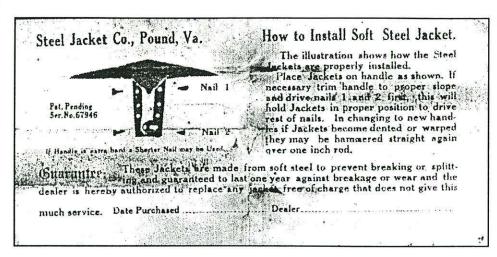
Miners' Pick Guards

Milton Ellison, of Wise, Virginia has sent us these photocopies of a box and instructions for a miners' pick guard. The device is a steel jacket that wraps around the wood handle where it is most likely to break. They were patented and manufactured by Martin Branham of Pound, Virginia. Old timers recall that he had several patents. One of his inventions, was a large sized brick, known as a "Speed Brick". This was considered his most important accomplishment.

(right) Box end and instructions for Pick Guards.

TEEL VE STORMINERGIELIEKS



Hand-made Medal

This hand-made medal from the Lake Superior copper district is unique in that it is fabricated from a piece of native half-breed (copper & silver). The #2 Calumet (?) shaft and an early incandescent light are handsomely etched, as are the letters FF (or LL?). I have been unable to determine the origin of this piece, or its meaning. Nonetheless, it is a fine piece of work from a long-forgotten craftsman.

Chuck Voelker



New Maple City Lamp

Bob Schroth recently found this new version of a Maple City cap lamp. Note the forward tilting reflector and the cap braces at the rear. A major piece.

