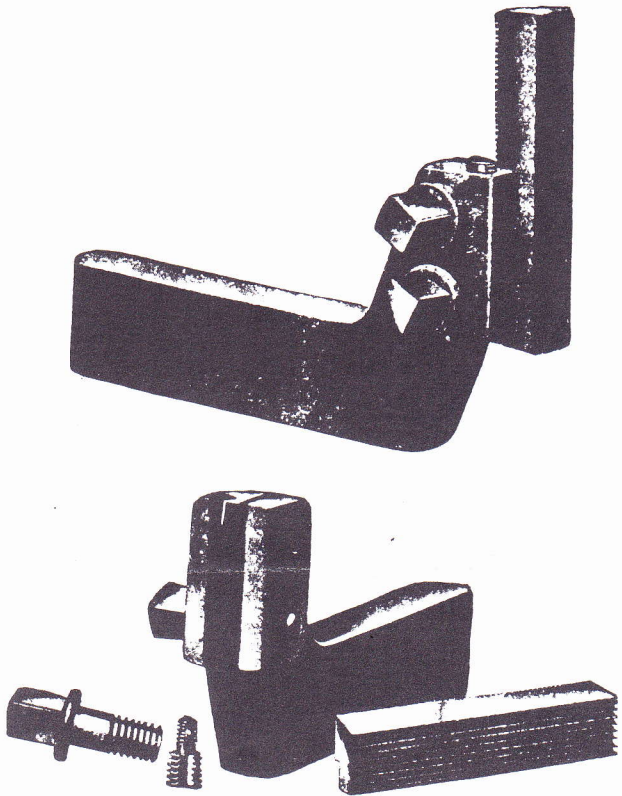


Fig. 129.—Herberts' Inverted Chaser.

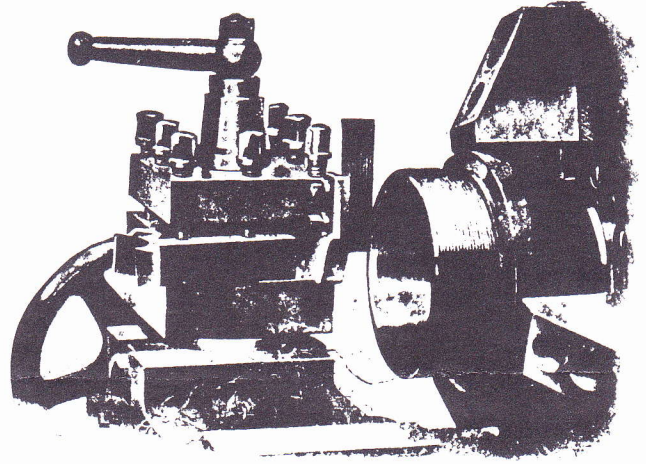


Fig. 130.—Using Herberts' Inverted Chaser.

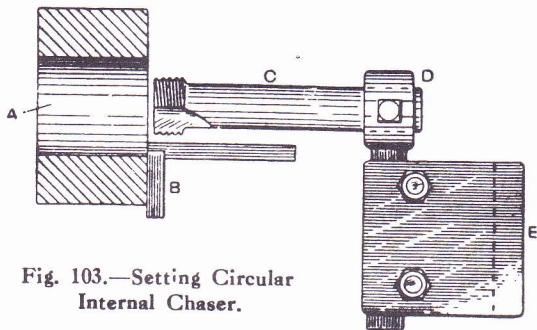


Fig. 103.—Setting Circular Internal Chaser.

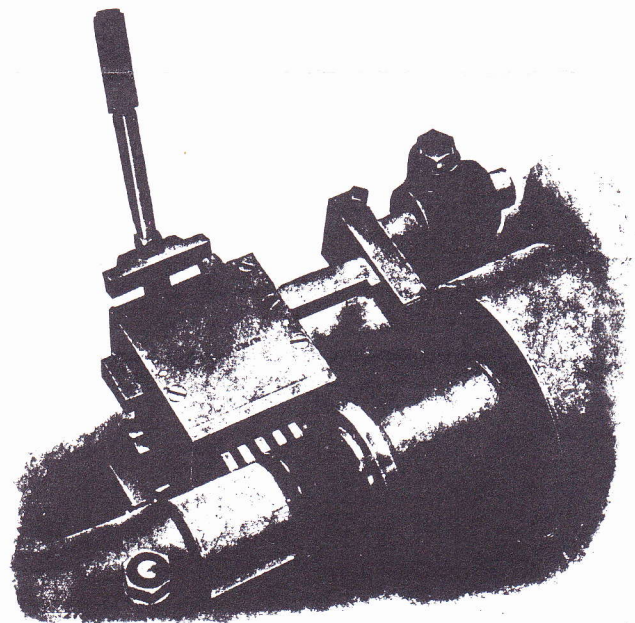


Fig. 131.—Multiple Toothed Chaser.

BOOK REVIEW.

M.C.Hendrikson The Secrets of Wheelwrighting TYRES

I met Mike at the first Working with Wood Show TTTG attended. At first he was cautious but he quickly joined TTTG and has been a constant supporter of our objectives. He gave one of the early talks to the group and everyone who was present will remember Mike's direct manner and his obvious depth of knowledge.

Every time I have spoken to Mike he has mentioned the romantic accounts of the wheelwright's trade. His favourite expression is "there's been a lot of bull dust written".

Many people has encouraged Mike to write about the trade he has studied and practiced. No doubt some of us have guessed from Mike's facility with words that he has the makings of a good author.

"I'm no writer" used to be Mike's reply. I often wondered if he would ever publish his knowledge. Then out of the blue I got a phone call, "Mike Hendrikson here I've written a book".

Two days later Mike and his wife were sitting in my kitchen with a copy of this book. Boldly written in the front are the words "for the TTTG Library". Mike asked me for no favours and generously offered a discount to TTTG members. As I thumbed through the book I realised its importance.

As I would expect from Mike he has handled the technicalities in a superb manner. The layout, printing and binding are first rate, far better than many expensive overseas' books. On this account alone the book is real value for money.

In the week after receiving the book I read and re-read it several times. Even though I only have a passing interest in wheelwrighting I literally found it hard to put the book down.

This is only partially because of the content. Have no doubt every thing anyone needs to know about tyreing wheels is between the pages. It is the way Mike conveys this information that is compelling. This is a no nonsense down to earth text. It is also written with an innate feel for words.

Andrew Grant of the Power House Museum has written the Preface. He realises Mike's achievement. There is simply nothing like this work. Mike now should write a book on the making of wheels.

You can learn a great deal about tyreing wheels from this book but you can also gain some lateral knowledge. I got my money's worth from the few sentences on the two categories of blacksmiths.

Take advantage of Mike's offer of a discount. This book is a limited edition so you had better get your cheque off to Mike immediately.

NOW AVAILABLE

The Secrets of Wheelwrighting Tyres

Written by M. C. Hendrikson, an experienced and practising wheelwright.

This is a NEW, original work, not a rehash of old books.

We doubt you will find this detailed written information anywhere else.

The old and new methods covering,

Component names; Dish; Preparation of tread; Old wheels; Sizing up the wheel; Tyre sections; Rolling tyres; Sizing tyres; Welding up; Tying plates or platforms; Heating tyres; Getting on, lining up and setting; Tyre bolts and plates; Cutting and shutting old tyres; Cold tiring process; Strakes; Rubber tyres and how to fit them; all the specialist tools; and a lot more.

Over 90 A4 pages, over 50 illustrations, drawings and photographs.

Everything a horse drawn vehicle / owner / user / restorer / model maker should know.

Even if you choose not to do your own work, you will know when it is being done correctly.

In Australia, only \$24.95 per book, plus postage and handling \$3.05.

Total per book \$28.00.

20% off book price for TTTG members; \$19.95.

plus postage and handling \$3.05; Total per book \$23.00.

TO ORDER

Mail this order form to; M. C. & P. Hendrikson, 8 Fox close, Kariong. N. S. W. 2250

Please print clearly

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

I enclose a total of \$.....including P & H made payable to M. C. & P. Hendrikson.

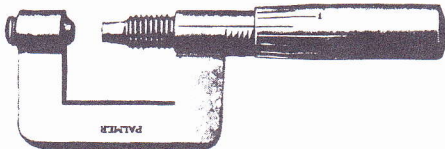
Cheque Money order

P.S. Would you like your book/s signed by the author, Yes / No.

THE BROWN & SHARPE MICROMETER

BROWN & SHARPE MFG. CO. 7

The Micrometer Caliper



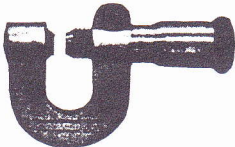
Its History

IT is always interesting to trace the development of an idea from the time it first assumes definite form to the time it becomes of practical value. We must go back 78 years, and cross the ocean, to find the prototype of the micrometer of today in a French tool, known as the "Système Palmer," patented in France in 1848. Messrs. J. R. Brown and Lucian Sharpe, during their visit to the Paris Exposition in 1867, saw this and were impressed with its possibilities.


Incidentally, early in the same year, a concern in this country manufacturing brass had a shipment returned to them because it was "out of gauge." Investigation showed that of three U. S. Standard gauges then in use no two of them agreed as to the gauge of the brass in question.

The brass manufacturer, conceiving the idea of a measuring tool, sent a sketch to J. R. Brown & Sharpe for experimental work. This tool had no commercial value, as it was next to impossible to read with any accuracy. It was evident, however, that there was a demand for a tool adapted for measuring sheet metal and upon their return from Paris in 1867, Messrs. Brown & Sharpe introduced the "Pocket Sheet Metal Gauge," adopting the Palmer system of divisions, adding, however, means of compensating for wear of both the screw and measuring surfaces.

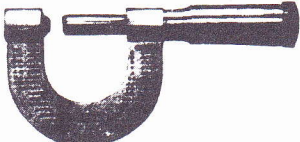
From this beginning, through acquired patents and ideas worked out in its own shops, the Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co. produces a line of about 400 different Micrometer Calipers which meets the demand of all ordinary shop requirements.



Pocket Sheet Metal
Gauge of 1867



Micrometer Caliper
of 1877



Improved Micrometer
Caliper of 1885

Reproduced from Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Company Catalogue No. 30
Brown & Sharpe Small Tools "New Tools, Cutters and other additions" 1926
The Editor's copy is rubber stamped

Howard F Hudson Pty Ltd
Australian Representatives.
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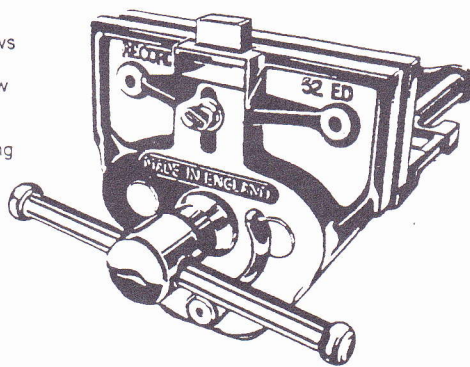
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