

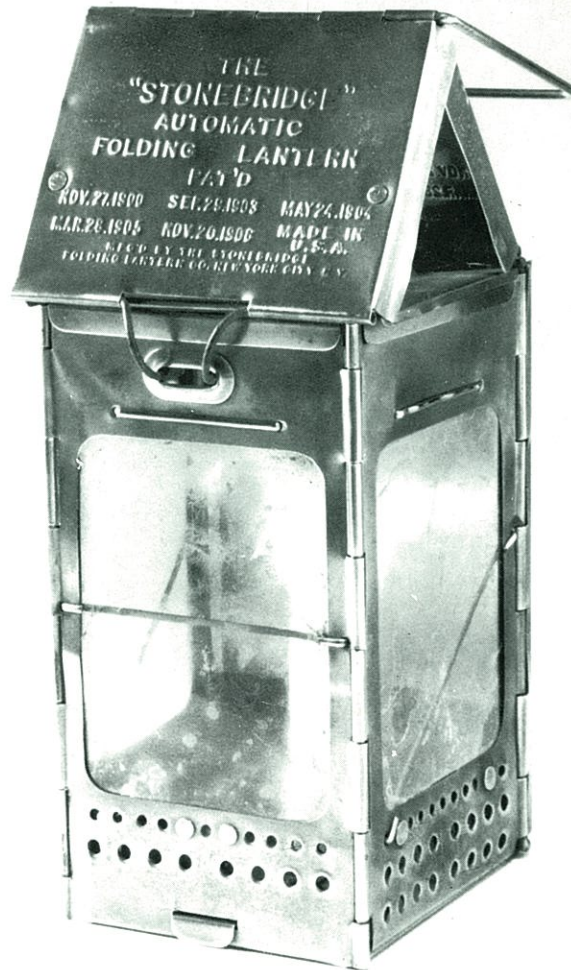
# The MINING REVIEW

COLLECTORS

ISSUE NUMBER 8

DECEMBER 1998

\*Collector's Issue\*



The Dump Shaft  
Homestake Raise Whistle  
South Park Mining Stories  
S.E. Simmons Carbide Cap Lamp

## IN THIS ISSUE

Zinc Boxes  
Mojave Mining District  
Mechanical Candlesticks  
Stonebridge Folding Lanterns

# **\$1,000 REWARD**

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# **OLD BLUE JEANS!**

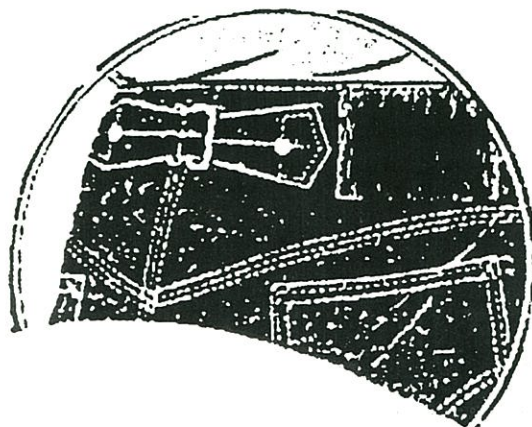
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Stonebridge Folding Candle Lantern

See article starting on page 26.

**SUBSCRIPTION POLICY:**

"The Review" was a quarterly publication through the combined efforts of several people who wanted to share their love for this unique hobby of Mining Artifacts collecting.

**SUBMISSIONS:**

"The Review" invites all subscribers to submit photos, articles and anecdotes for publication. Changes or enhancement will be done only for clarity and propriety. Send all submissions to Steve Rush, 31112 Shadow Mtn Dr, Conifer CO 80433.

A Beer Reviewed Journal

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# REVIEW OF MINING



## EDITORIAL

Buying items without seeing them has always been a difficult task, the condition of your money is rarely in question, but the condition of the artifact is always subjective and can be problematic. Recently there have been some transactions made by the artifact collecting community that have not been amicable. Essentially, the problem is that an artifact is described as being in excellent condition, a price is established and once the item is received, it is discovered to be in less than its described condition. It is my opinion that this is not a problem, any ethical person would accept the item back without penalty, no 'surcharge', 'stocking fee', an unconditional return less a reasonable shipping fee. Someone who charges more than the postage or refuses to refund the money should be identified to the rest of

the collecting community, not to blacklist, but to educate those who deal with these people in the future. When you sell or trade an artifact it's not quite like selling thumbtacks, these are old things which are susceptible to age-condition which is a subjective value. The fact it is a mining artifact makes it an emotional situation and of course, all collectors are experts in their own minds. Everyone must be happy in these deals or problems develop and I would venture to guess that ninety-percent of the personal animosities within our collecting fraternity are due to such bad deals. If you sell an artifact, you should have such confidence in its value that if it is sent back for whatever reason, you can easily put it back on your shelf or find another buyer who has your sharp eye.

*You will have noted the words 'Collector's Issue' on the front cover. This is due to 'ol Number Eight being the last issue of the Collector's Mining Review. After a run of two years, it has become increasingly apparent that the mining artifact collectors community is not quite ready for two publications regarding this unique hobby. Many thanks to all who have contributed articles, information and criticism towards our worthwhile endeavor. The epitaph reads, 'Gone, but not forgotten', we may someday rise Phoenix-like from this erst'while grave to carry forth stories of mining men, history and artifacts in another form. Cheers!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

TUCSON '99- 5th Annual Mining Antique Collectors Swap Meet, Dinner & Auction- Saturday, February 6, 1999. Swap Meet 12:00 - 5:00, Dinner & Auction 6:30 p.m. Details enclosed.

COLORADO '99- Watch for details on the Annual Black Hills/Rocky Mountain Mining Collectors show & sale. June (date tentative). Information and schedule of events will follow. Contact Leo Stambaugh for information (303) 569-2848.



## MOJAVE MINING DISTRICT

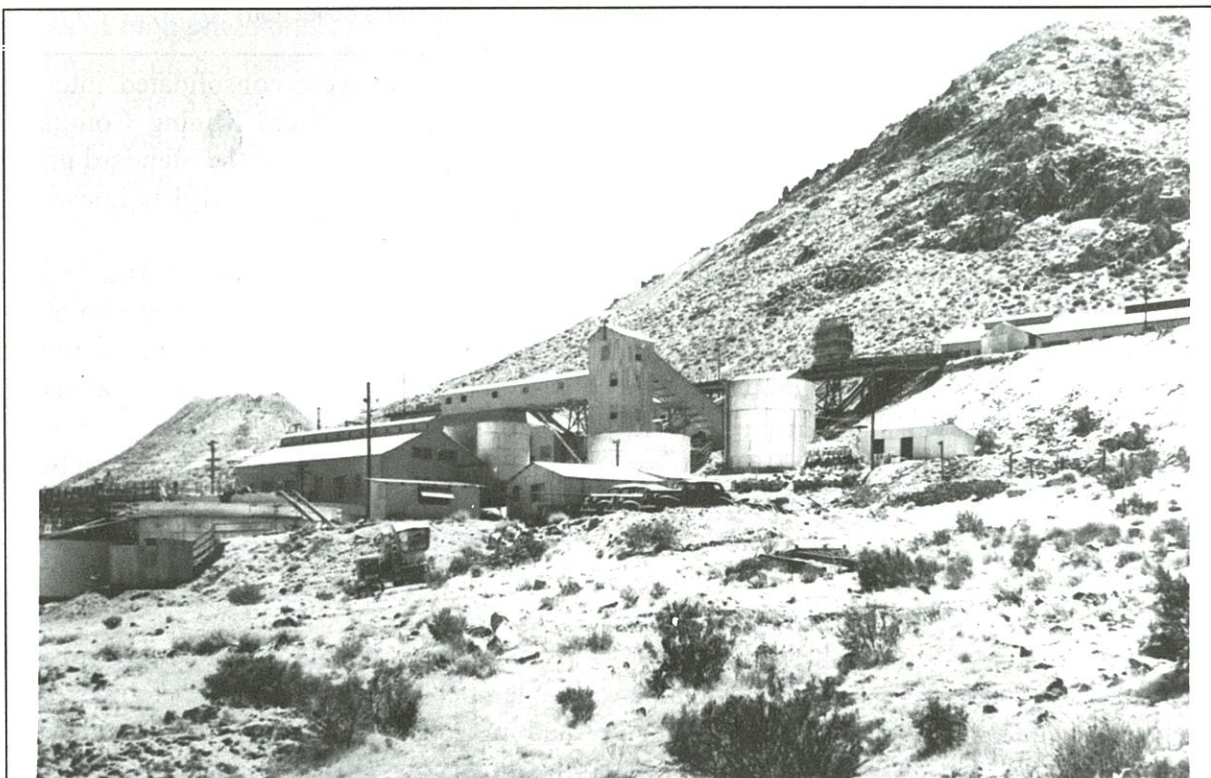
By Deric English

My interest in the Mojave Mining District stems from my grandfather having been a miner at the Golden Queen and Cactus Queen mines. During part of this time, my grandfather's family lived on the northwestern flats of Standard Hill in an area known as "Reefer City". "Reefer City" was a camp where miners' families lived in reefer cars obtained from the nearby railroad company. Similar anecdotes, sometimes humbling, of my grandfather's profession and my father's childhood have roused my curiosity in this often overlooked mining

district.

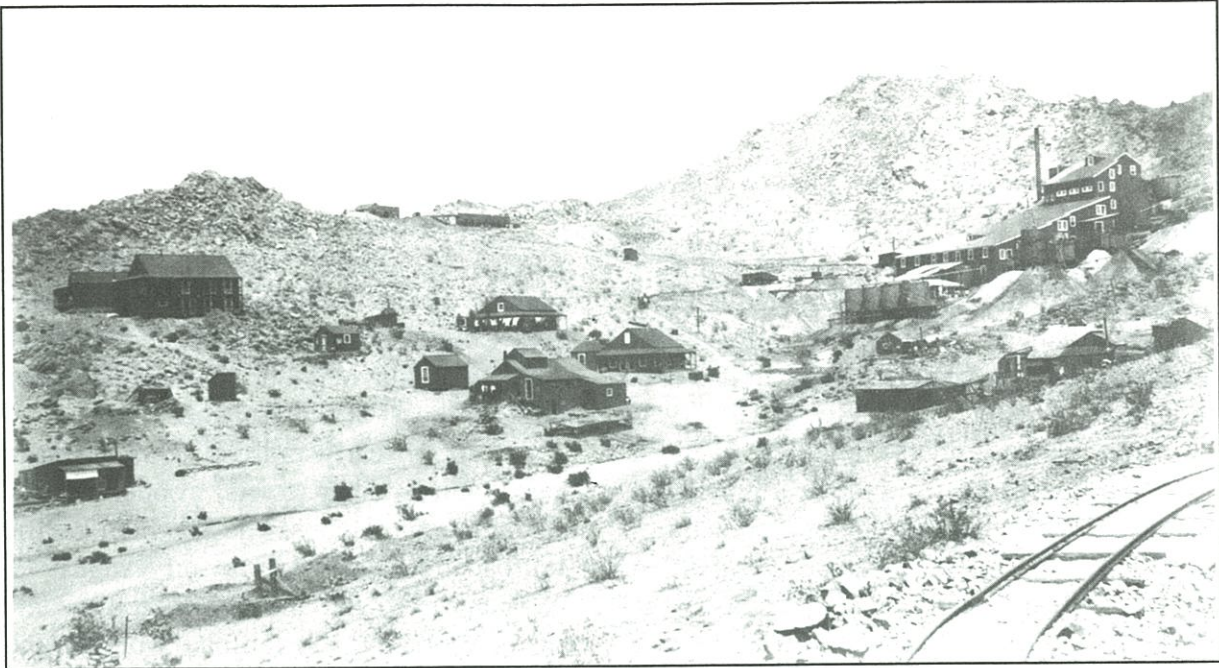
The town of Mojave lies in the arid plain of the Mojave Desert, near the eastern foothills of the Tehachapi mountains. This Kern County town, in southeastern California, is approximately one hundred and three miles northeast of Los Angeles.

As an early railroad town, Mojave began with its dusty streets, wooden shacks, and numerous saloons. The Southern Pacific Railroad reached Mojave on August 8, 1876, and laid out the townsite the same year. Eventually, the railroad workers and



Golden Queen Mine and Mill, Soledad Mountain, Mojave, California, ca. 1939. (author's collection)





Bird's-eye view of Exposed Treasure Mine and Mill,  
Bower's Hill, Mojave, California, ca. 1903. (author's collection)

townspeople exchanged their shacks and hotel rooms for small homes. Businessmen, Chinese included, offered laundry services, saloons, gambling houses, restaurants and "entertainment".

Freighting goods to and from the outlying camps was Mojave's lifeline. Between 1884 and 1889, Twenty Mule Team freighters from Death Valley delivered ore at the rail in Mojave. Later, from 1907 to 1913, Mojave was the supply station for crews working on the Los Angeles aqueduct. It was a bustling business center.

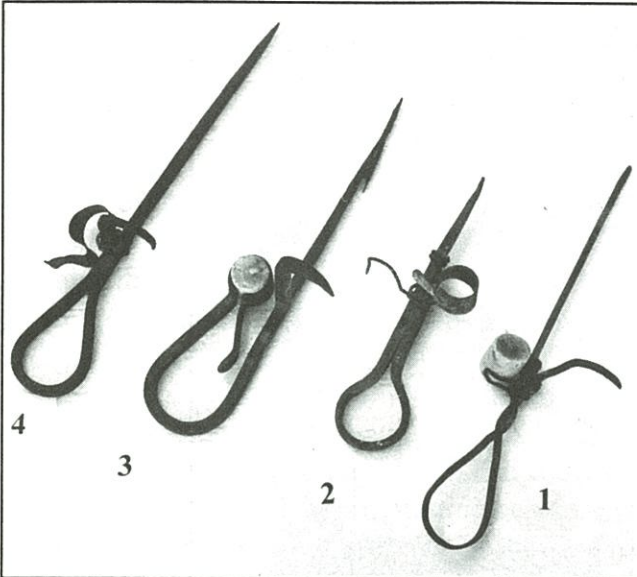
On March 8, 1894, George Bowers found gold on Bowers' Hill, three miles south of Mojave. Bowers shipped two car loads of ore from his Yellow Rover claim, netting him \$1,600. Consequently, a sudden rush led to the location and development of the Desert Queen and Exposed Treasure mines. In 1900, the Yellow Rover and Ex-

posed Treasure were consolidated into the Exposed Treasure Gold Mining Company. These mines were called the Standard group by 1921. Today, Bowers' Hill is known as Standard Hill.

Excitement on Bowers' Hill spilled over to Soledad Mountain, one or two miles south of Bowers' Hill. Soledad Mountain was soon dotted with miners' cabins, a boarding house, bunkhouses and a W.F.M. union hall. Some of the early mines on Soledad Mountain were the Karma (1896), the Echo (1900), and the Queen Esther, starting production in 1904.

Mojave's early mining days were overshadowed by an event that began on September 17, 1933. George Holmes, who had mined since he was sixteen years old in the glory holes of Grass Valley, Randsburg, Tonopah and Jerome, discovered rich float on the north face of Soledad Mountain.





Miner's candlesticks from the Mojave Mining District and found in the Queen Esther Mine (nos.1-3) and the Whitmore Mine (no.4). (#1) Candlestick similar to the Packer patented stick #88, page 52 of Wilson/Bobrink *Miner's Candlestick* book. (#2) Blacksmith miner's candlestick. (#3) IDEAL miner's candlestick from Ludlow-Saylor Wire Company (#4) Blacksmith miner's candlestick.

\$600,000 for his efforts.

News of Holmes' Silver Queen bonanza set the mining world on fire. On December 4, 1934, the *Los Angeles Times* headlined this story: "**HUGE GOLD STRIKE REPORTED**". On January 11, 1935, George Holmes sold the Silver Queen (later named the Golden Queen) to Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa. This company, founded by Cecil Rhodes, paid Holmes \$3.17 million plus royalties. During the next seven years, Consolidated mined a million tons of ore worth thirteen to fifteen million dollars.

Although other mines of the district pale in comparison to the Silver Queen, Mojave had it's share of producers. Among

With his pick and shovel, Holmes sank a six-foot shaft and located the vein from which the float had come. He dug thirty sacks of high grade ore, carried them a mile and a half on his back, then shipped it to a smelter. His \$2,000 return enabled him to grade a rough road, acquire a compressor and strip out his first carload. Holmes sent out three hundred carloads of ore during the first eleven months of 1934, earning



Bug lamp from the Queen Esther mine. This one is not made from your usual Log Cabin syrup tin, but from a Dixie Queen Plug Cut tobacco tin.



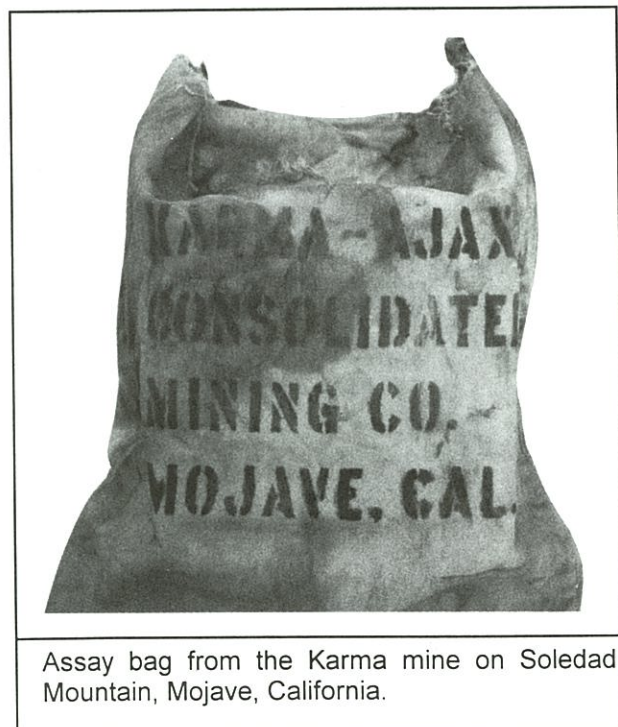
Karma Mining Company stock certificate, ca. 1905.

these were Harvey Mudd's Cactus Queen, Dr. Giannini's Middle Butte, Jess and California governor Goodwin Knight's Elephant-Eagle, Percy Wegmann's Yellow Dog and the Whitmore. All played significant roles in the history and economy of the Mojave Mining District.

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- . Los Angeles Times, April 22, 1963.
- .Miller, R. and Peggy, **Mines of the Mojave**, La Siesta Press, 1989.
- .Hensher, Alan, **Ghost Towns of the Mojave Desert**, 1991.
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Assay bag from the Karma mine on Soledad Mountain, Mojave, California.

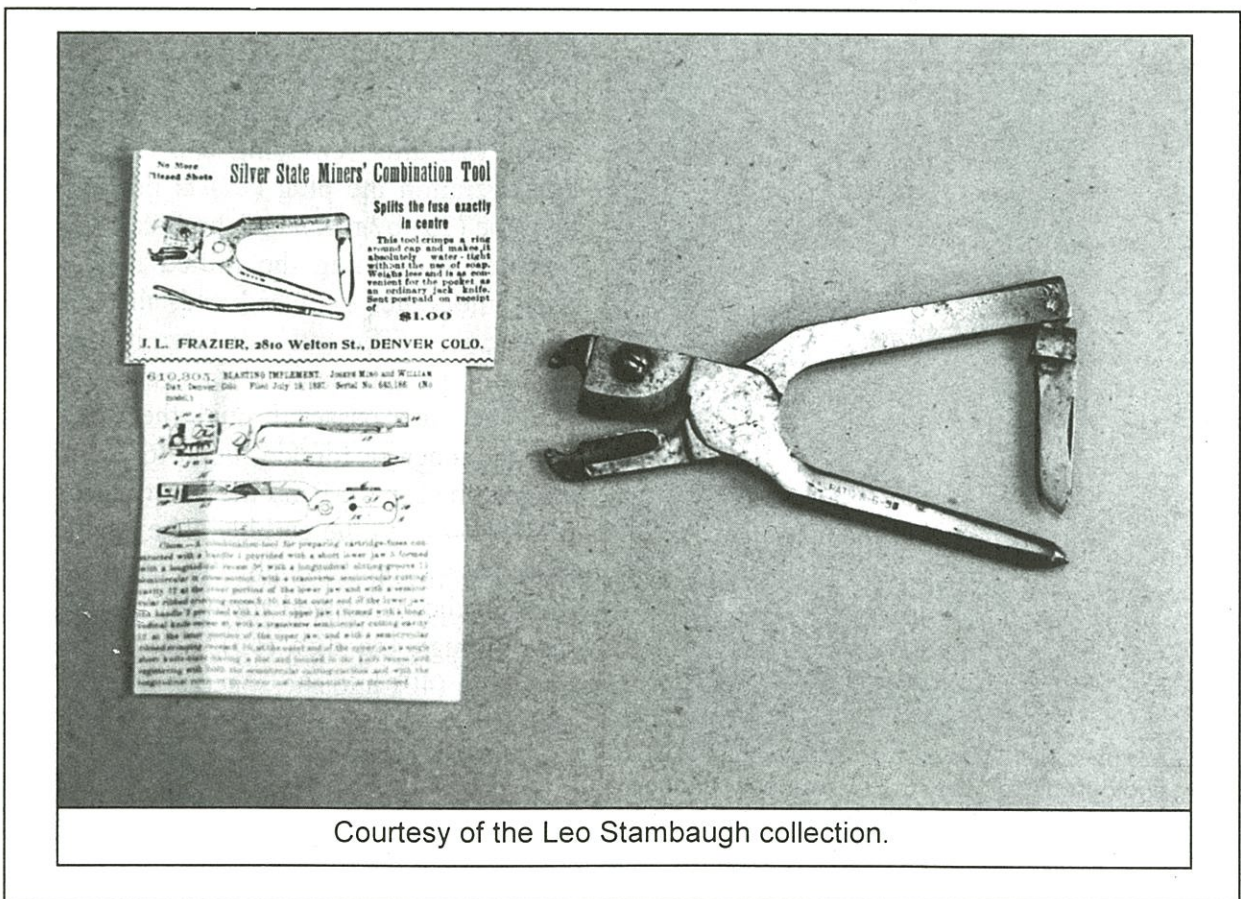
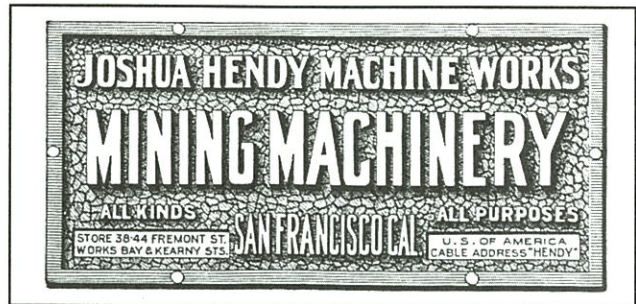


# MINER'S FUSE TOOL

By Leo Stambaugh

The Miner's fuse tool shown here is an example of the 1898 patent of James Mino and William Day of Colorado. It was marketed under the trade name of "Silver State Miners Combination Tool" as seen in the ad from Mining Science magazine, June 1901. A fuse could be set lengthwise in the lower channel and split with the curved blade, or cut to size with the same blade. The round notch on the nose crimps a blasting cap, and the knife blade in the handle could also cut fuse at the cartridge itself. The patent date is stamped on the lower handle which is

pointed for a cartridge punch. The tool is well made, but was fairly expensive at \$1.00 each. Less than a half dozen are known in collections making them a treasure when found.



Courtesy of the Leo Stambaugh collection.



**THE S.E. SIMMONS CARBIDE CAP LAMP****By Mark Bohannon**

One of the most unique looking and rarest carbide cap lamps is the one manufactured by the S. E. Simmons Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, Missouri.

On October 4, 1909, Samuel E. Simmons of Litchfield, Illinois, applied for a patent for a "certain new and useful Improvements in Carbide Lamps". On November 22, 1910, Simmons was granted a patent for his new lamp. The object of Simmons' new lamp was to provide a lamp "which will be compact and simple in form, containing both the water tank and generator in one receptacle, and wherein the admission

of the water may be nicely regulated".

"A further object is to prevent the entrance of sediment to the carbide and to strain the incoming water and the outgoing gas".

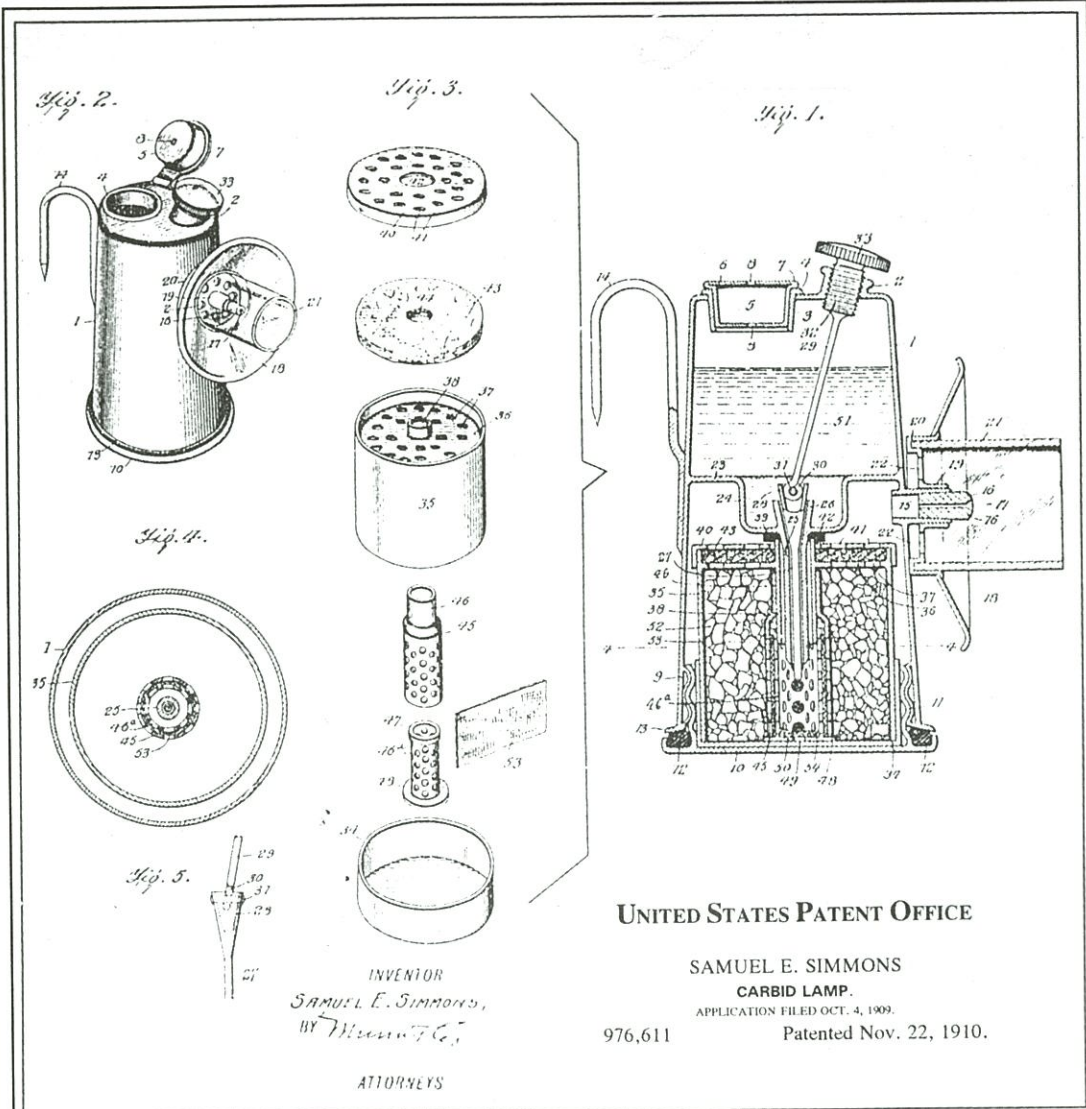
The Simmons carbide lamp is divided into upper and lower compartments by a diaphragm. The upper compartment containing the water, while the lower contained the carbide. To operate the lamp according to the patent the carbide is introduced into the receptacle by unscrewing the bottom (10), and taking out the cup (34) and casing (35). The casing is then inverted and the cup removed. After filling the casing the parts are replaced and the water is poured into the upper compartments through the sleeve (3), after removing cup (5). During this operation the plug (27) is pushed into the tube (25) by means of the link, which is operated by turning the milled head (33). After the water is introduced, the plug is withdrawn sufficiently to permit the entrance of enough water to start generation of gas. The water passes through the tube (25), into the inner perforated tube (46<sup>a</sup>), through the cotton strip (53) and the outer perforated tube (45-46), to the carbide. The gas generated passes up through the carbide, out through the perforated top (36) of the casing, through the disc (43), and the perforated cap (40) into the space above the cup and below the diaphragm, and out at the burner plug (16) where it is ignited".

An unusual feature shown in Simmons' carbide lamp patent is in the make-up of the reflector. According to the patent, "...



A photograph of the S.E. Simmons carbide lamp. Note the lamp has a reflector similar to a Baldwin deep-dished reflector. (Errol Christman collection)





The original patent drawings for Samuel E. Simmons' carbide lamp patented on November 22, 1910.

a reflector (18), encircles the nipple, the reflector having a hub (19) which fits on the nipple, and an annular groove (20) for receiving a flue (21). Openings (22) are also provided in the wall of the reflector between the flaring portion and the hub, for admitting air to the burner. Sufficient air is supplied through the openings (22) to form a

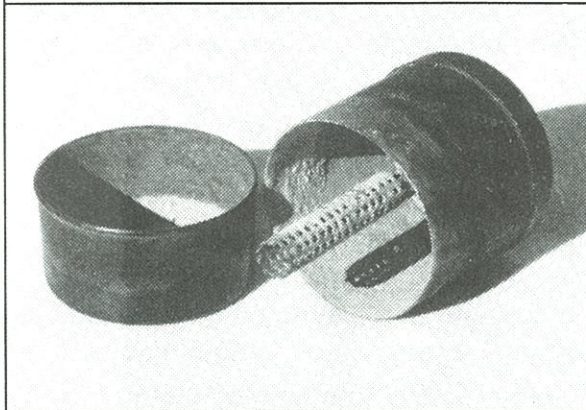
good mixture, and the flue (21) protects the flame from air currents".

It appears that this flue was either short-lived or eliminated, as neither of the two known examples of S.E. Simmons carbide cap lamps have this flue. Even on the lamp shown on the company envelope, the reflector with a flue is not shown, but in-

## S.E. Simmons Carbide Cap Lamp



Photographs of the inside of the S.E. Simmons carbide lamp. (Errol Christman collection)



stead a reflector that is very similar to a flat dish Baldwin reflector. The S.E. Simmons lamp in Errol Christman's collection shown pictured in this article, has a reflector similar to a Baldwin deep-dished reflector. Since so few lamps are known to exist at this time, it is hard to tell if this is the wrong reflector for this lamp or if the S.E. Simmons Manufacturing Company decided that it would be less expensive to buy reflectors from the John Simmons Company (makers of the Baldwin carbide lamps) to use on their lamps.

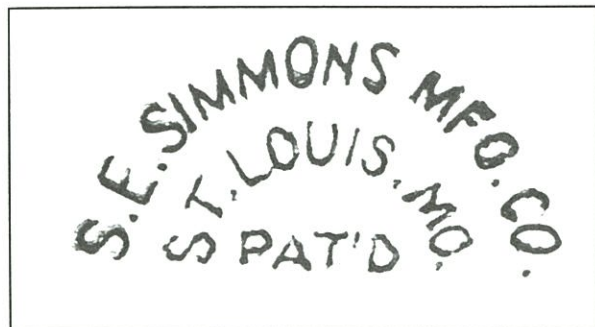
Samuel E. Simmons was born on December 3, 1867 in Litchfield, Illinois. Simmons was a coal miner who exhibited a

strong mechanical ability with a talent for inventing and innovating.

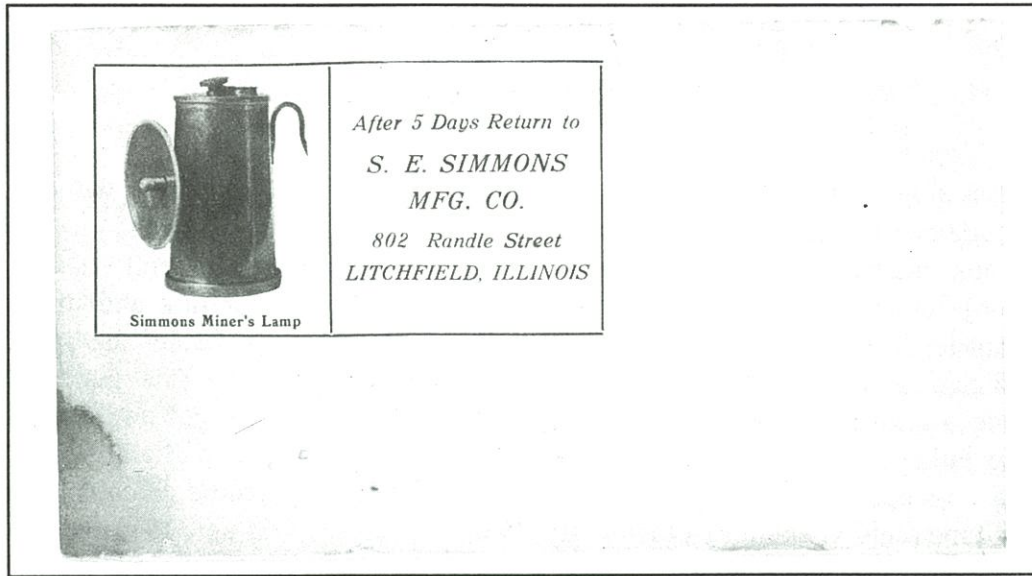
Simmons made his first lamps in his own workshop at home. His lamps were made of brass, but some of Simmons' family members remember that some of the lamps were made out of copper. Simmons' lamps were first used in the coal mines of the area and were reportedly accepted by some of the miners. Simmons also manufactured a screw-top carbide can to go along with his lamp, although none of the carbide cans are known to exist at this time.

It appears that the S.E. Simmons Manufacturing Company was started sometime around 1912. At this time, Simmons contracted with a St. Louis firm—possibly the Handlan Buck Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, who was listed in the 1921 Thomas Register of Manufactures as a “miners’ lamp manufacturer” to manufacture his lamps on a larger scale. By 1916 it appears that Simmons and the manufacturing company had a disagreement which ended their association.

After this, Simmons seems to have lost interest in manufacturing his lamps on a large scale, but continued to make lamps occasionally for his mining friends and acquaintances. In the early 1930's Simmons quit working in the mines and died on February 13, 1943, at the age of 75.







**References:**

Clemmer, Gregg S., **American Miners' Carbide Lamps: A Collector's Guide to American Carbide Lamp Lighting.** Westernlore Press, Tucson, Arizona, 1987. Pp 88-89.

Return address on envelope from the S.E. Simmons Mfg. Co, Litchfield, Illinois. (author's collection)



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## ZINC BOXES

By Steve Rush

Tramping around above timberline in Colorado, one never knows what you'll come up on. This summer past, while leath-ering up my lungs climbing a ravine at the 12,000 foot level, I came upon the not-too-long dead carcasses of a big horn ram and a ewe beside a high altitude spring. I figure they were either struck by lightning, or it was a murder-suicide.

Mining equipment and other rusty stuff is also found way up there, tossed or tumbled long ago to lodge in among the talus boulders. Many of these items have been battered beyond recognition, but sometimes you may find something of interest which is still complete.

Not far from the dead sheep, I rescued a square bucket from a tangle of heavy metal below a waste pile on two claims I've had in the Central Colorado mountains for

several years. It was found without a bail, but otherwise complete and in reasonable shape, and was subsequently hauled home. The square configuration and inside baffle discounted it's probable use as an ore bucket, it lay in the pile marked "heavy items of unknown usage" until recently.

Thanks to Leo Stambaugh's extensive collection of mine machinery and supply catalogs, I was able to move the bucket into the other pile marked "so that's what this was for".

The accompanying text from a S.H. Supply Company catalog proves the item to be a zinc precipitating box and shows how it was used. One more reason to keep an eye out for old mining supply catalogs— great reference tools for researching the items found which don't quite match your imagination.

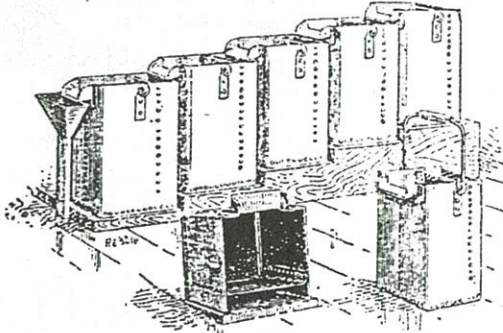
208 THE S. H. SUPPLY COMPANY, DENVER, COLO.

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### ZINC PRECIPITATING BOXES

FOR THE PRECIPITATION OF GOLD FROM CYANIDE SOLUTIONS

Fig. 504



Steel Zinc Box

These are light, rectangular, sheet steel boxes, absolutely water tight and thoroughly coated with mineral paint.

In service the boxes are arranged in series as shown. Each box has two compartments. The solution passes down the narrow compartment and up through the large compartment, in which the zinc shavings are placed, and overflows into the next box.

Each box is provided with lugs for bail, by which they are easily handled.

Capacity, 1 cubic foot of zinc shavings.  
Weight, 45 pounds. Price, each, \$7.50.



## COLLECTOR'S FOCUS

By Steve Rush

### Jim Swallow

The home of Jim and Carol Swallow in Sunnyvale, California, reposes among its neighbors in elegant style. Amid the manicured yards and flower gardens, no clues may be found to inform the casual observer that "a mining artifact collector lives here".

Knock on the door, and Jim will greet you with a huge grin and a beer. Step inside, and you will find yourself surrounded by hundreds of mining artifacts and a general ambiance of mining history. My kind of place!

Jim has been collecting for a number of years, and is an often seen regular at Errol Christmans gatherings. Living in the Bay Area also helps, with most towns having their beginnings as supply houses to the California Gold Rush. Within a nearby radius, the towns of Hercules, Giant and Livermore held huge manufacturing plants specific to the mining trade.

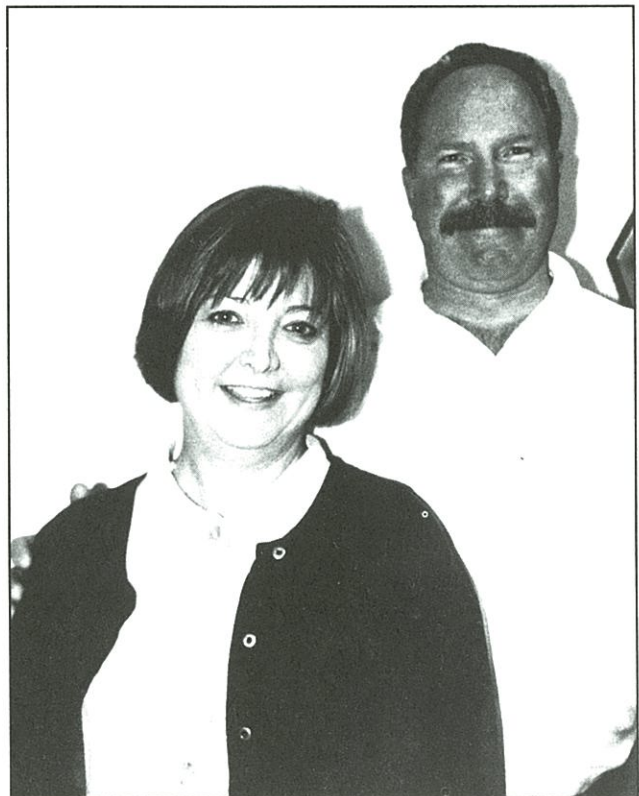
Early on, Jim specialized in collecting blasting machines due in part to their accessibility and "they just looked great". His shelves presently hold twenty six large wooden blasting machines, six hand crank machines for one to ten cap capacity, one side crank machine and two miniature blasting machines crafted by the White Brothers of California.

Rare and unusually manufactured machines include three different Schneider Brothers, and Aetna Powder Company Lion Brand No. 1 and No. 3, a very early H.

Julias Smith, and an extremely rare California Electric Works. Other companies represented include Trojan, Hercules, Atlas, DuPont, Gold Medal and New York.

Jim has the eye of a master craftsman, often taking a worn and weathered wooden box in hand to refinish it to it's original luster. Countless hours have been spent on the display shelves and custom lighting here as well.

As can be seen in the accompanying photographs, Jim no longer limits his collecting talents to just blasting machines. Many different candlesticks, carbide lamps, blasting related signs and tins, and dynamite boxes share space. Rare mining candle



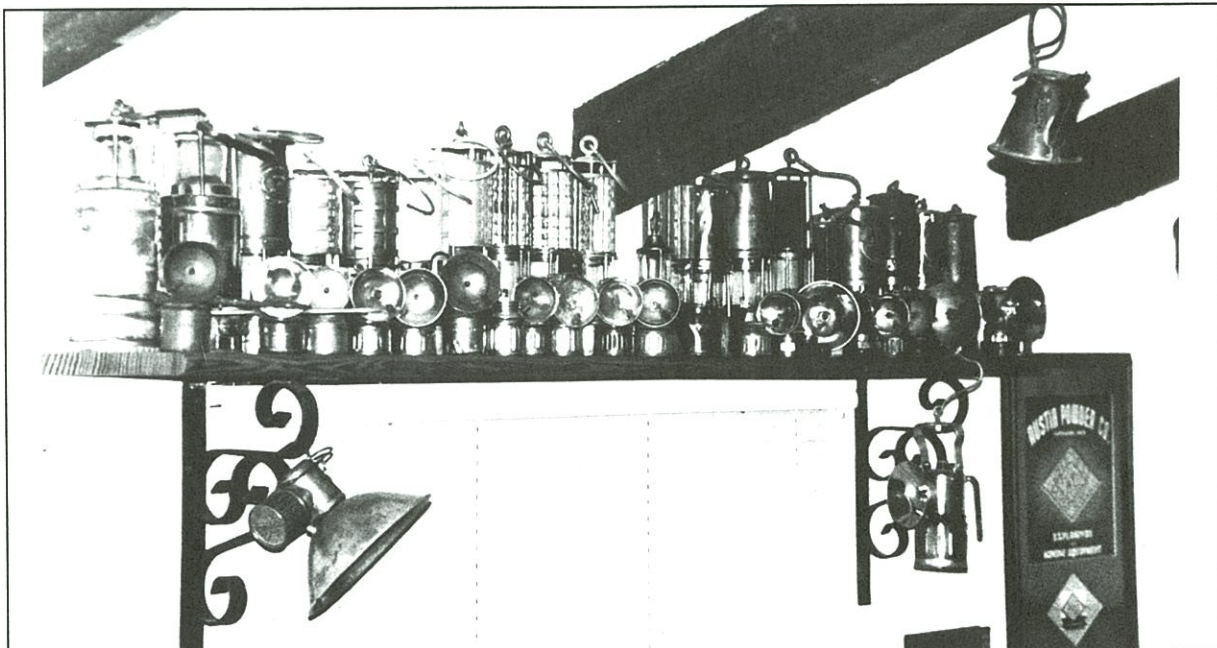


Shelves stacked with many brands and several sizes of blasting machines.

boxes have even begun showing up now.

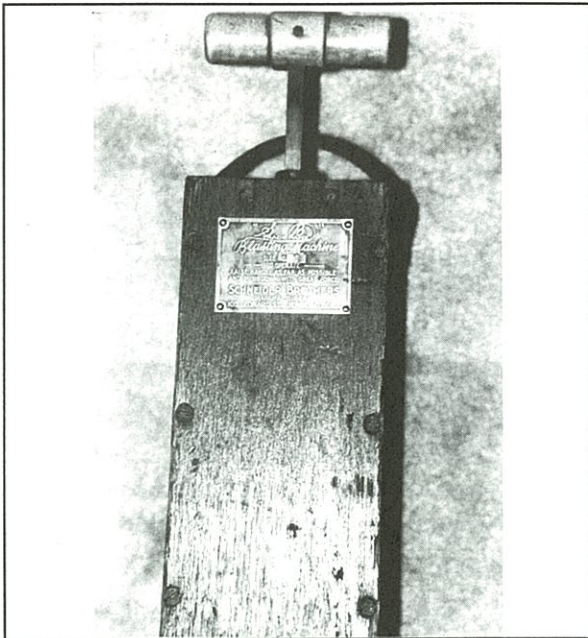
Next time you happen to find yourself in the Bay Area, give Jim a call. He and Carol will be pleased to share an afternoon

with you, your wondering eye will not soon forget the fantastic artifacts and the beer is always cold. Jim can be reached at (408) 733-2512.

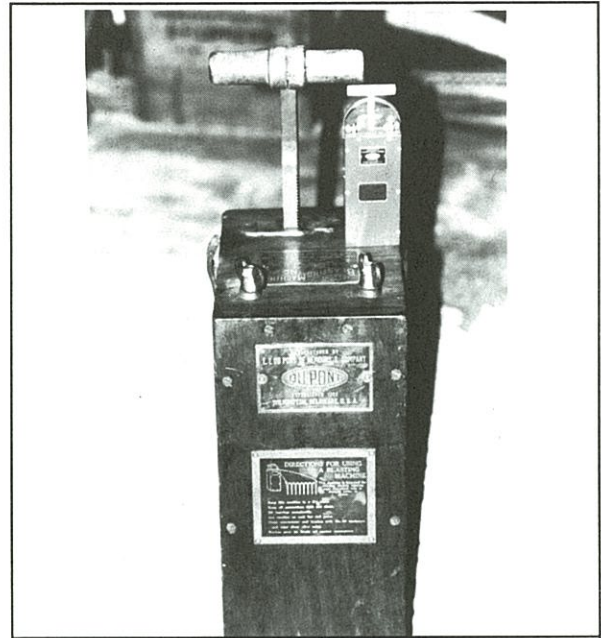


Rare safety lamps and carbide lamps share space with the blasting machines.

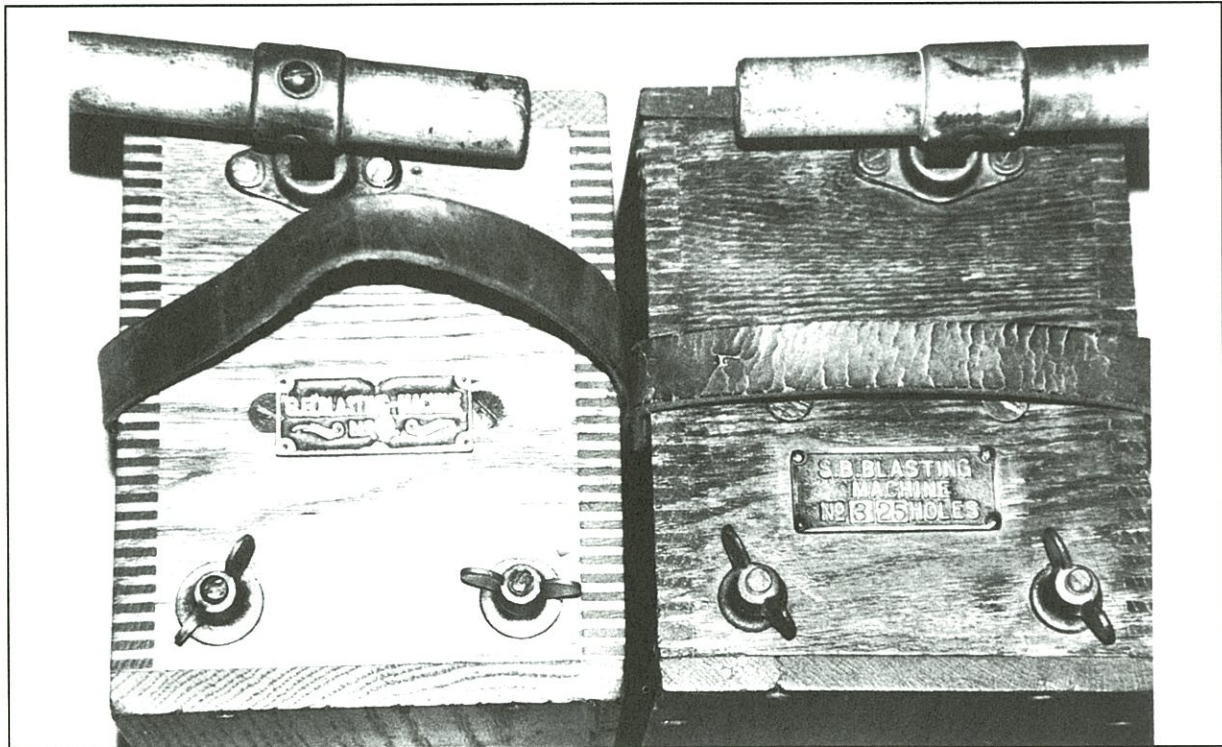




Schneider Brothers blasting machine. Most machines are only found with a brass tag designating it "S.B."

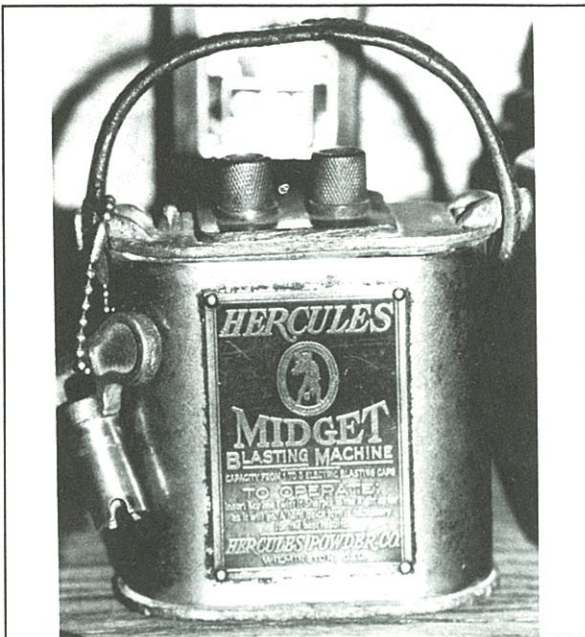


DuPont blasting machine with a White Brothers miniature presiding beside the rack bar.

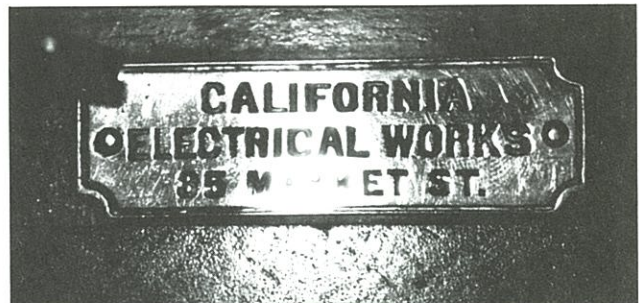


Two different S.B. blasting machines.





Rare Hercules Midget hand blaster for One to Five caps.



Extremely rare California Electric Works Blasting machine brass tag.



Candle boxes and dynamite boxes fill out space among other mining artifacts.



Lunch buckets, candle sticks and Blasting machines on a back wall.



## HOMESTAKE RAISE WHISTLE

By Al Winters

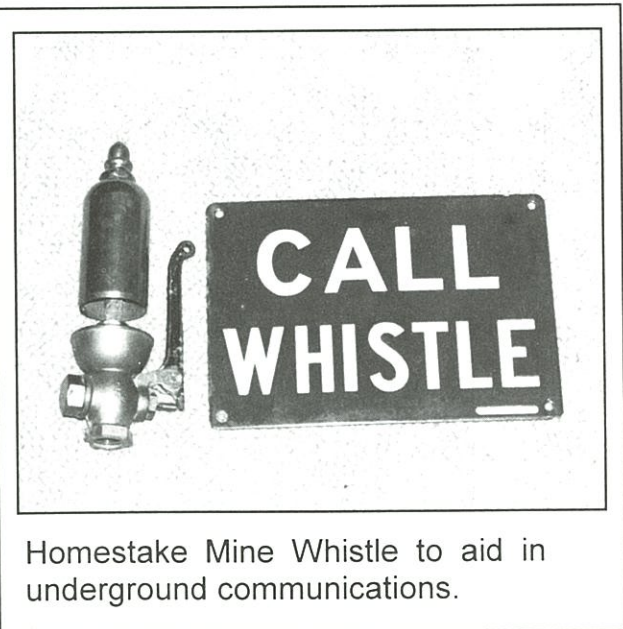
Access to ore above a particular mine level is often provided by an inclined or vertical opening called a "raise". Steel pins or timber is generally used to provide a working platform in raises; for inclines steeper than 50 degrees, a timbered chute or rock bin compartment separates the broken rock from the manway and services. Raise timbering varies from random stulls and lagging to the common six-post, double compartment, square-set used in many of the older western mines. With mechanized mining, raising has become somewhat of a lost art and is no longer the critical mine development step prior to actual stoping or extraction of the ore that it once was.

Raises were generally driven to the top of the ore or to the level above which varied from one hundred to two hundred vertical feet. Efficiency of driving the raise varied with the distance and rock temperatures as men had to climb and all materials had to be hoisted, carried or pulled up the raise. In most cases a timber slide with vent bag and pipe was carried along side the manway for materials to be hoisted by means of a small air hoist or tugger. Where rock temperatures were high such as in Butte, Montana it was often a major effort just climbing to work. Many times it was necessary to pour cold water on your head and hold your face in the vent bag for a few minutes to cool down after the climb. At the Homestake Mine, exploration and development requirements often necessitated raises in excess of eighty degrees and three hundred to six hundred feet in length. From these long raises sublevel drifts were driven

every one hundred fifty feet to mine or explore the orebody being tested.

Communications in raises were always a critical problem and consisted of yelling for your partner to hoist or stop the movement of supplies or utilizing some type of signal system. One system used in Butte for example was a pull cord running the length of the raise and tied at the bottom to a track fishplate which when pulled would hit up against a pipe or other fishplate nailed to the cap producing a loud "Clank". This was a fine and cheap system for these raises connecting one hundred foot levels.

For long raises at the Homestake Mine an efficient technique known as "Cage Raising" was developed which incorporated



Homestake Mine Whistle to aid in underground communications.

a large air or electric hoist and "Cage" for hoisting the miners and supplies to the face or blasting bulkhead. This saved time and

effort on the miners part by eliminating the physical work of climbing. A hoistman/nipper was assigned to the bottom to operate the hoist, supply the miners and to pull the exact amount of rock from the chute at the right time. The Cage Raise was driven 9-1/2 x 7 feet in cross section. A two-foot square cage for hoisting men and supplies ran in guides in the hoisting compartment and a ventilation, emergency ladderway and pipe compartment was carried adjacent. A rock bin was separated by 6x8 inch lagging nailed to the caps on seven-foot centers with an intermediate cross brace to strengthen the chute lining. Details of the timbering is shown on the attached diagram. Bearing sets for the posts and caps were placed as needed and at each one hundred fifty foot interval.

man/nipper and the miners was established by a small air whistle with cord which ran the length of the raise and advanced with the timber. The Homestake Mine Whistle as shown had a 4x2-inch diameter brass bell that was cast in the foundry with the rest of the brass pipe parts purchased. This small whistle produced a loud shrill which could be heard clearly throughout the raise and the sublevels above. Signals consisted of the standard one to stop, two to lower, three to hoist, plus a whole group of others designed to notify the miners of pertinent information such as the Boss is on the way or that it was time to quit.

Long raises driven by hand such as described became a thing of the past nearly thirty years ago when new methods utilizing mechanical Climbers or Boring machines replaced the older techniques.

Communications between the hoist-

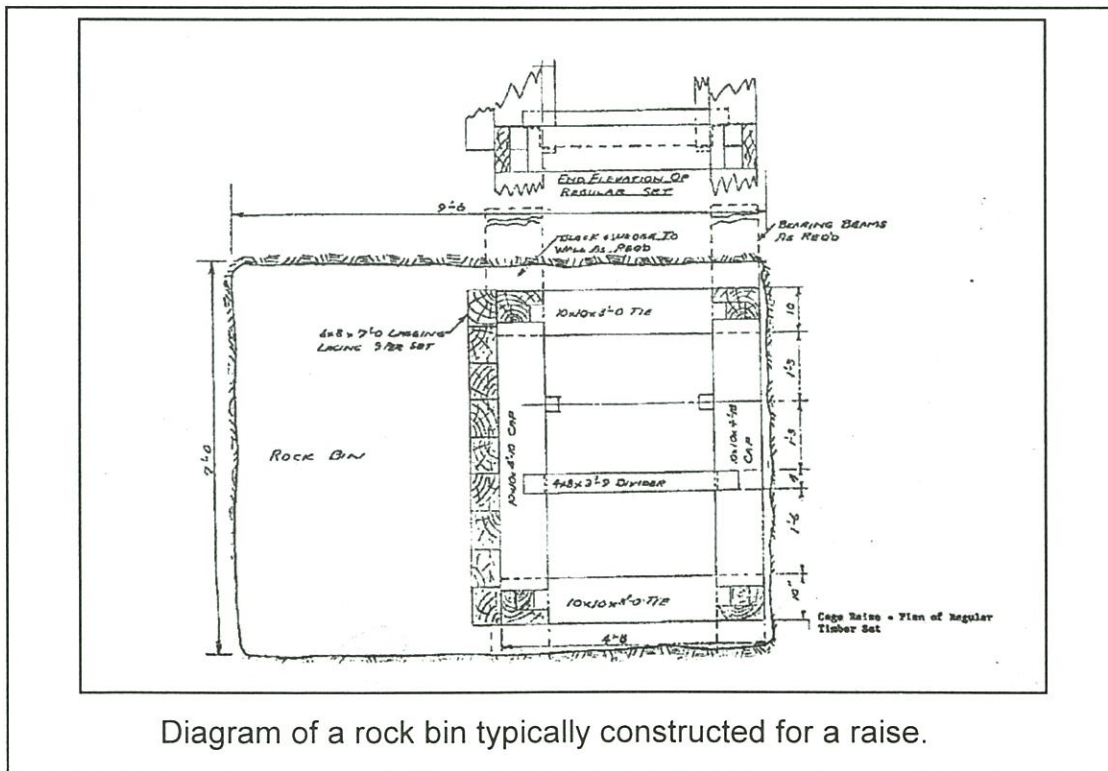


Diagram of a rock bin typically constructed for a raise.



## THE DUMP SHAFT

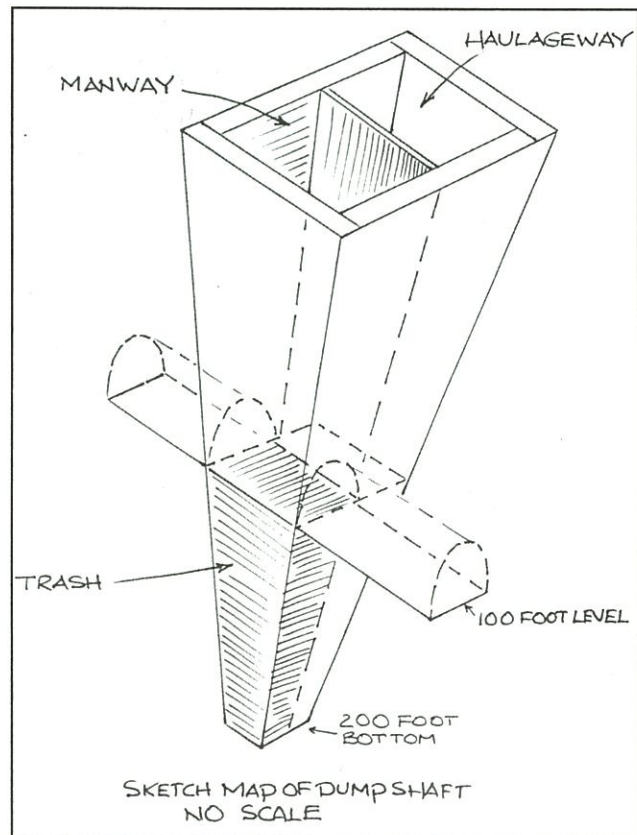
By Lane Griffin

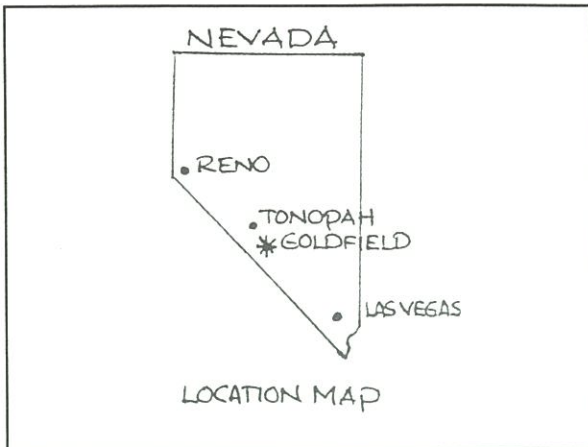
It was late in the day, we had examined the geology and underground workings of five mines already. My partner and I were mapping and sampling old mines in the heart of the Goldfield mining district as geologic consultants for a mining company. This part of the district is intensely altered, that is, what used to be volcanic rock is now a mass of soft clay. This would be the last shaft of the day, one of the many on the historic Mohawk claim and we anticipated a lot of uninspiring clay to map, especially since the high grade ore is exceptionally hard to distinguish underground. We used our high intensity light to examine the shaft before venturing into its depths. This appeared to be a two compartment mine, the shaft had been divided into two sections, one for the manway with ladders for access and the other, the haulageway, for transport of the ore bucket. The haulageway was open to approximately two hundred feet as determined by the rock drop method, but the manway was blocked about half way down. It was decided that the haulageway would provide us the best access and examination of the workings.

They were well timbered with square sets in good shape and a wooden curtain dividing the two sections so down I went. As is often the case there was debris in my way as I descended, so I carefully dismantled the wooden clothesline and sent the attached jeans sailing to the bottom, assuming they were recent additions from the residents of Goldfield or workers nearby. At the one hundred foot level of the shaft, I noticed

a small sublevel going two directions but only fifteen feet, so I decided to go all the way to the bottom. Slowly I made my way downward and as I did I was astounded by the amount of debris literally bulging out of the crevices in the wood that separated the two compartments. Was this recent junk or old treasure?

The wood lagging between the square sets obscured all rock rendering my geologic examination fruitless, so I decided to ascend to the sublevel at one hundred feet where rock was exposed along the horizontal workings. The rock was the usual altered volcanic so I noted its characteristics and



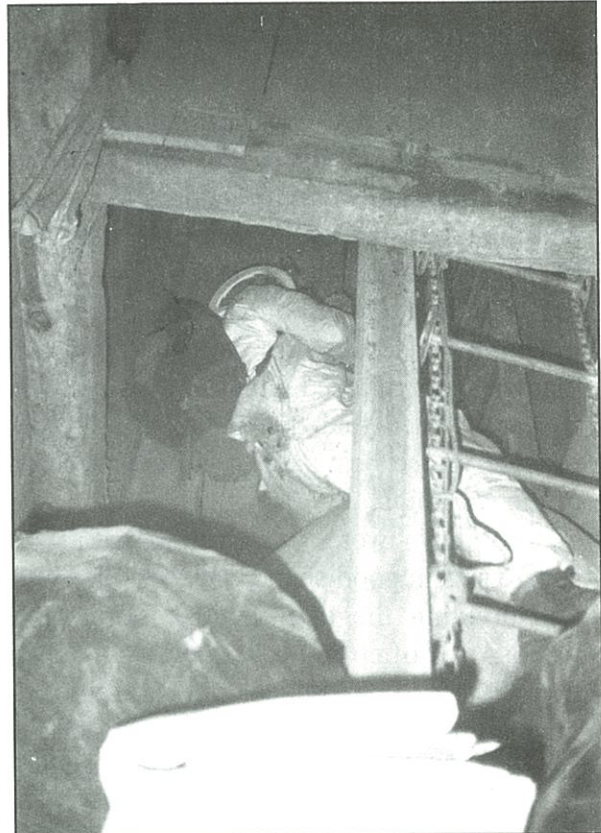


took chip samples then began to examine the trash I was standing in. Food cans, stationary, bottles and all manner of common trash was covering the sublevel and as my light illuminated the labels and the headlines of the newspapers, I began to slowly realize this was a subterranean treasure from just after the turn of the century. To stretch it a bit, the western version of King Tut's tomb of artifacts, an untouched accumulation of tons of old, very old trash. I took measure of where I stood atop the heap and approximately how far down it filled the manway compartment. I estimated one hundred feet to the bottom of an eight-foot by eight-foot shaft filled with very compacted trash. The was November of 1997, only until July of the next year would I know exactly what trash and treasures lay hidden in that dump shaft.

Careful research indicated that this particular mine was the Lynda-Mohawk located on the Mohawk 1 patented claim. We were able to contact the owner, and scheduled a meeting. Our plan was simple, rehabilitate the workings so access could be made safely and the artifacts retrieved efficiently, then mine the trash in a modified shrink-stope method. We would start at the

bottom and work up, dumping the trash in the haulageway downward and hoisting the treasures to the surface through the haulageway upward. The owner was all for it, especially since it was to result in the first royalty payments received since he owned these famous Goldfield claims.

Preparation for this unusual mining project was critical to success. New ladders had to be fabricated, personal protective equipment had to be purchased, and all safety issues had to be identified and surmounted. Our oxygen monitoring equipment had not noted any noxious gases and the oxygen level was within normal limits. Our biggest concern was the dust and particulate concentrations in a confined space,



Descending into the Haulageway



basically dirt and trash particles. We decided on using full face respirators with quick change filters, latex exam gloves covered by leather work gloves and full disposable body suits. We roped up when necessary and used the existing square sets for support whenever possible. As it turned out, we were well prepared for the task which was as we imagined— unbelievably dirty, dangerous, physically demanding and exciting.

We began at the bottom, two hundred feet below the shaft collar, looking upward, the entrance was a pinpoint of light. The trash was extremely compact because of the weight of the overlying material. This was beneficial because it was a competent coherent mass which allowed us to work underneath and stope out the goods without failure, but you almost had to drill and blast to loosen anything. The first ten feet gave us a glimpse of what the dump contained. Newspapers of all description mainly from Goldfield and California towns, but many were from the midwest and east coast. Mining journals and correspondence from as diverse locals as the Phillipines, Nicaragua and Mexico were found, but most abundant were papers from the Goldfield Consolidated Mining Company. Cans and bottles of all description, both broken (it was a two hundred foot fall) and surprisingly, intact. The most interesting items were clothing, jeans, shirts, hats, boots, many of them covered with candle wax. The condition of the items was excellent, the workings were completely dry and the fact that the haulage-way was not filled with trash allowed air circulation in a controlled environment. The trash was able to degrade in a slow, non-destructive manner, there was never any bad



The author in his element.

odor, liquid ‘goo’, nor any vermin or insects. The only bad factors were the damage during the fall, compaction from the overlying trash, and damage from the original garbage if it contained a liquid.

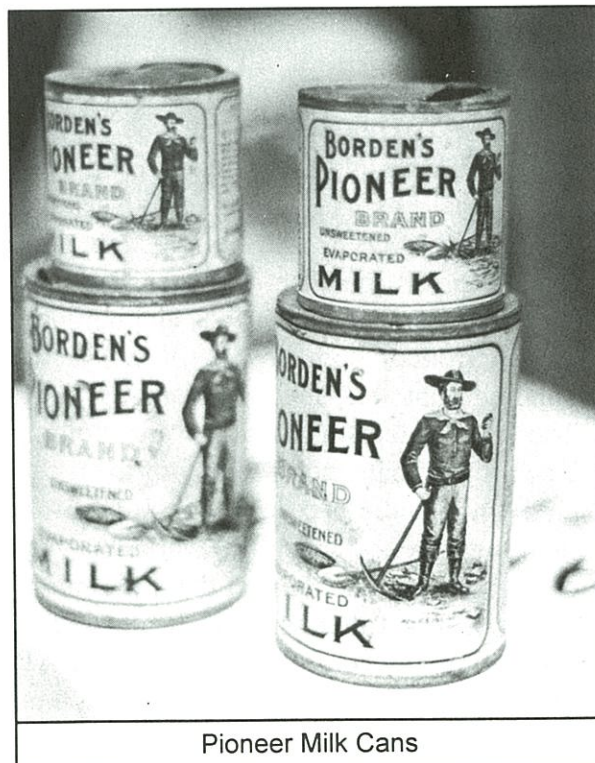
Grabbing handfuls of stuff, sorting through it and deciding what was trash or treasure was the basic procedure, but this created a constant atmosphere of dust and debris. Luckily, we had excellent masks and protective equipment so we were able to work for about three hours before our filters clogged up and exhaustion made us take a break. Trash would go into the haulage-way and the treasures would go into large rice sacks, to be hoisted out later. The magazines, newspapers and correspondence at the bottom were dated between 1907 and 1910 with the majority of the items from 1910. It was assumed that the items dated before 1910 were probably collected at one time and thrown away with the 1910 era trash. After going through the entire column of trash we found that the dump was probably started in 1910 and about two to four



feet of trash was dumped down the shaft every month ending approximately the first part of 1913. We were able to predict the dates of dumping so well that I estimated the position of trash for the spring of 1912. Climbing up to the estimated square set, while my partner worked below in 1910 material, I punched into the compartment and within five minutes pulled out a copy of the Goldfield Tribune, dated April 15, 1912, describing the sinking of the world's largest steamship and subsequent rescue of all passengers. I was, of course, looking at the report on the tragedy of the Titanic and found the article on coincidentally April 15, 1998. The tragedy on that day now is the titanic amount of income tax due, but that is another story.

We slowly worked our way upward doing our best to examine the dislodged trash as carefully as possible. This made work tedious but we were constantly reinforced by the discovery of interesting items, some of them exceptionally small such as political buttons and matchbooks. A zone of pharmacy items would be hit and suddenly labeled bottles from all the Goldfield pharmacies would be uncovered to our respirator muffled squeals of delight. Newspapers were ubiquitous, and as befitting a new mining camp, they were from all points on the compass, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, Chicago, Salt Lake City and many other cities throughout the U.S. Nevada newspapers were primarily from Goldfield and Reno, but Searchlight and Las Vegas papers were also found. Food related cans and boxes were also discovered throughout the 'stratigraphic column' or should I say the 'shaftigraphic' column, in other words we found them from top to bottom. After re-

viewing the content of the cans we came to the conclusion that these guys ate very well. Oyster cans, Japanese crab meat, Louisiana shrimp cans, Russian caviar tins and all sorts of fruit and vegetable tins made one realize that this was indeed one of the richest mining camps in the world and with three railroads, had a selection of goods on par with any other large city in the west. After eating all this good food the citizens of Goldfield would have to clean their teeth, and we found evidence of these efforts as well. Tooth powder tins, mouth rinse bottles, toothbrushes and toothpaste containers were found in an abundance not usually thought of in a mining town. I have concluded that this dump contained trash from the managers and engineers at the Goldfield Consolidated Mines who were a little more preoccupied with hygiene than the ordinary miner.



Pioneer Milk Cans



An extraordinary amount of the paper products were from the Goldfield Consolidated Mining Company and employees. Personnel time cards, production reports from the Jumbo, Red Top, Laguna and Mohawk mines, supply reports and requisition forms, company correspondence, maps and blueprints. Letters and business cards suggest that the engineering and geology offices used this mine as their private dump and all the daily mine reports that weren't needed on a long term basis were thrown away here. Equipment manuals for pumps, compressors, hoists and associated mining gear were also part of the Consolidated trash.

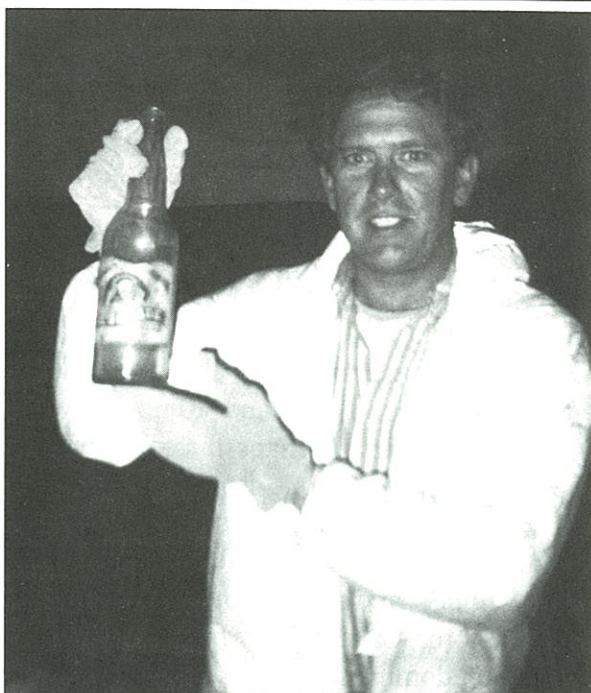
Many personal things were thrown down the shaft as well; unopened letters, postcards, women's periodicals, sewing patterns, sheet music, children's writing lessons, correspondence school lessons. Many women's items were among the discarded items such as shoes, corsets, large fashion hats, invitations to dances and dance cards. The dance cards were particularly noteworthy because they were made for a specific dance, i.e., the Spring dance for the Chuckwallas social organization on a specific date. Inside was a listing of the dances with song titles and signatures of the partner for that dance. Announcements for the Elks club meetings and ceremonies as well the famous Montezuma club were among the more interesting items. As mentioned earlier, there was an abundance of correspondence school literature as well as a school catalog from the Northwestern school of Pharmacy and the School of Dentistry, University of Southern California. Obviously, the people employed by Goldfield Consolidated were educated and ambitious, but they also saw

the writing on the wall, as 1912 was the beginning of the decline of Goldfield mining operations.

While not mining, the citizens of Goldfield were able to pass the time of day with other pleasurable pursuits. Liquor and beer bottles were found in abundance and smoking tins, pouches and other containers were ubiquitous. Schlitz and Budweiser were common brands but also found were Rainier bottles, Pabst and Reno Brewing Company bottles. Perhaps the most unique beer bottle was the one from the Goldfield Consumers Brewing Association, High Grade Beer, with a unique colorful label. Most liquor and wine bottles were from Kentucky or California, whiskey being the most predominant, but surprisingly, the Beefeater gin bottles indicated they were civilized mining men after my own heart, with a weakness for gin and tonics. Every type of smoking modality was represented, pipes, cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco and snuff. Along with the smoking items there were containers for products such as Tobacco Boon, a supposed cure for smoking, drinking and other addictions. It was, of course, in cigarette form and contained God knows what.

Political cards and endorsements were a common item, usually small business card size announcements with the parson's name and affiliation and office, sometimes with portraits. Tasker Oddie who was to be the governor and George Nixon who was the congressional senator from Nevada had cards which were discovered, among the other justice of the peace, sheriff and state senator candidates. A couple of political buttons were also uncovered, one of which had Oddie and Nixon's portraits.



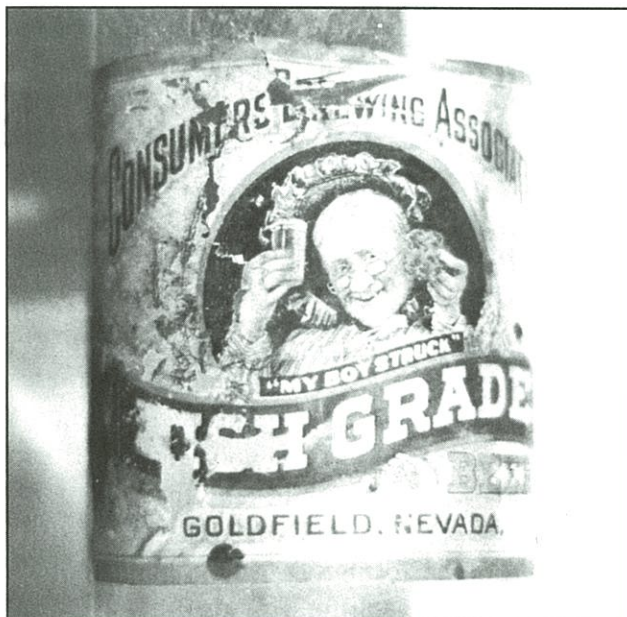


Scott Werschky with High Grade Beer

Evidence of Goldfield's union problems were also discovered among the trash. Handwritten notes describing the mine owners stand against union agitators and their mandate that no member of the I.W.W. or Western Federation of Miners should be employed. A gunny sack was found that contained all the personal belongings of one of the workers including his Western Federation of Miners union membership card and copies of the Socialist Review, a communist magazine of the times. Additionally, an unopened letter from a young student who wrote her Masters thesis on the labor problems of Goldfield was found.

We can tell a lot about people from their trash, as the saying goes and this is no exception. The old mine workings usually are sterile holes in the rock, invaluable for the things that can be scientifically inferred from the structure, alteration and rock type.

This shaft provided a personal glimpse into the life and times of the people who made the hole in the rock one hammer blow at a time. After cleaning up two years worth of trash, I felt a bond with the inhabitants of Goldfield and their garbage that few will ever feel. What kind of people were these? The amount of scientific journals and other management related stationary would suggest that most of the trash came from the office of the engineering and geology section of the Goldfield Consolidated Mining Company. The food cans and bottles could have come from a cafeteria or eating establishment specifically for the management of the Company. The amount and variety of food was exceptional and these people ate well and often. Personal items, social invitations, and letters were obviously from the wives of the workers and there may have been company housing for these workers nearby. One of the most perplexing things was the abundance of work clothes, jeans, jackets, shirts,



Close up of the High Grade Beer



etc. Most of these were in good condition and in such an isolated area, not worth discarding away. I can only think that these were from workers who left quickly or died and the company just discarded their clothing. Candles, pocket knives and other personal items were often found in the pockets. Perhaps these were from union people that the company dismissed hurriedly, or being that this was from a time when the boom was fading, maybe they just took off quickly with no forwarding address. The gunny sack we found with all the personal belongings of a Mr. Dan McGraw certainly points to the possibility of foul play. Personal letters, poems, high school diploma, grades, high school yearbook (1905), photos, maps, Western Federation of Miners union card, and several issues of the International So-

cialist Review, one which was unopened, legal hand documents, were all found together. These were things that most people would have kept even if they were leaving in a hurry. Mr. McGraw's union association was obvious and he may have been kicked out of Goldfield by one of Wingfield's security men in a hasty fashion or even worse.

Many of these Goldfield artifact now grace my shelves and they are truly unique in their own right, but whenever I really think about them I think of the people who used them. These were people involved in what was to them the biggest adventure of their lives, few made the riches they dreamed of, but by the looks of their garbage, they worked hard in a harsh far away place, ate, drank and smoked, and left with enough memories for a lifetime.



Newspapers, jeans and assorted trash hangs down into 'stope' at the one hundred-fifty foot level.



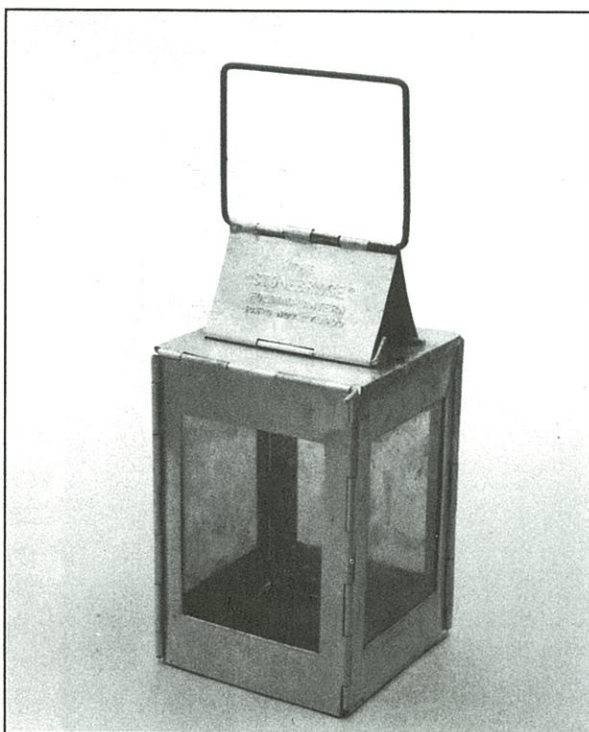
## THE STONEBRIDGE FOLDING CANDLE LANTERN

By Robert A. Kraft

The Stonebridge folding candle lantern, an ingenious early twentieth century lighting device, familiar to all serious antique shop visitors, was not intended for mining use. We know, nonetheless, that these lanterns found their way into American mines to a limited degree. The purpose of this paper is to help the collector in his understanding of these fascinating devices. Because of their portable and collapsible nature and excellent resistance to wind flame extinction, they would have lent themselves well to both coal and hardrock mining except that they appeared on the scene too

late. The development of this lamp chronologically paralleled the appearance of the carbide lamp and the disappearance of candle lighting. The Stonebridge was designed for the outdoorsman but also became useful to others including the United States Army Medical Corp and the United States Army Commissary. Other major users, unknown to the author, may have existed. The Caduceus emblem, found on some later lanterns, designated Army Medical Corp use including hospitals in WWI, and the CusC emblem, that of the United States Army Commissary.

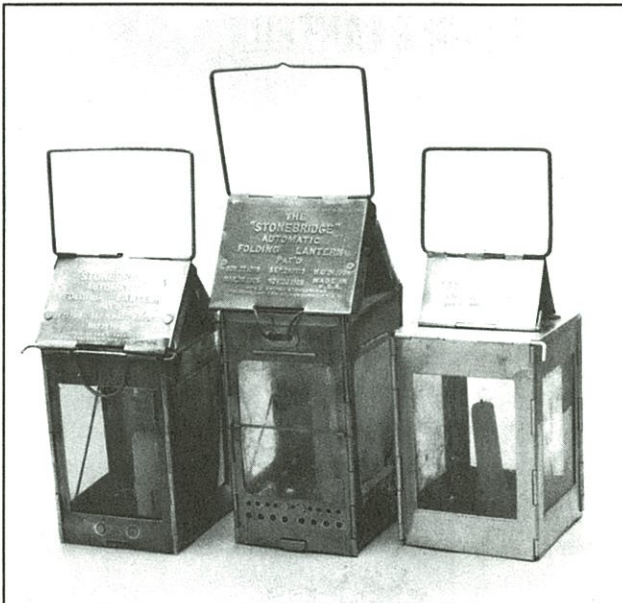
Charles H. Stonebridge was listed in 1895 as superintendent of his company in New York. The Stonebridge Folding Lantern Co. was listed separately from 1906 through 1915. In 1915 (in the Trow's New York City Directory) a separate listing appeared for the C. H. Stonebridge Manufacturing Co. as camping outfitters. Both listings also appeared in the 1920 and 1925 directories. One of the author's lanterns includes a leather case with the markings of Abercrombie and Fitch Co. of New York who appears to have marketed these lanterns. The earliest patent date marked on Stonebridge lanterns appears to be 1900 and the last 1908. All of the lanterns after 1908 are marked as C. H. Stonebridge Mfg. Co. Those from 1906 and earlier are marked The Stonebridge Folding Lantern Co. It would appear that the name of the company changed from The Stonebridge Folding Lantern Co. to C. H. Stonebridge Mfg. Co. (approximately 1906-1908) because the



One date, 1900, aluminum Stonebridge with removable hinge pins. This is the earliest Stonebridge known to the author. Photos by Robert Cross.



## Stonebridge Folding Candle Lantern

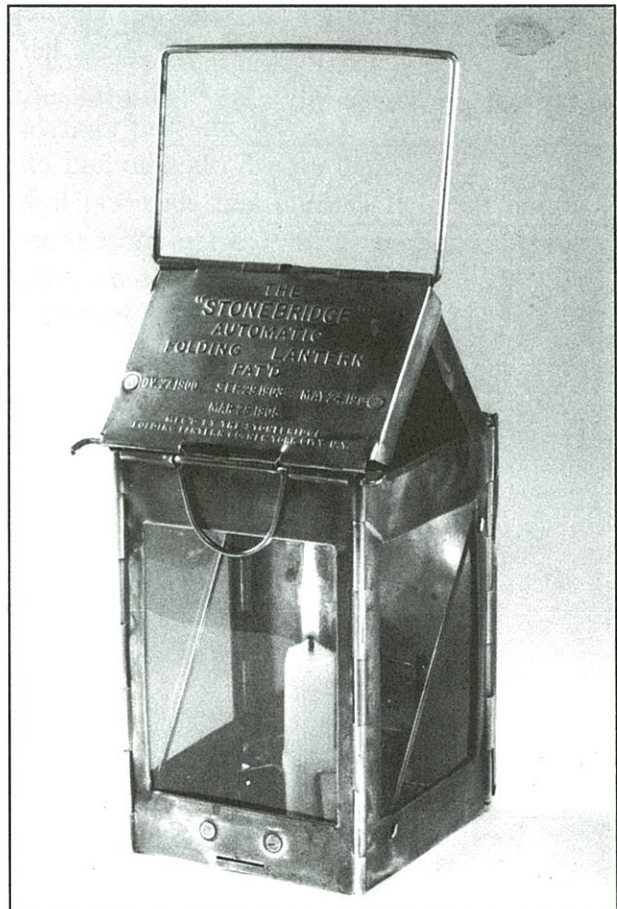


Comparison of intermediate short, early tall and early short models (left to right).

company had expanded its product line to other camping outfitter supplies. The word "automatic" did not appear on the 1900 lamp but came into use when the hinges of the lamp were changed to allow the user to fold or unfold the lamp in a matter of seconds. The 1900 lantern was cumbersome to fold. The word "automatic" disappeared from the definitive tall lantern at the same time the name C. H. Stonebridge Mfg. Co. appeared.

The lanterns can be divided into early short types (approximately nine inches tall) and later tall types (approximately ten inches tall). The first short lantern, marked with a 1900 patent, was quite different from subsequent lanterns. It had four windows instead of the later three and more important, capable of folding only after four long hinge pins were removed. All later lanterns could fold without removal of these pins. Several features of the lanterns changed with the evolutionary design modifications.

The lamps were made taller in 1906 and a gradual increase of air to the bottom of the lantern was provided with adjustable air intake to later models. Better wire protection of the mica windows and installation of triangular air baffles to protect against wind were added. The candle holders in later lamps were made in steel, galvanized steel, brass and aluminum. The aluminum and brass lanterns cost \$2.50 each and the galvanized steel \$1.50. Four inch, 7/8 inch diameter candles were \$0.20 per dozen and 1 1/8 inch diameter candles, \$0.35 per dozen. Extra mica windows were \$0.10. The lanterns



Four date, 1905, brass intermediate short model with squeeze lid closure and spring loaded bottom. The first of the 'Automatics'.

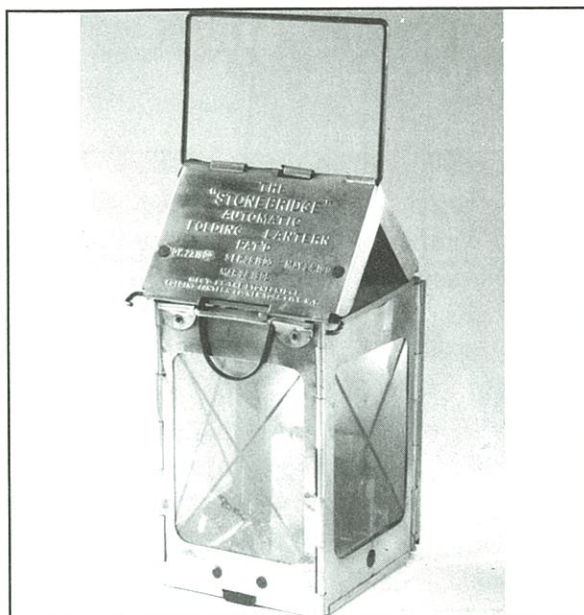


## Stonebridge Folding Candle Lantern

would all fold into a flat packet that could be stored in one's pocket. Some had leather cases.

During the photo session of lanterns described in this article, it became apparent after only a few minutes that a lighted candle soon makes the lantern too hot to touch except by the handle. This may have been a reason to make the early lamps taller, Brass, aluminum and steel lanterns are all plagued with this problem. The lanterns are still less fire threatening than an open candle flame. Mica, a mineral, is fireproof.

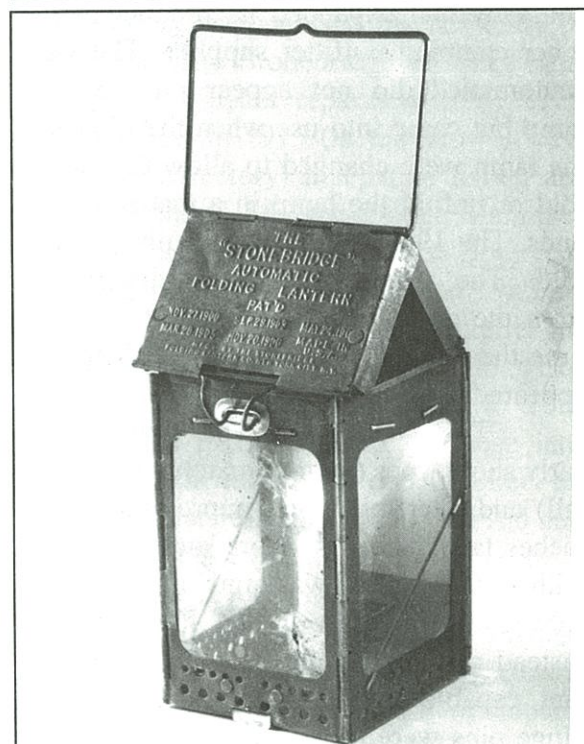
The beauty of construction, portability, wind resistance, firmly attached candles and efficient light escape made these lanterns a valuable lighting source in any primitive setting. The cleverness of their design is apparent to all who handle and examine them. If carbide and electrical light sources had been delayed a few more years, the Stonebridge would have become a ubiquitous household, mining and industrial item.



Four date, 1905, aluminum intermediate short with unusual six wire mica protection.



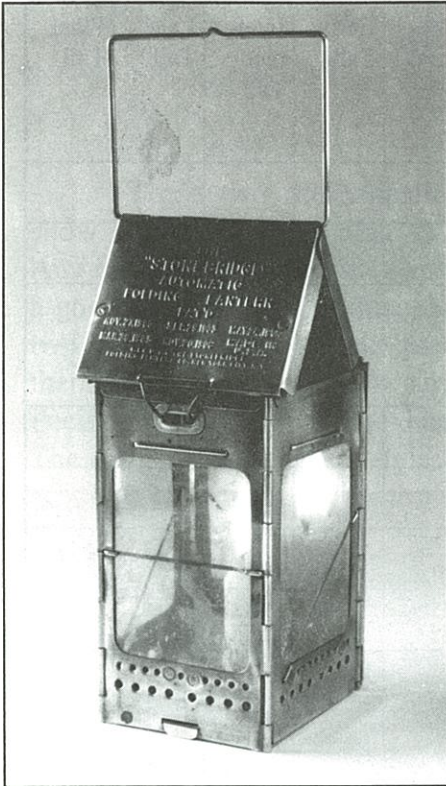
Five date, 1906, brass tall with leather Abercrombie and Fitch carrying case.



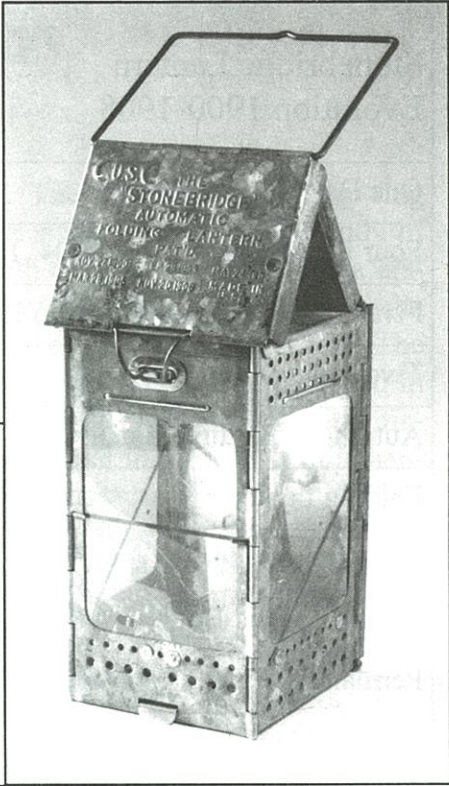
Five date, 1906, steel late short model with first snap lid closure and increased bottom ventilation.



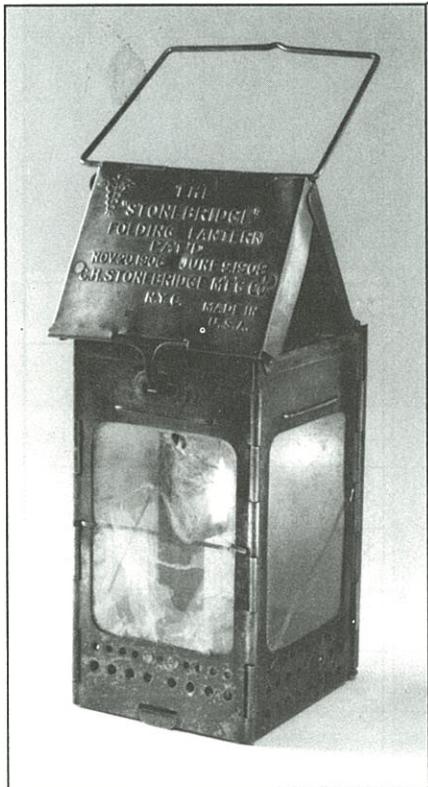
# Stonebridge Folding Candle Lantern



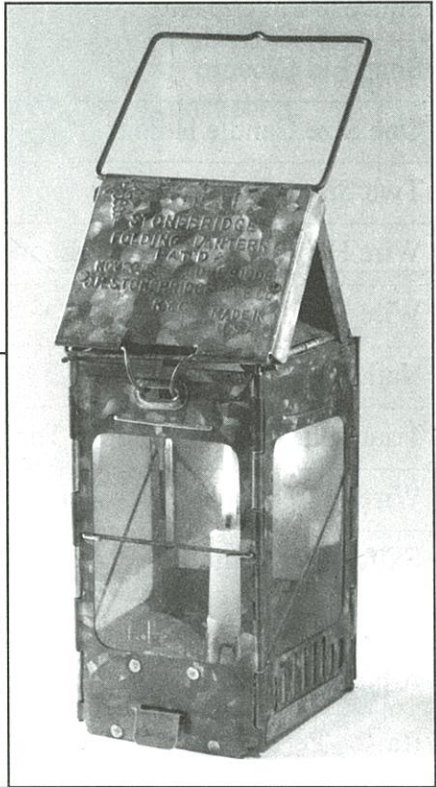
Five date, 1906, brass early tall model with aluminum reflector and extra mica behind reflector. Aluminum lamps did not have extra mica.



Five date, 1906, galvanized steel intermediate tall with symbol of United States Army Commissary. Unusual extra ventilation holes.



Two date, 1908, brass late tall with caduceus symbol of the Army Medical Corp. (WWI) and extra ventilation holes at bottom.



Two date, 1908, galvanized steel final tall with caduceus symbol of Army Medical Corp and definitive adjustable ventilation at bottom. Spring loaded wind triangles at top. Aluminum reflector with extra mica window.

**Stonebridge Folding Candle Lantern**

Stonebridge Lantern Evolution 1900-1908	Early Short	Inter-med. Short	Late Short	Early Tall	Inter-med. Tall	Late Tall	Final Tall
One Date, Nov. 27, 1900	X						
Four Dates, 1900, 1903, 1904, 1905		X					
Five Dates, 1900, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906			X	X	X	X	
Two Dates, 1906, 1908						X	X
Automatic Folding Lantern		X	X	X	X		
Folding Lantern	X					X	X
C.H. Stonebridge Mfg. Co.						X	X
Spring Loaded Bottom		X					
Permanent Hinge Pins		X	X	X	X	X	X
Removable Hinge Pins	X						
Squeeze Lid Closure		X					
Snap Lid Closure			X	X	X	X	X
One Size Candle Holder	X	X	X				
Two Sizes Candle Holder				X	X	X	X
Wire Handle Extends into Lantern		X					
Wire Handle to Ridge Line	X		X	X	X	X	X
Nail Notch in Wire Handle			X	X	X	X	X
Triangular Wind Shields at Top							X
Wire Protection of Mica Windows	0	2 or 6	2	3	3	3	3
Extra Mica behind Reflector			X	X	X	X	X
Extra Bottom Air Holes		Rare	X	X	XX	XXX	XXXX
Adjustable Side Ventilation						X	X
Raised Perforated Bottom							X

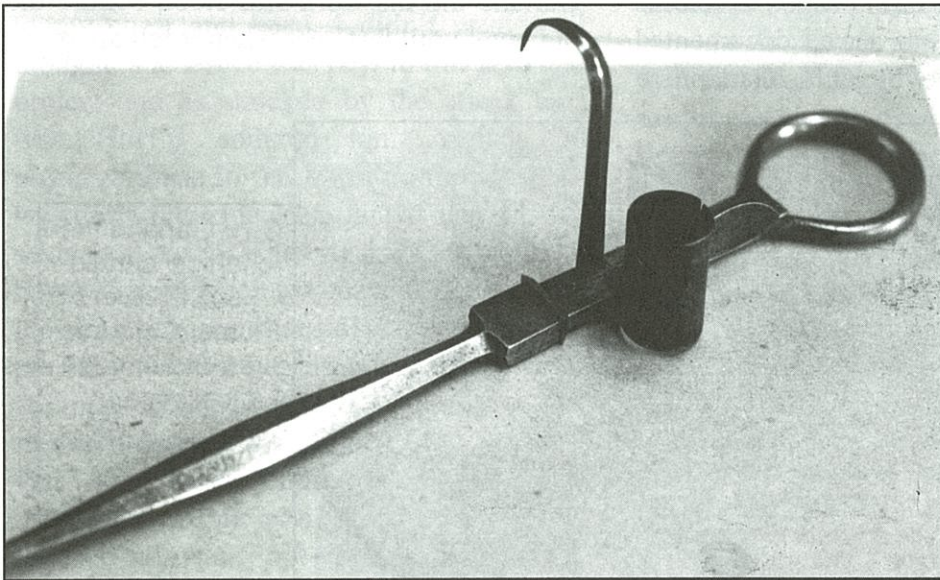


## MECHANICAL CANDLESTICKS

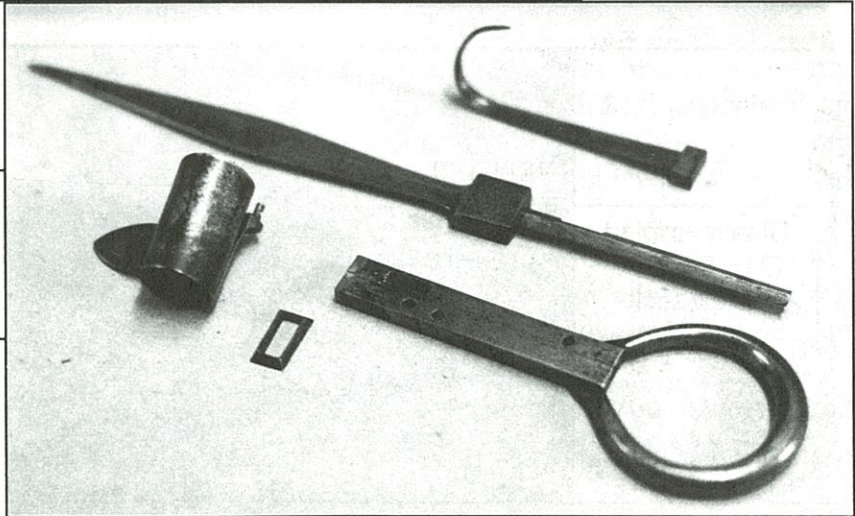
By Leo Stambaugh

These two mechanical candlesticks show a craftsmanship that is remarkable. Any candlestick that comes apart is usually a good example of workmanship, but these two have an added artistic quality that sets them apart. The first stick surfaced in the Pacific Northwest with no history known. The daggerlike spear is a style I have never

seen before. The rectangular locking ring keeps the spear from spreading the body of the stick. Both of these examples use a disassembling style that is documented in the Gabriel Wertz patented candlestick. The body end of the spear is diamond shaped in cross section and fits tightly in a similar diamond shape channel in the body of the han-



Disassembling candlestick discovered in the Pacific Northwest. Possible connection to Gabriel Wertz patent. Leo Stambaugh collection.

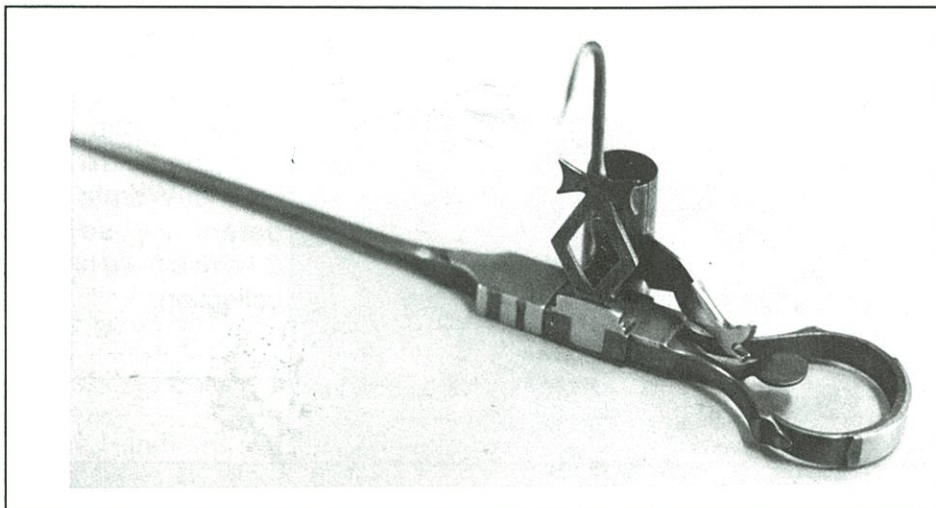


Disassembled candlestick from the Pacific Northwest.

dle. The thimble has two lugs which fit in a hole on the body. The lugs have V-shaped notches which line up with the diamond shaped channel so that when the spear is inserted it engages the notches and locks the thimble firmly in place. The Dagger stick and the Werntz patent both have a hook which is inserted in a close fitting slot that locks the spear in position until the hook is released.

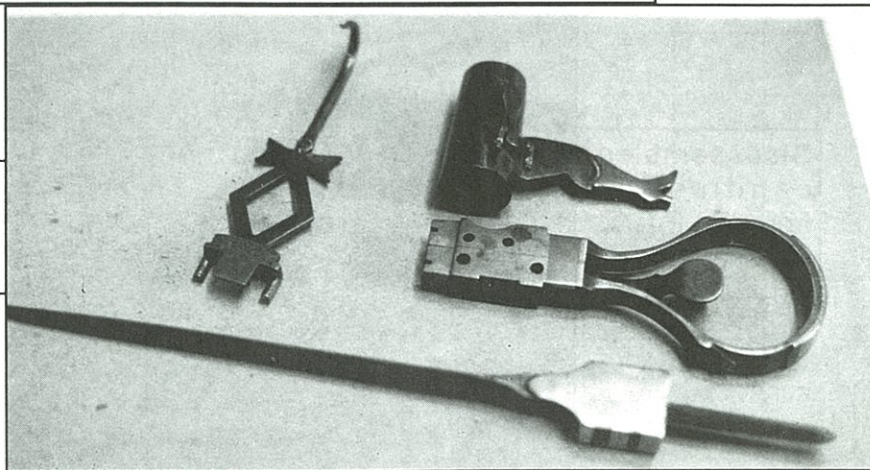
The second stick has a spring tab in the handle with a notch that grabs the end of the spear and locks it until pushed to release it. The second stick has a well documented history. It was made by C.H. Garland, a

noted metalsmith who made the great 'combination lock candlesticks' in Silver Plume, Colorado. One of the family members still lives here and owns a nice example of the combination lock sticks made by his grandfather. The stick in the photo was left by Mr. Garland with the proprietress of a hotel in Silver Plume because he didn't have money to pay his bill. He left the area for Idaho and died there. The stick has ten brass inlays and a beautiful lady's leg with boot thumtbat. The tool shed where Mr. Garland did his work still stood behind the old hotel until last year when it fell apart.



C.H. Garland mechanical candlestick, Silver Plume, Colorado. Leo Stambaugh collection.

Disassembled C.H. Garland candlestick.





## BIZARRE STORIES OF MINING, PAST AND PRESENT

By Jungle George

### "Ambush at Tallahassee Creek"...

#### Continued from Issue Number 7

Where the story left off, two exploration geologists during the uranium boom of the late 1970's were ambushed in the Colorado mountains:

....."You Sonofabitches know who we are, don't you?", the old man yelled, shoving the muzzle of the cocked .44 close to my chest and head. I didn't want to, I thought, and Bruce was new to this area and project and as shocked by the attack as I was. Having endured some verbal and physical abuse in the Marines, the situation was not quite as bad (so far) as when I was seven and nearly killed by a twister in Oklahoma. The mental trauma and fear of the long-past disaster that killed over 100 people, flooded back as the same old dreadful feelings; seeing bodies like ragdolls caught in tree limbs and debris, smelling death and fear. Yes! Now I remembered that these men were people I knew, transformed into enraged animals... but by what?

Perhaps a month or two before, I was doing a geologic reconnaissance in the same mountains after finding evidence of uranium deposits in areas still open for staking claims (while taking a weekend picnic with family and friends!). Keeping a low profile while doing the exploration was important, since other competitors were active in the region. Despite this, I was friendly to the local ranchers and stopped to tell them of my prospecting in the area, the old man and his nephew, who still operated their ranch that was founded almost a hundred

years earlier. I had spoken with the elder rancher on several occasions, indicating potential interest by the company to make an agreement for minerals, and gaining permission to prospect.

Meanwhile, Dan, my contact in the company's land department, completed the usual title searches, finding much of the land was open for staking of mining claims, and that a good portion was "severed estate" (with private surface, but which could still be staked legally for minerals). Since a major discovery by a competitor was rumored in my area, the company mobilized survey crews to stake the ground as soon as possible. Several other companies also had similar ideas, so a "claim-staking race", with numerous 4X4 vehicles and people stirred clouds of dust in the hills, triggering another mining rush in the Rockies... a modern equivalent of the "Pikes Peak" rush of 1859 and Cripple Creek in the 1890's!

"...Goddamned Sonofabitches!", screamed the old man. "You tore down our fences and let our cows out. When you came in and staked the first place (referring to their ranch), that was like ——— my wife! Then when you did this place and let our stock loose, that was like raping my daughter! And how could you be so brash (his word) and risk 'innocent blood' (referring to young Bruce), because when you drove up, our guns were trained on you and we were about to blow you both away!"

"...Sonofabitch! You sweet-talked me to where I trusted you and now I'm



about to risk that goddamned place in Cañon City (the State Prison)...”, the old man lamented as he fingered the .44. About then, I heard Bruce speak up, after being asked his name. He said he had the same last name as theirs; maybe he was related? Would they shoot him, if he was? They hesitated and said “Yes... but we ‘might’ go for your funeral.” (I thought... Why am I sweating this out, with these almost comical punchlines?).

Then the old man seemed to have made up his mind on something, and turned to concentrate on me with a vengeance.

“If you bastards want to walk away from this, you (me) have to swear to do a few things, and even then I may not be done with this.” I had to swear at the point of a .44 on my life, the lives of my mother and family not to ever set foot on the ground again. I swore...Then, with their guns pointed at us, they ordered us to get into the trucks (carefully) and get out, before they changed their minds. As I was getting in my truck, I asked the old man if he might still negotiate with the company, if I was not involved in any way? He just stared at me and said “No, ... now just get out.” His hair-lipped nephew looked like he was ready to open fire, so we left.

I called the Denver headquarters office as soon as possible to report the incident and its severity, criminal implications, etc.. Management at first shined it off and appeared not too concerned. However, the next day the manager of the office received a dose of the same medicine from the old man on the phone, who said he was going to come to town and personally kill him and wreck his whole office!! Then, I perceived action in the Denver office toward negotia-

tions with the ranchers, since I had declined to press any charges against them. I carried a revolver for months afterwards, and still do in remote areas. My associate Dan, in the company land department, was able to cut a lease deal with the same ranchers during the next few weeks and the company was able to conduct exploration operations until the uranium boom went bust in the early 1980's.

The old man is dead now, his obituary outlining a colorful and productive life as a true western rancher from pioneer days (no hint of this incident, of course). Others involved are mostly retired, dead, or a few still working... who knows where?

True to my sworn word, I never set foot in that district again. But I know there have been, and will be, many more untold stories of mining and exploration out there. I'm still a restless field geologist, born under a wandering star of Scorpio, always on the verge of making that big strike. And, as such, I'm keeping an eye peeled (and a bullet marked) for that next hare-lipped Sonof-a-bitch! Because nice guys rarely win, you must be willing to risk everything to generate original wealth. It is the American Way.





## SCHAEFFER BROS. & POWELL CANDLE BOX

By Mark Bohannon

For many years, it has been assumed that the candles manufactured by the Schaeffer Bros. & Powell Mfg. Company were unmarked.

Previously, all the candles found from this company were unmarked and were the softer, yellowish wax candles. It was also assumed that the Schaeffer Bros. & Powell Mfg. Company only produced stenciled candle boxes, the "SUNLIGHT" style box being the most commonly found.

But all that changed a couple of years ago when Ted Bobrink and I were exploring some of the abandoned mines around the Calico District of California. After a full day of exploring, and finding nothing, we were resting and noticed that some of the wooden wedges used in the timbering were unusual. Instead of just the typical tapered wood wedge used in most every mine, the miners that made these wedges took the extra time to taper the four "fat" edges of the wedge. The result of this was that the wedge was less likely to split when hammered into place.



We decided to look around all of the timbers and see if we could find a couple of loose wedges for our collections. While looking for these wedges, I glanced around the back of a timber that we had been walking by for hours (and one that anyone who had ever been in that mine would have walked by), and could not believe my eyes.

What I was looking at— with the label side facing down towards me— was the first Schaeffer Bros. & Powell Mfg. Company candle box end with a lithographed label ever found (to my knowledge). I immediately called Ted over and we discussed how the heck we were going to get it out from under that timber. The box end like many others was used as a spacer/wedge to help keep the timber tight and in place.

It was decided that I would climb up and see how tightly the box end was wedged between the timber and rock roof, and what we would need to get it out— or if it was going to even be possible. To my surprise, as soon as I touched the box end, it moved, and within ten minutes of very careful extraction, the box end was out after over 100 years.

The candle box end has white lettering with black outlining on a orange wax-like paper. It is the only Schaeffer Bros. & Powell candle box that says "MINING CANDLES" known at this time. The writing at the very top says: LABOR OVERCOMES ALL THINGS. At the very bottom, missing on this end, it says: GUARANTEED EQUAL TO ANY IN THE UNITED STATES. The most striking thing about this



candle box end is the black and white mining scene at the left which shows three miners— one using a pick, one drilling with a single jack and one shoveling ore into an ore car.

Both sides, found later, are stenciled in black. The back end, it seems, was used to stamp the name of the mining company the boxes were sold to. Other than this name, the end was blank.

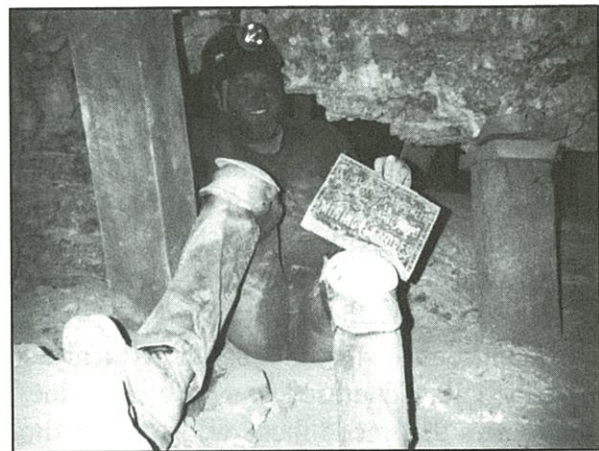
The other assumed part about Schaeffer Bros. & Powell candles— that they were all unmarked— was solved by Deric

English about a year later.

While exploring another mine in the same district, Deric found the broken top and bottom portions of a steric acid candle. What is present on the bottom portion is the stamped impression “SCHAEFFER..”. Unfortunately, the middle portion is missing, but it probably would have the remaining stamped impression of “BROS. & POWELL MFG. CO.” on it. As far as known, no candle wrapper has been found for this candle box.



Rare box end found behind timber.



Mark holding a Schaeffer Bros. & Powell candle box end (the find of the day!).





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## TIMELESS POETRY

The following poem was inscribed on the back of a card advertising The Louvre, a liquor store and apparently a bowling alley in Angels Camp, California. A saloon called The Louvre was also located in Goldfield, Nevada, where this card was found. Perhaps this was an early form of a franchise? Regardless, the owner obviously has a sense of humor as well as a keen insight into the human condition. The poem exposes truths that are as good today as they were at the turn of the century. Truly timeless poetry.

### “BULLSHIT”

A pathetic poem on a very popular commodity, by “A Highbinder”

“Father, tell me what is Bullshit?”  
Asked the eager, earnest lad.  
“Son,” replied the loving father,  
“Bullshit means both good and bad.  
As a literal translation,  
Bullshit is the dung that’s found  
In the limits of the stockyards  
Where the cows and steers abound.”

“But in jesting barroom parlance  
Bullshit stands for something more;  
It is salve to heal the suckers  
Who imagine they are sore.  
When a guy comes in and strings you  
With a story fine and fit  
All about the check that’s coming.  
Take my word, son, that’s Bullshit!

When another approaches  
With a lovely tale of woe.  
And he mentions that he knew you  
In a buried long ago,  
And he hedges to you closely  
At the table where you sit  
And about a small loan whispers,  
Just believe me, that’s Bullshit!

“Now this flower of stockyard fragrance  
Doesn't bloom alone for men,  
Women use it to advantage  
In their business now and then.”

When a lady lax in morals  
Fondly says you are IT  
While your coin is burning warmly,  
Lad she's handing you Bullshit.  
If you cop a little fairy  
When the lights are burning bright  
And the horse of dawn is riding  
Down the beaten track of night.  
And she says it never happened  
In her virgin life before,  
And that drink and she were strangers  
Til YOU butted in the door,  
And she tells you of her mamma  
And the things she does not permit,  
Take a hunch my son, and copper  
All those bets, they're just Bullshit!”

As a means of fertilizing  
Lawns and gardens, you will find  
That this product of the stockyards  
Has the elements beaten blind;  
But for any purpose  
Don't accept it— pass it by—  
You may not detect the odor,  
But it works both damp and dry.”

“It is hard to tell the distance  
Frogs can jump from where they sit—  
This may illustrate the meaning  
Of the classic term, ‘Bullshit’.”



## FIRE IN THE HOLE BOOK REVIEW

By Bob Weldin

Jerry Dolph, *FIRE IN THE HOLE: The Untold Story of Hardrock Miners*. Pullman: Washington State University Press, 1994.

This is Dolph's first book; although he has written articles for mining journals, magazines and newspapers. His contribution to mining history will be his unique ability, based on sixteen years of practical experience, to describe what it was really like to be a contract (gypo), hardrock miner in the 1970's and 1980's. Jerry considered himself a 'Tramp' miner although he had to limit the distance and time of his trappings because of his wife's unrelenting desire to stay near her family in the 'Silver Valley' of northern Idaho. Unemployment in the early 1970's forced Jerry to sign up for a miners training course at the Kelley Mine at Butte. After completing his training he returned to the Wallace/Kellogg area where he eventually worked in most of the major silver mines of the Coeur d'Alene district, including, the Lucky Friday, Sunshine, Bunker Hill and Lower Bunker Hill, Crescent and Galena. He also spent short stints at the Homestake mine at Lead, the Hack Canyon mine in Arizona and the Sixteen to One mine at Silver Peak, Nevada. To most union miners a strike meant time-off with no pay, but to Dolph, it was a reason to quit the company and go tramping for another job. As a result, he obtained an extensive overview of mining methods (mostly cut and fill) and procedures, especially in the Coeur d'Alenes, but he acquired very little seniority with any single mining company.

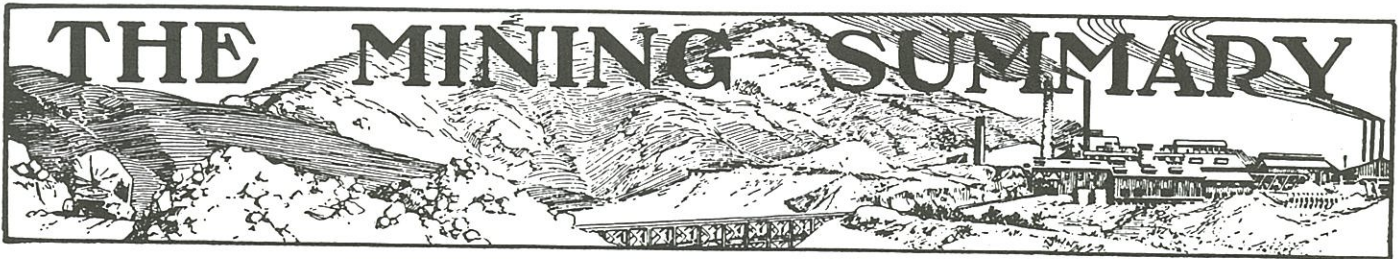
The author has a matter-of-fact and somewhat humorous way of describing his

narrow escapes from injury and death; mostly as a result of faulty (or the misuse of) equipment, the casual use of explosives, and of course, the number one cause of underground accidents, falling rock. Jerry's greatest fear, however, was what he called the unpredictable 'Mr. Air Blast' (more accurately known as rock bursts). Rock bursts are common in the deep, silver mines of the Coeur d'Alene district; 'a phenomenon which occurs when a volume of rock is strained beyond the elastic limit and the accompanying failure is of such a nature that accumulated energy is released instantaneously' (US Bureau of Mines Dictionary of Mining, Mineral and Related Terms 1969, p.932). If you want to experience the heat, bad air and the sounds that rock makes a mile below the earth's surface, then you will probably want to read about Jerry Dolph, the hardrock miner, whose job ranks second only to war as a dangerous occupation.

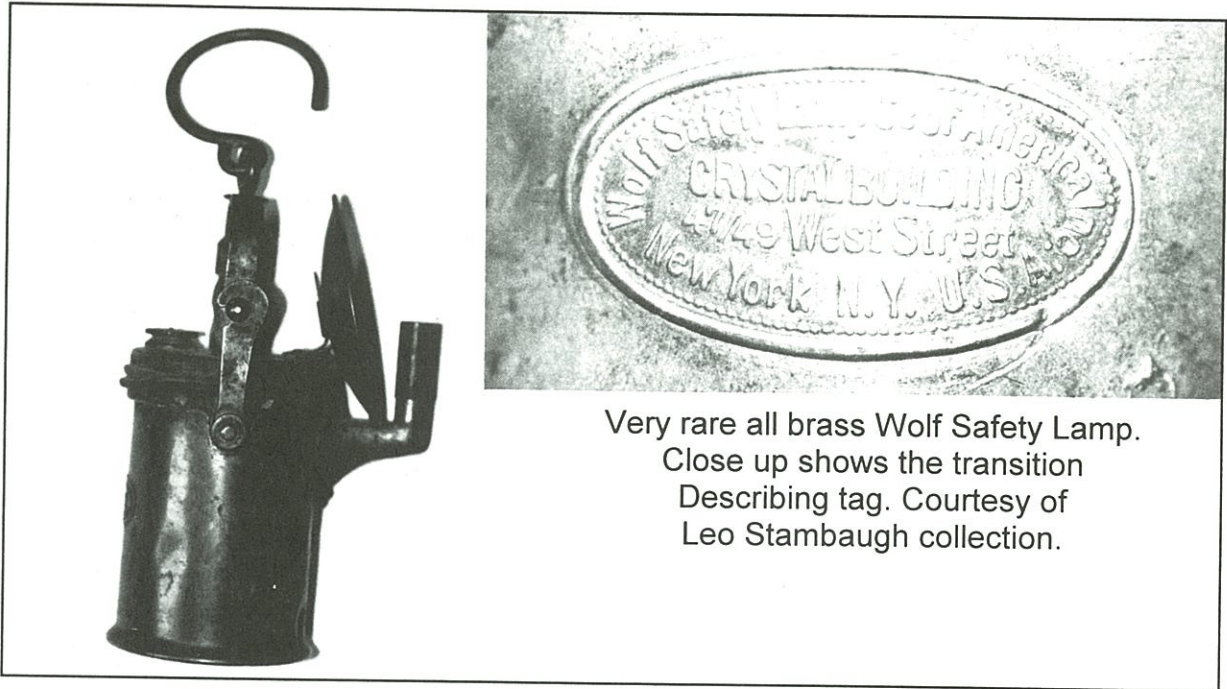
In addition to Jerry's accounts of hardrock mining, two friends of mine have added contributions to Dolph's book. Earl Bennett, in Appendix I, writes about the fabulous Coeur d'Alene Mining District, one of four mining districts in the world that has produced more than a billion ounces of silver. Gene Hyde, in Appendix II, writes about heroism and the fateful Tuesday of May 2, 1972, when 173 men were working underground in the Sunshine Mine, the richest Silver mine in the U.S. By the end of that dreadful day, 91 miners had died of suffocation from carbon monoxide—the exact cause of the fire has never been determined.



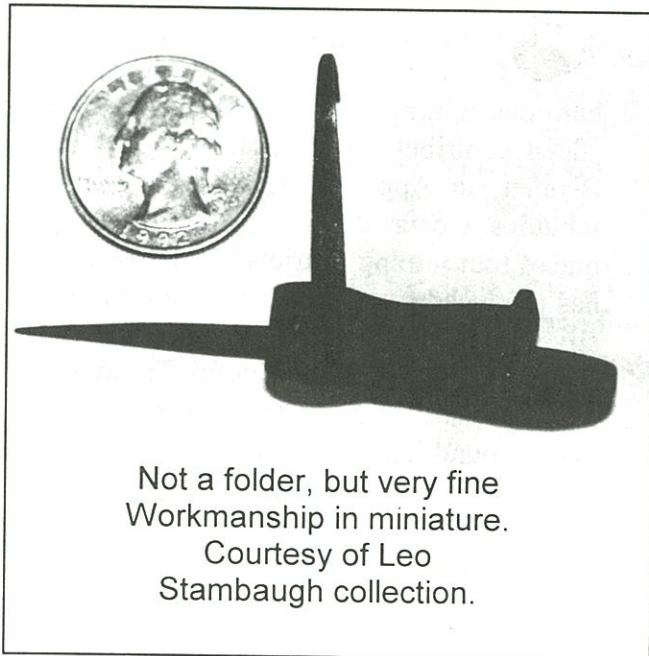
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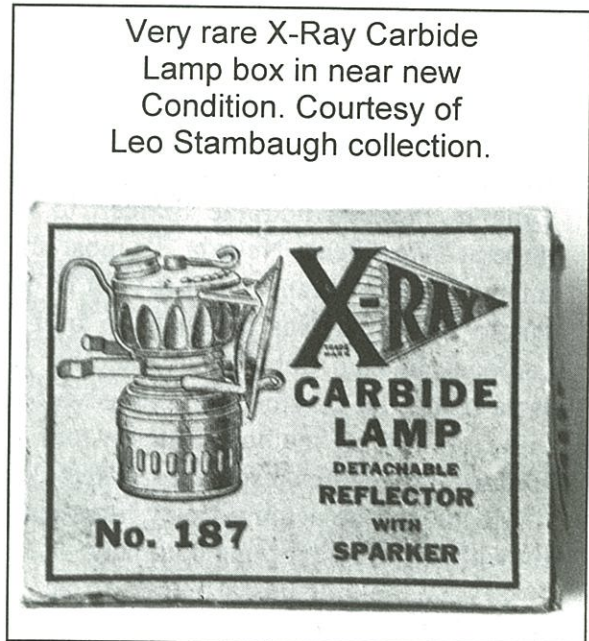
## WHAT'S NEW THAT'S OLD



Very rare all brass Wolf Safety Lamp. Close up shows the transition Describing tag. Courtesy of Leo Stambaugh collection.



Not a folder, but very fine Workmanship in miniature. Courtesy of Leo Stambaugh collection.

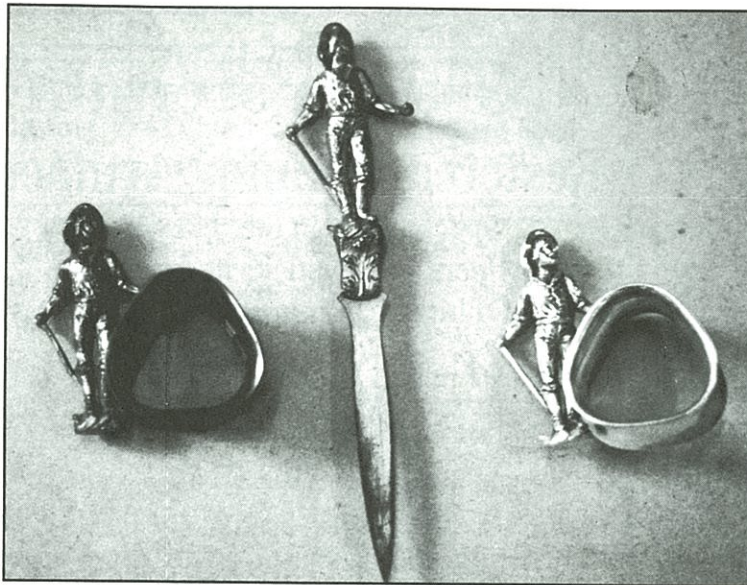


Very rare X-Ray Carbide Lamp box in near new Condition. Courtesy of Leo Stambaugh collection.



# THE MINING SUMMARY

## WHAT'S NEW THAT'S OLD

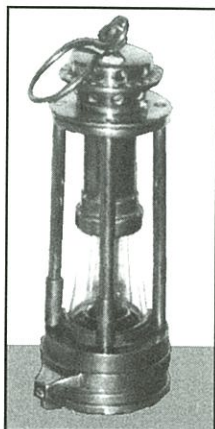


These three miners are holding a nugget in their right hand and a pick in their left. The center one is a letter opener and the other two are napkin rings. The left napkin ring is silverplated and the right napkin ring is copper coated. Courtesy of the Leo Stambaugh collection.



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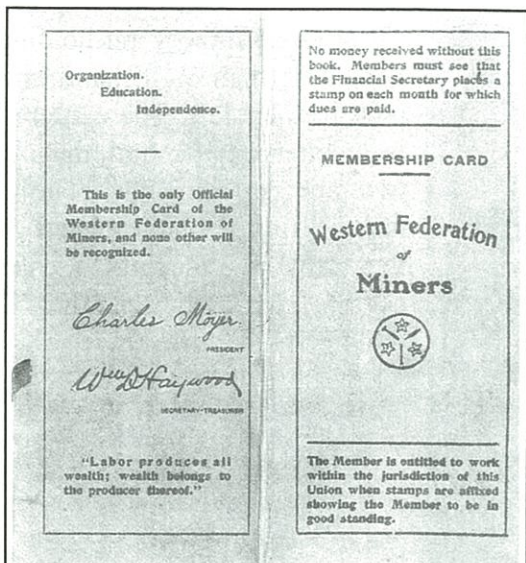
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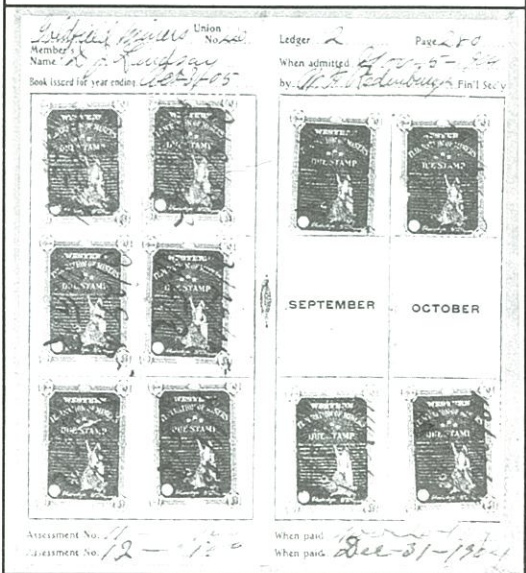


# THE MINING SUMMARY

## WHAT'S NEW THAT'S OLD



Western Federation of Miners membership card from Goldfield, Nevada, Miners Union number 220. Issued to D.J. Lindsay, expiring October 31, 1905. Jon Aurich Jr. collection.



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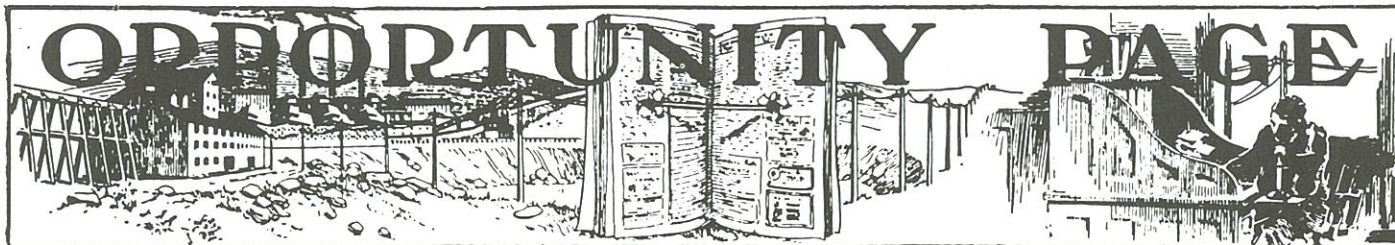
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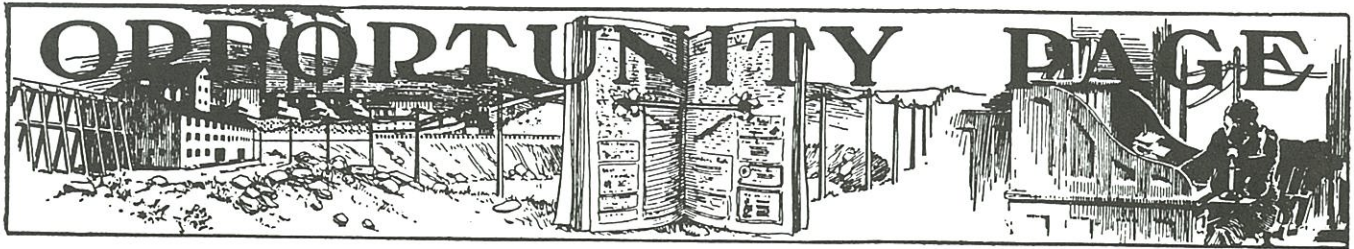
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