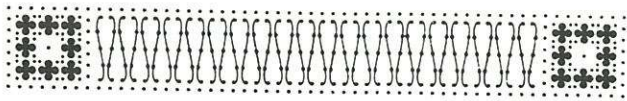


and profitable time. Common carbides went for an average of about \$20, common oil wicks for \$50 to \$55. Highlights included an unfired Auto-Lite in the box for \$45, a Sunshine tin in fair condition brought \$325, a nice Frog Lamp \$250, a nice Victor cap lamp \$160, a nickel plated baldwin cap lamp \$210, a Justrite No. 1 repair kit \$275, and a rare Auto-Lite with incused letters brought a strong \$350.

This year the weather on Sunday morning co-operated and about twenty mining collectors descended on the Meadowlands monthly flea market. Quite a number of items were found including several oil wicks with the prize being a copper Zias at a bargain price, a bonneted safety lamp by John Mills, a California gold scale, several boxes of Justrite bottoms, but the biggest prize was a Justrite Jiffy three bottom carbide holder. Wow, what an end to a fabulous reunion. Make your plans for next year!



Greg Clemmer and Mike McLaughlin seated behind their tables.

A DEADWOOD ASSAYER'S BAG

by **Ted Bobrink**
Redlands, California

At the last Great Western Gun Show in Pomona, California, I picked up this great canvas ore sample bag from Deadwood, South Dakota. As you can see, the assayer was M.H. Lyon.

In the late 1870s, rich placer deposits of gold were found near Deadwood, near the Black Hill. As the easily worked ground was taken, prospectors fanned out to search for hard-rock sources of the metal. Three miles south of Deadwood, they discovered a promising quartz vein, or lead, for which the town of Lead, Dakota Territory was soon named. The famous George Hearst was a senior partner of a trio of entrepreneurs who developed what is today the oldest and deepest gold mine still in operation in the United States--the Homestake Gold Mine.

Can any of our South Dakota collectors give us any information on this assayer? The bag measures 13 inches tall by 9 inches wide and has a draw-string.

