

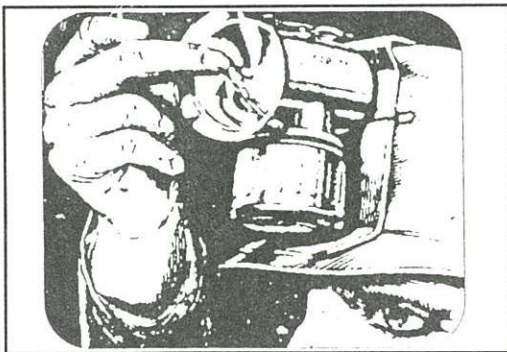
JUSTRITE STRIKER LEVER

BY DERIC ENGLISH

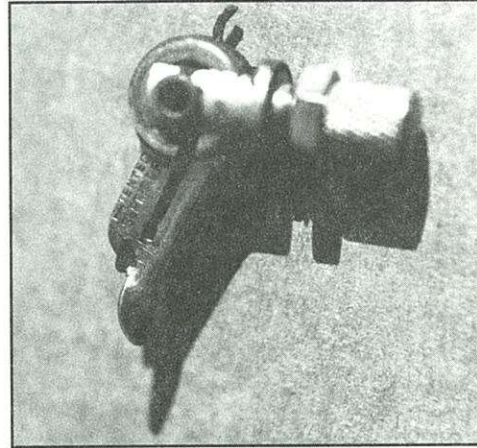
Unusual finds demonstrate why one continues to frequent toy, glass and antique shows- because you just never know what will turn up at these shows. While attending such a show, I noticed a common Justrite cap lamp in a harem of Roseville pottery, depression glass and an assortment of items similar to ones I remember seeing in my grandmother's kitchen. Needless to say, I felt an obligation to rescue "Mr. Justrite" from this den of femininity.

Carbide lamp attachments add a dimension to collecting that make the common lamp something more than common. Two or three lamp attachments and an active imagination can create an intriguing collectible.

The pistol grip lampstick holding "Mr. Justrite" in this illustration is



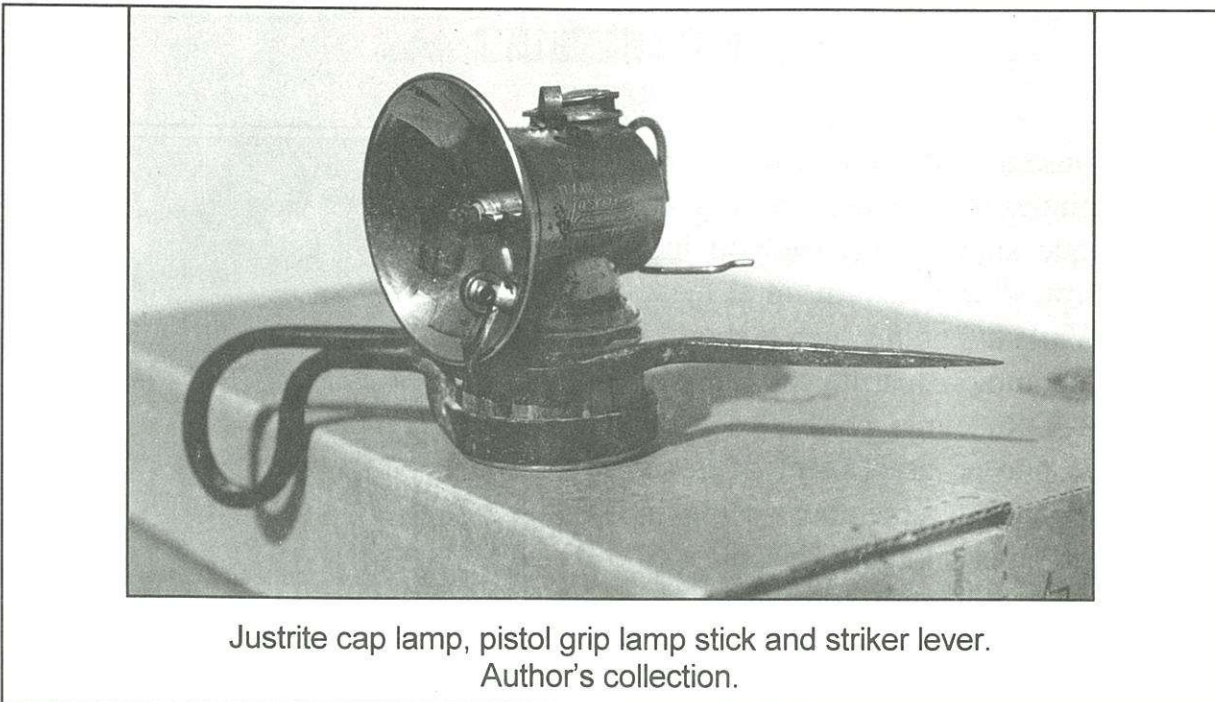
Justrite advertising illustration for a "snap-type striker lever". From a Justrite catalog.



Striker lever or ratchet pawl on the spring-loaded control lever of the striker on a carbide lamp. Patent #1,429,420, September 19, 1922. William J. Frisbie, Chicago, Illinois.

representative of a time then manufacturers were attempting to wean miners from their candlestick holders by offering lamp attachments reminiscent of their trusted candlestick holders. One might think it ironic that this lamp's previous owner, seemingly one attempting to resist change, would willingly agree to use a "new-tangled, futuristic" snap-type, spring-levered striker.

The means by which "Mr. Justrite" and his buddies became attached is actually a mystery, but their union allows one to enjoy speculating the possibilities. Enjoy!



Justrite cap lamp, pistol grip lamp stick and striker lever.
Author's collection.

References: *The Miner's Flame Light Book*, by Henry Pohs. 1995.

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1915 Justrite Ad

*Reproductions available for \$50
Embossed steel, in color 16½" x 11½" wide
Genuine original also available*