A WOODEN BEDROLL

If you wish to bypass a high priced unionized metal worker, a wooden bedroll, sheathed in copper is possible. For one measuring 8½” at the knives, start with four pieces of hardwood (impervious to water as possible—ash, cypress or mahogany), each 2x10x10”, cut from a 2x10” plank. Mark the center of each for later drilling. Saw them into circles 8½” in diameter. Thru the center of each drill a 7-8” hole, string them on to your shaft and

Following is the text of an insert printed here in November, 1970 for William Haywood’s SMALL WORLD ANNUAL.

AND YOU THINK YOU HAVE TROUBLES?

Then try papermaking, and learn what problems really are! Let’s say you have “mastered” beating, couching, drying—which is saying a great deal—and at last you are dipping some nice sheets for a change. When suddenly you spy a half-inch hair in a sheet. And another several sheets later. From where do they come? The beater? The rags, or the pulp? The ceiling? The blankets? The furnace that is nearby? Your bald head? In my case, would you believe I traced them to my own arms? In dipping,
pulp adheres to the hairs. Then, with a clump of pulp, fall off into the tub of pulp. And then into a sheet of paper. I also learned old-time papermakers shaved their arms to prevent the situation. I have no plans to resort to that extreme. Rather, I now wash my mould and deckle—and my hands and arms—in clear water after each sheet. But still an occasional hair, and knots and clumps slip by.

But all the problems are soon forgotten when nice sheets begin to emerge from the tub of pulp. The homemade WEYGAND TIGHTWAD BEATER and moulds and deckles are now working quite well. I’m stockpiling sheets of 10x13 antique laid, for printing a book outlining the construction details of my beater. The type is all set; I await only the illustrations. In fact, by the time this is read probably all will have been finished and distributed.

Incidentally, there is already at least one other beater built to my specifications in use. When my brother and his wife were here most of the summer from Phoenix (to duck the miserable weather there) he became so involved dipping sheets he took all the specifications of my beater. When he returned home in mid September he set to work building. A beater was finished in time to have its first trial run early in November! Really quite a record.

As he is not a printer (his eyes would not take the strain) his efforts will take him in one of two directions—or both. Making paper in short runs for sale to private pressmen and artiasts. Or accepting a few commissions to make beaters for those who do not relish such a chore, but who want a beater. He is reasonably certain he can furnish one complete, less motor, for $200. Which is quite a bargain. So if there be private pressmen who seek distinctive hand made paper in short runs, or a beater at reasonable price to make his own, I may be able to offer him encouragement or information on one, or both.

For SMALL WORLD, printed by James Lamar Weygand, the bald headed little ol' papermaker The Private Press of the Indiana Kid Nappanee, Indiana 46550 USA
A ONE-PIECE RAMP, BEDPLATE AND BACKFALL

One further alternative. A ramp, bedplate and backfall can be made in one piece. You will need four pieces of 2x6” plank, each 22” long. Saw each as accurately as possible to the proper pattern herein. Glue them together and carefully sand to form a piece 8” wide. The bedplate arc should be sheathed with copper, with the 3/4” brass knives binding it thereto. Allow the sheathing to extend 1” on to the ramp and 1” onto the backfall. Set the whole into the 81/4” side of the box, the center point of the bedplate arc positioned as explained earlier. The ramp and backfall sections will be fiberglassed along with the rest of the box later.

him my further tinkering with it was insult to his workmanship, motherhood and the flag). I am assured it is necessary to grind in the roll against the bedplate after installation. With sheet metal and modeling clay close up the entrances around the bedplate area. Pour in a mixture of oil, grease and carborundum dust or grit. Put on splash top, sealing all leakage. Lower the bedroll slowly until light contact is made; run machine 15 minutes or so. Lower the bedroll a bit more, and run the machine. Continue this process until there is a steady hammering, indicating the knives are ground in. There’s one problem: finding carborundum dust or grit. I never did; only emery dust. So the efficacy of my grinding-in bit is open to question! But do grind in the bedroll.

ALTERNATE BEDROLL ADJUSTMENT MEANS
My cumbersome arrangement for raising and lowering the bedroll was dictated by my lack of tools and metal-wood working knowledge.
CORRECTIONS & AFTERTHOUGHTS

In the excitement and haste of printing a book on one's own paper, various omissions and errors occurred. Further, comments by readers of the early bound copies suggested additions.

GRINDING IN BEDROLL AGAINST BEDPLATE

Somehow the following important paragraph in my manuscript was never set in type. Even worse, it was never even missed until Henry Morris questioned the lack of clarity.

While my bedroll had been ground into the bedplate by the machine shop worker (and to

But if you have the tools and knowhow (or a good friend who does) a handler arrangement would certainly be prudent.

One arrangement I considered was mounting the bedroll component on to a U-shaped frame of 2" angle iron extending around one end of the box, and fixed at the bedroll ends in either a pivoting, or an off-center teetering, position to the box—several inches beyond the shaft for a pivot, several inches short for a teeter. A bolt (or two) and nuts would secure it at the box end, and also provide the means for raising or lowering.

ERRATA

Page 9, line 5: 7" pulley should read 8", or perhaps even 12" pulley.
Page 12, line 10: futher should read further.
Page 24, line 13: Shaft pulley is 8" (perhaps should be 12") motor pulley is 2".

About 200 copies printed on an 8x12 press by James Lamar Weygand at the Private Press of the Indiana Kid. 100 copies are on Antique Laid IK paper made by the author-printer at his Weygand Tightwad Mill; 100 copies are on Curtis Rag. Printing finished Dec., 1970.