

Cap Tin Bonanza

by Andy Martin

In mining the term *borrasca* is used for a mine that is experiencing lean times, while *bonanza* refers to a particularly rich strike. In recent months several collectors have struck pay dirt in the "cap tin mine", as shown by the accompanying illustrations. We are glad to report the lode is still going strong, and more nuggets will be on display in the coming months.

Connoisseurs of caps can recall tins depicting items ranging from battleships to castles, but almost none display their contents. This unfortunate situation is somewhat remedied by the **Aluminium-Bleiazid** tin, which nicely shows both common and electric caps. This European tin was reported by Urs Hilfiker of Switzerland.

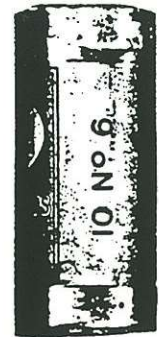
Tins smaller than the standard 100 in size have a special place in the hearts (and wallets) of many collectors. Newcomer Nelson Ressler found a fine **GRASELLI 10 cap**, and submitted an excellent Xerox copy that shows the fine lettering on this item. Bob Schroth unearthed a **DUPONT N° 7** miniature, and also a full sized **CANADIAN EXPLOSIVES N° 7**. Bob is particularly interested in tins that show animals, so this find fulfills a special need.

It takes a good eye to spot variants of the more common tins, and Larry Click has managed to do this twice. The scarce **NOBEL N° 7** looks quite a bit like the more common No 6. Larry also reports an **ATLAS N° 8** square variant (not illustrated) that has a solid green globe in place of the previously known white globe.

Dotty Haynes, who produced a nice illustrated book on oil wick lamps, is also an avid tin collector. She reports a **McABEE No 6** that is similar to the painted version, but has a paper label. It is unknown if this type predated the painted tin, or filled an emergency need.



No. 8, 100 Aluminium-Bleiazid [DAG]
Reported by Urs Hilfiker



GRASELLI, ZINC, 10 CAPS, N° 6
Reported by Nelson Ressler



DUPONT N° 7, 25 CAPS
Reported by Bob Schroth