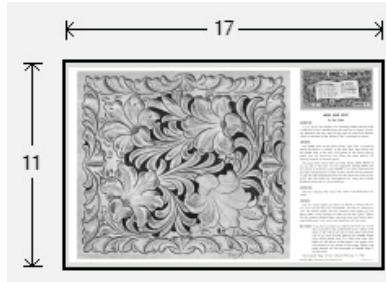




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Front – full sized, front – tiled, back – full sized, back – tiled

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THE GLADIATORS
By AL STOHLMAN

In Ancient Rome . . . the Gladiator was a professional swordsman who was pitted against another man or beast in a fight to the death. No quarter was asked and none given . . . and when an adversary lost the bout . . . he lost his life along with it; as a rule. These events were put on in the Coliseum in those days . . . (imagine) . . . for entertainment! They usually only had enough armor for a minimum amount of protection. (I wonder what the rates were for life-insurance, in those days!)

The Coliseum ruins are shown at the lower right . . . with the thought in mind that it might make a billfold design for those who had friends going or returning from Rome . . . and this would make a life-time keepsake or souvenir or remembrance of the trip.

The Roman Style Alphabet is another in a series of Alphabets that we will be presenting from time to time for the craftsman to add to his library, to draw upon when the occasion demands. These letters can be cut and beveled around and the background matted down as shown in the center of the page . . . or . . . they can be cut and beveled and matted inside the lines in Silhouette form as shown in the billfold design at the top of the page. The letters shown here have been stamped in this manner and then dyed in dark brown for sharp contrast.

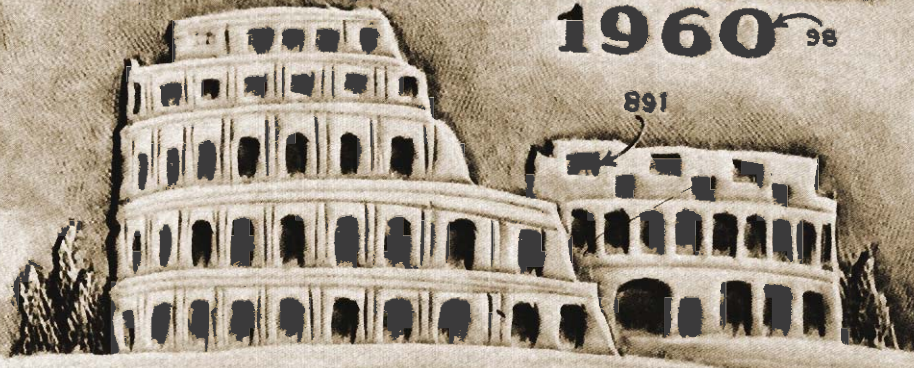
The pillars, suggesting Roman architecture, are very easily made by cutting the horizontal lines lightly and lightly beveling them. The fancy flowered border effect is made with Crafttool Petal Stamp No. 652. The vertical depressions running lengthwise on the pillars are lightly stamped with smooth shader No. 367. All straight lines should be cut . . . using a rule or a straight edge as a guide. The simple stamped background (with No. 104) behind the shield and sword, and large Roman Warrior's head . . . sets them off in great relief. The mail (scale armor) of chest and arms of large Roman and on right arm of bottom Gladiator . . . is made with the mulefoot tool. Tap lightly, but firm enough to leave a good impression of the tool.

Particular attention is requested to observe the effects of the matting tools used around the Gladiators and parts of the Alphabet. After carving and stamping and modeling the figures . . . they are then beveled around with checked bevelers. Then, the tiny matting tools No. 98 and No. 99 are used to mat down the background areas too small for other tools . . . then No. 898 is used to mat down around the figures for some distance out . . . before merging with tool No. 900. Note how evenly these tools have been used to knock down the background and set the figures out. This is one of the secrets of good figure carving . . . to gently fade out the background matting to avoid any noticeable ridges or abrupt ending of tool impressions. Continuously use the Modeling spoon to correct any imperfections.



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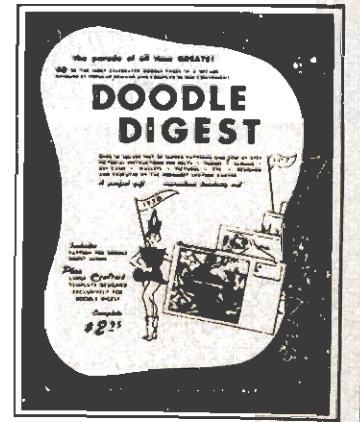
ROME
1960⁹⁸
891

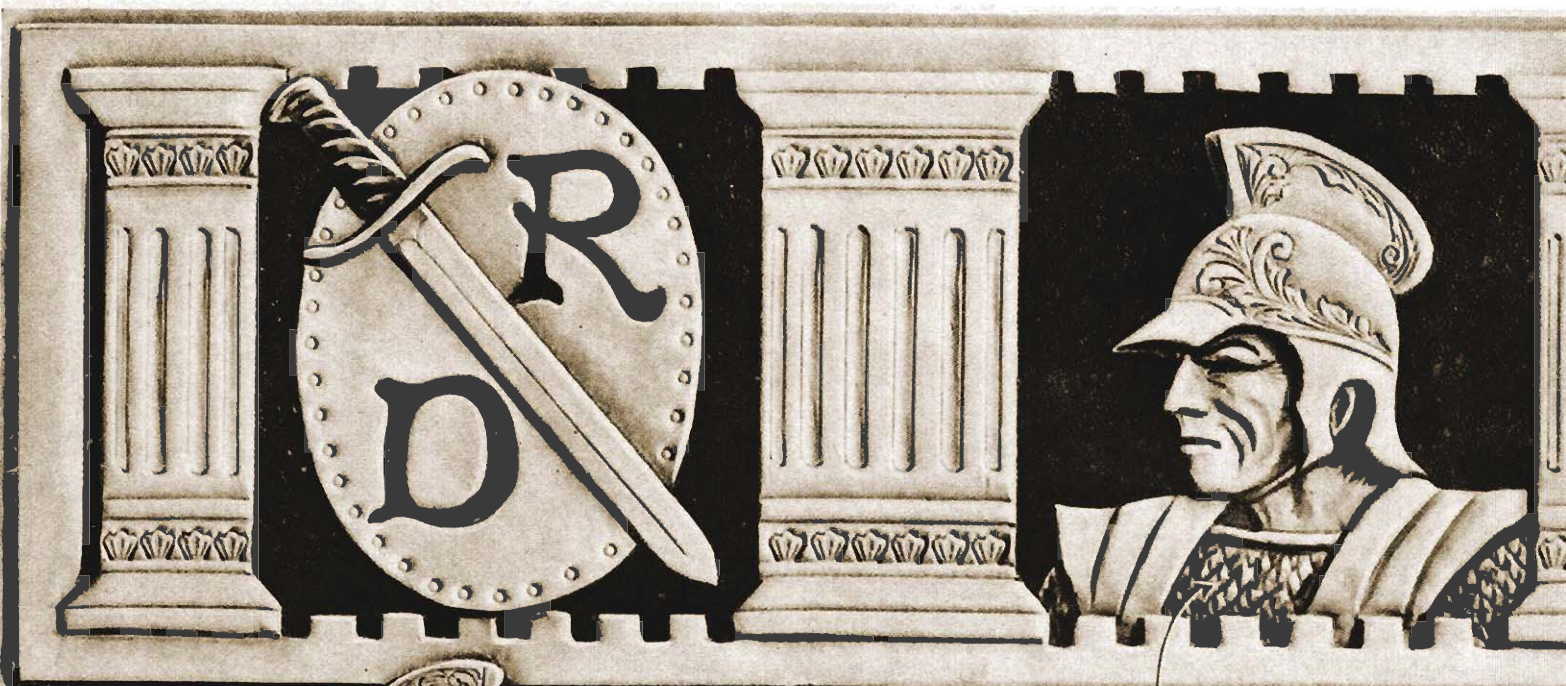


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MAT

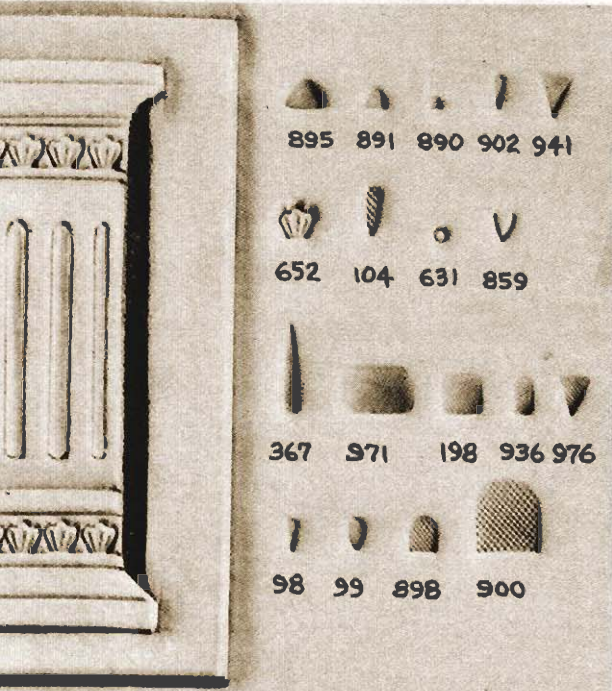
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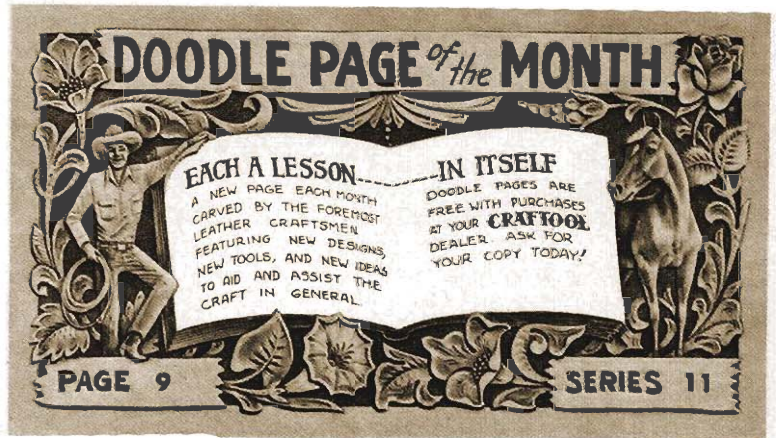
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ROME

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