

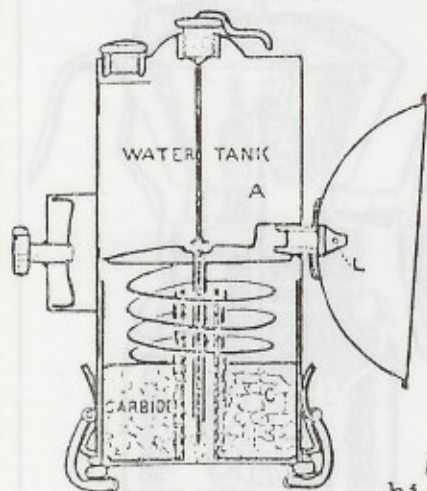
THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST



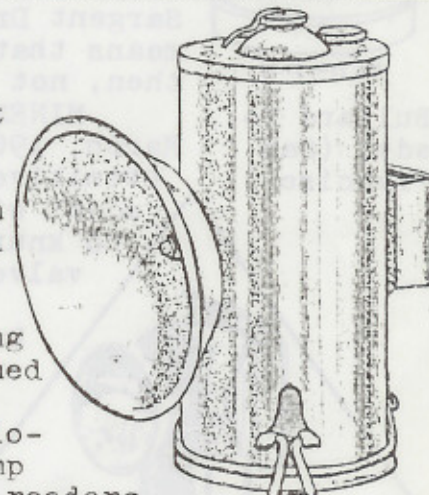
Vol. III, No. 2

Spring, 1979

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



Baldwin Carbide Lamps - It is generally acknowledged that Fredrick Baldwin of New York City registered the first U. S. carbide cap lamp patent in the year 1900. What followed has been a proliferation of designs, brand names, model numbers, mergers, and, today, collector's questions.



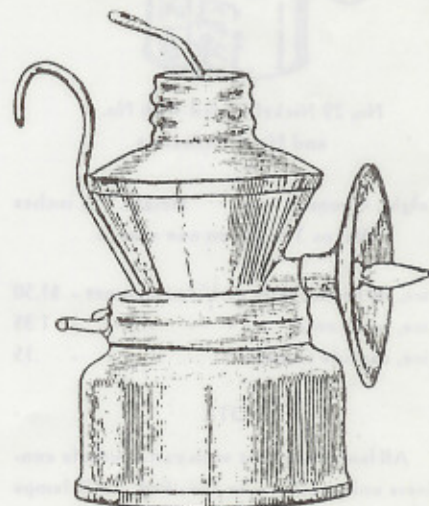
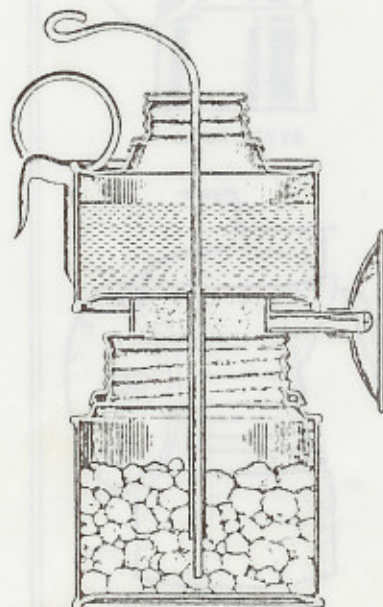
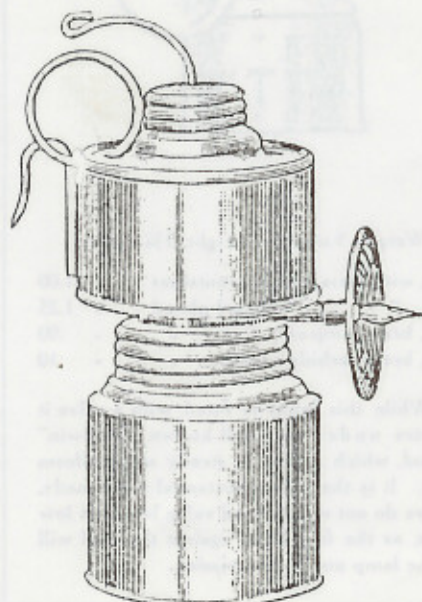
Some time ago, Chuck Young of Fairfax, Virginia, researched the early mining catalogs and literature to develop a chronological comment on the Baldwin lamp history. For many years our good readers

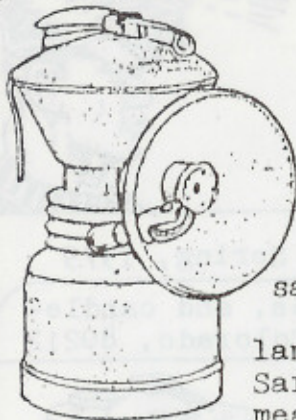
have been supplying your mini-editor with copies of ALL carbide history ... this has included much Baldwin data. This issue of The Lamp Post will try to bring as much of these two efforts together as is possible.

This page shows five early unmarked and unnumbered Baldwin lamp drawings plus the beginning of Chuck's narrative. The following pages will continue both. When we run out of words we will continue to show all of the pertinent Baldwin illustrations we have. Please do not look for definitive explanations of the many apparent anomalies in the early lamp history; I have determined that we will never unravel it all. But, this will fill all of you in with what we have in our files.

Baldwin-Simmons History - by Chuck Young (C. Y.) The earliest patent by Baldwin is 8-28-00.

The ENGINEERING and MINING JOURNAL of 9-15-00 reported on a lamp made by





No. 25A, \$1.00

Bullard Co.
adv. (San
Francisco)

Fredrick Baldwin of 104 Centre Street, N. Y.

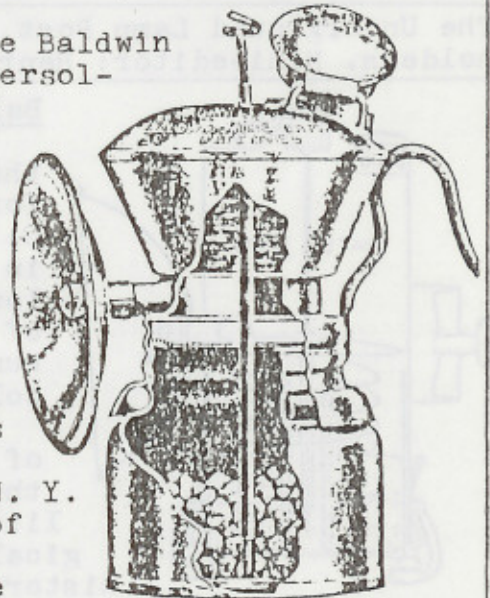
E & M J in 9-15-00 said that A. Funke was making lamps under Baldwin's patent. C. Y. speculates that these lamps did not bear the Baldwin name, but more likely the Funke name, if any (Funke name appears on oil wick cap lamps). Probably these were big lamps like the early Baldwins, not cap lamps. Funke was still advertising lamps made under the Baldwin patent in 1902; adv does not say what name the lamps bore.

E & M J in 1901 reported that the Baldwin lamps were being "offered" by the Ingersoll-Sargent Drill Corp., which presumably means that they were distributing then, not manufacturing lamps.

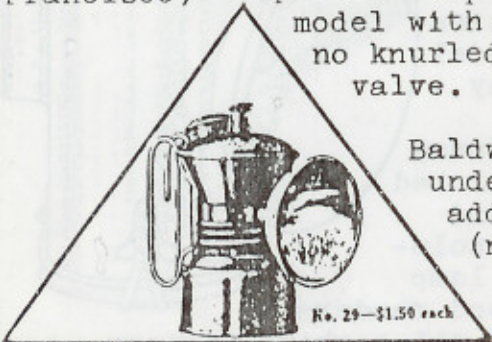
MINES and MINERALS Magazine, March, 1908, had an article on the primitive pinchwaist Baldwin model with the simple raking wire, no knurled wheel, and shutoff valve.

By January 9, 1909, Baldwin was advertising lamps under his own name at the address of 104 Center St. N. Y. (note change in spelling of "Centre").

By July 3, of the same year, Baldwins were being advertised by the John Simmons Co., which presumably means that Simmons bought out Baldwin

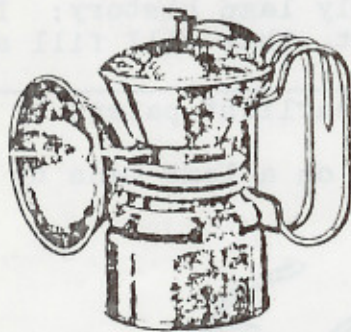


NO. 30--CAP PATTERN



No. 29--\$1.50 each

Baldwin Hand and
Cap Lamp



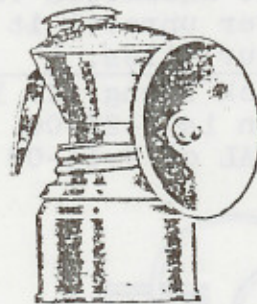
No. 29 Nickel Plated with No. 4
and No. 6 Reflectors

Weight, 6 ounces Height, 3 1/4 inches
Burns 3 hours on one charge

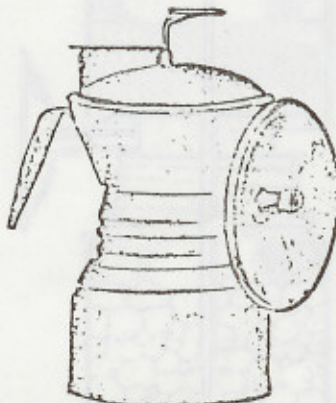
Price, including extra carbide container - \$1.50
Price, lamp only - - - - - 1.35
Price, carbide container - - - - .15

NOTE

All lamps are sent with extra carbide containers unless otherwise specified. All lamps are fitted with our standard size burner.

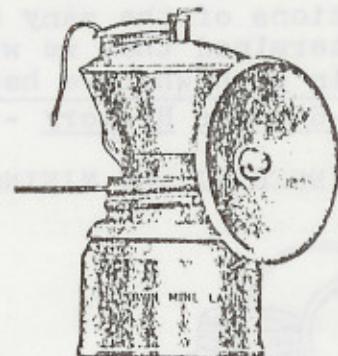


STYLE No. 31



No. 31. Price \$1.00.

Baldwin Cap Lamp
No. 30



Weight, 5 ounces; height, 3 1/4 inches

Price, with extra carbide container - - \$1.00
" " " " Nickel plated - - 1.25
Price, brass lamp only - - - - .90
Price, brass carbide container - - .10

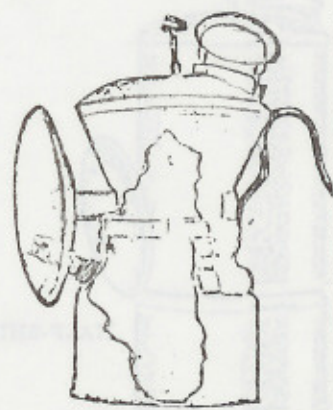
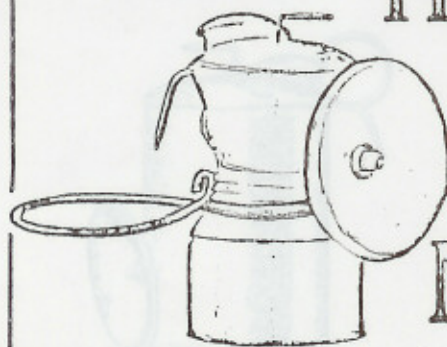
While this lamp is fitted with a valve it operates under the well-known "Baldwin" method, which insures a steady and uniform flame. It is the most substantial valve made, but we do not recommend valve lamps in low mines, as the first blow against the roof will put the lamp out of commission.

July 4, 1914

Buying—THE ENGINEERING & MINING JOURNAL—Section

9

How to Judge a Carbide Mine Lamp



Number.....	30	31	32	33
Height, inches.....	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Weight, pounds.....	5	5	5	6
Price, each.....	\$1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
" extra Carbide Containers, each.....	.15	.15	.15	.15

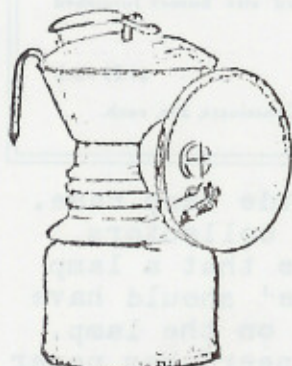
One extra Carbide Container with each lamp.

No. 30 Lamp is fitted with a Positive Shut-off Valve. It operates under the well-known "Baldwin" method, which insures a steady and uniform flame. It is the most substantial valve made, but we do not recommend valve lamps in low mines, as the first blow against the roof will put the lamp out of commission.

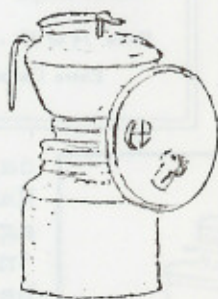
No. 31—Same as No. 30 without shut-off valve and fitted with Cap Hook same as Sunshine Oil Lamps.

No. 32—Same as No. 31 with regular Cap Hook and No. 6 Round Reflector.

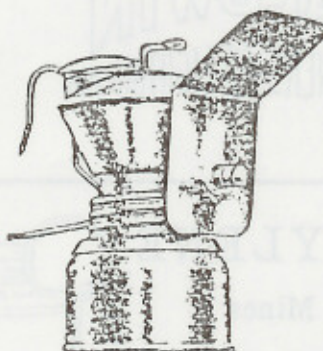
No. 33—Same as No. 32 with No. 1 Reflector.



No. 32A, \$1.00



No. 32



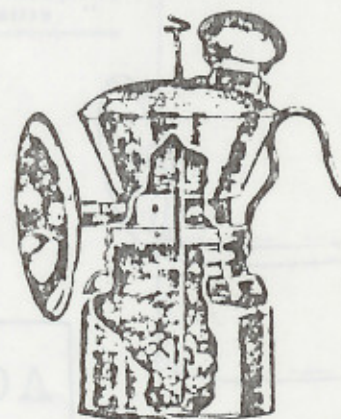
No. 33. Price \$1.00.

or at least bought the rights to make the lamps under his patent. The Simmons address is given as 104 Centre St., N. Y. (spelling changed again!). Models 31, 32, and 33 are listed in this advertisement.

A series of ads by Simmons for Baldwin lamps followed. Then in 1917, the name Pioneer appears in a Simmons ad. In Steve Wurzbarger's file C. Y. found an ad from the Mine & Smelter Supply Co. which pictures two lamps, each clearly bearing the Simmons trademark on the water tank, and called "Pioneer" lamps. C. Y. cannot tell from the pictures if the Baldwin patent date is in fine print around the rim of the tank or not. One of these two lamps, type 130, appears to be identical in style to the two lamps Young and Pohns bought from the old antique shop in Kremmling, Color., many years ago. If only we could see the Baldwin date in fine print, then we'd know they were certainly identical, but it doesn't show in the picture. C. Y. is not sure of the date of this ad, but Steve seems to think that it is 1918. Simmons is not associated with this ad except for the trademark on the lamp.

Editor's note - We have continually been asked if "Pioneer" is a true

Baldwin Cap Lamp No. 32



Weight, 5 ounces Height, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Burns 3 hours on one charge

No. 31 with flat brass hook and round reflector.

No. 32 same as illustration.

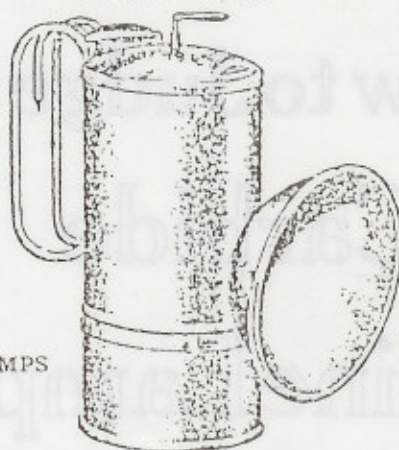
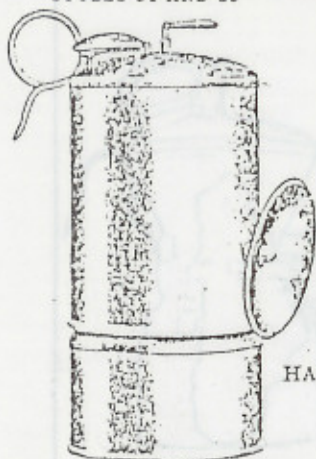
No. 33 same as No. 32 except with No. 1 flat reflector.

Price, with extra carbide container - \$1.00
" " " " Nickel plated - 1.25
Price, brass lamp only - .90
Price, brass carbide container - .10

BALDWIN ACETYLENE LAMPS

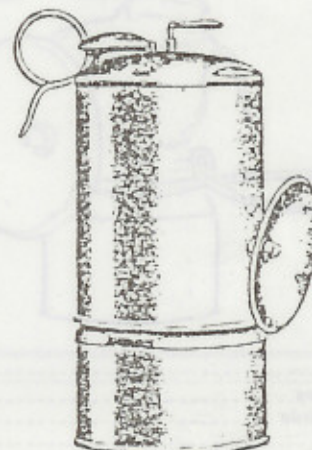
STYLES 34 AND 35

STYLES 36 AND 38

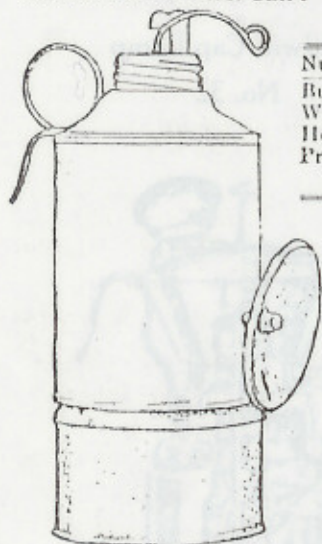


HALF-SHIFT LAMPS

Baldwin Half-Shift Lamp
Nos. 34 & 35



NOS. 34 AND 35 - HALF-SHIFT



HALF-SHIFT LAMPS

Number	34	35
Burns on one charge, hours	6	12
Weight charged, hours	11	15
Height, inches	6	6½
Price, each	\$1.25	1.25
" extra Carbide Containers, each	-.35	-.35

No.	Burns on One Charge	Weight Charged	Height
34	6 hours	11 ounces	6 inches
35	12 hours	13 ounces	6½ inches

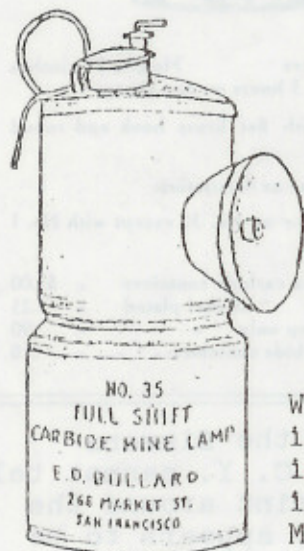
Made of galvanized iron.

One extra carbide container furnished with each lamp. Standard size burner furnished with all lamps.

Price, 34 or 35 - - - - \$1.25 each

Extra Carbide Containers, 25c. each.

BALDWIN
THE MINER'S LIGHTING BUG



ACETYLENE

For Mines

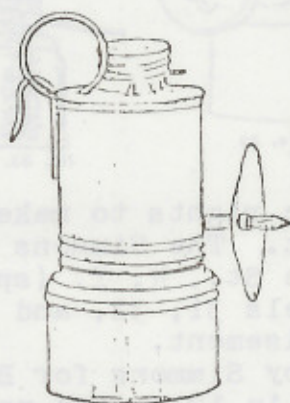
SAVES 50%

10 Candle Power Light

COSTS 2 CENTS PER SHIFT

F. E. Baldwin Mfg. Co.

104 Center Street, New York.



carbide lamp name. Many collectors agree that a lamp 'name' should have been on the lamp. "Pioneer" has never been seen on a lamp. But, someone else asks about the several Justrite lamps whose names never actually appeared on the lamp itself. 'Jumbo', 'Western', 'Anaconda', etc.?

Well, they were highly advertised and promoted; they were intended to be distinctive lamp brands. Was 'Pioneer' so intended? It appears to be a name put on an already existing lamp brand design. So . . . make up your own mind. Maybe it deserves an asterisk when listed with the pure carbide lamp names.

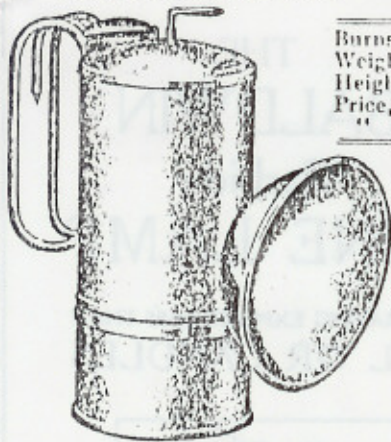
Back to C. Y. - In another Simmons ad of the same period C. Y. finds a mention of the ITP feed and the ITP windshield.

The last ad that C. Y. finds by Simmons is 1919; he specifies by Simmons. Several companies continued to advertise Simmons lamps for several years thereafter, but they were suppliers like Bullard, and may well have been selling lamps manufactured in previous years.

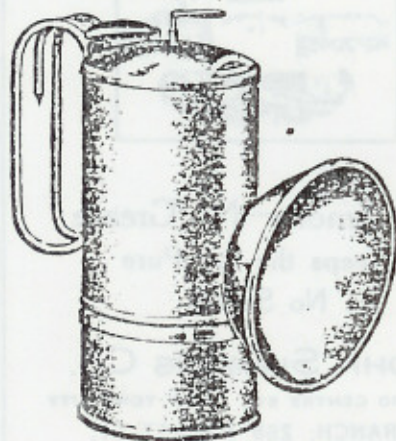
NO. 36—SUPERINTENDENT'S

NO. 36—SUPERINTENDENT'S LAMPS

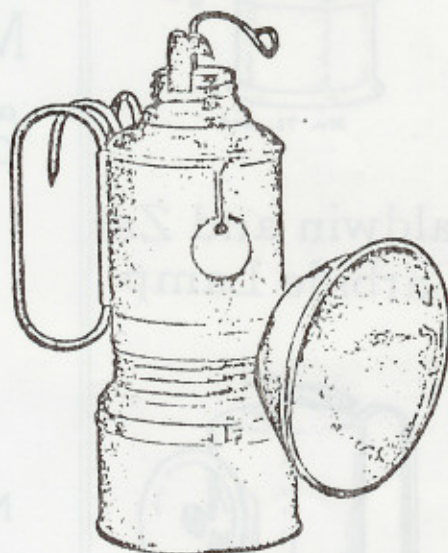
Burns on one charge, hours.....	6
Weight charged, ounces.....	12
Height, inches.....	6½
Price, Galvanized Iron, each.....	\$2.00
" Brass, each.....	2.00



STYLES 36 AND 38



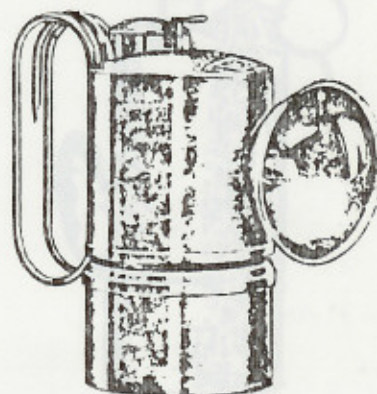
HALF-SHIFT LAMPS



No. 36. Price \$2.00.

BALDWIN #36
Carbide Hand Lamps
Superintendent's Style
6-1/2" tall - 12 oz.
Galvanized Steel

Baldwin Superintendent's Lamp
Nos. 36 & 38



No. 36—Galvanized Iron
No. 38—Brass N. P.

No.	Burns on One Charge	Weight Charged	Height
36	6 hours	12 ounces	6½ inches
38	5 hours	10 ounces	4½ inches

Makes overhead examinations easy.

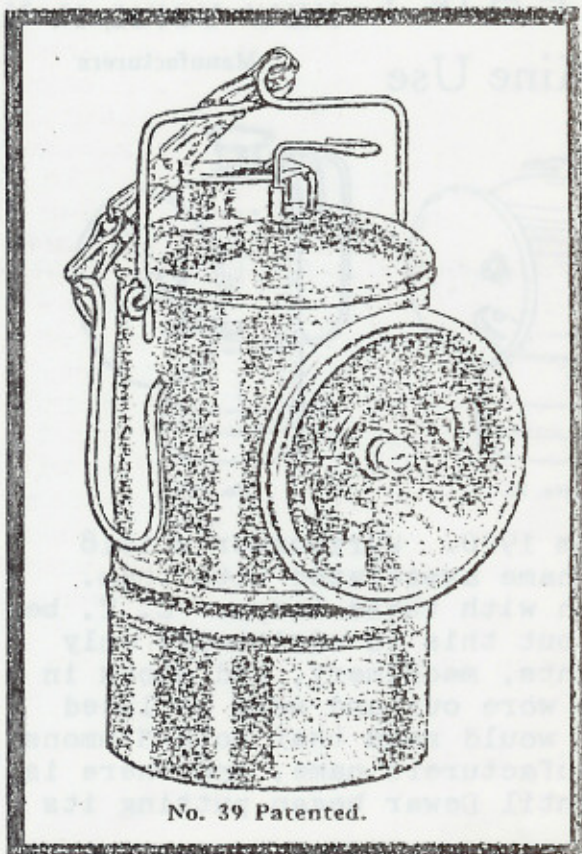
Price, 36 Galv. Iron - - - - - \$2.00
Price, 38 Brass N. P. - - - - - 2.00
Extra carbide container with each lamp
If extra container is not wanted deduct 25c. from list.

Two different catalog illustrations for the same lamp number

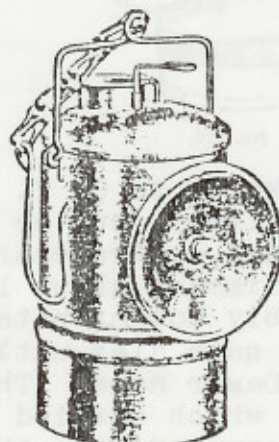
NO. 39 LAMPS

For Gold, Silver or Copper Mining. Similar in design to No. 36 except with Bail, Hook and Chain, which makes it convenient to hang to rock, timber or candlestick.

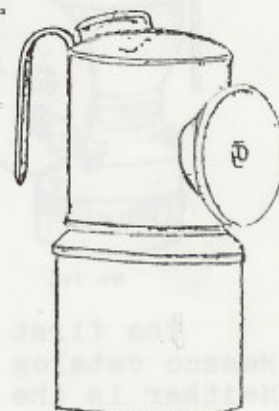
Height, inches.....	6½
Weight, ounces.....	4½
Price, each.....	\$1.25
" extra Carbide Containers, each.....	.25



No. 39 Patented.



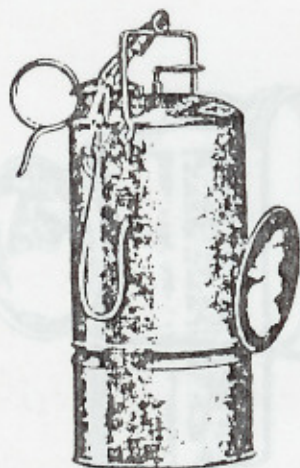
STYLE 39



No. 54, Drawn Steel

John Simmons Co.
BALDWIN #54
Carbide Motor
Car Lamp
ca. 1915
Steel

Baldwin Half & Full Shift Lamp
Nos. 44 & 45



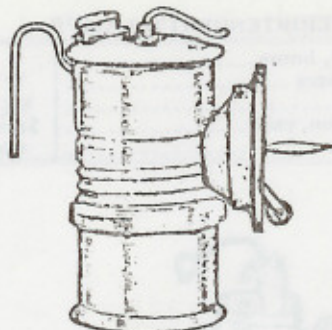
No.	Burns on One Charge	Weight Charged	Height
44	6 hours	13 ounces	6 inches
45	12 hours	15 ounces	6½ inches

Made of galvanized iron.

Chain allows lamp to hang evenly from the wall of mine, timber, drilling machine or from side of ore cars.

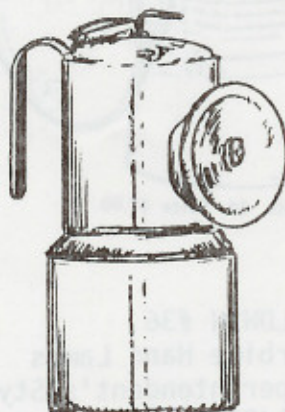
Price, 44 or 45 \$1.35 each.

Extra Carbide Containers, 25c. each.



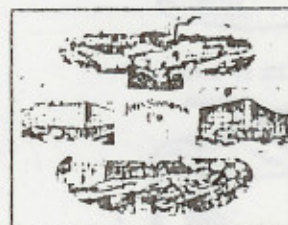
No. 71, Zar.

Baldwin and Zar
Carbide Lamp



THE
BALDWIN
Carbide
MINE LAMP

OPERATING EXPENSE LESS THAN
OIL OR CANDLES

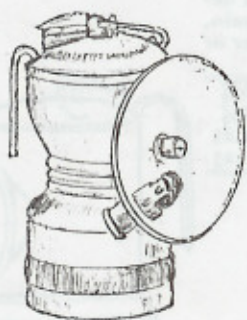


No Smoke—No Grease
Keeps the Air Pure
No Sparks

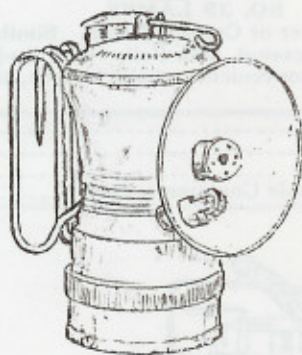
JOHN SIMMONS Co.

102 - 110 CENTRE ST., NEW YORK CITY
BRANCH: 268 MARKET ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

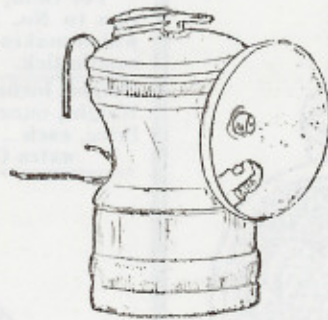
JOHN SIMMONS COMPANY NEW YORK, N. Y.
Baldwin Pioneer Carbide Lamps for Mine Use Manufacturers



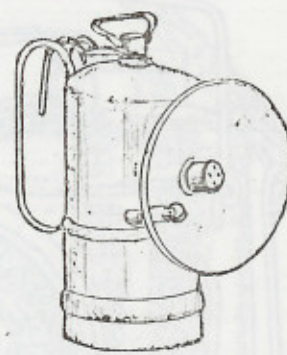
No. 130.



No. 229.



No. 32.



No. 160.

The first Dewar ad known to C. Y. is from 1920. Wurzburger's 1918 Massco catalog shows ITP lamps, but no Dewar name associated with them. Neither is the Simmons name or trademark shown with these lamps. C. Y. believes Dewar bought out Simmons about 1919 - but this is admittedly only speculation; they probably bought patent rights, machinery, and stock in hand; probably used the same dies until they wore out and were replaced with those carrying the Dewar name. Thus, it would seem that both Simmons and Dewar made ITP lamps which carried no manufacturers name, and there is no way of telling which company made them - until Dewar began putting its name on the bottoms.

JOHN SIMMONS CO.

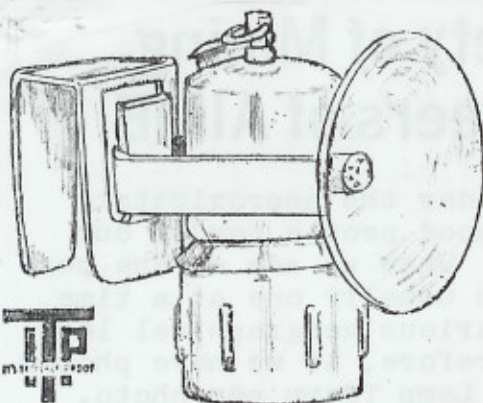
Manufacturers

Baldwin and Zar Carbide Lamp

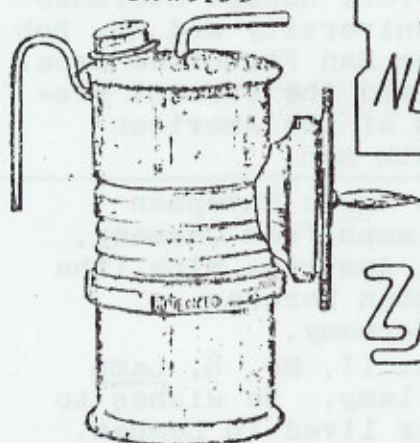
(The Miners' Lighting Bug)

San Francisco, Cal. NEW YORK

Montreal, Can.



Trip Lamp No. 200.

ZAR
CARBIDE

PRICE \$1.00

Strongest in construction
Burners never clog

18

other improvements

ZAR
NEW YORK

ZAR

The last Dewar ad C. Y. has found is dated as late as 1945.

Regarding the Sun-Ray lamp, C. Y. states that there is "absolutely no indication whatsoever that Simmons ever was involved with it - and I firmly believe that it was strictly a Dewar product." But, C. Y. finds in Wurzburger's 1918 Massco catalog an ad for Sun-Ray lamps on the same page with the ITP hand lamps. And the Sun-Ray was available with the "Ha-Mer-It Reflector" identical to that used later on the ITP Float-Feed Cap lamps which are identical to the Sun-Ray in body style and which were made by Dewar. Therefore, it is

reasonable to assume that whoever made ITP in 1918 also made Sun-Ray. I (C. Y.) confess the ad showing Sun-Ray with the ITP Float-Feed "Ha-Mer-It Reflector" (the cast reflector with braces) is not part of the 1918 catalog; it is an undated sheet - could come from Dewar days. But the early association of Sun-Ray and ITP is established, and if C. Y. is correct that Simmons made ITP prior to being bought out by Dewar, well, then Simmons must have made Sun-Ray, too.

Final C. Y. note: I (C. Y.) have a Simmons lamp with the name on the bottom misspelled "SIMONS". I also have a pinchwaist Grier Bros. lamp that appears to have been made by Simmons for Grier.

Editor notes - The Zar lamp must be added to the Baldwin history. We have an unidentified and undated page from the mine lighting section of an old catalog which is headed by the names and locations shown at the top of this page. We

know of two different Zar name markings on lamps - the indented ZAR name and the name stamped on the scalloped plate - both are shown above to the left along with the cover of an undated Zar pocket-size catalog.

Finally, after 31 years in the manufacturing game working with OEMs and dealers, we do know that in the recatalogization process, good dealers often get products, models, and names mixed up. That may be part of the reason we see these anomalies in our lamp research.

Thank you time - It is our regular duty to express our sincere thanks to those who have provided unsolicited postage funds for each issue of The Lamp Post. The labors are our contribution, but the postage really helps these days with our mailing list of approximately 150. Thanks this time to Idaho, Nevada, West Virginia, New Jersey, California, Alabama, Oklahoma, New York, Maryland, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Virginia, Indiana, Germany, England, and Australia. Involved, also, is the correspondence, the data, the information, and the many photos we have received on lamps over the years. Our references continue to grow and, hopefully, some day we will have the time to redo and expand our original book. But then we will have to find a publisher willing to take a chance on it.

The Zar Mfg. Co.
320 BROADWAY :: NEW YORK



As the gavel changes hands: 1978 President Robert S. Shoemaker with 1979 SME President Robert Stefanko at the Society's Dinner during the Annual Meeting in New Orleans in February.

MINING ENGINEERING 355

Society of Mining Engineers of AIME

Honors - Consider the approximately 150 good people now on our mailing list. When we see anyone personally, it is usually one at a time in your own various geographical locations. Therefore, if we have photos it's only one Lamp Tramp per photo. Two per picture is an exception, and when both are highly honored, the photo is worth reprinting. So it is with this picture of Prof. Robert Stefanko from Penn State University and Mr. Bob Shoemaker from the San Francisco area.

As the magazine cutline indicates, they are the past and the present presidents of the prestigious Society of Mining Engineers of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. Congratulations to both men.

Germany - One of our foreign correspondents offers to trade European carbide lamps, safety lamps, perhaps frog lamps from Germany, and 3000-year-old pine wood chips from the Hallstatt, Austria, mine (the first-known miner's lighting devices). Write Mr. Karsten Porezag, Bezirksdirektor, D-633 Wetzlar, Geiersberg 13, West Germany.

Mr. Porezag also refers to the Spring, 1977, Vol. II, No. 8, Lamp Post and our mention of the Fleissner singing safety lamp. He wishes to add the following information: a) Professor Fleissner lived in Leoban, Austria (not Germany!), and worked at the Mining University. This is the same University where Porezag's forthcoming book on old mine lamps will be published soon. Editor note - we will inform our readers about the book details just as soon as we receive them.

More Zar - Remember that Ralph Blankenbecler, P. O. Box 207, Coeburn, Va. 24130, has several of those famous Zar (page 7, this issue) carbide cap lamps for trade. Ralph tells us that he needs a Gem brass base, a Gem reflector and nut, and a nickel base for an Arrow. He will also listen to trade offers for other carbide cap lamps . . . not too interested in other kinds of lamps.

Koehler Safety Lamp - Rich Finch has a Koehler safety lamp for trade. He will trade for a carbide lamp or another safety lamp. Write to R. C. Finch, Box 5062 T. T. U., Cookeville, Tennessee, 38501.

Trade - Lester Bernstein, 4212 Washington Ave., S. E., Charleston, West Virginia, 25304, has quite a few good lamps of various types for trade. We haven't received Lester's list yet, but we did see an attractive box of traders when Lester stopped in Denver while on vacation. Alas, we don't have anything to trade to him, but will bet that some of our readers will have expendable traders. Lester has a large and varied collection of his own, so when you write him, be sure to offer quality lamps.

Carbide cannon - Here's a request we've saved for a long time. For many years we had seen those old (?) carbide cannons in antique shops and shows. They're about 9" overall length, with a 1/2" dia. bore x 6" long barrel. Most were broken and/or in disrepair. But last fall we acquired one in seemingly perfect condition . . . it was buried in a box of lamps we were able to buy intact. Now, we haven't ever figured out how the darn things work, and we're poor experimenters. Does anyone know the correct procedures. Or, better yet, who has a set of instructions which could be copied and sent along to us? Many thanks.