THE MINERS AND PUDDLERS TOBACCO CAN

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I,m sure all our readers will remember the article on "Mining-Related Tobacco Products" in Issue Number 13 Winter 1992 of the *MAC*. In that article I illustrated the Miners and Puddlers paper tobacco bag that was sold to be carried in the pocket.

I mentioned in the article that I have a round tin can with a 1910 tax stamp on it. Well, here is a photo of that can. The can measures 6 $^{1}/_{2}$ inches high and 5 $^{3}/_{8}$ inches in diameter (about the same size as a three pound coffee can). It is a bright fire engine red with black and white lettering. Illustrated on the front and back are three miners, one sitting on a keg of black powder holding a drill and two miners swinging double jacks.

These cans can be found at most of the larger antique advertising shows and swap meets. They range in price of from \$100 to \$200.

I looked up "puddler" in my Webster's Dictionary and it said "a person who puddles clay or iron." Puddling is ". . .the process of making wrought iron from pig iron by heating and stirring it in the presence of oxidizing agents."

· Obviously, the B. Leidersdorf Company wanted to reach the mining and steel workers with this nifty brand of tobacco.



