



NEWS



Tucson 2001
7th ANNUAL MINING ANTIQUE COLLECTORS
SWAP MEET, DINNER & AUCTION
DURING THE
ANNUAL TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Date: SATURDAY, 2 February 2001
Swap meet: 11:00 - 5:00 p.m. (setup 10:00 a.m.)
Dinner: Hot Buffet & Auction 6:30 p.m. (125 people limit)

Where: Smuggler's Inn
6360 E. Speedway Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona 85710
(520) 296-3292

Cost: \$25.00 per person by January 27, 2001

Note: Additional Information on the next page

Your Contacts are:

Don Dalton
520-297-3001

Terry & Carol McNulty
520-529-3355



REGISTRATION FORM

(please do not mail until October 2000)

(Please print)

Name: _____ (list names of others in your party)

Address: _____

Phone: _____

_____ # of Dinner Reservations @ \$25.00 _____

Swap Meet Table @ \$10.00 _____

Swap Meet 1/2 Table @ \$5.00 _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Make checks payable to: Carol McNulty, 4550 N. Territory Place, Tucson AZ 85750

Do you want an extra table if available? YES NO (circle one)

An Early Baldwin Lamp

by Dave Johnson

This small all brass unmarked Baldwin handlamp was a recent addition to my collection. When I first saw a photo of this lamp it hadn't been cleaned at all and I wasn't entirely certain it was a Baldwin. Upon obtaining the lamp all uncertainty vanished.



(left) Early baldwin with bail and no cap hook. (right) Indented water door.

The water door is identical to those on my early incused lettering Baldwin and my early Baldwin wet mine lamp. Except for the indented rather than traditional domed Baldwin water door this lamp has a nearly identical base and top as the other Baldwin shown below. Rather than a cap hook like the other lamp, this recent acquisition has a bail and no cap hook. But, the lamp with a hook has the indentations in the water chamber for a bail to be soldered in place just as the lamp with the bail has.

Notice that while the same basic shape there is a major difference in the water chambers of these two lamps. The lamp with the bail has a separate top piece and the sides of the water chamber are made of flat stock with a soldered seam up the back, while the lamp with a hook has a single-piece stamped water chamber. Both lamps have push on reflectors and measure 4 1/2" tall to the top of the raking wire and have a base diameter of just over 2 1/4". This is yet another variation of the Baldwin lamp.



Different Jiffy Base?

by Leo Stambaugh

This Jiffy spare container came out of an old shed in Idaho Springs, I was wondering what the screen in the top was for. It doesn't look original to the container, its dome shaped like it could have held spare flints or something. Not being a carbide collector I have not seen it before. Anyone seen this before? The carbide container was still full of spent carbide when I got it.



The Hudson Coal Co.

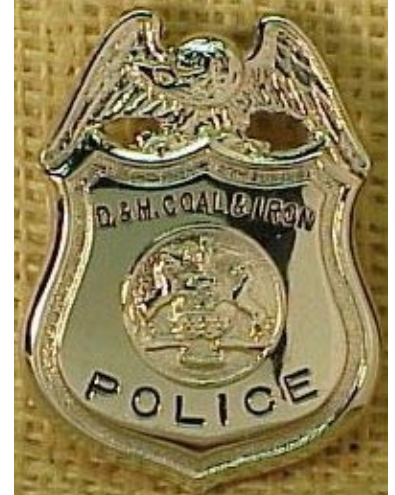
by Dave Johnson



Round porcelain D&H (Delaware & Hudson) Lackawanna Anthracite sign.

The Hudson Coal Co., a subsidiary of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad, was one of the major anthracite coal producers in Pennsylvania. Their coal was advertised and sold under the Delaware & Hudson Lackawanna Anthracite name and the Hudson Coal Co. name. Under long-time President L.F. Loree, who was also president of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad, the Hudson Coal Co. operated a large number of collieries with thousands of employees. In 1922 these included the Baltimore Colliery - 1536 employees, Clinton Colliery - 1,390 employees, Coal Brook Colliery - 763 employees, Delaware Colliery - 671 employees, Eddy Creek Colliery - 1277 employees, Gravity Slope Colliery - 1055 employees, Greenwood Colliery - 490 employees, Jermyn Colliery - 807 Employees, Loree Collieries (Mines 2, 3, 4, & 5) -2,681 employees, Manville-Dickinson Colliery - 654 employees, Marvine Colliery - 1,372 employees, Marvine Washery - 31 employees, Olyphant Colliery - 1663 employees, Pine Ridge Colliery - 1,161 employees, and Powderly Colliery - 890 employees. By 1930 the Coal Brook Colliery, Hillman Colliery and Laflin Colliery were be operated by Hudson CCoal and by 1934 the Stillwater Colliery was owned and operated by Hudson Coal. Mining operations were centered in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties.

Such a large and long-term operation has produced a large number of mining or mining related items for the collector. Pictured here are some Hudson Coal Co. and Delaware & Hudson pieces from my collection. With an operation of this size in Pennsylvania one would expect there to be a fair number of Coal & Iron Police badges from this firm, and collectors are not to be disappointed. Pictured here are numerous Coal & Iron Police badges, including a sterling silver badge.

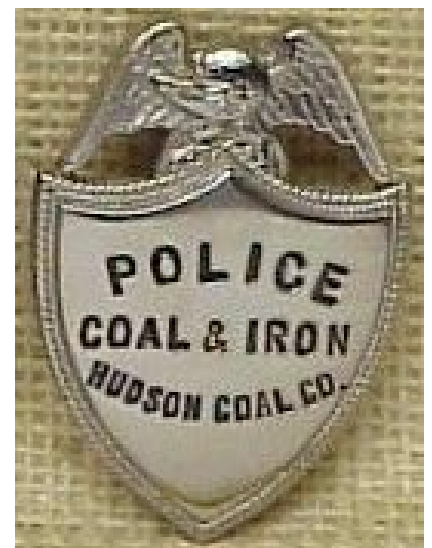


The Coal & Iron Police were used by the coal producers as a private security force from the time they were formally established by the Pennsylvania State Legislature in 1866 until the 1930s. They were granted broad police powers on mining company property and in company towns. They were not required to wear uniforms until 1929 which was most useful in their "union-busting" activities. In many instance the Coal & Iron Police were nothing more than a group of thugs hired by the coal companies to intimidate miners and their families, keep out union organizers and break strikes, and in many cases to break the strikers heads, rather than a trained police force. Another very unusual badge is the Hudson Coal Co. Fire Department badge with a small D&H at the bottom. Mining Company Fire Department badges are extremely rare as most coal producers did not have organized fire departments as such.

Advertising pieces are another collectible from this coal producer. Seen here are two paper scattertags, one advertising the Hudson Coal Co. and the other advertising D&H Lackawanna Anthracite Cone Cleaned Coal. Another item of interest is the round porcelain D&H Lackawanna Anthracite sign pictured on the title page.



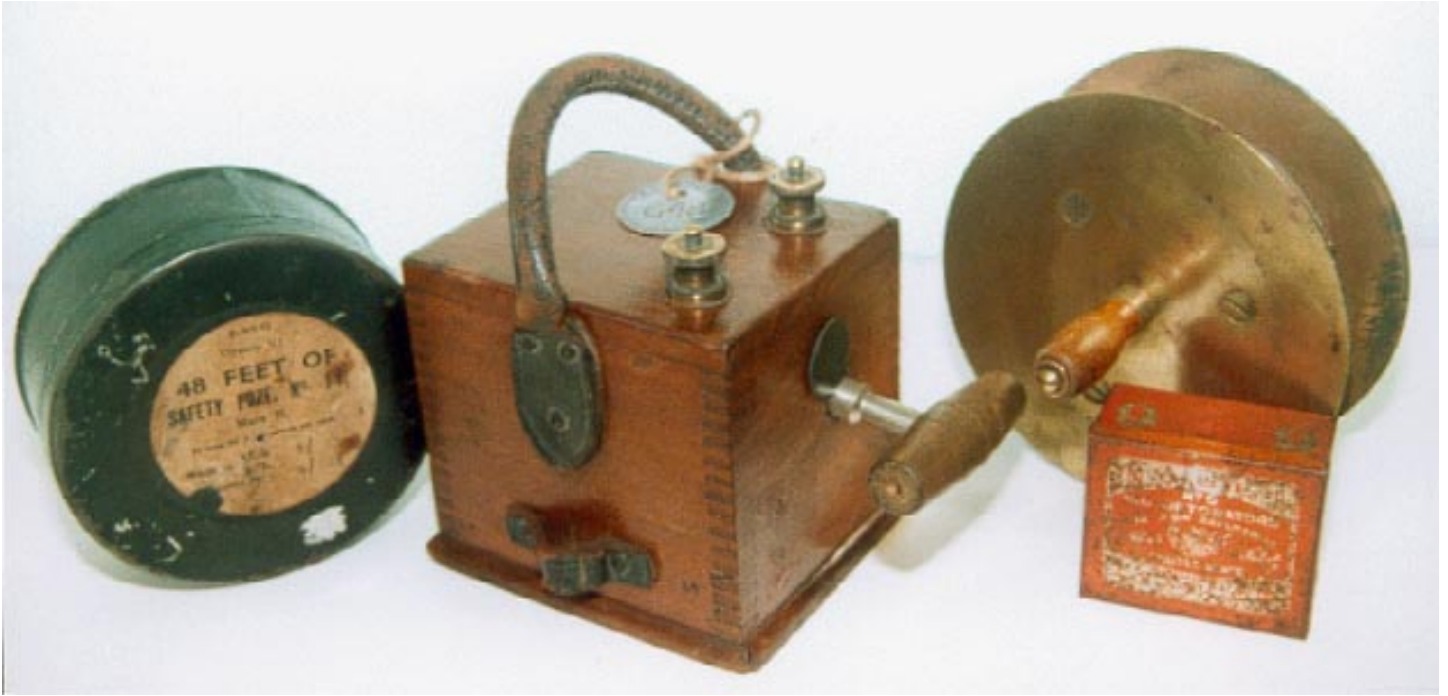
There is not a great deal of variety in the signs found today from such a significant coal producer, one would expect more. There are also letterheads, pencils and pens, lighters, letter openers, photographs, checks, padlocks, marked tools and other items for the mining collector.



A Nice Group of Blasting Items

by Mick Corbridge

Recently I traded for the group of items shown below, & I see them as somewhat slightly different from the usual blasting items that I normally come by.



The black tin, (5 inch diam.), is what I.C.I. safety fuze was supplied in, (note the spelling of fuze); the label states : ' 48 feet of safety fuze No.11 mark 11 - to burn at 90 +/- 20 seconds per yard; made by I.C.I. Jan. 1948, checked Apl. 1948'. The back of the tin is incuse machine stamped ' IV No.32 H & L'.

The wooden cased blaster, (5 x 5 x 4 inch.), has no manufacturers details shown, but a aluminium pit check fastened to the leather rope handle shows that it came from 'Eppleton Colliery', (which is in the Newcastle area of the country). It has a side mounted operated twist mechanism & is fitted with a wood handled firing key: a safety hold in push button is on the opposite side of the case which has to be held in for the firing circuit to be made.

The 6 inch diam. by 2 inch deep reel was used for running out the safety fuze wire. It has brass sides & screws fitting to a wood centre. The free running handles are of polished wood with brass ferrules. The centre shaft is solid copper.

The detonator tin is the red coloured No 6 Nobel of Glasgow.

U.S. Coal & Coke Company

by Dave Johnson



In 1917 the U.S. Coal & Coke Company, a subsidiary of U.S. Steel, built the community of Lynch, Kentucky, then the world's largest coal camp. The coal camp was built on part of the 19,000 acres the company had purchased in the southeastern tip of Harlan County, near the Virginia border. The camp's population peaked at about 10,000 persons but the reported figures vary because of the transient nature of the miners and their families at that time. One thousand company owned structures provided housing for people of 38 nationalities, the most prominent of which were Italian, Spanish, Czech, Polish, English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish. By the 1940s this mining complex employed more than 4000 persons above and below ground. A favorite son who started out working in the mines was Ken Maynard, a well-known cowboy star along with Tom Mix and Buck Jones.

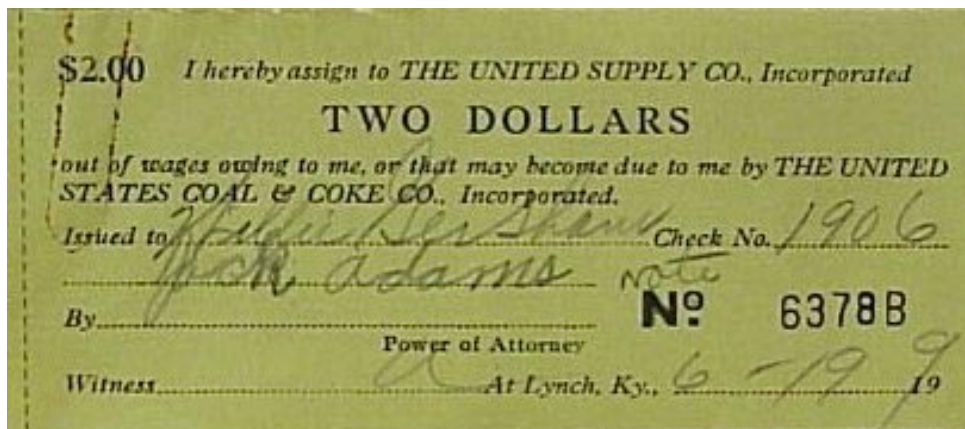
(above) U.S. Coal & Coke Co. Police chest badge

(right) U.S. Coal & Coke Co. Police hat badge

The public buildings were constructed of cut sandstone, and included a company commissary, post office, theater, hotel, hospital, churches, and schools. Many company buildings were built of stone as well, such as the offices, bath house, power plant and lamp house. In the 1920s U.S. Coal & Coke owned the world's largest coal tippie with a capacity of 15,000 tons. On February 12, 1923 the world's record for coal production in a single 9 hour shift was achieved when miners operating 40 shortwall cutting machines produced 12,820 tons of coal, filling 256 railcars.

While considered one of Appalachia's model coal camps due to its' company provided health care, education, churches, housing, social services, wages and benefits and recreation, it was still a closed community where the company carefully controlled all aspects of the political and economic process. The company had their own police force and it was used to keep union organizers out of the coal camp and to intimidate miners who tried to join the union. Throughout the 1920s and well into the 1930s the company along with many Kentucky coal producers did everything in their power to prevent unionization. This action by the coal companies and the actions of the miners earned Harlan County the name of "Bloody Harlan".





U.S. Coal & Coke Co. \$2 scrip certificate

In the 1950s the company began selling homes to individuals and the town was incorporated, thus allowing for an elected mayor and town council, although still heavily influenced by the company. Incorporated as a fifth class city, it had a population of 1,517 in 1970, 1,614 in 1980 and 1,166 in 1990.



(left) U.S. Coal & Coke Co. 1 cent exploder certificate (right) United Supply Co. 1 cent scrip certificate.



All the coal produced at Lynch by U.S. Coal & Coke Co. was "captive coal", meaning it was all produced by U.S. Coal & Coke Co. for U.S. Steel consumption, and was produced from drift mines. All coal was shipped from Lynch to U.S. Steel plants via the L&N (Louisville & Nashville) Railroad. Coal was mined from the 56" Elkhorn C Seam, 56" Keokee Seam, 50" Kelioka Seam at the company's No. 30 and No.31 Mines at Lynch. U.S. Coal & Coke also mined coal at Gary, Thorpe, Elbert, and Filbert, West Virginia. Today many of the company's buildings, including a tippie, and a mine portal are part of a coal mining museum complex at Lynch.

(left) U.S. Steel Watchman's badge.

Items from U.S. Coal & Coke Company's Lynch, Kentucky operation are very difficult to obtain. The few I have been able to obtain over the years are the police hat and chest badges, the U.S. Steel Mining Division Watchman's badge, the 1 cent exploder paper scrip, the small 1 cent United Supply Co. Scrip (United Supply Co. was the subsidiary that ran the company stores at all their mine locations), and the larger \$2 United Supply Co. paper scrip. All these items were obtained from the immediate area.

Antonio Viera Stick?

Exerpted from MiningCollect submissions by Scott Brady and Ted Bobrink



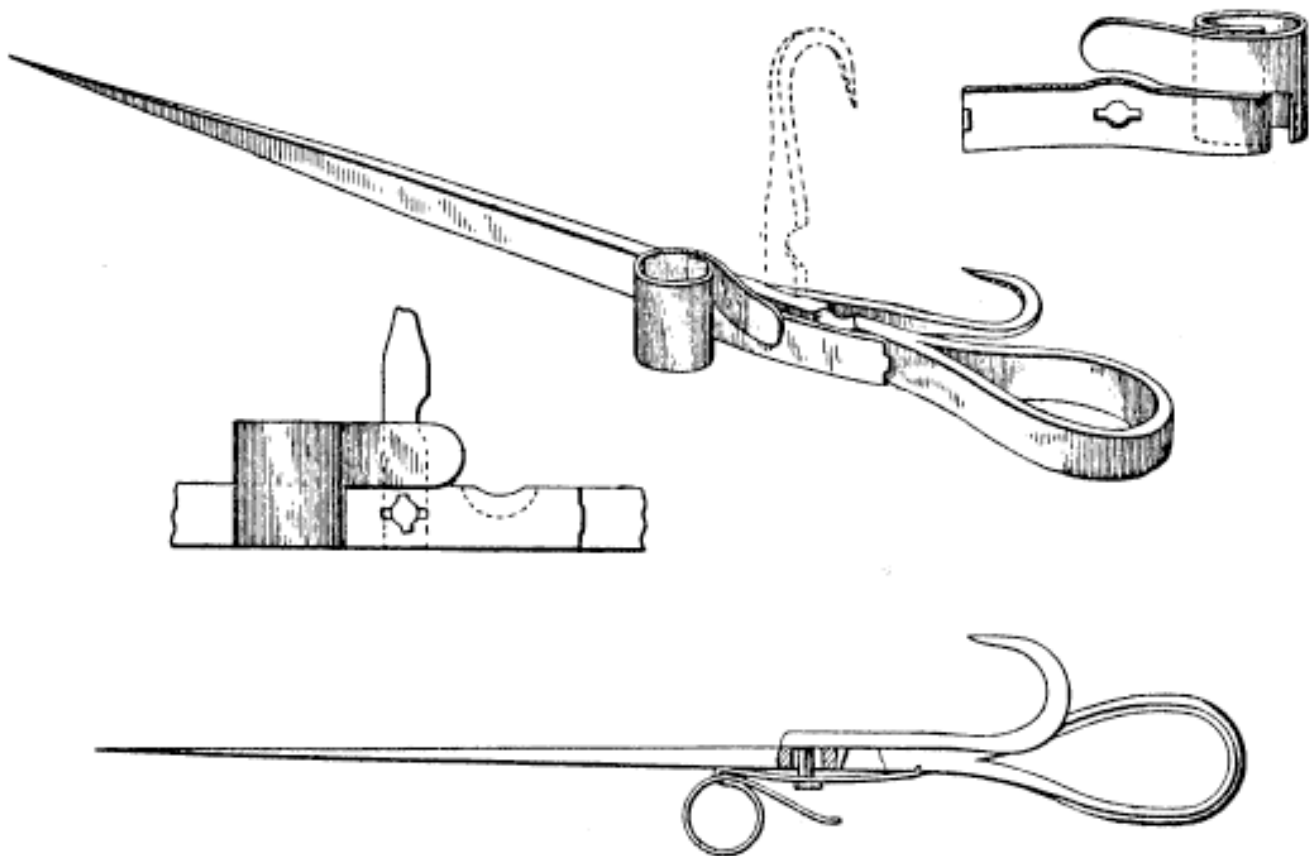
After Scott Brady found this folding stick, he subitted some photos to MiningCollect. Candlestick expert Ted Bobrink responed: "I will put my money on Antonio Viera". Before visiting Ted's analysis, here is Scott's description the folding mechanism:

"The handle and spike looks as if it has been casted in all one piece.. The candleholder and the hook turn. The candleholder has two thumb release one on top and bottom. There is a flat piece of metal that acts as a spring that hooks into a notch into the side of the handle and goes to the candleholder . When you push the candleholder in it releases it to turn."



Ted's analysis is an excellent bit of detective work:

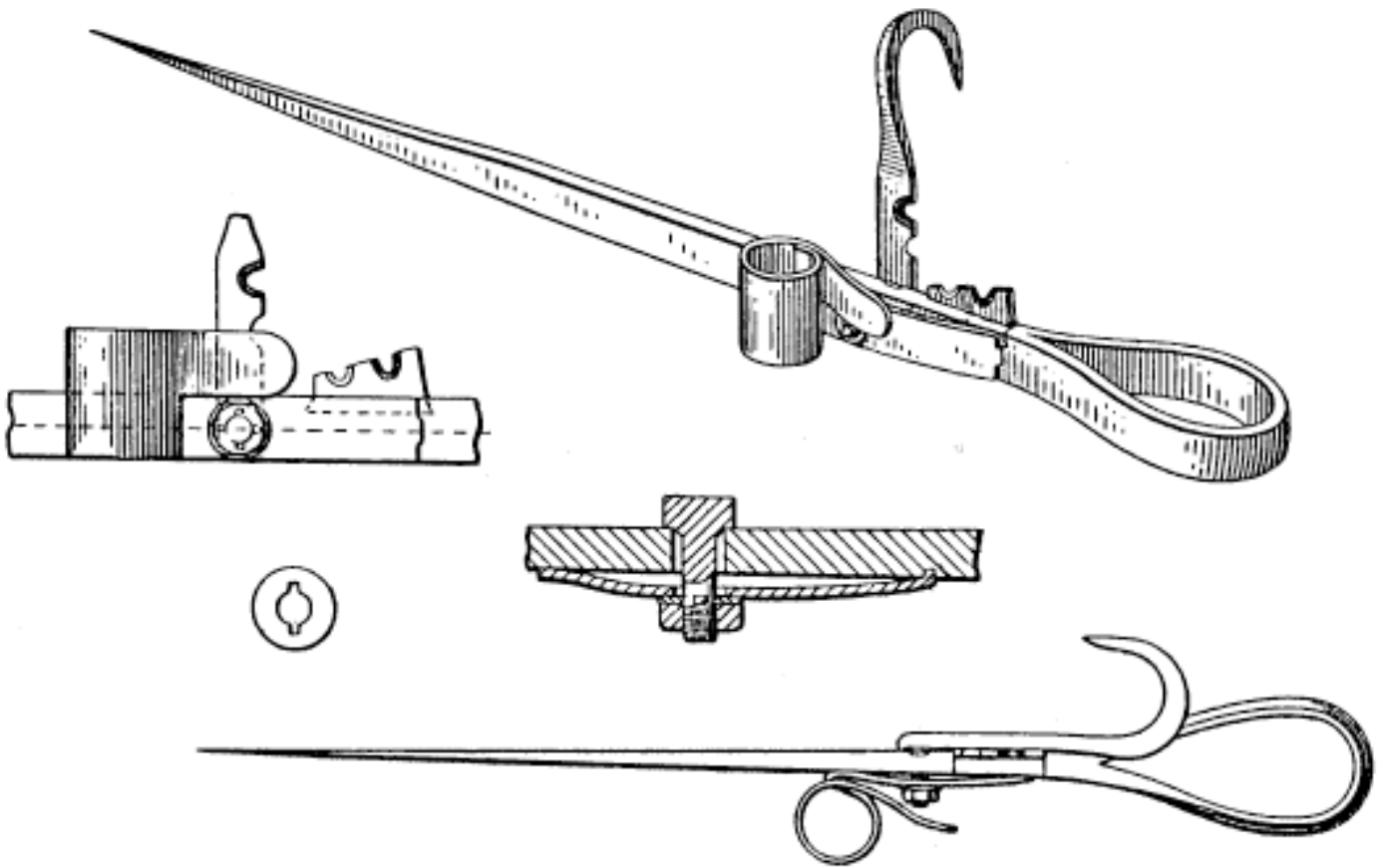
"One of the great things about collecting miners candlesticks is that you get to play investigator so much. One thing you have to remember about miners candlesticks is that there were only a few really good makers. What you have to look for are similar caristaristics. I have had the pleasure of seeing a hell of a lot of candlesticks and I get a kick out of finding sticks that I know were made by the same blacksmith. In folding candlesticks the number one unique feature is how it locks. Yours with the flat spring and detents on the side makes me think it is a stick made by Antonio Viera of Ray, Arizona. He patented two miners candlesticks very similar to yours with the same locking device and detents. They are stick #974,316 and #1,020,332 in Wendell Wilsons patent book. Those two sticks have cap crimpers built into them, and only the hook folds, but both have your very unique locking device and detents."



**Antonio Viera, Ray, Arizona Territory, "Miner's Candlestick"
Patented November 1, 1910, No. 974,316**

Ted writes further: "Remember that any blacksmith that had the talent to make one unique fancy candlestick most likely made many. Every blacksmith has his own unique ideas and may use any one or more of them on any of the candlesticks he made. This is also the way we are able to spot the bogus candlesticks we see like the ones sold by Bob Plate in Northern California.

This is only my thoughts, but your broken handle may very well have been gal legs ? I have I candlestick from Butte that has two gal legs that come together and they start just like what's left of yours. This design renders the candlestick very weak in that area, but if the stick had to be driven into a beam, the hook could be folded down for greater strength and then folded up again. Anyway...I will put my \$\$\$ on Antonio Viera and who knows...someday we may find a stamped one with his name that will give us proof, but until then, we can only guess withwhatever information we know at the time."

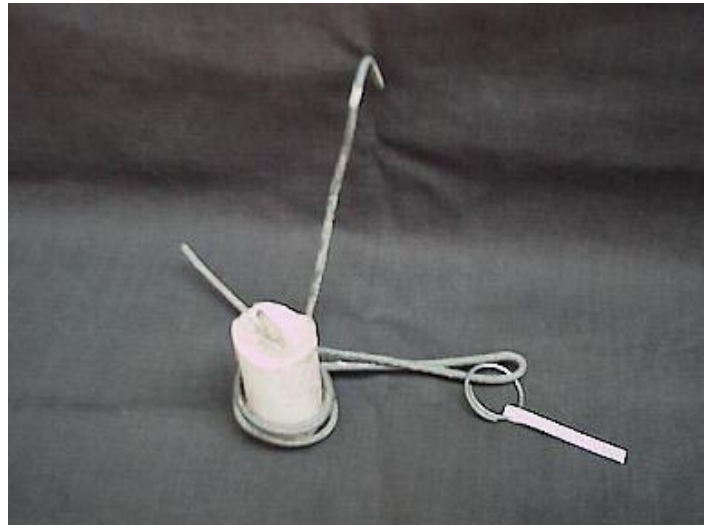


**Antonio Viera, Ray, Arizona, "Miner's Candlestick"
Patented March 12, 1912, No. 1,020,332**

'Used' Candlesticks

excepts from MiningCollect

Those who dare explore abandoned mines know that the nicer mining implements were removed long ago. When it comes to candlesticks, it is almost unheard of to find even a rusted out Varney left behind. Any stick I have heard of was not only a wire stick, but hand-made by the miner as well. I know of only one found in Arizona, and two others were recently reported by Ted Bobrink who found them in the Calico, CA mines. A find like this may not be directly equated to owning a 'high-end' candlestick, but it's personal significance is priceless, for these sticks were most certainly the ones that were used.



Hand-made wire candlesticks from the Calico district.

Certainly more collectible, but never found underground are manufactured/patented candlesticks, of which the photo below illustrates. This stick was patented by Edson W. Packer in 1904. This stick was found in Idaho, where the stick was patented (Mace, Idaho Patent No. 760,398).



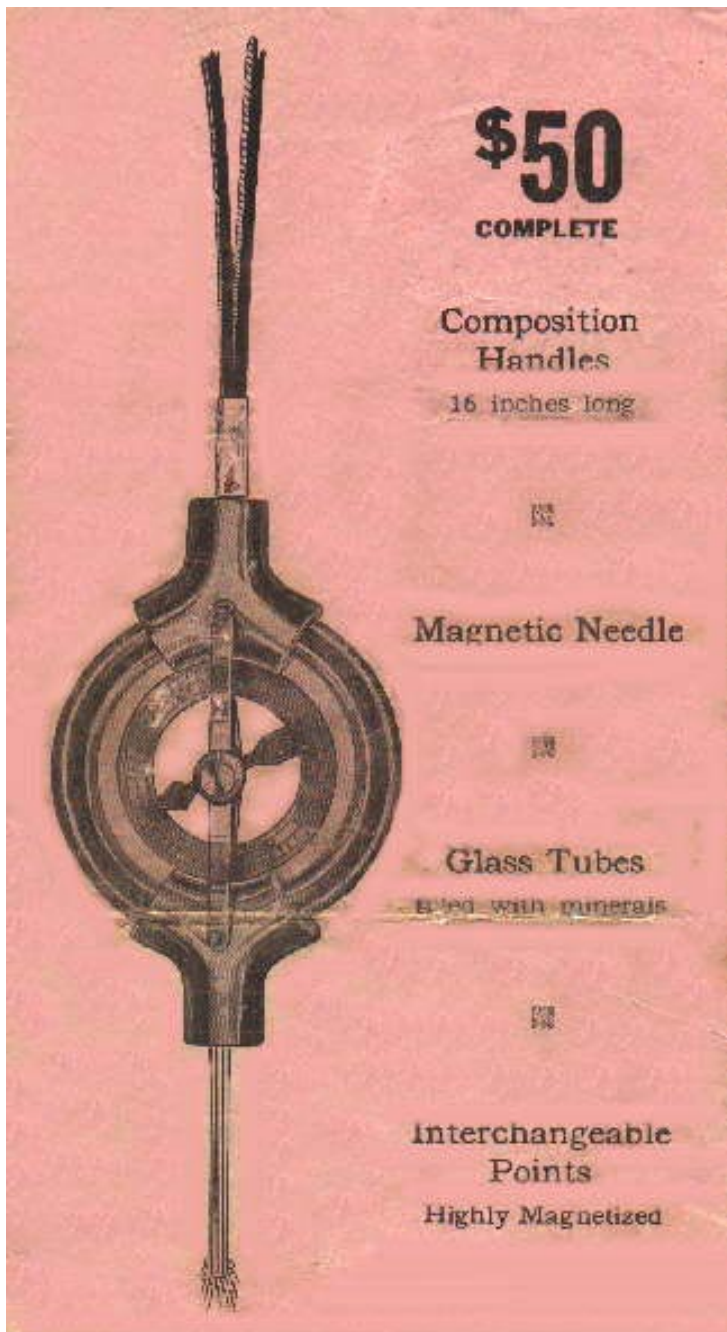
Packer patented wire candlestick.

Spanish Instrument

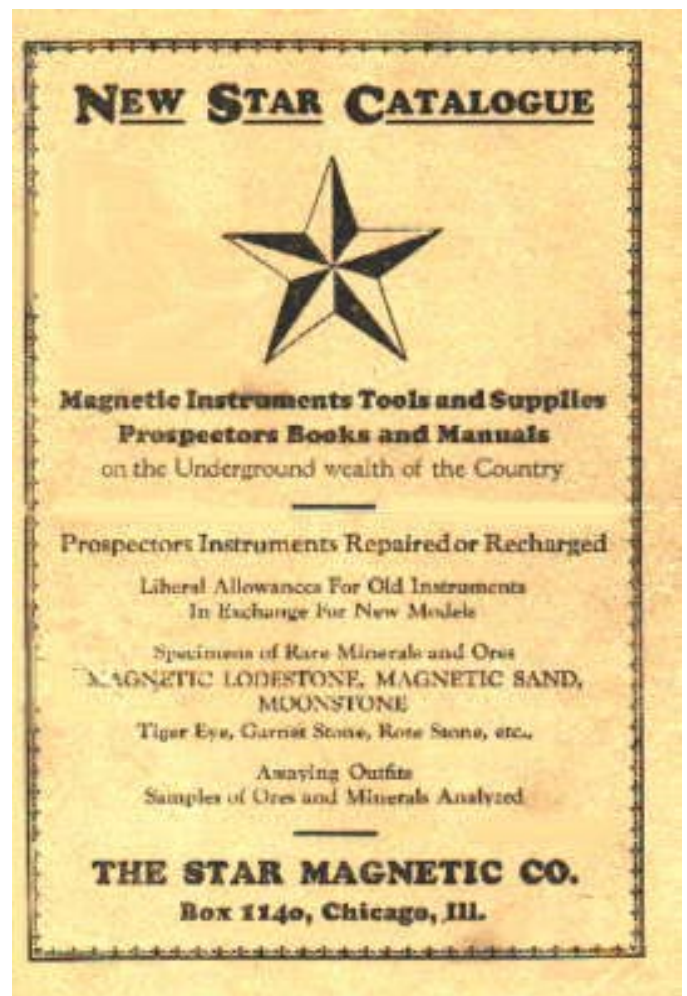
by Scott Brady

I thought that some may be interested in seeing this Prospector's Magnetic Needle as in my travels this was the only one I have seen quite like this one...I will also post several pictures so I hope they all come through. I ran across this Magnetic Needle a couple of years ago called the "Spanish Instrument"..

Also along with the Magnetic Instrument came a catalogue with this instrument and other instrument used for prospecting. There is no date in the catalogue or on the instrument but from the looks of the



things in the catalogue I would believe it to be from the 20's to 30's .Around the edge of the Magnetic Needle is a glass tube filled with some type of ore and what looks like gold is probably brass flakes .. The instrument looks very scientific and is well made but hardly practical with the glass tube as I would think that it would have broken easily if used much in the field.. This Magnetic Instrument comes with three changeable points and a spring handle .



The advertisement in the catalogue says:

SPANISH INSTRUMENT OUR NEW LOW PRICE COMPLETE \$32.50.

Dear Friend

In response to the many inquiries we re-ceived from the people who are interested in the so-called Spanish Instrument, and who want us to locate one of these models for them: we are herewith offering a picture and a general description of same.

This instrument is generally pursued by people who have used this kind or similar models before and who are familiar with the working and operating of same.

While many claims are made for them, which we do not dispute, the only claim we make is that the instrument will be exactly as illustrated on our circular and that it will reach you in good condition.

The so-called Spanish Instrument has the Round Glass Tubes filled with minerals ; One Magnetic Needle sensitive to metals and minerals of a magnetic nature; Three Highly Charged magnetic Points ; One Double Grip spring Handle, 18 inches long.

We furnish directions for assembling the instrument and as the parts are interchangeable, it can be very easily taken apart and conveniently carried in your pocket.



The Spanish Instrument: Guaranteed to do nothing!

A c1900 Manufactured Gold Dry Washer From Randsburg, California

by Ted Bobrink



This portable manufactured dry-washer was recently found in Randsburg, California at a local yard sale of a local miners estate. It was manufactured by the B & M Co. and has a heavy brass tag that says "B&M-GOLD FINDER-PATENT APPLIED FOR" This machine stands 36" high and by simply pulling out the two vertical rods, folding in the top side rails and pulling off the four legs it folds up to the size of a small suitcase 15' long 8" wide and 10 " deep. It is in excellent working condition and even came with two extra leather drive belts.

Portable dry washers similar to this one were mostly homemade affairs, and though much of the fine gold was lost in the process of this dry-mining, these machines did recover a great deal of the coarser placer gold.

The claims in Randsburg were too far removed from water to permit the miners to take their gravels to be washed. Therefore they had to use the wasteful dry-washing methods.

The early day dry-washers were of various sizes and contours, but the principle was the same in all. It simply substitutes air for water. Instead of using water to wash the gravel over the riffles the dry-washing machine uses air which is forced up under the fabric bottom across the riffles. As a rule heavy muslin was used for the bottom of the riffle box that you see in in the third photo. Air could easily get through for good agitation of the gravels, and to help keep them flowing. At the head of the dry-washer is the hopper or feed box, and it has a heavy 1/4" screen going across the top. The miner would shovel his placer material through the heavy screen first to eliminate any large pebbles or rocks. This preliminary screening also permitted the gravels to lay in the sun and dry as freshly dug earth and gravels contain small amounts of moisture, and moisture interfered with proper dry-washing.



The air is created by the heavy canvas bellows at the bottom. The bellows is connected to a crankshaft (the small wheel at the bottom) which is leather belt-driven by the large hand operated wheel at the top of the dry-washer. When the wheel is turned at a high rate of speed it develops a strong flow of air that literally blows everything but heavy metals clear off of the riffle box.



The Earliest Miner's Hat

by Ted Bobrink



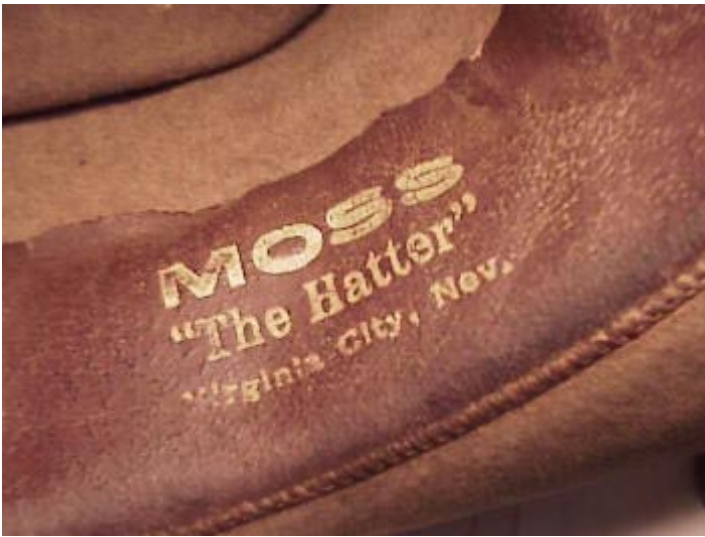
I was chatting with Deric English about a trade for one of my Randsburg Tags and he told me he had returned from a three day trip to Virginia City, Nevada and how his family enjoyed the underground tour they took of the Chollar Mine. It reminded me of one of the best finds I ever found underground.

Back in 1983 a mining company from Canada started strip mining the Yellow Jacket and Crown Point Mine in

Gold Hill, Nevada. I was heading into V.C to do some trading with a friend of mine who collected guns as I would trade him guns for mining related items. As I passed the town of Gold Hill I could see on my left where heavy machinery had started strip mining the whole damn mountain, and they were down about 100 feet.

About fifty feet down a steep cliff below a road ledge I saw a drift or crosscut leading into the side of the mountain. I said to myself come hell or high water I am going to explore that newly exposed drift. I had never explored a mine in the V.C. mining district that had not already been explored by hundreds of people ahead of me. Just about every mine in V.C. is caved and the ones in Gold Hill are all on occupied private land.

When I arrived into V.C. I could not talk my friend or anyone else to go underground with me, though my friend Gary Stevenson said he couldn't handle going underground, but would wait for me in the car. I always carry a 150' rope in my vehicle with a few acinders just for the hell of it, and I'm sure glad I did this time. It was a Saturday night and we lit out for the mine at around 10 p.m. Their were no fences to jump just a short hike to the other side of the pit. In the back of my head I knew I was trespassing, but my belief then and still is today,. that the mining companies don't give a damn about preserving mining artifacts and in those days none of it was worth anything anyway.



Advertising pieces are another collectible from this coal producer. Seen here are two paper scattertags, one advertising the Hudson Coal Co. and the other advertising D&H Lackawanna Anthracite Cone Cleaned Coal. Another item of interest is the round porcelain D&H Lackawanna Anthracite sign pictured on the title page.

It was almost a full moon and I could see for quite a distance all around. Once I worked my way around to the other side, I had a hard time locating the exact spot where I should drop down. Dropping down either

way to the left or right, I would not be able to reach the hole. As luck would have it I dropped down to far to the left and had to climb back up and retie my rope to another bolder. My next decent landed me right in the middle of the drift and the first thing that caught my attention was the dull unusual smell of the air. It wasn't like bad air, just different. There were no foot prints on the dusty floor and this told me I was the first person to be in that drift since the early 1880s or maybe even the 1870s. My adrenaline was running high, very high with anticipation and the fear of being alone made it even worse. There was a nice flat strap rail on the floor and the drift curved left and right to where you couldn't see any more than twenty feet ahead. About 200 feet in I rounded a bend and saw a large amount of post, caps and lagging leading up to an intersection. My heart was really going now wondering about what I should do next. I walked to the center of the intersection and looking down the crosscut to my left and spotted a large ore chute, but my eyes gazed upon something I had never expected to find. To V.C. collectors it is very well known, and seen in just about every early underground photo with V.C. miners working underground. Hanging on a square nail was a fantastic low brim felt hat just like the ones you see the miners wearing in the earliest days of mining in V.C. It was very dusty and when I turned it over to look inside, the shiny dark brown leather brim had gold stamping that read "MOSS-"The Hatter"-Virginia City, Nev." The hat was in excellent condition except for some small holes around the top that were no doubt left from hanging a miners candlestick.

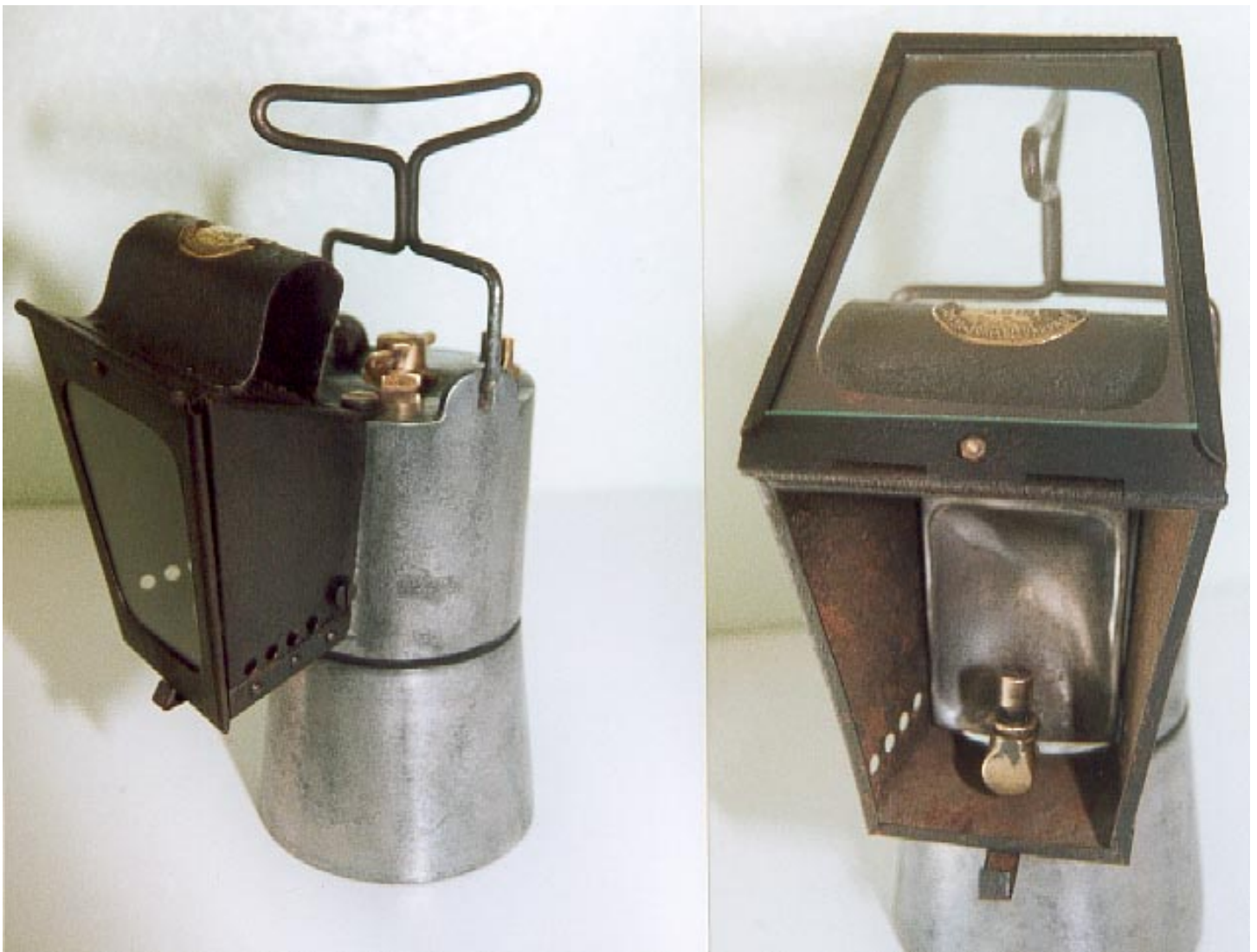
After finding that hat I was ready to get the heck out of there, but my instinct and greediness for mining artifacts led me to try one more venture, so I set the hat down on a rock and with my heart pumping in overdrive I decided to climb up into the ore chute that led to a large stope. I felt the air was good where I was and I really didn't want to continue any deeper into the mine by myself. I found something else really cool up in the stope, but that is going to have to be another story that I would like to tell you about later. When I climbed out of the ore chute I decided I had not better push my luck and leave that wonderful mine with the goodies it had already gave me. I put that great V.C. hat on my head and my other items inside my t shirt and called it deep enough. I needed both hands to climb the 30 or 40 feet of rope and made it back to my car with Gary waiting patiently. When he saw my stash of goodies he couldn't believe his eyes.

To my knowledge that V.C. hat just may be the earliest miners hat known as it dates way before any of the manufactured miners hats we know and collect today. To be continued....

A Possible Missing Link?

by Mick Corbridge

In Eureka issue 26, I showed a copy of the Ackroyd and Best version of a cast aluminium carbide Handlamp, (the LAL66). The only example of such a lamp that I have ever seen, (and subsequently purchased), had it's front hood removed and it's handle had been replaced by a bale and hook, i.e. a design option more useful for mine use. When recently at a nearby towns antique fair, I noticed the distinctive hood shape on the tapered based cast aluminium lamp. 'Wow' I stated, to the seller 'a Ackroyd and Best complete with hood'. When I picked the lamp up, I had to eat my words: an embossed brass oval badge on the top of the hood clearly stated that the lamp was in-fact manufactured by 'Imperial Light'. When the realisation had properly sunk in, I clung tightly to the lamp until a price had been negotiated and the lamp was mine.



Pictures: - The 'Imperial Light' lamp and the same with it's hood open showing the internal cast reflector.

When I got the lamp home I meticulously compared it with my hoodless 'Ackroyd and Best', and along with the small amount of catalogue information that I have. I came to the conclusion that the 2 lamps were 100% identical in design, i.e. with the same turn 't'-bar water tap, water door and hood design. It also has the same short length jet stem to accommodate the hood dimensions, and has the same thick wire handle twisted to be in-line with the front to rear elevation of the lamp. All of these features are different on the 'Thorn and Hoddle' versions, which I covered in a comparison given in Eureka issue 34. The hood is made of tin plate and attaches to the cast in oblong reflector by the top and side mounted screws. It has air inlet holes at the bottom of the hood sides, and a chimney hood on the top. The flat glass front is hinged at the top, and can be swung up for lighting etc., it is held when closed, by a bottom mounted spring clip.



Picture: - The 'Imperial Light' lamp (right), shown in comparison with the similar cast body version supplied by 'Thorn and Hoddle'

I was previously considering the possibility that the body castings for these two variations were manufactured by an unknown factory, or if it could have been made by one of the lamp firms in question? The new 'Imperial Light' lamp is date stamped as 1918 which makes it earlier than both the 'Ackroyd and Best' dated at 1923, and the 'Thorn and Hoddle's' which are all date stamped in the 1930's.

'Imperial Light' was taken over by 'Allen Liversidge' about 1920, and 'A.L.' was not known to have produced this style of lamp. Could therefore the design patent have then been taken over by 'Ackroyd and Best' as their similar pattern lamps are, as stated earlier, about 1923. In turn 'Ackroyd and Best' split and part became 'Hailwood and Ackroyd' in 1927, and 'Hailwood and Ackroyd' only appear to have continued with a carbide cap lamp which itself was of a completely altered design, i.e. I don't believe that they manufactured any cast aluminium carbide handlamps. 'Thorn and Hoddle', who did manufacture this pattern of lamp did so between 1934 and 1937, so could they have acquired the design and tooling etc. from the finish of 'Ackroyd and Best'? If this scenario was true then this would give a manufacturing link between all of the major carbide lamp manufacturers in Britain; i.e. 'Cremer', 'Premier', 'Wolf of Sheffield', 'Imperial Light', 'Allen Liversidge', (see Eureka issues 28 and 29), and now 'Thorn and Hoddle', 'Ackroyd and Best'; - what a fantastic thought.

Anyway, even if this possible link turns out not to be as put forward, it's still a great lamp and a nice find for me; and I will keep searching for the full picture.

Candelaria Mining Co. Silver Ingot

by Dave Johnson



This engraved silver ingot is from the Candelaria Mining Co. with main offices in New York City and Mine office in San Pedro, Galeana District, Chihuahua, Mexico. Prior to the Mexican Revolution of the early 20th Century, the Candelaria Mining Co. was the principal mining firm in northern Chihuahua. In 1906 the company employed more than 1200 men in its' mines. Mining properties totalled about 4,200 acres along with additional grazing lands and miscellaneous properties. The actual mining tract was about 3/4 mile wide by 5 miles long. Principal development was in the northern portion of the tract, with the 700' San Pedro Mine, 700' Candelaria Mine, 600' San Nicolas Mine and 500' Congresso Mine. There were other lesser mines, including the Cobriza, with shafts 175-350' deep. There was a total, in 1906, of about 3,200' of shaft development and about 25,000 of underground workings.

The Country rock being worked was porphyry, diorite and limestone, with ore bodies being somewhat erratic. The San Pedro was the oldest mine and produced the highest grade ore until overtaken by the Candelaria Mine. The Candelaria, in 1906, was shipping first class ore with average smelter returns of 20% lead, 10% zinc, 8% copper, 400 oz. silver and 0.5 oz. gold per ton. The San Nicolas produced silver-lead and copper, with the latter a chalcopyrite. The Congresso Mine produced lead carbonates.

The mines were wet and the company began installing a new pumping plant of 3,000,000 gal./day capacity in 1905. The company first operated a copper matting furnace at the mines, hauling coke 90 miles in wagons, from Villa Ahumada, on the Mexican Central Railway. Later a railroad was constructed to Juarez, opposite El Paso, where a reduction plant, including concentrator and smelter was built. The Guggenheims purchased this plant and Candelaria ores were then treated at the Aguascalientes works of the American Smelting & Refining Co.



British Carbide Tins: Further Update

by Mick Corbridge

Recently, a further 4 carbide tins have come my way & are shown below. All are the standard tall pattern 1 pound in weight tins and are left to right:

'High Level' supplied by 'The High Level Brand Co.' – Newcastle on Tyne.

'T.B.' packed by Turner Carbides Ltd. of De Grey Street – Hull – Yorkshire.

'W.Turnpenny' of Colliergate – York – Yorkshire.

'Bryterlite' supplied by 'Fells' – Norfolk Street – Wisbeach. This tin has a nice unusual extra, in that on the back is a chart giving the time that your acetylene lamp had to be lit for every 4 –6 days of the year, if it was to be used on a vehicle or cycle.



Hazletins

by Dave Thorpe

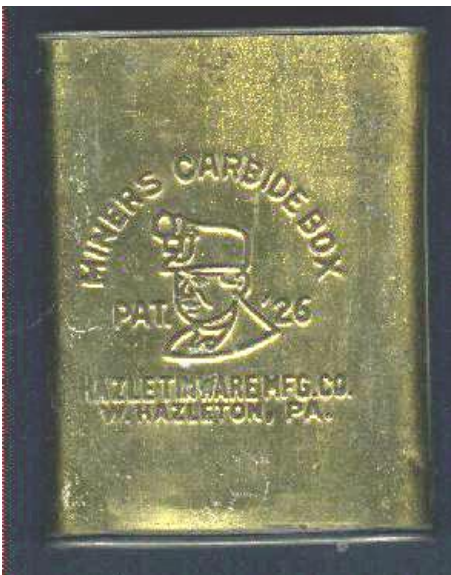
Hazlettinware Mfg. Co. made and patented a shiney gold gilded carbide "box" for miners. The company was located in Hazleton, PA, and the flask was patented in 1926. Until recently I knew only of the standard variety shown below. This example is from Neal Ressler's collection, and was recently sold at auction.



Above: top view showing single sliding door. This top section cannot be removed from the tin.

Left: front and back of standard Hazlettin.

At the Spring western swap-meet in Park City, Utah, I purchased another variety of Hazlettin from Neal's brother Nelson. I think this variety is somewhat rarer, as it is the first I have seen. It is stamped on both sides and also includes the word "Pat." to the left of the miner's head. The clincher though is the removable match safe top with a double sliding door. One door opens the match safe, the other gives access to the can itself.



Above: top view showing removable double sliding door which includes match safe.

Left: front and back of other tin showing the addition "Pat." stamping. Both sides of tin are stamped.

The Hoosac Tunnel

compiled from posts on Miningcollect

Deric English recently bought a stereoview card of the Hoosac Tunnel, and this generated some discussion.

Mark Bohannon stated: "The Hoosac Tunnel was one of the first tunnels that was driven with the use of explosives. It was started in 1855 by the Troy and Greenfield Railroad. Van Gelders book on Explosives Companies of America on pages 1042 and 1043. "

Dale Borasca replied: "Hoosac Tunnel is a railroad tunnel in northwestern Massachusetts (near North Adams). It was the first long tunnel project attempted in the States, and was very important to the mining industry (as well as the railroad industry), because it was where many of the early rock drills were tested and revised. It took 21 years to complete (1855-1876), but would have taken a century had they not switched from hand drilling and gunpowder to compressed air drilling and nitroglycerine. There were two shafts sunk so that work could be carried out on more than two faces. A great book on the subject is "Tunnels" by Gosta Sandstrom. "

