The German Mining Museum

Manfred Stutzer

The German Mining Museum, Deutsches Bergbau-Museum, is one of the best mining museums I have seen. If any of the readers of Eureka! are planning a trip to Germany, don't miss a visit to this museum. You will need at least one full day to see everything.

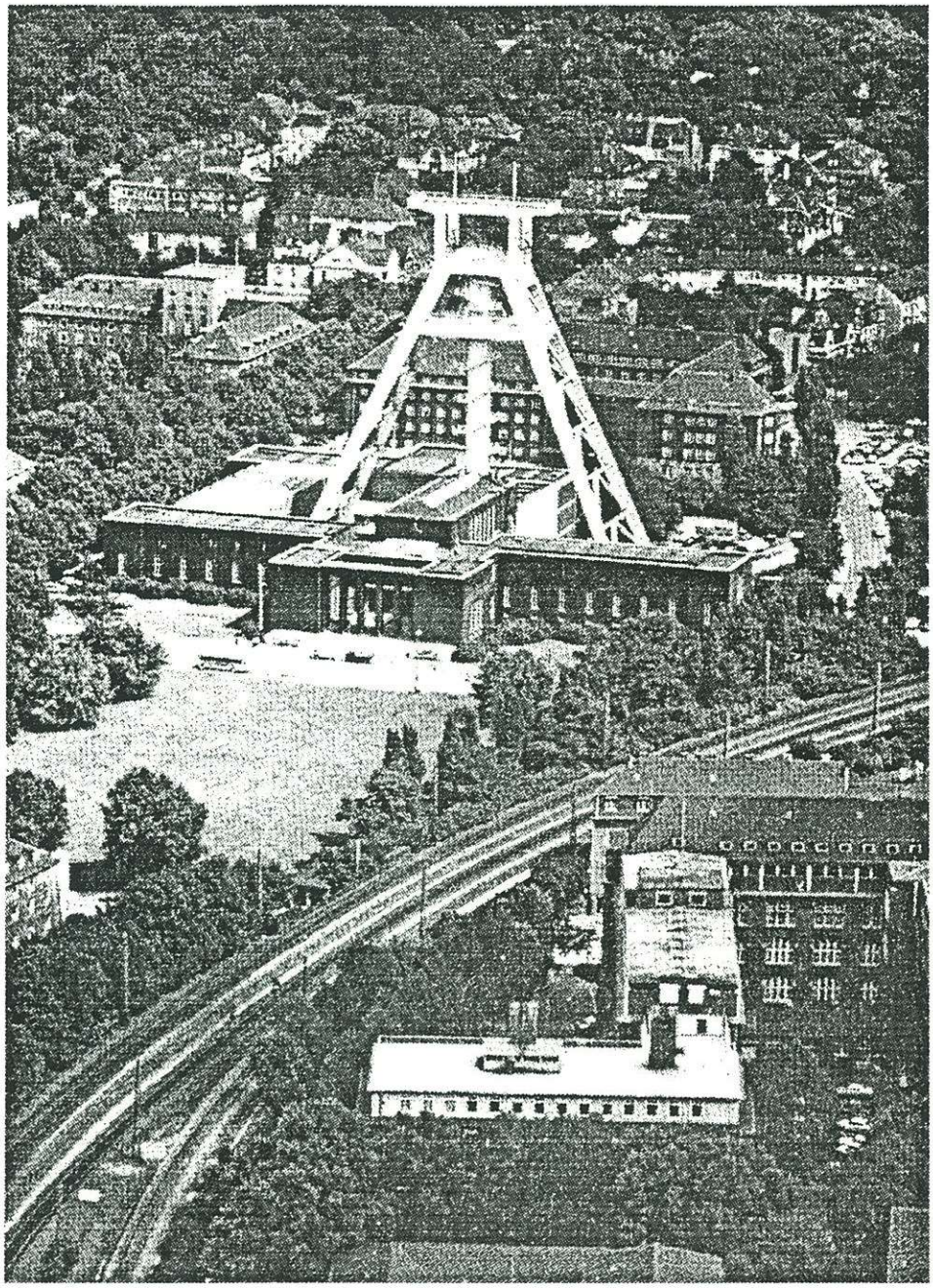
The address is:

Deutsches Bergbau-Museum
Am Bergbaumuseum 28
44791 Bochum/Westfalia

Open hours:

Tuesdays - Fridays 8:30 -17:30
Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 - 16:00

The Museum was established in 1930. Its exhibition area of more than 10,000 square meters shows the historical development of all branches of mining. 15 to 20 meters underneath the museum complex you can see a complete model coal mine. You can also take a lift to the platform of a winding gear 60 meters above the museum. This 650 ton heavy headgear is original and was built in 1944. After the closure of the coal mine "Germania" in Dortmund in 1973, it came to the German Mining Museum.

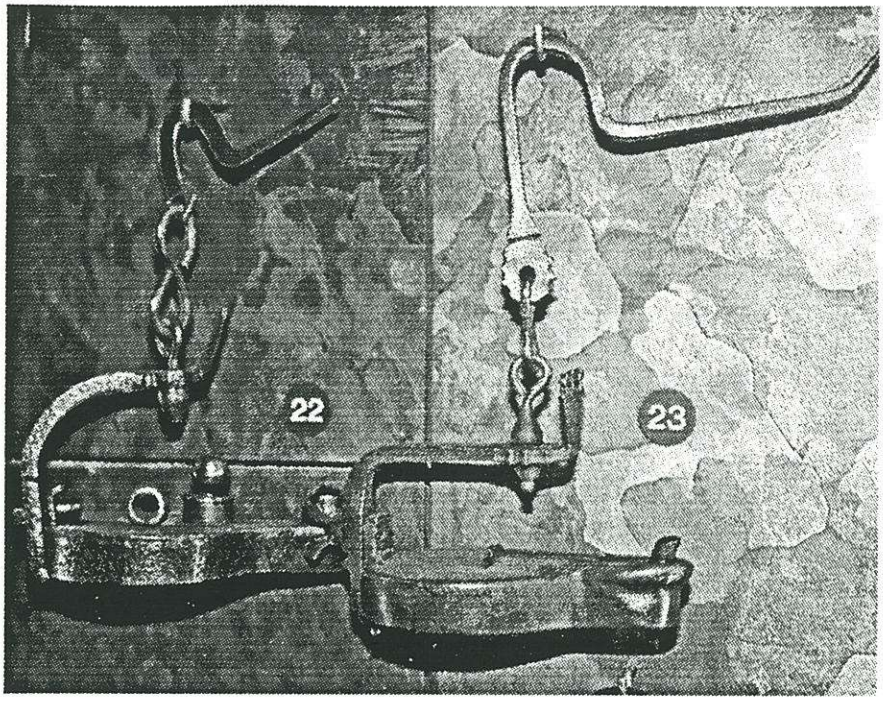


The displays include:

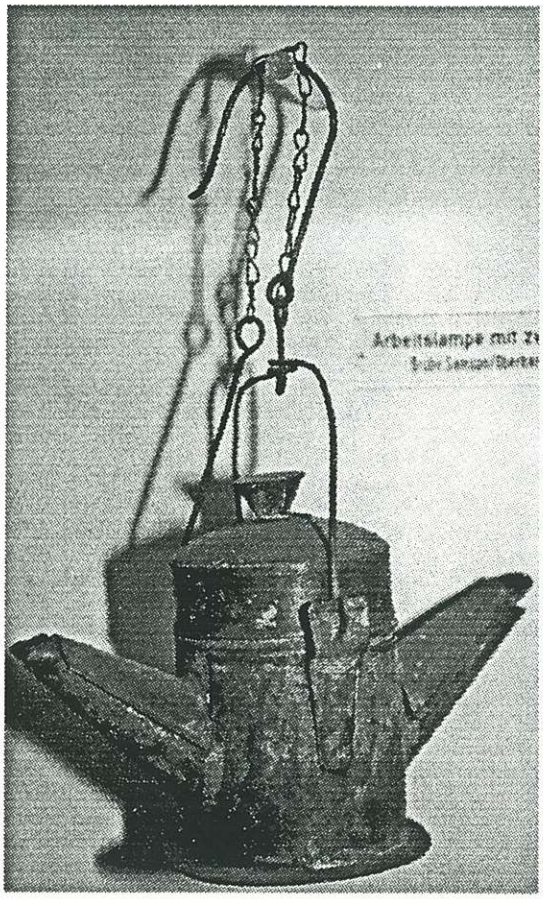
-The Raw Materials of mineral deposits and mining
-Shaft Winding
-Coal winning
-Shotfiring
-Mining Tools
-Drilling and Blasting
-Drainage and Mine Ventilation
-Mining in Fine Arts
-Precious Stones
-Winning in pre-historic times
-Winning in the Middle Ages
-Deep Drilling
-Mine Surveying
-Coal Winning Machines
-Miners' lamps

For me, the section of miners' lamps is of special interest.

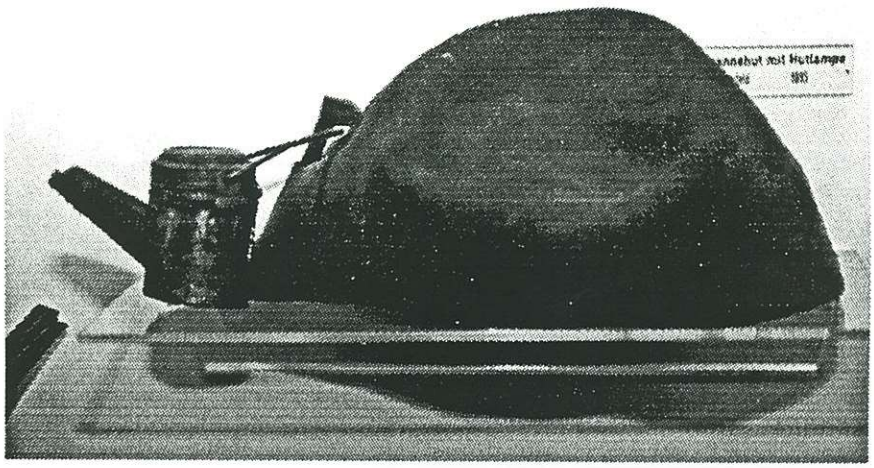
Carbide frog lamp, so-called Pfannenschmidt-Frog, 1906.

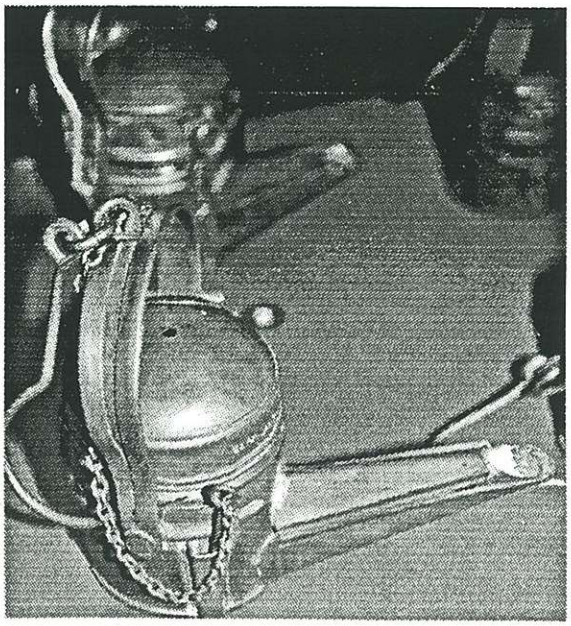


Two closed large iron frog lamps, Harz mountains, 1880.



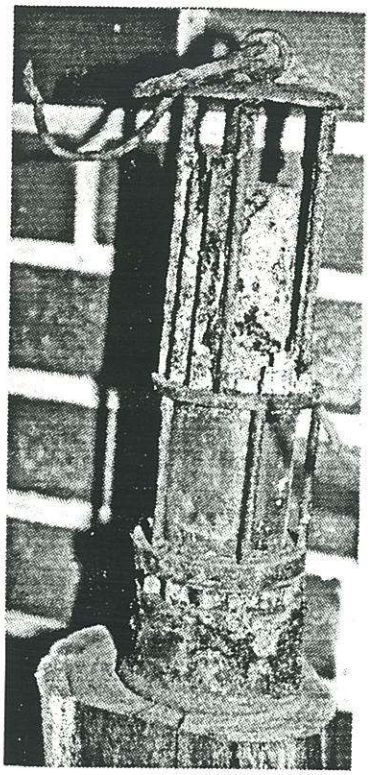
Oil lamp with two spouts, Samson mine, Harz mountains, 1880.

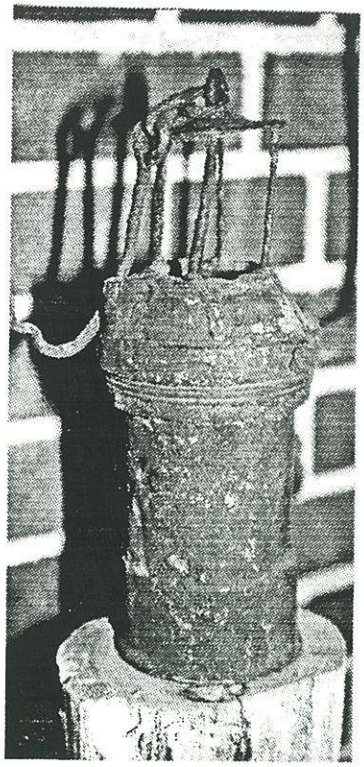




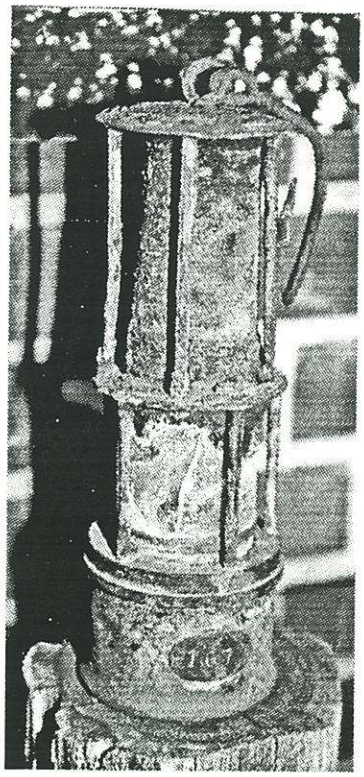
Above: Oil wick cap lamp with leather cap, copper ore mining, Mansfeld, 1895.

Left: Oil wick hand lamp, brass, Silesia, 1890.



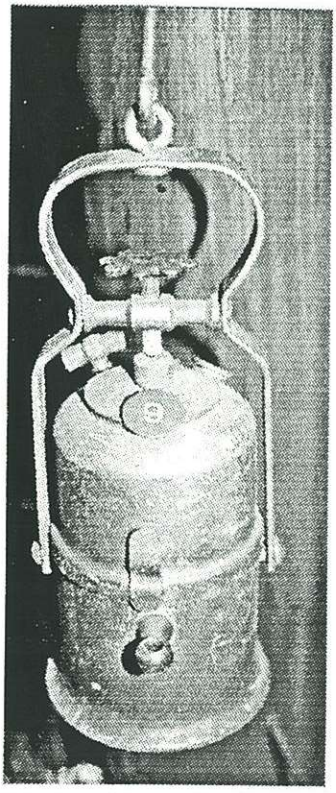


The Frieman & Wolf safety lamp (left) and an electric hand lamp (right) were found after a firedamp explosion which occured 1934 on Nelson Colliery, Osek Bohemia. Only 2 miners of 140 survived. It is believed that a smoking miner caused this explosion.

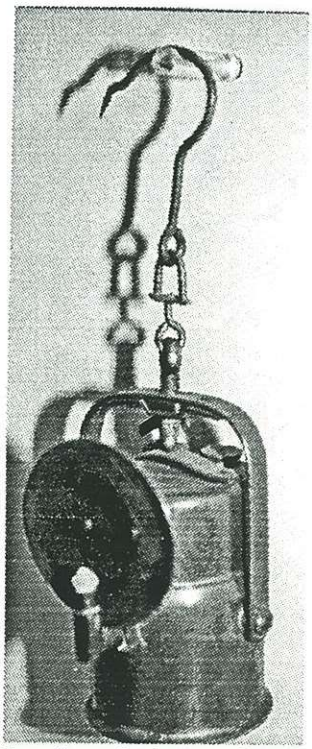


This Friemann & Wolf safety lamp was found after a disaster that happened in 1908 in Radbod Colliery, Hamm, Ruhr area. In the night between August 11 and 12, a coaldust explosion killed 350 of the 400 miners working.

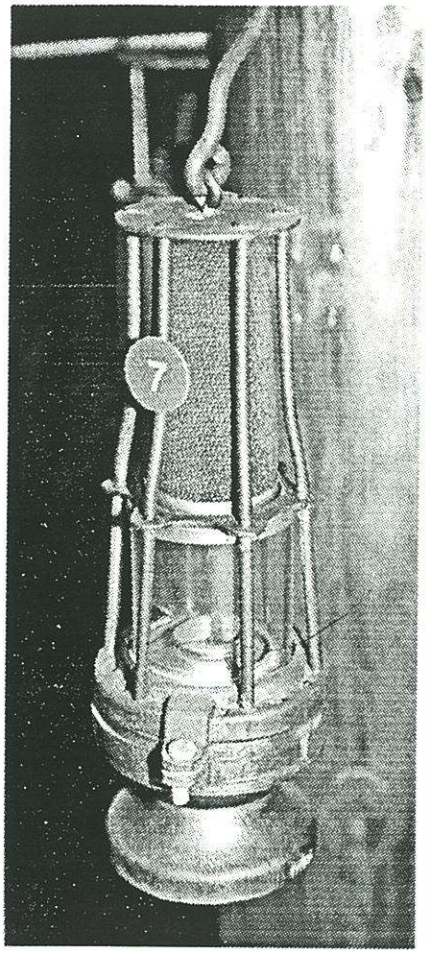
Carbide hand lamp by Seipel, 1920.



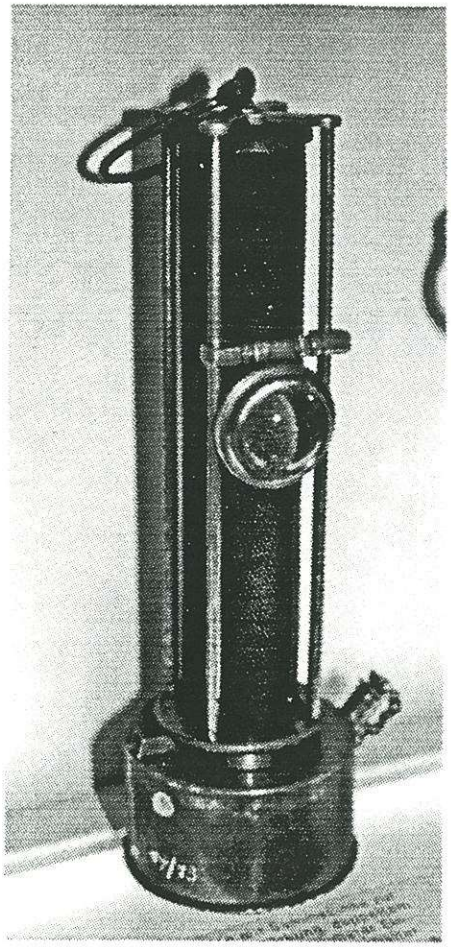
Carbide hand lamp by Gewerkschaft Carl,Bochum, 1900.



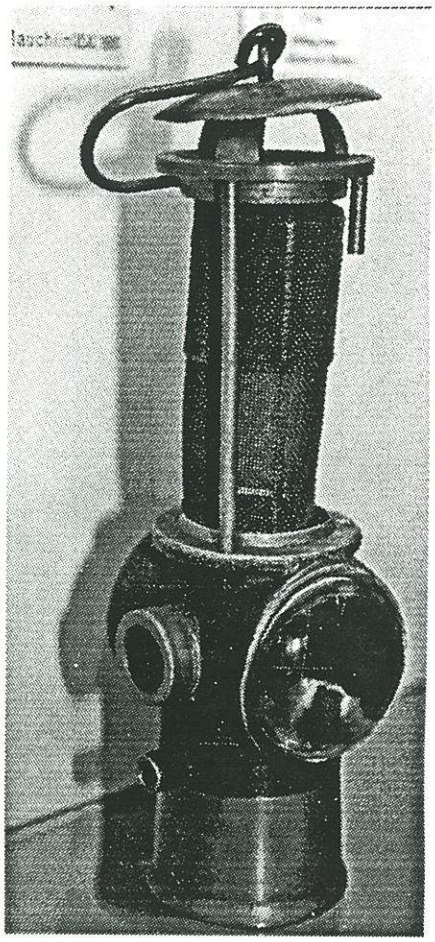
Small carbide hand lamp by Seipel, 1923.



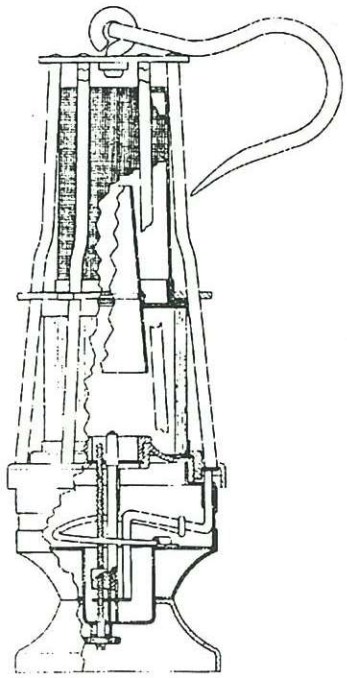
*Oil safety lamp with Muesler chimney, by **Cossett-Dubrulle**, Lille, France, 1901.*

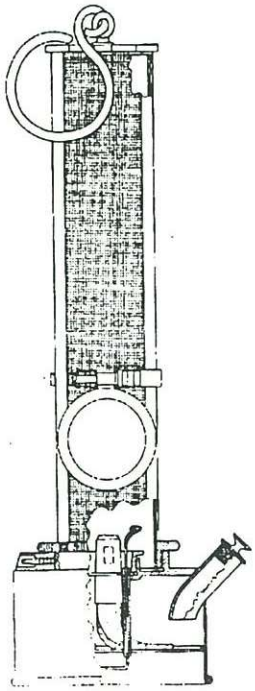


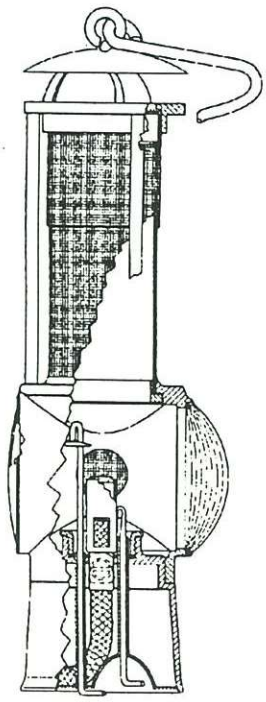
*Davy lamp with two gauzes and lens, by **Newman**, England, 1817.*

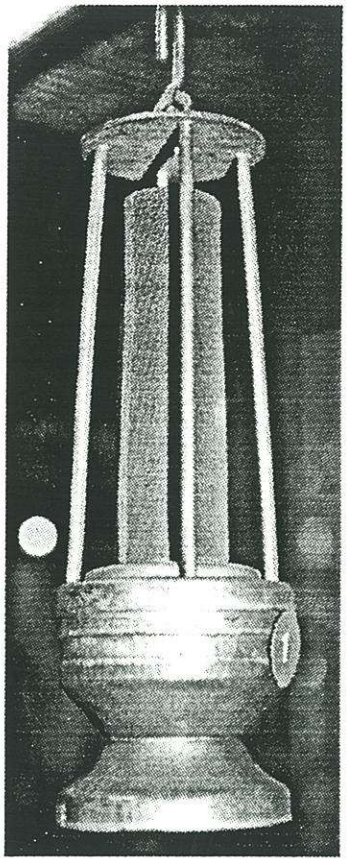


*Davy lamp with lens, inventor: mining engineer **Mauchlin**, USA, 1880, used in the coal mines of Pennsylvania.*

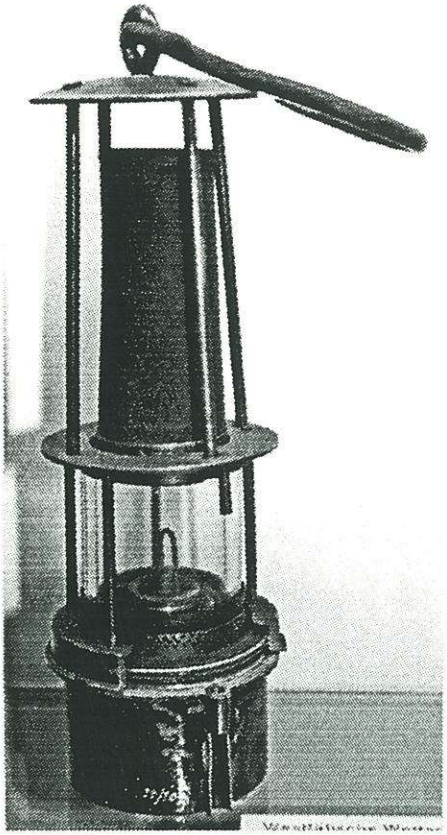




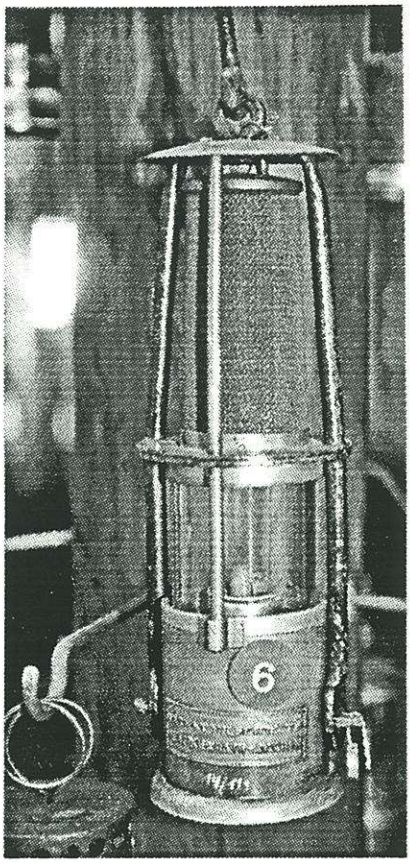




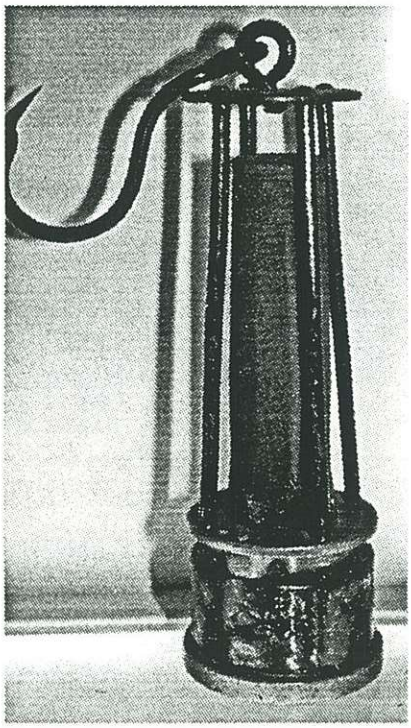
Davy style lamp, made by ***Cossett-Dubrulle****, Lille, France, 1870.*



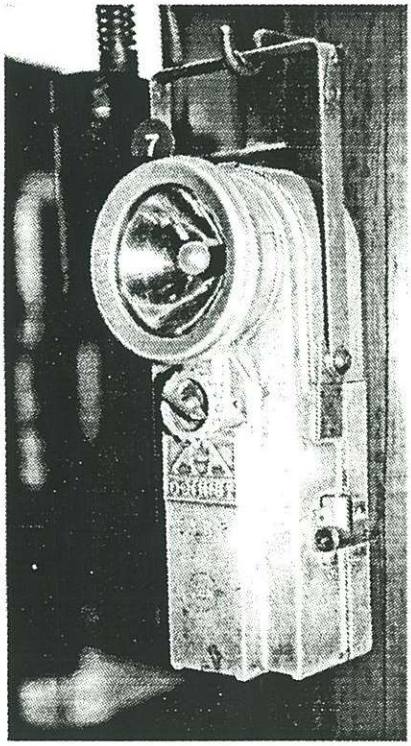
Westfalian *oil safety lamp with punched air ring beneath the glass, 1855 - 1880.*



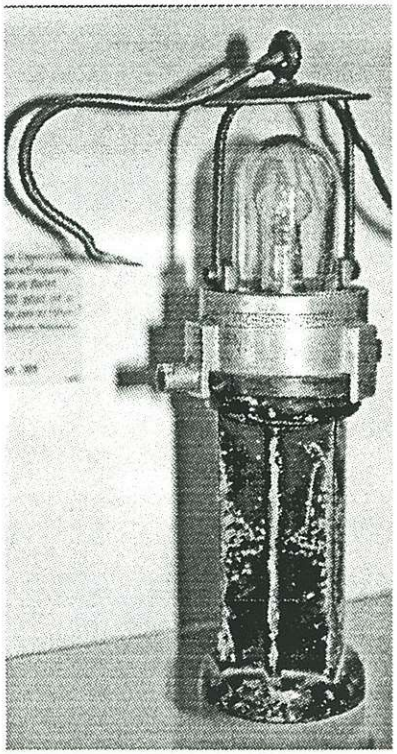
Oil safety lamp, by ***Fr. Schmetz****, Herzogenrath, Westfalia, 1868.*



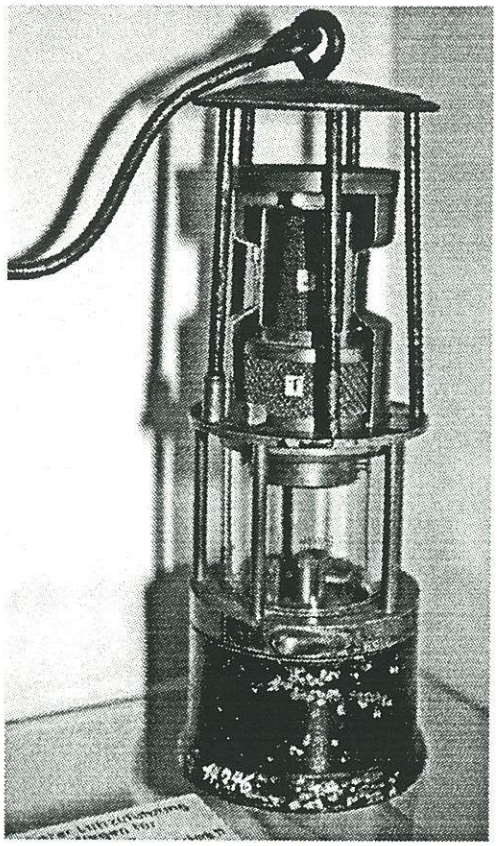
Early oil Davy safety lamp. The top of the gauze is fitted with a punched plate, unknown manufacturer, Belgium(?), 1850.



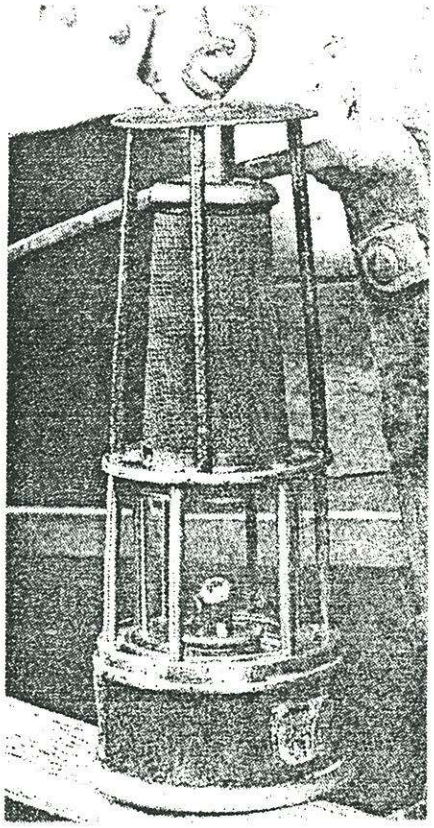
Test lamp, ***Doninit****, 1932.*



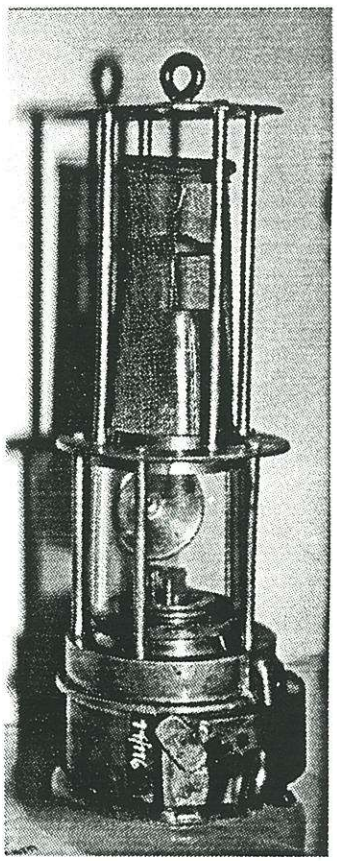
Ni-Cd hand lamp, 1913, inventor: Bohres, ***Friemann & Wolf.***



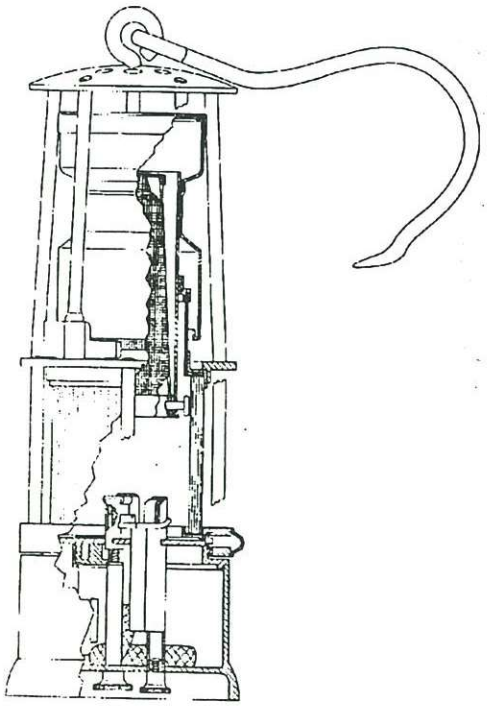
Benzine safety lamp with Mueseler chimney, inventor Dahlmann, 1895, ***Friemann & Wolf.***

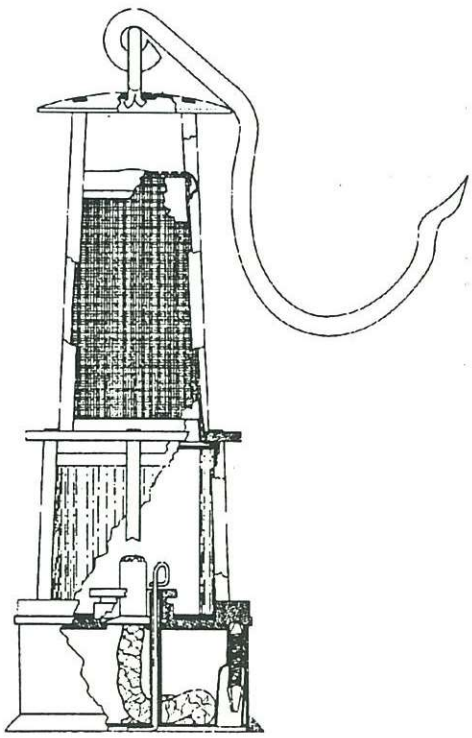


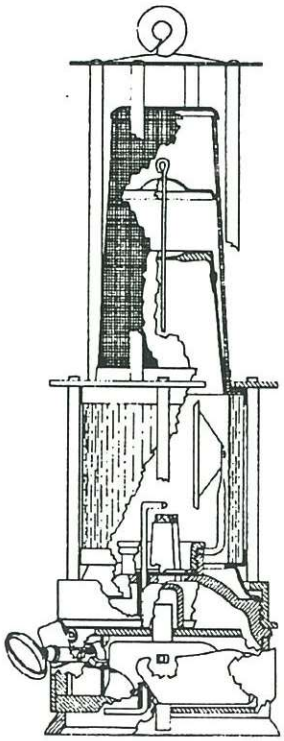
Boty *oil safety lamp with punched copper top on gauze, a so-called "Saarbruecker" oil safety lamp used in the coal mines of Saar, Germany.*

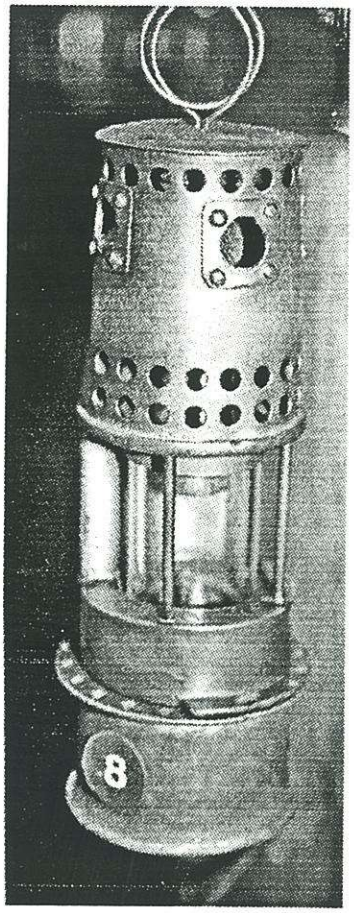


Oil safety lamp, by ***F. Abs,*** *in Reuland style, 1880, coal mines in Silesia, inside of the lamp is a small reflector and a self-actng extinguisher.*

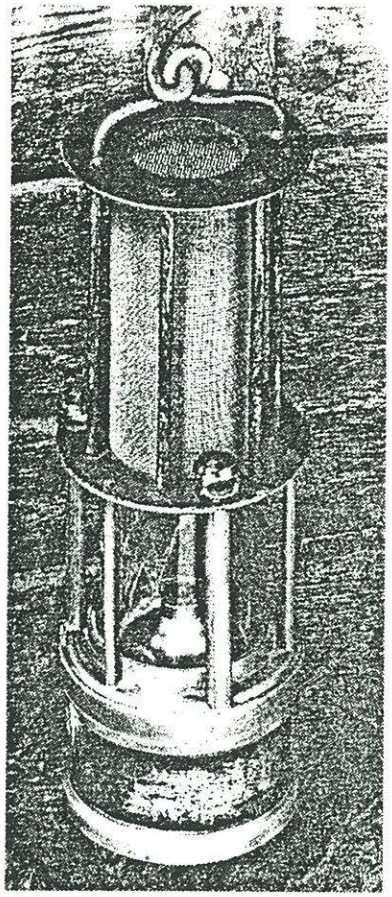




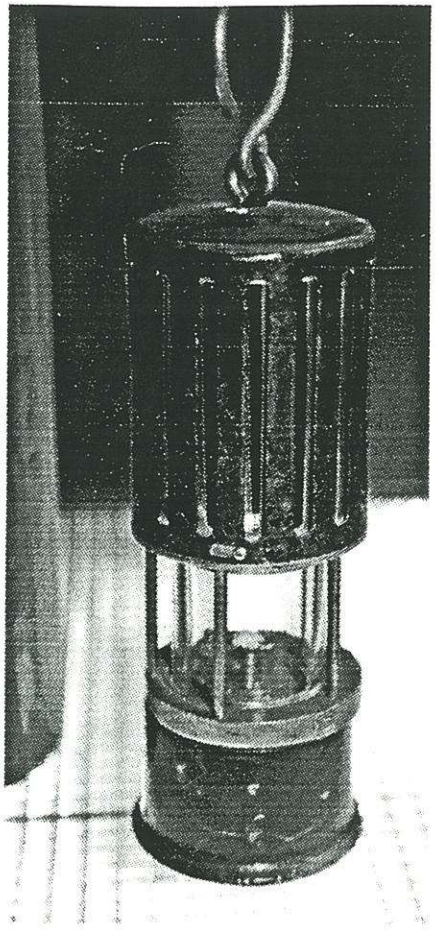




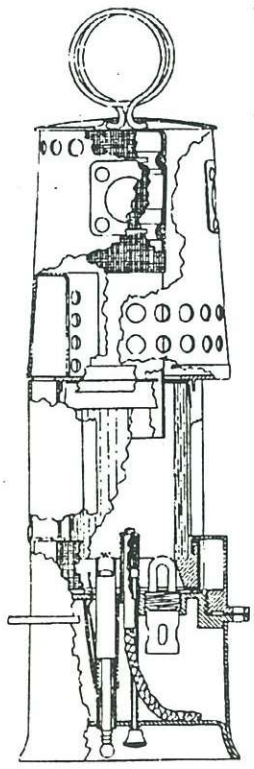
fumat lamp with Mueseler chimney, produced by ***Fabrique Liegeoise de Lampes de Securite****, Liege, Belgium, 1905.*

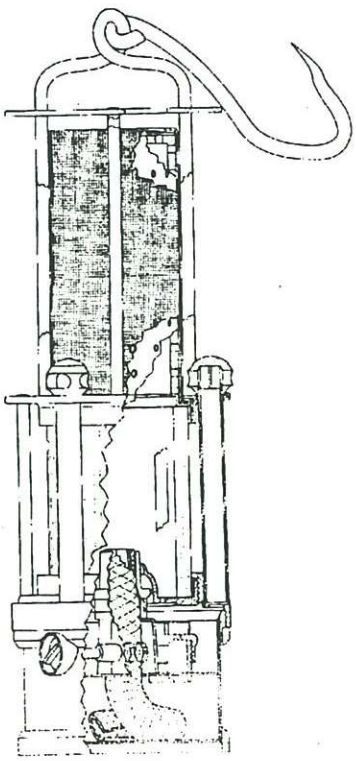


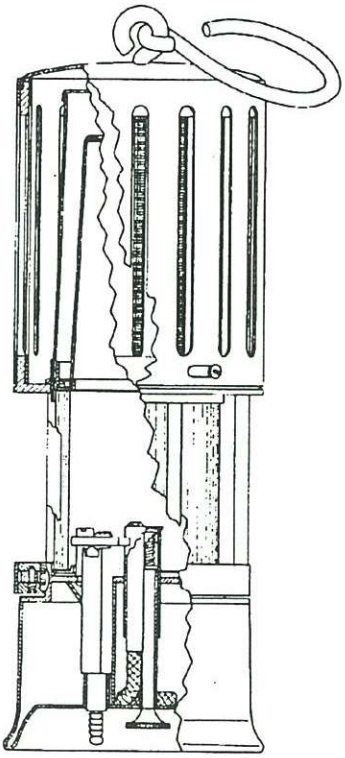
Oil safety lamp, type ***Gray****, 1870, unknown manufacturer.*

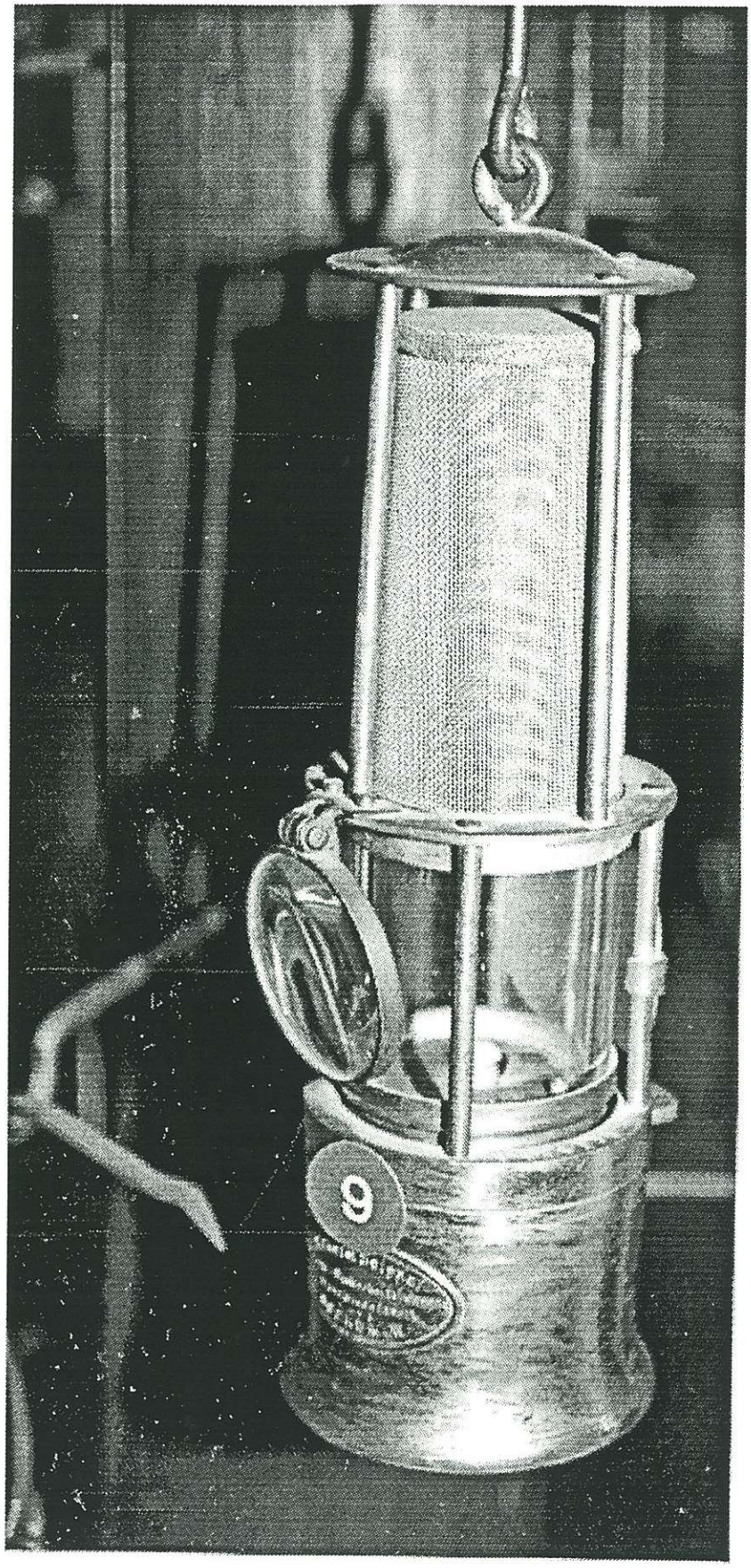


Friemann & Wolf *benzine safety lamp with Meyer-Bonnet with adjustable slots, 1902.*

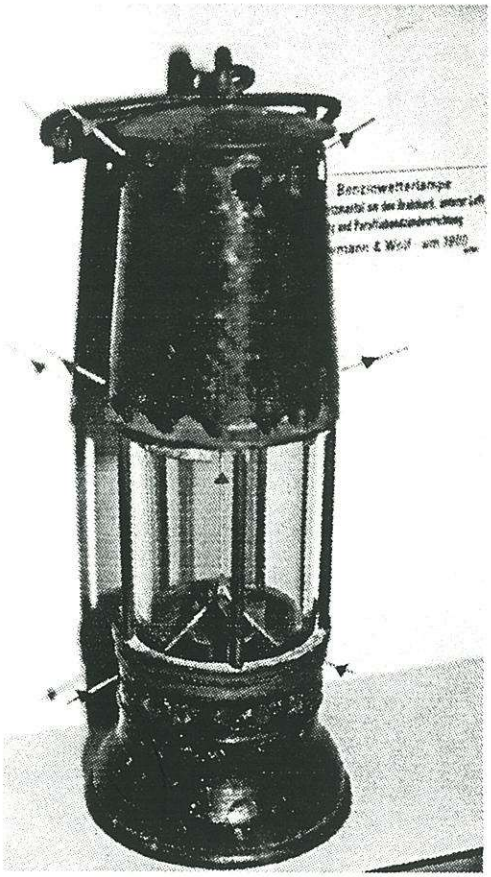




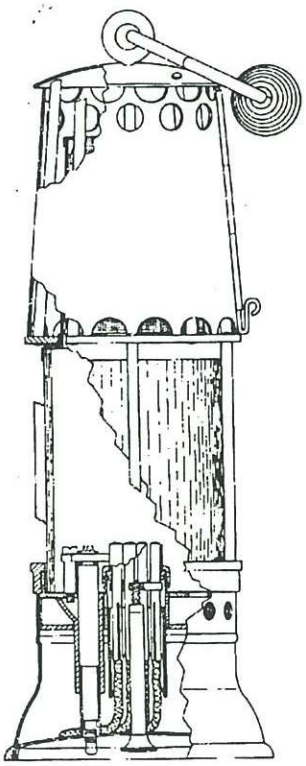


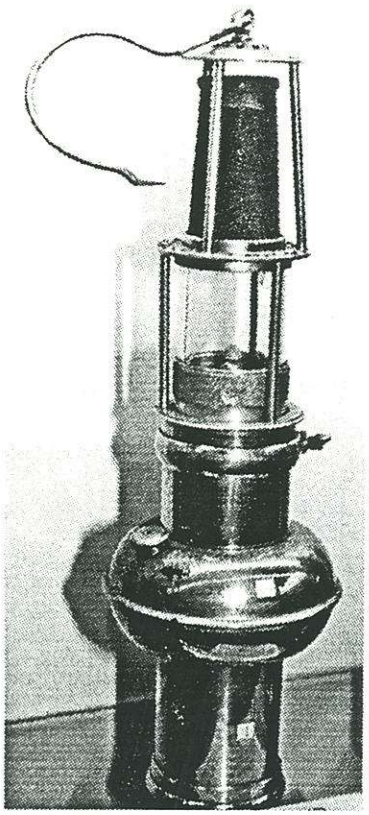


Surveyor's lamp with lens, ***Seippel****, 1910.*



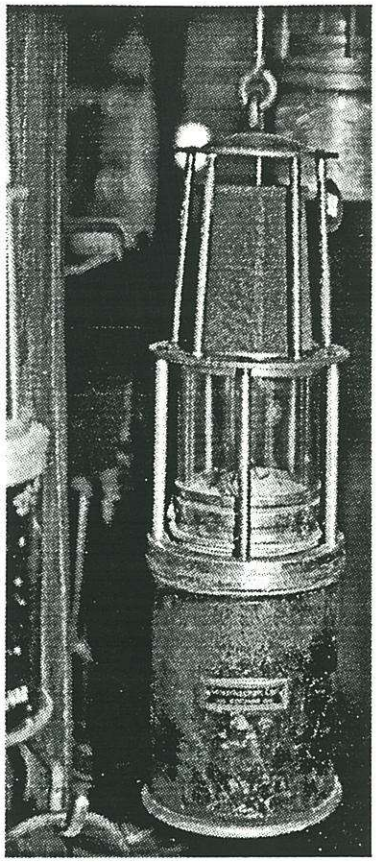
Friemann & Wolf*, 1900, four wicks.*



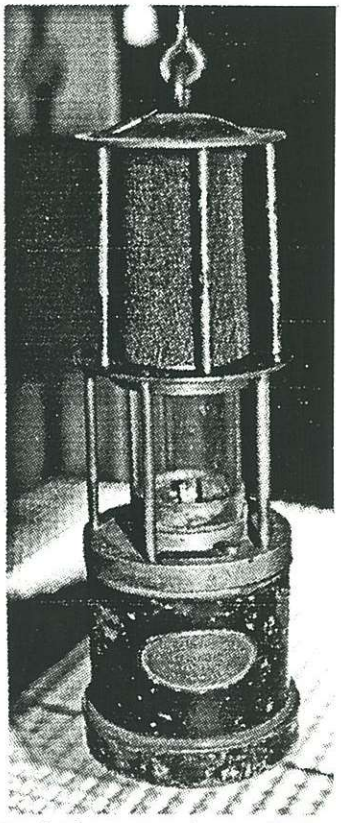


***Friemann & Wolf**, carbide safety, inventor: Stuchlik, 1904.*

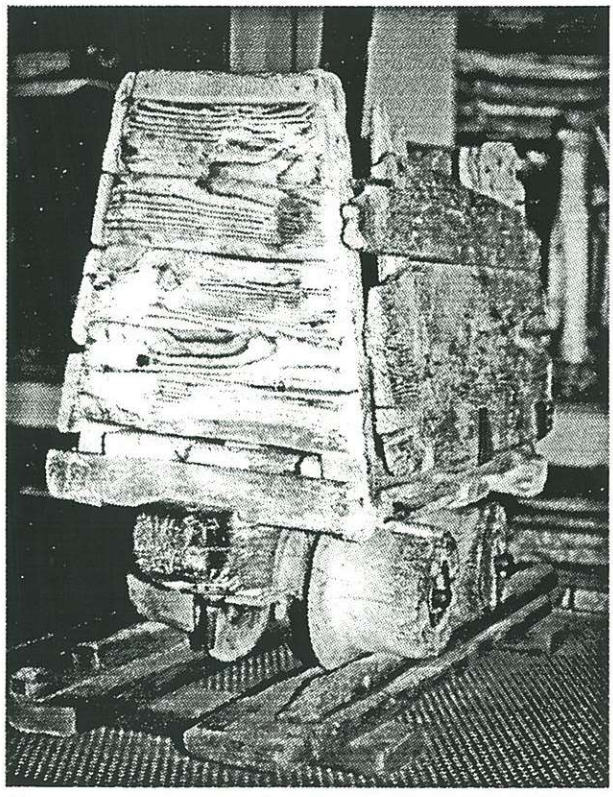
***Friemann & Wolf**, carbide safety, 1907, inventor: Stuchlik, coal mining in Bavaria.*



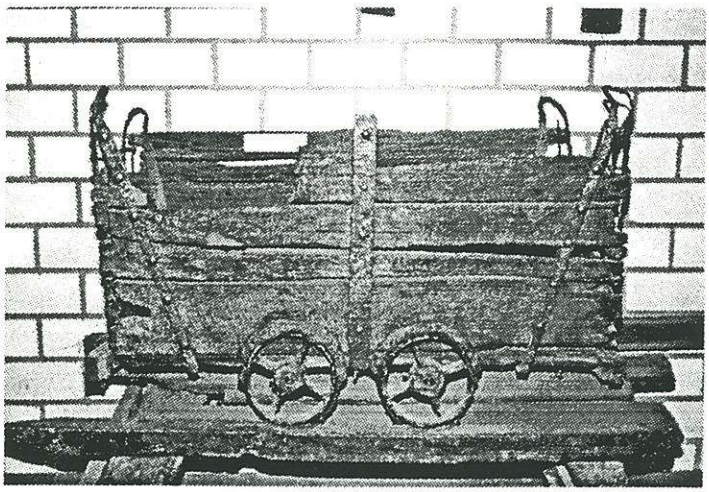
*Carbide safety lamp, **Carl Koch**.*



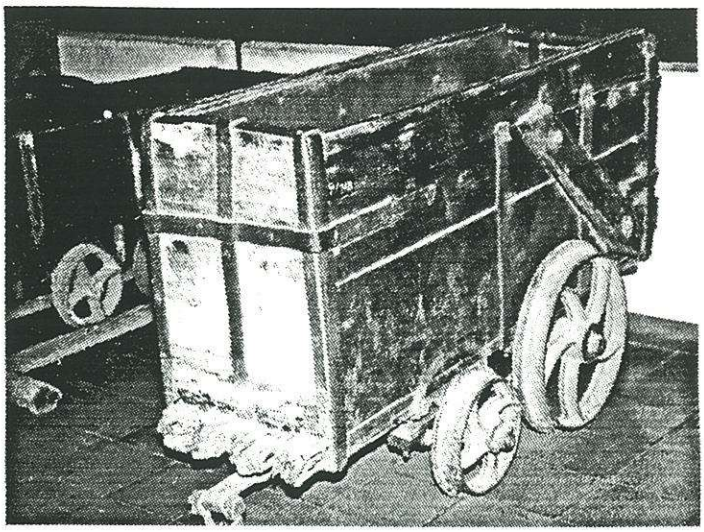
*Carbide safety lamp, **Seippel**, 1910.*



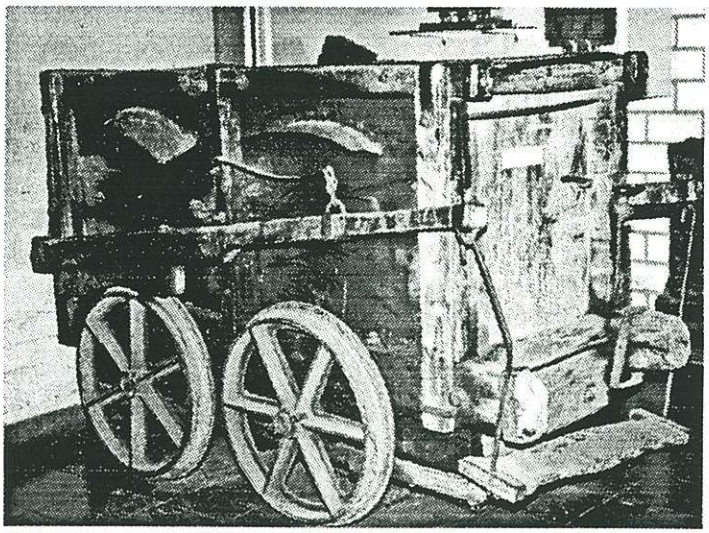
Wooden ore car on wood rails, used until 1930 in a Gold Mine in "Siebenbuergen" (Transylvania).



Wooden car for coal mining. In use until 1866 in Friederica-Colliery, Unna, Ruhr, Germany.

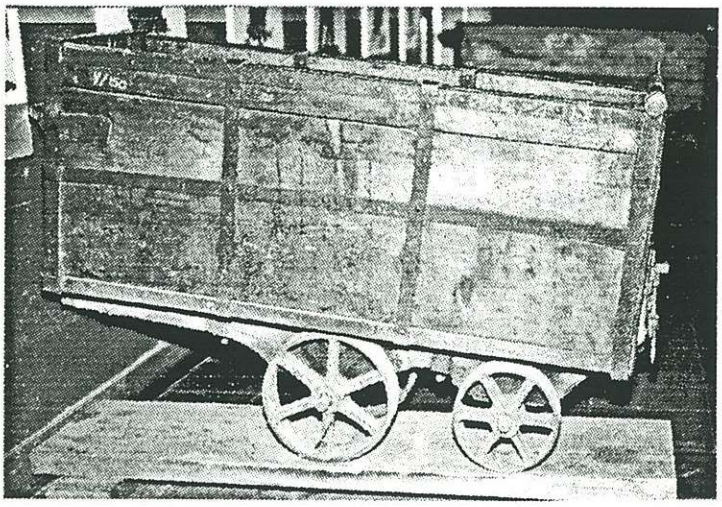


Wooden ore car, ca. 1875, Harz-Mountains, Germany.

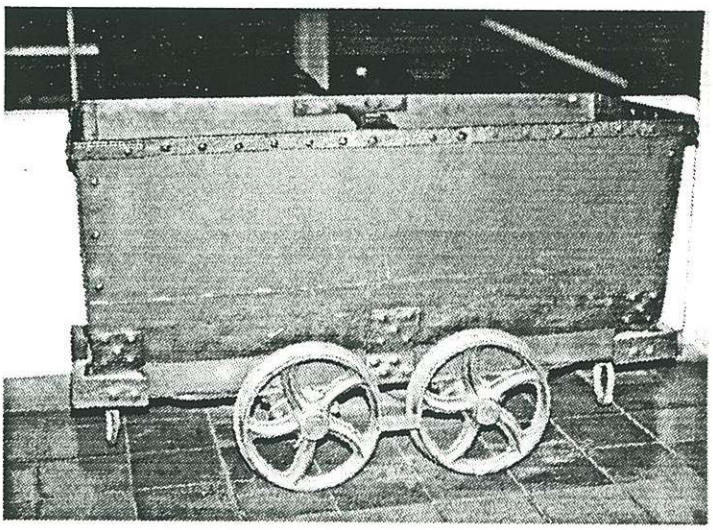


Woodern ore car wit footbrake, used until 1938 in the ore-mines of Steiermark, Austria.

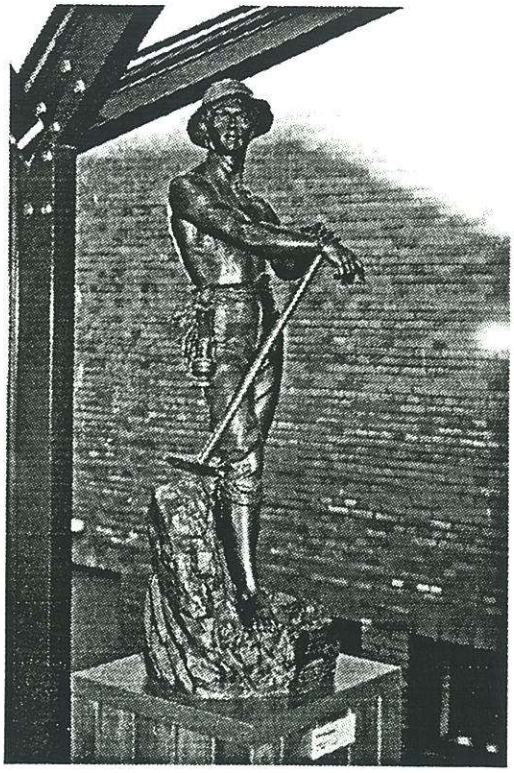
Special wagon for salt transportation, ca. 1900, Unna-Koenigsborn, Germany.



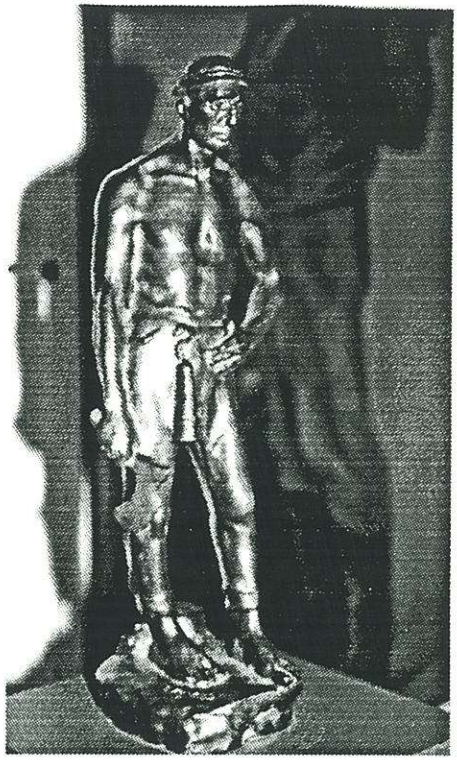
Wooden ore car, Schneeberg, Saxony, ca. 1850.



Iron car used in coal mining, ca. 1920, Germany.

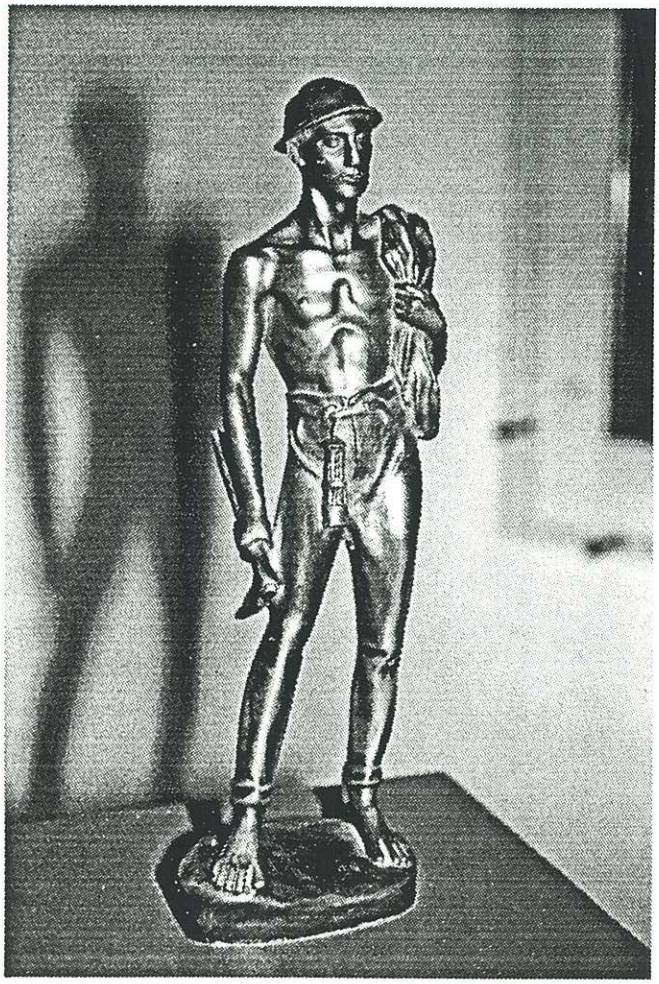


Bronze miner by Christian Levy, ca. 1880.



Miner with safety lamp by Constantin Meunier, 1901.

Woman with safety lamp by Constantin Meunier (1831-1905).



Miner with safety lamp by Friedrich Thuma, ca. 1929.

Siegerland Miner by Friedrich Reusch, end of 19th century, bronze, Germany.