

Cap Tins & Wrappers Discovered by Collectors in 1992

by Andy Martin

Once again, collectors have been successful in unearthing several previously unknown tins. As time passes one would expect that fewer and fewer "new" tins would be found, but fortunately they keep turning up.

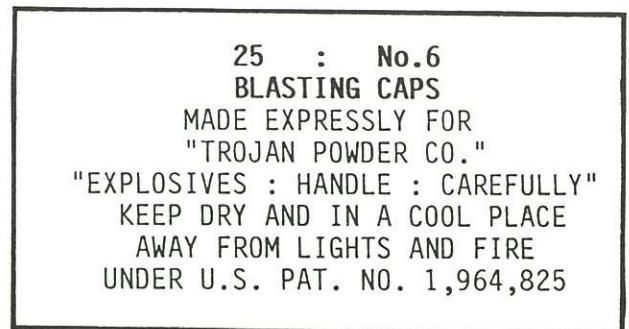
Perhaps the most interesting item to surface is the California Cap Company No. 7, 25 CAPS. These paper label California tins were not known until a few years ago when Tommy Bish found a 25 cap No. 8. These small sized, plain lid tins can be hard to spot for collectors used to the typical California tin having an embossed lid and holding 100 caps. The 25 cap Trojan tin was probably also made by California, and it would not be surprising to see more paper label 10 and 25 cap tins located by sharp eyed collectors.

The 500 BLASTING CAPS wrapper was found in a mine, with square California Cap tins nearby. These wrappers are quite rare underground, perhaps because the tins were usually unwrapped on the surface, and then sent underground one at a time. Similarly, the wood boxes used to pack many tins holding thousands of caps are almost never found in the mines.

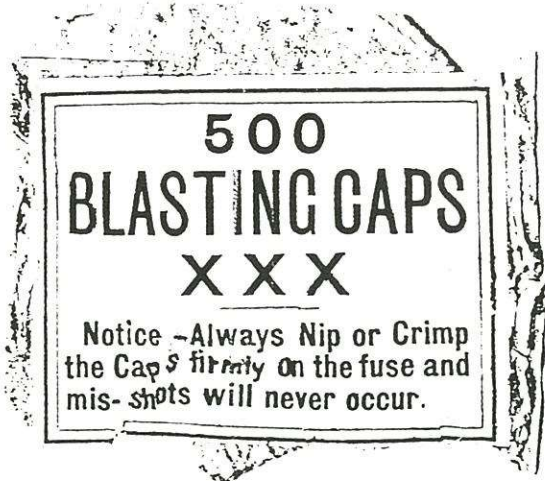
The Laflin & Rand could be called a "phantom" tin, as it is only known from a catalog illustration. However, these illustrations have a habit of turning into real tins, as happened with the Metallic Cap Torpedo Brand and Champion Brand tin. Laflin & Rand was a large gunpowder manufacturer before the turn of the century, and their containers are sought after by collectors of ammunition related articles. Perhaps one of these gentlemen already has one of the blasting cap tins, and would be glad to part with it when informed it did not contain primers or bullets!



California Cap Co., No. 7, 25 Caps.
Brown paper label, flat lid.
Reported by Bob Schroth



Trojan, No. 6, 25 Caps. round, flat lid.
Red letters on white paper.
Reported by Bob Werner



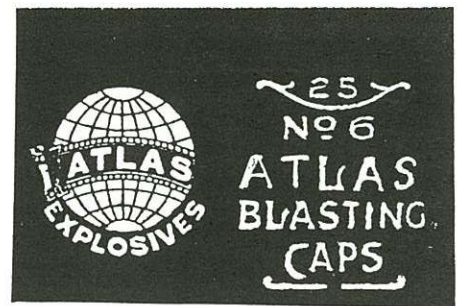
California Cap Co., XXX, square.
Paper label on wrapper.
Reported by Deric English.



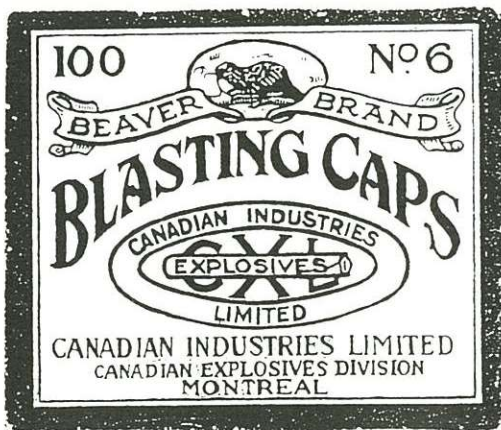
Lafin & Rand.
Catalog illustration.
Reported by Mark Bohannan.



Atlas, No 6, 25 Caps, globe in A.
Painted orange, white and black.
Reported by Curtis Kremer.



Atlas, No 6, 25 Caps, round.
Painted orange, white letters.
Reported by John Kynor and Curtis Kremer.



CIL, CXL, No 6, 3 lines under oval.
Painted red with black letters.
Reported by Harry Cairns.



Dupont no. 6, 25 Caps, 2 lines under oval.
Painted red with white letters (?)
Reported by Caroline Ewing.