

# THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST

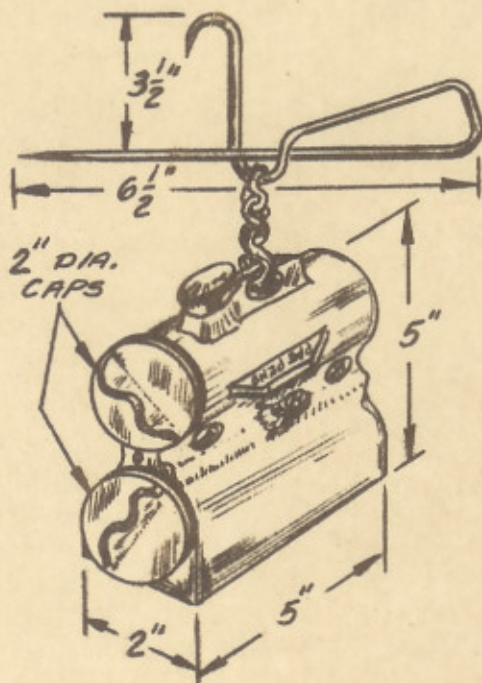
- NOT A HIPPIE NEWSPAPER -



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

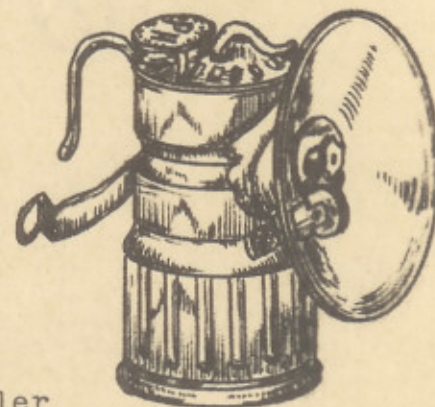


NEW REPORTS DEPT. The splendid specimen illustrated to the left is a cast aluminum hanging carbide lamp. There is no manufacturers name anywhere on this lamp, only the stamped legend "PAT. PEND." on the flame cover projection just above the burner tip, front center. Had rock drills ever been made of aluminum, the 2" x 5" x 5" size and shape could be mistaken for a sinker drill backhead. This one-of-a-kind item is in remarkably good condition. Standard V shaped threads on the two chamber caps are quite tight; the caps are backed by heavy, black rubber gaskets. The upper water chamber and the lower carbide chamber, both cast, are clean and smooth. All internal water and gas passages seem to be clear - screw plugs close off the small holes on each end face between the larger 2" diameter shapes. Water flow adjustment is by means of a tapered brass needle valve and rod assembly attached to the top left thumb screw. Judging from the technology of the casting, this lamp may have been made as a prototype in the late 20's . . . just amazing! This gem may now be seen in your mini-editor's collection.

Mr. Rane Curl from Ann Arbor, Michigan, reports a P & H brass carbide cap lamp as illustrated to the right. His data: "P & H Ltd., Birmingham, England, No. 72. Trade name, 'Daylight'. Brass cap lamp, 4" reflector."

Art Hebrank in Rolla, Missouri, has discovered the name "POCAHONTAS" on one of his prized carbide cap lamps. Now, Art, if we had your sketch or a photo we'd be able to illustrate it for all lamp tramps to see and to enjoy.

Craig Ellenfield in Lynchburg, Virginia, recently found a Guy's Dropper with a double hook. One large standard hook is in the standard position, but a smaller hook is under the regular one. The large hook fits the regular hole in a canvas hat. The small hook fits a slot at the leading edge of the lamp bracket therefore preventing sideways movement without the usual braces. This is the first report we've had on this such design.



ANNUAL PICNIC DEPT: Our annual lamp display and trade fair continues to attract wider geographical dimensions. Our gathering last June found good friends from the following localities in Denver for the fun: Cincinnati, Ohio; Fairfax, Virginia; Leadville, Colorado; plus Boulder, Golden, and Littleton from closer to Denver. We displayed, traded, envied, praised, and maybe even exaggerated our stories a bit. Darlene Leahy of Leadville, Colorado, won the lucky door prize lamp poster. Every one sure hopes that we will see YOU in Leadville next year for another fine event.

**WHATZIT DEPT:** The mystery item submitted by Harry Kelsey from the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History and illustrated in the Fall, 1972, issue of The Lamp Post is no longer a mystery. After examination and discussion at our June meeting, we have determined that it is a kerosene holder from an artist's palette.

**STAMP DEPT:** Many thanks to all of our kind correspondents who faithfully returned the used postage stamp from our Lamp Post mailing last Spring. By coincidence, several passed thru the postal system uncanceled - but that is not what we were after. These special items were from a few matched sets of the "U. S. Postal People" commemorative series issued last April. We maintain high hopes that the last two outstanding stamps from our return group will still show up. Again, thanks to all who returned them for us. And . . . many thanks, too, to the kind Oklahoman, Ohion, Virginian, Oregonian, and Californian all who have offered postage to help cover Lamp Post mailings.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** We've been deluged with requests for Lamp Post information all Summer, mostly after the NSS convention . . . new addresses . . . requests for back issues . . . inquiries and identifications. To keep everyone up to date, we review the following:

- We still resist the temptation to "go commercial" as often suggested by correspondents and tie the Lamp Post to a subscription schedule of rates and issues; we hope to remain an 'occasional' publication;
- We'll continue the Lamp Post as long as our household budget (with kind aids) can handle it and as long as we have access to an office copier;
- We have no more back copies - we've gone to the well too often already and copies of copies are difficult to read and the masters are failing.

**RAY SETTEUR:** Unfired carbide lamps are the specialty of a few collectors. Anyone wishing to deal off any of their stock is invited to contact Ray Setteur at 6917 Regency Road, Parma, Ohio, 44129. Good luck!

\*\*\* FOR TRADE \*\*\*

SUN RAY #16 \* New \* Unused \* Cap Lamps (Float Feed, Die Cast Ref.) in Original Boxes (1918-1921 manufacture) nickle plated

JUSTRITE \* New \* Unused \* Brass Bottoms with Screw Caps, circa 1915

JUSTRITE #2-770 Hand Lamps \* New \* Unused \* with 7" reflector, cap hook and brace, 2-1/2 hr. capacity

JUSTRITE \* Unused \* Flint Wheels, 3 boxes of 1 doz. #75

JUSTRITE \* Unused \* Match Safes, nickle plated

Several Guy's Dropper and Auto-Lite used lamps in various conditions

Prefer to trade for Cap Lamps (no Droppers, Autos, Justrites)

CRAIG ELLENFIELD, 339 Biltmore Ave., Lynchburg, Virginia, 24502

Current production brass 'Safe Sport' Hong Kong carbide cap lamps are reported available for \$ 5.29 plus \$ 0.22 tax plus postage from Greg Graham at Tompkins Hardware Co., Creede, Colorado, 81130.

LARRY E. MATTHEWS, 300 Berkley Dr., #N-11, Madison, Tennessee, 37115, has the following items for trade:

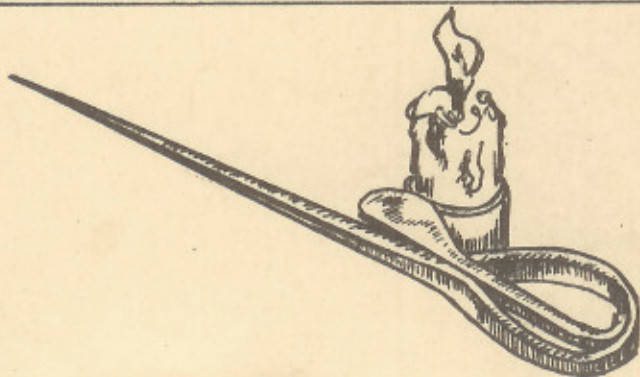
UNUSED Justrite pocket carbide can #77, steel

UNUSED ITP (8hr., steel) in original box

UNUSED Auto-Lite (2 hr., brass) in original box

Used Guy's Dropper "Tall Boy" (4 hr., brass)

Assorted, used ITP's, Auto-Lites, Guy's Droppers, Dew-R-Lites, Sun-Rays and Wolfs.



**MINER'S CANDLEHOLDERS:** One of our favorite miner's candleholders is shown to the left. It was called a "Safety Candleholder" when patented by Theodore A. Washburn, of Gold Hill, Nevada, on December 17, 1872 - patent number 134,113. As the flame burned down, the wax became soft and allowed the spring-loaded blade to pass over the wick and extinguish the flame. We've often wondered how many were ever made.