NEWS 159

February 2019

www.tttg.org.au ISSN 2206-1606

NEWS Magazine - by post or by e-mail?

NEWS magazine is posted or emailed to all financial TTTG Members in:

FEBRUARY MAY AUGUST NOVEMBER

Financial members may have a print copy of NEWS sent by mail.

NEWS will be sent by post unless a Member choose the email option.

Why get NEWS by email?

Did you know that the cost of printing and posting a copy of *NEWS* consumes the bulk of your Membership fees?

Printing and posting means we consume trees and energy. Digital is kinder to the environment.

Receiving *NEWS* by email also has the benefit of freeing up funds which could be used for other TTTG activities and initiatives **PLUS you get *NEWS* sooner**. Consider a switch to email NEWS – message secretary@tttg.org.au

TTTG Membership Rules

The MEMBERSHIP YEAR starts on 1 July and ends on 30 June the following year.

The MEMBERSHIP FEE is determined by the Committee and from 1 July 2017 the fee is set at $60 per annum.

The MEMBERSHIP FEE is due on 1 July each year.

UN-FINANCIAL MEMBER - a MEMBER who has NOT paid their MEMBERSHIP FEE by 1 July becomes an UN-FINANCIAL MEMBER from that date and will cease to receive the *NEWS* Magazine. However, a 45-day grace period applies to access to the MEMBER area of the TTTG website which will continue until 15 August.

A MEMBER may choose to pay the MEMBERSHIP FEE one (1) year in advance, but only from 1 January in the current Membership Year and only for one (1) year.

A NEW MEMBER joining between 1 July and 31 March the following year is a full MEMBER for the remainder of that Membership Year only.

A NEW MEMBER joining between 1 April and 30 June is a full MEMBER until the end of the following Membership Year.

John Bates, Bob Crosbie - November 2018

Front Cover: *The Saturday Evening Post*, November 10, 1951

NEWS 159

Contents

TTTG Contacts

Editorial/Advertising Enquiries:
Bob Crosbie bobcrosbie@tttg.org.au

Membership Enquiries:
John Bates johnbates@tttg.org.au

NEWS is published by:
The Traditional Tools Group Inc
PO Box 75
Eastwood NSW 2122

ABN 50 611 029 392
www.tttg.org.au

***NEWS* is printed by:**
Fine Impressions, Pymble NSW

TTTG FEES 2018/2019

Membership	***$60***
Workshops	***$60***
Tool Sales	**$10**
Meetings	***$5***

Volunteers Wanted

To represent TTTG

TTTG needs members who can talk to an audience and can demonstrate "real skills".

Why not get more involved?

Previous Members Meeting

John Deeble discussed the processes involved in equipping NSW Government High School Industrial Arts faculties from the 1970s to recent years. The audience gained an insight in to what machines were in schools, why the equipment was purchased. John also described the selection and contracting procedures and addressed the issue of work place safety.

Readers will find the table **What We Used To Teach** at pages 12 to 14 a useful summary of the contents of John's presentation.

Next Members Meeting –
Tuesday 12 February

Old Eastwood Town Hall, 74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield
Start time 7.00pm Entry $5 Parking on street

Speakers: John Deeble and Bob Crosbie

Topic: Portable Power Tools - *The Router Revolution*

TTTG has a comprehensive collection of old power tools. A selection of power tools including Black & Decker, Towa and Makita will be used to illustrate the presentation covering the period from the 1950s to early this century.

JUST A SEC

John Bates TTTG Secretary

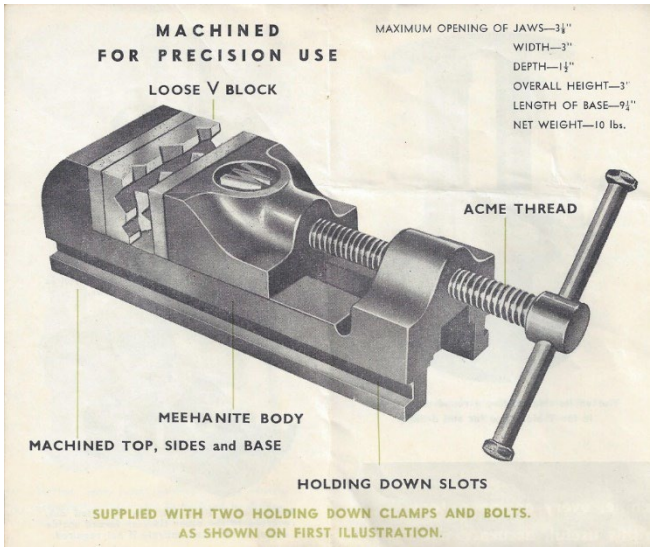
As I write we have about 4 weeks till the 2019 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale on 24 February and are now well advanced. You may already have seen our promotional material in the online events pages of WeekendNotes - https://www.weekendnotes.com/tttg-sydney-tool-sale/.

TTTG has also advertised in the latest edition of the Australian Woodsmith, and further advertising will be placed in the events pages of local papers across northern and western Sydney in the coming weeks. The Sydney Tool Sale provides an important income stream for TTTG and this promotional investment aims to support buyers and sellers to ensure it continues to be a success.

Do you have some tools for sale? There are still some tables available at the Sale. Want to know more? Please give me a call on 0418 444 210 or send an email secretary@tttg.org.au .

Your volunteer Management Committee needs the support of other volunteers if TTTG is to continue and develop. Help is needed across a variety of areas from writing articles or submitting images for the NEWS magazine to helping out at the Members Meetings and Real Skills Workshops. The Workshop program can be found at page 10. Next Members Meeting is on Tuesday 12 February at Marsfield.

Some of you will be aware that your Secretary is a metalworker. A shocking fact but true. I know there are others who share my passion and I am keen to see more 'dark arts' related content in NEWS.



Just look at that Waldown vise – classic engineering. And Waldown made tools for wood and metal users. Begs an article I'd say. And, as far as I recall, we have never had a full article on other past toolmakers like Hercus or Sheraton or Douglas or …..

Enough said; surely you must be inspired by now.

President's & Editor's Notes

Old Eastwood Town Hall

We are now settled into the new TTTG Head Quarters. The committee has secured access to an empty hall for TTTG Members Meetings. The December meeting went reasonably well. Like all committees we make mistakes. In future Committee Meetings will not be held on the night of the General Meeting.

The end of year "Members' Tool Sale" in the Old Eastwood Town Hall was a success. This sale will be repeated in December 2019.

A mid-year "end of financial year" sale is being planned for August 2019. The "conditions" and location will be the same as the End of Year sale.

The TTTG Library

TTTG has a large collection of technical publications. The Committee has tried unsuccessfully to find a suitable home for the library. The short term solution has been to store the library in a secure dry location.

2019 Tool Sale

The advertisement is one the back page and on the web.
Last chance to book a table!

The Website

Improvements to the website are ongoing. The plan is to get action images!

The Workshops

The workshops are now established at the new location and are popular.
We can only cater for your needs if you tell us what you want!

Editor's Notes

Committee member John Deeble has stepped forward to proof read NEWS.
Hopefully other members will volunteer to help keep NEWS in print.

We Need Your Contributions!

Why not consider writing an article for NEWS?
Why not review a magazine article for NEWS?
Why not review a Web Site for NEWS?
Any ideas? Contact the NEWS Editor Bob Crosbie

Lifeline

Lifeline's vision is an Australia free of suicide. Its mission is to support Australians in times of crisis and to reach out and equip individuals and communities to be resilient and suicide safe.

People who call Lifeline's 24-hour crisis support line do so for a range of reasons including but not limited to; family and relationship concerns, crisis support, suicide prevention, matters relating to abuse and violence, support and information about drug and alcohol use and loneliness

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury is an independent Lifeline centre within the Lifeline Australia network. It provides wide range of crisis support and suicide prevention services, including Lifeline's national 24/7 telephone crisis line **13 11 14**, and face-to-face counselling services and programs within the local community. Those services include financial counselling, gambling help, and hoarding treatment.

In the 2017/18 financial year Lifeline Australia answered over 800,000 phone calls to its crisis line and over 100,000 of these were handled by Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury.

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury is a not for profit organization and finances its operations through partnerships, grants, donations and Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury's own fundraising efforts. These include five shops and various book fairs throughout the year.

Book fairs are typically held over a weekend in a hired venue such as a school or community centre. Donations of books are received seven days a week, fifty weeks a year. Every week teams of volunteers sort the good ones from the unsaleable ones, clean them, price them and put them into boxes. At least sixty thousand books weighing about sixteen tons are taken to a book fair and displayed in about 50 categories covering the full range of fiction and non-fiction publications.

More information can be found at **https://lifelineh2h.org.au/**

Lifeline and TTTG

A regular feature of all TTTG General Meetings is the Lifeline Books Table.

Philip Howe sells books at TTTG Members Meetings for Lifeline.
All the cash raised from book sales goes to Lifeline.
The books are in demand, sell well & help Lifeline do good community work.


INCREASE YOUR PRODUCTION
ON ALL THOSE AWKWARD DRILLING JOBS . . .
WITH A Waldown
MACHINE VISE

About "Real Skills" Classes

Held At the TTTG Workshop Old Eastwood Town Hall
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

TTTG Workshop Objectives

-To teach traditional skills to a high standard
-To teach traditional skills in a safe workshop space
-To concentrate on efficient hand skill techniques
-To concentrate on the right tools for the job

The emphasis is on hand tools.
There will also be future classes on safe power tool and machine practice.

Class Size

All TTTG "Real Skills" Classes are limited to six (6) participants.
Six ensures each participant will have a quality learning experience.

Some background

For over a decade TTTG has offered "Real Skills" Workshops.
In the beginning TTTG tried a range of possibilities. Initially workshops were offered in Men's Sheds, then in a Sydney High School.
However, the community space workshops had significant Work, Health and Safety concerns while the High Schools involved logistical problems.
TTTG then offered workshops in Forster Hall at Brush Farm House; a good space but it could never be set up as a permanent workshop.

TTTG now has a dedicated workshop space at the rear of the Old Eastwood Town Hall where we can offer "real skills" classes in a safe, well-equipped, air-conditioned environment with good facilities and services.

TTTG aims to "set the standard" for participant safety and the quality of instruction at its "Real Skills" classes run by Bob Crosbie.

The numbers

- Maximum student number is 6
- Sunday 9.15am start
- $60 fee
- Enrol and pay online
- The only way to be sure of a place is to pay online

NEW WORKSHOP TOPICS
Learn in a safe work space

*** Scrapers and Shaves Sunday February 17, 2019

Card Scrapers are rarely sharp and used to their full potential.
Cabinet Scrapers are rarely correctly sharpened or set.
Spokeshaves are usually blunt and badly used.

The Card Scraper
-Selecting a Scraper
-Preparing the edge

The Stanley (or Record #80) Cabinet Scrapers
-Discover the full potential of this tool
-Preparing and Burnishing the edge
-Setting and using

The Spokeshaves
Wood or Metal? Flat or Round?
-Selecting a spokeshave
-Sharpening and using metal spokeshaves
-Sharpening and using wooden spokeshaves

*** The Planes you really need Sunday March 24, 2019

This workshop emphasises the traditional approach to joinery skills

-A wooden jack plane does the heavy work
-A#6 or #7 plane does the accurate planing
-Block planes
-Using marking gauges
-Planing end-grain
-Grinding and honing without jigs

Oilstones are best!

You don't need expensive high or low angle planes
You don't need expensive water stones or diamond stones
You don't need expensive digital read out honing jigs

*** Preparing Timber *Sunday April 14, 2019*

All the essential skills for accurate preparation of wood by hand methods

The secret isn't blade angle. Two planes do everything.

- Face Side and Face Edge
- Face Marks explained
- Planing the Face Side
- *Winding Sticks* explained
- Planing the Face Edge
- Gauging and "planing to gauge"

Other Workshops

- ***Saw Sharpening***
- ***Successful Woodworking***
- ***Shaped Furniture Construction***
- ***Veneering Shaped Furniture***
- ***Making Mouldings***

Jim Davey Planes

WHAT WE USED TO TEACH

Presented by John Deeble, 11 December 2018

YEARS	TEACHER TRAINING	CURRICULUM YEARS 7 - 10	CURRICULUM YEARS 11-12	INFLUENCES
Up to 1970's	• 2 to 3 Year training in Teachers Colleges. • UNSW • Retraining • Strong practical traditional skill focus and Practice Teaching • Often additional post grad qualifications	• Craft • Wood • Metal • Farm Mechanics • Technical Drawing	• Engineering Science – Materials Science, Engineering Mechanics, Engineering Drawing and History • Engineering Science Level 1 introduced • Technology	• Hand Tools • Limited Machines • Limited $ and material sources • Traditional materials – solid timber, plywood, sheet metal, solid section metals. • LPG heat source
1980's	• 4 year training • CAE's • Universities • Short Course Retraining • Decreasing focus on practical skills and Practice teaching	Introduction of Technics • Introductory Materials • Wood • Metal • Plastics • Electronics • Automotive • Technical Drawing	• Engineering Science – Integrated Topics • Industrial Technology introduced – Timber, Metal, Plastics, Electronics, Automotive, Electronics, Graphics – all with Major Project and Folio	• Power tools incl. cordless • Expanded range of machines • Dust Extraction • Early CNC/CAD • New Materials • Oxy-acetylene and GMAW welding • Increased funds
1990's	• 4 year training in Uni's • Short Course Retraining of existing teachers and Tradespeople • VET training • Decreasing focus on practical skills and Practice teaching	Introduction of Design & Technology • Mandatory 7 & 8 • Electives in 9 & 10	• Engineering Science • Industrial Technology • Design and Technology – including Major Design Project	• CAD and CNC • Additional power and Machine tools • Funding for VET equipment
2000's	• 4 year training in Uni's • Short Course Retraining of existing teachers and Tradespeople • VET training • Decreasing focus on practical skills and Practice teaching	Design & Technology • Mandatory 7 & 8 • Electives in 9 & 10	• Engineering Studies – applications and Engineering fields focus. • Industrial Technology • Design and Technology	• Commonwealth $ for Trade Training Centres, including equipment • Changes to OH&S legislation requiring DET usage controls

YEARS	TYPICAL HAND/ POWER TOOLS - WOOD	TYPICAL HAND / POWER TOOLS - METAL	TYPICAL MACHINES	TYPICAL PROJECTS
Up to 1970's	• Rule • Hand router • Tenon saw • Bench hook • Gauges • Mortise board • Squares • Brace & bit • Jack plane • Scraper • Marking knife • Sliding bevel • Chisels • Dowelling jig • Mallet • Coping saw • Warrington hammer	• Rule • Twist drills • Scriber • Vee blocks • Square • Surface gauge • Calipers • Surface block • Dividers • Chisels • Hacksaw • Rivet set • Files • Ball pein hammer • Snips • Mallets • Centre punch • Folding bars • Soldering iron • Tap & die • Piercing saw • Rivet gun	WOOD – • Bandsaw • Grinder • Wood lathes METAL - • Drill press • Metal lathes • Shaper • LPG torch	WOOD – • Pencil case • Tray • Spice rack • Upholstered stool • Step ladder • Coffee table • Turned segmented bowl METAL – • Sugar scoop • Sandwich cutter • Centre punch • Screwdriver • Clamp • BBQ tools • Tool tray/box • Machine vice
1980's	• Router • Power Drills • Jigsaw • Power sanders • Tool Sharpener	• Power drill • Angle grinder • Electric soldering	• Spot welder • GMAW welder • Oxy-acetylene • Coldsaw • Power hacksaw • Buff • Magnetic folder • Drill mill • Guillotine • Circular saw • Belt & disc sander • Plastic strip bender	• Folding Stool • Roll top breadbox • Large Furniture items • Tubular furniture/Gym Equip. • Vehicle restorations • Trailers • Farm equipment • Fibreglass boats
1990's	• Biscuit jointer • Power planes • Drop & slide saws • Dovetail jigs • Finger jointing machine	• Nibbler/shear	• Geared head lathe • CNC lathe • Milling machine • Cramp folder • Dowelling & mortising • Thicknesser • Router table • Spindle sander	• Wood lathe • Folding workbench • Steam engines • Bench vice • Carbon fibre projects • Electronic projects
2000's	• Nailing/stapling • Joinery jigs	• Abrasive cut-off saw • Cordless screw driver • Tube/pipe bender • Ring roll	• Sliding table saw • CNC router • CNC mill • Laser cutter • Plasma cutter • Swage & jenny • Fixed spot welder • Air filtration	• Building construction • Outdoor furniture

What We Used to Teach

John Deeble TTTG – 11 December 2018

The last 50 years has seen very significant changes in the delivery of practical education in NSW schools.

From Manual Arts of the 1960's and 1970's to Industrial Arts in the 1980's and 1990's to the current Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) curriculum in the late 1990's and 2000's.

Many different factors have influenced the changes including teacher training, curriculum renewal, increased funding, changes to facility design, new equipment technology, new materials and changing directions in Government policy.

The above tables provide a brief synopsis of a number of the key factors affecting the changes.

In Our Next Issue - NEWS 160

The Tools that were in High Schools

In the next issue of NEWS the theme of what was in the schools will be further explored.

Using examples from departmental stock books and personal recollection the writers will discuss the changes in the range and quality of tools in NSW High Schools over the decades.

In the first decades of the second half of last century many of the tools in NSW High Schools were "stamped" with the departmental mark. These stamps were the descendants of the "Government mark" or Broad Arrow used in colonial times.

Tools marked with the government stamp were recorded in printed departmental stock books. Tools were purchased on government contract. Price, quality and local manufacture were all considered in issuing contracts for tools.

JD's

Saved from the Smelter

by John Daniel

I don't quite know what it is about STANLEY 55's that draws me to them, maybe it's the history of the wooden stemmed planes to the development of the early beautifully embellished MILLER's patented combination planes back in the 1870's, maybe it's just the statement they make as an engineered piece of art. The No 55 may well be out-dated, however, it's still a handy tool for restoration mouldings, or just running a simple bead without having to plug in a cord or charge a battery.

I was invited to a 'shed' that had to be cleaned out for repurposing; it was obvious that the shed had been 'picked' through with little of any worth left (you get the picture, expectations dashed by reality), however, there is always a chance that something has been overlooked; in this case, an uninspiring old N0. 55 in a broken box; little wonder it was discarded. The parts where was well-rusted, caked in dried grease and dirt, had a broken fence, all thrown into what remained of its original box.

The redeeming features of the find was that all the plane parts were there including the tower, the slitting blade and depth stop (definite plus as these are usually missing) and all the Rosewood was undamaged. The plane was at the cross-roads, in one direction the scrap-metal bin, the other, for a bit of sympathetic attention; the latter was the better option, hence a few days of work ahead.

A little bonus, A 1908 STANLEY catalogue was found under all the bits and pieces, most likely with the plane since purchase, if condition was any indication; it was complete, though in a very fragile condition on the verge of decay. The text and illustrations were remarkably clear, posing the problem, what to do to conserve this hard-to-come-by booklet; well that will have to be a project for another day.

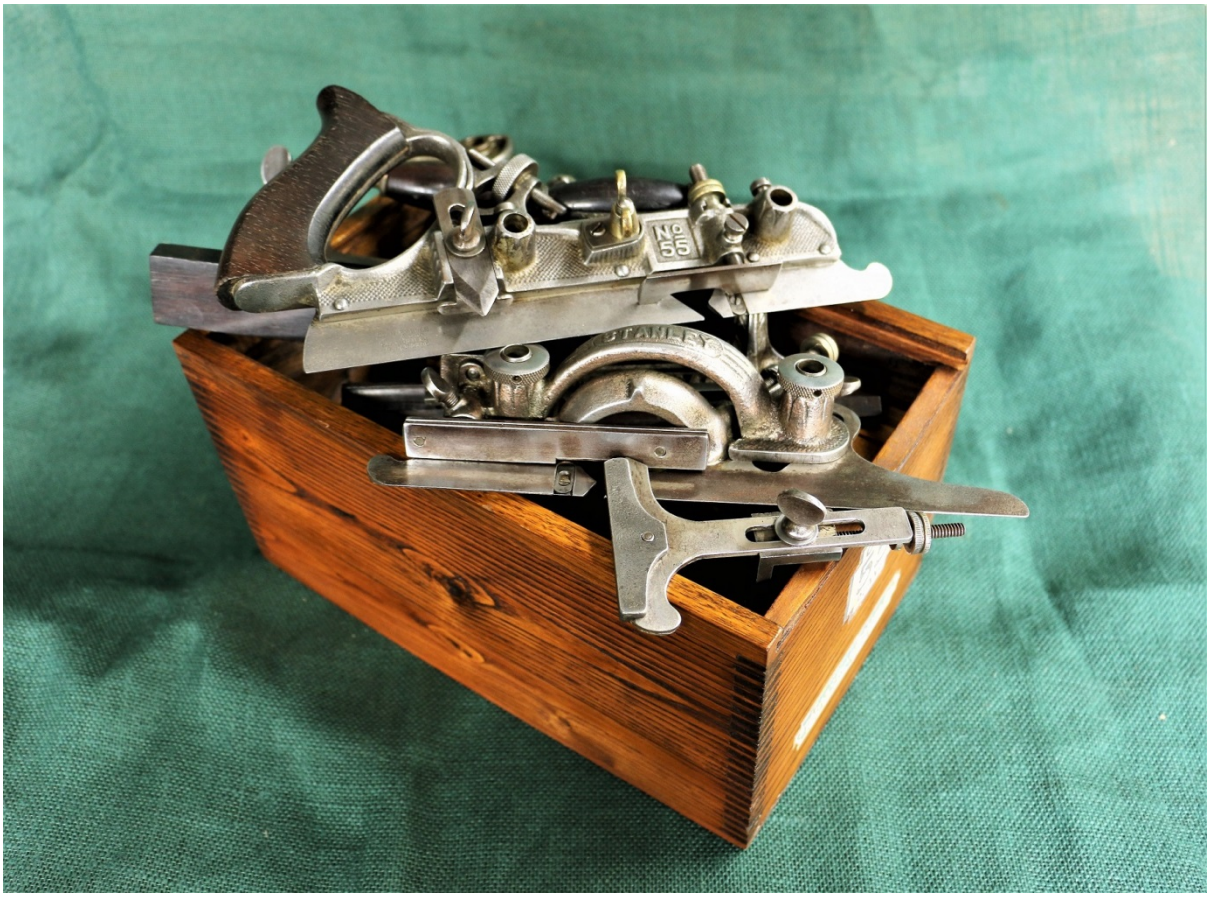
Where to begin?

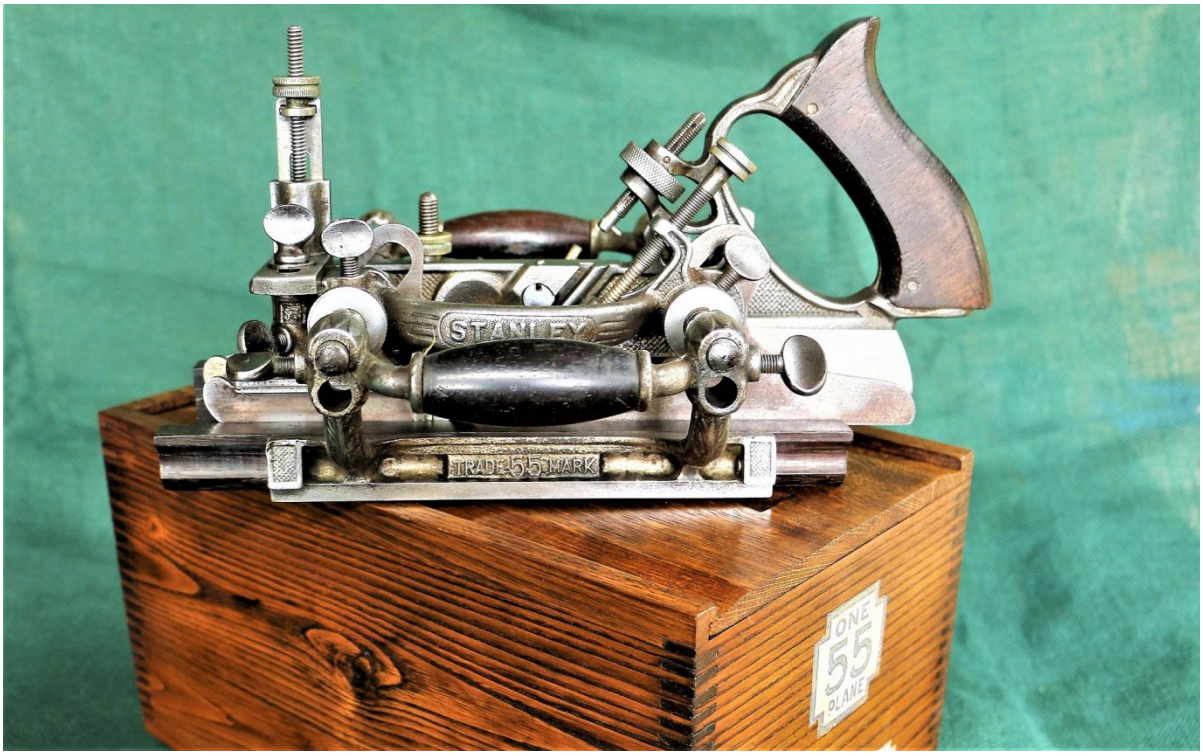
The plane was completely disassembled, thoroughly cleaned of loose dirt and grease with a stiff nylon brush and a good detergent in hot water, followed by de-rusting all metal parts in the electrolysis tank. Fortunately, I had a replacement fence of the same era, fitted with the wood from the broken fence, it matched in well and completed the tool.

The box was a different story. It would have been easier to make a new one but as the plane was early and the box was recognisable, it felt the correct approach to 'tidy-it-up'; now to what extent? In this case, as the box was in such a state, would it require a conservator's approach or a restorer's approach of saving as much of the old box as possible and ending up with a functional box representative of the period. The first step was to knock what remained of the box apart, clean off all the dirt and grime, then assess a plan of attack .It was obvious that the top edges of the sides and end required to be built up and re-grooved for the lid, the bottom needed replacing and a new lid made and fitted. Once done, with the box reassembled with repairs, all that needed to be done, was to tone/blend in the new wood with the old with a diluted spirit stain (Oak) then a couple of coats of shellac. Finally, a good work-over with 'FIDDES Durable Wax Finish' (English Oak (RH40) completed the box; well not quite, a couple of STANLEY box labels of the period (copies of course) just 'ticked the box".

Note: - In refinishing repair jobs such as this, prior to applying the finish (as stated, shellac in this case), the project needs to be washed over with a diluted spirit stain(Oak in his case) and when dry, where necessary, carefully re-stain the replacement wood to tone in with the old; every refinishing job is different, sometimes one may need to experiment a little.


ONE
55
PLANE
MANUFACTURED BY
STANLEY RULE & LEVEL CO.
NEW BRITAIN, CONN. U.S.A.


No 55
STANLEY


STANLEY
TRADE 55 MARK
ONE
55
PLANE


CATALOGUE No. 39
STANLEY
RULE AND LEVEL
COMPANY
NEW BRITAIN, CONN., U. S. A.
1908

The Golden Age of Rail Carriage Building (Part 1)

by Kevin Wallace

The “Golden Age of Steam” came to an end, in New South Wales, a few years after the end of the Second World War; although it would be another twenty years or so before the last steam locomotive was withdrawn from regular service. So too ended, what I call, the Golden Age of Rail Carriage Building, followed by its gradual demise over the next sixty years, until 2015 when the remaining functions of the trade were absorbed into the Fitting trade.

Clyde Wagon Works 1968: The structure we are standing on is a “King

Street” cable tram car, which ceased operation in 1905. We worked on the restoration of the car. This Tram Car is now exhibited in the Power House Museum (Castle Hill). The author is in the middle wearing bib and brace.

Rail Carriage Building was a timber trade and the work ranged from heavy carpentry to fine cabinet work. The trade’s demise was not because of the demise of steam as a locomotive power but, like steam locomotives, new processes, materials and manufacturing methods had over taken the old technology.

ABOVE: Sheep van

I feel that I was fortunate to have been on the tail end of this Carriage Building Golden Age. At the time of my apprenticeship (1968-72), carriages and freight wagons were still repaired and manufactured using traditional methods, and much of it was timber construction. These methods of construction had been around for over 100 years and probably graduated from horse-drawn carriage and ship building practices.

Kevin Johns, who ran the Wood Works tool shop, wrote an article in the Woodworkers Association of NSW 2 newsletter describing his apprenticeship and time as a Rail Carriage Builder. Although he started in 1948, 20 years prior to myself, his technical and on-the-job training as an apprentice mirrored my own. The only difference was the first year where he was assigned to two tradesmen, while I spent my first year in a training compound with thirty six other apprentices under the guidance of four trades' instructors.

Early Life

I can remember watching an advertisement on TV for Parker Furniture, depicting a "craftsman" fashioning furniture, and telling my mother, this is what I wanted to do when I left school (in 1967). I guess I must have been about 13 or 14 at the time. I had been studying woodwork and metalwork at school and doing well in both subjects. My woodwork teacher, at Asquith Boys' High, was Les Miller, from the New Inventers TV show and who has, I think, written a number of woodwork books. Les was a former Rail Carriage Builder and I may be the only former student of his that took up the trade.

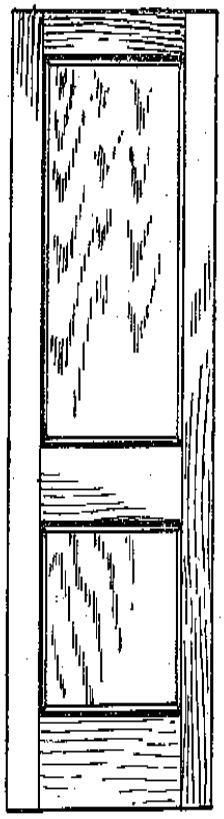
And so to work!

As was the custom, of the 1960's, most boys left school at the end of 4th form (Year 10); School Certificate or not, and I was amongst them. I applied to the NSW Government Railways for a job as an apprentice Rail Carriage Builder. I was accepted and was in the first intake.

Work started on December 4, 1967. We had one week of induction on fire safety, first aid, workshop safety etc. then off to Clyde Wagon Works, Auburn. The workshops are still there but very little remains of the buildings, which were built in the early 20th century. We were put into a compound (eventually totalling 36 boys) with 4 instructors and given fundamental training in woodwork. We were kitted out with tools too, 8 mortise chisels, 8 bevel edged firmer chisels, 6 gouges, 4 saws (Hand, Panel, Tenon & Dovetail), 4 planes (#4, #6, #71 & #78), 2 spoke shaves, screwdrivers, claw hammer and mallet, 2 braces and 10 bits, 4 "G" clamps, try squares and marking gauges; all top quality, and all the tools I'd ever wanted and dreamt about.

Christmas came early in 1967!

We spent the next week flattening the face (facing) all those edged tools. It was an arduous, boring job and I still hate it. I still have nearly all of that tool kit and some look as new today as they did 50 years ago. Buy good tools, look after them and they'll last you a life time! The pay was $18.80 per week (I still have the first pay slip) and after tax I took home $15.00 After the Christmas break the on-the-job training started in earnest, learning the basic fundamentals to prepare timber; checking for "wind", flatness and square, making various joints, including my favourite, dovetail joints, and the use and care of the various tools. Later in that year we were taught to sharpen our saws. It was an excellent training ground as only the Railways gave at that time. Our first real (production) project was to make a Sheep Van door. It was just a rectangular frame with 1" (25.4mm) haunched mortise and tenon joints. This was made from rough sawn Oregon; timber prepared; mortises chopped and tenons cut by hand. Most of the work in that year was making various doors, sliding door "pockets", guards' van lookouts, LPG bottle cupboards, and stable doors to supply demand for the rest of Wagon Works.



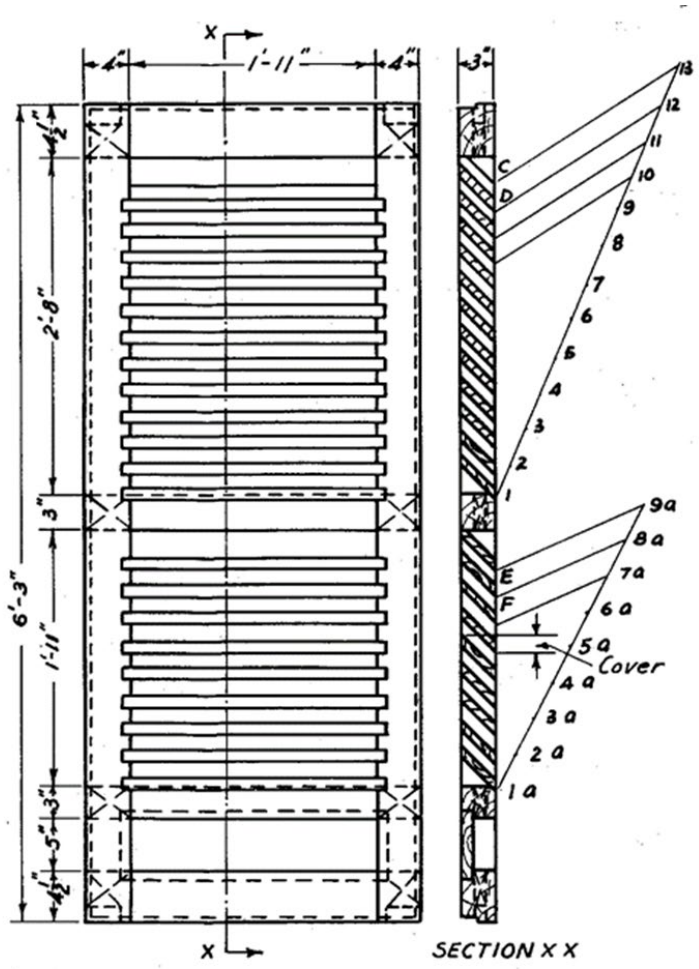


FIG. 4-1

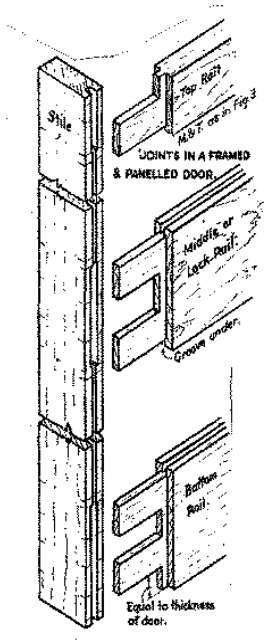
The largest of these doors was a louvre van door. This was from Oregon, with 4"x 3"stiles and four rails; 2ft 7ins wide and 6ft 3ins high. The joints were screwed together using 14 gauge screws. There were no power tools, we drilled holes with an “egg beater” drill and used a brace and screw-driver bit to sink the screws. As an “exercise” we built one of these doors from scratch. Although the stiles and rails had been milled to size, we had to check for “wind” and square. We measured and set out the mortises and tenons, rebates and louvres. The mortises were “hollowed out” using a brace and 1" auger bit, then cleaned up and ends cut square. The rebate in the bottom and lower rail was planned using a #78 rebate plane.

This frame, with modifications, was also the basis of other wagon doors, such as the refrigerator van, Arnott’s Biscuit van and powder (explosive) van doors. These doors would have been originally covered, inside and out, with timber lining boards, but by 1968 these had been replaced by res-coat plywood. The powder van doors were screwed together using brass screws on the inside as these didn’t spark if brushed with another metal object. You needed to avoid sparks inside an explosive rail wagon. These doors were even heavier than the louvre van door.

The heaviest door was a cattle van door, made of Tallow Wood, which, when completed, would take two boys to turn it over. The door was a simple rectangular frame with a vertical centre muntin. The joints were screwed from the outside, so that if the door was damaged there were no protruding screws to injure the livestock.

We also built lots of “lavatory doors”, which were a light framed door, from Oregon, with wide centre and bottom rails and infilled with two plywood panels. These doors were used on Guards Vans as partition doors, between the guard’s compartment and the goods area and lavatories. The frames were glued, using “Casein” glue and the mortise and tenon joints were

wedged. There were no screws used in the frame. Although most of the components for these doors came from the Timber Mill with the mortise and tenons and rebates already cut, we had to fit them together; match the shoulders of the tenons and sometimes re-chop the ends of the mortise, to insure the mortises lined up and the frame was square. Rigid standards were enforced by the instructors to insure there was no sub-standard work.



We made some of our own tools too. Timber mallet (for the apprentices in the following year), oil stone box, German Jack plane as well as a tool chest and tool box. *All of which tools I still have and still use!*

Railways Tool Chest

The tool chest (below) was just a large dovetail box, measuring 900mm x 450mm x 450mm high, using 19mm plywood and finished with a Coachwood frame lid. We were taught to cut all the dovetail joints using a panel saw. It was the biggest dovetail box I've ever built. We were the last group to build this style of tool chest.

In that year I discovered the love of working with timber and building things.

Off-the-job training!

Like Kevin John, my off-work technical training followed the same path. We attended the Railway Institute, which was a division of Technical Colleges NSW (now TAFE). Each week we spent half a day at the Castlereagh Street Railway Institute, being instructed in technical drawing and trade calculations (maths). In the fourth year the trade calculations consisted of elementary Engineering Mechanics, which I encountered some years later when studying Engineering. The Castlereagh Street Institute building (opposite the Mark Foy's building) has been replaced with high-rise apartments, although the original building facade remains.

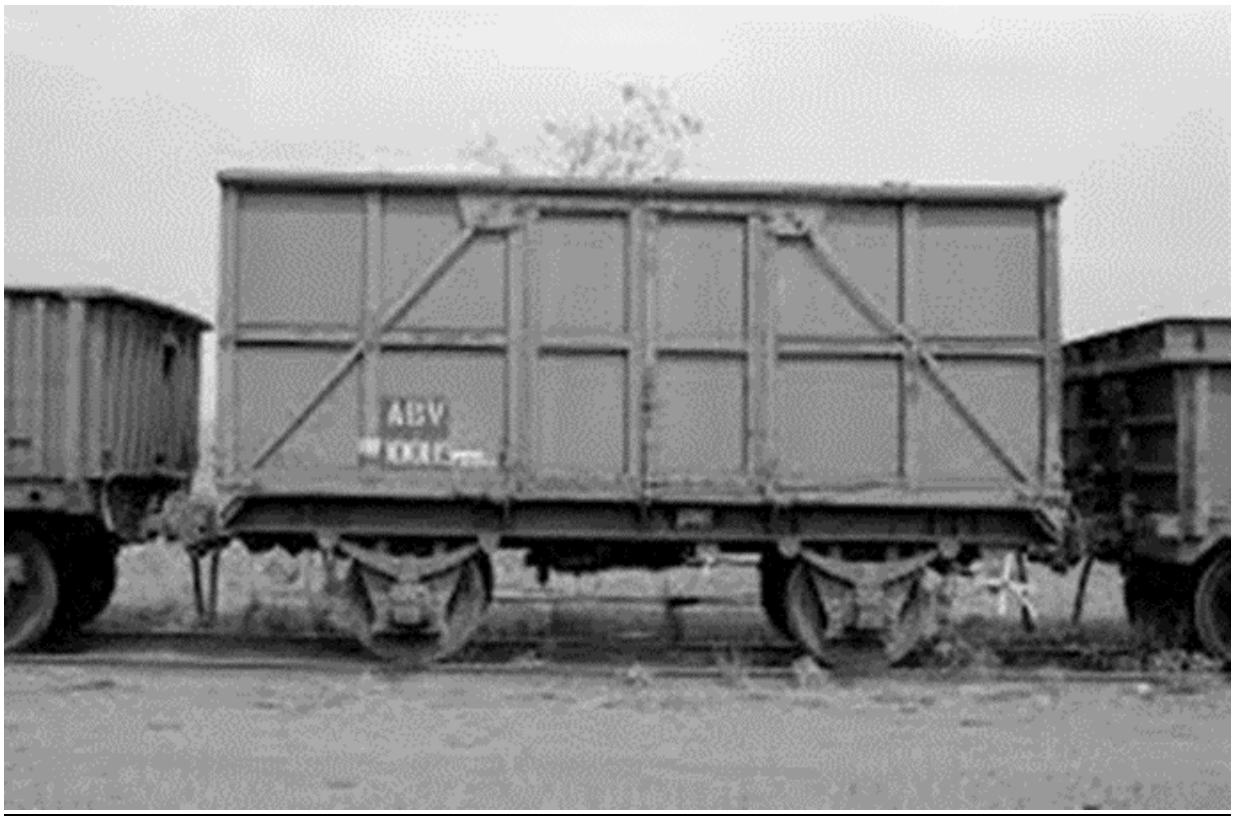
TTTG has one of the Railways Tool Chests made in the Carriage Workshop. The one in the TTTG Tool Collection was made in the 1940s. Like all the earlier Railways Tool Chests the outside is painted. Sliding trays are fitted inside these Tool Chests.

We also went to the Homebush Branch of the tech; which was just west of Strathfield Station on the southern side of the rail line. Here too the Technical College buildings have been replaced by apartments but none of the original buildings remain. We attended three times a year in a one week block release; about a dozen students at a time. The morning was trade theory and the afternoons practical. You were issued with a small kit of tools, but these were more abused than used and I would take my own try square and smoothing plane, along to the classes.

ABOVE: Refrigerator van

The only machine we were allowed to use at the Homebush Tech was a grinding wheel to grind plane blades and chisels. It had a large sandstone wheel, 10ins (250mm) wide and 4 feet (1200mm) in diameter and rotated away from the operator. The stating "switch" was a box about the size of a modern electric toaster with a large handle on one side.

You would first start to rotate the wheel by hand and when you thought you'd achieved the appropriate momentum, you would pull the handle down and hold it in the "start" position. The electric motor would then kick-in and the rotation speed would increase. When you thought it was at the maximum rotation speed, you wrenched the handle up, through the stop position, into the "run" position, where it would hold. You would then adjust the water trickling onto the stone face; too much and you got splashed; too little and you may "burn" the blade. There was no tool rest fitted and you would have to "lock" your fore-arms and elbows into your waist to ensure a straight, one facet ground face.



A LITTLE STORY ABOUT RAILWAY DEMARCATION OF TRADES by Kevin Wallace

In 1981 I took up a position with the *State Rail Authority* and as the Maintenance Engineer at Clyde Wagon Maintenance Centre. This is where I'd started my apprenticeship 14 years earlier. This was a totally different working environment than I'd been exposed to in design offices. It wasn't long before I realised that this was going to be a difficult job in more ways than one.

The workshops were at the end of a major modernisation and re-build with a huge number of new machines being installed. One day a new machine arrived in the workshop in a timber box, about one cubic metre in size.

The Foreman Fitter and I were inspecting the new consignment to work out what we needed to do for the assembly and installation. I looked around the shed and found a crow-bar and jimmied open part of the lid and we looked inside.

> "We'll break the box open after morning tea and have a good look at it then" said the Foreman Fitter. Fine, and I headed back to the office. Not long back in the office (news

travels fast) I received a phone call from an irate Foreman Carpenter.

"Now I know you haven't been here very long, so I'm not going to take this any further, BUT those Fitters are doing Carpenters work. It's demarcation".

"You mean; the box with the machine in it?" I said; puzzled. "But it's just a packing box!"

"Yes, and its Carpenters work to pull it apart, because it's a timber box", persisted the Carpenter Foreman. So, I smoothed it over and made a mental note.

A few weeks later another machine arrived in a timber box. It was huge! Three metres high and ten metres long. It was that big it was delivered on a flat-top rail wagon.

"We'll break the box open after morning tea and have a good look at it then", said the Forman Fitter. "Hang on!" I shouted. "I'll get the carpenters".

After morning tea, the Carpenters were swarming over the box, prizing open the boards and pulling nails. I looked-on, smugly, pleased I'd avoided a demarcation dispute.

I was approached by the Car & Wagon Builder union representative; "Now I know you haven't been here very long, so I'm not going to take this any further, BUT those Carpenters are doing our work. It's demarcation".

"But, but it's a timber box; its carpenters work, surely"

"True" said the union rep, "but its sitting on a railway wagon, so it's Carriage Builder's work.

Railway Carriage Builder's Tools

TTTG has a selection of coach builder's tools in the TTTG Tool Collection.

At a future meeting the presentation will be on Railway Carriage Tools.

Barley Sugar Twists

Jacobian Spirals were a common decorative element of the furniture made between the early 1900s to the 1920s. Most of this Jacobian furniture was made of English and American Oak. Barley Sugar Twists are expensive to produce by hand methods. With the right machine they are cheap to make!

The advert above is from Practical Cabinet Making & Draughting. J. H. Rudd. Benn Brothers Limited. London 1922. First published in 1912.

Warning

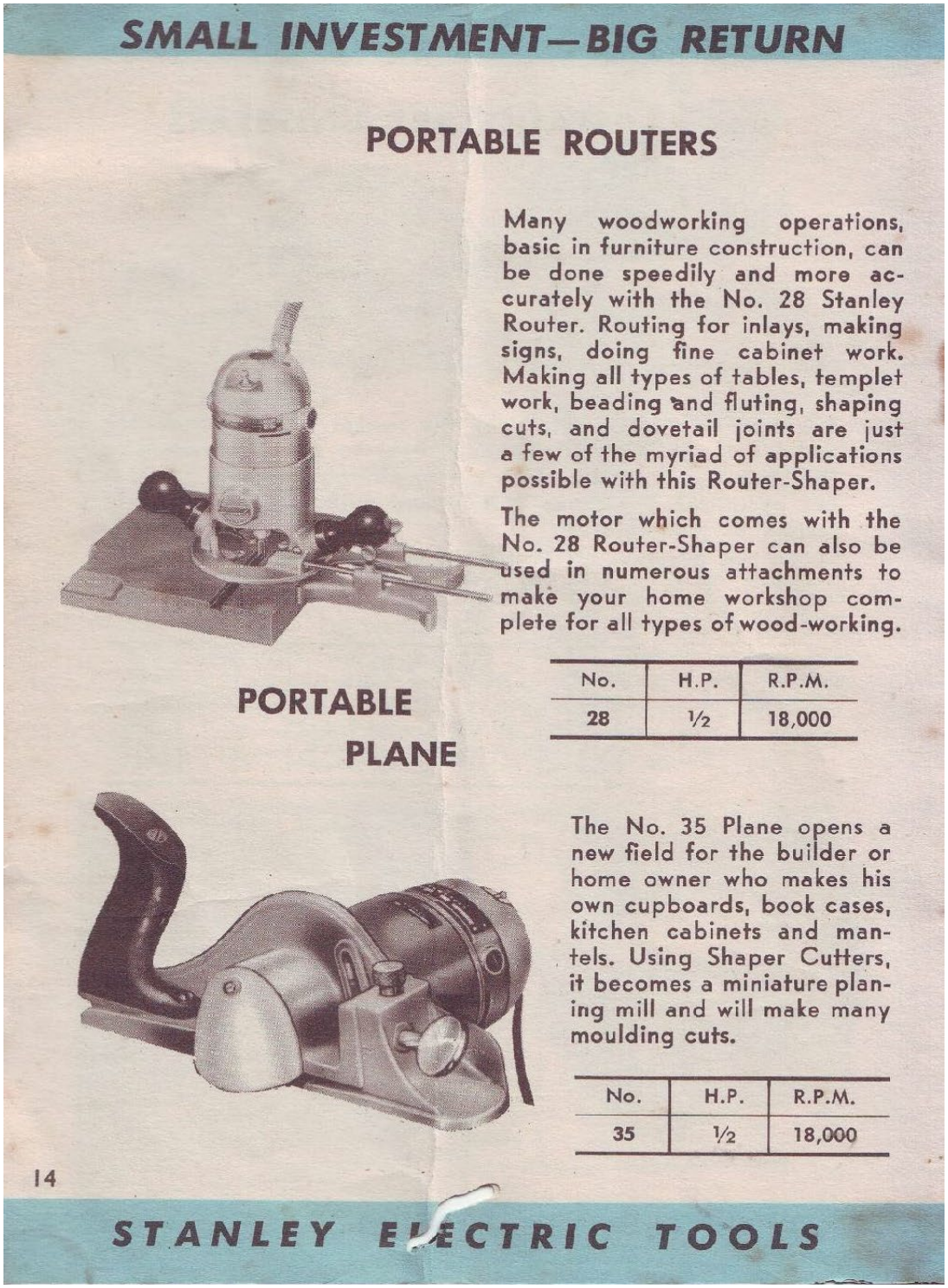
There are a number of commercial "twist turning" devices. Some are made to attach to a lathe. Others are for use with a portable router. The features they have are common is poor results and safe use issues.

Barley Sugar Twists by hand methods

If you can turn an accurate cylinder and set out a spiral you can probably learn to make barley sugar twists. The basic tools needed are a tenon saw, mallet and firmer gouge. A suitable rasp and a few scrapers are also useful. You will find clear instructions in old wood carving text book. *You Tube* has numerous blogs on this topic. Beware, most are dangerous!

Stanley Router 1960?

Both these Stanley New Britain Connecticut, USA portable power tools are represented in the TTTG Tool Collection.



SMALL INVESTMENT—BIG RETURN

PORTABLE ROUTERS

Many woodworking operations, basic in furniture construction, can be done speedily and more accurately with the No. 28 Stanley Router. Routing for inlays, making signs, doing fine cabinet work. Making all types of tables, templet work, beading and fluting, shaping cuts, and dovetail joints are just a few of the myriad of applications possible with this Router-Shaper.

The motor which comes with the No. 28 Router-Shaper can also be used in numerous attachments to make your home workshop complete for all types of wood-working.

No.	H.P.	R.P.M.
28	½	18,000

PORTABLE PLANE

The No. 35 Plane opens a new field for the builder or home owner who makes his own cupboards, book cases, kitchen cabinets and mantels. Using Shaper Cutters, it becomes a miniature planing mill and will make many moulding cuts.

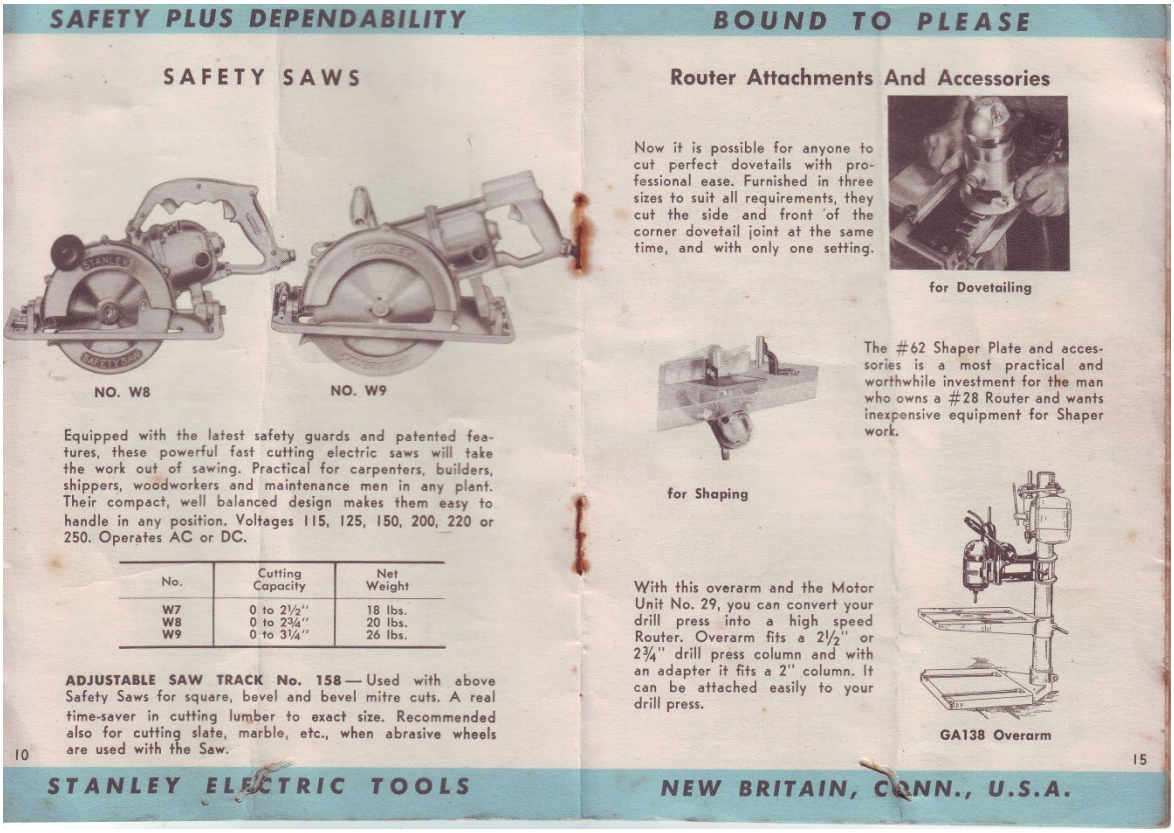
No.	H.P.	R.P.M.
35	½	18,000

14

STANLEY ELECTRIC TOOLS

John Deeble has volunteered to gradually repair and tag the portable power tools represented in the TTTG Tool Collection.

1960 Safety Saws



SAFETY PLUS DEPENDABILITY

SAFETY SAWS

NO. W8

NO. W9

Equipped with the latest safety guards and patented features, these powerful fast cutting electric saws will take the work out of sawing. Practical for carpenters, builders, shippers, woodworkers and maintenance men in any plant. Their compact, well balanced design makes them easy to handle in any position. Voltages 115, 125, 150, 200, 220 or 250. Operates AC or DC.

No.	Cutting Capacity	Net Weight
W7	0 to 2½"	18 lbs.
W8	0 to 2¾"	20 lbs.
W9	0 to 3¼"	26 lbs.

ADJUSTABLE SAW TRACK No. 158 — Used with above Safety Saws for square, bevel and bevel mitre cuts. A real time-saver in cutting lumber to exact size. Recommended also for cutting slate, marble, etc., when abrasive wheels are used with the Saw.

10

STANLEY ELECTRIC TOOLS

BOUND TO PLEASE

Router Attachments And Accessories

Now it is possible for anyone to cut perfect dovetails with professional ease. Furnished in three sizes to suit all requirements, they cut the side and front of the corner dovetail joint at the same time, and with only one setting.

for Dovetailing

for Shaping

The #62 Shaper Plate and accessories is a most practical and worthwhile investment for the man who owns a #28 Router and wants inexpensive equipment for Shaper work.

With this overarm and the Motor Unit No. 29, you can convert your drill press into a high speed Router. Overarm fits a 2½" or 2¾" drill press column and with an adapter it fits a 2" column. It can be attached easily to your drill press.

GA138 Overarm

15

NEW BRITAIN, CONN., U.S.A.

Coming Event - Power Tool Presentation

TTTG Plugged In

Chips Flying

What happens when the power tools are repaired and tagged?

At a future meeting the committtee hopes to have an action presentatioin of the power tools in the TTTG Collection.

A screened bench will be set up at the front of the hall.

The audience will be issued with hearing protection.

There will be a choice of Ear Protectors or Ear Plugs.

The veteran power tools demonstrated will include:

-1960s Stanley Router and accessories
-1960s Black & Decker Router
-1960s -1960s Black & Decker portable Circular Saw
-1970s Skilsaw portable Circular Saw

The Stanley All Purpose Saw

STANLEY

STANLEY POWER TOOLS
DIVISION OF THE STANLEY WORKS
NEW BRITAIN, CONN., U. S. A.

363
ALL PURPOSE SAW

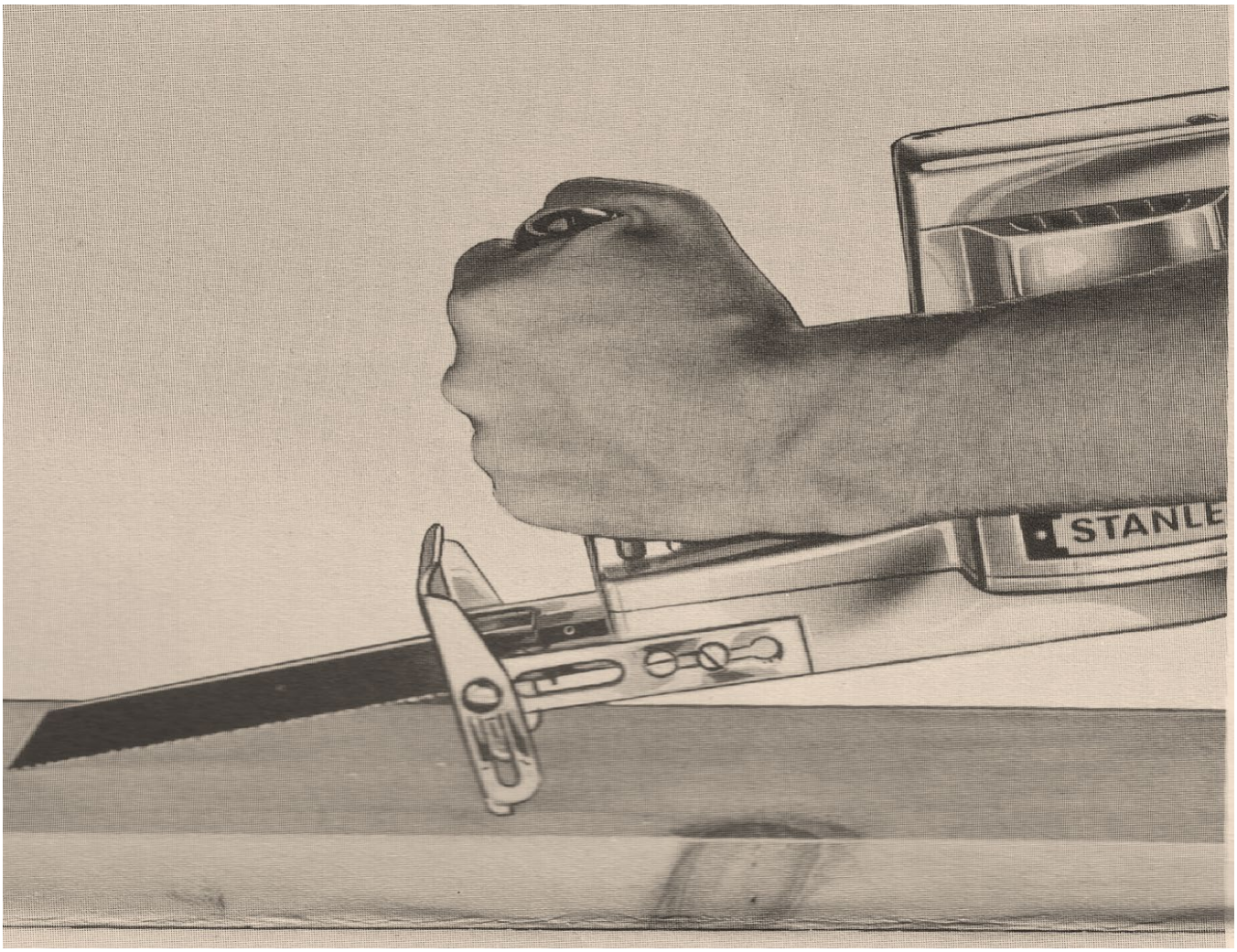
ABOUT YOUR ALL PURPOSE SAW

Your two speed Stanley 363 All Purpose Saw is one of the most versatile of portable wood and metal working tools. The high speed is ideal for fast cutting in wood (both cross-cutting and ripping), plaster-board and composition material. The low speed was designed for cutting metals, plastic pipe, transite and similar substances. The auxiliary handle offers five different positions for the comfort of the operator. The blades can be mounted on the plunger in any one of six positions. With the flush cutting blades, flush cuts can be made parallel with the floor plane,

SWITCHES

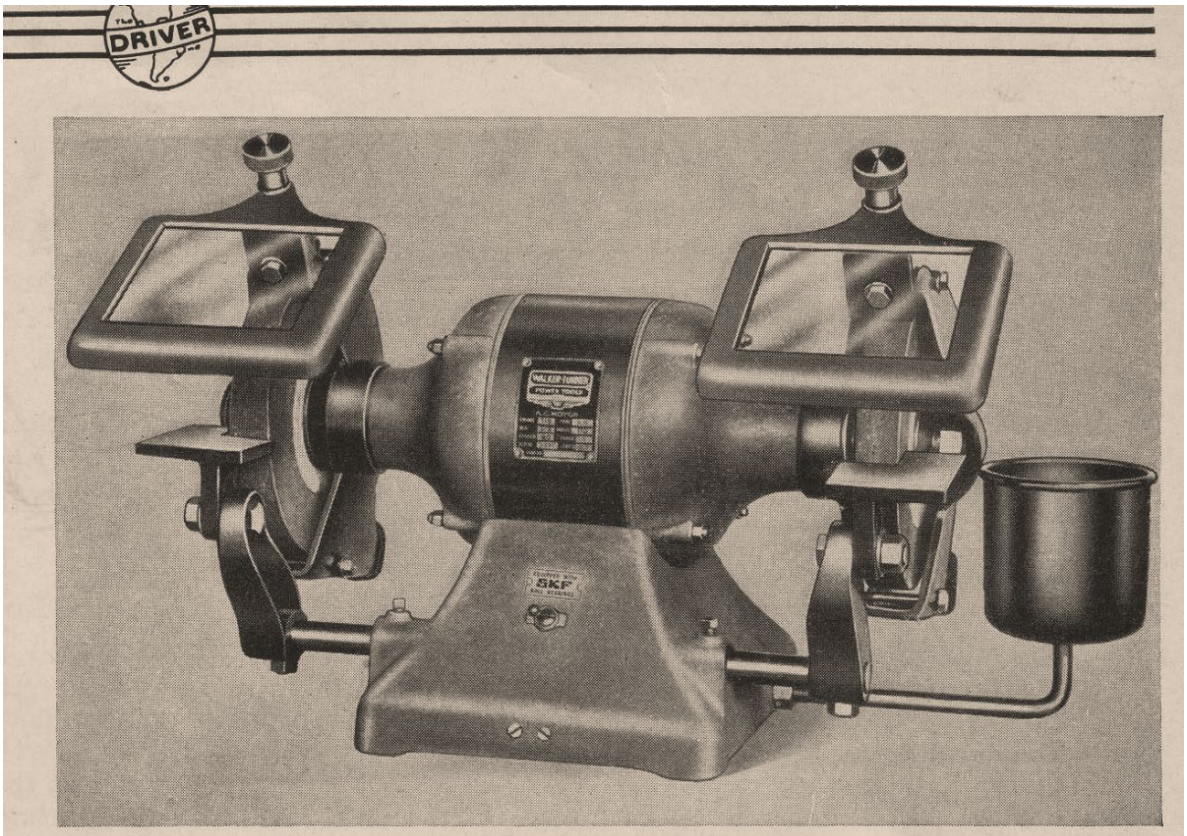
Your All Purpose Saw has two switches; a speed selector switch and an "OFF", "ON" switch which is equipped with a quick release lock. A locking button has been provided to lock the switch in the "ON" position. To lock, pull the trigger, push in the locking button and release the trigger. To release the lock, pull the trigger, and the lock will automatically disengage.

The speed is selected by moving the bat lever of the speed switch to the speed indicated on the data plate.



‘Driver’ Motor Grinder

This machine has all the essential features of the modern grinder.



½ H.P. Heavy Duty Grinder (above)

This heavy duty, ball bearing grinder has many outstanding qualities which assure the utmost in utility and trouble-free performance. The motor is a full ½ H.P. capacitor type with ample overload capacity. It has no centrifugal starting switch or brushes. Instead it has a condenser in the base permanently connected for both starting and running.

Operating speed 3450 R.P.M., wheels 7″ diameter, 1″ wide, ⅝″ hole; precision sealed ball bearings; extended end bells; full-protection guards designed according to latest safety code requirements; large, non-shatterable glass shields; adjustable tool rests and cooling cup. A high-grade snap switch is built into the base. Shipping weight 80 lbs.

GR50 ½ H.P. Grinder (110 volts, 60 cycle, A.C.) as shown above 50 cycle, 110 volts, extra. 220 to 250 volts, 60 cycle, extra. 3 phase 220 volts, 60 cycle, no extra cost (but switch is not supplied). 3 phase 220 volts, 50 cycle, extra. Direct current, 115, 230 or 250 volts, extra. (Switch not supplied with 3 phase motors.)

DRIVER machines were made in the USA by Walker-Turner Power Tools. Manufacturers from 1940 to 1957. For the company’s history see http://vintagemachinery.org/mfgindex/detail.aspx?id=808

Brown & Sharpe Inside Micrometers

Two Sizes — measuring 2″ to 8″ and 2″ to 12″ by thousandths of an inch.

BROWN & SHARPE
Nos. 266 and 267
Inside Micrometers

No. 266
Range, 2″ to 8″ by thousandths of an inch
Has 6 Measuring Rods
Price, $7.25 **Case, $1.75**
Price includes complete set of Measuring Rods and Spacing Collar.

No. 267
Range, 2″ to 12″ by thousandths of an inch
Has 10 Measuring Rods
Price, $8.50 **Case, $2.75**
Price includes complete set of Measuring Rods and Spacing Collar.

See these new Inside Micrometers at your local dealer's. If he cannot supply you write direct, but, by all means, insist on the Brown & Sharpe accuracy and reliability which they bring when you need tools for inside measurements. Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co., Providence, R. I., U. S. A.

W. R. SHORT
HARDWARE STORE
108 YARRARA ROAD, PENNANT HILLS
PHONE EPP. 1752

Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co.,
Providence, R. I., U. S. A.

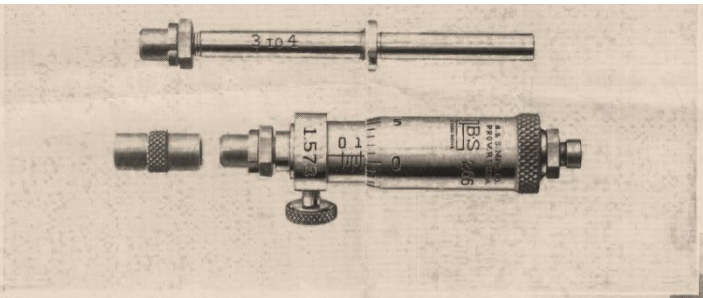
Printed in U. S. A.
3-37-25

ACCURATE
MODERATELY PRICED
SIMPLIFIED ADJUSTMENTS
RELIABLE

B·S

The New

BROWN & SHARPE
Nos. 266 *and* 267
INSIDE MICROMETERS



New Features--Moderately Priced

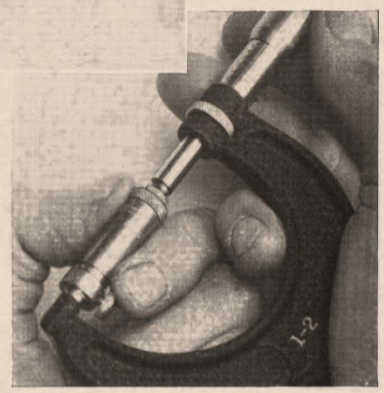
Handy, compact, moderately priced and reliable. Two sizes: one measures from 2″ to 8″ by thousandths of an inch; the other from 2″ to 12″.

Note the adjusting point and lock nut on the thimble — an exclusive Brown & Sharpe advantage. If wear should occur, simply adjust this one point — it is not necessary to change all the rods.

When rod is in position with shoulder against head, first half of inch can be measured (example, 2″ to 2½″). When spacing collar is in place, last half of inch can be measured (example, 2½″ to 3″). Ends of rods are hardened and, also, adjustable for wear.

Here are inside micrometers many have been waiting for — Brown & Sharpe accuracy, moderately priced. Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co., Providence, R. I., U. S. A.

(*Listings on Back*)



The measuring point on the thimble end gets many times the use of one of the individual rods. Should wear take place simply adjust the over-all length, from shoulder to end of measuring point, to 1.573″. It is not necessary to adjust all the individual rods — an exclusive Brown & Sharpe advantage.

Brown & Sharpe
Inside Micrometers Nos. 266 and 267

Did you know that DISSTON makes all these different items?

Did You Know That DISSTON Makes All These Different Items?

All of These Saws, Tools and Files
Are of the Same Quality Found in
"The Saw Most Carpenters Use"

Back Saws
Band Saws for Wood and Metal

Band Saws for Meat and Bone, Dry Ice, Corrugated Board, etc.
Band Knives for Bread, Cake, Fruit and Meat, etc.
Bevels
Buck Saws
Butcher Saws and Blades
Carboloy Tipped Saws
Carboloy Tipped Knives
Chain Saws
Chisels—Cold, Brick
Circular Saws for Wood, Metal, and Slate, etc.
Compass Saws
Coping Saws
Cross-cut Saws and Tools

Dado Saws and Heads
Drag Saws
Files and Rasps
Grooving Saws
Gauges—Carpenters' Marking
Hack Saw Blades
Hack Saw Frames
Hand, Panel, and Rip Saws
Hedge Shears
Ice Saws

Inserted Tooth Circular Saws
Keyhole Saws
Kitchen Saws
Knives—Cane, Corn, Hedge
Knives—Circular—for Cork, Cloth, Leather, Paper, etc.

Knives—Circular Meat, Fish and Fruit (Stainless Steel)
Knives—Machine Paper, Planer, Jointer, Moulding
Knives—Machine
Levels
Milling Saws for Metal
Mitre-Box Saws
Mitre Rods
One-Man Cross-cut Saws
Philbrick Cutter Heads and Knives
Plastic Cutting Saws
Plumbers' Saws
Pruning Saws
Re-saws
Saw Clamps and Filing Guides

Saw Sets
Saw Screws
Segment Saws
Shaper Steel
Shingle Saws
Slate Saws—Circular
Squares—Try and Mitre
Sugar Beet Knives
Swages
Tire Irons
Tools for Repairing Saws
Tool Steel
Trowels—Brick, Plastering, Pointing, etc.

Veneer Saws
Webs—Turning and Felloe
Wood Saws
Wrecking Bars

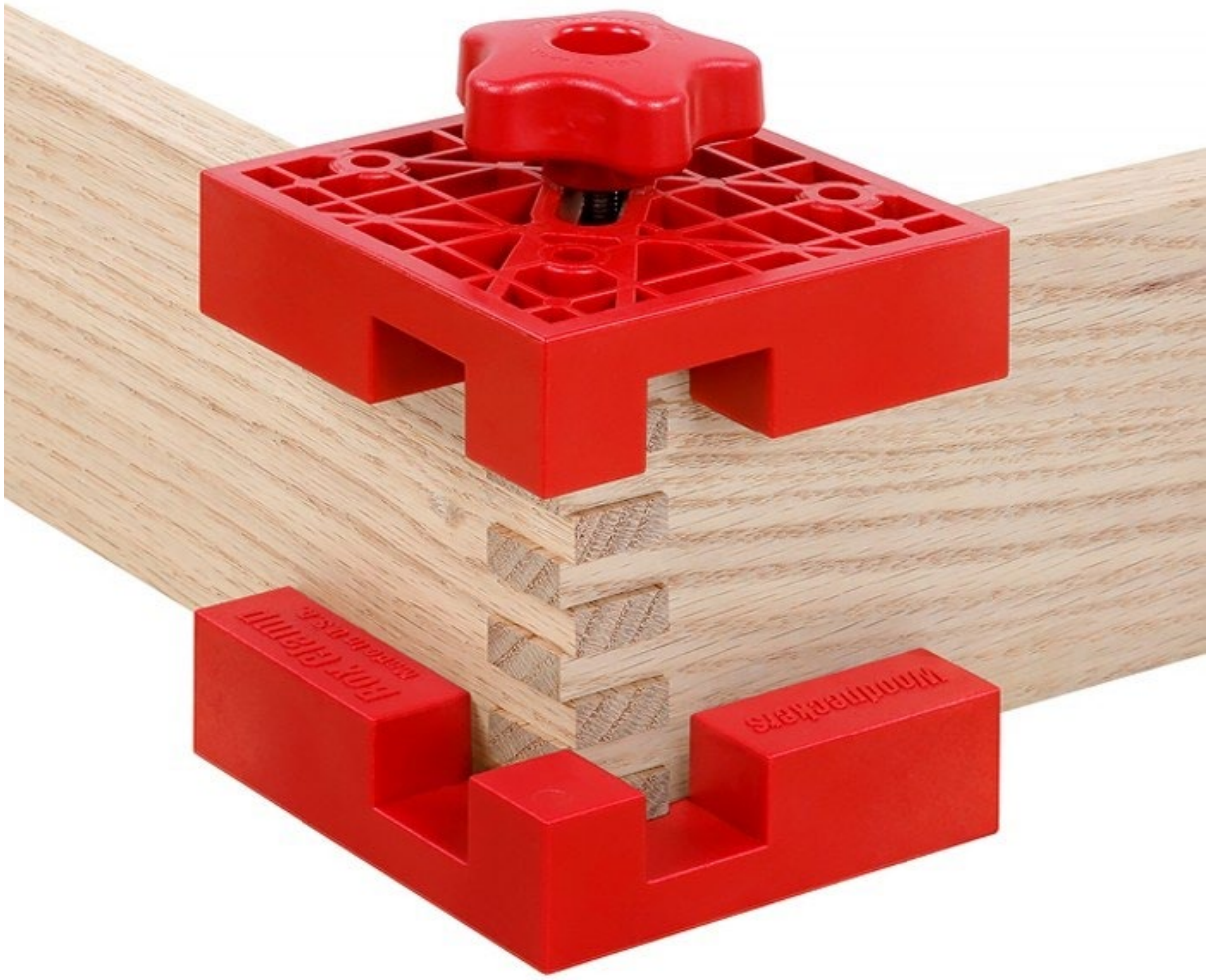
This is a partial list. There are thousands of items in the complete Disston line.

HENRY DISSTON & SONS, Inc.
Philadelphia, U. S. A.
Canadian Works, Toronto, Canada

PRINTED IN U. S. A. 8 5-1-49

The Latest Gadget from Woodpeckers

www.woodpeck.com



Finger Joint assembly jig

This device is ingenious, it is also well-made and the price is reasonable for such a high quality product.

Ideally four of these devices would be needed to assemble one finger jointed box. The jigs would need to remain on the glued and assembled box until the glue has “set”. Not a practical solution for production work but they could be useful for one off projects.

Other Woodpeckers

Woodpeckers manufacture a wide selection of devices. Some are modern versions of older gadgets and some are new concepts. All Woodpecker products are well-made. Anyone interested in industrial design and innovation as well as traditional methods will enjoy watching Wood Peckers.

Tool Fantasies

Most conversations on tools with tool collectors rapidly develop into speculation about "how it was used" and "how it was sharpened". Often no amount of logic or evidence will demolish the myths cherished by collectors. *Three examples of tool fantasies or myths are sufficient.*

Transitional planes chatter

Stanley and their competitors sold millions of so called transitional planes over several decades. These planes were designed to combine the best features of wooden and metal planes. Transitional planes were promoted as lighter, easier to use and cheaper than metal planes.

The writer likes to use transitional planes at shows as they draw a crowd.

At last year's Sydney Working With Wood Show I was planing Camphor, spreading long shavings and leaving a perfect finish on the work piece. I was asked by an observer ***"Don't those planes chatter?"*** Another convert?

Wooden Planes are set with a special hammer.

You can now buy special brass hammers to set planes. Special plane setting mallets are also available. This is curious because to relatively recent times wooden planes were set with the hammer on the work bench. On site a medium claw hammer did the job. In fact all the advice given was to not use light hammers or mallets to set planes. Do the "you need a plane hammer" industry begin with collector's myths about setting planes?

TTTG can teach you how to set planes with hammers at one of the classes.

Some hard to sharpen tools were tempered soft.

Some edge tools with the bevel on the inside are difficult to grind and hone. Wheelwright's Bruzzes cannot be ground. Scribing gouges and Bruzzes are sharpened with slip stones. Bruzzes and scribing gouges were forged from wrought iron and a layer of cast steel was fire-welded to the cutting face. The tool was then hardened and tempered. The wrought iron remained soft. When the edge became "thick" the bulk of the bevel could be filed and the edge finished with a slip stone.

There is a theory circulating that Bruzzes were tempered soft so they could be sharpened with a file. Bruzzes are edge tools designed to cut hard and interlocked wood. A soft edge would fail with the first cut.

Do you have a tool myth?

The *NEWS* Editor would like to publish more "tall tales" from old tool world.

Reviews

Australian Woodsmith - Issue 147 February/March 2019

Australian Woodsmith is arguably the best local woodworking magazine. The price is right, the presentation is good, and the text readable. In this issue there are a number of items that will appeal to TTTG members.

Chris Vesper pages 18-21

All you want to know about this Australian tool maker with some great photographs of Chris's workshop and products. Any reader wanting to learn how to use the veneer hammer Chris made when a teenager should contact the NEWS Editor. *With enough interest TTTG will run a Veneering Class.*

Angled Dovetail Box pages 36-41

David Barron has made an impressive dovetailed box. Good to see the emphasis on technique and the use of appropriate tools.
TTTG offers classes on dovetailing. We can teach you how to do it!

An Axeman's Axe page 59

The photograph of the Keech and Co exhibition axe in Chris Vesper's collection will appeal to TTTG members, especially the tool collectors. This Keech and Co axe was made for Wood Chopping Competitions.

Mystery Tool page 72

Woodsmith Editor and TTTG member Chris Clark purchased a Bruzz at the 2019 December TTTG members Tool sale. Chris secured an excellent tool at a very good price. The *NEWS* Editor disputes the "tempered soft" story but the article is well written. The TTTG Committee is looking forward to catching up with Chris at the February Meeting and Annual Tool Sale.

Enjoy reading all the contents of the current issue of Australian Woodsmith.

TIMBER TOOLS & ARTISAN SHOW 2019

7th – 9th June at Rosehill Racecourse, Rosehill

"Bigger and Better" than before!

Woodworking, Musical Instruments, Blacksmithing, Painting, Glass Blowing, Pottery and Leather Work

TTTG will be there, selling tools and demonstrating real skills

HARE & FORBES Machinery House

TTTG Sydney Tool Sale

Sunday 24 Feb 2019

Looking for pre-loved tools for all trades?
Don't miss Sydney's biggest tool sale.

The Brickpit Sports Stadium
1A Dartford Road Thornleigh

Opens 9am Closes 1pm

Entry $10

The Traditional Tools Group Inc ***tttg.org.au***

2019 TTTG SYDNEY TOOL SALE