

MINERAL-SAMPLE POSTCARDS

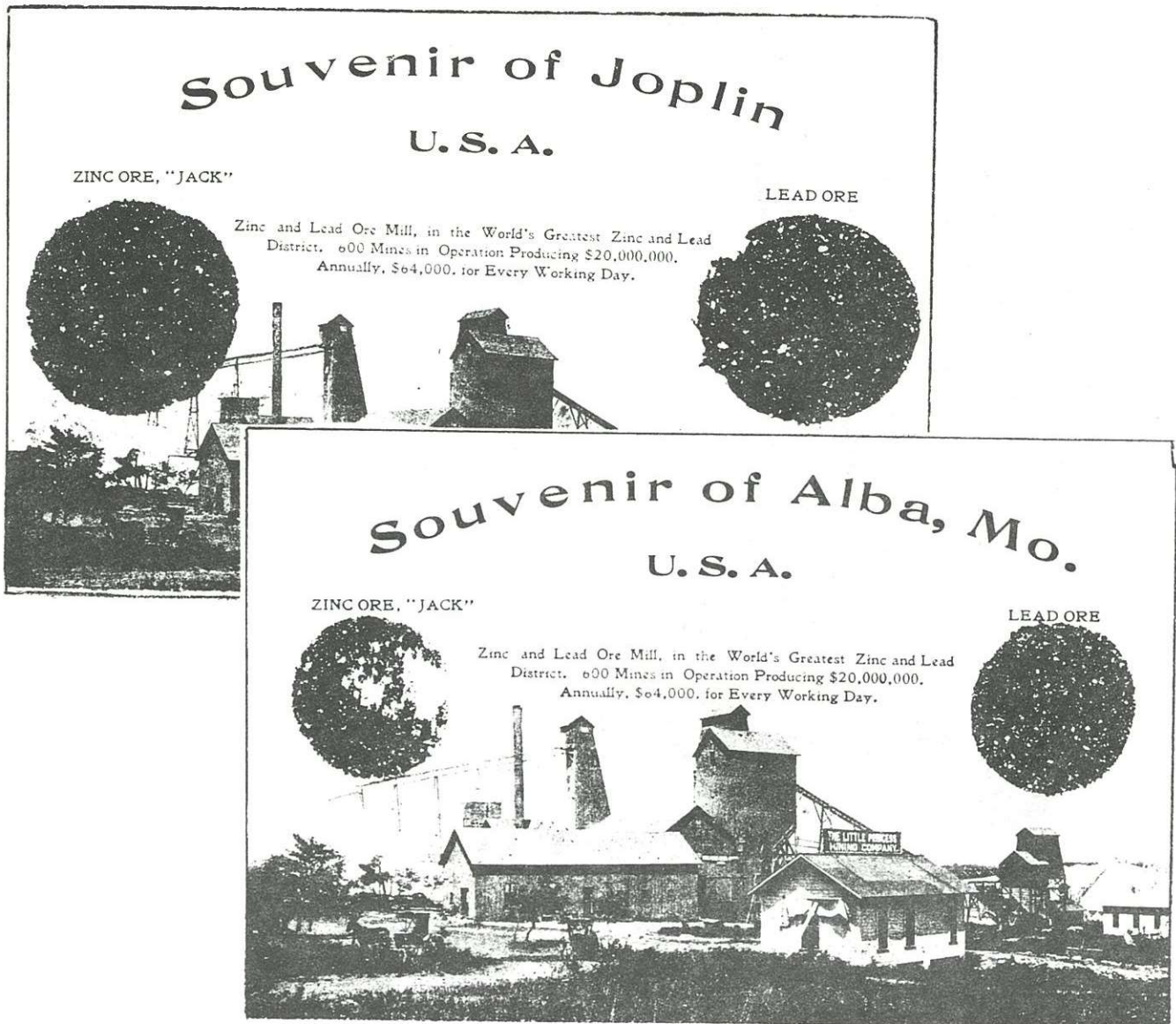
by John A. Pawloski
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Over the years I have been able to find only a few postcards with actual mineral samples glued to the front of the card. The most frequently found cards of this rare type are shown below and on the facing page. Two of them depict the Little Princess Mining Company buildings in the Tri-State lead-zinc district of Missouri, although one gives the location as Joplin and the other as Alba. The third card shows an underground

mining scene. Each card carries crushed samples of sphalerite (zinc ore) and galena (lead ore).

Other cards in my collection, from Columbia, California, show photographs of men panning for gold and pointing to the pans, where a tiny flake of real gold has been glued on.

Although such postcards are scarce, I would appreciate hearing from others having different varieties of mineral-sample postcards.



Souvenir of Joplin U.S.A.

ZINC ORE "JACK"



LEAD ORE GALENA



Underground Mining Scene, in the World's Greatest Zinc and Lead District. 600 Mines in Operation.
Producing \$20,000,000.00 Annually, \$64,000.00 for Every Working Day.

THE WHAT CHEER FUSE CUTTER AND SPLITTER

by Ted Bobrink
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Jim Steinberg wrote a nice article on the What Cheer Tool Company of What Cheer, Iowa, in *MAC* no. 5, p. 15-16. The What Cheer oil lamps are well known among oil lamp collectors, as is the What Cheer oil canteen and a few very rare carbide cap lamps. Now a new item can be added to the possible stock list of the What Cheer Tool Company.

While gathering information for his forthcoming book on blasting cap tins and cap crimpers, Mark Bohannon came across a U.S. patent issued to the What Cheer Tool Company for a new type of fuse cutter and splitter. The unique thing about this model is that it can *simultaneous* cut and split a fuse in a single operation. The patent drawing shows a rather more massive tool than most fuse cutters, but oftentimes the manufactured version of patents shows a lighter construction than original drawings. In any case there is, as yet, no known example representing this patent. But if a reader should know of one, we hope he will let us know.

A. WALKER.
COMBINED FUSE CUTTER AND SPLITTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 22, 1906.
PATENTED DEC. 18, 1906.
No. 838,924.

