

## FL Tower's Penholder Collection

Mr. F. L. Tower of Hammonton, NJ, believes in preparedness when it comes to penholder equipment. The accompanying photo shows some of his holders which are kept carefully and conveniently arranged in a cabinet ready for use.

Collecting penholders which have been used by penmen is a hobby with Mr. Towner, who believes in having a holder for each kind of work and pen. When he becomes tired of one holder he has a wide variety of shapes and sizes from which to select.

This collection should be interesting and shows some of the specially shaped and designed holders made by penmen.

A holder should fit your hand and be properly balanced. Use the holder you like best. A good mixture of ink and brains with a well balanced holder will produce good -writing.

### KEY TO MR. TOWER'S HOLDERS

(The lettering on the photograph was done by Frank H. Rickett, Philadelphia)

#### Group I. - Zanerian Penholders.

No. 1 used by C. P. Zaner. It was delicately trimmed at the end by Mr. Tower for writing roundhand, policy engrossing. No. 2 EW Blosser. Nos. 3, 4, EA Lupfer. Nos. 5, 6 were trimmed small for special writing by Mr. Tower and are used chiefly for card writing, particularly for writing extremely compact, small script. No. 7, all-around writing. No. 8, a very rare, old design; excellent for all-round writing purposes.

Clips in Group I carry pens as follows:

Nos. 1, 2, 3, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 4, Gillott 303; No. 5, Gillott 290; No. 6, Gillott 659 Crow Quill; No. 7, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 8, Zanerian Ideal.

(It should be observed that this outfit is so arranged in cabinet form, that any penholder, carrying the pen named can be lifted for immediate use).

#### Group 2. - Kelchner Penholders.

"A" was made by A. Magnusson, about 30 years ago, after a model made by L. M. Kelchner. The wood used was sent to Mr. Kelchner from the Philippine Islands by a former student. "B" was made by Mr. Kelchner about 20 years ago. The wood used in the holder was taken from his father's grist and flour mill which was built in 1822. Mr. Kelchner ran the mill also for a number of years. This is where he fostered and started his penmanship work. The tools used in making this penholder were a pocket knife, glass, sandpaper and a saw. "C" was made by Mr. Kelchner in 1930, and the stem is made out, of wood taken from the old mill. "D" was made by Mr. Durgon of San Francisco, about 33 years ago. "G" was made by Mr. Kelchner and finished in 1930 in his 68th year. The holder was made by Land entirely and out of various kinds of wood, mostly taken from the old red mill. "H" the small black oblique, is one of the first models made by one of the famous Spencers, authors of the Old Spencerian system. Mr. Kelchner received this penholder as a prize given by G. W. Michael of the National Pen Art Hall, Oberlin, Ohio, Feb., 1984.

This Spencerian penholder and five other holders were given as prizes. Mr. Michael selected six advanced students of his pen art class, and each student was to take charge of the penmanship class for a period of ten minutes

the student who did the best teaching and kept up the best interest was to receive the half dozen penholders. The decision was made by ballot by the class in favor of Mr Kelchner.

"I" was received by Mr. Kelchner from the late E. F. Richardson, about fifteen years ago The holder was made by Mr. Richardson out of wood taken from a cedar log from the place of birth of Abraham Lincoln.

Clips in Group 2 carry pens as follows:

Nos. 1 and 2, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 3, Gillott 303; Nos. 4 and 5, Gillott Principality; No. 6, Spencerian No. 1; No. 7, Zanerian Fine Writer.

Group 3. -Natural Grip Penholders.

"E", Sam I. Koide; "F," M. L. Blanton; Nos. 9 , 10, 11, 12, designed for roundhand writing.

Clips in Group 3, carry pens as follows:

No. 1, Gillott Principality; Nos. 2 and 3, Zanerian Fine Writer- No. 4, Gillott 303; No. 5, Gillott 170; No. 6, Gillott 659 Crow Quill.

Group 4. -Magnusson Penholders.

Clips in Group 4 carry pens as follows:

No 5, Mills Perfection; Nos. 2 and 3, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 4, Gillott Principality.

Group 5. -Richardson Penholders.

Nos. 13 and 14, made by E. F. Richardson from red cedar that came off the old Lincoln homestead. No. 15 was made also by Mr. Richardson, from an apple tree that Abraham Lincoln's father planted over 100 years ago. No. 16 was made from red cedar taken from the Lincoln homestead.

Clips in Group 5 carry pens as follows:

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 4, Gillott 170.

Group 6. -Strahm Penholders.

First five, old models, roundhand. Last four, latest models, all-round writing.

Clips in Group 6 carry pens as follows:

Nos. 1 and 2, Gillott Principality; No. 3, Gillott 170; No. 4, Gillott 303; No. 5, Gillott 604 F. F.; No. 6, Gillott Principality; No. 7, Gillott 659 Crow Quill; No. 8, Zanerian FineWriter; No. 9, Gillott 659 Crow Quill.

Group 7. -Skeels Penholders.

No. 24, Gillott 170 pens; No. 25, Gillott 303; No. 26, Gillott 604 F. F.

Group 8 -Master Penholders.

Nos. 27 to 34, both inclusive.

Clips in Group 8 carry pens as follows:

Nos. 1 and 2, Zanerian Fine Writer; No. 3, Gillott Principality; No. 4, Gillott 303; No. 5, Gillott 170; No. 6, Gillott 659 Crow Quill; No. 7, Gillott 170; No. 8, Gillott 303.

Group 9. -Miscellaneous Penholders.

No. 35, F. W. Tambllyn; No. 36, A. P. Meub; No. 37, R. R. Reed; No. 38, R. C. King.

Clips in Group 9 carry pens as follows:

No. 35, Tamblyn's Professional; No. 36, Meub's Professional; Nos. 37 and 38, Zanerian FineWriter.