Bray Burners

by Mick Corbridge

Living in Leeds I was pleased to come across a original sales catalogue for 'Bray Acetylene Burners'; (list 192, dated July 1945). I obtain mining pattern carbide lamps from many countries of the world, & more often than not they are fitted with a 'Bray' burner showing that they were a very popular burner world-wide. I know that the various type names for the individual jets were registered against copying in in all countries of the world. The jets are classed as 2 main types, i.e. 'Atmospheric Burners', and 'Non-Atmospheric Burners'. The introduction pages explain that with the atmospheric burners air is mixed with the gas before it becomes ignited, so preventing the formation of carbon on the tip and hence having 10 times the life expectancy of a non-atmospheric jet. It does also warn that except for the 'Elta' or the 'Ota', any other burner will carbonise if allowed to burn low; and so unless using either of these jets, the lamp gas tap must be either in the fully on position, or fully off. This formulates to that if intermediate feed control positions are used, then the life expectancy of the jet will be greatly reduced! As reflected by the much cheaper cost for the nonatmospheric jets, which are of lower life expectancy anyway, these do not require the need to run the lamp at full feed flow for maximum life expectancy.





