

Collectors Talk

Mark DeLawyer, whose article entitled **Adirondack Ore Division, Republic Steel Corporation**, appears on page 30 of this issue, included the following letter with his article. As mining historians are a treasure, please help Mark with his task.

History of Mining in New York State

I have recently begun the research needed to prepare the first written history of the mining industry in New York State. As my article implies, this is a long and complicated history involving many different commodities and nearly two hundred years of industrial progress.

I'd appreciate hearing from anyone with any information on the mining industry in New York. Persons with background material, references, or memorabilia are also asked to please lend a hand in this important effort to document a largely unknown segment of America's mining lore and legends.

Mark W. DeLawyer
Industrial Historian
550 So. Clinton St.
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 422-3772



Avid readers will remember the unusual Blemus lamp featured in MAC Issue 3, Spring 1989. Ima Hokes of Goshen, Indiana, the owner of the Blemus, sent us some more remarkable information for our **April** issue. Shown to the right is an illustration of her recent find, the "droop snoot." Ms. Hokes, being the avid collector she is, researched the lamp and reports the following:

Very rare Trethaway "droop-snoot" oil-wick lamp, designed to prevent being extinguished by falling water. Patent refused. Aside from the problem that the oil tended to run out unless the wicking was packed very tightly, it failed to gain acceptance because any miner who used one was laughed out of the mine, having been made the butt of crude jokes. Nickname: "The Capon."

