

Cambridge



Crystal Ball

ISSUE No. 17

Sept. 1974

Published monthly by the NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.
To encourage and to report the discovery of the elegant and boundless product
of the Cambridge Glass Company, Cambridge, Ohio

A Message from your President.....

ROBERT COYLE

Collecting Cambridge Glass can be fun and profitable!

What better place to invest your money, than in good American made glassware? What better glass to choose, than that made in Cambridge, Ohio from 1901 - 1958.

There are two good reasons which puts Cambridge glass at the top of the Collectable list. One being that it is a beautiful glass, and secondly, unlike many of the American glasswares that have disappeared from the market, there is still a good selection of Cambridge available for sale and still at realistic prices, considering todays market.

We have recently spotted some ordinary

pieces of Cambridge glass available for less than the cost of a pound of beef at your local meat market. You must admit, that this is pretty difficult to meet in most of your other collectible Glass fields. So if you are a new collector or just can't afford to pay top dollar for something beautiful for your collection, there is still plenty of room in the area of Cambridge Glass collecting.

We can't promise that this will hold true indefinitely, as Cambridge Glass is on the steady rise - so better work fast.

Cambridge made such a vast selection of glassware, that there undoubtedly is something to catch anyone's fancy, all the way from beautiful dinner sets to pencil dogs, (a small glass dog with a hole through his mouth for holding a pencil). One can start with a piece of a particular pattern and build that pattern into a full set, or perhaps you want to collect an item in each

CAMBRIDGE CRYSTAL BALL

P. O. Box 416

Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Official Publication of

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.

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Vice President. . . . William Smith
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Club News

Details of the recent successful A L L CAMBRIDGE GLASS Auction will be in the following issue.

HOKEY-POKEY NEWS

The July meeting of the Hokey - Pokey's was held at the home of Jack and Sue Rettig in Columbus, Ohio. Members attending were Bill and Phyllis Smith, Don and Joanne Herman, Frank and Vicki Wollenhaupt, and Dave and Sue Rankin. Our eager study group welcomed 2 new couples to their first meeting. They were Fred and Dottie Bailey, Germantown, Ohio and Dave and Joy McFadden, Columbus, Ohio. Also attending were honored guests, Mary, Lyle and Lynn Welker from New Concord, Ohio.

Prior to the meeting our hosts treated us to a viewing of their rapidly growing and impressive collection of Cambridge glass.

The meeting began with a "show and tell" which was reminiscent of the national club's convention display; impressive! The following is only a sample; a signed Near Cut bowl, design #2695, which was as brilliant as most cut glass; an apple green bowl, gold encrusted Wildflower pattern with an original sticker which read "22 Karat Gold Cambridge"; a pomona vase; a Nautilus wine with a Carmen top, crystal stem and an unknown silver deposit decoration; a pair of Helio candlesticks with an original store label telling us they sold for \$4.00 a pair; 2 Near Cut Strawberry celery trays; and a Decagon comport, etched 731, and encrusted with green enamel. Space does not permit listing all the items in detail, but those not listed are just as impressive. They include two experimental colors, two pieces of crackle, heatherbloom, rubina, topaz, several pieces of Near Cut, and several different decorations including sponge-acid, flashing, frosted, gold-encrusted and plate etched.

As with this article, it took the members a while to get to the subject of the meeting; Types of Decorations. Jack, our host, handed out a 3 page summarization of his research into the different types, then lead the discussion of, first, etchings. We learned much about the 3 types of etching; Needle, Pantograph and Deep Plate. Continued on page 7

COLLECTORS CORNER

Frank Wollenhaupt

Well folks, half of your time is up. You still have time to get your cards and letters in for the free Cambridge Drawing.

During the past month, my wife and I have put several thousand miles on the car looking for Cambridge. You know what we have decided? It is still out there in great quantities and at a fair price. Now is the time to buy Cambridge. I agree that the easy to spot Cambridge (Crown Tuscan, Jade, Caprice, Rose Point) are bringing a good price, but a lot of sleepers can still be found. I bet that a weekend doesn't go by that one of our friends doesn't find a good piece of Cambridge that others have passed by. The only way that you are going to find these little goodies is by studying all of the books and reprints of catalogues that are available. You can derive great pleasure in collecting the small and unusual pieces. These are the pieces that are overlooked a lot! How about letting me know about your finds so that I can share them with every one else?

The first weekend in August, my wife and I traveled to Kentucky. We just jumped in the car and visited a flea market and it netted us some nice finds. One dealer had some really good Cambridge, two Rubina bowls, two pieces of Crown Tuscan and a Helio sweet pea vase. They were priced top book price. The items that we found that they did not know were: a NEAR CUT Feather bowl, a Primrose center bowl, a crystal Arcadia sherbet (Everglade) and a large crystal bowl in square. We were happy with our finds and we had a nice day for our little trip.

The weekend previous to our trip to Kentucky, we found ourselves in Mansfield at the big flea market. We didn't come home with much, but we did see lots of Cambridge. We visited with two or three club members that were setting up selling some of their Cambridge. How did you dealers do at the show? Did you ever think of placing an ad in the CRYSTAL BALL and giving all of us a chance on the goodies?

Last weekend found us in Washington Court House, Sidney, Wapakoneta, Ohio and Centerville, Michigan. That was a long weekend. We ran into some club members at Washington Court House. Some were set up selling and others were buying. We saw a wash bowl and pitcher in crystal, Community pattern with a price tag of \$225.00. We saw several interesting things in Near Cut and some of them made it to our home, and some to Sue and Dave Rankin's home. Our next two stops were Sidney and Wapakoneta, Ohio which were really bad news. The one show only had 15 or 20 dealers and no Cambridge and the other flea market didn't have five dealers. Oh well, they can't all be winners.

When we arrived at the show in Michigan, we were 35 minutes early and had to wait in line. The longer we waited, the longer the line became and by the time the gates opened, we had a mile long parade. We couldn't wait to get through the gates and round up all of the goodies. Would you believe that the first two times around didn't net us a single piece of Cambridge? If Ray Goldsberry hadn't have been there, we wouldn't have seen any Cambridge. On our third trip around, we did find something. Would you believe we found an Everglade vase in a white-transparent opal color?

Now that you know what I have been doing for the past month, tell me what you have been doing.

Another little tidbit of information I thought you might like to know has come my way. Remember the Oriental Lady lamp that I told you about last month? I have a little of her history for you.

The lamp was bought in California by a couple from Columbus, Ohio. The dealer that sold them the lamp bought it in Chicago from another person who found it in West Virginia. WOW! I think she has done more traveling than I have. She now has a permanent home in Columbus, Ohio. I wonder if they could find a Buddha Lamp to keep her company?

Continued on page 8



The Cambridge Glass Company



Portrait by John Trumbull
in U. S. National Museum

MARTHA WASHINGTON GLASSWARE A

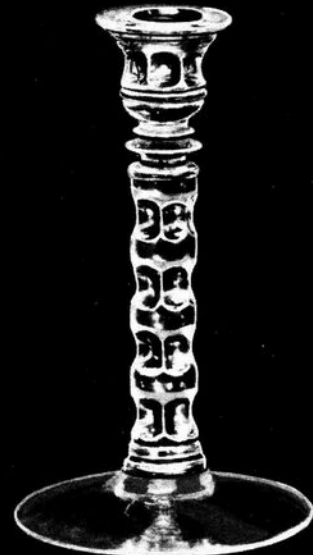
*Reproduction
of
Early American
"Thumb Print"*

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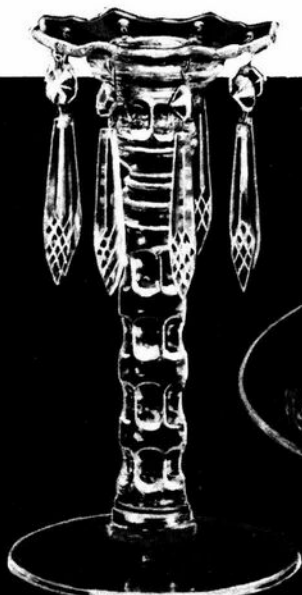
JANUARY 1, 1940



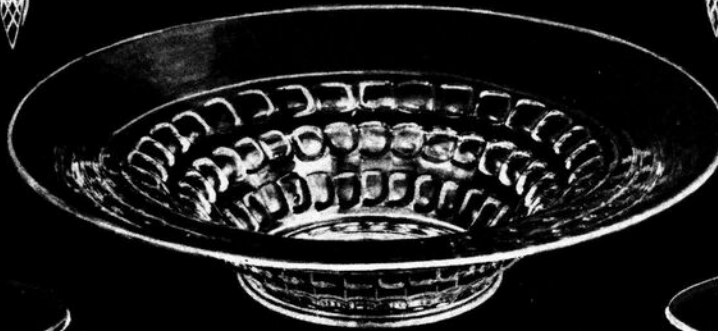
72—4 in. Candlestick



3—9 in. Candlestick



1269—10 in. Candlestick,
w/No. 19 bobèche & No. 1 prisms



8—12½ In. Bowl, Flared



1269—10 in. Candlestick,
w/No. 19 bobèche & No. 1 prisms

Cambridge, Ohio - - - U. S. A.

Patterns

by Ruth Forsythe

MARTHA WASHINGTON

The name certainly was not chosen because the pattern in any way resembles George's wife, Martha. The name no doubt is because the pattern is a reproduction of Early American Thumb Print. Reproductions are nothing new, they always have been and always will be. It is said to be copied is the most sincere form of flattery.

The old thumb print patterns were flint glass. Cambridge did not make flint, so no trouble telling the difference.

MARTHA WASHINGTON is dated 1940, so is one of the later Cambridge patterns.

The design is made up of rows of thumbprints. Bases and borders are plain so enhance rather than fight with the principal design.

MARTHA WASHINGTON was made in clear and in colors. We saw a pair of candlesticks in Mandarin Gold and they were gorgeous. Lots of life and sparkle as the thumb prints seemed to reflect one another.

Worthy of a choice spot in any collection.

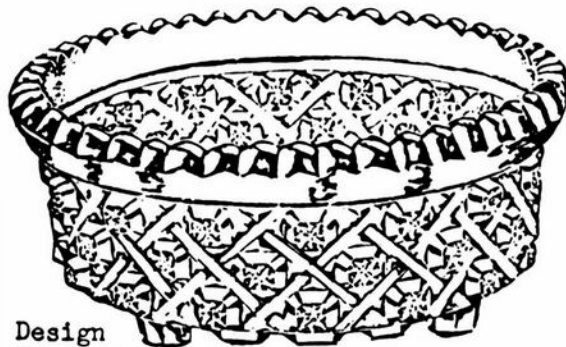
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"NEAR CUT RIBBON" Design



Design
No. 2653

Footed Nappy.

The perfect metal, solid weight and the peculiar brilliancy of "Near Cut" Glass is of course in evidence. In addition the uniqueness of the pattern commends it at sight. It will permit a wide profit on it's merits. Buyers say that it is "The Thing" at the Glass Show

THE CAMBRIDGE GLASS CO., Cambridge, Ohio

"From an old Cambridge Glass Advertisement"

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE



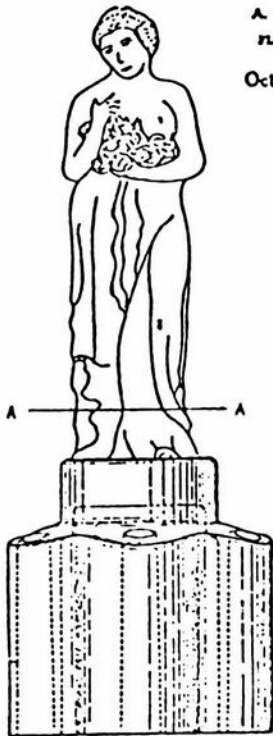
COLLECTORS INC.

Flower Holders

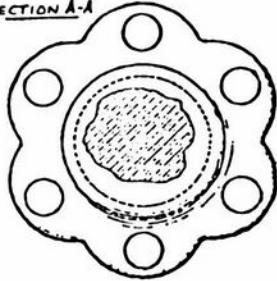
by Bill Smith

A. J. BENNETT
FLOWER HOLDER

Oct. 18, 1927.

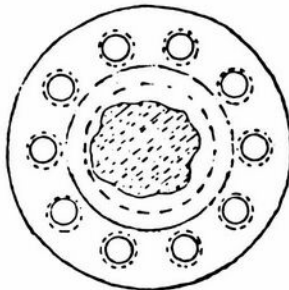
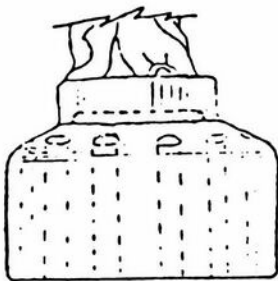


SECTION A-A

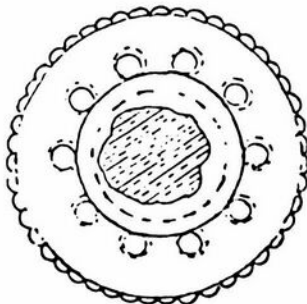
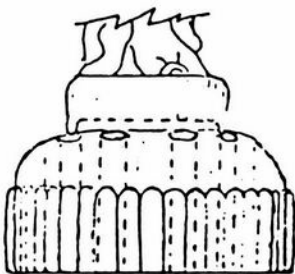


INVENTOR
Arthur J. Bennett

TYPE 1



TYPE 2



TYPE 3

In the continuing effort to create in this publication something that is both beneficial and interesting to you that collect Cambridge glass, our President has requested that a column be written regarding the many flower frogs that were produced by the Cambridge company.

The dubious honor of providing this series of articles fell my way. This being the first of the series, I will attempt to explain what will be attempted and basic format to be used.

Utilizing many of the notes that are still to be found on the subject and many of the examples that are to be found in old catalogues of Cambridge, I will try to explain as many of the forms and variations of flower holders, or frogs, as I can. Keeping in mind that as much of the information will be authenticated as is possible.

Some of the wording on Mr. A. J. Bennett's original patent application should serve as a means of setting the trend in this discussion.

"This invention relates broadly to flower holders, and it has for its primary object to provide a novel and improved form of flower holding block of the general type employed in flower bowls, and embodying an integral ornamental statue or image."

He further stated - "What is claimed is---

A flower holder comprising a base adapted for seating within a water containing bowl, and a statue-like image surmounting said base and said base having extending therethrough a plurality of substantially vertical bores adapted for the reception of the stems of cut flowers arranged in encircling and partially concealing relation to the image, said bores being of a length so as to hold the flower stems in a vertical position and extending through the bottom of the base so as to enable the stems to seat on and be supported by the bottom of the bowl."

Continued on page

A LITTLE ABOUT THE MAKING OF GLASS

By Evelyn Allen

The first Glass-Makers came to America in 1608, with the Virginia Colonists. Glass making was America's very first industry. At Jamestown still stands an operating replica of a glass house built by the Colonists. They imported ware to England. Success was short lived, but in 1621 the London Company started another "glass-house" at the same place to mint glass beads to use in trade with the Indians. The product must not have met satisfaction with the Indians because they "burned out" this mint and "Old Jamestowne" on March 22, 1622. It didn't stop the glass-makers. Glass making in the New World became fairly well spread.

In 1654 Smedes opened a plant at New Amsterdam, Wistar in New Jersey about 1750, in Pennsylvania by Steigel about 1760, Amelung in Maryland in 1785, O'Hara in Pittsburgh 1797, Duval in (West) Virginia 1813, Carothers in Wheeling 1820, and the Sandwich Glass Company by Jarvis in Massachusetts about 1825. The industry reached out into New York State and further into the Ohio Valley area. Cambridge Glass Company was founded in 1901 and sold to Imperial Glass Company of Bellaire, Ohio in 1960.

The glass industry is one of the very few that starts its manufacturing with basic raw materials. The raw materials are all chemicals. Some are mined as minerals, others created especially for the glass industry by chemical process. A simple glass can be made from Silica Sand, Soda Ash, and Limestone. The major raw material is Silica Sand, a pure white sand mined, washed and cleaned. The purity of this depends, to a large extent, on the final quality of the glass.

Next in importance is Soda Ash, Potash, Nitrate of Soda, and Nitrate of Potash. Alkalies which are all manu-

factured products. Equal to the preceding are Limestone, Burned Lime and Lead Oxide. In addition to these principal components, a number of other materials are used for the purpose of refining, others for giving the glass specific chemical or physical properties, giving the glass opacity, brilliance or clarity and others for creating colors. In the latter group are metals or metal oxides which are used in the most concentrated and purest form. Impurities of natural minerals or manufactured chemicals, particularly oxide of iron, are the worst trouble-makers of the glass-maker. Purity of all raw materials is very necessary. Great care in selecting of raw materials, shipping, storing and handling also is a necessity.

More next month. A

CLUB NEWS - Continued from page 2

The discussion included a review of the deep plate etching process (see Crystal Ball, Issue #14, June, 1974, page 5). We then went into how a differing visual effect is obtained by varying the acidbath mixture to achieve the clear, satin and "white" etched finishes.

The group then turned to discussion of metal, enamel, and sand-blast finishing. The metal decorations include the use of electroplating in silver, platinum encrustation, and the technique of brushing on liquid gold. It was pointed out that Cambridge apparently did not have the production facilities for the electro-plating process.

In the enameling processes we discussed hand enameling, the use of the silk screen, and a transfer method similar to the process of transferring wax resist in etching.

During our discussion, several illustrations of decorated pieces were examined in an attempt to determine the visual and textural differences achieved by the various processes.

Many delicious snacks and beverages were served by our hosts in all Cambridge serving pieces, plates and glasses.

The meeting closed by deferring discussion of cuttings and engravings until a later meeting.

Respectfully,
Sue and Dave Rankin

IS IT CAMBRIDGE?

by David McFadden

As collectors of Cambridge Glass, my wife and I are interested in the existence of reproductions and re-issues. (A reproduction is an article resembling Cambridge which has been made from a new mold. A re-issue is an article made by another company using an original Cambridge mold.)

At one time or another, I am sure we have all passed by an item that we wanted because we heard a reproduction or re-issue existed and we just weren't sure. In this series of articles, I hope to be able to provide accurate information about existing reproductions and re-issues and provide information that may help you to identify the genuine Cambridge.

I do not claim to be an expert, in fact - far from it. I hope to interview other collectors and will endeavor to gain the co-operation of some of the companies that make Cambridge reproductions and re-issues. All of this information will be compiled and provided for your benefit.

Some of the items and patterns we will be discussing in the coming months are: Nude stem 3 oz. cocktails, Bridge hounds, 3" swans, Georgian tumblers, Caprice, Mount Vernon, Rosepoint, Inverted Strawberry and Everglades.

The success of this series of articles will depend on each and every one of you. We need to help each other in order to learn more about our favorite subject - CAMBRIDGE GLASS.

Should you have questions or information which would be of interest to other members, please write David McFadden at the CRYSTAL BALL address.

See you next month!

Do you want to hear about rare? How about a nude stem cocktail with a topaz bowl? I have also seen an amber lemonade set at a home in Springfield, Ohio.

Listed below are some of the items that I have seen in the past month at flea markets and shows. This is by far not a complete list.

Royal Blue Martha Washington plates, signed.

Primrose bowl with black enamel trim, signed

Ivory Candy Dish

Forest green Urn vase

Royal Blue Ivy Ball with nude stem

Crystal Feather Cracker Jar

2 Bridge hounds, one ebony, one forest green

Pair of Colonial Helio Candlesticks

Pair of Ebony Candlesticks with the buldge in the center, trimmed with gold.

Carmen Vase on Crystal Ring stem, with the original sticker from the factory stating that they sold for \$1.50, a salesman's sample (or so we were told)

Nude stem Cocktails with Ritz and Emerald green bowls

Milk Glass bowl with ruffled edge

Pair of vanity lamps with the foot being Crown Tuscan shells.

Till next month.

BUY THE BEST, BUY CAMBRIDGE!

Frank Wollenhaupt
633 Bowen Street
Dayton, Ohio 45410

different pattern. Many collectors prefer to concentrate on colors and choose to acquire a piece of Cambridge in all the different colors (of which there are many) to their cabinets.

Cambridge Glass is not only attractive to the eye, but it is also functional. Other than the dinner sets, which everyone should agree presents a striking table, there are many number of outstanding items that can be used in adding beautiful touches to your home. Try using a pair of candleholders on your mantle or buffet or a Nude stem compote on that special table at the end of your sofa or a pair of interesting Cambridge bookends on your coffee table holding several of your favorite books.

For the smoking set, Cambridge made an abundance of attractive cigarette boxes and ash trays to fit with most any style of decor. If you love flowers, you have a large group of decorative flower frogs to choose from that give you unlimited opportunity to make your flower arrangements outstanding ones.

There is very little glassware or china in the stores today that can equal or surpass the workability of Cambridge in the home. Also, check the prices - you might find that you will have to pay more for some new items.

When you have acquired your Cambridge Collection, not only will you find that it will create a beautiful addition to your home, but you will have pieces that will continually increase in value. After all that is part of the game. Very few people can honestly say they collect items without investment in mind. Value of pieces is what makes them collectable on the most part. The more valuable an item is, the more desirable it becomes.

You can find any number of items on the shelves of Antique Shops or on the tables at Flea Markets that just sit there for a long time because they have no particular market value at this time. As soon as a number of people begin to invest in these items, the prices will begin to rise and they will become more desirable in the eyes of many people.

This has already happened to Cambridge Glass - but it is not too late as at the present time there is still a great amount of this beautiful glass-

ware on the market. So if you are just a new collector or an advanced one adding to your collection,

Choose Cambridge....



Robert Coyle
441 Mt. Vernon Rd.
Newark, Ohio 43055

FLOWER HOLDERS - continued from page

From this statement of his aims we find a few facts that we can use. He does not state that any particular figure will be used in his invention. He only states "an ornamental statue or image". As we well know, he used many female forms as well as several other forms to express his ideas of ornamentation.

We further find, that he did not stipulate an exact number of bores, or holes, to be used in his invention. Only that they be vertical, and that they encircle the base.

These tolerances show up in many ways during the course of the manufacture of these desirable collectables. With reference to the accompanying sketches, we can see how variety was achieved in the construction of the bases of these figure holders, and how there is also variety in the number of holes in the bases.

The three types of bases shown in sketches fairly well represent the evolution of variety in the shape, with "type 1" being the older of the three and "Type 3" the latest. It may be of interest also that all the known holders that have been produced by Imperial Glass have been of the "type 3" base.

As of this writing I have not been able to locate a Cambridge catalog number used for the figure in the sketch. Some say that this lady was the first to be produced by Cambridge. I am inclined to agree with this theory on the fact that she was represented on the patent application. She is sometimes called the "Flower-Lady" and sometimes the "Rose-Lady".

Additional variety will be discussed later in other articles dealing with the dimensions, colors, and other specific details of some of the various figures.

NO. 2631 "MARJORIE" DESIGN.
HEAVY PRESSED.

TRADE
"Mercurt"
MARK



Covered Butter.



Spoon Holder.



Covered Sugar.



Cream.



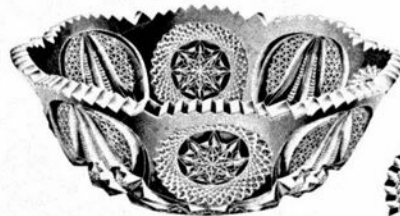
Oil Bottle.



Nappy, F Shape.



Nappy, A Shape.



Nappy, C Shape.



Card Tray, "Clubs."



Handled Nappy.



Syrup Pitcher.



Spoon or Pickle Tray.



Card Tray, "Diamonds."



Card Tray, "Hearts."



Squat Cracker Jar.



Shaker.
Non-Corrosive Cap.



Napkin Ring.



Toothpick.



Tall Cracker Jar.



Card Tray, "Spades."



Celery Tray.



Handled Cracker Jar.



Ice Tea Tumbler



Water Bottle.



Knife Rest.



Clover Leaf Tray.



Tumbler.



Handled Olive, Round Shape.
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Half Gallon Squat Jug.

Half Gallon Tankard.

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