

Coal & Iron Police Badge Set

by Dave Johnson

Coal and Iron Police badges are a relatively rare mining collectible (see article in Eureka Jan. 1997, Issue 21). For a badge collector, finding four different badges from the same coal company is akin to finding four different model Maple City cap lamps for the lamp collector, difficult but not impossible. The two nickel officer badges, below, with cut-out star are of early 1900' s vintage.

nickel-plated



The 10-carat gold Chief of Police and Captain badges (below) date from the 1930's. The Ocean Coal Co. worked the Pittsburgh Bituminous Seam near Hermine, PA in Westmoreland County. In 1922 Ocean Coal employed 800 plus men above and below ground. The President of Ocean Coal was Edward J. Berwind. Berwind was also President of the Berwind-White Coal Mining Co. Berwind-White operated the Eureka No. 30, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 42 Mines near Windber, PA in Cambria and Somerset Counties. They also operated the Eureka No. 28 and 29 Mines near Houtzdale, PA in Clearfield County. All the Eureka Mines worked the 48" Miller Seam of bituminous coal.

gold-plated

