

Collector's Talk

Tin Sign

I came across this tin sign in a local antique shop. The sign is painted tin measuring 12" x 23" with black letters on a yellow background with a red border and a red star. The "STAR BRAND" SOLID LEATHER SHOES WEAR LONGER - COST LESS is embossed whereas THE MINERS STORE, BISBEE is slightly debossed. The manufacturer of the shoes had these signs stamped out and then each sign was printed with the names of the different dealers that sold their shoes. The signs were then sent to the shoe dealers for their use, hoping that the individual stores would post the signs on the outside of their stores and elsewhere to help sell their product. In the lower right corner it says: "Stout Sign Co., St. Louis," the maker of the sign. I really don't know the age of the sign, but would expect it to have been made somewhere between 1920 and 1950.

I collect both tin and porcelain advertising signs and this is the first advertising sign that I have owned that had the name of a mining town on it. I would be interested to find out if anyone knows during what period of time the Miners Store was in business in Bisbee.

Michael Ebers
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Another Match Safe

Richard Hauck of Bloomfield, Colorado, has this different mining related match safe. It is made of celluloid plastic and has a flip top lid with a metal strike plate on the bottom. The advertisement is in black on a off-white background.

