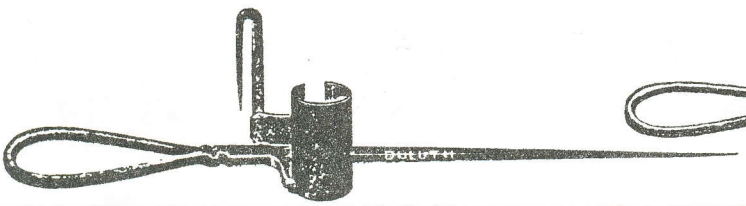
THE UNDERGROUND LAMP POST

- MINERS WERE THE FIRST ECOLOGISTS -

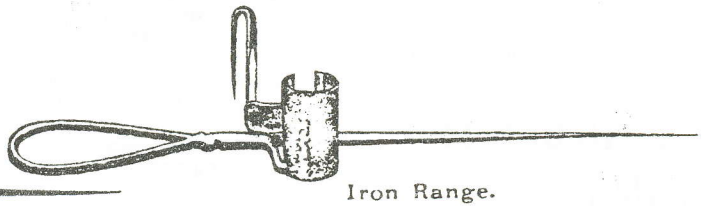
Vol. V, No. 10 Spring, 1993

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

"Duluth" Miners' Candlestick



Miners' Candlesticks.



Iron Range.

Candlesticks - The two illustrations of steel miner's candlesticks shown here appeared in commercial advertisements by several companies in the U. S. A. about 1900. They represent the same item as sold under two trade names . . . neither of which were marked on this very type of candlestick, but which did appear stamped on other, heavier types. These are characterized by relatively smaller handles and a "narrow" hook often called the "iron range" hook; it held better on cloth caps.

John Schoenly, 260 Montclair Ave., Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 60137, has asked if anyone knows of this type stick in BRASS with a steel thimble. Our answer was that this is the first we have ever heard of brass, but that there may be some more information available from our readers. John says that he has a brass stick and would like to know more about it. So would we. Any additional information would be welcome.

Lamps and books - M. W. Lambert; Rue des Villas, 147; B-4100 Seraing; Belgique (Belgium) . . . writes that he has some European flame safety lamps for sale and trade. He is looking for an American Davy in good condition. Also, M. Lambert has two small books of his own creation about old mine lamps for sale; one subject is the Joris safety lamp. Finally, he still has some of the Michel DuPont books, des Lumieres dans La Nuit, available for sale. Write him for more information on any of these subjects.

More anti-candle - Recall the "anti-candle" photo sent by John Pawloski on page one of the last Lamp Post issue . . . made in London. Stephen McCabe writes from Australia that he may have seen one there (down under) with a large reflector. We still would like to hear from England about the anti-candle. Don't forget to write Stephen about the Newsletter of Australian Mining Collectables . . . 22 Gowlland Parade, Panania N S W, 2213, Australia. There is much information to exchange.

Just arrived - Now available to the collecting community is a variety of new, unused ANTON oil wick cap lamps. An amazing discovery in an estate warehouse has placed these face and driver's size tin, tin-and-brass and brass lamps in the capable hands of Jim Van Fleet for sale to the public. Write or call Jim for particulars: 222 Market St., Mifflinberg, Pennsylvania, 17844, (717)966-3308.

Lamp-in - The annual eastern CONVENTION meeting of old mine lamp and mining artifact collectors will be held on Saturday, June 26, at the University of West Virginia. Call or write Prof. C. Gay Bindocci, Mining Extension/COMER, P.O.Box 6070, West Va. U., Morgantown, WV26506, 304-293-4211.

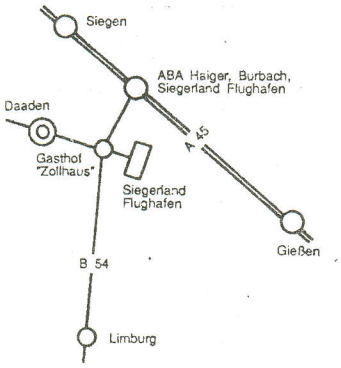
International - H. Henner Schardt, 5908 Neünkirchen-Struthutten, Malscheider Weg 28, Germany, has sent the flyer reproduced below which announces the First International Mine Lamp Meeting. It will be held on Saturday, June 12, 1993, at Daaden, Germany. We honor his request that it be included in this issue of the Lamp Post. This reminds us that the very first group lamp meeting invitation within the purview of this newsletter was distributed in Denver by Midge Leahy in June of 1970. How things have grown!

1. intern. Grubenlampen Sammlertreffen

Als zusätzliche Info für den Sammler werden in einer Vitrine neue Erkenntnisse (Ergänzungen) zum Thema:

A. E. Reusch ⚒ Daaden

vorgestellt.



wo: **Bürgerhaus**
5244 Daaden
Tel: 02743/3300

wann: Samstag, den 12. Juni 1993
von 10.00 bis 17.00 Uhr

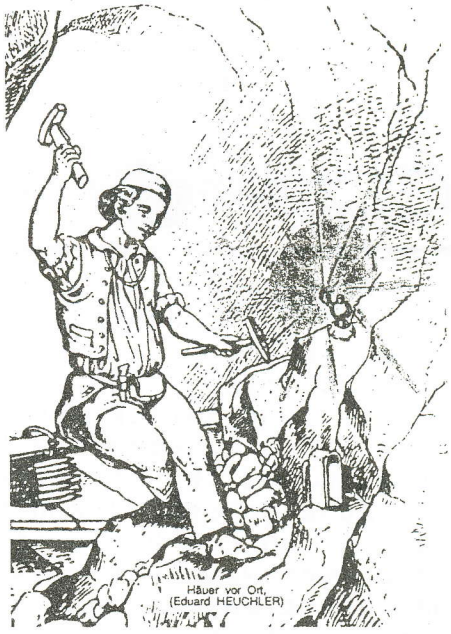
Info: Heinz Zander
Tel: 02743/2709

Henner Schardt
Tel: 02735/1712

Zimmerreservierung:
Hotel Koch, Daaden
Tel: 02743/2144 und 2051

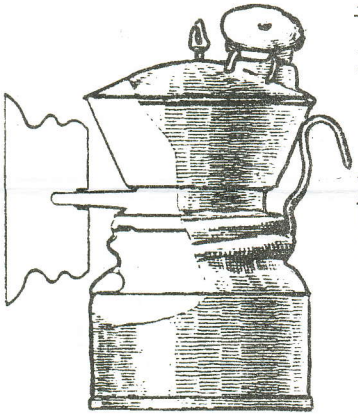
Gasthof Ermert/Ackermann, Daaden
Tel: 02743/2342

Pension Helene, Emmerzhausen
Tel: 02743/1639

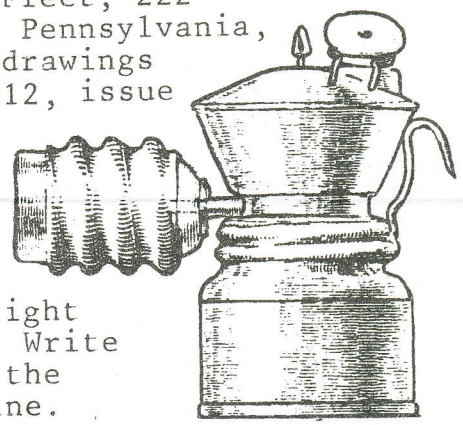


Layout: Zander / Schardt
Druck: NK-Druck GmbH, 5908 Neunkirchen
Gedruckt auf 100 % Recycling-Papier

12. Juni 1993



Baldwin - We thank editor Jim Van Fleet, 222 Market St., Mifflinberg, Pennsylvania, 17844, phone 717-966-3308 for the drawings shown here from the April 20, 1912, issue of Coal Age Magazine. He thought that they suited the Lamp Post more than his publication. At the right is an early Baldwin with a spare bottom cap used as a reflector. Left - is a similar lamp using an electric light bulb socket as a flame protector. Write or call Jim for information about the EUREKA! mining collectables magazine.



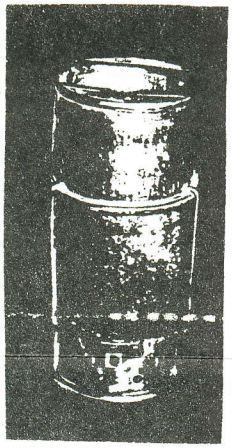
Safety lamps - Our current series of flame safety lamps continues on pp. 3-6.

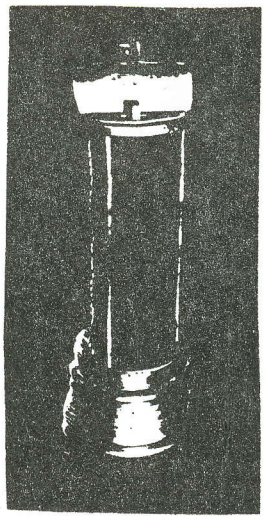
Gratitude - Once again the Lamp Post is very thankful for the help it has recieved to keep financial considerations within reality. This period we acknowledge envelopes from Colorado and Minnesota, encouragement from many areas and stamps or postage from Virginia, Ohio, Ireland, Illinois, Switzerland, Germany, California, Indiana, Colorado, West Virginia, Arizona, Oregon, Florida, Canada, Alabama, France, Pennsylvania and Belize. Printing continues in Tennessee. Thank you all. We will continue to do our best.

Printed by J. Whidby - Byron's Graphic Arts, Maryville, TN 37804

Davy 16B

1. DAVY-IN-CAN. External "CAN" protective device for an unbonneted Davy lamp. Sheet metal protective cylinder for the lamp gauze; glass window; air feed holes at the bottom; top opening for the lamp cap and hook; screw lock.
3.75 in. (95.25 mm) diameter,
6.5 in. (165 mm) height.





Davy 16C

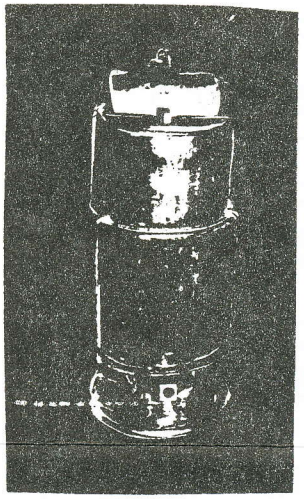
2. DAVY LAMP for use in a protective "CAN".

2.5 in. (63.5 mm) font diameter
8.0 in. (203 mm) height.

Davy 16D

3. Assembled DAVY-IN-CAN flame safety lamp.

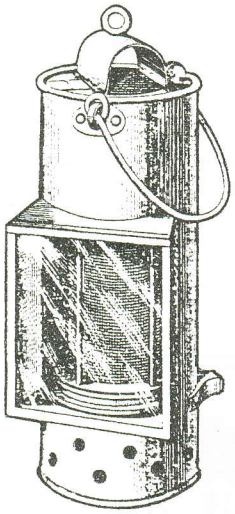
3.75 in. (95.25 mm) diameter,
7.2 in. (183 mm) height.

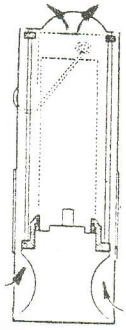


Davy 16E

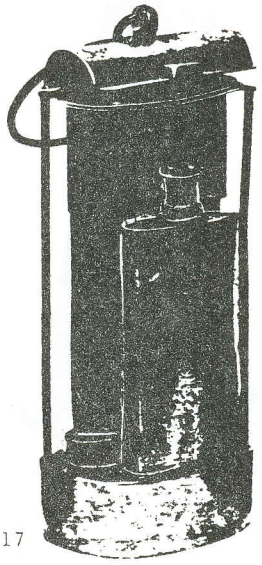
DAVY-IN-CAN flame safety lamp. Heavy, square, flat glass window; extra-heavy bail attached to the "CAN".

3.0 in. (76.2 mm) diameter,
7.5 in. (190.5 mm) overall height



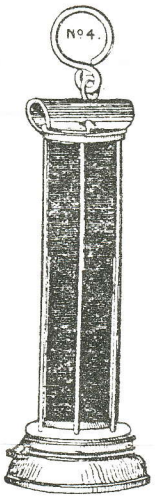


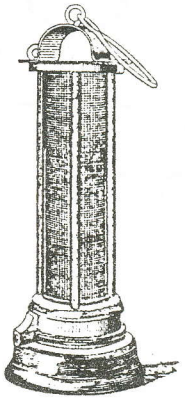
Davy 16F

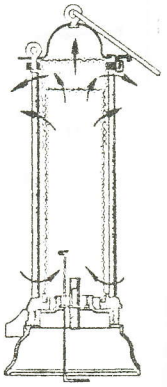


Davy 17

Double Davy lamp. Includes an enlarged common font for two wicks and two gauze cylinders

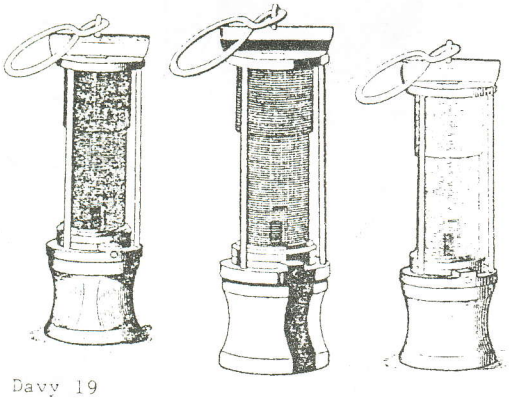






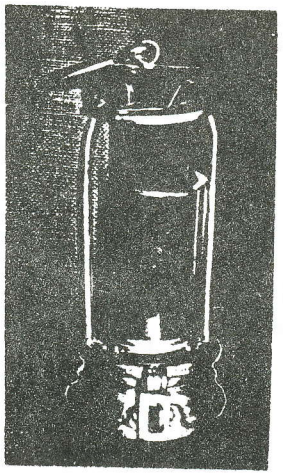
Davy 18

Newcastle Davy. This style of Davy wire gauze lamp with a cast brass font became the most widely used version of Sir Humphry Davy's invention during the mid-nineteenth century.
3.5 in. (88.9 mm) base diameter
9.25 in. (234.95 mm) height over hood



Davy 19

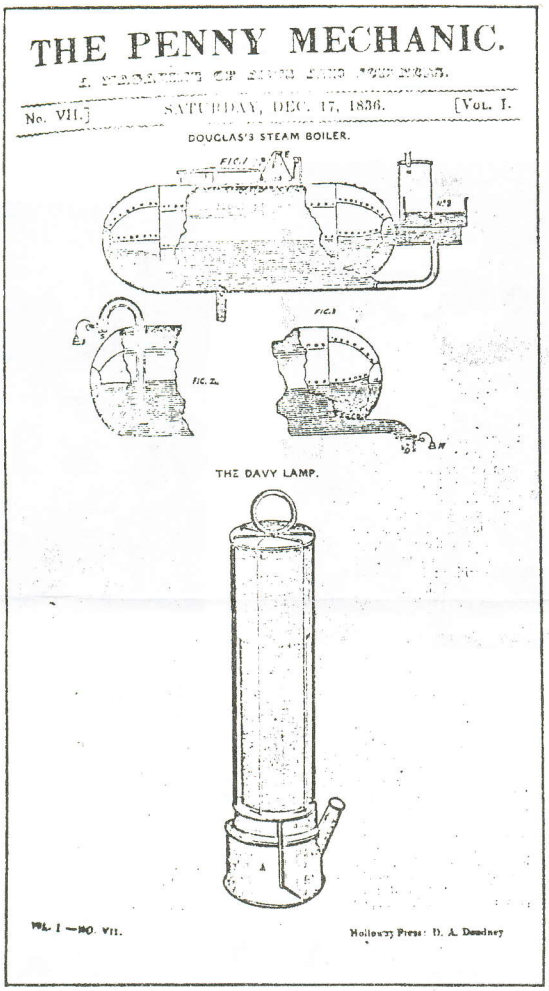
Fire boss Davy lamp. A smaller version used by officials who were to be underground for only a short time.
2.375 in. (60.325 mm) diameter base
8.75 in. (222.25 mm) hieght over hood



Davy 20

JACK DAVY Lamp. This is a standard Davy-type lamp with a partial glass cylinder as used in northern England about 1850. The glass is supported by four metal pegs on the reservoir, leaving a space of 0.125 in. (3.175 mm) for admission of air.

3.25 in. (82.55 mm) diameter,
7.5 in. (190.5 mm) height.



THE PENNY MECHANIC.

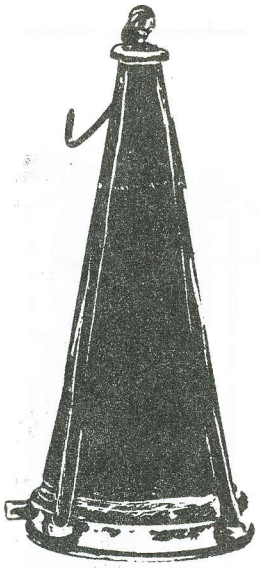
No. VII.] SATURDAY, DEC. 17, 1836. [Vol. I.

DOUGLAS'S STEAM BOILER.

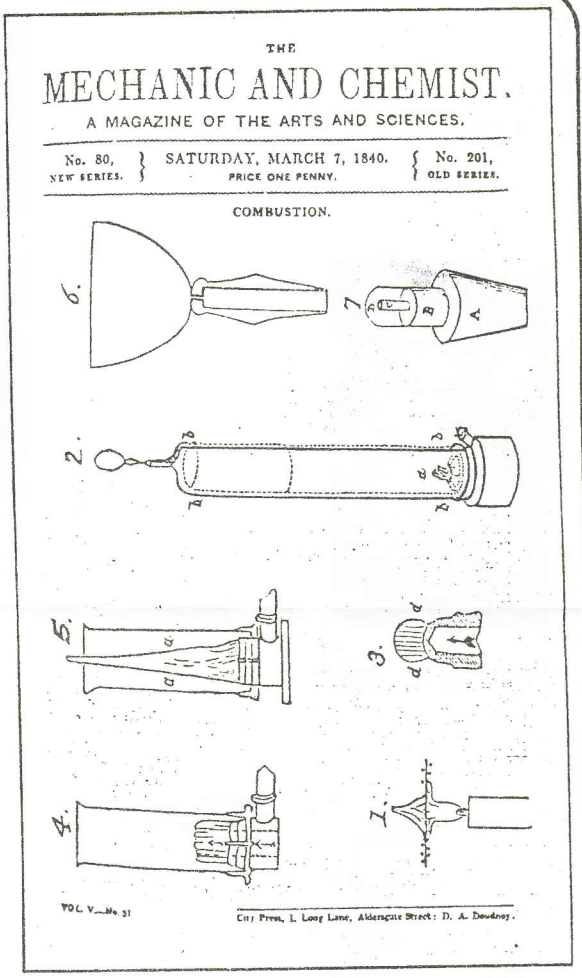
THE DAVY LAMP.

Vol. I.—No. VII. Holloway Press: D. A. Doudney

1836 title page of London's The Penny Mechanic illustrating one of Davy's first successful flame safety lamps.



The STRUVE flame safety lamp, England, ca. 1857. This was one of the first lamps to use a conical form for the wire gauze. Later lamp designs truncated the conical shape.



THE MECHANIC AND CHEMIST.

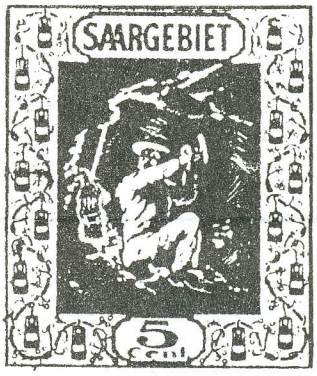
A MAGAZINE OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES.

No. 80, NEW SERIES. SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1840. PRICE ONE PENNY. No. 201, OLD SERIES.

COMBUSTION.

Vol. V.—No. 31 City Press, 1, Long Lane, Aldersgate Street: D. A. Doudney.

1840 title page of London's Mechanic and Chemist illustrating one of Davy's first successful flame safety lamps.



Line drawings of various early designs of Davy-type flame safety lamps.

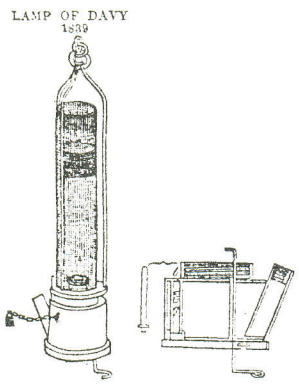


Fig. 512.—Davy's First Practical Safety-Lamp.

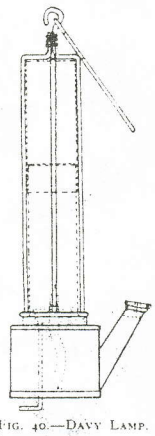


Fig. 40.—Davy Lamp.

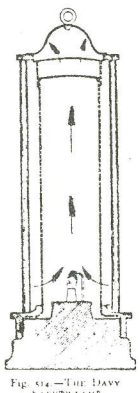


Fig. 514.—The Davy Safety-Lamp.

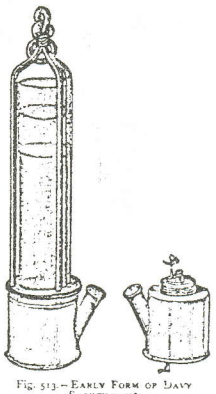


Fig. 513.—Early Form of Davy Safety-Lamp.

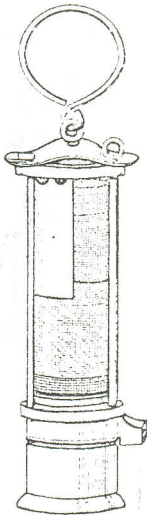
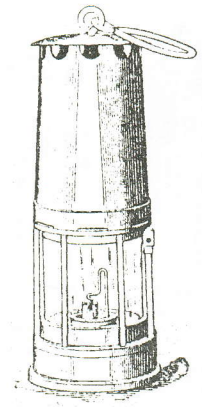
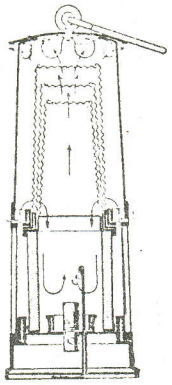
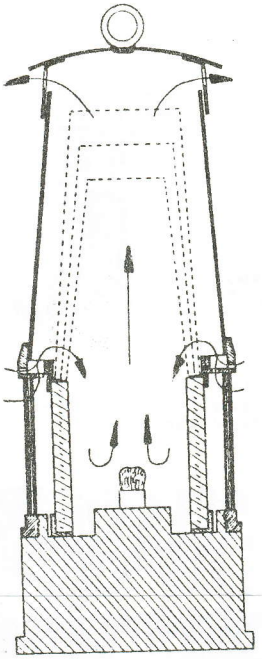
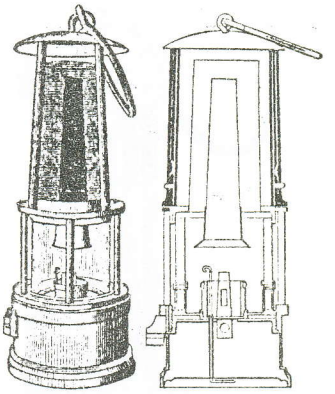


Fig. 516. Davy Lamp with Glass Cylinder and Half-round Upper Shield.

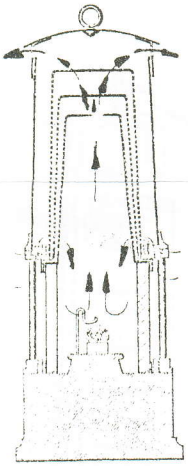


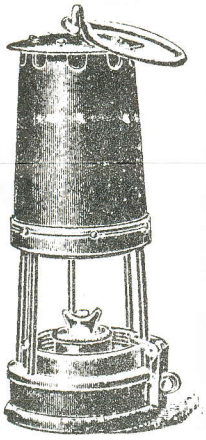




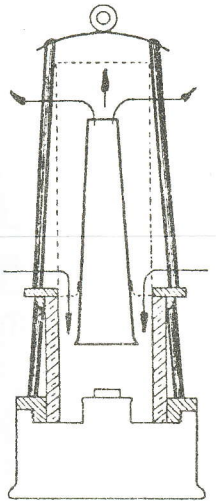


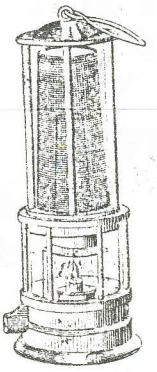
Belgian Mueseler Lamp

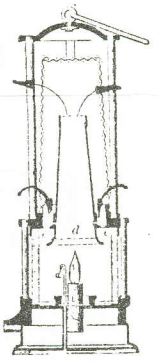




Marsaut-type flame safety lamps with metal bonnet and multiple gauzes.

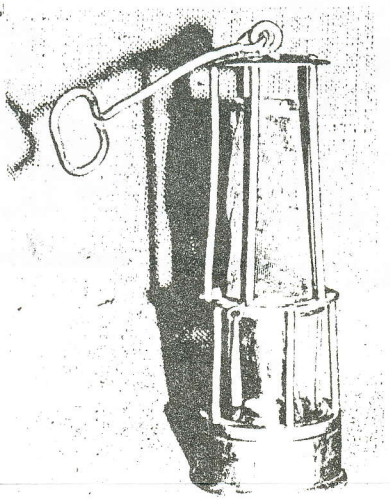






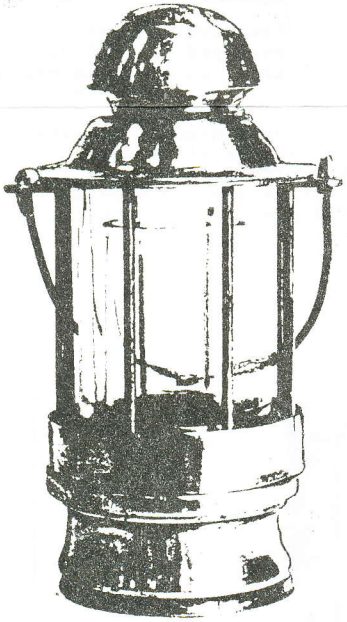
English Mueseler Lamp

Mueseler-type flame safety lamps with internal metal chimney.

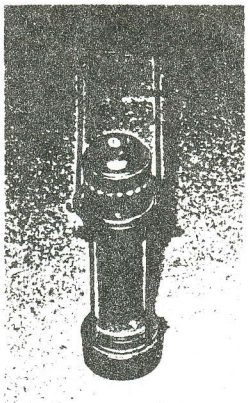


Flame safety lamps were used in the coal holds of seagoing ships as well as in the underground mines. The plate on this otherwise unmarked brass lamp reads: "RECOVERED FROM GERMAN BATTLE-CRUISER MOLTKE" (WW1).

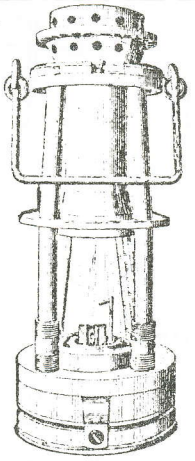
3.75 in. (95.25 mm) diameter x 10.5 in. (266.7 mm) tall.

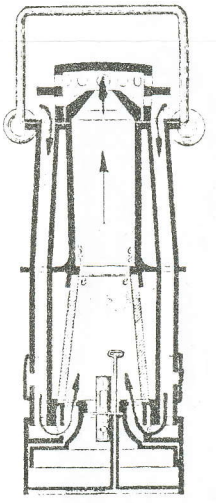


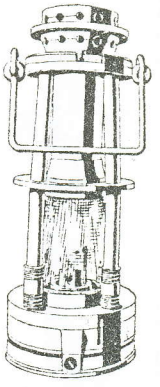
UPTON and ROBERTS original flame safety lamp, ca. 1827.



UPTON and ROBERTS later design flame safety lamp, ca. 1886. All-brass construction. 2.5 in. (63.5 mm) diameter x 8.375 in. (212.7 mm) tall.

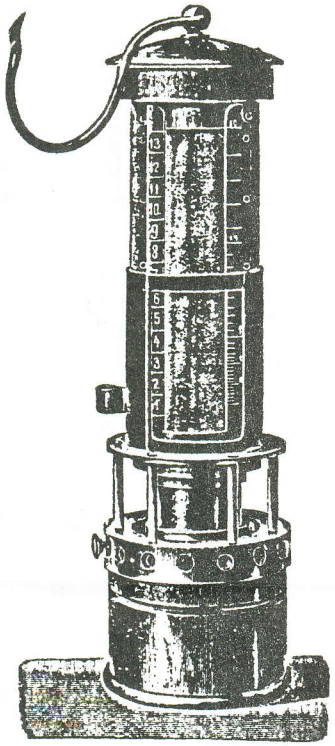




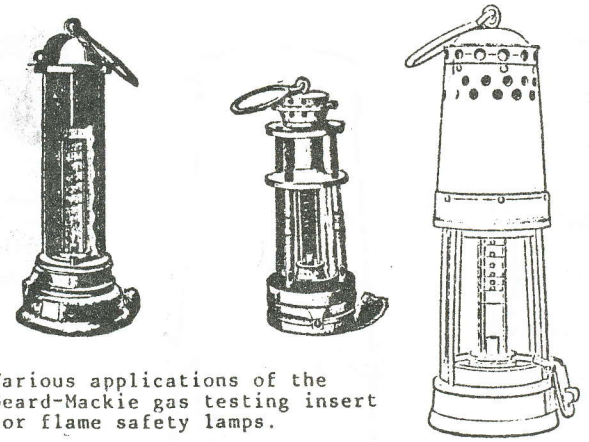


ASHWORTH-HEPPLEWHITE-GRAY Flame safety lamps for gas testing.

Ca. 1888

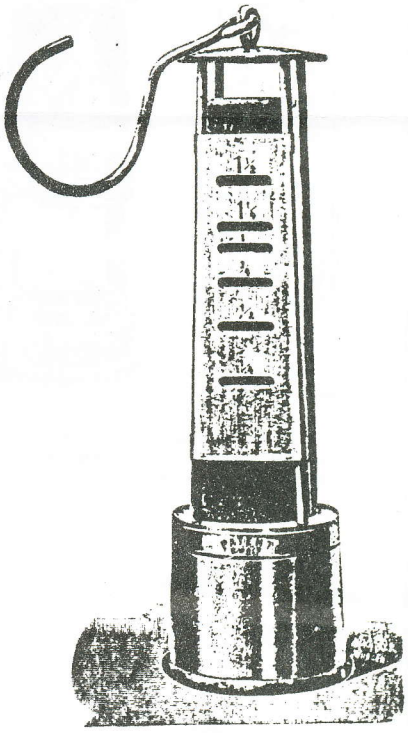


The CHESNEAU gas testing lamp was invented in 1892 by Mons. G Chesneau, President of the French Fire-Damp Commission. Air for combustion was supplied by a row of horizontal holes controlled by a shutter at the top of the alcohol fuel font. Double gauzes rested on the font. At the top of the font was a sheet iron bonnet with a mica window for observing the flame. On one side of the mica window was a scale in centimeters and on the other the corresponding percentages of firedame. The mica was protected by a sliding shield when not in use. A few crystals of copper nitrate in the methyl alcohol fuel rpoduced a greenish tinge on the flame cap.

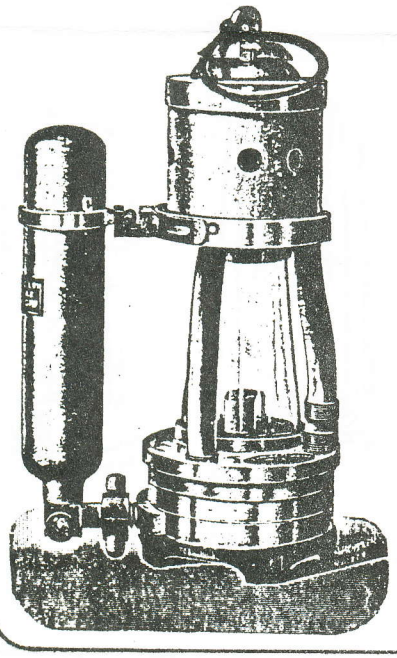


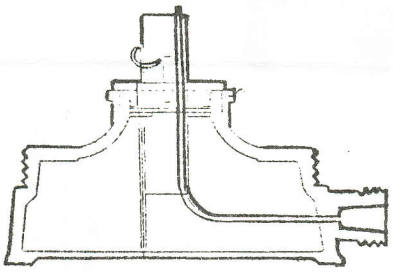
Various applications of the Beard-Mackie gas testing insert for flame safety lamps.

H. Werner Horning of Frankfurt/ Main, Germany, displays what may be one of the largest working safety lamps. This model was produced by Seipple about 1910.



The PEILER gas testing "lamp" was developed in 1884 by H. Peiler, an Austrian engineer. It was a large DAVY-type which burned alcohol and had a viewing window to observe the height of the flame. Relatively small quantities of firedamp could be detected down to 1/4 percent.





The CLOWES lamp was invented by Professor Frank Clowes of University College, Nottingham, ca. 1892. It was an Ashworth-Grey type oil burning lamp fitted with a hydrogen gas cylinder. When testing for small quantities of firedamp, the hydrogen was admitted to the lamp and the oil flame was extinguished. The hydrogen would then burn at the top of a copper tube and the height of the flame could be regulated by a vlave. A scale was used to make the readings. It was claimed that as little as 1/4% of firedamp could be detected by this lamp.