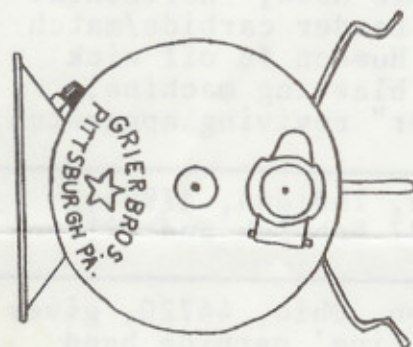


THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST

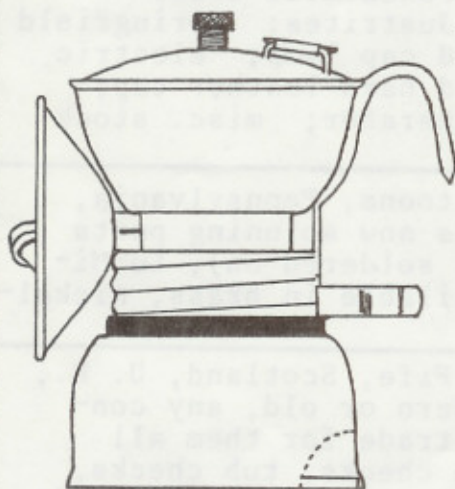
- MINERS WERE THE FIRST ECOLOGISTS -



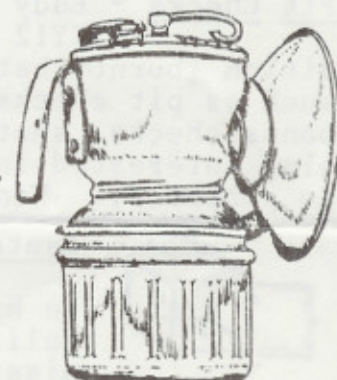
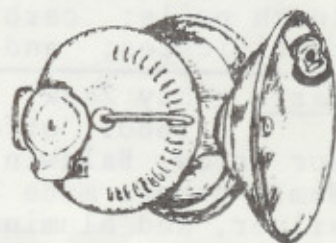
The Underground Lamp Post, devoted to old mine lamps, carbides, and candleholders. Mini-editor: Henry Pohs, 4537 Quitman St., Denver, Colorado, 80212



Another Greer Carbide Lamp - Dave Johnson, 2415 S. Villa, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46203, has sent the sketch at the left. He reports that the lamp has slightly larger dimensions than the pinchwaist Baldwin . . . this is 2-3/8 in. in diameter x 3-3/4 in. tall with a 2-1/8 in. diameter reflector. Dave speculates that it probably represents the next generation up from the Baldwin. The threads on this lamp do not fit Baldwin lamps or Griers (either horizontal or vertical). The reflector is a Baldwin tinned steel conical type with a flint wheel. The water feed will accept a Baldwin raking wire, though this unfired lamp was found without a wire.



Unmarked Lamp - Ralph Blankenbecker, Rt. 3, Box 46, Coeburn, Virginia, 24230, sends a photo of his unmarked lamp (right). It is 3.5 in. tall x 1.75 in. diameter x 2.5 in. reflector. Ralph also says that he has the following for trade: (2) Davy-type Hughes brass safety lamps, Justrite #10 carbide lantern, and a Buddy carbide cap lamp with superintendent's handles.



Australian Trade - Mr. Gerry A. Dillon, 16 Warramunda Crescent, Banksia Park, Adelaide, South Australia, 5091, writes that he has three carbide lamps used in the Broken Hill Mines, New South Wales, Australia, available for trade. Gerry also wants to trade off old share certificates from the Broken Hill North and Broken Hill South silver mining companies.

Buy - Dr. M. Schönfelder, Mineralien-Antiquitäten, Höhenstrasse 126, 5090 Leverkusen 3, West Germany, wants to buy all kinds of oil wick lamps. A trade for lamping or mineral items is also possible.

Parts - John Baz-Dresch, 912 Highland Drive, Wenatche, Washington, 98801, needs the following parts: bulls eye lens, inner carbide shell, lava burner tip, reflector, rubber gaskets - all for a # 10 Justrite carbide lantern; reflector for Wolf hand lamp (Fall '85 Lamp Post, bottom row, second from left); and a felt plate and holder for nickel-plated Sun Ray carbide cap lamp.

Oil Cap Lamps - Lester Bernstein, 4212 Washington Ave. S. E., Charleston, West Virginia, 25304, needs oil lamps as listed on page 2.

Lester - cont'd. - Felix, M. M. Buck, F. Seybold, Hoover Bros., Jennison Hardware, Penn Mfg. Co., Eureka, I. G. Dowd, Wm. F. Bishop, Bicket, L.C.&N. Co., Lee Bros, Perfection, F. Beiter, Zais, Wolf, Hill, J. Anton U.S.A. Eagle, and V. L.

Candlestick - Jack Ramsdel, 13403 Alpine View Court, Carson City, Nevada, 89701, writes that a thirty-eighth known patented miner's candlestick has turned up in his area. U. S. patent #589,441 has been acquired by a friend of Jack's.

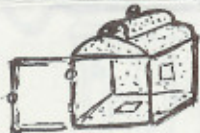
More Trades - Jeff Shanks, RR 22, Box 548, Terre Haute, Indiana, 47802, has the following items for trade: Sun Ray carbide cap lamp; early Guy's Dropper carbide cap lamp with factory double hook; horizontal Justrite with spiral water feed; Zar base with lid; Leader carbide/match flask; aluminum oil wick cap lamp - Patt. Apld. For; Husson #6 oil wick cap lamp; Frostburg oil wick cap lamp; Reliable # 3 blasting machine; "The Lung Motor" reviving apparatus; "Draeger Pulmotor" reviving apparatus; several European hand-held carbide lamps.

Candlestick - Lee A. Miller, 2713 Greenbush, Lafayette, Indiana, 47904, has a duplicate candlestick - Husson (#27 Bobrink and Wilson) available for sale or trade.

Trade List - Jeffrey Carnes, 197 Sycamore, North Canton, Ohio, 44720, gives us the following trade list: Crestella 'King' carbide hand lamp; Pinnacle No. 5 aluminum carbide hand lamp; Broken Hill brass carbide hand lamp; Auto Lites, Guy's Droppers, and Justrites; Springfield brass cap lamp (poor condition); Arrow nickel-plated cap lamp; electric trip light; striker assembly for a safety lamp; old hard leather cap; lunch pails; carbide containers; Columbia C belt generator; misc. stock certificates; and a Justrite blue and white box.

Parts - Ray Zeak, 1105 Broadway, Juniata Station, Altoona, Pennsylvania, 16601, offers replacement reflectors. Ray is now spinning parts for Arrow, Baldwin (3 styles), Grier Bros. (vertical soldered-on), Lu-Mi-Num; others made by request to size and style; available in brass, nickel-silver, and aluminum. Direct all inquiries to Ray.

Pit Checks - Eddy Berry, 15 Main Street, Torryburn, Fife, Scotland, U. K., KY12 8LT, wants miner's pit checks, modern or old, any condition (burnt, battered, bent, or bitten). He will trade for them all such as pit checks, tallys, tokens, pay checks, time checks, tub checks, bonus checks, shot-firing tallys, canteen money, and area key tags. He is also interested in the history of mining and is seeking books and photos to photocopy. Miniature lamps are welcome, too.



Lantern - Andrew Martin, 420 E. 18th St., Tucson, Arizona, 85701, has sent this sketch of an old lantern which he has for sale. He found it with some candle wax on it in California; glass missing on both sides; slot for a missing reflector; slot for a missing lamp standard or mounting bracket; swing door with glass missing. It is soldered tinware, not rusted, painted green. Size about 1' x 1' x 2-1/2'. He believes that it may have been called a station lamp.

Parts - Fred E. Johnson, Box 4382, Bisbee, Arizona, 85603, is on the market for a reflector, gasket, and water reservoir cap for his Dewar Dew-R-Lite four-hour carbide hand lamp.

España - J. Manuel Sanchis, Dr. Trigo 21, La Eliania-Valencia, Spain, has Fisma carbide hand lamps for trade. He is interested in all other types of mining lamps and would welcome correspondence and trades with other collectors. He believes that he is the only serious lamp collector in Spain. The Fisma lamp has been illustrated in the Karsten Porezag lamp books and in Werner Börkel's book (both German).

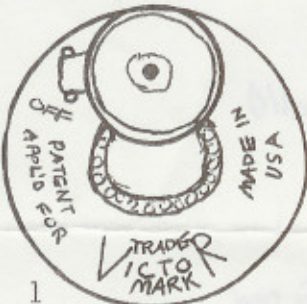
Electric Lights - Gerald D. Scanlan, P. O. Box 625, Venedy, Illinois, 62296, is a collector of old lamps. But, he now has a considerable number of Edison Model P electric lights available to anyone who might be interested.

Victor Carbides - Dave Thorpe, 16646 N. 30th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, 85023, has submitted a comparison of Victor carbide cap lamp designs for our readers. We present Dave's illustrations and comments.

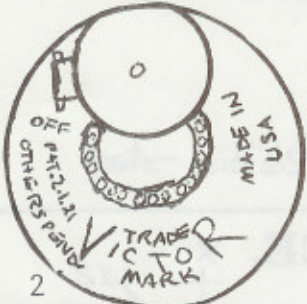
He writes - I have encountered five Victor cap lamp variations as follows:

1. The first, and probably earliest top mark, includes no patent date. The cross brace on this lamp is a round wire that is soldered to the tank.

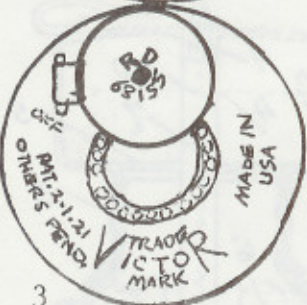
2. On lamp #2, the patent date is now evident and the cross brace, still made of wire, now actually pierces to the interior of the water tank on each side. 3. With lamp #3 comes the number RD68155 in raised letters, but on this early model it is found on the water door . . . apparently done in order to use up the supply of earlier tanks lacking the number. This lamp is also the first design to incorporate the characteristic flat strap brace that, like its predecessor, pierces the tank on each side. 4. Lamp #4 now bears the number Rd68155 on the tank itself and the plain unstamped door has returned. 5. Finally, on lamp #5 the modern style water door is used, but one further change is noted . . . the flat strap cross brace no longer pierces the tank as it is simply soldered across the back. Perhaps this tank-piercing brace that we usually associate with the Victor, and which Justrite specifically patented, proved either too costly to manufacture or too prone to breakage. I would be interested to hear of any other variations that Lamp Post readers may have encountered.



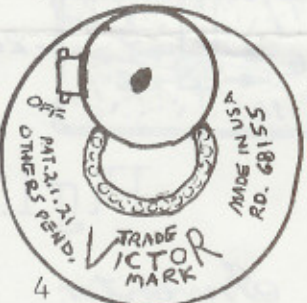
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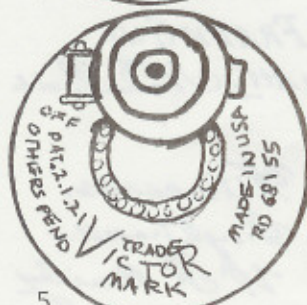
2



3



4



5

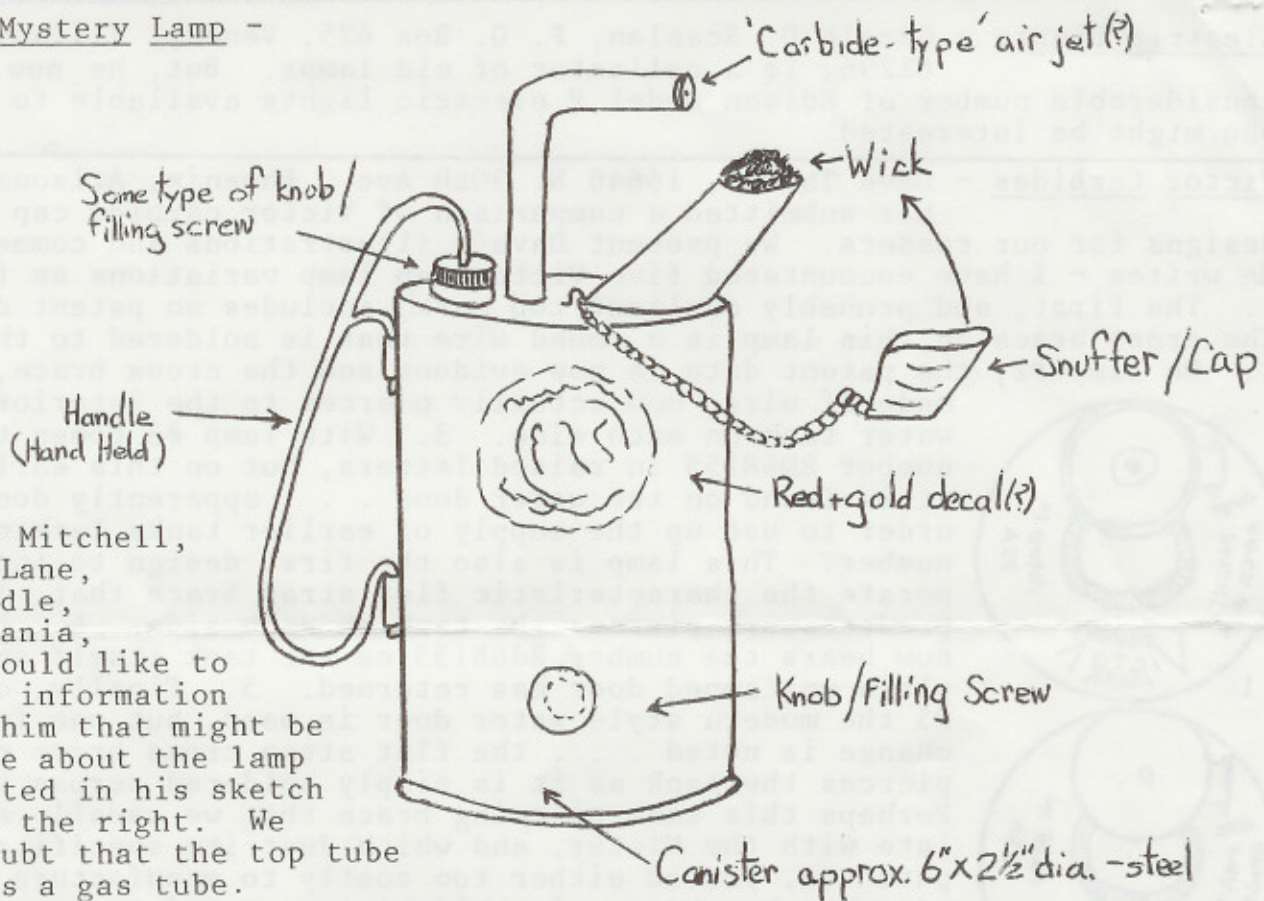
Dave also sends the following list of items he has for trade: vertical brass Grier cap lamp; brass pinchwaist Baldwin; early design Justrite with smooth-sided bottom, nickel-plated; Victor by Justrite; dome-top nickel Wolf carbide cap lamp; an I. T. P.; unfired vertical Justrite; bottoms - Scranton, unstamped Pathfinder, non-Justrite Victor, Baldwin, unused ribbed Justrite, and Grier; reflectors - radial-ribbed Sun Ray, Justrite-made set-screw reflectors, and Auto Lite deep-dish set-screw type. Dave needs the following items: nickel-plated X-Ray; brass X-Ray bottom with short ribs; one-date Guy's Dropper; Sure Lite; Hansen bottom; complete Hansen reflector brace.

What Kind of Lamp? - Bob Gossett, 7 Hickory Dr., Huntington, West Virginia, 25704, sent this illustration of his unmarked torch lamp. It is all brass except for the threads and screw top. The seams are soldered (some crimped and soldered). The handle is rather ornate and is of stamped brass with raised ridges or "ribs". The flat bottom is soldered to the body.

It appears to never have had a hook or chain attached, although there is a small loop on top of the handle . . . perhaps to connect the lid with a chain or for a hanging hook-and-chain. The handle has a rounded cross brace which makes for a more comfortable grip. The dimensions are; 5-1/2 in. tall x 4-1/2 in. diameter bottom x 2-3/4 in. diameter top x 7/8 in. diameter spout.



Another Mystery Lamp -



J. Roger Mitchell,
19 Eric Lane,
Glen Riddle,
Pennsylvania,
19037, would like to
have any information
sent to him that might be
available about the lamp
illustrated in his sketch
shown at the right. We
kinda doubt that the top tube
really is a gas tube.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK GUY, OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

VALVE

Specification of Letters Patent.

Application filed January 5, 1916 Serial No 70,550.

1,198,537.

Patented Sept. 19, 1916.

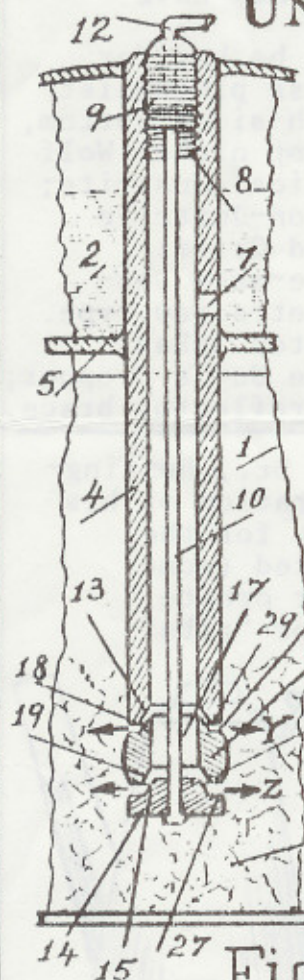


Fig. 2.

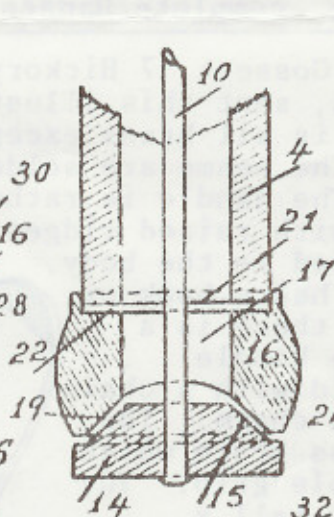


Fig. 3.

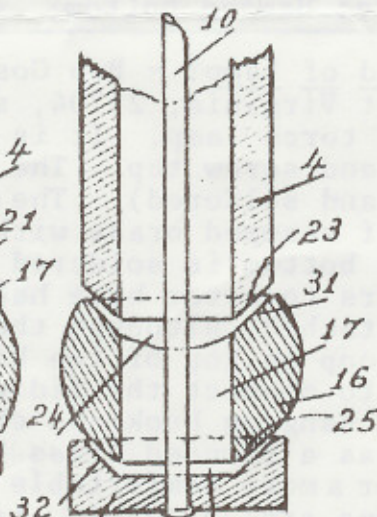


Fig. 4.

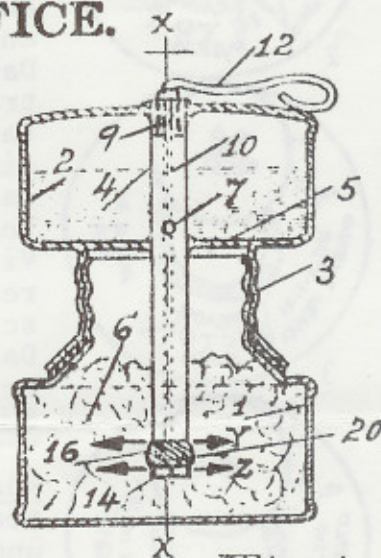


Fig. 1.

Inventor:
FRANK GUY.
By Atty N. DuBois

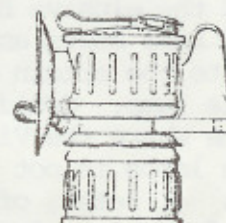
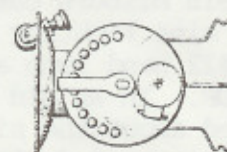
Witnesses:
Ray S. Trappell -
W. F. Bailey

Guy's Dropper - Refer to the illustrations on the bottom of page 4 which are from U. S. patent # 1,198,537 issued September 19, 1916. The popularity of the original Guy's Dropper carbide cap lamps in the 20's and even to now was predicated on the unique valve design shown in these patent drawings. Other designers had developed a screw-type adjustable valve closure, but Guy's distinctive invention used an intermediate washer (16 in the drawings) at the valve seat which provided two openings for the water flow (Y and Z arrows). The additional inventive feature of this washer was that the miner could rotate this washer between his thumb and forefinger to clean the clogged valve seats with ease. No other lamp valve could make a similar claim, and Guy's immortality was assured. There are at least two mechanical drafting drawing errors in these patent illustrations . . . what reader can identify them or find others?

New correspondent - Bill Spence, 2381 Homewood Drive, San Jose, CA, 95128, 408-247-4816, writes with the following comments & questions. He invites responses from any readers:

1. X-RAY, FULTON, IMPERIAL. Correspondent Jim Lackey recently learned from a former E.M. Haw employee that Haw bought the Fulton lamp from another unknown manufacturer. That seems to narrow it down to Justrite and Hardsocg. It is my belief that Justrite designed and built the original X-Ray for two reasons. First, the Frisbie/Justrite patent filed in 1920 clearly shows the top elevation of the X-Ray, even though the rest of the design shows the Victor. Second, a close examination of my own X-Ray in comparison with contemporary Justrites (the ones with double-beaded bottoms) shows that the X-Ray's felt retainer and upper and lower threaded collar sections are identical to the same Justrite components. Indeed the bottoms are identical in all respects except the ornamental bars vs. beads. The striker mechanism is the same distinctive one with the hollow center pin. I have not observed this striker on any other non-Justrite lamp. These parts are all the same on the Imperial as well. I therefore think it is beyond doubt that Justrite made the X-Ray. The origin of the Fulton & Imperial is probably one of two alternatives. 1-Justrite made all three lamps in the 1918-1921 timeframe (the Copper Queen is evidence that Justrite did subcontract work in that period); or 2-Justrite sold the X-Ray tooling to another party around the beginning of 1922 when it discontinued both the X-Ray and the beaded-bottom Justrites, and that party (Hardsocg?) made the Fulton and the Imperial. Can anyone verify that Martin Hardsocg had manufacturing capabilities, or was he just a mining supplies distributor?

57,037. ACETYLENE-LAMP. WILLIAM J. FRISBIE, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Justrite Manufacturing Company, Chicago, Ill., a Corporation of Illinois. Filed May 22, 1920. Serial No. 853,574. Term of patent 14 years.



The ornamental design for an acetylene lamp as shown.

2. Does anyone know what the white stuff is that was used to cement lava tips into lamps or better yet, how to dissolve it?

3. Does anyone out there have a Justrite #4 catalog available for copying?

4. BUDDY. For about two years I've had a Buddy in my collection with a reflector, brace and wing nut that appear to be strictly Autolite. (The reflector is 2½".) I have received conflicting opinions on the authenticity of these parts on the Ashmead Buddy. I have concluded for myself that they are authentic for the following reasons. Jim Lackey's notes on Ashmead Mfg in Lamp Post, Fall '77 indicated that a number of changes were made to the Buddy over the years in order to reduce manufacturing costs. Substitution of these purchased components for the carry-overs from the Elkhorn could well have been such a cost-saving move. Further these parts could have been available from what we know. The patent for the reflector brace was owned by Chase Brass Co of Waterbury, Connecticut. Paul Kouts has already speculated that Universal may have been doing business with Chase; why not Ashmead as well? Further, Meyer Stein, the designer for Ashmead surely knew the folks at Universal through his association with Stein Mfg Co; Universal may have itself been the source of these parts. (Personally I am inclined to believe that Universal was buying parts from a variety of sources, including Chase,

Stein and Shanklin, prior to its acquisition of Shanklin Mfg Co in 1932.) In short it seems likely that such parts were available on the market and were not exclusive to the Autolite lamp. Second, there are some subtle differences between this Buddy reflector and the similar Autolite reflector. On the Buddy the locating notch is directly in line between the center hole and the striker hole; on the Autolite the notch is offset from that axis by about 3/16". The effect of this is that the Buddy's striker sits at a nearly horizontal position on the lamp while the Autolite striker is at more of an angle. While the wing nuts and braces are identical on the two lamps, I believe that this is because both makers were procuring parts from the same suppliers. They are therefore authentic original equipment on certain Buddy lamps. Comments?

5. SNELL, EVER-READY. In looking up the patent for the Snell Lamp, I noted that the patent specifies a side-mounted water control and the patent drawing has a more-or-less spherical top like the Brilliant Search-Light or the Ever-Ready.

Is it possible that in some way the Snell Lamp was the antecedent of the Ever-ready? Can anyone establish a connection between Arphad Snell (1911) and Charles Hoppe (1913)? Can anyone out there tell us more about the Snell Lamp? Does anyone have one? Pictures?

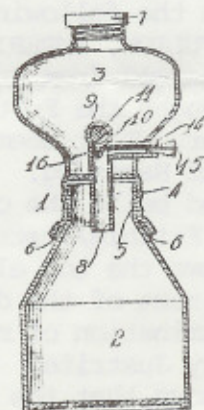
6. Can anyone accurately date Justrite catalogs from #4 on? #5 in particular is difficult to place.

7. I have a 1918 Milburn catalog if anyone would like copies of the mine lighting pages. The Miner "A" cap lamp and #22 hand lamp are included.

8. EARLY VICTOR. In an old issue of the Lamp Post, Tony Moon speculated about the similarity of the early Victor and Scranton lamps. I don't suppose I'm the first to notice that the early Victor also bears an incredible resemblance to the elusive Black Diamond. I've searched all of the old Lamp Posts and have been unable to find any reference to the origin of the Victor name as applied to this lamp. Could these two be the same?

Who can tell me where the Victor name originated? I might also mention here that the body style of these lamps is not terribly different than the Baldwin (later ITP) #36, 38, 54 & 56 hand lamps. (I refer, of course, to the single piece, drawn upper shell.) This may not be as far fetched as it seems. The boys from Scranton and New York tended to get involved with one another. For example, Francis Coffin, sales agent for the Scranton lamps and later an officer of Dewar Mfg Co. Comments?

988,166. CARBID-LAMP. FRANK BRADOC and WILLIAM FROST, Athens, Ill., assignors to Arphad Snell, Tice, Ill. Filed Oct. 27, 1910. Serial No. 589,425.



As a relatively new collector, Bill is interested in trading for carbide lamps. He has at getting a tradeable Buddy soon also. For general information Bill has in his collection at this time two spare nickel-plated Wolfs in fair condition which he would be willing to trade for lamps of comparable condition/rarity or for good-condition Grier or Sun-Ray. He wants to trade for any of the collectible cap lamps, also needs a good brass Sun-Ray bottom, a good brass corrugated Guy's Dropper bottom, reflectors for early Autolite, Lu-mi-num and a Baldwin pinch-waist. Bill is also ready, willing and able to pay cash for the above. He may be Elkhorn, X-Ray, ITP, Wolf, a couple of excellent Baldwins and a variety of Justrites including an Uncle Sam and a nickel-plated Western Special. For purposes of tracing distribution, Bill says all of these lamps except the Justrites are known to have originated east of the Mississippi. Give him a call or letter.

Postage - Again, our thanks go out to all those who have offered postage to make the Lamp Post possible. This issue is indebted to Michigan, Missouri, Arizona, New Jersey, Illinois, France, California, Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, North Dakota, Indiana, Germany, Tennessee, and Australia. Realism compels your editor to report the following costs for this issue: Postage = \$77.00, Envelopes = \$7.00, Printing and paper = \$78.60, and stapeling = \$1.75. Since I have been out of work for the last six months and 26 out of the past 49 months, these costs are impractical without your aid which helped retire the deficit from the last issue. Thank you.

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