

Mine Inspector Badges

by Dave Johnson

Past Eureka articles have highlighted Coal & Iron Police badges and mining company employee ID badges. This issue will look at mine inspector badges.

States with mining operations passed legislation authorizing the creation of State Mine Inspectors under the auspices of such state agencies as the State Bureau of Mines, Bureau of Land Management Dept. of Mines, Dept. of Mines and Minerals and others. These State Inspectors were empowered to enforce the State mining laws, especially the safety provisions of such laws. Unfortunately in many cases the Mine Inspectors were actually in the unofficial employ of the mining companies and were paid to overlook safety violations, much to the detriment of the miners.



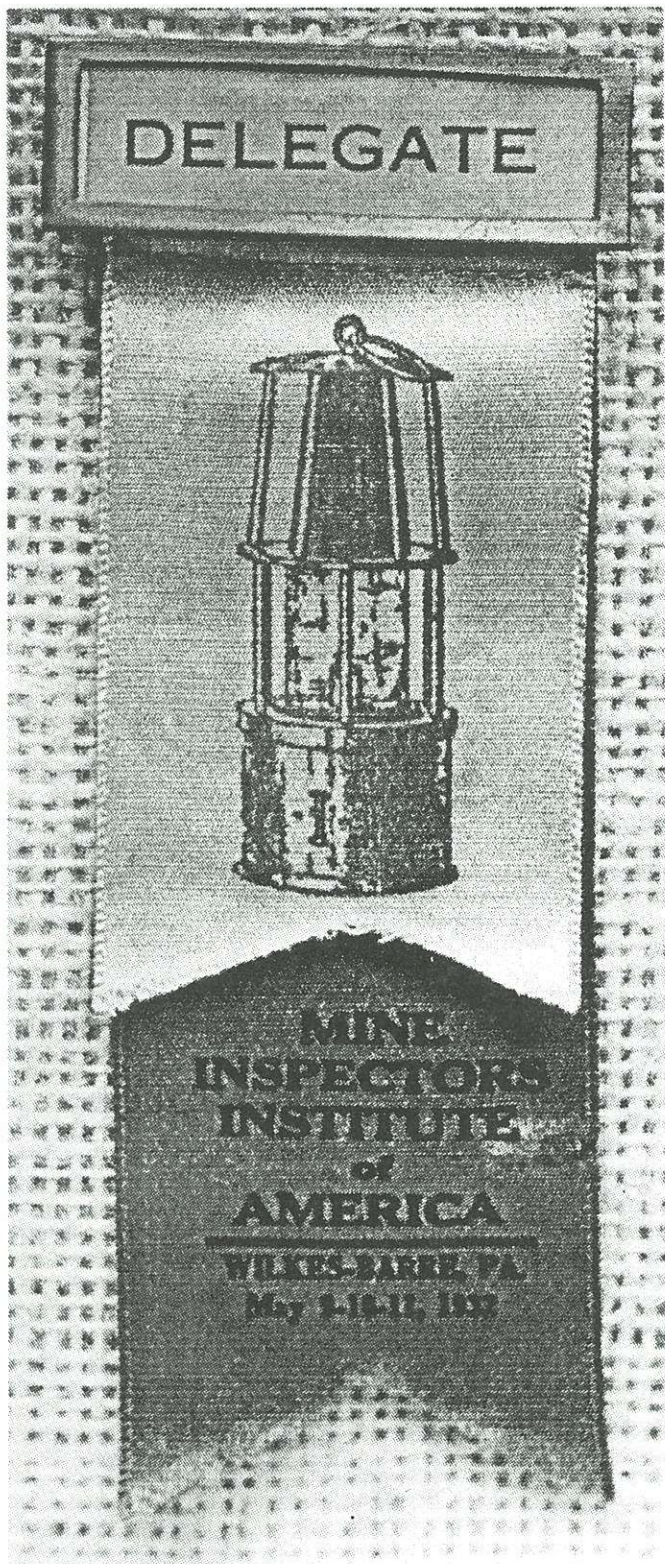
1970's KY Mine Inspector's badge.



1920's - 1930's PA Coal Mine Inspector's badge.

States such as Michigan also had County Mine Inspectors who served in the same capacity as the State Inspectors.

Mine Inspector badges are quite rare and are seen less frequently than Coal & iron Police badge and mining company ID badge.



1932 Mine Inspectors Institute Convention Delegate ribbon.



1920's - 1930's PA Coal Mine Inspector's badge.



1920's - 1930's WV Coal Mine Inspector's badge.