

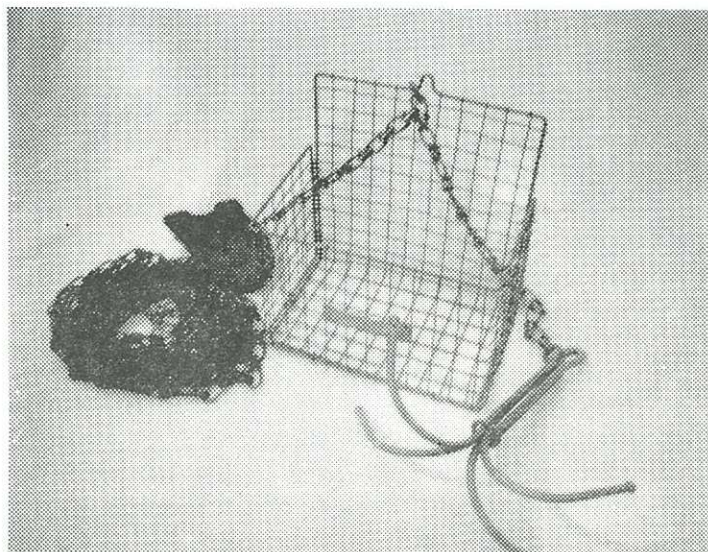
I recently returned to Skidoo and was saddened by the sorry shape the old stamp mill was in. This was the only standing building left. Also, all of the mines in the area have been covered by a steel net to keep explorers out. This has been done in just the last few years by the Park Service. I don't blame the Park Service because they are liable for anyone getting hurt--usually always those without the proper equipment and inexperienced in mine exploration. Most all of the mines in the National Park system are now getting closed, netted or gated. Most of these mines have had heavy traffic anyway, so there is not much in the way of mining artifacts left to find.

I still enjoy the adventure of going out and finding these old camps and seeing where and how the miners of old lived. All of these camps had some unique history and tales in their short lives, and these old towns and camps are vanishing very fast. I hope to video tape what is left of all the ghost towns and mines that I explore in the future so I will have some visual record of what is left. Many mines, like their towns, have their own unique history. In video taping these mines, I hope to record the mining techniques--such as timbering, drilling and hauling methods--the tools and equipment used, and their inner, underground beauty.

UNION SANITARY CLOTHES HANGERS

by **Jim Steinberg**
Pasadena, California

If you have ever seen a photograph of a miners' changing room, you may have noticed a forest of clothing suspended from the ceiling high above. These are the miners' clothes hangers in use.



The hanger that is shown in the photo--and advertised on the front cover--measures 8 1/2 inches tall at the back with a small loop at the top where the hanger is suspended from a chain. The front and sides of the hanger measure 5 1/2 inches high (the depth of the basket), 8 inches from side to side, and is 5 1/4 inches from front to rear.

The basket has a 19 1/2 foot chain. Attached to one end of the chain is a four-pronged hook made of 1/4 inch rod with 3/8 inch round knobs on the end of each prong. The hook assembly is held together by a steel ring towards the base of the hooks. The top of the basket is attached to a link in the chain about a foot above the hooks.

At left is a photograph of the Union Sanitary Clothes Hanger from the James H. Shannon Manufacturing Company that is illustrated in the ad on the front cover of this issue of the MAC. (Author's collection)

The construction of the basket is interesting. It is essentially two framed sections of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch mesh folded and connected together. First, a $\frac{1}{8}$ inch wire was formed into an 8 inch by $13 \frac{1}{8}$ inch long rectangle covered with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch mesh of $\frac{1}{16}$ inch diameter wire soldered to the frame. This piece is folded once at a 90° angle to form the bottom and back of the basket. A second rectangle of similar design measuring $5 \frac{1}{2}$ inches by $13 \frac{1}{4}$ inches was folded to form the front and two sides of the basket. These two sections of the basket were then joined together using eight steel wire loops.

On the front of the basket the manufacturer soldered a tinned metal tag that is 3 inches long by $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide and is stamped as follows:

UNION SANITARY CLOTHES HANGER
 J H CHANNON CORPORATION
 MFRS CHICAGO

The miners' clothes hanger illustrated in the accompanying advertisement differs slightly from the hanger shown in the photo in that the top of the advertisement hanger is rounded.

When in use, the pulleys at the ceiling facilitate the raising and lowering of the miners' clothes hanger. Smaller objects could be placed inside the basket while clothing could hang from the hooks to dry in free moving air.

There were probably many reasons for using these types of clothes hangers, among them were the low cost of installation and repair, the amount of floor space saved, but most notably was that the miners' wet and dirty work clothes probably dried quicker and better than when kept in the ordinary closet type lockers.



Shown below is an ad for the Union Sanitary Clothes Hangers from a 1928 Keystone Mining Supply Catalog.

Equipment for

Mines and Quarries

Consequently, the James H. Channon Original "Union" Sanitary Clothes Hanger is rapidly displacing the stuffy, ill-ventilated, germ-breeding steel locker.

Its practical advantages are self-evident: The stout, rust-proof basket, deep and capacious, holds the workman's lunch and valuables in safety. The ample, rust-proof four-prong hook spreads his damp clothing to the fresh, warm, drying air. The sturdy sherardized chain (tested to 1,000 pounds) hoists all to the ceiling, where the air-currents are warmest. The strong padlock secures the outfit from molestation.

The illustration shows a standard Hanger unit, which includes thirty feet of chain, the length that meets average requirements (for 15-foot ceiling).

The saving, as against steel-locker installation, is about three-quarters in first cost; and about two-thirds in floor-space required. The Hanger effects a further large saving in repair-cost; for when a workman forgets his key and pries the steel locker open with a pick, the repair-cost is greater than the cost of an entire "Union" Hanger unit. Fire-risk from spontaneous combustion is eliminated, and from pipes left in clothing greatly diminished.

Whether or not your State or Province has legislation making Hanger or Locker provision for workmen compulsory, self-interest will suggest that you investigate this, by far the best and cheapest high-grade Wash-Room Equipment.

Booklet "High and Dry" Sent Free on Request

Correspondence is invited—from Mine Operators, Industrial Engineers, and Architects. Model Wash-Room Layout will be sent on request.