

THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST

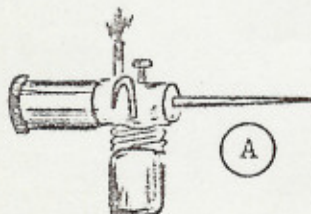
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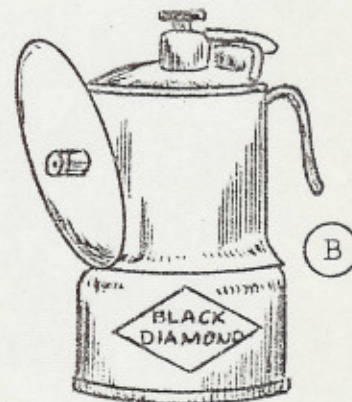
Fall, 1972

The Underground Lamp Post, devoted to old mine lamps, carbides, and candleholders. Mini-editor: Henry Pohs, 4537 Quitman St., Denver, Colorado, 80212.

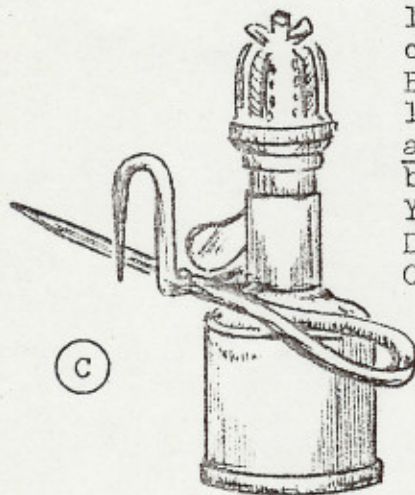
NEW REPORTS DEPT. We continue to receive information on early lighting devices for registry on our lists. Many readers submit illustrations, descriptions, and old advertisements. We are showing four outstanding items on this page.



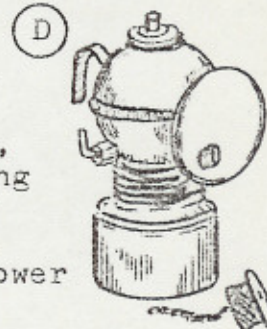
A. Justrite No. 77 Stick Lamp; heavy brass shell and hook; sharp pointed stick; burned 5 to 5-1/2 hours. This certainly was one of those combination lamps during the transition from candles to carbide in the mines.



B. The BLACK DIAMOND acetylene pit lamp as illustrated in an advertisement in the Mines and Minerals Magazine of Nov., 1910. It was manufactured by the Black Diamond Mfg. Co. in New York City. Chuck Young in Fairfax, Va., has also identified a Black Diamond oil wick cap lamp.



C. The Baldwin Candle Lamp was a kerosene lamp intended to replace candles in miner's candleholders. It weighed four ounces when filled and 1/8 pint of fuel was to last 10 hours. No parts were screwed together; the burner fit into the neck with a long sleeve, which was "practically tight." The long, thin neck prevented any fuel from slopping over "when the lamp was being carried or

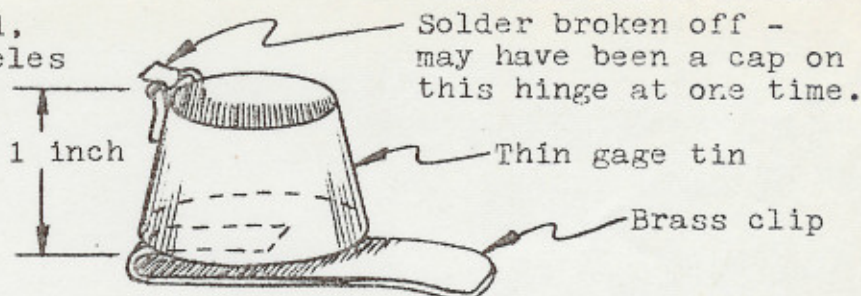


jabbed into a prop." A larger size was also made which weighed eight ounces when filled and gave 17-1/2 hours of three-candlepower light. Marketed as the "Baldwin Candle Lamp," these items were made by the F. E. Baldwin Mfg. Co. of New York City.

D. An interesting advertisement by the Chas. Hoppe Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the July 4, 1912 Engineering and Mining Journal showed the now-scarce Ever Ready carbide cap lamp with a cap and burner on the top of the water chamber. We know of several of the rare Ever Ready lamps, but who can fill us in on the top burner?

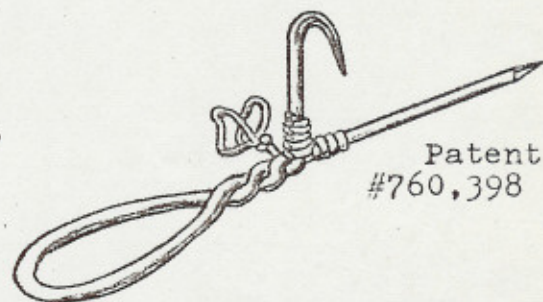
PICNIC DEPT. The dozen or so collectors who met in Leadville, Colorado, over Labor Day for the third annual Lamp Collectors Exhibition and Picnic were more than pleased with the effort John Leahy put into the event. Many thanks, John. We renewed old acquaintances, met new collectors, and saw ever so many strange pre-electric underground lighting devices. We're sorry that a few local folks had to miss due to unforeseen emergencies; we sure do recommend next years outing to all who can make it. If our Cincinnati and D. C. area friends will drop John a line at 1001 Mt. Massive St., Leadville, Color., 80461, he will firm up the dates for next June. Historical note: Mrs. R. A. Michelson (Helen Lindahl) of Colorado Springs, Color., daughter of the patentee of the Lindahl hollow-handle candleholder, attended the display.

? WHATZIT DEPT. Our good friend, Dr. Harry Kelsey at the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, has sent in this little item for identification. When you have it all figured out, please let this editor know . . . we'll relay the information on to Harry in California.

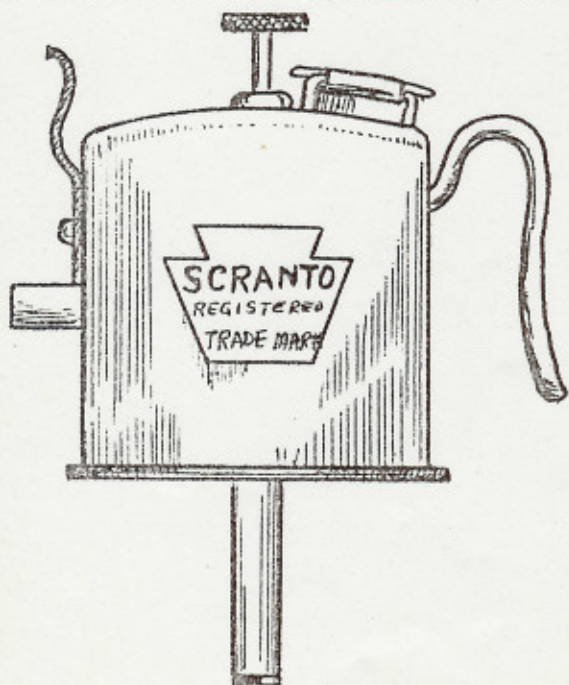


ANSWER DEPT. Recall the question in our last issue about the miner lost in the dark tunnel with several items and pieces of equipment. The answer - he would light the match first.

VISITORS DEPT. Dennis Seekins, caver and lamp collector, and his family stopped in Denver to talk about lamps this past summer on their way home to Takoma Park, Md., from the NSS convention in Portland, Oregon. They showed us some interesting lamps. While coming out of Wind Cave in South Dakota last July (ladies and childrens tour!), we passed Rick Banning who had visited us a year ago. Small world! Stan Lefond has moved to Denver from Greenwich, Connecticut - he says for Denver collectors to hide their treasures. Another top visit had to be your editor's trip to the west coast. While attending the American Mining Congress in San Francisco, we had the opportunity to spend a Sunday afternoon with the Richard Martins in Palo Alto, California. We still feel obligated to them for their fine hospitality. One of the outstanding items in their collection is illustrated above. Patent #760,398 was issued May 17, 1904, to Edson W. Packer for a miners candlestick made from two twisted pieces of wire. It seems amazing that the twisted wire has survived over the years. We believe that this is a one-of-a-kind find!



METRIC DEPT. The age of metric measurement is upon us now in the United States and we are preparing for it. Our new 24 page manual illustrates most of the common conversions between the U. S. system and the metric system. We have developed a new set of symbols and use illustrated arrows with the proper conversion factor. Interesting and educational. \$3.00 will bring your copy of the manual #PS-2 from: Pohs Shop, 4537 Quitman St., Denver, Color., 80212.



CARBIDE CAP LAMP DEPT. Chuck Young sends the Scranto sketch at the left; says that he acquired it in Silver Springs, Md. recently. But no bottom carbide chamber. A Dropper ringed base will fit sloppily, and a Pathfinder base will not fit at all. Obviously, Chuck needs information about what base will fit properly. Or better yet, who has something to trade that would be authentic.

If we ever had to list carbide cap lamps according to various collector's wants, it might look like this: Anthracite, Union Carbide, Maumee, Milburn, Zar, Hanson, Ever Ready, Scranto, Maple City, Pathfinder, Brite Lite, Elkhorn, Standard, Black Diamond, Defender, Pioneer, Buddy, Arrow, Fulton, Gem, Shanklin, Square Lite, X Ray, I T P, Sun Ray, Baldwin, Gee Bee, Wolf, Victor, Lu-Mi-Num, Springfield, Simmons, and Grier. Then the current Auto Lite, Guy's Dropper, Justrite, Butterfly, and Premier. We will welcome additions or comments on this listing.