

American Carbide Hand Lamp Survey and Guide

by David J. Des Marais

This article provides pictures and a listing of hand lamps so that you can complete a survey of lamps in your own collection. If you send me the unbound copy of the list with the results of your survey, *EUREKA!* will publish a lamp census in the Fall issue. That census will be an invaluable guide for buying and trading.

Your list will be kept in strict confidence. In addition, I will not act upon this information for my personal benefit.

For this survey, a hand lamp is defined as a lamp with four hour or more carbide capacity, and which was not meant to be worn on the cap or helmet. Hand lamps or lanterns have either a bail and hanging hook, or a handle, or both. Even though some hand lamps were used principally on railroads, they are included in order to make this as complete a survey of American carbide hand lamps as possible.

The checklist immediately reveals a difference between hand and cap lamps. In contrast to the more than 70 brands of cap lamps, there were relatively few manufacturers of hand lamps. Some of these, most notably Baldwin, Justrite and Wolf, produced a bewildering variety of models. To add to the confusion, very few of these are stamped with their model names or numbers, and many are quite similar in appearance. Thus several pictures are included. The list also reveals that, while most lamps were manufactured in brass, many others were of ferrous alloys and aluminum. Only Justrite ventured into the realm of plastic. Note that the column labelled "brass" includes nickel-plated brass as well.

Please send your completed survey to the address listed below.

If you have lamps which are not on the list, please add them. We will summarize the numbers of lamps reported for each of the entries on the list, including your additional lamps. I'm sure that we all look forward to learning how many of these fascinating lamps have survived!

I thank Errol Christman, Len Gaska, Paul Johnson, Tony Moon, Henry Pohs, Dave Thorpe, and Jim Van Fleet for their help, which included information, suggestions, donated photographs and permission to photograph lamps.

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Menlo Park, CA 94025**

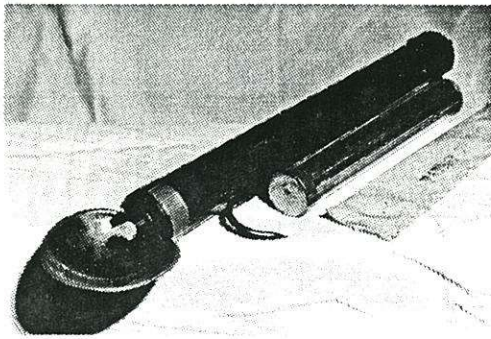
U. S. CARBIDE HANDLAMPS

PICT?*	LAMP	COMMENTS	BRASS	STEEL	ALUM.	PLASTIC
X	ARNOLD CARBIDE CANDLE	SHAPED LIKE CANDLE		----	----	----
X	BALDWIN FULL SHIFT	WIRE WATERFEED THROUGH LID, SINGLE-WALLED BASE, WIRE FINGER LOOP	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #34	WIRE FEED THROUGH LID, FINGER LOOP, 4 HR, SMALL REFLECTOR, SHORT BASE	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #35	4 HR., SMALL REFL., TALL BASE, HOOK ONLY	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #36 TYPE 1	4 HR., GALV. IRON, WATERFEED THRU LID	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #36 TYPE 2	4 HR., GALV. IRON & BRASS, HINGED DOOR	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #36 TYPE 3	4 HR, Np BRASS, HINGED WATERDOOR		----	----	----
	BALDWIN #38	LIKE #36 TYPE 2, BUT TALLER BASE	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #39	4 HR., WIRE BAIL WITH CHAIN & HOOK		----	----	----
X	BALDWIN #44	6 HR, SMALL REFL, SHORT BASE, BAIL & HOOK	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #45	12 HR, SMALL REFL., TALL BASE, BAIL & HOOK	----		----	----
X	BALDWIN #54	RESEMBLES EARLY DEW-R-LITE, NO RIBS	----		----	----
X	BIG BOY WITH STRAP	BAIL ATTACHED W STRAP ON WATER TANK		----	----	----
X	BIG BOY W/O STRAP	NO STRAP AROUND WATER TANK				
X	COLUMBIA	ADVERTISED AS A MINE LAMP		----	----	----
X	DENVER LAMP	ALL TYPES	----	----		----
X	DEW-R-LITE	ALL TYPES		----	----	----
X	FULL MOON	CYLINDRICAL BODY, HOOK & HANDLES		----	----	----
X	GUYS DROPPER	8 HR., STRAIGHT SIDES ON WATER TANK		----	----	----
X	GUYS DROPPER	8 HR., INDENTED WAIST		----	----	----
X	GUYS DR.SQUARELIGHT	SUPERVISOR HANDLES		----	----	----
X	GUYS DR.SQUARELIGHT	HOOK & BAIL		----	----	----
X	GUYS DR.SQUARELIGHT	CANDLESTICK AND SPIKED HOOK		----	----	----
X	GUYS DR., TALL BOY	HALF SHIFT, ALL VARIETIES		----	----	----
X	ITP "MINE LAMP"	FULL SHIFT, "MINE LAMP" ON LABEL	----		----	----
X	ITP #150	6 HR., BAIL & HOOK		----	----	----
	ITP #160	LIKE #150, SUPERVISOR HANDLES		----	----	----
X	ITP #203	9 HR., SUPERVISOR HANDLES	----		----	----
	ITP #205	LIKE #203, BAIL & HOOK	----		----	----
X	ITP #210	6 HR., VERTICAL BURNER & UMBRELLA	----		----	----
X	ITP #215	9 HR., RR HANDLE, WIDE BASE			----	----
X	JUSTRITE ACME #50	BAIL & HOOK	----		----	----
X	JUST. ACME #56, 60, 80	SUPERVISOR HANDLES			----	----
X	JUS. ANACONDA SPECIAL	#93, STICK & HOOK, LOW BURNER		----	----	----
	JUS. ANACONDA SPECIAL	#93, STICK & HOOK, CENTERED BURNER		----	----	----
X	JUST. ARIZONA SPECIAL	#83, BAIL & HOOK		----	----	----
X	JUST. COPPER QUEEN	BODY SAME AS LITTLE GIANT	----	----		----
X	JUSTRITE JUMBO #50	BAIL & HOOK WITH STICK, LOW BURNER	----	----		----
	JUSTRITE JUMBO	BAIL & HOOK, LOW BURNER	----	----		----
	JUSTRITE JUMBO	CENTERED BURNER	----	----		----
X	JUSTRITE LANTERN #10	BASE BOTTOM IS DEEPLY INDENTED		----	----	----
	JUSTRITE LANTERN #12	TALLER THAN #10, FLAT BASE BOTTOM		----	----	----
X	JUSTRITE LITTLE GIANT	LATER VERSION OF JUMBO	----	----		----
	JUST. UNCLE SAM 6 HR.	5 1/2 " TALL (TO TOP OF BODY)	----	----		----

U. S. CARBIDE HANDLAMPS

PICT?	LAMP	COMMENTS	BRASS	STEEL	ALUM.	PLASTIC
	JUST. UNCLE SAM 6 HR.	AS ABOVE, BUT WITH UMBRELLA	----	----		----
X	JUST. UNCLE SAM 8 HR.	6 " TALL (TO TOP OF BODY)	----	----		----
	JUST. UNCLE SAM 10 HR.	6 1/2 " TALL (TO TOP OF BODY)	----	----		----
X	JUST. WESTERN SPECIAL	#105, SUPERVISOR HANDLES		----	----	----
	JUSTRITE #39, 95, 100	1/2 SHIFT, RESEMBLES #204 W/O STICK		----	----	----
X	JUSTRITE #50	BAIL & HOOK			----	----
X	JUSTRITE #56	LIKE #50, BUT HAS SUPERVISOR HANDLES			----	----
X	JUSTRITE #77	"CANDLESTICK LAMP", CAST BODY		----	----	----
X	JUSTRITE #81	TALL RR HANDLE, WIDE BASE			----	----
	JUSTRITE #82	LIKE #81, BUT HAS ENCLOSED BURNER			----	----
X	JUSTRITE #84	HOOK & BAIL, HANDLES, WIDE BASE			----	----
X	JUSTRITE #103	STICK & HOOK ONLY		----	----	----
X	JUSTRITE #204	STICK, HOOK & SUPERVISOR HANDLES		----	----	----
X	JUST. #2-500 SERIES	TOP: BRASS OR STEEL; BOTTOM: PLASTIC			----	
X	JUSTRITE #2-770	CAP LAMP WITH LARGE HANDLE & REFL.		----	----	----
X	JUST. #3-100 SERIES	LARGE HORIZONTAL PLASTIC BODY	----	----	----	
X	JUST. #3-200 SERIES	LARGER VERSION OF PLASTIC CAP LAMP	----	----	----	
X	LUMINUM	ALL VARIETIES	----	----		----
X	MAPLE CITY	MAY LACK "MAPLE CITY" LABEL		----	----	----
X	MILBURN LANTERN	FOR HAND OR TABLE, IN LARGE CAN		----	----	----
X	MILBURN MINERS A	MILBURN #20		----	----	----
X	MILBURN #22	LARGER THAN #20	----			----
X	NATHAN	"NATHAN" STAMPED ON WATER DOOR	----		----	----
X	NATIONAL CARBIDE	LARGE LAMP			----	----
	OXWELD MODEL A	6.25 IN. DIA. REFL. COVER, ALUM. BODY	----	----		----
	OXWELD #2155	4.8IN.DIA.REFL.COVER,STEEL&BRASS BODY	----		----	----
X	PATHFINDER	ALL TYPES (A, B & C)		----	----	----
	SCRANTO	NO REFLECTOR		-----	----	----
X	SCRANTO	SLANTED REFLECTOR		-----	----	----
	SCRANTO	VERTICAL REFLECTOR		-----	----	----
X	20TH CENTURY	MODIFIED FROM BIKE LAMP		-----	----	----
X	TOLEDO ACETYL.LANTERN	GENERATOR MOUNTED OFF CENTER	----		----	----
X	WILLIAM H. OTT	BRASS-CLAD TOP&REFL., STEEL BASE			----	----
X	WOLF ALUMINUM	TOP OF REFLECTOR HAS GAP	----	----		----
X	WOLF ALUMINUM	TALL, NARROW BODY	----	----		----
X	WOLF "FAT BODY"	WIRE BAIL & HOOK		----	----	----
X	WOLF HOODED REFL	BRASS BODY RESEMBLES #905A		----	----	----
X	WOLF INSPECTION	ENCL.BURNER,SOME W "NAT. CARB." LABEL			----	----
X	WOLF "ORIGINAL"	BAIL, HOOK & HANDLES, LABEL ON BASE	----		----	----
X	WOLF "HORIZONTAL"	HORIZONTAL WATER TANK, LABEL ON BASE	----	----		----
X	WOLF #856 4 HOUR	CANISTER STYLE BODY IS 4 3/8" TALL			----	----
	WOLF #856 8 HOUR	CANISTER STYLE BODY IS 5" TALL			----	----
X	WOLF #871	HOODED REFLECTOR, HANDLEGRIP & HOOK			----	----
X	WOLF #900	BAIL&HOOK			----	----
	WOLF#900 (NAT.CARB.)	HAS "NATIONAL CARBIDE LAMP" LABEL			----	----
X	WOLF #905A	BURNER CENTERED IN REFLECTOR	----		----	----

"PICT?" column at left indicates which lamps have pictures



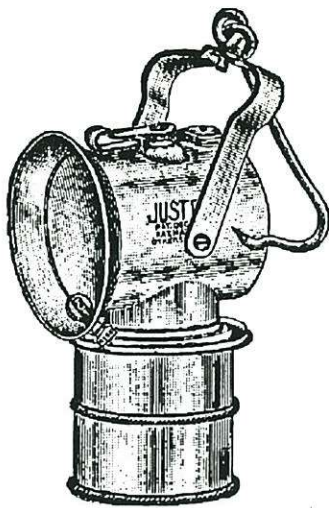
**ARNOLD CARBIDE
CANDLE**



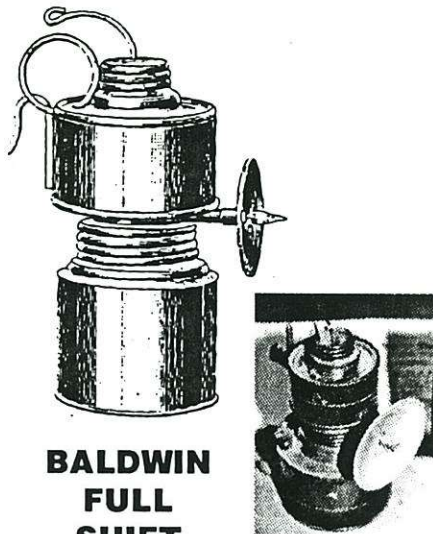
**ACME
(Justrite)**



**ANACONDA SPECIAL
(Justrite)**

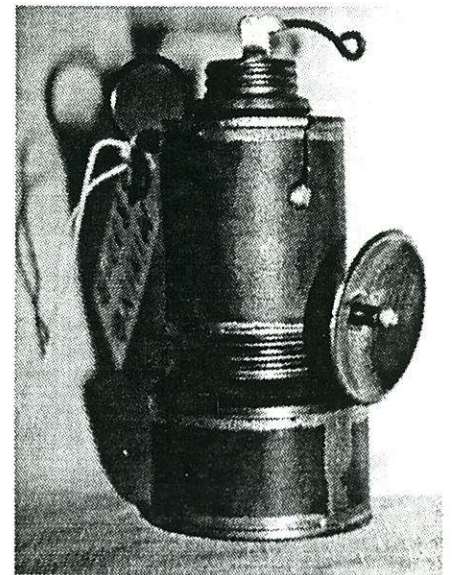


**ARIZONA SPECIAL
(Justrite)**



**BALDWIN
FULL
SHIFT**

*(Not a hand lamp, is
of similar dimension,
but has double
walled base, see
article page 24.)*



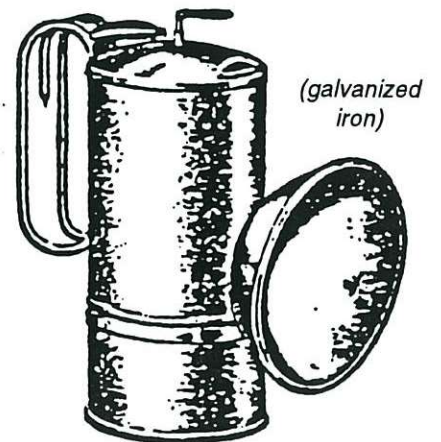
BALDWIN No. 34



BALDWIN No. 35

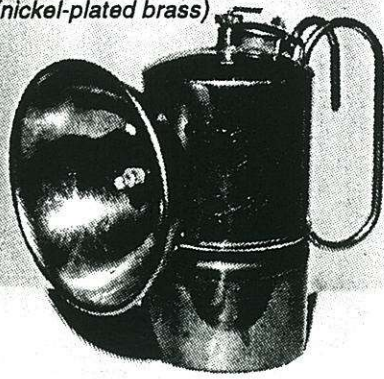


**BALDWIN No. 36
(type 1)**



**BALDWIN No. 36
(type 2)**

(nickel-plated brass)

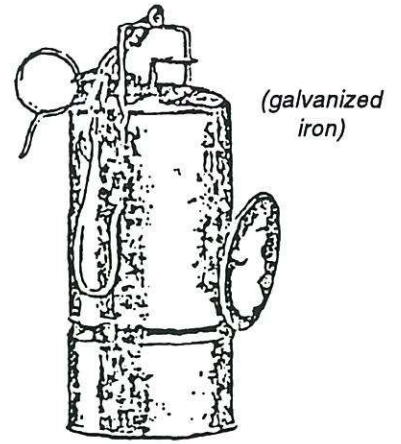


BALDWIN No. 36 (type 3)



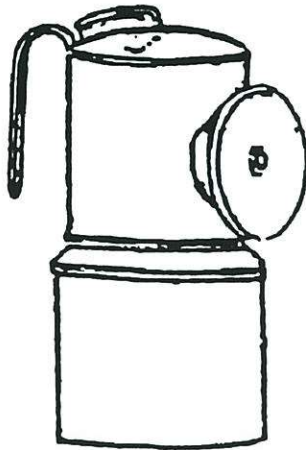
(galvanized iron)

**BALDWIN No. 39
(bail and chain)**

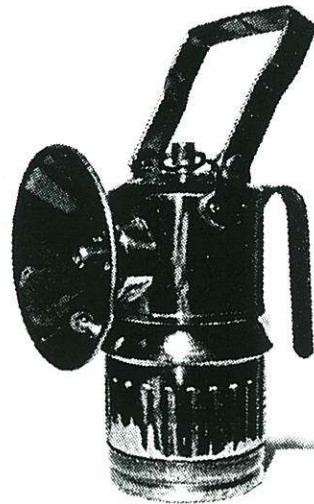


(galvanized iron)

**BALDWIN No. 44 (6-hr.)
BALDWIN No. 45 (12-hr.)**



**BALDWIN No. 54
(ore car light)**



BIG BOY



BIG BOY (w/ strap)



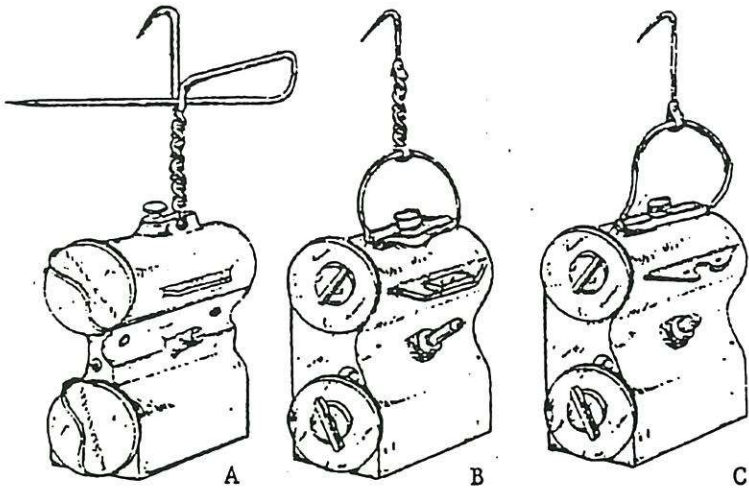
COLUMBIA MINE LAMP



**COPPER QUEEN
(Justrite)**



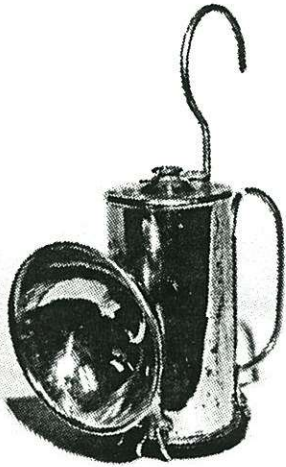
**GUY'S DROPPER
TALL BOY 1/2-SHIFT**
*(smooth, ringed, and ribbed bases
also w/ set-screw reflector)*



DENVER SPIKE LAMPS (A, B, & C)



DEW-R-LITE



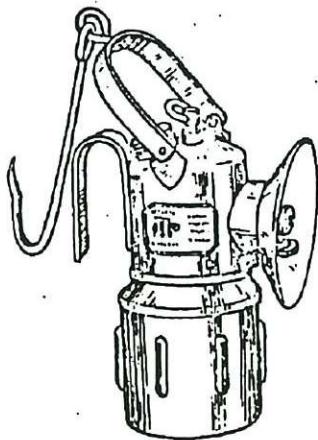
FULL MOON



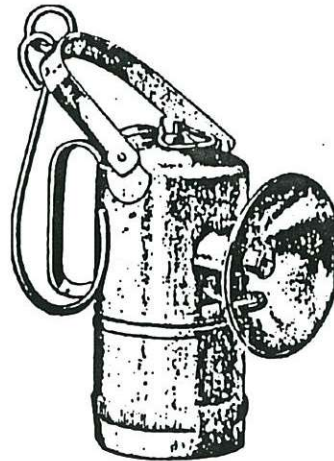
**GUY'S DROPPER
(straight sides)**



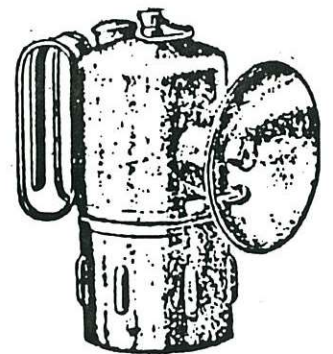
**GUY'S DROPPER
(indented waist)**



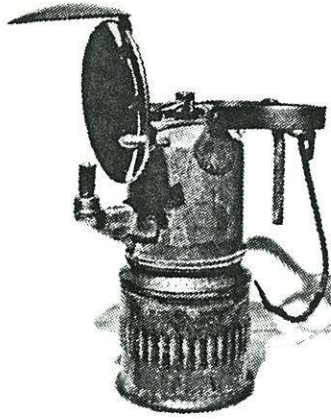
I.T.P. MINE LAMP



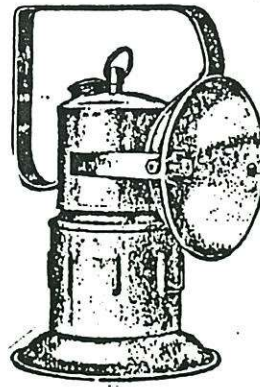
I.T.P. No. 150



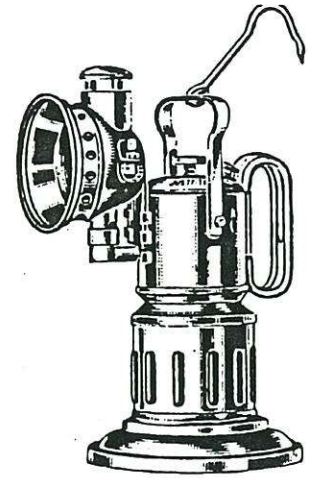
I.T.P. No. 203



I.T.P. No. 210



I.T.P. No. 215
(railroad lamp)



JUSTRITE No. 84



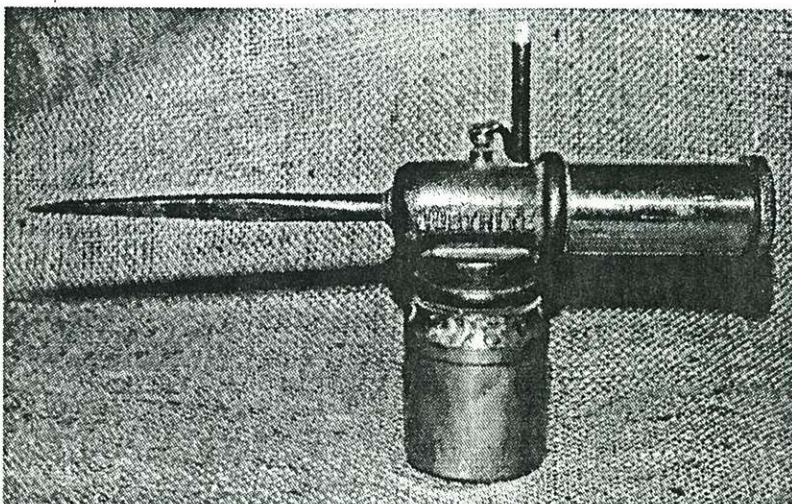
JUSTRITE 2-500
(brass & plastic)



JUSTRITE 2-770



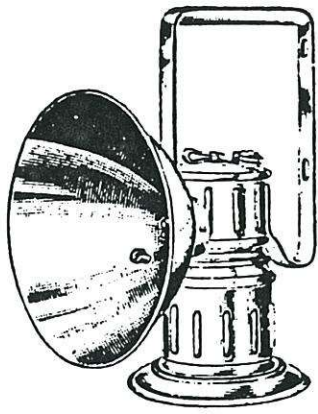
JUSTRITE 3-200



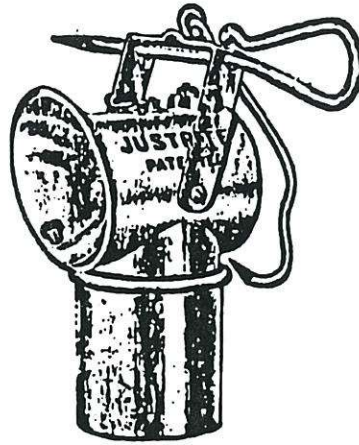
JUSTRITE No. 77 Stick-lamp



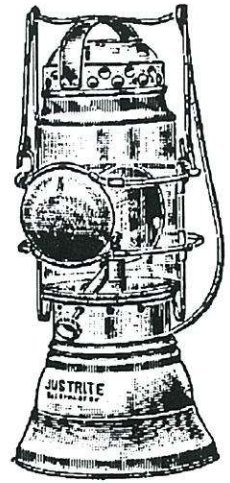
JUSTRITE No. 3-100



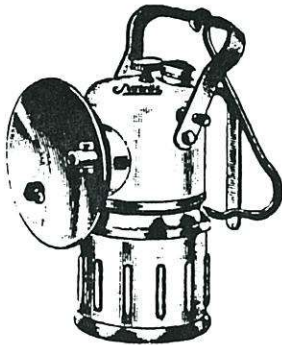
JUSTRITE No. 81



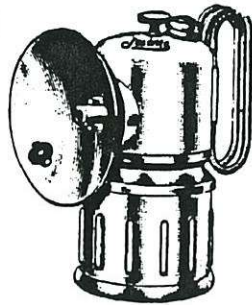
JUSTRITE JUMBO



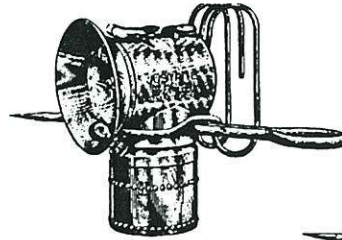
**JUSTRITE LANTERN
No. 10**



No. 50



No. 56



No. 204

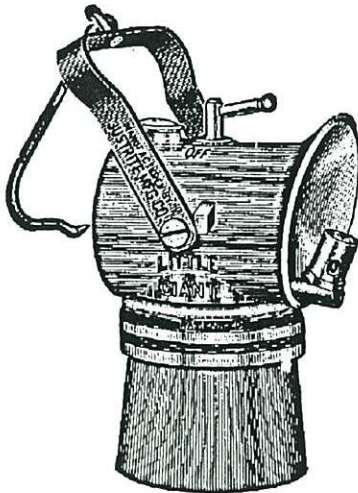


No. 103

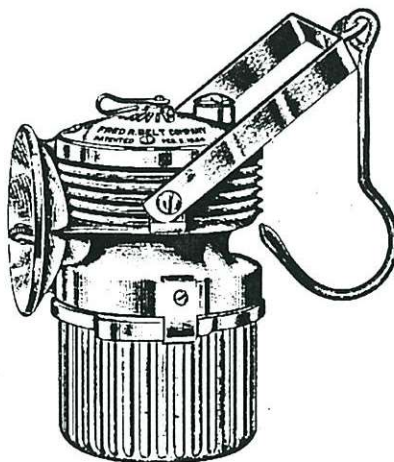
*(Justrite half-shift lamps exist in smooth, beaded, and ribbed base styles.
Latest ribbed styles have removable reflector, superintendent's only.)*

JUSTRITE 8-hour

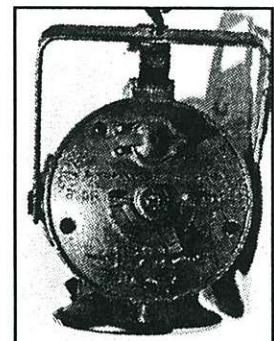
JUSTRITE 1/2-SHIFT STICK LAMPS



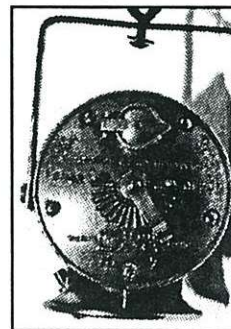
**LITTLE GIANT
(Justrite)**



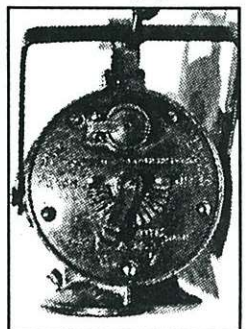
LU-MI-NUM



#1



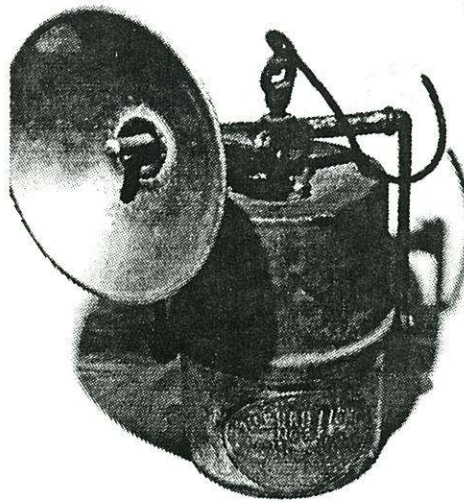
#2



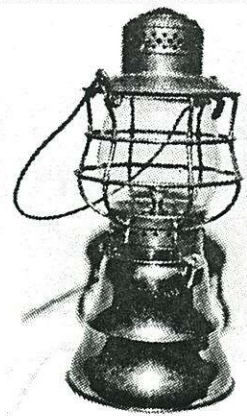
#3



MILBURN "MINER A"



MILBURN No. 22



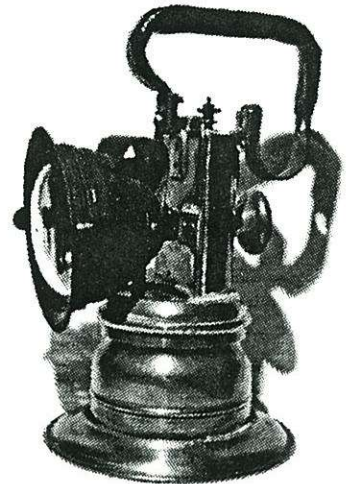
MILBURN LANTERN



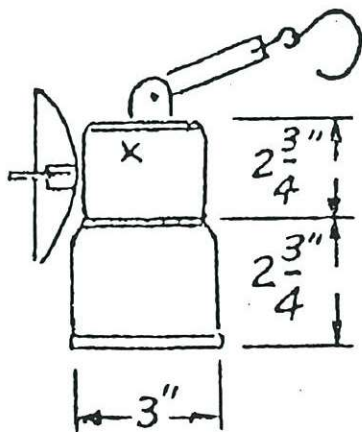
MAPLE CITY



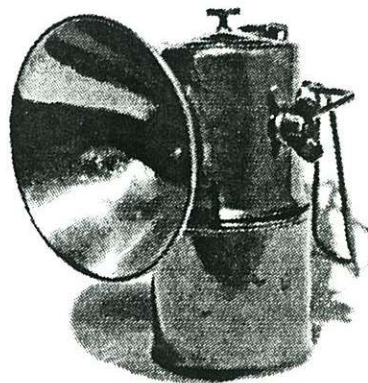
NATHAN



NATIONAL CARBIDE CO.



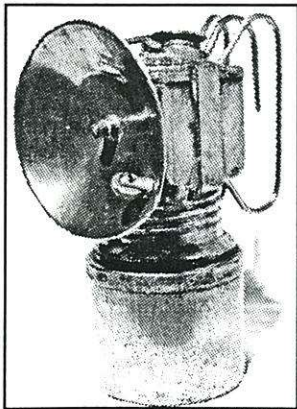
WILLIAM H. OTT(O)



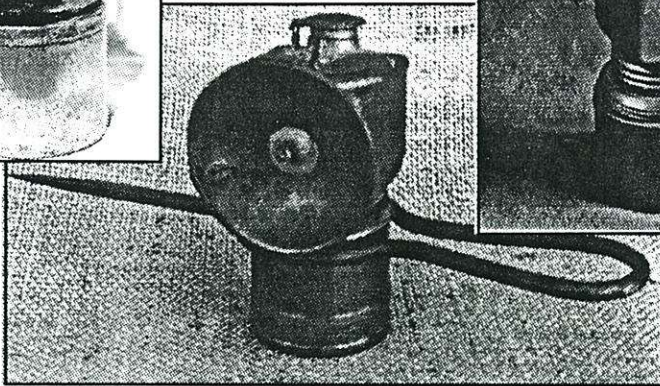
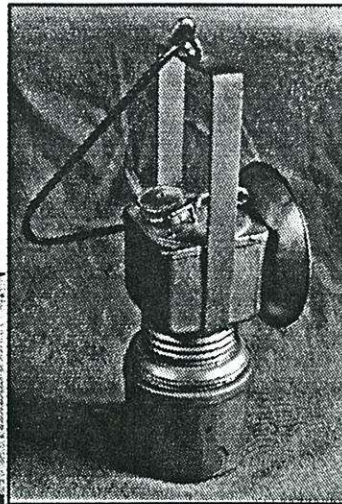
PATHFINDER



SCRANTO



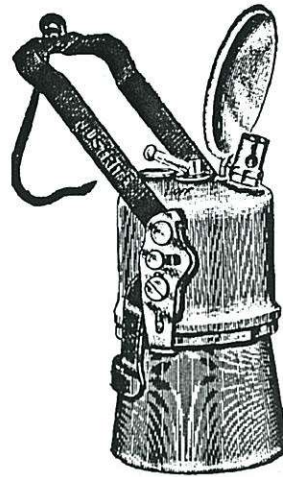
**SQUARELITE
GUY'S DROPPER**



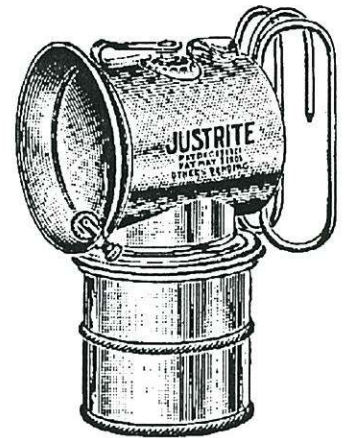
**TOLEDO ACETYLENE
LANTERN CO.**



20th CENTURY



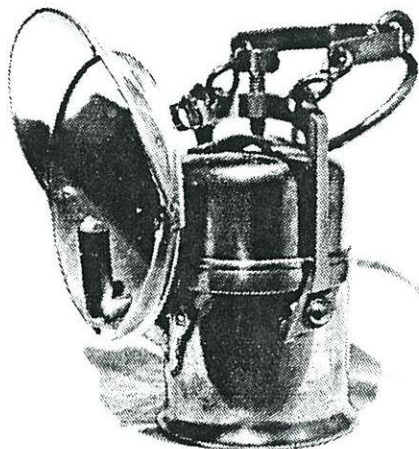
UNCLE SAM 8 HR.



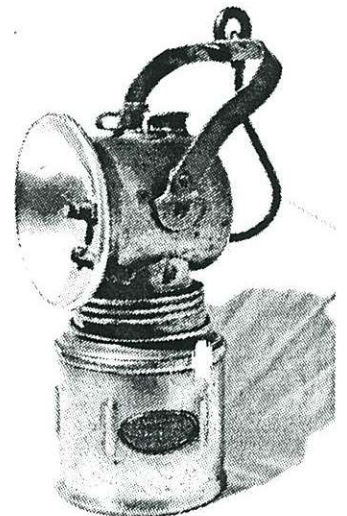
**WESTERN SPECIAL
(Justrite)**



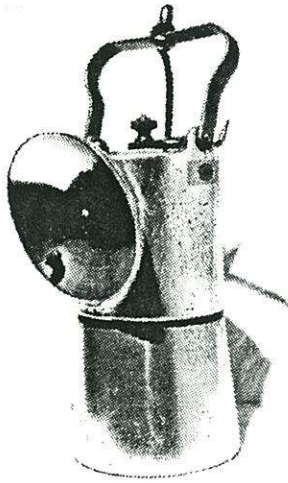
**WOLF
(notched reflector)**



**WOLF
(hooded reflector)**



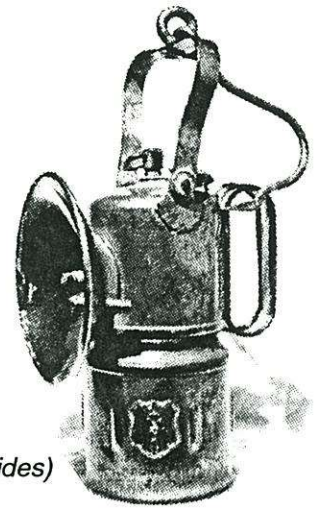
**WOLF
(horizontal aluminum)**



**WOLF ALUMINUM
(tall narrow body)**



(left & right sides)



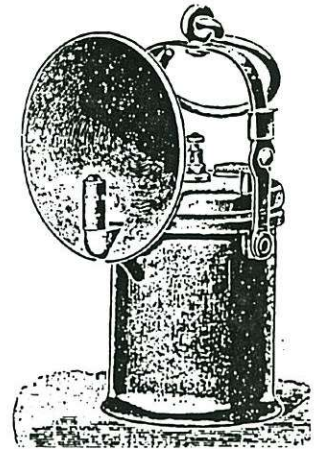
WOLF ("Original")



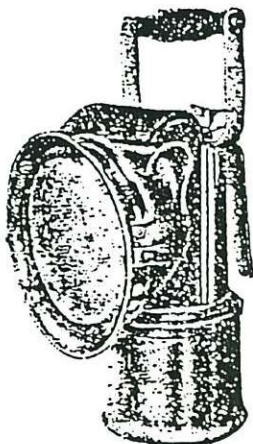
**WOLF
(fat brass body)**



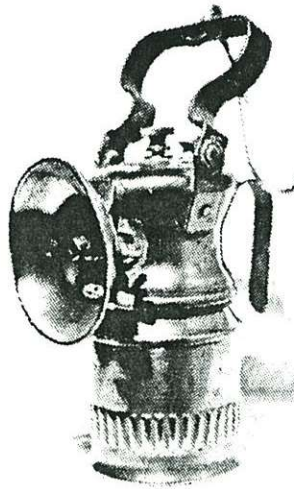
WOLF INSPECTION



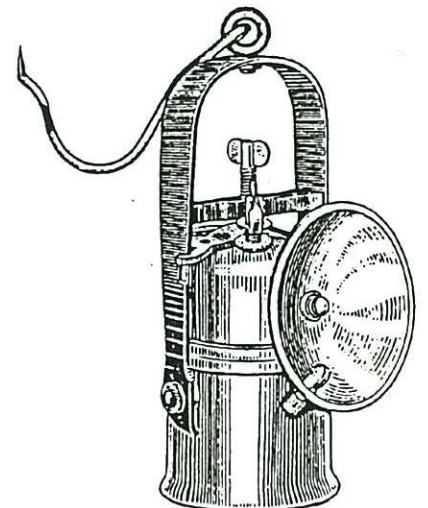
WOLF No. 856



WOLF No. 871



WOLF No. 900



WOLF No. 905A