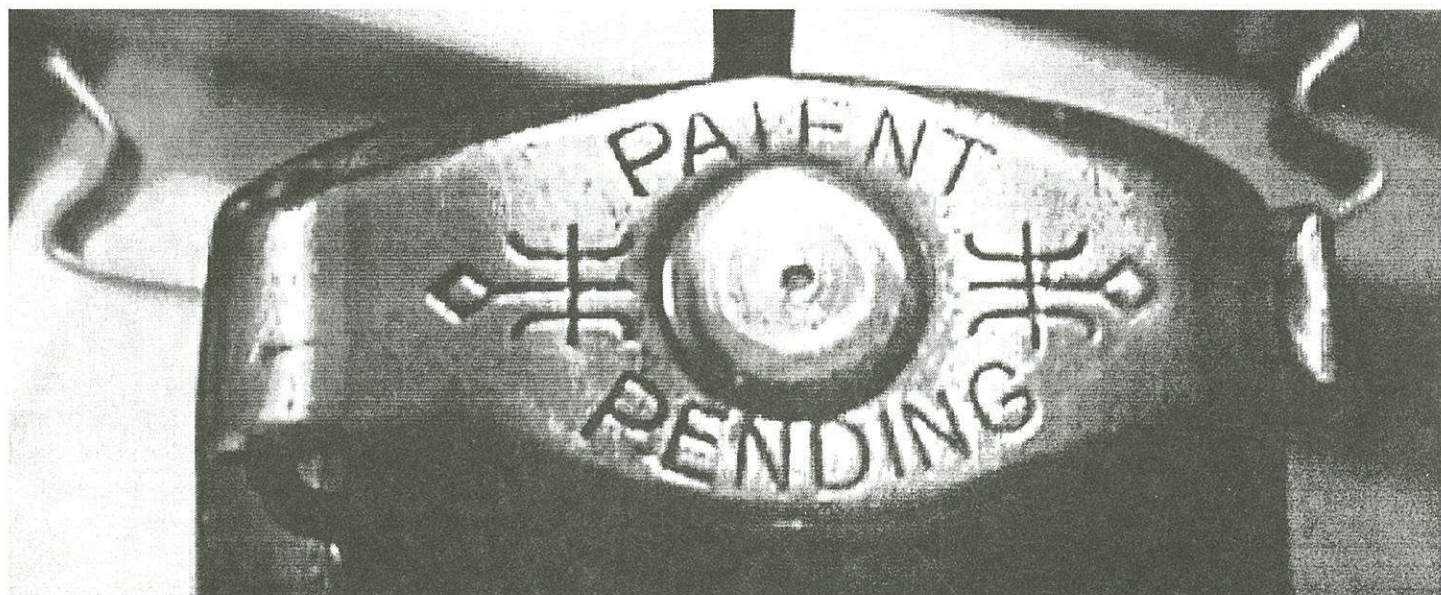


Justrite's Gasketed Waterdoor

by Dave Thorpe



Justrite cap lamps with a special waterdoor were sold during the 1919-1920 period. They featured a fancy stamping and rubber gasket to make a tight seal with the lamp hole. It one of the most difficult of all Justrites to find today.

The door has the earmarks of a Hansen design: obscure and artful. Though there was a "Patent Pending", I am not aware of one being obtained. I know of such lamps in four collections. They are known in nickel-plated and plain brass finishes. All come with either the Liberty Feed or the Polygon Feed. All have beaded bases and a rolled-edge flange. These features date the lamp to 1919-1920, the time when designer Augie Hansen was being replaced by Wm. Frisbee. The Liberty Feed is a Hansen design, the Polygon Feed is Frisbee's.



Justrite lamps with fancy inset stamping are limited to a few highly collectible lamps: XRAY, Imperial, Fulton, and Jiffy. The 'gasketed door' lamp is one more. It belongs to a period of Justrite manufacturing history characterized by gadgety innovations and graceful appearance. It shares this period with the swan-necked Spiral Feed and the bayonet-locking Jiffy cap lamps. High-end collecting interest in Justrite lamps effectively dies after 1920.*

* Defender and XRAY models are exceptions.