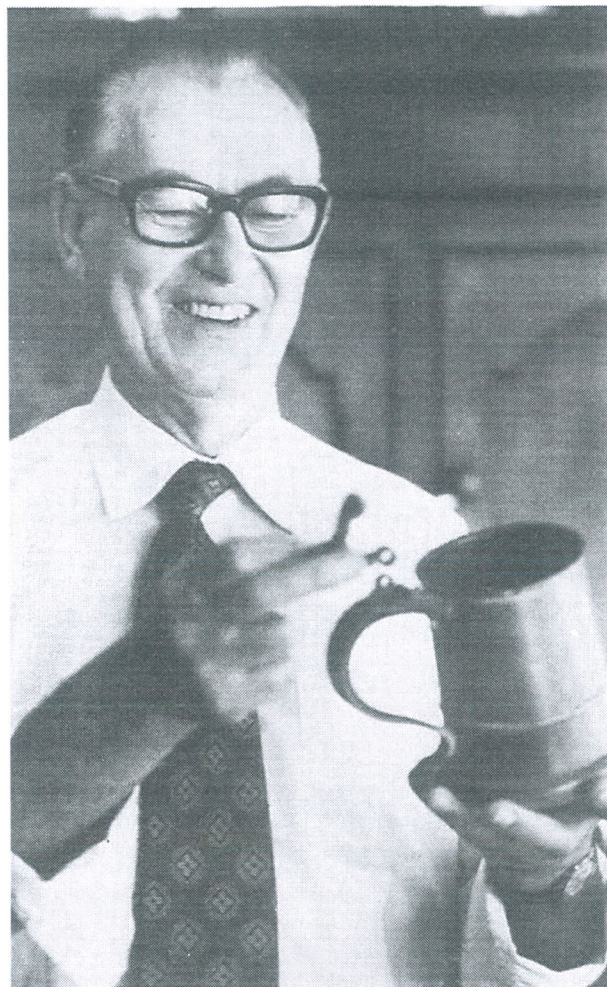


HOW TO BUY ANTIQUES

We asked the Antique Dealers Associations in NSW and Victoria to recommend experts in their fields who could give us pointers on how, where and what to buy. Since antiques are so esoteric, we wanted answers to help us judge between the spurious and splendid.

*New South Wales
Australia*



Pewter

Mr. George Auchinachie, The Questers, Lane Cove, NSW, an expert on pewter says, "To familiarise yourself with the finest examples of English pewter, visit the Art Gallery of NSW which has an excellent presentation collection. There's sonorous ring to good old pewter which was hammered to strengthen it and often bears the hammer's indentation. Patination should be preserved. Even toy soldiers were once made of pewter but it became rare because damaged pieces were melted down to make solder for new ones. Good pewter is almost pure tin and contains very little lead. Pewter often isn't marked. If you see marks on pieces then they're from a later period, say, the last one-hundred-and-fifty years. The best pewter is British." Read 'British Pewter' by Ronald F. Michaelis (Ward Lock & Co.).



Regency furniture

Mr. Christopher McPhee, G.D. McPhee Pty. Ltd Melbourne dealers in English Georgian and Regency furniture. "Georgian furniture was made between 1720 and 1790," he says, "and the definitive character of the Georgian style is its simplicity of design and a conservative line. It was mainly made in mahogany and very little else. At that time Cuban mahogany was the best to be had. The Regency period followed and went on to 1820 when the Victorian period started. The Regency style was far more ornate generally in rosewood with very decorative carving of dolphins, serpent's heads and also a strong Egyptian influence." Georgian furniture showed the refinements of the cabinet maker's art. Regency furniture was an expression of those wealthy times.