

BLOWLAMP NEWS

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The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society - Editor Graham Stubbs - blowlampsociety@gmail.com

www.blowlampsociety.com



THE BLOWLAMP AS ART

**ART & THE BLOWLAMP COLLECTOR
EOLIPYLES: PART FIVE
NOT QUITE WHAT THEY SEEM TO BE**

**SHSI COLLECTION
TRUSTY ENGINE & STARTER LAMP
McALLAN WEED BURNER**

ART AND THE BLOWLAMP COLLECTOR

Max and Carolyn Rhodes suggested that we might, from time to time, have an arty f*rtly corner. (The cover photo is from Max and Carolyn.)



Window painted by a scientific glass blower, who Carolyn used to work with, over 20 years ago.



Max says that this is what Carolyn does to things he leaves lying about. A barge owner would be proud to have this.



From Michel Duval
Another fine example of a wooden sculpture of a blowlamp plus a tile and some humour.



From Michel Duval
More French blowlamp humour

NOT QUITE WHAT THEY SEEM TO BE

NESTHILL?

This appears to be a spirit lamp using the body of a NESTHILL pump for a fuel tank. The company founded by Ernest H. Hill in 1841, in Sheffield used Nesthill (derived from the owner's name) as a trademark.

In the first half of the 20th century the company made a range of foot pumps for cars including Rolls Royce and Bentley. Nesthill pumps are highly collectable.

The filler cap appears to be from Rotherhams of Coventry, an engineering and watchmaking firm that made accessories for the motoring industry.



Spirit lamp marked "NESTHILL"
Photos from Michel Duval



WARNER?

When John Warner & Sons of Cripplegate, London, exhibited at the London Exhibition of 1862, they were described as:

hydraulic engineers and manufacturers of fire engines, ship pumps, patent brass and iron pumps, garden engines, lamps, urns, braziers goods, plumbers' work, water-closets, steam and gas cocks, lead, tin, and copper pipe ...

There is no record of this company making blowlamps. It appears that the spirit lamp may have been assembled from their brass pump parts, including the top cap, which is marked WARNER'S PATENT, LONDON.



Photos from
Max Rhodes



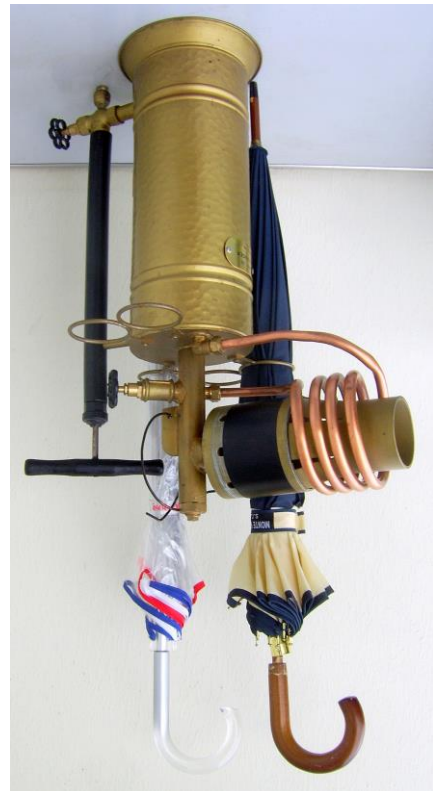
Spirit lamp marked
"WARNER'S PATENT LONDON"

SIEVERT HSL3 ... REALLY?

Turn the page upside down to see what it actually is.



Photo from Michel Duval



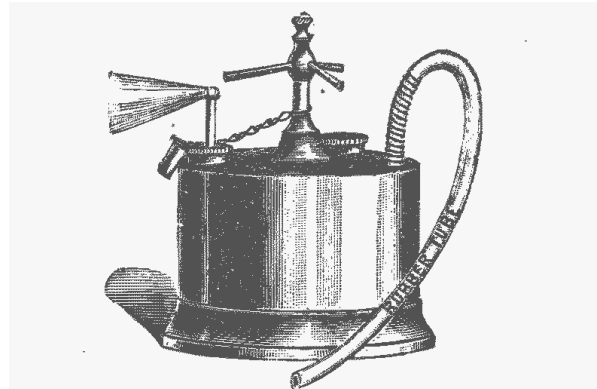
BUSH PATENT 3 WAY LAMP

Blowlamp News issues BN 71, BN 72 and BN74 contained articles related to the Herman Bush 1887 UK patent for a three-way spirit lamp. One article included a photo (see at the bottom of this page) of a related lamp (owned by this editor), which incorporated the principle of a swiveling three-way nozzle, but which looked very different than the lamp depicted in trade advertisements.

Charles Smith has an example of this interesting lamp that closely resembles the advertised product.



BUSH PATENT
Three-way blow-pipe
alcohol lamp (Photo Charles Smith)



No. 2221.
**Nickel plated Blow-pipe Lamp. Safe,
Economical, Effective. \$3 50**

The above Lamp has a copper body, Nickel plated, and is arranged for three different sized flames, the smallest being suitable for watch work, and the largest for bicycle brazing. The Lamp is well made and is divided into two compartments. Alcohol is burned in the Lamp, and the other compartment is designed for gasoline, from which the gas is generated, adding tremendous force to the flame.

BUSH PATENT
Three-way blow-pipe alcohol lamp
Otto Young (USA) catalog 1892/3



BUSH PATENT
Three-way blow-pipe alcohol lamp
Detail of swiveling burner
(Photo Charles Smith)



Early three-way blow-pipe
alcohol lamp
(Photo Graham Stubbs)

**THE SHSI COLLECTION –
More SHSI's from Clive Finch**



One of several panels displaying Clive Finch's large collection of SHSIs



L.BERTRAND (France)
Leather over brass tank. Early type D?



L.BERTRAND (France)
Perforated steel over brass tank. Early type B?



KATZENBERGER of Munich "L'ORAGE" SHSI
("L'Orage" translates to "storm")



KATZENBERGER Ad from Recueil No. 3



PHLOX 530, dual burners with branding plate



Branding plate fitted on a PHLOX 530
Made for marking the wooden barrels of a
spirits distributor in south east France.



Centre-fed, dual burners

EOLIPYLES PART FIVE

Gautreau, Hahnel, Hure, and Hymes

By Charles Smith

NOTE: This is the fifth article in a series of contributions about three-piece Eolipyles. For earlier "background" information, please refer to the last few Society Newsletters.

GAUTREAU, PARIS, FRANCE

2 Circles, 7 Circles Around Top

These two lamps, one with a body cylinder made of brass and the other body made of steel, were photographed by Michel Duval during a French meeting of blowtorch enthusiasts almost 20 years ago. Unfortunately, the owner of the lamps was not documented and their current owner(s) remains unknown. Each lamp is marked with the logo "H.G." and with "BREVETÉ S.G.D.G." stamped beneath the logo. We know that the "H.G." is the abbreviation of the stove, tool, and small appliance manufacturer and retailer Henri Gautreau which was located in Paris, France. Verbal contact with the descendants of the family indicates that Henri Gautreau did indeed manufacture these Eolipyles. The marking beneath the logo indicates that some aspect of the Eolipyle has been patented.

I should state here that these two Gautreau Eolipyles are remarkably similar, possibly identical, to another Eolipyle with the marking "MOLARD A THOMERY" stamped above the front opening of the stand. Molard was a tinsmith in the small town of Thomery, France, located about 75 km southeast of Paris. Although the Molard Eolipyle will be discussed in a future issue of BN, it seems likely that both the Gautreau and Molard lamps were manufactured by the same company, Henri Gautreau. Because the Molard Eolipyle measures 17 cm in total height with its stand being 7.5 cm in diameter, we can presume that the Gautreau Eolipyles share similar dimensions.

The first example (Fig. 1) appears to be made entirely of brass. The second example (Figs. 2-3) shares similar construction details, although its body and "loop-shaped" wire handles are made of steel while the lower alcohol lamp and the upper fuel chamber appear to be made of brass.



Fig.3



The fuel tank is unique to these Gautreau (and Molard) Eolipyles. The fuel tank is cylindrical rather than being ovate, and the burner tube exits the top center part of the tank. The tube loops around the back of the tank and descends vertically to a point just below the bottom of the tank. The tube then bends sharply, almost at a 90-degree angle, and terminates with its burner tip just beneath and near the center of the tank. The “notch” in the back of the stand through which the burner tube is placed assures that the burner tip is pointed to the center of the front opening in the stand. The entire burner assembly screws onto and from the top of the tank. When removed, the top of the tank has a recessed opening, or “cup”, useful in preventing spills when filling.

The back of the fuel tank also has a very interesting pressure release mechanism. It consists of an upside-down “U-shaped” brass holder which is screwed to the top of the tank. Inside the holder is a brass rod fitted with a spring. Its lower tip is equipped with a brass cone which fits inside a small circular opening in the tank. When the tank gets over pressured, the rod is raised upward against the resistance of the spring, thus releasing internal pressure. Once the high pressure is released, the rod is forced downward sealing the tank and allowing pressure to build once more.

The “exposed” burner tube which loops around the outside of the fuel container on this Gautreau Eolipyle is also seen in the Molard, Morgan and Herrick, Reitz, and Wakeman Eolipyles (to be described in future BN issues). Also, the Gautreau and Molard pressure-release mechanisms appear very similar to that found on the Wakeman Eolipyle.

If any of my readers is aware of the location of either or both of these Gautreau Eolipyles, or other examples, I would appreciate that information.

HAHNEL, HEIDERSDORF, GERMANY (unmarked) 4 Flowers, 11 Flowers Cutout Pattern

The Hahnel Eolipyles are unmarked and resemble many of the other three-piece burners. I know of only the type with the iron stand and copper alcohol lamp and fuel chamber (Fig. 4). I have never seen a Hahnel with a copper stand. The cutout pattern on Hahnel Eolipyles consists of four flowers oriented at 90-degree angles with their stems pointing toward the center of the pattern. These four flowers are surrounded by another eleven flowers of identical size and shape. The overall diameter of the cutout is 42 mm.

Fig.4



Although the cutout pattern distinguishes Hahnel Eolipyles from others, the alcohol lamp possesses three features which are consistent and different from most others (Fig. 5). First, the brass “pull” on the front of the lamp is of somewhat larger diameter and readily accommodates the index finger for removal of the lamp from the base of the stand. Second, the copper cap which fits over the wick, preventing evaporation of fluid from the lamp, is not of a screw-on type but simply a snug on-off pressure fit. Third, the top of the brass wick holder is concave rather than flat, perhaps preventing “leaking” of alcohol over the side of the lamp.



Fig.5

Another interesting feature of some (not all) Hahnel Eolipyles is that the upper rim at the back of the stand is cut with a short vertical “slit” (Fig. 6). Similarly, the back of the fuel tank has a short copper “pin” soldered to the rim of the tank parallel to and in line with the axis of the burner tube. Thus, when the fuel chamber is inserted into the top of the stand, the burner and its tip are precisely aligned with the center opening in the front of the stand.



Fig.6

This “flowers” cutout pattern is seen on the bottom of a Hahnel catalog sheet reproduced on page 117 in the French RECUEIL No. 3 (Fig. 7). Thus, the cutout is now identified. The Hahnel catalog is undated but I’m told that it was probably published in the period around 1905 to 1910. The Hahnel Eolipyles seem to be “advanced” so this late date seems reasonable. With additional publicity, however, we may find that the Hahnel Eolipyle has a somewhat earlier beginning.

Diese Lampe wird in 4 Grössen geliefert.

Fig.7	No. 1	Mk. 3.—
	„ 2	„ 3.30
	„ 3	„ 3.50
	„ 4	„ 4. —



HURÉ, PARIS, FRANCE
Circle, 6 spears cutout pattern

This lamp has an iron stand with iron or steel handles and handle support. The lower alcohol lamp and upper fuel chamber are made of copper with the wick cover and pressure release/filler cap being made of brass. The body of the stand is 7 cm in diameter and the overall height of the Eolipyle is 12.5 cm. There is no size designation stamped onto the front of the stand.

The top of the wick cover over the lower alcohol lamp has the words "HURÉ" and "PARIS" marked inside an oval outline (Fig. 8). It is currently believed that HURÉ was the manufacturer rather than a reseller, or retailer, of this Eolipyle. This lamp rests in the collection of Blowlamp Society member Guy Gerard.



HYMES NEW YORK, NY (unmarked)
Starburst Cutout Pattern

This unusual Eolipyle is quite large, being 18 cm in height and having an internal diameter of 8.8 cm. It is distinctly different from other Eolipyles in several aspects. First it has both small brass-wire "loop" handles at the rear of the stand as well as a long wooden handle about 15 cm in length (Fig. 9) which is attached to the rear of the stand by a brass screw set into the front of the handle and brass nut on the inside of the tank.



Second, the thin sheet brass forming the cylindrical stand is overlapped and braded at the back of the Eolipyle (Fig. 10). The brass plate holding the two handles is also braded to the rear of the stand. Third, there is a relatively small circular opening in the front of the stand, 4.8 cm in diameter, through which the flame exits (Fig. 11).

Fig.10



Fig.11



Fourth, the lower alcohol lamp is circular rather than rectangular and is inserted into the stand from the bottom rather than from the front of the stand as found in almost all other Eolipyles (Fig. 12). Fourth, and perhaps most unusual, it is one of only three Eolipyles known to have been manufactured in the United States. The other two are Reitz, and Wakeman.

Fig.12



Of the three Hymes Eolipyles in the author's collection, the top of the fuel tank of two are marked "GERB???? PA'TD" and "BURNER." and "PAT. APR. 22, 78" (Fig. 13). A third Eolipyle, having an iron stand, is marked simply "PATENT APPLIED FOR". An exhaustive search of U.S. Patents indicates that there were no patents issued on April 22, 1878, and there were no applications for a patent on this date. Searches of other possible dates also proved futile. Lacking the patent information, we remain confused about the original patentee as well as the eventual manufacturer.



Fig.13

The tentative assignment of the name "Hymes" to these interesting Eolipyles comes from an advertisement on page 488 in a Rochester Dental Mfg. Co., Rochester, N.Y. dental goods catalog dated 1897. The name "Hymes" is prominently displayed with the "Blow Pipe" (Fig. 14). Although Hymes cannot be definitely identified as its manufacturer, until more information is found, these Eolipyles will be assigned the name Hymes. This same Eolipyle and its distinctive starburst cutout pattern has also been observed in a number of other early catalog advertisements dating from 1893-1909.

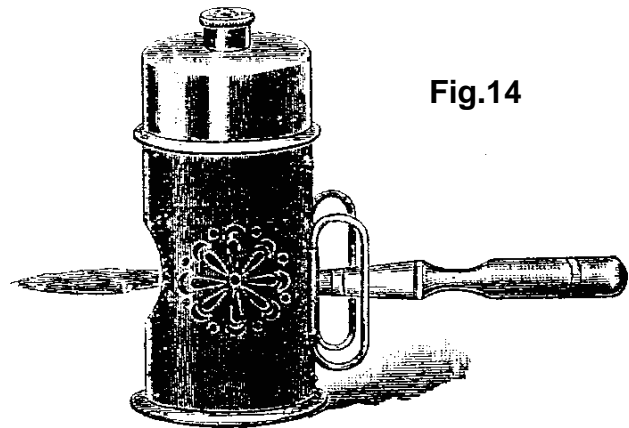


Fig.14

Hymes' Improved Self-Acting Alcohol Blow-Pipe.

Hymes' Blow-Pipe, for soldering or brazing small work..... \$2.50

The marking "F. W. DEVOE & Co." and "NEW YORK" (Fig. 15) is known on only a single Hymes Eolipyle. The Eolipyle is similar to the one shown in Figures 9-12. The Devoe-marked Eolipyle differs, however, in having a thin sheet-iron stand, in having its fuel container made of copper rather than copper and brass, and in having the marking "PATENT APPLIED FOR". Because of its construction and the imprint denoting that a patent has been applied for, I believe this Devoe-marked Eolipyle predates the versions with the brass stand (see "DEVOE" on page 7 in BN 102).



Fig.15

This article has benefitted significantly from the input of my friend Michel Duval. I am grateful for his encouragement, support, and his guidance. Thanks are also expressed to Graham Stubbs for formatting these words into a form suitable for publication.

McALLAN WEEDBURNER: HOW TO PRESSURIZE IT?



McALLAN Weedburner

This message from a non-member came via the Blowlamp Society email:

*I'm Martin from Shropshire
I have just purchased a vintage McAllan garden weed burner on wheels with a hood at the end and If you would be kind to let me know how this would work as there seems to be no way of pressurising the tank if I wanted to try it out. I can send you pictures if this may help.*



The only references to McAllan that I had were the photos in BN95, but I couldn't see the details well enough to answer Martin's question; there is no sign there of a pump or pump handle. When Martin's photos arrived, I recognized the tyre pump valve in the middle of the filler cap. While it's common to see tyre valves substituted by original users on American blowtorches, I don't remember seeing a tyre valve being part of the original design on a blowtorch or blowlamp.



Unusual filler cap



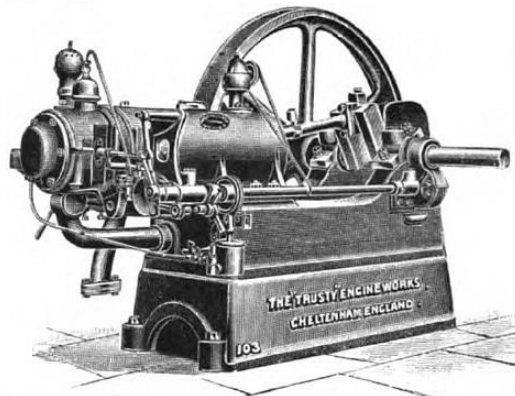
Tyre valve in center of the filler cap

TRUSTY ENGINE: STARTING LAMP?



TRUSTY Engine with an unusual starting lamp

Keith Hawkins forwarded these two photos of an engine from TRUSTY ENGINE WORKS of Cheltenham. They were submitted by David E. Thomas, who said that he took the pictures at a 1000 Engine Rally about 1995. His question is: What is that lamp under the hot bulb?

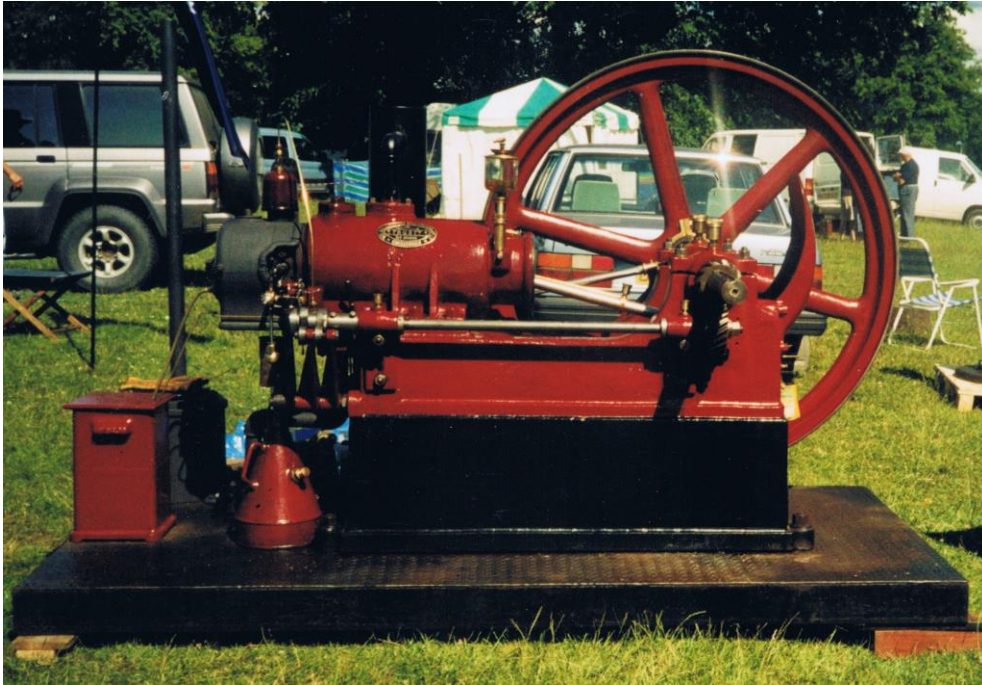


6½ B.H.P. OIL ENGINE.

Horizontal or Fixed Engines.

Brake H.P.	1½	2	3½	4½	6½	9½	12½	14	17	20	25	32	40
Price ...	£65	£75	£90	£106	£115	£140	£175	£195	£215	£245	£293	£375	£450

From a TRUSTY ENGINE WORKS catalogue, about 1900



TRUSTY Engine with cone-shaped starting lamp.

WANTED

Charles Smith is interested in purchasing old three-piece Eolipyles similar to those shown in the article this issue. Please send a photo(s) and a note about its condition with your asking price to Charles at ccsmith2@charter.net. Thank you!

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are: For UK members 15 UK pounds, for International members 25 pounds. You may pay by PayPal to Blowlampnews@hotmail.com Payments may also be made by post to: Carolyn Rhodes, Mathom House, 71 Ryecroft Road, Hemington, Derbys. DE74 2RE England.

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