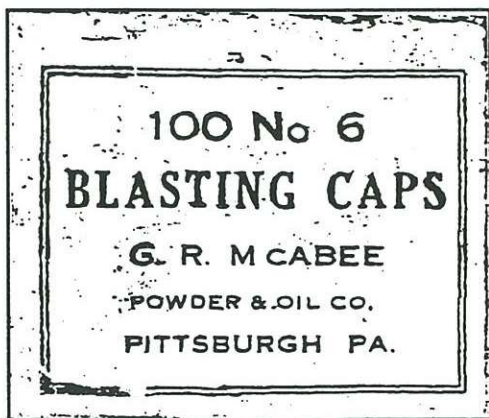




CANADIAN EXPLOSIVES, N° 7, round
Reported by Bob Schroth



NOBEL N° 7, GT BRITAIN
Reported by Larry Click



McABEE, No 6, paper label
Reported by Dotty Haynes

Book Review:

Between Heaven and Hell

Written By: Ed Campbell

I recently received this book in the mail from Charles Kovach with a request to do a book review for this issue of Eureka.

Between Heaven and Hell is an account of several years in the life of the Ford family, a family deeply rooted in Pennsylvania coal mining. The principal figures in this work are Stan, a lifelong coal miner and his brother John, a Roman Catholic priest whose support of the miners' cause is detrimental to his own position in the church hierarchy.

This riveting account of the miners' attempts to unionize the Pennsylvania coal mines following World War I could just as well have taken place in Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois. The story from each of these states always seem to have the same components, the underpaid miners attempting to organize, the bully tactics of the mining companies and their paid guards and deputies, the unskilled immigrant labor brought in as strike breakers, the deplorable working conditions of the coal miners, the mine owners' disregard for the safety and well-being of the miners and their families, and the mining company control of local politics.

Although actually a novel, it is stated at the beginning of the book that many incidents described within actually occurred. Nothing presented in this book is inconsistent with my previous reading of coal mining history during the period of time covered. For anyone not familiar with the working and domestic life of the miner this is a good representation of that life. Knowing how the miner lived and worked can help us to appreciate even more the artifacts that we are preserving in our collections.

Dave Johnson