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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Old South Bend bamboo fly rod

Re: Old South Bend bamboo fly rod

Author: : Fredlay

Date: : 2013/6/28 3:28:56

URL:

To: JoeE,

Today's fishing it's just a sport or to collect. As vintage rods. Those rods were built for their time. During that time it wasn't a sport it was a living. Far back as the late 1900's longer was a wanted rod. Today you can't give one away that's how much a longer rod is not wanted today.

Last yr or so, I inquired a 12 ft, 1900's era Hardy rod. I thought I had the holy grail of a Hardy. This rod was mint condition with original case and extra tip & ferrule caps. I was told that Hardy in England will buy. So, I call Hardy in England. They told me they only want to buy Hardy's that's 9 ft or under. Just shows how corrupted this rod collecting is today. Hardy don't want their own rods longer than 9 ft. When a true collector seeks to buy a original vintage rod they know to seek longer not shorter.

Example,

If you're a rod builder making a living building, restoration or repair.

Let's say you inquire a 12 ft vintage Hardy rod. You don't want the rod and no one wants to buy the rod because it's 12 ft long. To sell it what do you do? Cut it down to a 8 ft rod sells every time. Builders know where and how to cut a rod down for profit/gain and they do just that. Same example on a Heddon #17, a 9 1/2 ft #17 will sell for \$200-\$250 if you're lucky. But, a 7' or 8' will sell for \$1000 plus. Builders know where to cut to balance the weight as we all know Heddon rods go by weight of the rod same as W/M rods do. Not every buyer knows about tapers and nodes.

I say this,

Who's to blame for this corruption of cut, fake rods? The answer is anyone that's giving out the information/tools to do so.

There is no reason for fly rod websites to have the Taper Exchange. A true builder knows if he inquires a taper for a Heddon's #35 Deluxe. It can be cloned using Southbend's bamboo. As Southbend and Heddon's rods are the same cane. Same as a Wright & McGill other than carving a swell at the check. Here we have Michael Sinclair that most treat like a god of builders explaining how to make a cork grip look vintage by using coffee grounds or tea bags. Why did Michael Sinclair explain this in his yellow book? Why would one want to make a cork grip look vintage? To pass it off as vintage? Why? The answer is for re-sale. No other reason for it. So, I hold Michael Sinclair at fault for this rod corruption as well as Clark's and others I'm not stating.

Until this taper exchange is stopped. There's no end for builders. Has anyone gave it any thought why Orvis hasn't offered a book to identify their rods? Because, they don't want their rod copy/rights cloned is why. The Greg's online Orvis database isn't completed and rarely updated. Those are reported rods by Orvis rod owners giving that information to that site. Dave's Heddon's online database is the same way reported rods only not a datasheet from Orvis or Heddon for fact.

Back to Southbend rods,

Cheap hardware and low end rods you say? I would differ that idea thought for sure in many ways. Depends on what era for one.

The two dot or three dot rods and the bamboo alone. I'm sure we all know where bamboo was imported from. Enough said.

I feel the cheapest rods are H-I s and Montague s. Cracked ferrules every time. Poor glue as well. Can't say that about a Southbend rod for sure. enough said for now. Best,