

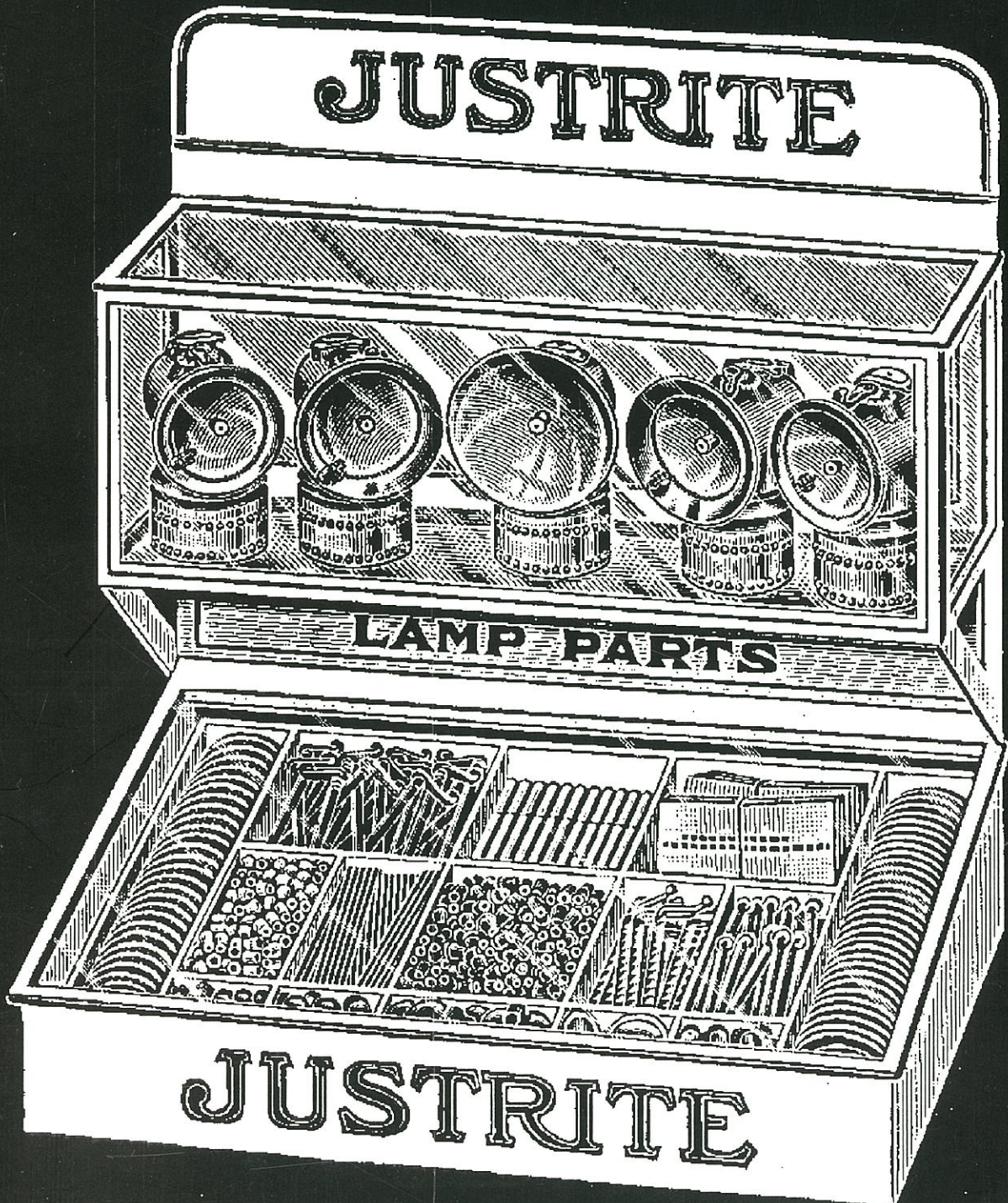
# EUREKA!

THE JOURNAL OF MINING COLLECTIBLES

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## Staff

Todd Town  
38 Agazzi Terrace  
Globe, Arizona 85501  
(520) 425-0423

Dave Thorpe  
130 E. Tierra Buena Ln., Phoenix, AZ 85022  
(602) 548-1959 or 548-1890  
e-mail: dthorpe@primenet.com

Dave Johnson  
8106 Barbour Manor Dr., Louisville, KY  
40241 (502) 327-7559  
e-mail: dj@msdlouky.org

Len Gaska  
725 Hermes Cir.  
Lafayette, CO 80026-1121  
(303) 604-2875  
e-mail: gaska@nilenet.com

Bob Schroth  
P.O. Box 687, Twin Peaks, CA 92391  
(909) 337-7102  
e-mail: bschroth@aol.com

Manfred Stutzer  
Madenburgstr. 6  
67065 Ludwigshafen, Germany  
e-mail: mkstu@t-online.de

David J. Des Marais  
1015 Woodland Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(415) 322-0778  
email: ddesmarais@mail.arc.nasa.gov

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**EUREKA!**

**The Journal of Mining Collectibles**

# EUREKA!



**A PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO THE  
COLLECTING, PRESERVATION, AND  
HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF EARLY MINE  
LIGHTING AND COLLECTIBLES**

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**Front Cover:** 1919 Justrite parts box. Metal with enamel paint.

**Back Cover:** Submitted by Steve Loftin: "An Irish Mick. It's an English postcard taking a stab at the unions ( pay insurance) and the Irish. It is unused, so there is no dated postmark and it doesn't have a copyright date. Marked "National" Series, trade mark, # 2783 made in Gt. Britain."



## Storytelling

His face was twisted into a brown grimace put there from years of wind and sun. His threadbare overalls were stiffly starched and colored watery blue like his eyes. Tufts of graying hair struggled to escape the rim of his Funks G Hybrid cap. At first he just stood there silent, with one toe wanting to examine the instep of his other foot. Finally he sat down on his haunches and reached for the lamps on the traders blanket. One of his eyes was permanently enamored by the other, and stared at it intently as he lifted the lamps before them. One by one, he turned the lamps over in his strangely delicate hands. He ran his fingers over the bumps and dents. A high keening sound split the silence as he twisted off the bottoms of the lamps and examined the internal workings. He carefully replaced the lamps on the blanket. Not looking up, he traced a few designs in the dust, spat, and hit a scuttling click beetle squarely on the back. Slowly he raised himself up, glanced about somewhat furtively, and to no one in particular said, "If you were of a mind to sell them lamps, what would you be askin'? That little doubledee looking lamp is kinda purty, and that squareun' ...well, that is a caution." A shy grin played at the corners of his mouth.

The trader jumped up as if electrified, and began an animated pitch explaining the virtues of each of the lamps: their great rarity, their excellent condition, how closely he held them to his heart and their value in a market bound to go no where but up. He ranted on about the fine workmanship, the cunning features, the artistic merit, the innovative design. He spoke of their history, the danger encountered in finding them, the previous owners, the companies that made them. At times he seemed on the verge of tears, so emotional was his attachment to these lamps. But alas, sell them he must, his wife and children were sick. The government had repossessed all his belongings except those things displayed upon the blanket. His dog had just died and his cough was getting worse. He fluttered his fingers before his eyes as if he was having trouble seeing them, said "oh no, not my eyes too" and sat down. He knew that these bumpkins had pockets deeper than their simple appearances would indicate. He had spent much of his life distancing them from their savings, and he was a master at it. He pulled himself into a tight little ball like a rattler about to strike and said.....?

*Written by Steve Loftin.*

## Index

We've include a separately bound Index of all Eueka issues from day one. The first half (Issues 1-8) is a reprint of the former index compiled by Len Gaska. Issues 9-25 were recently compiled by Dave DesMarais. As we have finally generated a slight profit, we are turning it back to the subscribers in the form of this document. Hope you like it! Back issues are no longer available from No. 10 and earlier.

# The Other Springfield Reflector

by Dave Thorpe

The Springfield cap lamp, manufactured by Meyer Stein is generally found with a certain brass reflector that has an inner concave recess. The earlier version of this reflector had a sharp outer edge that was half-rolled back. On later lamps the reflector's outer edge was completely rolled leaving no sharp edge. The tank of the Springfield lamp was dimensionally identical to the early Auto-Lite. It is not certain whether one may have copied the other or whether Stein manufactured the tank for Jacob Sherman's AutoLite. A very early "S&S" lamp may suggest that some collaboration existed between the two men. Sherman, in later years, is known to have had a parent company (Chase Brass) manufacture the AutoLite entirely. It is not unreasonable to speculate that he had Stein handle the manufacture of his earlier pieces. On the other hand, Meyer Stein was no stranger to copying others' designs. The water dropper on his Springfield was a direct copy of neighbor Frank Guy's first patented valve which made the Guy's Dropper lamp famous. Stein renamed this, "The Button Dropper", and though a patent infringement suit was brought against him, he prevailed.<sup>1</sup> He also manufactured a lamp known as the Stein Dropper, that resembled the Guy's Dropper in both name and appearance (see photo next page). Stein bent the rules as he saw fit, for it is known that he manufactured moonshine stills as a sideline business.<sup>2</sup>

Stein's reflector, however, was his own work and design. Such reflectors with an inner concave recess are seen on The Springfield Lamp, the Stein Dropper, and two other lamps whose design he was involved with: Shanklin Metal Products and the Elkhorn.<sup>3</sup>

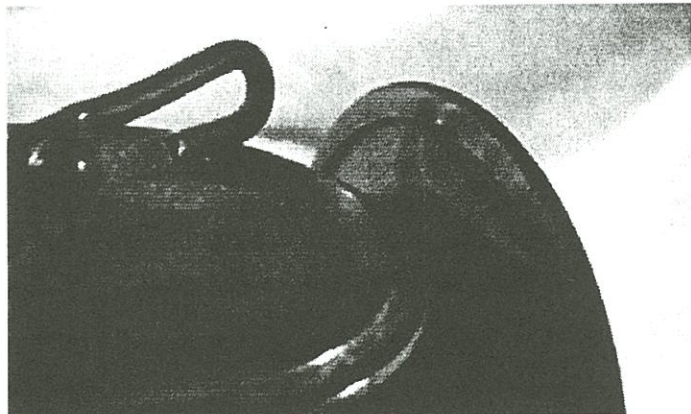
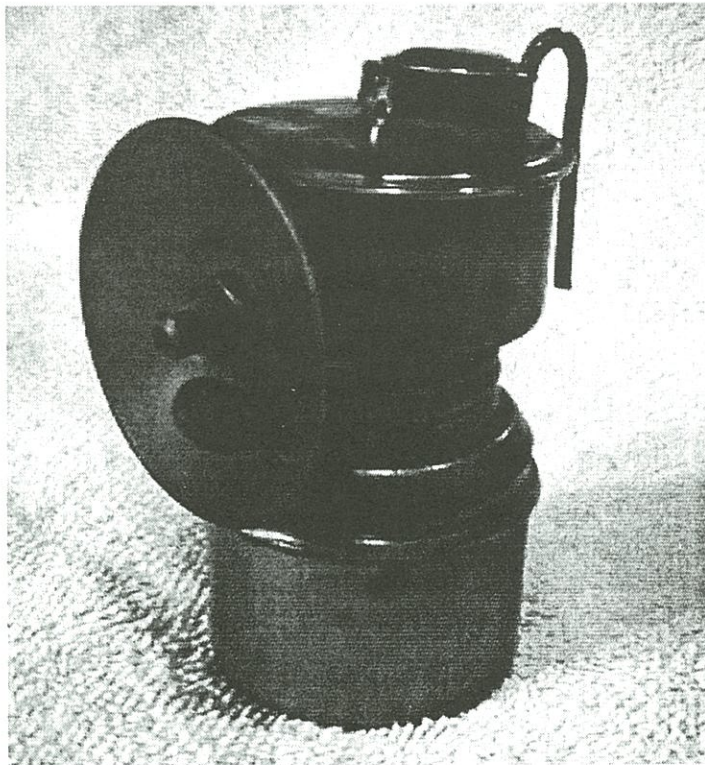


*Early Springfield Lamp with sharp-edged reflector. This reflector belongs on water tanks with a sharp-edged skirt.*

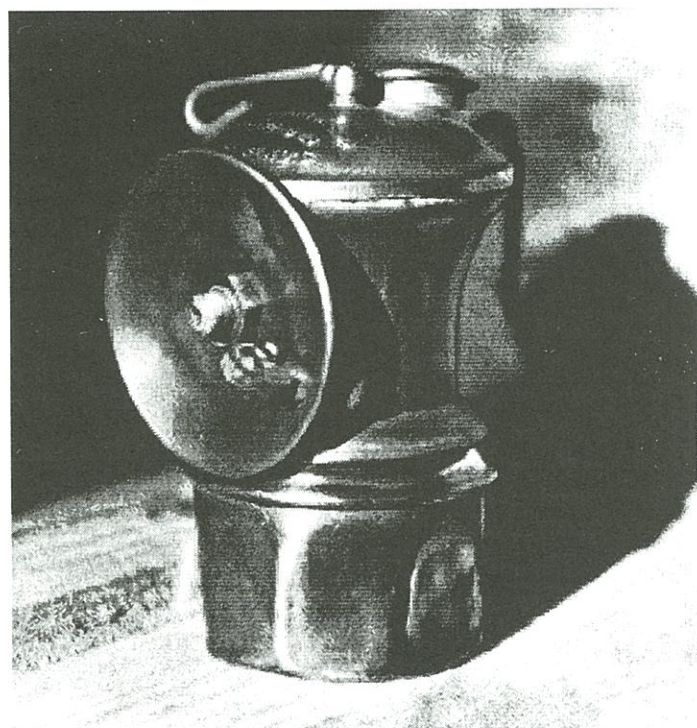


*Late Springfield Lamp with rolled-edged reflector. Note the rolled edge on the skirt of the tank..*

Some Stein Dropper lamps are found with a small 2-inch nearly flat steel reflector. I have seen two such lamps, and have heard of more.<sup>4</sup> Al Quamen recently notified me that yet another reflector may be appropriate for The Springfield Lamp. This looks exactly like the small flat one seen on the Stein Dropper, but it is brass. A photo of Al's lamp is shown below. These reflectors have, so far, been seen only on Stein lamps.



*(left) Stein Dropper lamp, an imitation of the Guy's Dropper is shown here with 2-inch steel reflector. (above) The rear view shows the reflector to be rolled flat back against itself.*



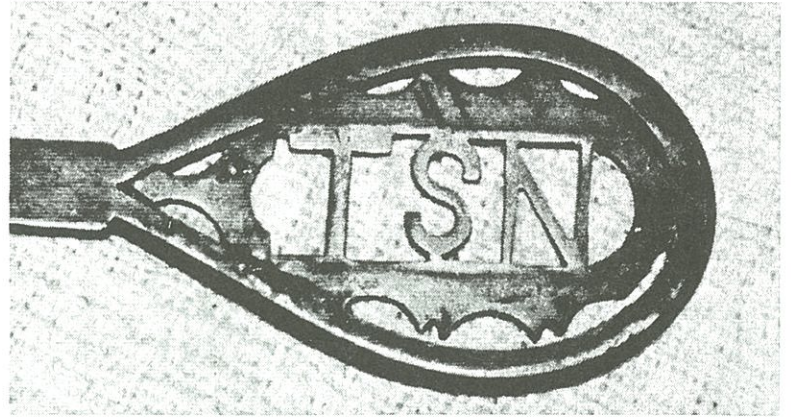
#### **Footnotes & References**

1. Federal Reporter 239, Guy et. al. v. Stein, Circuit Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit. December 7, 1916, pp. 729-734. See Eureka!, Jan 1994, Issue 9 for a more detailed description of the dropper.
2. Gregg Clemmer, personal communication with acquaintances of Meyer Stein.
3. Technically, some other lamps have inner recessed reflectors: the Justrite Driver's lamp (a horizontal brass lamp with a deep integral nickel reflector), early set-screw Guy's Droppers, and Arrow lamps. These recesses are much smaller than those of Stein lamps.
4. Dave Thorpe, Errol Christman collections.

*(left) Al Quamen's Springfield lamp with 2-inch brass reflector. Photo by Al.*

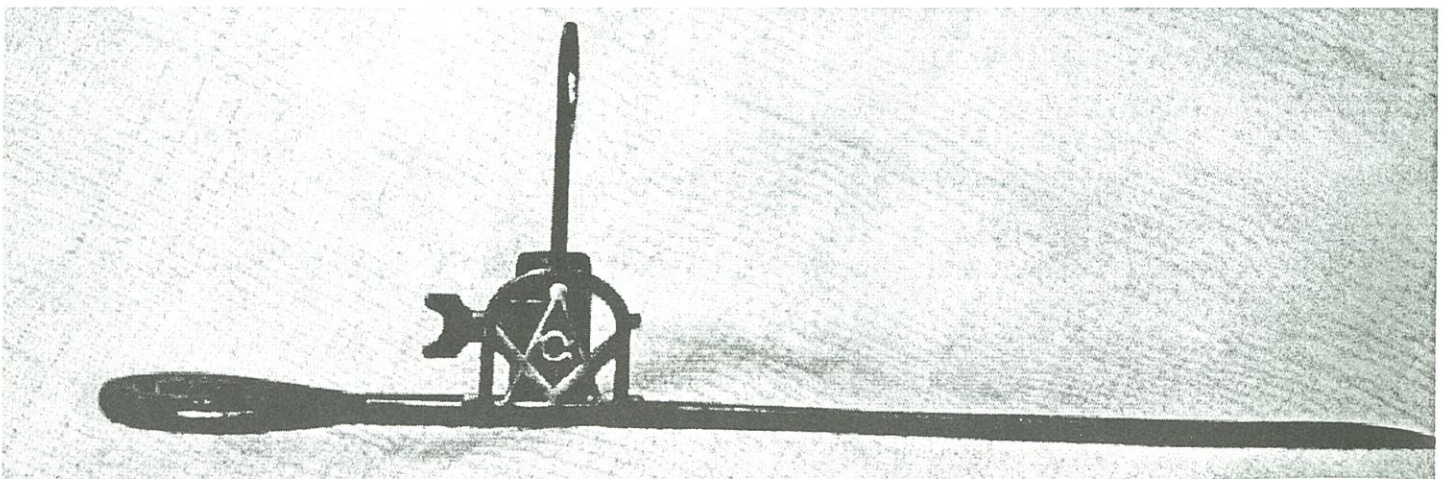
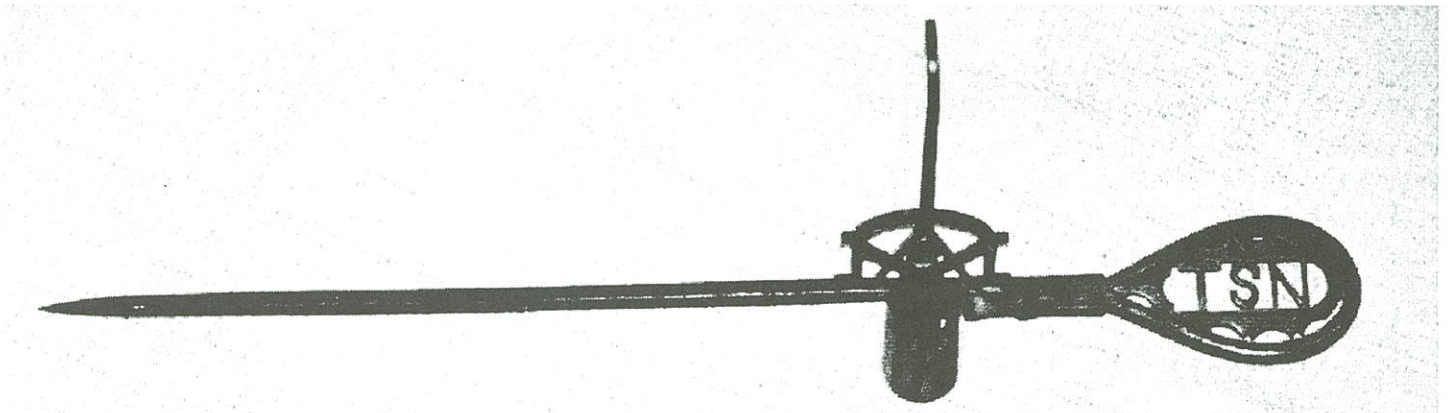
# Fraternal Presentation Candlestick

*by Al Winters*



I was lucky to acquire a beautiful presentation candlestick as well as several other mining artifacts all of which belonged to a Homestake Miner by the name of Thomas Sullivan Noonan. These artifacts were preserved by long-time Black Hills historian, photographer and studio owner George Fassbender of Spearfish, SD.

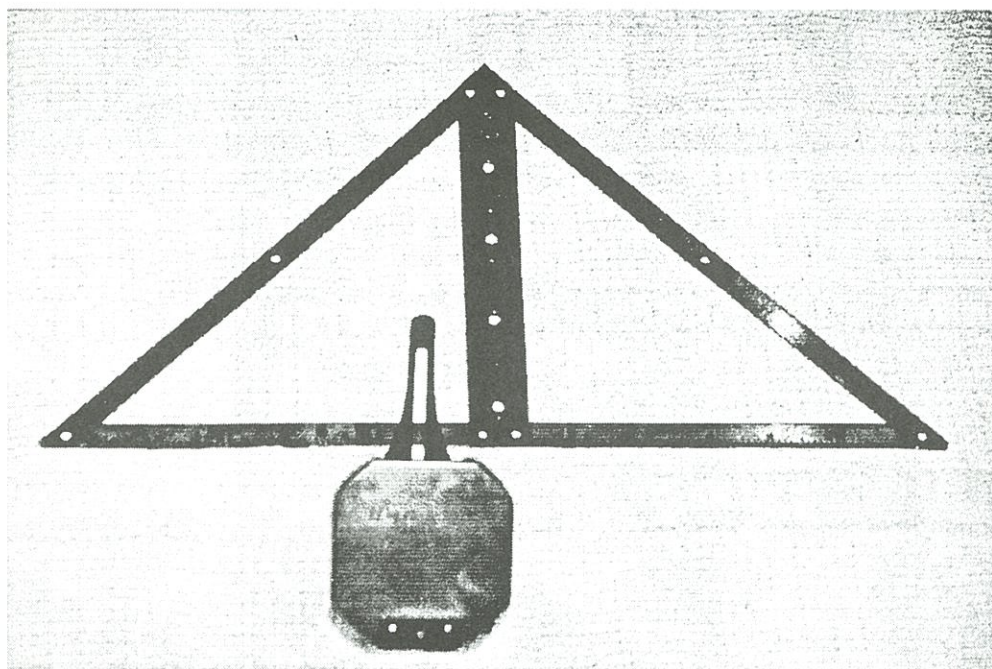
The nickel plated all-steel candlestick is 16 inches long and with a 5 inch high hook. A Masonic compass and square emblem is built within the base of the hook and the initials T S N are inlaid in the handle. The faceted thimble with an exceptional thumb piece is 2 inches high, smooth on the inside and 9 sided on the outside. What appears to be a brass plating coats both the initials and the Masonic emblem and creates a striking contrast with the nickel plating. The excellent workmanship of this candlestick resembles the type of construction credited to Tony Bono of the Silver Thread Mine near Tombstone, AZ.



Along with the stick came a personalized "Limoges" occupational shaving mug with a picture of a miner holding a pick and wearing a cloth hat with what appears to be an attached oil wick. The name Thos. Noonan is printed in large golden letters beneath the miner. It was common practice at that time for a customer to have his personal shaving mug kept at the Barber Shop for his sole purposes. Other mining artifacts were a folding brass protractor/square-rule/scale surveying piece, an early Brunton compass, a small French compass, a hand-held gold scale in a pocket tin plus a couple of common candlesticks.



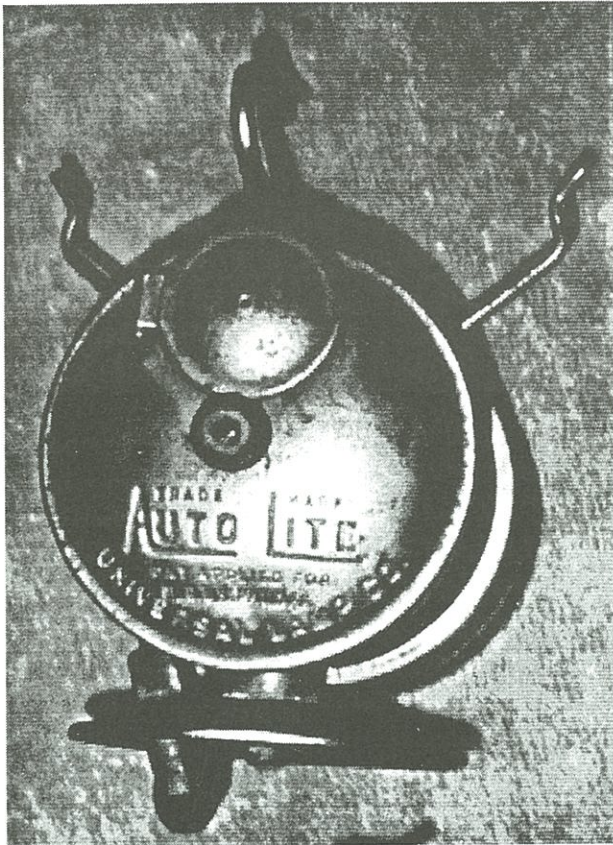
Little is known about the "Welshman" but it is recorded that Noonan was born in 1852 in Wales and worked at some of the early mining camps in old Mexico before he took up the call of the Alaskan Gold Rush. After making his stake in Alaska, he hired as a miner on the 1250 level of the Homestake Mine on February 10, 1910. Later that year he was given time off to return to Alaska as a witness in a murder case. Upon his return to Homestake following the trial, he worked until he retired in 1927. Toward the end of his Homestake career, he was assigned to less strenuous jobs such as tool carrier, crusher operator, surface haulage and watchman. This was common practice at Homestake in order that older employees might remain gainfully employed and on the payroll. Noonan worked steadily but did take 3 weeks off in June of 1923 to attend the Michigan State Fair. His only serious accident was a broken leg which occurred on November 1st, 1914 when he was struck by a motor while drilling in a trackdrift. The motor was being operated by the shiftboss at the time. Noonan was well-known and highly respected at Homestake and in Lead, SD. He died at home of myocarditis-pneumonia on July 5, 1929 after a short 3-week illness at the age of 76. Noonan's son Bernard and grandson Ralph, also worked for Homestake in various capacities.



Where and by whom the candlestick was made is unknown. Was it made and presented to Noonan at another camp prior to his time at Homestake or was it made and presented to him upon his retirement from Homestake? Whatever, the stick is of exceptional quality and the type only presented to a very special individual. It is also very rare and a privilege to have a brief history of the candlestick owner.

# Auto-Lite Trivia

by Bob Schroth



I've recently taken a new interest in Auto-Lite variations, and in particular the variety of boxes made. These photos are a sampling of some of the items I've collected over the years. My pride and joy is the nickel-plated early cap lamp shown left. It has a twist feed like an ITP lamp rather than the usual lever as seen on later lamps. It makes some sense as there were no notches for the lever on the early pieces. The earliest Auto Lites are identified by the inset stamping on the top.

Many lamp companies advertised a certain catchy phrase. The one most people associate with Auto-Lite is "They're Finer Says the Miner!" But their earliest motto was "Demand Them!" as shown on this early box below. The lamp shown on the box is a generation later than the one shown in the photo, as it has notches and presumably raised lettering on top. I have seen early Auto-Lite cap lamps without notches that have a single small raised dot on top as a lever stop.

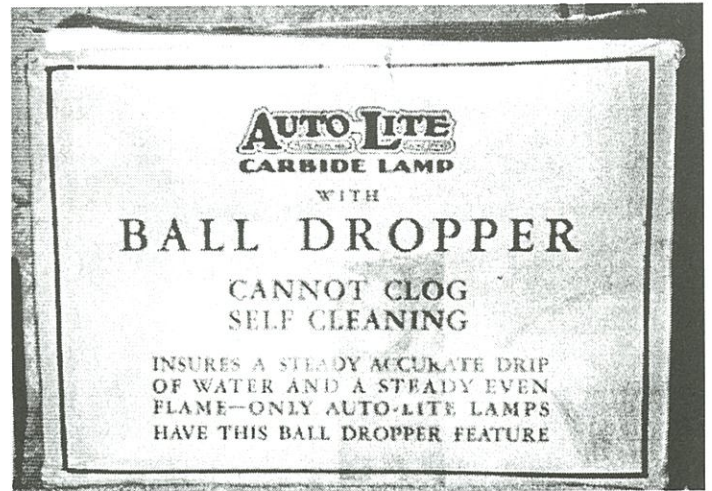


*This early box has made the rounds! The first owner was Dave Thorpe, and he traded it to Mark Bohannan. Though boxes are Mark's biggest passion, I knew I'd end up with it someday!*





This large box contains a soft cap with lamp. Though it was marketed to hunters and sportsmen, it has become a real collectible with its fancy stamping and mention of the "Blinder Beam".



The box shown right makes reference to another catchy, if not trademarked term: "Ball Dropper".

The three boxes shown together are relatively common, but I've been able to draw some conclusions. The box at far left is white background with red letters and black miner. This color combo was used for brass lamps. At far right is the tan box with all black letters. These boxes contained nickel-plated lamps.



Finally, I have to show the grand-daddy of Auto-Lite boxes. It is the large one in the middle. It contained a dozen individually boxed lamps. The logo really stands out due to the size.



# Coal Advertising Signs

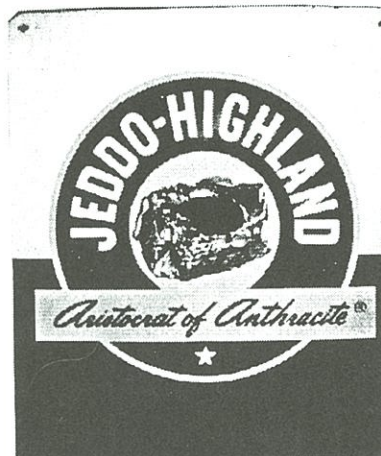
by Dave Johnson

Coal advertising signs can be a colorful addition to a mining artifact collection or they can be the basis for a collection on their own. These signs can be cardboard, painted tin, porcelain over steel, or painted wood. The painted tin signs can be flat or can have embossed (raised) lettering or graphics.

Coal advertising signs can advertise coal mining companies, coal brandnames, coal distributors (wholesalers) and coal retailers. Many times coal signs advertise a combination of these. The East Kentucky Red Comet Coal sign advertises Red Comet Brand Coal sold by The Crystal Ice & Cold Storage Co., a retailer. The Royal Blue Coal sign advertises Royal Blue Brand Coal (from Royal Blue, TN) sold by the Harmony Farmer's Store of Harmony, Minnesota.



The Jewel Coal, Jeddo-Highland, and Blue Coal signs advertise specific brandnames alone.



The Leatherwood Coal sign advertises one of the many brandname coals offered by the Blue diamond Coal Co. Blue Diamond had extensive operations in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Many of the brandnames were associated with specific coal veins that ran through numerous mining properties, sometimes owned by the same company and sometimes owned by numerous firms.



Coal from a specific well-known vein might be mined and sold under the same name by more than one coal mining company. In most cases each coal mining company had their own brandnames that only they used, such as the Calumet Chief Coal mined by the Calumet Fuel Co. of Denver, Colorado, or Old Company's Lehigh Brand Coal mined by the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. of Pennsylvania.



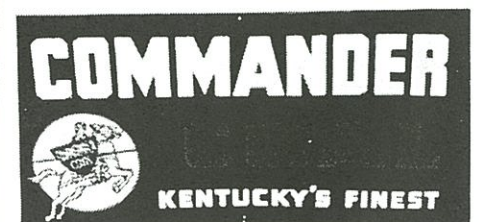
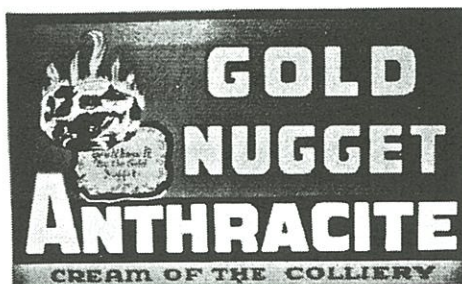
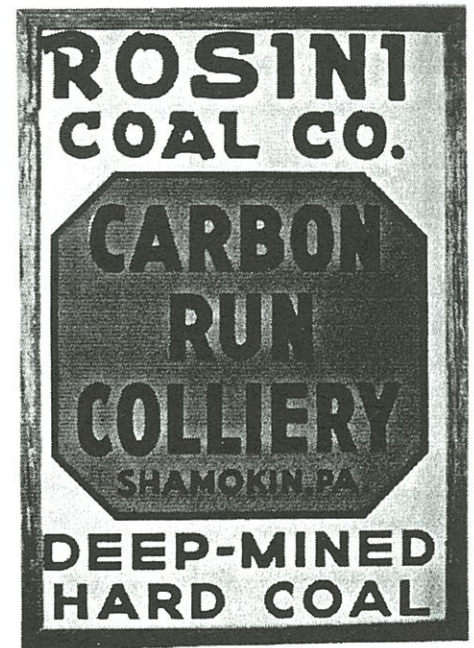
As with most signs of any type price is dictated by several factors such as condition, rarity and aesthetics. Any metal sign showing rust is diminished in value, the more rust or missing paint, the lower the value. I have passed up some rare pieces because they didn't show well. Chips in porcelain signs diminish their value in the same manner.



The flat tin Kenneth Coal sign with its yellow background and plain black block lettering is not as aesthetically pleasing or worth anywhere near as much as the Smith Bearcreek Coal sign with its embossed lettering and figure, and its three types of lettering. The older rectangular Blue Coal sign with its embossed lettering and better graphics is many times more valuable than the later ( 1952) square flat tin Blue Coal sign (see previous page).

Although I have been collecting mining artifacts for 30 years, I have only been collecting coal signs for three years. I made the mistake of starting to collect them after they became much scarcer and more expensive than they were some years ago. I have found that the best source of coal advertising signs, especially those in great condition is antique advertising shows and dealers who specialize in advertising pieces. I have seen comparably few signs at flea markets and those I do see are generally in poorer condition than those at advertising shows.

There are many other signs related to mining that are not advertising such as mine bell or level signs, safety signs, directional signs and information signs. I will be doing an article in the near future of other mining signs.



# Big Jim

by Dave Thorpe

American hand lamps were sometimes known for their flashy names. The words "Special", "Big", and "Jumbo" were used for some of the more popular lamps. (Arizona Special, Anaconda Special, Western Special, Justrite Jumbo, Big Boy). ITP would also join the club with their "Big Jim Special". Though this lamp is well known in various collections, the advertisement submitted by Robert Hauck is the first to identify the lamp by name.



Collectors seem to have a particular affection for lamps with umbrella, or wet-mine reflectors. This ITP is different from the common variety in that it has a right angle burner arrangement in addition to its umbrella. The ad shows it to be marketed by the Bullard Co. of San Francisco.

*Lamp left from author's collection.*

**The BIG JIM Special**

There is NO "Better Lamp."



ALL AMERICAN—  
Idea, Material,  
Labor, Manufacture  
and Salesmanship.

Seamless Steel.

"ITP" New-Feed.

Weight, 24 oz.  
Height, 7 in.  
Burns 8 1/4 to 9 hrs.

Price \$4.00.

Special  
Introductory  
Price . . . . . **3.50**

**E. D. BULLARD**  
268 Market St. San Francisco

*Some Additional Notes on:*  
**Oil Wick Vent Patents**

The Thomas A. Black Patent

Here is another example of the rare T.A. Black patent (see EUREKA! No. 13, pg. 30). This lamp is not a fly spec variation but a new style not seen in EUREKA! before. It has several features that are different than the one previously described.



*Left: previously described lamp without the patent . Center: new style lamp without the patent. Right: new style lamp with patent. All three are Trethaways.*

The first difference is this lamp has the larger brass domed lid with the hinge integral to the collar. Secondly, the hook is bent much like an Anton hook. The hook brace is also different and is mounted near the base of the font. Lastly, there are no typical Trethaway stampings on the font. What is stamped on the font is the Patent date for the T.A. Black patent. This would date the lamp after the patent was issued and later than the lamp previously described in EUREKA! There is at least one other example of this style lamp that I know of.

The discovery of these two different T.A. Black patented lamps may help to date Trethaway oil wicks. Lamps with the lid brace soldered to the shoulder of the lamp were probably made prior to 1909 and lamps with the lid hinge integral to the collar were probably made after 1909. Another interesting fact is that Trethaway lamps with the twisted wire boot kick only appear

on lamps with the lid hinge integral to the collar and lamps with the disk shaped boot kick only appear on lamps with the lid hinge soldered to the shoulder of the lamp.

Stamping on the font:

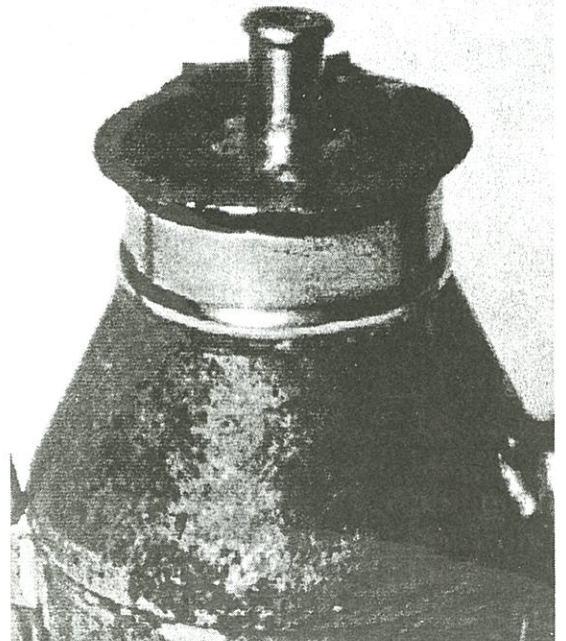
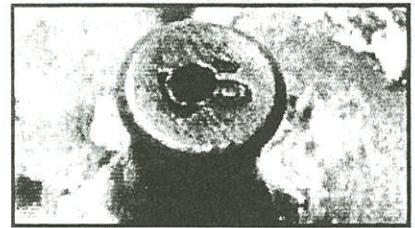
**PAT'D  
DEC. 21ST 1909**

*Right: picture of new lamp (note stamping on the font).*



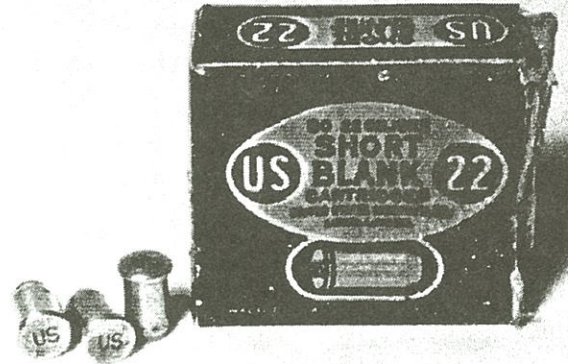
## The William J. Rump Patent

In regards to the Rump patent (EUREKA! No. 23, pg. 11) seems Mr. Rump cheated in the construction of his lamp. If you check the vent tube carefully, one thing should appear obvious. The copper vent tube is a .22 caliber bullet casing. It is even stamped 'US' on the top of the tube. Using Vernier calipers, I dimensionally checked the vent tube to an unfired shell I had. They matched exactly. If you read the patent carefully, Rump states the bottom of the vent tube is notched or serrated and attached to the bottom of the lid. Taking a thin wire and probing the inside of the tube, it is smooth like the shell casing and not attached to the bottom. These small notches would certainly have clogged if made like the drawing. Having measured the picture of the previously described lamp, it too is a .22 caliber bullet casing. I don't know if it is stamped 'US' on the top or not. The 'US' stands for United States Cartridge Company of Lowell, Massachusetts. They were producing ammunition around the turn of the century. It would certainly have been cheaper for Rump to use a blank shell casing which would have cost pennies as opposed to buying dies to form the vent tube. Perhaps this is where he got the idea in the first place.





*W.J. Rump Patent.*



*Picture of antique blank shells an dbox.*

PAT. AUG. 8 05

Stamping on font of W.J. Rump patent lamp.

## The Murray and O'Connor (M & O) Patent

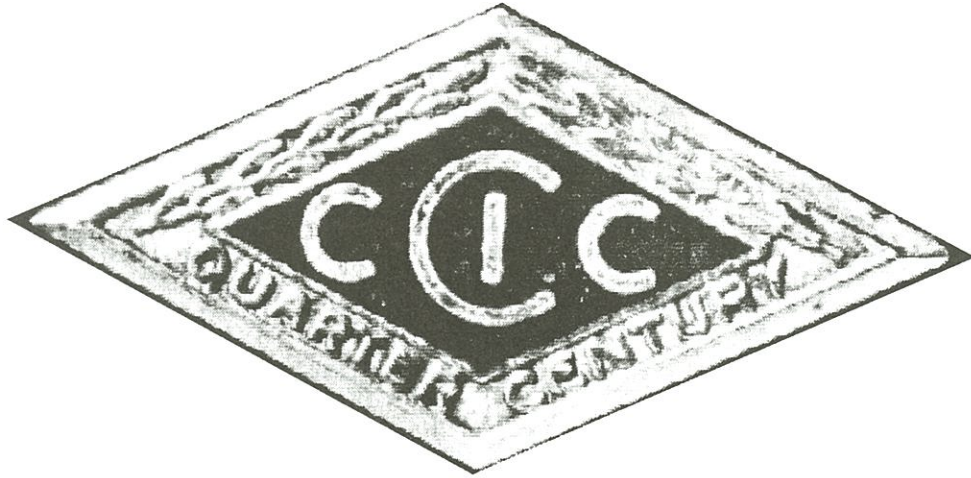
Perhaps the strangest and least seen adaptation of the M & ) patent was on the slope-sided or tea pot style lamp. The collar and lid of the Tunnessen patent and the vent mechanism of the M & O patent were pre-assembled separately then pressed down inside the font of the lamp. This was done intentionally as the bottom of the brass collar was never rolled under to connect it to the font. This may have been done to reduce its size and to appeal to those miners needing a smaller lamp. The lamp is stamped M & O on the bottom. If anyone has a really hammered M& O lamp they want to sell, let me know. I need the screw cap for the vent tube.





# Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co.

*by Dave Johnson*



*14K gold 25 year service pin from C.C.I. Co.*

The Marquette Iron Range in Michigan's Upper Peninsula was the first and northernmost of the three iron ranges in the state to be developed. The Gogebic and Menominee Ranges lie further south and straddle the Michigan/Wisconsin border. It was on the Marquette Iron Range that the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. was to develop and later expand to other iron ranges and states to become one of the nation's largest independent iron ore producers.

The vast deposits of the Marquette Iron Range were first tapped by the Jackson Mining Co., organized July 23, 1845. Rather than ship ore to the eastern furnaces, the Jackson Mining Co. set up their own furnace and forge and proceeded to produce their own iron bloom for shipment East in 1847. While initially a financial failure this venture, in the long run, demonstrated the quality of the Michigan ore.

The Marquette Iron Co. followed the Jackson and Cleveland Iron Mining Companies and began mining operations in 1849, with their own furnace and forge to process the raw ore into iron blooms on site. Due to the remoteness of the area and lack of transportation it cost \$200 per ton to mine, process and deliver a ton of iron to Pittsburgh, where the market price in 1849 was only \$80 per ton. The company continued to operate at a loss until 1853.

The Cleveland Iron Mining Co. organized on November 9, 1847 and was granted a state charter on April 2, 1850. Actual incorporation occurred in 1853. On May 18, 1853, the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. took over the operation of the Marquette Iron Co. through a stock transfer. The Cleveland Co. worked the existing Marquette properties and began expanding their holdings. They too discovered that transportation was the obstacle to be overcome in order to turn a profit on the high quality Marquette Range ore.

Transportation costs began at the mine when the ore went from the mine to the stockpile, from the stockpile to the furnace and forge, from the forge to the dock and from the dock to the eastern market. It would take two advances in transportation to make this ore profitable, the completion

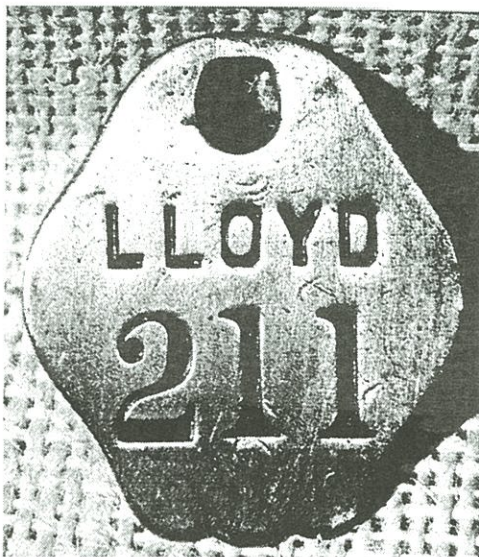
of the first locks at Sault St. Marie in 1855 and the use of railroads to transport ore to the docks.

Another relatively early, and eminently influential, mining company on the Marquette Range was The Iron Cliffs Co. Headed by Samuel Tilden as president and director, it was formed in 1864 and entered the iron mining business with the purchase of 38,000 acres of mineral land in Marquette County that same year. Tilden served as Governor of New York and was the Democratic candidate for President in 1876, losing to Republican Rutherford B. Hayes. By 1889 The Iron Cliffs Co. owned 53,350 acres of mineral land and operated such successful Marquette iron mines as the Barnum, **Empire (see tag right)**, Foster, Holmes, Ogden, Salisbury and Tilden, as well as the huge iron deposit at the Cliffs Shaft in nearby Ishpeming.



*Check tag from C.C.I. Co.  
Empire mine.*

In 1891 the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. and the Iron Cliffs Co. merged to form the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co., with William Gwinn Mather as president. Mather was the son of Samuel L. Mather, president of the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. who died in 1890. Following the merger the new firm acquired the Lake Superior Iron Co., the Arctic Iron Co., the Regent Iron Co. and the Imperial Mine at Michigamme.

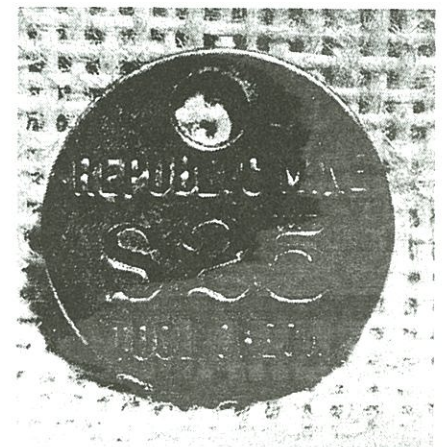


*Check tag from C.C.I.Co.  
Lloyd mine.*

Looking toward long-range future mining operations, Cleveland-Cliffs began purchasing additional mining properties in 1902. They leased the Crosby Mine on Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range and bought the Maas property near Negaunee, where they opened the Maas and Negaunee Mines. The Jackson Mine was added to their holdings in 1905. They opened the Athens Mine in 1905 as well. The Morris and **Lloyd Mines (see tag right)** were opened west of Ishpeming in 1907.

Seeking new properties, in 1902, Cleveland-Cliffs started exploratory drilling 18 miles south of Marquette in what was to become known as the Gwinn District of the Marquette Range. This exploration led to the opening of the Austin, Francis, Gwinn, Gardner Mackinaw, and Stephenson Mines. The nearby Princeton Mine was acquired in 1905.

**The Republic Mine (see tag right)**, opened in 1870, was purchased by Cleveland-Cliffs in 1914 and operated until its ore reserves were exhausted in 1928.



*Check tag from C.C.I.Co.  
Republic mine.*

Between 1919 and 1933, Cleveland-Cliffs began operation of several more mines on the Mesabi Range in Minnesota, these included the Canisteo, Hawkins, Holman-Cliffs and Hill-Trumbull Mines. These operations did away with the old rail system for hauling ore from the open pit to the washing plant and replaced it with a truck and conveyor belt system.

Begun in 1940, the **Mather A Mine (see tag right)** was sunk on an iron deposit that went 4,000 feet below the surface. The Mather B began development in 1947 and by 1949 was working at a depth of 3,100 feet.

The Cleveland-Cliffs took over operation of Republic Steel's sole mine on the Marquette Range, the Cambria Jackson Mine, near Negaunee, in 1943.

In addition to its iron mines, Cleveland-Cliffs formed a Coal Department and began acquiring coal property in 1919. By 1948, Cleveland-Cliff coal mines in West Virginia were producing more than 5,000,000 tons of coal per year. This product allowed for up bound paying cargoes for Cleveland-Cliff ore freighters which previously had to return in ballast after dropping their ore at the down lakes market.

Cleveland-Cliffs had been in the ore shipping business since 1872 when the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. acquired controlling interest in the Cleveland Transportation Co., which operated a fleet of Great Lakes schooners and steamers. The Cleveland-Cliffs Co., as did other large iron producers, found that operating their own ore carrying fleet removed them from the vagaries of the competitive shipping market.

The same is true of their interest in railroads to move their ore from the mines to the docks. The Cleveland Iron Mining Co. built a railroad from its mines to its ore loading dock in Marquette in 1857. This first ore hauling railroad had the ability to carry 1,200 tons daily from the mines to the docks.

By 1896 the Cleveland-Cliffs Co. had expanded their railroad to the point where it had 400 rail dump cars and a total of 14 steam locomotives. The Munising Railway was purchased in 1900, along with 84,000 acres of hardwood timber lands. By 1903 there were 102 miles of mainline and a total of 262 miles, including all branch and spur tracks to the mines. By 1949 rolling stock consisted of 30 steam locomotives, three diesel locomotives and 2,620 ore and timber cars, all maintained with a 20 stall engine house and repair shop.

Both the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. and the Iron Cliffs Co. had been acquiring timber acreage along with their mineral lands. The wood was first used for charcoal production and shoring timbers in the mines. Cleveland-Cliffs used the by-products from their charcoal furnace operations in an allied chemical industry as early as 1890. Cleveland Cliffs owned and operated sawmills, a wood veneer plant, and a tannery, as well as chemical plants. All this came from their initial mining operations begun in the 1850's.

As with many Pennsylvania coal and iron companies, with their State sanctioned Coal & Iron Police, the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. had their own police force. This force never gained the



*Check tag from C.C.I.Co.  
Mather "A" mine.*



Badge from C.C.I.Co.

notoriety of the Pennsylvania Coal & Iron Police, due to the absence of serious labor problems.

The first iron mining operations on the Marquette Iron Range were nothing like we envision today. There were no shaft houses, hoist houses, pump houses or other large physical plants.

The first mines consisted of shallow pits worked by a few dozen men. They actually quarried the ore rather than mined it in terms of mining as we think of it today. They hand drilled for blasting charges, broke the large chunks of ore with sledge hammers to proper sizes, hand loaded the ore onto two wheel dump carts, and hauled it to stockpiles. Until 1857 all the ore was hauled by horse or mule drawn wagon to the furnace. After 1857 small locomotives hauled the ore to the furnace or the

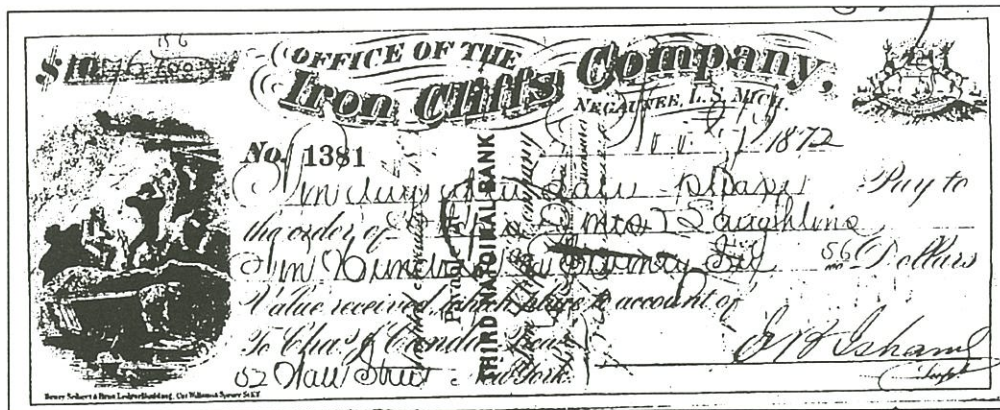
docks. By the time of the Civil War, most ore was shipped to the eastern market for processing rather than being processed on site. Pit mining continued to be the main method of ore extraction through the 1870's and into the 1880's.

As the ore deposits sloped downward it became increasingly difficult to remove overburden without excessive cost. At first the miners merely drove under the overburden as the ore body dipped to greater depth. They built inclined skiproads back to the wall to hoist the ore. By the early 1880's, as more deep ore bodies were discovered by exploratory drilling, the shaft mine era was launched.

The first shafts were sunk directly down into the ore body. This proved to be dangerous and costly when the overlying rock sank down or caved in under the great overhead pressure when the ore was removed and damaged the shafts. The solution to this problem was to drive the shafts down through the rock at the edge of the ore deposit on the footwall side and access the ore through horizontal drifts. This type of mining, unlike the earlier pit mining, required more equipment, which meant a large investment in the physical plant of a mine before ore could be removed.

This method of mining was still comparatively simple. A tunnel, or drift, was drilled horizontally from the vertical shaft into the one body and large rooms (stopes) were mined out, leaving pillars of ore to hold up the roof. This was known as the "open-stope" method of mining. Unfortunately it wasted much of the ore. In areas where the roof was weak and in soft ore mines the western square-set method of timbering was employed.

Form A 400		
No 48	\$5.00	Store No. 1
THE CLEVELAND-CLIFFS IRON CO. ETHEL COAL MINES		
STORE MANAGER		Check No. _____
Please Deliver Merchandise to the above amount		
To	<i>A A Ward</i>	
Date	<i>4/7</i> 19 <i>17</i>	<i>(Signature)</i> Scrip Clerk



The "caving system" of mining began experimentally in the Cleveland Hematite Mine at Teal Lake when the Cleveland Iron Mining Co. acquired the property in 1881. The property had been worked as an open pit to a depth of 120 feet. When acquired, the company sank two shafts to the ore body. They blocked

the body out into a series of horizontal layers. They first removed the top sublevel, after which they blasted out the timbers, allowing the roof and overburden to cave in under its own weight. They then moved down to the next lower sublevel and repeated the process. The tramway was kept on the next lowest level and as the ore was mined, it was sent down through a chute to waiting tram cars. This method proved to be so successful that it became common mining practice and was used in some Marquette Range mines up to the 1960's. The tram cars were first loaded and pushed by hand. The Cleveland Lake Mine was the first to introduce electric underground haulage, in 1892.

By 1949, approximately 10% of mining was by the top-slicing method, 35% by sublevel caving and sublevel stoping, and 20% by block-caving. For those not familiar with iron mining, a short description of the mining methods may be helpful. Once the vertical shafts are sunk, main tunnels are driven back in the footwall below the ore body. Each tunnel is 100 to 200 feet lower than the one above. From these footwall tunnels crosscuts are driven across the ore body at 150 foot intervals on each main haulage level. From each crosscut, two-compartment openings, known as "raises" are driven upward at a 65 degree angle into the sublevels in the ore body above.

Prior planning, exploration and knowledge of geological features, blocks out the ore body for adaptation of the most suitable mining method. Top-slicing may be chosen to allow for the clean recovery of a small area under flabby cap rock (slate or shale for example) by extracting 12 foot layers one after another, from the top down, each with timbered slicing drifts. This method can be changed to subcaving to reduce timber costs by "slicing" every other layer and caving the ones in between.

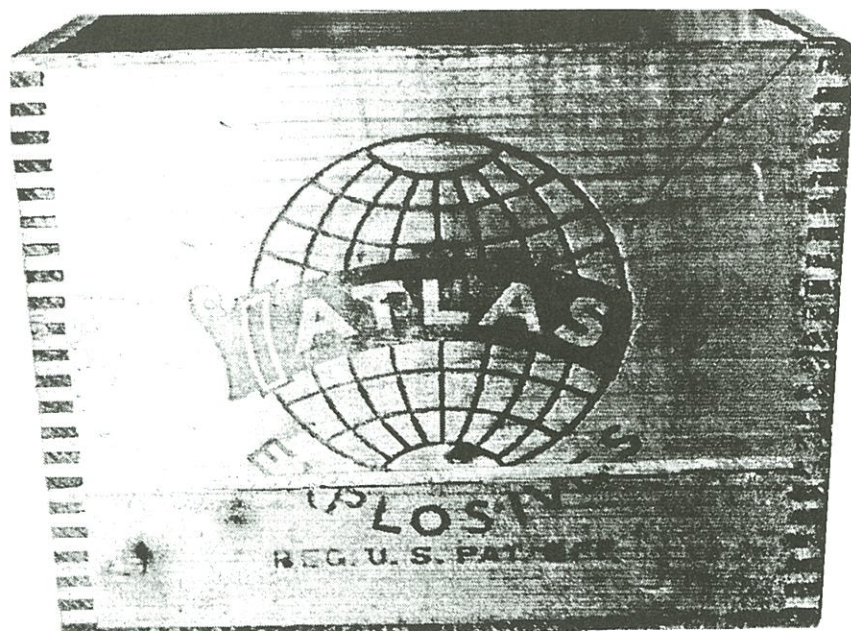
If the overlying rock will support itself across a narrow ore body, open sublevel stoping can be employed, allowing for higher per capita production because little or no timber is needed. Finally, block caving can be utilized where ore heights of 100 feet or more are encountered.

As the ore is mined it is moved by an electric scraper (tugger) to the mouth of the raise where it slides down a chute into cars in the crosscut below. The cars are moved by electric locomotive to the shaft where they are automatically dumped and the ore raised to the surface.

Unfortunately the iron mines of the Marquette Iron Range are now only a memory, with some of the more recently worked mines still in evidence through abandoned buildings. For all intents and purposes, Michigan iron mining is a dead industry, the cost of underground mining being too great to compete with the larger open pit operations.

# Coalite

by Roger Mitchell

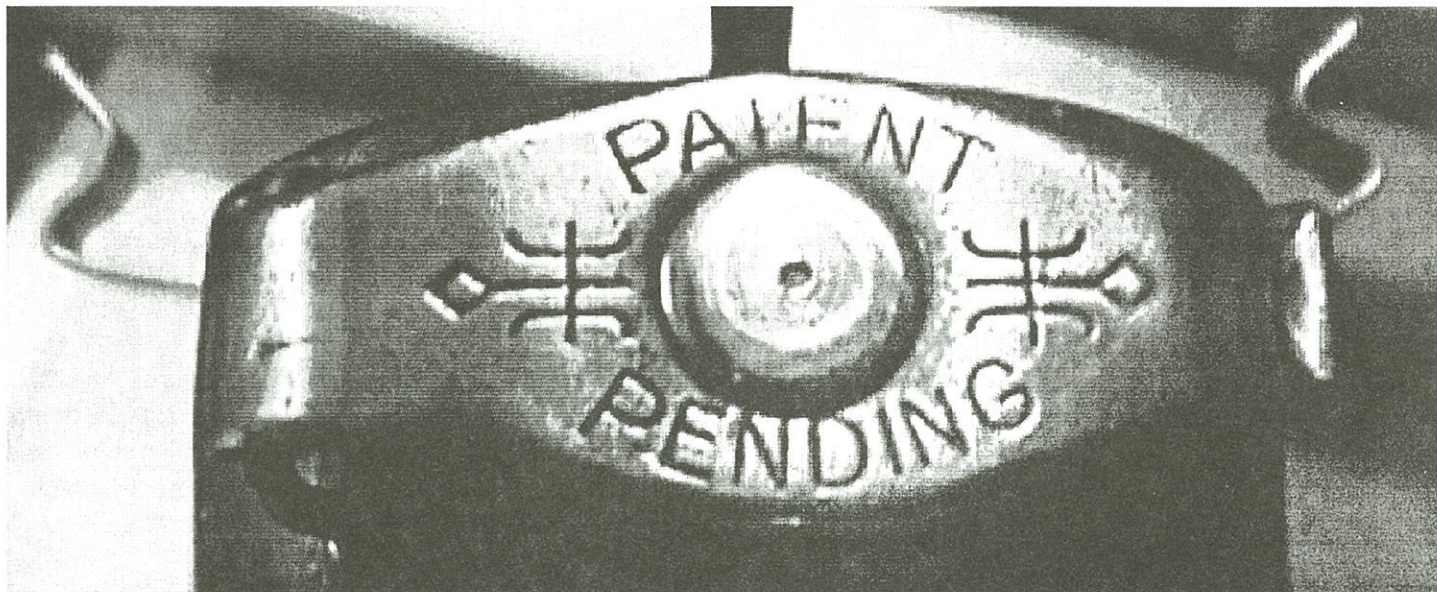


*Opposite side of Coalite box.*

Here are two photos of a dynamite box I have that I know nothing about. It's similar to the box in the last issue (Minite). Minite and Fuelite are mentioned by not Coalite. Maybe some of the readers can dig up something?

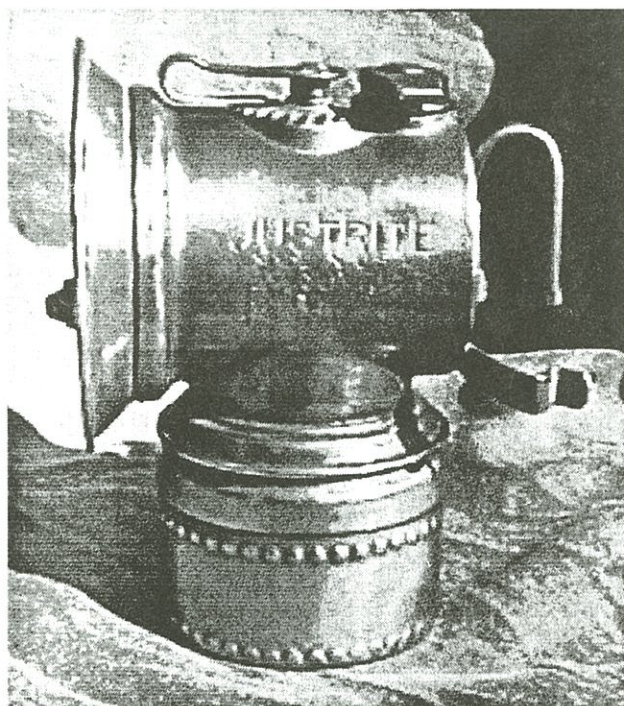
# Justrite's Gasketed Waterdoor

by Dave Thorpe



Justrite cap lamps with a special waterdoor were sold during the 1919-1920 period. They featured a fancy stamping and rubber gasket to make a tight seal with the lamp hole. It one of the most difficult of all Justrites to find today.

The door has the earmarks of a Hansen design: obscure and artful. Though there was a "Patent Pending", I am not aware of one being obtained. I know of such lamps in four collections. They are known in nickel-plated and plain brass finishes. All come with either the Liberty Feed or the Polygon Feed. All have beaded bases and a rolled-edge flange. These features date the lamp to 1919-1920, the time when designer Augie Hansen was being replaced by Wm. Frisbee. The Liberty Feed is a Hansen design, the Polygon Feed is Frisbee's.



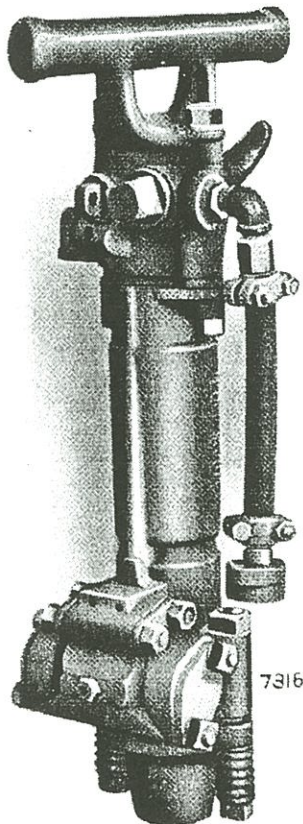
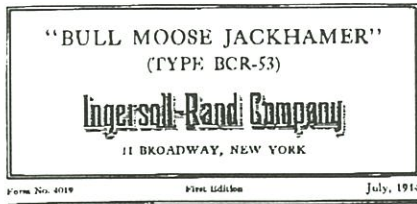
Justrite lamps with fancy inset stamping are limited to a few highly collectible lamps: XRAY, Imperial, Fulton, and Jiffy. The 'gasketed door' lamp is one more. It belongs to a period of Justrite manufacturing history characterized by gadgety innovations and graceful appearance. It shares this period with the swan-necked Spiral Feed and the bayonet-locking Jiffy cap lamps. High-end collecting interest in Justrite lamps effectively dies after 1920.\*

\* Defender and XRAY models are exceptions.

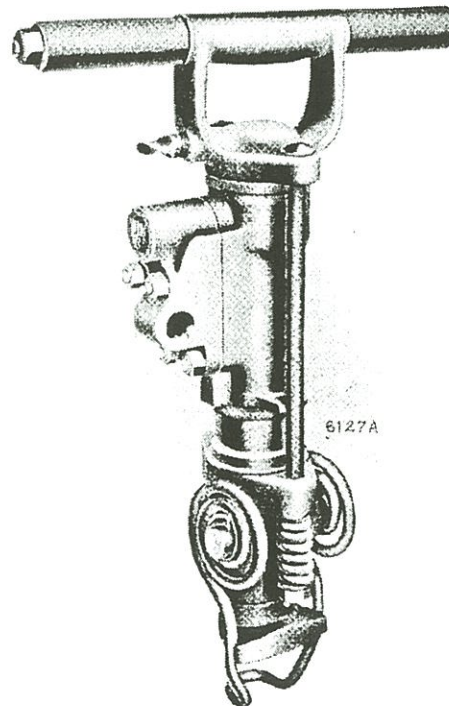
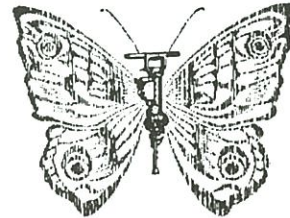
# Butterfly and Bull Moose

by Bob Schroth

I found two brochures from Ingersoll-Rand (1914 and 1915). Each describes a model of jackhammer they made. The logos shown are from the cover. Check out the Butterfly's body! Though listed as jackhammers, these steam driven rock drills were used in mining, and are now becoming collectible.



"Bull Moose" Jackhammer



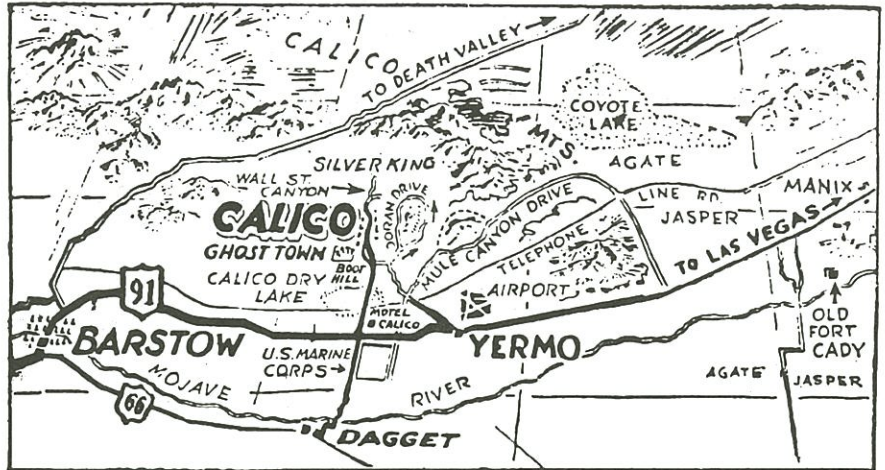
"Jackhammer" Drill



# The Summer of 72

by Bob Schroth

The year was 1972, It was early in June, myself and some friends were looking for something exciting to do. We decided to head out to the Mojave desert and do some exploring. The group piled into my friends 1955 4 door Chev. Belair and took off down the road. Neil Young's song, Heart of Gold was playing on the AM radio, and we were carefree and excited to be doing something without parental permission. Our 2nd stop after getting gas, was to buy some exploring gear and some food. We all



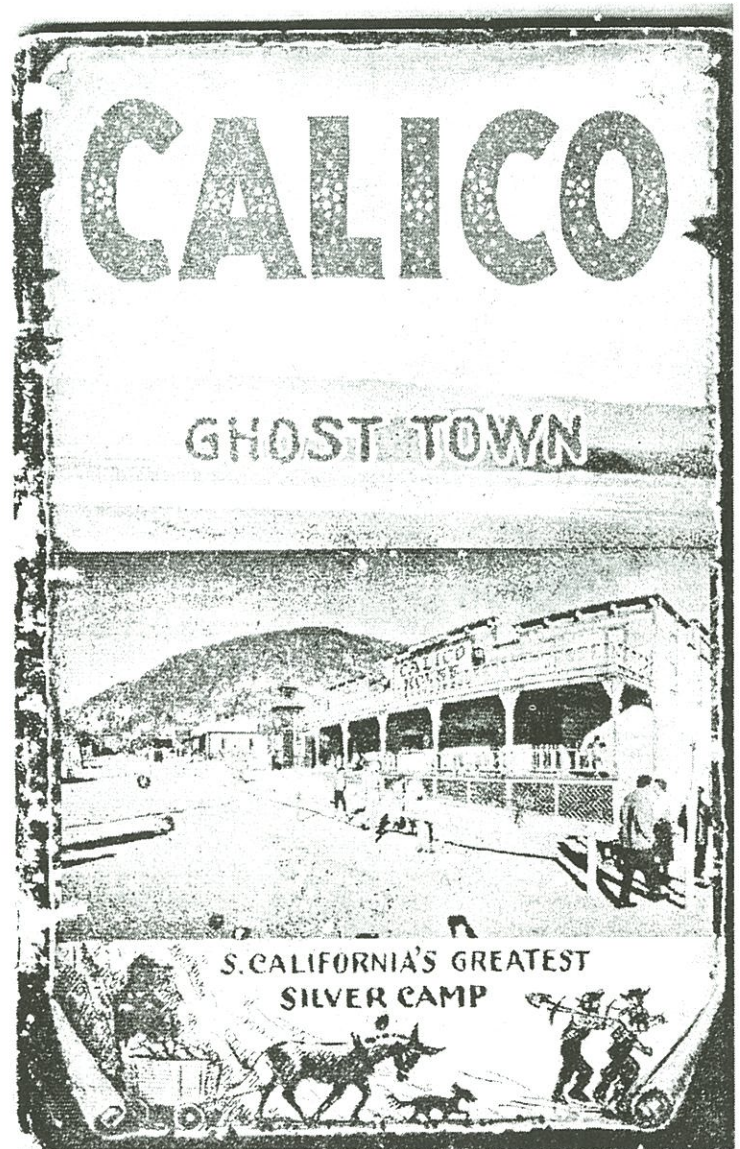
pitched in and bought a big red plastic flashlight, some Space Food sticks, and some chips and Coke. Now we had everything needed for the weekend. My buddy Jim looked at our Auto Club map in Barstow, and decided to check out a place called Calico Ghost Town. All of us laughed when Don Mcleans song American Pie came on the radio, especially at the part where (This will be the day that we Die,) was sung. We pulled into the Ghost towns parking lot and we were shocked to find out that you had to pay to get in! No way were we going to pay to look at some old building. so other plans were made. We hiked up a steep dry wash canyon and thought we would be able to find a way into the backside of the ghost town, on the way up a few mine dumps high on the hillsides were seen. All of us thought it would be interesting to climb into a old mine. So off we went , four of us with only two flashlights. As we entered the mine opening, cool air blowing out was a great relief. The desert air outside was at least 100 and the air blowing out fell like it was 75. We weren't the only people to have explored this part of the mine, as beer cans and other trash were tossed everywhere. It was decided that we would take all the right side passages so we couldn't get lost. The four of us hiked farther in the mountain and every time we spotted a place to climb down we went that way. After about 2 hours of this ,the small flashlight started to grow dimmer and dimmer. (Kind of like the explorers that carried them!) We decided to take a break and opened our supplies. While drinking our Cokes and looking around in the total darkness, I started to wonder what it was like a 100 years ago to be down here digging this hole to Hell. This also looked like a great place to play a joke on my friends and while they were taking a break, I took the big flashlight and crawled off in the dark to find a hiding place and scare my friends. Why I had a rubber Gorilla mask in my pack has long ago been forgotten, but at the time I seemed to have it close by at all times. Yes I was a prankster even way back then. I hid in a small side passage with my nifty mask on for what seemed like hours until they other guys decided to get going again, all three of them with one dull flash light calling for me, and looking for a way out. I jumped out of the dark and scared one of them so bad that he ran off screaming into the darkness. In hindsight he could have fallen down a shaft or ran into a wall. But at the time we all laughed about it for several minutes. A while later, after a long down climb, into a large room we came upon a wooden structure, that had a iron pipe going down into it, there was just enough room for us to fit into the box so we all climbed down, holding on to the pipe. After about 70 feet there was a side passage running off to our right. When entering this tunnel we came to a small ore cart! This was great, 2 guys got into the cart and the other's pushed it . Going down the tunnel as fast as we could run. Screaming like maniacs.

I think this is when I started my collecting hobby. All of us wanted to take the cart out but there was no way we could, even if we took it apart. The thing was just too big to fit in the box we climbed down.

We had been underground now for about 4 hours and we were getting kind of tired of exploring, so now came the hard part, how do we get out of here? Going back the way we came in didn't seem to be an easy choice, so we kept going down tunnel after tunnel. One of us brought up the American Pie song and we didn't laugh as hard this time. Now our big flashlight was starting to grow a little dim.

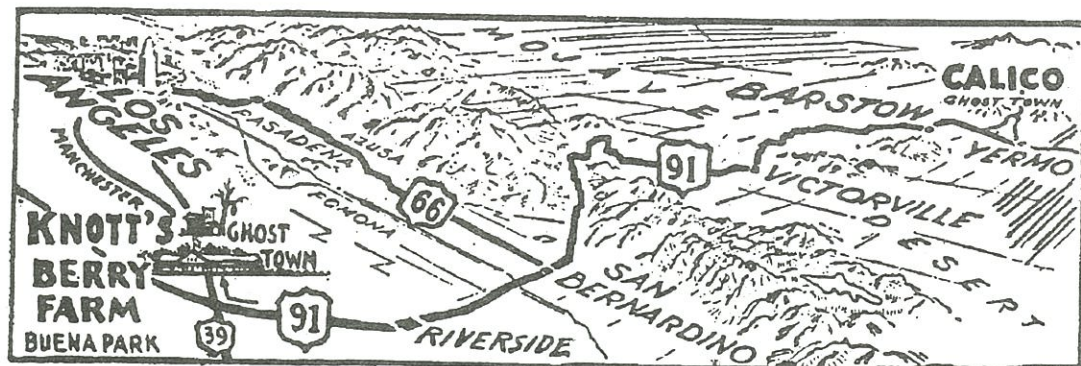
We were all turned around and each of us had a better idea of which was the right way out. At this point someone said that we weren't good Boy Scouts and that we should have been better prepared. We all agreed, but it is a little too late for that! My older friend, Ken (18) at the time, said that we would start to stagger using each flashlight, and that we would start going up every time we found a ladder or chute that went up. Sounded good to the rest of us, now that he was our new leader! At this point I knew there was a God because, none of us had been killed yet and we seemed to be making progress back to daylight! We came to a double set of ladders going straight up, and farther than our light could shine. Two of us got on each ladder, and we were instructed to make sure that we kept our feet to the side of the rungs and have at least one hand and one foot on the ladder at all times while climbing. I was a little worried knowing that these ladders were almost 100 years old, but they looked brand new, thanks to the dry desert climate, and little use for the last century.

Things were going pretty good now, a good air movement was felt. I was hoping that an exit passage would soon be found. What happened next was the scariest thing I have ever seen. We were all off on a timbered loading station. Ken our fearless leader was climbing up the last ladder. We had counted the rungs that we had just climbed up, they were about 16 inches apart. There were over 320 of them. Ken was up about 40' feet and then one of the steel U shaped spikes pulled out of the rock and the ladder started to come off the wall. Ken was hanging over the 400' pit and the ladder was coming apart. This was the first time I had ever heard him swear, he yelled out OHHH @#%#@# and then the ladder stopped moving. It had gotten hung up in some timbers and was stuck fast. It was amazing that the whole thing didn't collapse on top of us and him. Ken carefully climbed back down and we all decided that we were up high enough now to find a way out. The small light was totally dead now and the reality set in that if an exit out wasn't found soon, total darkness was



*Cover of the book that inspired us.*

next. Water would have been a good idea to have along at this point, so would have some common sense. I guess teenagers don't have a whole lot of that, but I sure learned a lesson on this trip. At this point most of the



things that had been collected, drill steel, bits of early newspaper and even a wire miners candle stick, had been tossed back to the mine floor. All we wanted was to find our way out. We followed the strongest air flow and after about 15 minutes a point of light could be seen from the darkness of the tunnel. It is funny how your perception of things changes after you know your safe from danger. When we got back the car we laughed about how close we had come to being lost in the mine and how we had beat the odds. We then took off down the road to get some food and find a place to spend the night.

Calico has become a major tourist Ghost Town, it features rides, a western theme and a mine tour. The History of the Calico Mining District goes back to 1881 When the Sheriff of San Bernardino County John C. King had one of his investments pay off. He had grub staked some miners who had just discovered the not yet named, Silver King Mine. King was the Uncle of Walter Knott and Knott, (of Knott's Berry Farm Fame), worked at this mine as a young man.

In 1950 the Knott family bought the Calico Town and several of the old mine holdings, and by 1966 they had rebuilt most of the town to better than it's original glory. In the fall of 1966 Walter Knott gave to the people of San Bernardino County full title of their holding in the Old Calico Ghost Town. It is now owned and operated by the park system of the San Bernardino County. Calico got it's name during a town meeting held at the General store.

Several names were brought up, such as Silver Gulch, Silver Canyon, and Buena Vista all were argued brought up again and voted down.

A old miner named Shorty Peabody pounded his cane and shouted "a dang grub store ain't no fitt'n meetin' place nohow! I vote we meet in Hanks Saloon come Friday night at candle light!" This proposal met with unanimous approval. Strikes proved good during the next few days and on Friday the Miners gathered in Hanks Saloon. The meeting got off to a good start, and they were about to settle for the name Silver Gulch. When Ole Shorty's enthusiasm got the better of him and he shouted out while pounding the bar with his Cane " Boys! Let's call 'er Calico! He yelled She's as purty as a gals Calico skirt. That she is" That name caught the miners fancy and that's the name that has stuck with the town. Eighty-six million dollars worth of silver was mined in the next 10 years. 10 million from the Silver King alone. Other huge producers were the Bismark, Waterloo, Red Jacket, Runover, Oriental, Occidental, and the Odessa claims. More than 30 miles of underground shafts and tunnels. Veins of four foot width were uncovered showing from 200 to 400 ounces per ton.

Over the past 25 years myself and several other collectors have been exploring the old workings of this district. Even after all this time new finds are being made in the harder to reach areas. In no mining district in the state were working conditions more favorable than in Calico. The solid rock formations allowed tunnels with little timbering. Ore values were high and fuel and water supplies were found nearby. There are several interesting stories of this old camp and I will write a little more about this area in the future.

# Rare Arras 1940

by Werner Horning

In 1940 a gas testing lamp was invented by Arras, France. Its designation was:

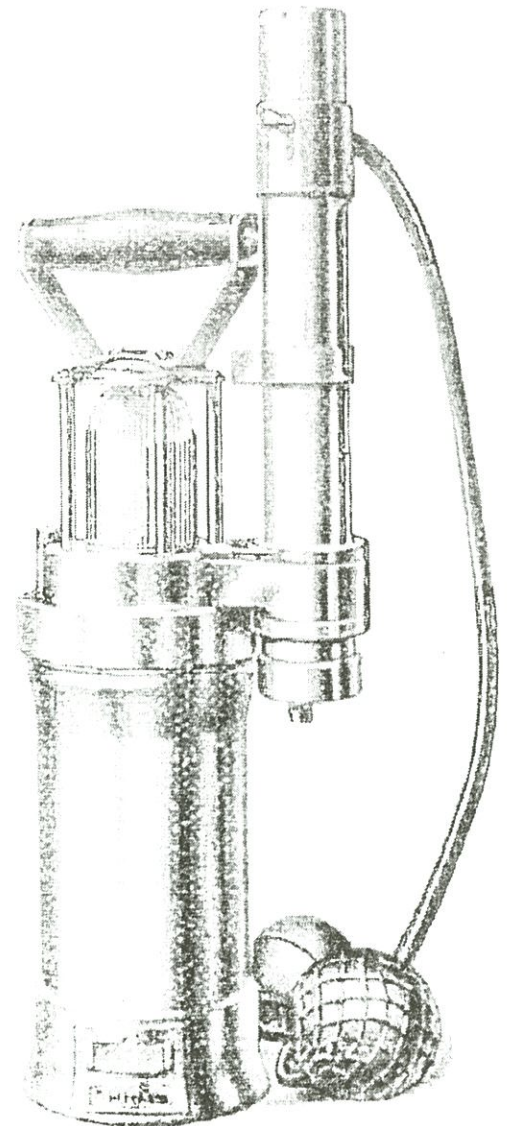
Gas-Test Lamp - Lampe Grisoumètre a combustion  
G.D.A.2 Daloz-Arras

It is an alkaline battery powered lamp adapted with a gas testing device. The lamp weights 4.7 kg. The battery compartment is 97 mm in diameter, and the total length is 410 mm. The diameter of the gas-tester is 32 mm.

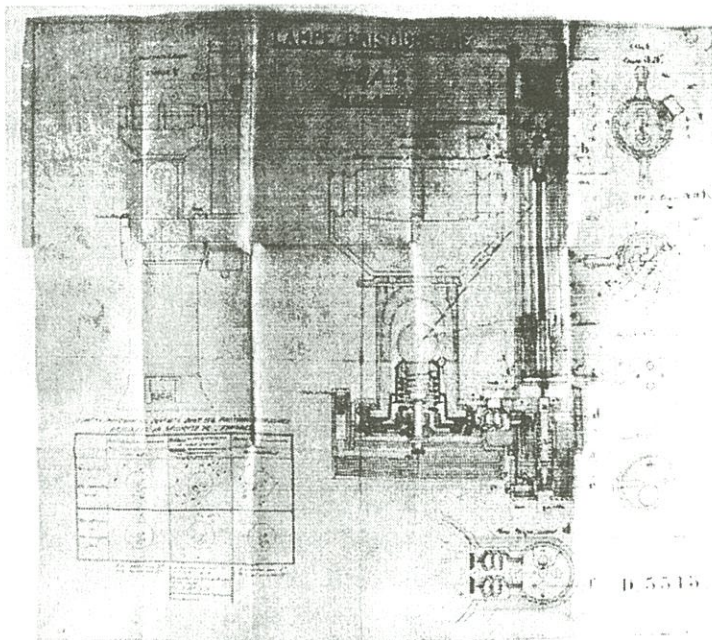
Two minutes set-up time are necessary before a measurement can be made. That is: 50 seconds for feeding and handling, 10 seconds for the combustion and 60 seconds for cooling down.

Technical data of the device are:

- Temperature of filament: 1,300 - 1,500 degrees Celsius
- Current consumption: 2.6 V
- Number of measurements which are possible: appr. 30
- Duration of combustion: 10 seconds
- Time to read manometer: 1 minute after combustion
- Limit of reading: 4 %.



Grisoumètre électrique



The basic principle is that a sample of gas is heated by a platinum wire within a closed combustion chamber. When the gas is heated it expands and drives a telescopic plunger against a spring loaded pressure gauge.

To use the lamp a rubber bulb draws air up into the chamber. A switch then is used to electrify and heat the wire.

I was able to examine a spec sheet and instructions at the Dawo-Auction in Saarbruck, Germany. These lamps are very rare.

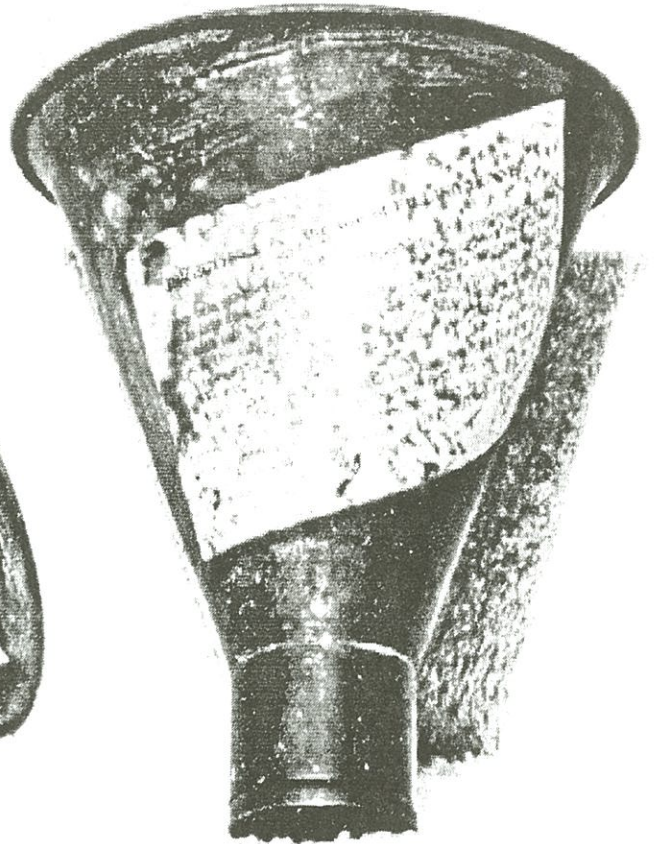
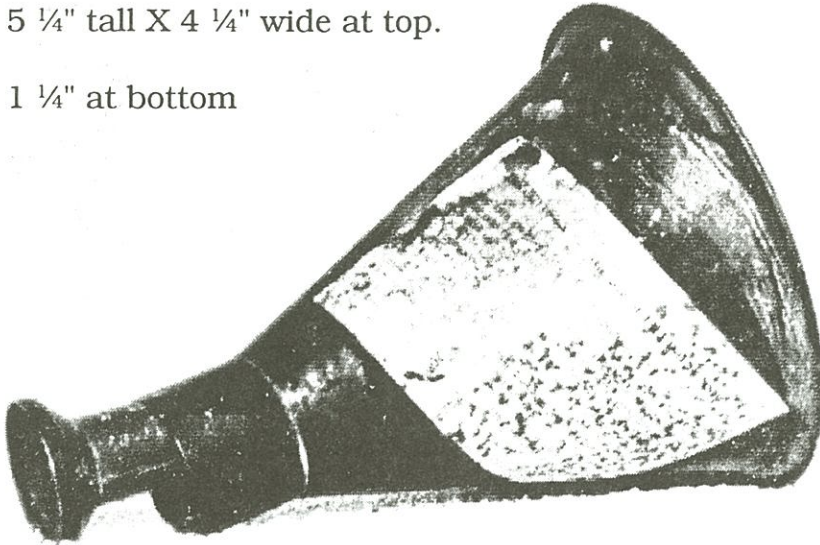
# Carbide Filling Funnel

by Larry Click

This funnel makes filling carbide lamps easy. It drops in a measured amount with no fuss. The label on the side is an instruction sheet which I have reprinted below.

5 ¼" tall X 4 ¼" wide at top.

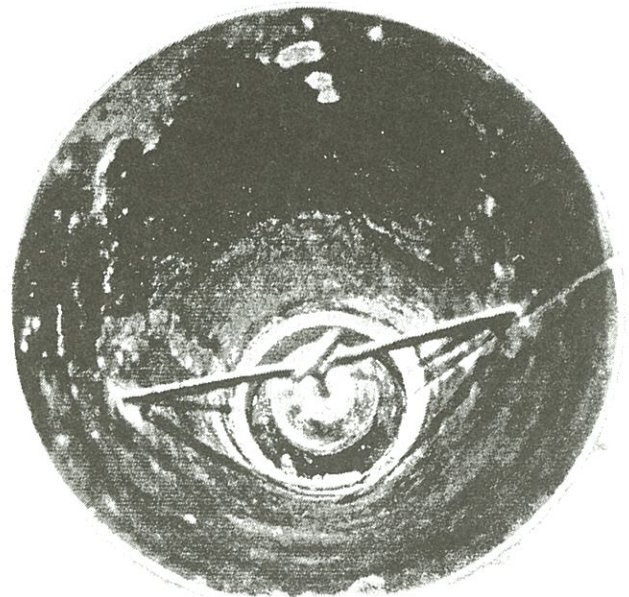
1 ¼" at bottom



## **DIRECTIONS for the use of FILLING FUNNEL**

Drop into neck of lamp after Stopper Cup "D" is removed and pour carbide into the funnel until the carbide stops running; then hold funnel down with one hand and raise the wire ring in the middle of the funnel with the other hand and lift out of the lamp by the wire ring and set it in the carbide can and the carbide in the funnel will run back into the can. This ensures the filling of the lamp to the proper level each time.

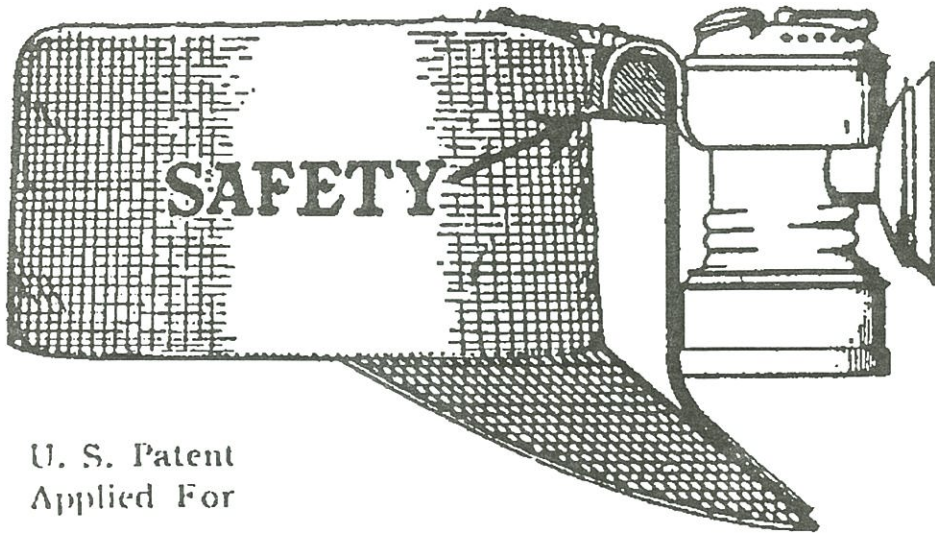
When placing the funnel into the lamp see that the plug in the funnel is down so that the carbide will run into the lamp, and when removing the funnel from the lamp be sure that the wire ring is drawn up so it is closed. Always lift out of the lamp by the wire ring to avoid spilling carbide.



# Lamp Hook-Holder Cap

by Mick Coorbridge and Dave Thorpe

It was advertised in a brochure from Scotland<sup>1</sup>, and found by Mick Coorbridge of England, but this miner's cap with its special "Lamp Hook-Holder" was manufactured in the U.S.A. by Wilkes-Barre Cap Mfg. Co.<sup>2</sup> It was patented Dec 1, 1925<sup>3</sup> and used a "Safety" trademark.



U. S. Patent  
Applied For

The brochure states: "Every miner has experienced the trouble of keeping the old-fashioned three-hook lamp in position while working.

The side hooks eventually break off, permitting the lamp to twist from side to side and, in many cases, to fall off. This constant twisting of the lamp does not give the miner a direct light where he is working

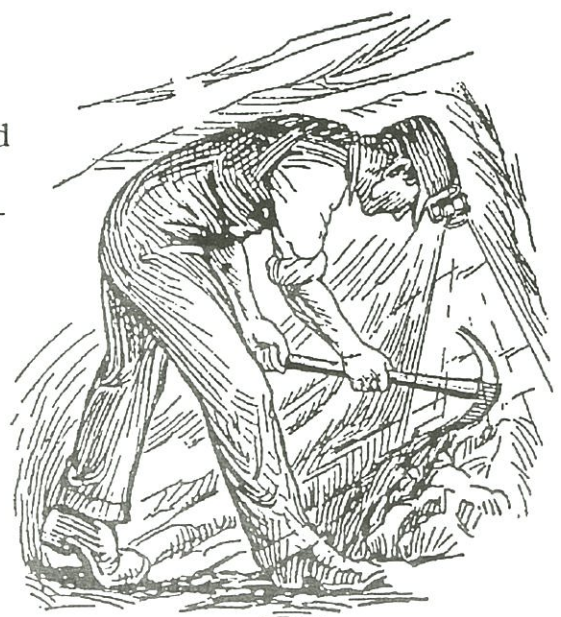
The patented bracket held the lamp rigid by the hook only. The lamp pictured above looks like a late model Grier or early Gee Bee, which were made in Pittsburgh, PA. The illustration above is taken from the brochure, but is essentially identical to the patent drawing. (See Eureka, Oct. 1995, pg. 6).

Many accidents have occurred due to the lamp twisting on the cap and giving improper lighting."

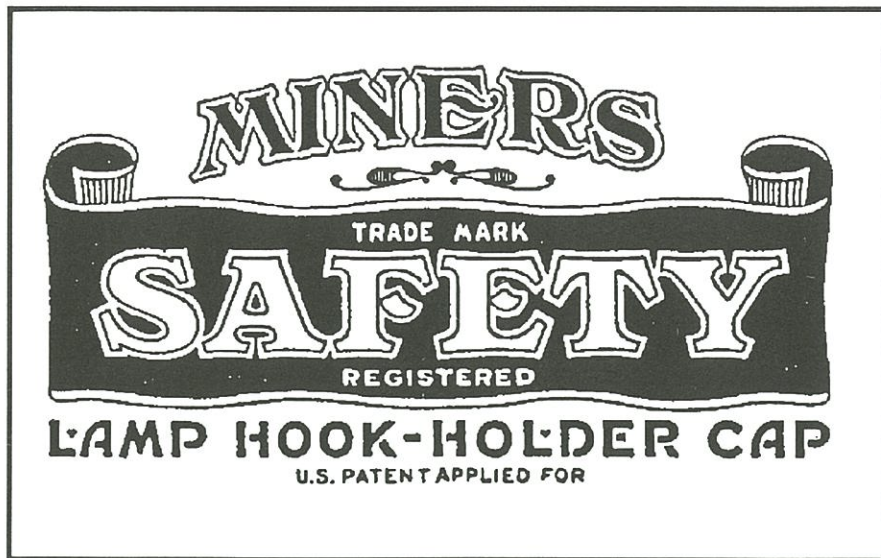


THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY

These illustrations from the brochure show the purported advantages of using the new lamp holding device.



THE NEW "SAFETY" WAY

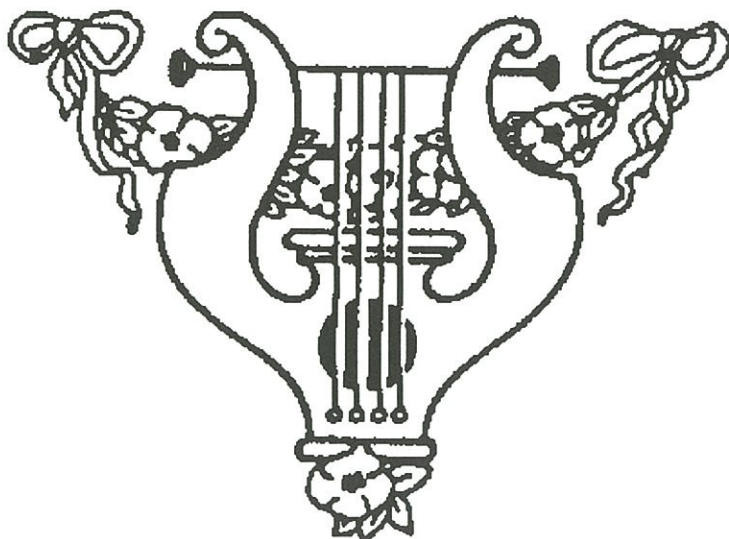


*Look for this stamping on old miners' caps. Now you'll know where it came from!*

## THE NEW MINERS

# "SAFETY"

## Lamp Hook-Holder Cap



*Safety* was the key word in marketing the clamp. The company went so far as to obtain a registered trademark using the word. As more and more emphasis was being placed on safety in the mines, perhaps it was thought that entire mining companies might adopt the use of their product.

Every one of their brackets carried this label which "cannot be found on any cap but those manufactured by us."

The brochure repeatedly emphasizes it as "new" and "modern" which is somewhat of an irony for the 1925 invention. Similar devices had been patented as early as 1889.<sup>4</sup>

It was claimed to be adapted for use with carbide lamp and oil wick lamps, as well as for use with electric lamps. Carbide and oil wick lamps were well on the decline by the late twenties. Electric lamps generally used the flat-blade attachment which obviated the use of the "hook-holder".

The harp logo (left) is of questionable significance.

### Notes/References:

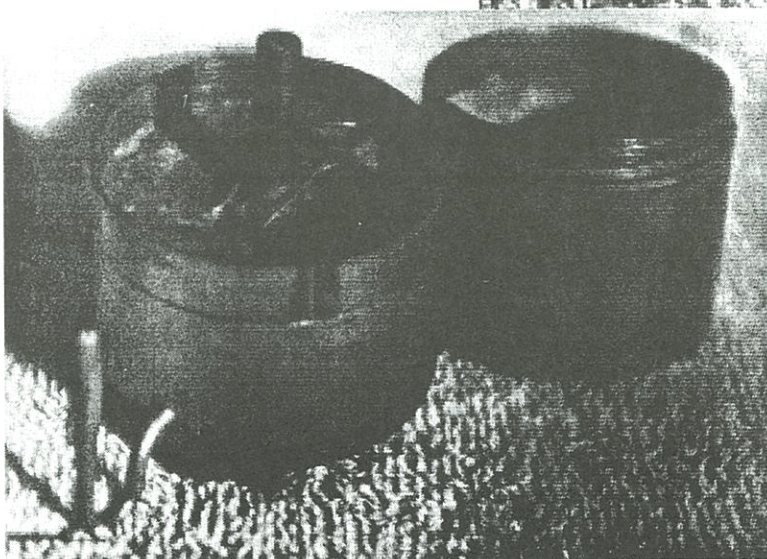
1. Distributor: J. Bernstein, 37 Hunter St. Gallowgate, Glasgow.
2. Located at 88-94 E. Northhampton St., Wilkes-Barre, PA.
3. Pat. No. 1,563,931 to Louis Scherz of Wilkes-Barre, PA.
3. *Mining Artifact Collector*, 1991, No. 10, pg. 43. An Oil Lamp Pulley? Also see: *Eureka!*, 1995, No 16, Patented Lamps and Cap Holders, Dave Johnson.

# John W. Larimore Patent Carbide Miner's Lamp

by Al Quamen and Paul Kouts

*From Paul Kouts' MCLR IV research:*

John W. Larimore [of Springfield, Illinois] was the manager at the Eclipse Engine & Machine Co. in 1910; secretary of the Larimore Novelty Works in 1911 (its only year of listing); and an evangelist by 1914. One patent was held by Larimore and it has been established that he was acquainted with designer Frank Guy. The 1910 and 1911 listings show that Larimore had the knowledge and manufacturing potential to become involved in the industry, but how deeply involved is not known. Was the novelty works an unsuccessful effort to start manufacturing or was Larimore only a designer/collaborator working with Guy?



The question Paul raises is a little clearer to being answered with Al Quamen's recent find of a miner's carbide lamp that matches the patent. Al has seen one more of these in similar condition. The reflector shown above is from a Baldwin cap lamp.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

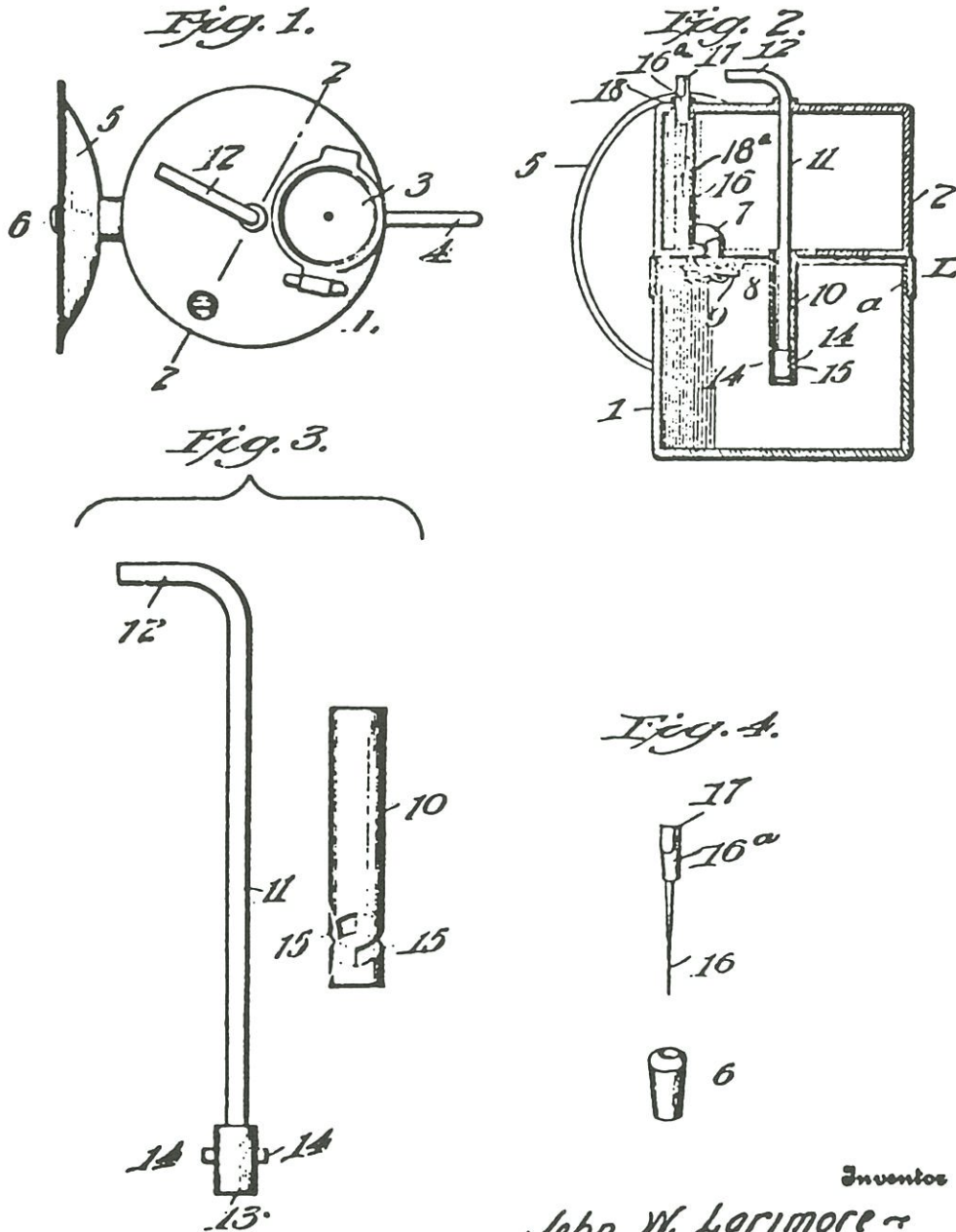
JOHN W. LARIMORE, OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

ACETYLENE-LAMP.

1,053,186.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 18, 1913, 1913.

Application filed December 1, 1911. Serial No. 663,283.

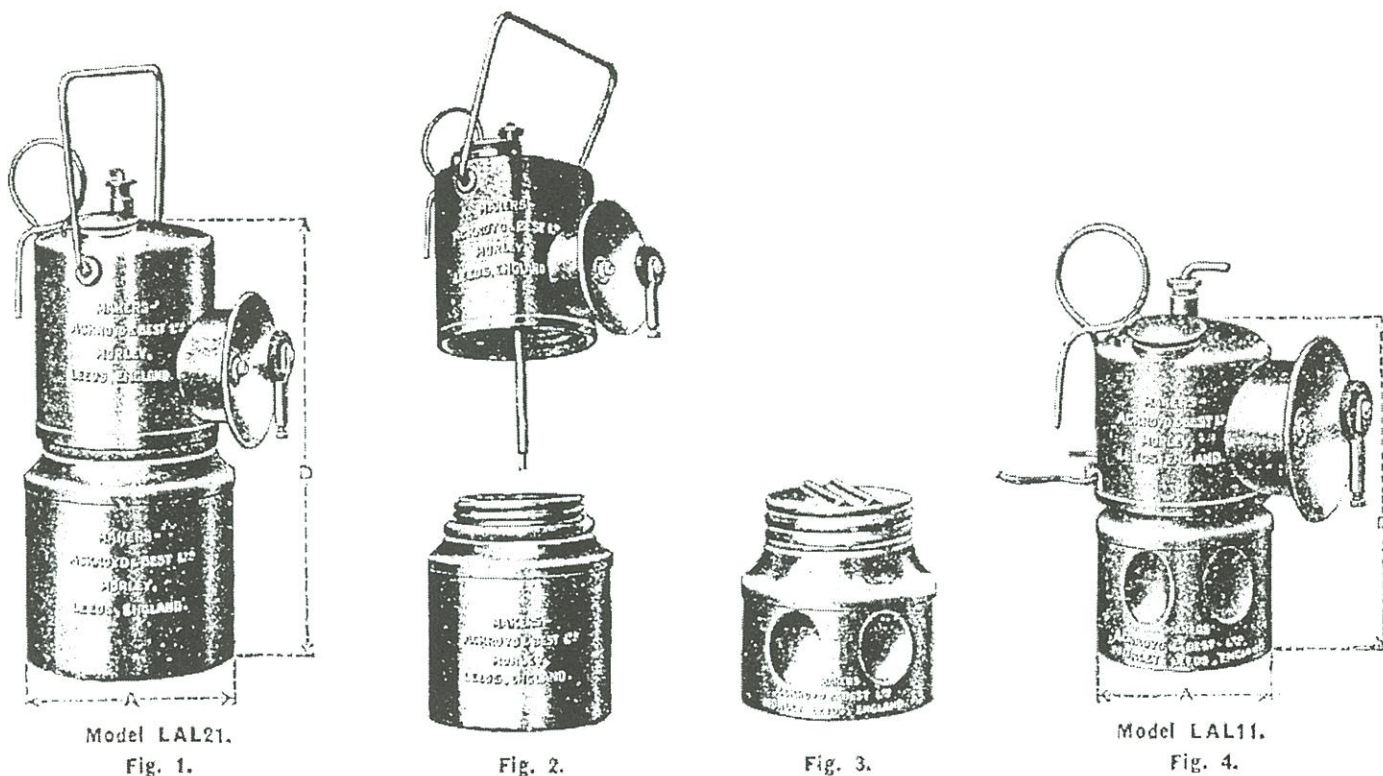


Witnesses  
T. L. Moorman  
Emily L. Groff

Inventor  
John W. Larimore  
By S. T. Wolcott  
his Attorney

# Ackroyd & Best Carbide Lamps

by Mick Coorbridge

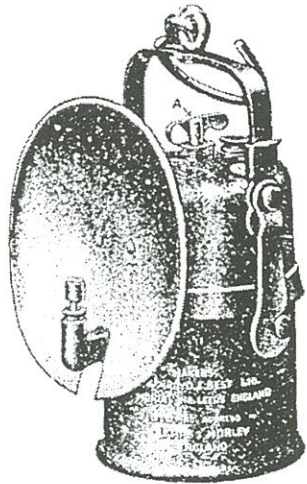


In the last issue of Eureka, Manfred Stutzer shows several copies of safety lamp leaflets issued by 'Hailwood & Ackroyd' of Morley, Leeds, England. This firm was formerly 'Ackroyd & Best'. I have recently acquired advertisement leaflets for miners' carbide lamps from this original firm.

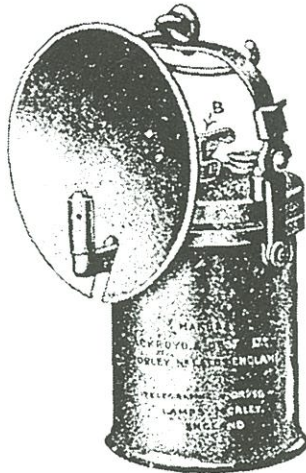
The first (above) shows the 'LAL 11' cap lamp of which I have never seen an example of in any collection and so I have to assume it rare. They were advertised over a fairly long period, and so I have to believe that they were actually produced and sold. The lamp on the left was a hand lamp and was available in two sizes in brass or steel. The lamp shown right was a cap lamp, and was offered in brass only.

These lamps bear some resemblance to the early American Baldwin lamps; the water feed, the waterdoor, the dropper end, and the loop above the hook. Also note the indented grips in the base of the cap lamp as well as the different side-mount stiker mechanism. We may never know whether these were imported to the UK or manufactured on site.

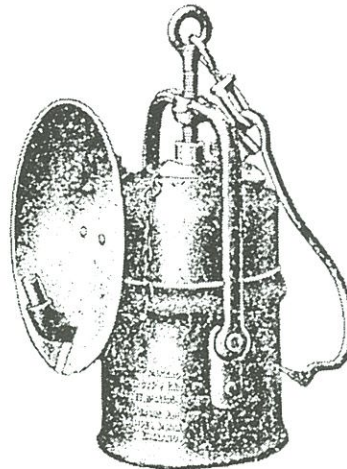
# Acetylene Lamps for Mines and Quarries.



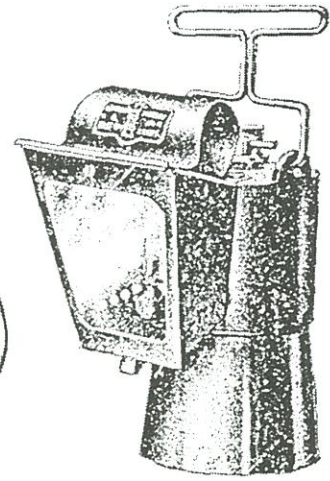
Model LAL60.



Model LAL65.



Model LAL80.



Model LAL66.



The second leaflet is of particular interest to me with its listing of the lamp no. 'LAL 66'. In Eureka no. 20, on page 7, I show similar pattern lamps manufactured by Thorn & Hoddle. This recent information show that the same pattern lamp, but having a more practical flame hod arrangement was manufactured by Ackroyd & Best.

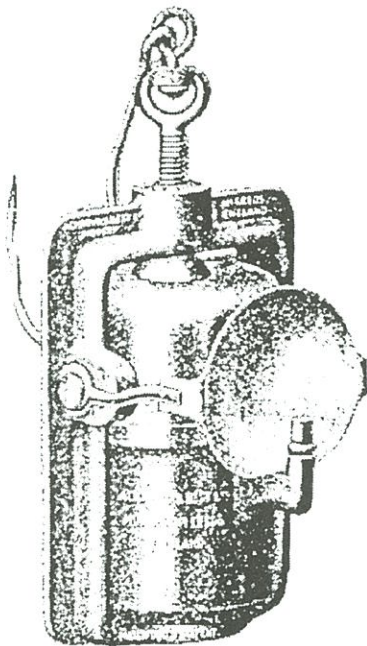


Fig. 1. LAMP LAL35.

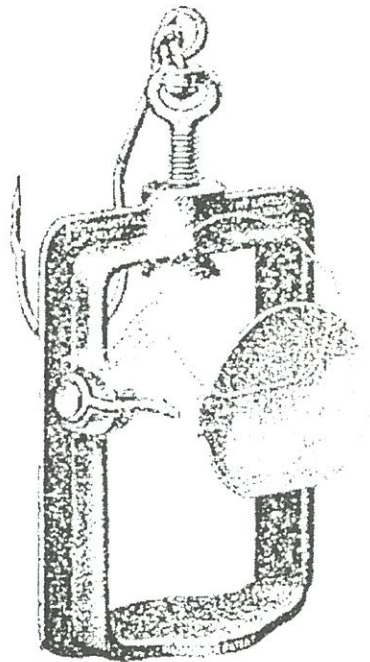


Fig. 2.

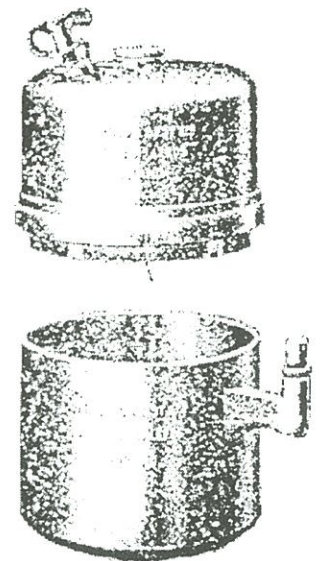


Fig. 3.

The final sheet shows a unique style of mining lamp pattern where the lamp body is supported and held fastened by a heavy metal frame which also houses a swivel up reflector. To me this lamp is a gem, and I have my fingers crossed that one day one will come my way. This was described in the brochure as the Hailwood Acetylene Hand Lamp, and the clamp was HAILWD-CLAMP (that's how they spelled it)!

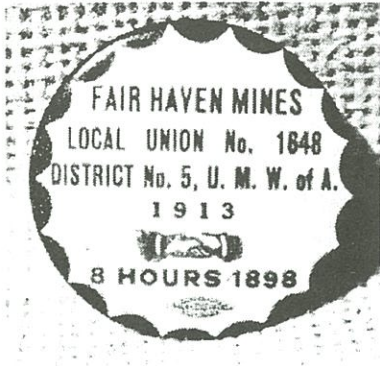


# BITS



## UMWA Button

It is 2" accross and celluloid. I have seen fewer these than ribbons. (Dave Johnson)



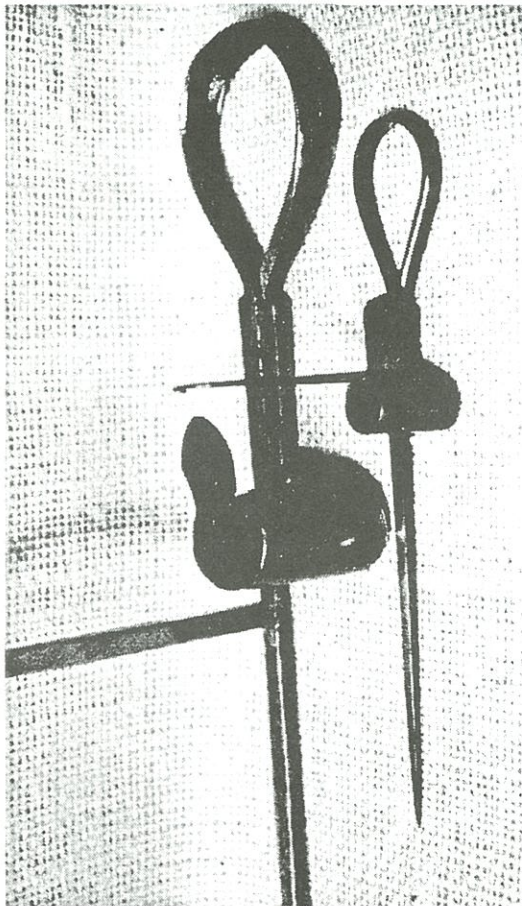
## Badges?...

This Coal and Iron Police Badge is from the E.C. Co., of Pennsylvania. I believe this stands for the Ebensburg Coal Co. (Dave Johnson)



The DJ Page

## Miniature Stick



The little one is 5 1/4 inches long and is perfectly proportioned. Superb workmanship and finish. (Dave Johnson)

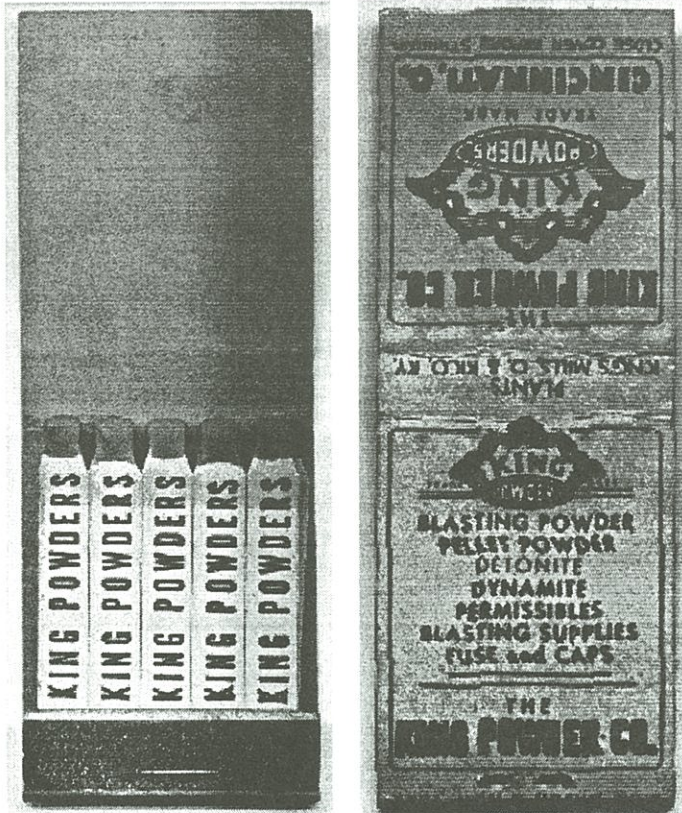
## Glass UMWA Decanter

This 12" cranberry overlay glass pitcher is engraved UMWA NATL. CONVENTION 1906 INDIANAPOLIS. This was the first National UMWA convention attended by John L. Lewis, as a representative of his Iowa Local, many years prior to his name becoming known nationally as the long-time president of the United Mine Workers of America.



## King Powder Matchbook

Submitted by Neal Ressler.



## Norleigh Diamond



No, it's not the rare miner's carbide lamp, but the logo from a barn lantern. They were made by the Shapleigh Hardware Company. The name Norleigh comes from a combination of Norvell and Shapleigh. The above stamping is from the top of kerosene tank. Norleigh Diamond kerosene lanterns are rated as fairly common in their category. In a recent book of lanterns with 1997 prices, this one is valued at \$25.

## Pathfinder/Victor

With the recent revelation that Pathfinder and early Victor lamps have a common lineage, it is not surprising that Neal Ressler might turn up this nice lamp which embodies a Pathfinder shell and a Victor reflector.



## Miner's Needle

Submitted by Jack Purson, this illustration from a DuPont Blasters' Handbook shows how a miners' needle is used to prepare the hole for placement of a squib ( a paper coated rapid burning fuse). Miners' needles were made of copper so as not to generate a spark against the hard rock.

### Blasting Accessories—Miners' squibs

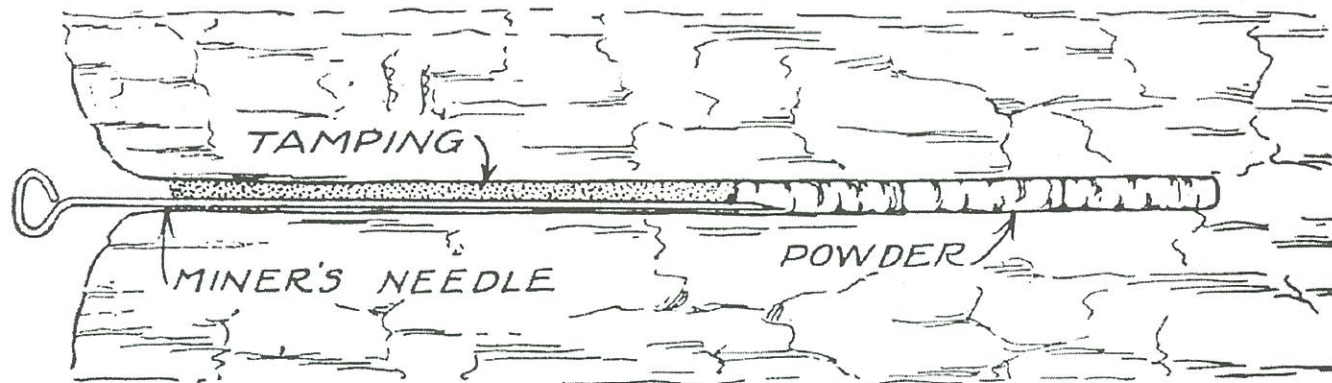
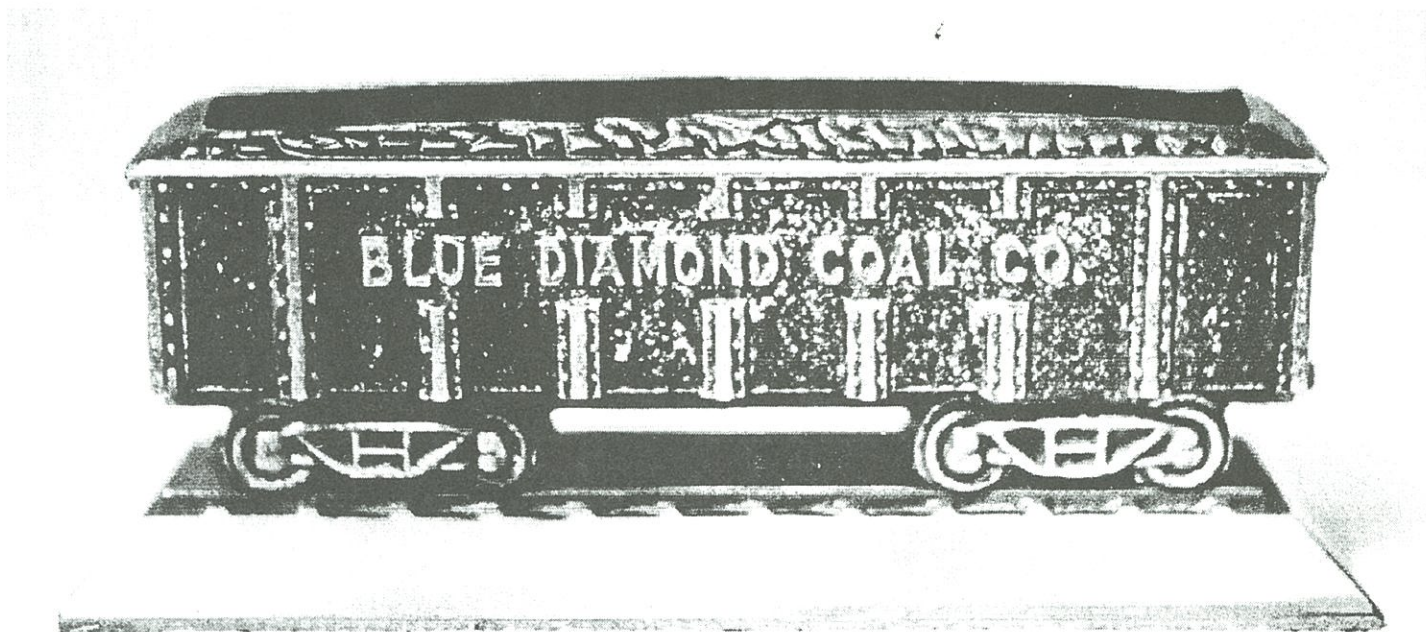


Fig. 7.—A bore hole loaded and tamped with miner's needle in place. The needle is withdrawn, and a miner's squib inserted in the opening thus made.

## It's Very Heavy

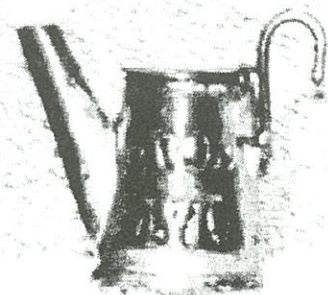
This 8-inch brass paperweight advertises the Blue Diamond Coal Co. They have been a major bituminous coal producer in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. (Dave Johnson)



## Click's Corner

Tin is a Gold Medal No. 4 - 100 blasting Caps. Pompton Lakes, N.J. Oil wick is 1 1/4" high to tip of spout, 1" high to top of likd. Lamp is made of tin and has a brass hook. On one side vertically is the following:

Georges  
◇  
Creek

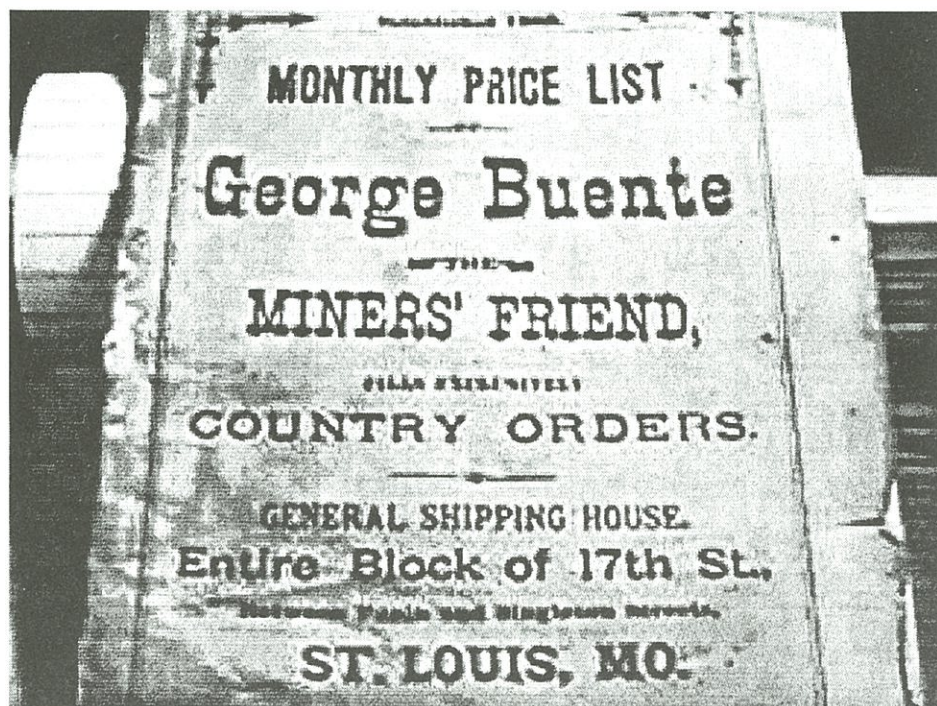


On the side showing of the oil wick are the words:

BPOE  
470

## Miners' Friend

My wife found an interesting item this weekend and she deemed it necessary that it be shared with the whole group. It is a 41 page monthly price list from George Buente which in the 1800's. I assume a single person was considered a company... anyway, the book or pamphlet is called The Miners' Friend from St. Louis, MO. The company was established in 1865 and the date of the book is May and June 1890. Upon browsing through the book, it lists everything from wall paper to water-proof blasting paper which by the way was 6 cents per pound! I assume that this book was probably



meant for mining company stores not individual miners, some examples in the book are Miners lamp: 3 for 20; Miners' Wick. pound: \$20 or Cotton Fuse, best kind, 100 feet: \$ 30.

Glen Hostlaw.

# Some Answers

*Manfred Stutzer writes:*

In the January 1998 issue is on page 11 a carbide hand lamp pictured with a soldered label "**Pioneer**". I am almost sure that this a German carbide lamp made by the lamp maker "Hesse/Nuernberg". I will try to figure out more about the label. It could be that this lamp was re-sold by an agent in USA? Originally, Hesse didn't sell lamps with such a brand name.

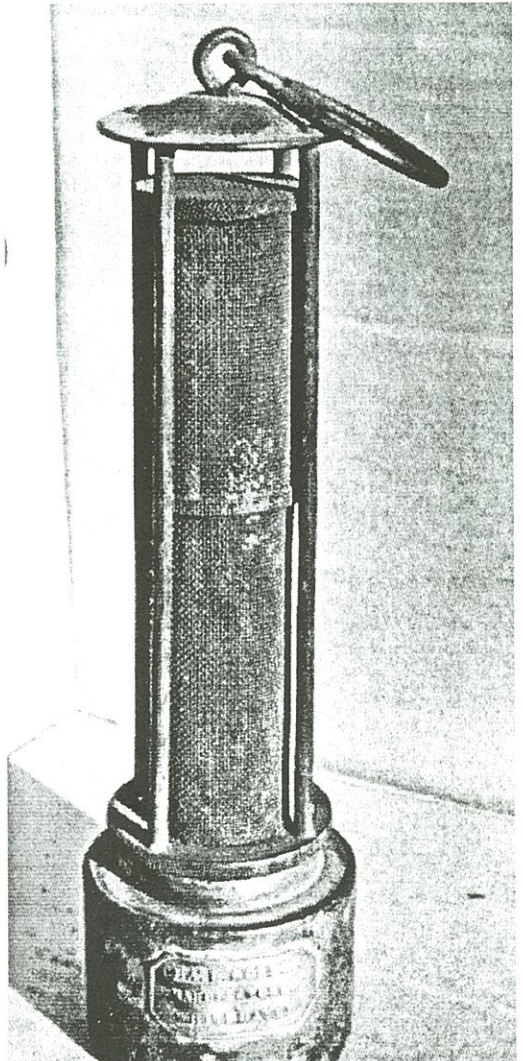
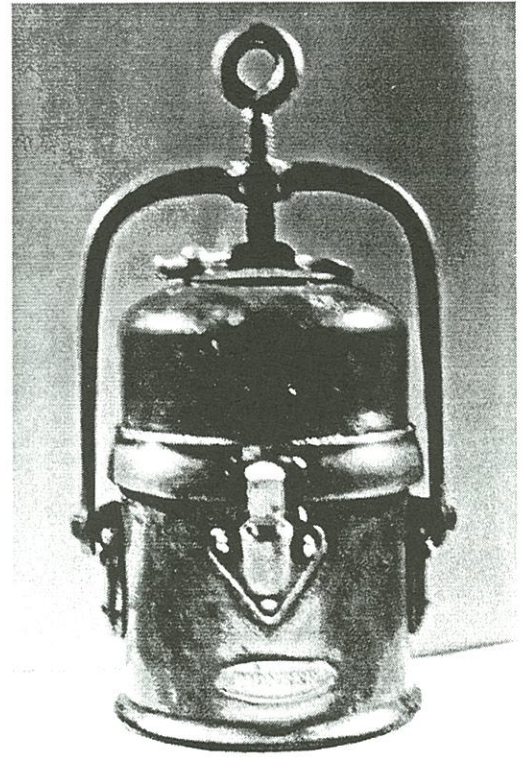
*Mark Smith writes:*

I can confirm that the Davy type gauze lamp illustrated in issue 25 of Eureka is British in origin.

It comes from Whitehaven in Cumbria. This coastal town was once the centre of the Cumberland Coalfield. Although this coalfield was one of the earliest in Britain to be commercially developed on a large scale (c.1660's) it was one of the first to enter major decline. The coalfield's last colliery, Haig Pit (named after Earl Douglas Haig, the famous First World War British General), struggled on until as late as 1985.

Charles Dickinson Gordon (i.e. Chas. D. Gordon) was once proprietor of a family run business located at 32 King Street, Whitehaven. The Gordon's business was established in 1799 and by 1846 the proprietors are named as John and Charles Gordon. The family's activities are variously listed as iron mongers, brass founders, tin plate manufacturers, nail merchants and interestingly enough ships' chandlers. The firm continued to trade in the name of Charles D. Gordon up until 1910, presumably well after Charles' death. There still exists a photograph, taken in the early 1900's, of the family's premises in King Street. In addition I know of one of their trade adverts which dates to 1893.

The lamp is a rarity and is probably the first recorded for this obscure provincial manufacturer. How the lamp found its way to the US is a mystery. If it wasn't part of a cross Atlantic lamp trade or antique deal it is just possible that the lamp left the UK with its original owner back in the late 1800's. This is very possible as many Cumberland miners emigrated to the States around the turn of the century.







# TRADES & SALES



## RATES

All classified ads up to 75 words are free to subscribers. For subscribers, quarter-page ads are \$25, half-page \$50, and full-page ads \$95. The fee for nonsubscribers is \$15 for ads up to 75 words. For larger ads, add \$25 to fee for subscribers. Fee includes custom computer layout.

Higher prices will not be published. Contact seller for prices if not listed.

No reproductions of any type will be knowingly advertised unless so stated.

No member of the staff will act upon an advertisement in EUREKA! prior to its mailing.

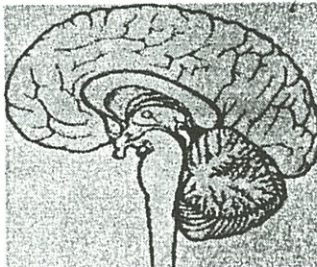
## CONDITIONS

Ads must be submitted for each issue in which they will appear. Send all ads to Dave Thorpe prior to Dec 10, Mar 10, Jun 10, and Sep 10 for publication in the following issue. Ads are accepted on a space available, first-come first-served basis. We reserve the right to refuse any ad. Eureka! assumes no responsibility or liability for the contents of ads; however, every effort will be made to assure a high standard of honesty in advertising.

If any advertiser is contacted about an item in their ad prior to the publication being mailed, they are asked to report the incident to one of the Eureka staff. Remember that it is to the advertiser's benefit to wait until Eureka! is in the hands of all subscribers before disposing of a trade or sale item. Please keep in mind that a trade or sale conducted through the mail is not complete until both parties are satisfied!

**Trade:** Have many medium range carbide cap lamps to trade for oil wicks and blasting cap tins. Larry Click, 1021 N. Jefferson St., Arlington, VA 22205, tel: 703-241-3748, email: lclick@erols.com

COLLECTING  
CARBIDE LAMPS



Larry Click  
1021 N. Jefferson St.  
Arlington, VA 22205-2454  
(703) 241-3748  
lclick@erols.com

"...This is Larry's Brain  
on Carbides!"

**Wanted:** The 4th (1925) and 9th (1938) editions of DuPont's Blaster's Handbook to complete collection. This is a 40 year venture. I started working with DuPont in 1952 as a powderman's helper. Stayed with the trade for 40 years. I hope to find these two editions before I run out of time. Ron Champeau, 100 Indian Run Rd., Bellingham, Mass 02019, tel: (508) 883-8026.

**Blasting Cap Tins:** A fine selection of tins available for trade or sale. Call or Write: Graham Living, P.O.Box 292, Millsboro, DE 19966 (302)934-8273 ET

**All Over PA 4U:** I hit all the antique markets and shows looking for great antiques...mining and otherwise. Let me know your wants and I'll keep an eye out. Contact: *The Anthracite Artifact Hunter* Neal S. Ressler, 9 South Maple Ave., Leola PA 17540 tel: (717) 656-4230 or E-mail: nastynsr@redrose.net

**FOR SALE:** New booklet by Don Blyth "CANADIAN CAP TINS & EXPLOSIVE INDUSTRY COLLECTIBLES" Price \$6.00 U.S. Postpaid. Covers 44 different Canadian tins plus lots of collectibles. Pictures each tin style. Contact Don Blyth R.R. #5 Guelph, Ontario Canada NIH 6J2

**Lamp Collectors:** Here are again some rarer lamps for you: 1.Beautiful cast iron tunnel lamp, stamped: Pirringer/Graz This is an Austrian manufacturer. The best tunnel lamp I ever have owned. 2.Patterson M.IG safety lamp 3.Dynamo safety lamp made by E. Thomas & Williams/Aberdare The only English dynamo safety lamp I know. 4.Stepenson lamp, pictured in Senior Conflow calender (collection Boerkel) 5.Ashforth-Hepplewhite-Gray lamp, stamped Gray Beard/Davis Derby with Beard-Mackie indicator. For further details contact me: Manfred Stutzer, Madenburgstr. 6, 67065, Ludwigshafen, Germany (email: mkstu@t-online.de)

# Grubenlampen

The 6th International  
Mining Lamp Meeting

Where: Festhalle 57234  
Wilnsdorf, Germany

When: Saturday, June 6  
10AM-4PM

Info: Heinz Zander  
tel: 0 27 43 / 27 09  
Henner Schardt  
tel: 0 27 35 / 17 12



For sale or trade

# Great Lamps

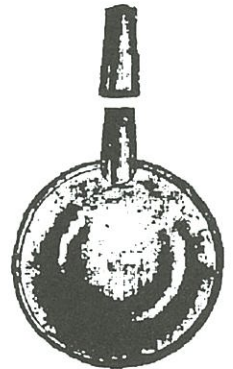
Buy-Sell-Trade

Dave Thorpe  
602-548-1959  
dthorpe@primenet.com

## WANTED!

### CADGER OILERS

A strong, durable carrier for miners' reserve oil supply. Made of heavy cold rolled steel, with double rolled seam around edge. Heavy tapered spout, brazed to body of can, with tapered cap of same gauge, making tight joint without screw thread. Cap easily removed. Fits the pocket. Practically indestructible. Lacquered finish. Rust proof.



Diameter, Inches.....	4 1/4
Height to Top of Spout, Inches.....	6 1/2
Capacity, Pints.....	1 1/2
Weight per Dozen, Lbs.....	5
Per Gross.....	\$45.00

The person who had this oil cadger for sale at the last eastern reunion. Please call. Roger Mitchell 1-610-891-0974 anytime I'm desperately trying to find this item and can't remember who had it. Please help!

**Opposite Page:** Submitted by Bill Lorah. This is a nice photo I got recently. It shows the Fire Bosses and assistants from a large mine in the northern anthracite region of PA. Taken by J.C. Young, Commercial Photographer from Pittston, PA. Inscribed on the back: "Taken at the #14 Colliery, Thomas Walker 5th from right, top row with staf and Davy lamp".

The Staffs are steel roof tappers and seem to be drilled on the bottom to accept the hook on a Davy Lamp, enabling the lamp to be lifted to a higher level to check for gas. (see second man from right, bottom row). By tapping on the roof rock, dangerous sections could be located by the sound. Clear ringing, solid - - dull thunk, look out!. Probable date is early 1900's.



Why Work, when you're  
Insured?

