

BLOWLAMP NEWS

No 55

MARCH

2006

The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society - Founded by Les Adams, August 1992

March is now upon us and all thoughts are to the forthcoming season of rallies, auto jumbles, car boot sales and antique fairs. Will this be the year we can add that rare and desirable blowlamp to our collection. They are still out there to be found and one such lucky member is Paul Whiddett who has recently added a **Sievert HSL4** to his collection. These are as rare as hen's teeth so if you have never seen one, I have included a photograph later in this newsletter.

By the time you read this, Brigitte and Willy Mouton will have put the finishing touches to the meeting at Lochristi, Belgium. For the regular visitors I am sure we will continue to be amazed at the quality of blowlamps which turn up at this meeting. For the newcomer it will be a real treat.

Other dates to mark in your diary are **Saturday 6th May** for the **Spring Meeting at Copthorne** and **Saturday 21st October** for the **Autumn Gathering at Toddington**.

For those of you who have still to book your place for the Spring Meeting at Copthorne, please contact Andy and Vera Feast on 01883 772079, they will be pleased to see you, the more people attending the greater interest for the day. I have even had an enquiry from a member of the Blow Torch Collectors Association of America, who is trying to plan his trip to England to coincide with the meeting.

Invitations and details of the October meeting will be included with the June newsletter.

In the December issue of Blowlamp News, I published photographs of the British Collection and on page 4 there was a photograph of what I think to be a Howes & Burley lamp. In response to this, Dave Rees has written and I enclose the following passage from his letter

"I know that this is a German Barthel, this model is a GRANAT. I have one in its original box. All the instructions are stamped on the handle. It is one of a set of 3; the No2 model is the URIT which has a splayed burner for paint stripping. No 3 has the burner angled downwards at approximately 45 degrees. The filler cup on all 3 fits snugly over the base of the lamp. Two fills of the cup will fill the tank. It is then inverted under the burner to act as a primer tray. When inverted, this filler cup has a hollow in the bottom for primer fluid."

When I photographed this lamp, the only markings I could see were Howes & Burley, stamped on the base, I have no recollection of any instructions on the handle. I will wait for an update from Ted Hewitt, but in the meantime if anyone else has any theories about the lamp please let me know. Perhaps this is a case of "Badge Engineering", with Barthel producing the blanks, or perhaps it was a copy of a good design. Let me know.

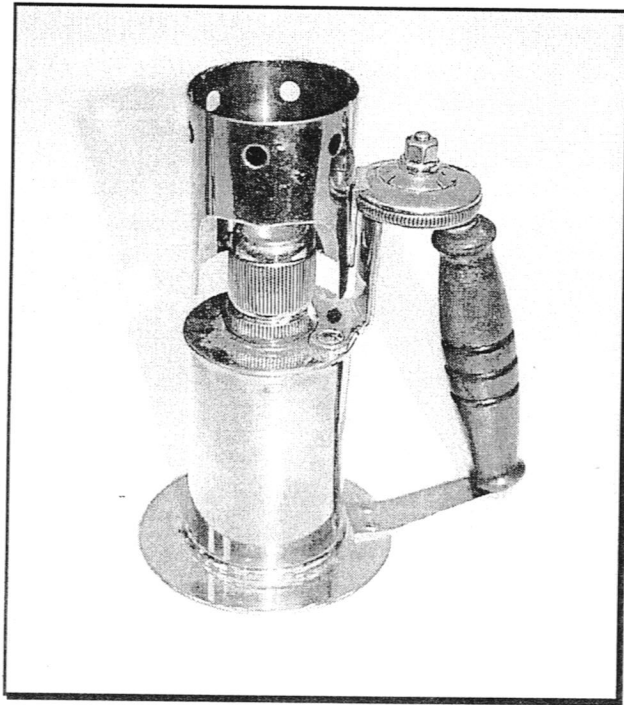
APPRENTICE PIECES

This issue was going to see the return of the ODDBALL feature as Dave Rees had promised me two examples for inclusion. My interpretation of oddball is a blowlamp which has been "cobbled" together for a specific function, either by a competent engineer or by the DIY enthusiast.

When I saw Dave's lamps, there is no way they fit this description, they are apprentice pieces of the highest quality, put together to demonstrate the skill of the man, so we now have a new category for my occasional series.

The text included here is straight from Dave's letter.

The first lamp is 17cm high and I acquired it from my wife's cousin, who, in 1947 was an apprentice at Girlings Brake Manufacturers in Cwmbran, Gwent. The apprentice toolmakers were given tests to show their newly gained skills. Out of a list of six, one test was to produce a meths lamp / blowlamp. My wife's cousin produced this model which is unique. When lit, a wheel on the top of the handle will turn a wind guard around the flame. Counting the grub screws, it has 32 parts.

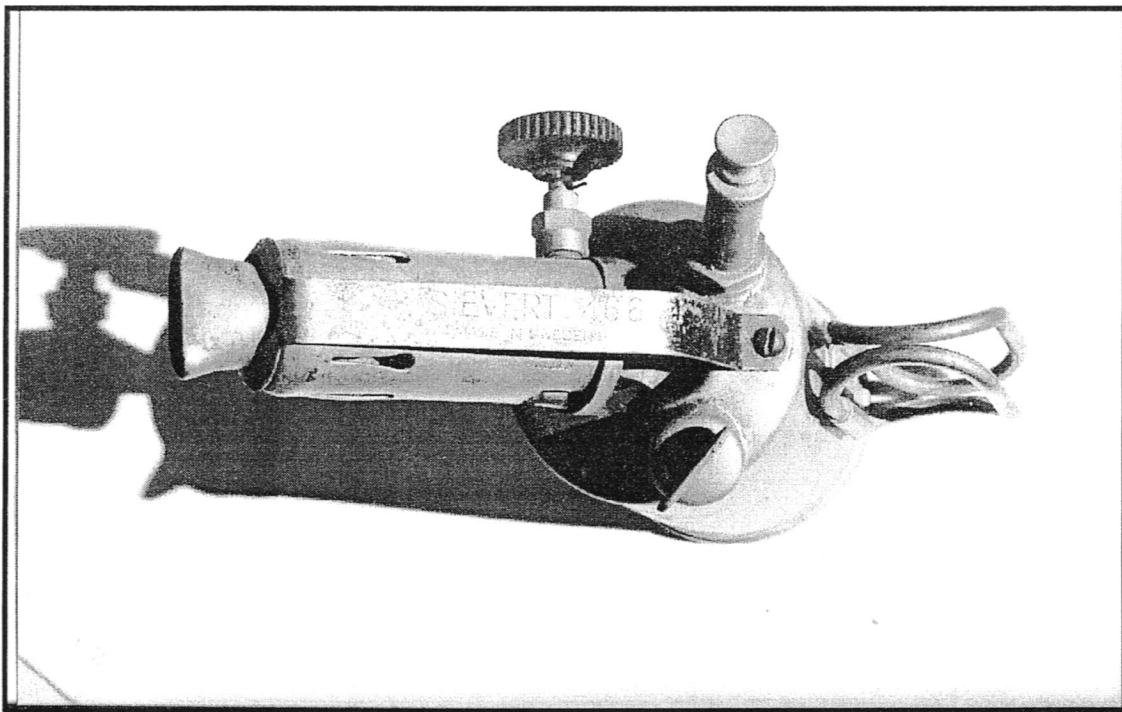


The second lamp is 20cm high and came from my uncle, in Hatfield, who was an apprentice for De Havilland Aircraft Co (The first Comet was a single engine monoplane in the 1930's – it competed with the first Spitfire). In 1938 he chose this exercise to produce a blowlamp, but although showing many engineering skills, and having several moving parts, this particular lamp never really functioned. However, for the construction he gained a B plus.



IDENTITY & ASSISTANCE

Graham Stubbs has submitted the following photographs of a Sievert blowlamp which is marked as being a No 466. This number is stamped on the strap but I am not convinced that the strap is correct, when you look at the angle against the burner. Anyway the reason for Graham's enquiry is that there is a control knob at the base of the burner and he asks what it might be for. If anyone knows or would like to have a guess, please let me know.



The view from above clearly shows the control knob.

The second candidate was submitted by Malcolm Forster. Is it a blowlamp or not? Malcolm is not sure and I must admit I have never seen anything quite like it.

The vertical brass tube has a rubber tube attached to it. To fill the tank, the spring loaded metal clamp is given half a turn and the top lifts out. It is cone shaped like a bottle stopper. There is no name or marking on it, the tank stands 75mm high and 64mm diameter and the complete unit is a total height of 150mm.

If anyone knows what it is, please let me know.

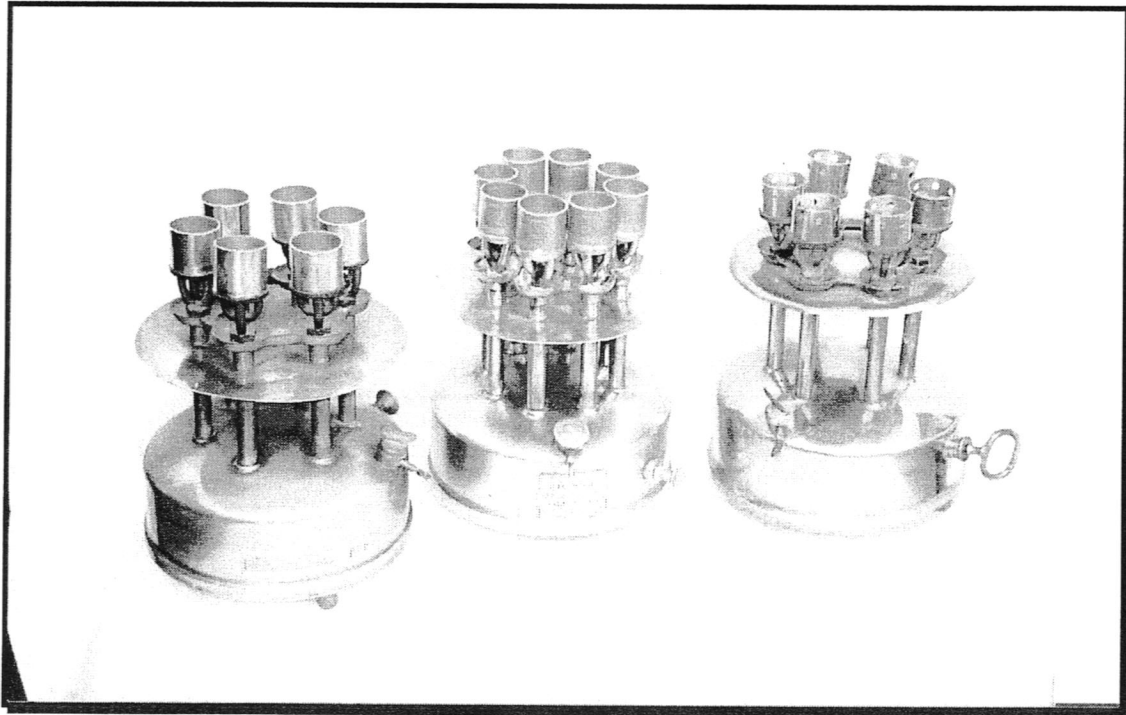


KEITH'S COLLECTION

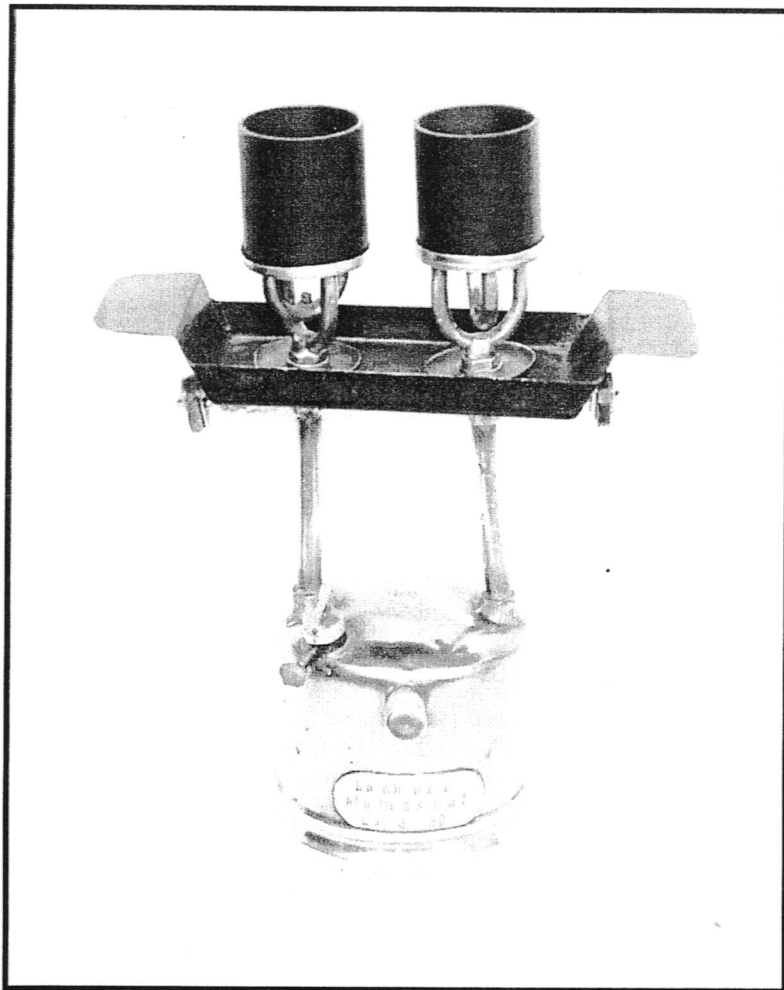
Keith Hawkins has sent photographs of a varied selection of lamps from his collection.

Keith has always liked the multi burner lamps and the first photograph shows three of the best. On the left is a 6 burner **PRIMUS 745** dated 1948, the centre one is an 8 burner **PRIMUS 747**, but after consultation with another member appears to have been made by **EWART & SONS** of 346 Euston Road, London. The only mention of anything to do with Primus is the printing of F.W.Linqvists -Patent, around the cap on the pump. This makes it a very early model, probably late 1800's, as at this time the Primus logo had not yet been augmented.

The third lamp is a **SIEVERT Vapouria 3136**, again a 6 burner, but since photographing it, Keith found out that the chimneys are on upside down, the holes should be at the bottom.



The second picture shows a **SIEVERT 4045** double burner, somewhat not quite its original shape, having no doubt seen much use over the last 75 years or so.

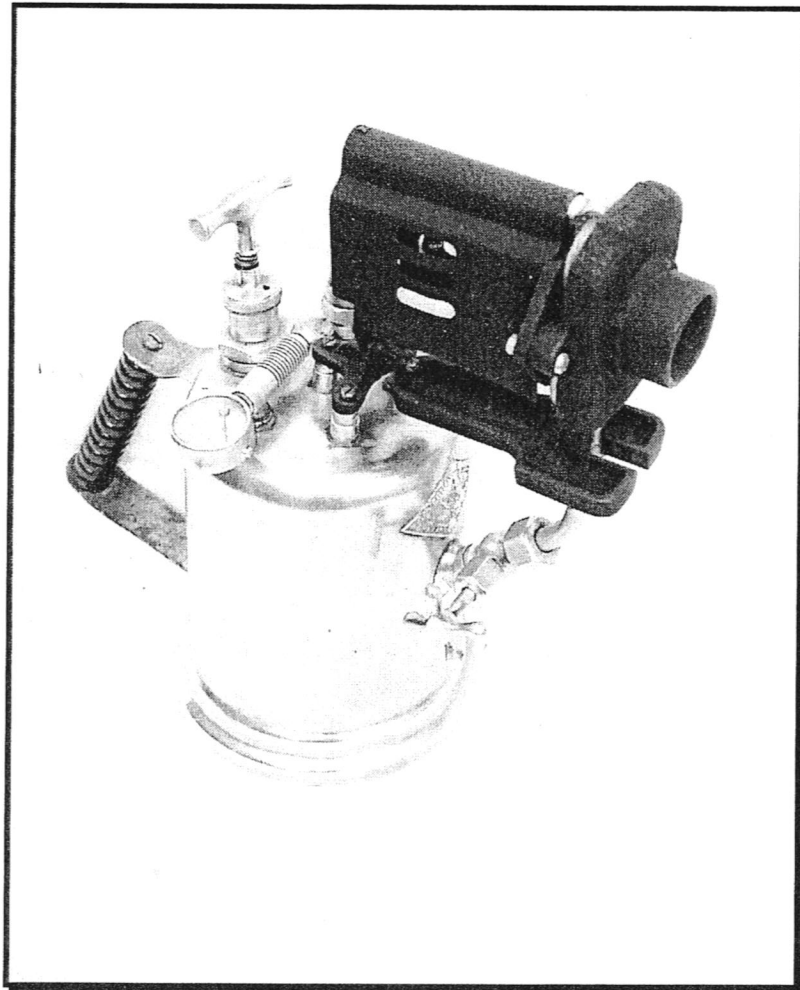


There is no mention of "Vapouria", so what is this number all about? I have never come across a "4000" number in the Sievert range; numbers go up to the middle "3000" but no higher. Maybe Hans Thornblad could throw some light on the matter.

On the front of the tank is a soldered on plate stating:-

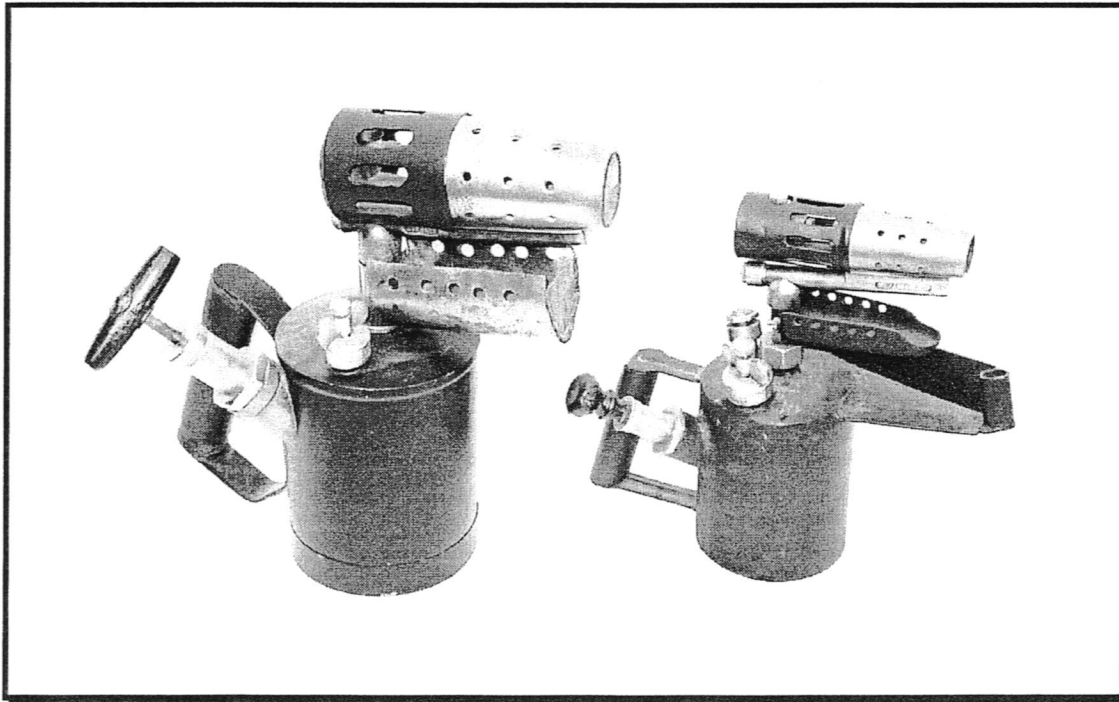
L.N.E.R. D.E.D.
No's 9 - 13 D.H.B.
26. 3. 30

Presumably the first line reads "London North Eastern Railway" and I suspect the D.E.D. is Doncaster Engineering Department. The second line I have as yet no clues about, but I am trying to find out, so more later. The third line is just a safety inspection date or maybe the date of acquisition. It has a 7" diameter tank which is 6" high, the burners are 3" diameter and the whole thing stands 18.5" high.



This picture shows a brass version of the **GOVERNOR 1926**, recently acquired on a trip to Devon, along with the 8 burner shown in picture 1, both for a total of £90-00.

Until then, I did not know that there was a brass version of the 1926, but at least one other member says he has one and having also recently found a brass BURMOS, I presume that most manufacturers made both steel and brass models. Note also the rather strange pressure gauge, lying on its back and projecting over the side of the tank.



The final picture for this issue shows 2 French Express lamps. These are somewhat rare according to the late Philippe Touillet, because they are paraffin fuelled and according to him, the French only made 6 paraffin lamps; numbers 1011, 1012 and 1017 in vertical form and numbers 1013, 1014 and 1018 as horizontals. These are the 1014 of 1 litre and the 1018 of 2 litre capacity, although the former has the number 1004 (of which I can find no reference anywhere in the French catalogue) on the burner. The attachment on the front is for fitting to a Vierzon tractor as a starting lamp. The 1018 was found some years ago in an antique shop when visiting Honfleur and was priced at Fr 500, together with another 2 litre lamp which was priced at Fr1200!! When I said to my wife that there was no way that I was going to pay all that money for 2 lamps, especially as the 1018 was not in good condition, she said "of course you can – don't be so b****y mean". The shopkeeper, thinking we were going to go without making a purchase said he would give me the tatty one, if I paid the Fr1200 for the other one. Not many times do you get a £50 discount, so having decided there was something vaguely familiar about the black one, I said OK, paid the money before I changed my mind and fled. When I got home and looked through some photographs, sure enough my hunch was right as I found a picture of the 1018 with the words "very rare paraffin fuelled, 1935 to 1950" written on the back.

RALLY DATES

For those of you who like to visit Steam and Vintage Rallies and talk to people with like interests, the following list gives details of rallies with blowlamp displays.

Norman Penny will be at Yeovil, 29th April to 1st May, Breamore House, Hampshire on 7th May, Three Oakfords, Shillingstone, Dorset on 13/14th May, Wessex Show, Frome, Somerset on 20/21st May, Selwood Rally, Trowbridge on 27th to 29th May, W.D.V.T.Rally, Bridport on 10/11th June, B.P.P.C. Rally, Poole, Dorset on 17/18th May and Wincanton on 24/25th June.

Keith Hawkins will be at Whitewebbs Museum, Enfield on 19th March, Chatham Royal Dockyard on 15th to 17th April, Nottingham Steam Fair on 29th April to 1st May, Belvoir Castle on 20/21st May, Strumpshaw, Norfolk on 27 to 29th May, Herts Steam Rally, Leighton Buzzard on 3/4th June, Marsworth, near Tring, Herts on 18th June, Banbury on 24/25th June.

More dates for later rallies in the next issue.

FROM THE PATENT'S OFFICE

This issue sees details of two more blowlamp patents, both of which are fascinating designs. You have to ask if they were ever manufactured, and if so have any examples survived?

N^o 10,245



A.D. 1895

Date of Application, 24th May, 1895

Complete Specification Left, 14th Feb., 1896—Accepted, 11th Apr., 1896

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow-lamps.

I, JOSEPH WILLIAMS, of 135 Hyde Road, West Gorton, Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Plumber, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

My invention relates to improvements in blow-lamps employed in burning off paint, soldering, or for other purposes, and the chief object of my invention is to vapourize the oil and to regulate the size of flame more effectually than can be done in the blow-lamps now known, and I effect this by the use of a valve to the outlet of the burner.

In making my improved blow-lamp I employ a reservoir for a mineral oil or other suitable heating agent and of suitable size and shape, with a handle which may form part of the pump; to the top of the reservoir is a pipe connected to the outlet for the oil which is pumped to the outlet, in the first instance, and passes say along one tube then through a cross tube opposite the outlet of the burner to a return tube parallel with the first which conducts the oil to the outlet preferably placed at the rear of the burner and midway between the two tubes; a special feature of my invention is the use of a screwed spindle with a pointed end arranged to enter the rear end of the outlet and regulate the size of outlet for the passage of the vapour and so determine the size of flame produced, or any other form of valve may be employed for this purpose.

The outlet and the tubes which convey the vapour to it are wholly or partially surrounded by a chimney.

To start the blow-lamp a small quantity of spirit is placed in a chamber below the burner and ignited to heat it and the pump is worked either before or after igniting the spirit, to force the oil upward and as it reaches the heated burner it is vapourized in its passage through the tubes to the outlet where it burns.

Dated this 22nd day of May 1895.

H. B. BARLOW & GILLETT,
Agents for Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow-lamps.

I, JOSEPH WILLIAMS, of 135 Hyde Road, West Gorton, Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, Plumber, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

My invention relates to improvements in blow-lamps employed in burning off paint, soldering, or for other purposes, and the chief object of my invention is to vapourize the oil and to regulate the size of flame more effectually than can be done in the blow-lamps now known and I effect this by the improved construction of

[Price 8d.]

Williams's Improvements in Blow-lamps.

burner and by the use and application of a valve to the outlet of the burner substantially as hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying two sheets of drawings in which—

Fig. 1 is a side sectional elevation of a blow-lamp to which my improvements are applied, and

Fig. 1^A is a section of the burner on the line A B, Fig. 1.

Fig. 2 is an alternative form of my improved blow-lamp, and

Fig. 3 is a modified construction of blow-lamp also made according to my invention.

In the drawings,—*a* is the reservoir or body of the lamp to which is shown connected, in Figs. 1 and 2, a pump barrel *b* and a boss *c* to which is secured by a screwed coupling a burner *d* through which various passages are made to admit liquid or vapour from the reservoir *a* to the outlet *e*. The outlet *e* is conical in form and is fitted with a conical valve *f* formed on the end of a screwed spindle *f*¹ fitted in a stuffing box *g* on the burner *d*. A small dish *h* is connected to the burner *d* between the top of the reservoir and the outlet *e* which is connected by the passages in the burner *d* and a fixed pipe *i* to the front lower portion of the reservoir so that all the mineral oil or other suitable heating agent, say, for example, benzoline, may be utilized. A handle *j* is secured to the pump barrel *b* and the reservoir *a* which has an opening *k* through which it is filled. The pump barrel has a cap *l* into which is fitted a hollow piston rod *m* with a button *m*¹ and a hole (or holes) *n* in the hollow piston rod *m* serves to admit air into the piston rod and pump barrel when the button *m*¹ is drawn outwards; on the inner end of the hollow piston rod *m* is a cup leather or piston *o* mounted upon a hollow boss *p* secured to the piston rod *m* and forming a passage into which is fitted a back pressure valve *q*. To the end of the barrel *b* is secured a boss *r* to which is also secured the end of another tube *s* which contains a valve spindle *t* and plug *t*¹ which is held by a spring *t*² over a hole *r*¹ in the boss *r*. The spindle *t* is supported by a boss *u* fitted in a screwed cover *v* screwed over the opening to the tube *s* and a small tube *w* opens into the tube *s* and projects about to the top of the reservoir *a*. A chimney or cylindrical casing *x* surrounds the burner *d*.

In Fig. 2 a tubular reservoir *a* is shown with the pump *b* set parallel with and near to it; this construction is more convenient for certain work than the lamp shown in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 3 the pump is dispensed with and the benzoline is stored in a reservoir placed above and connected to the burner by a pipe *a*¹. This form of blow-lamp is particularly suitable for heating the ignition tube of oil and similar motor engines or for any like purpose where change of position is not required.

In operation, where a pump is employed, after filling the reservoir *a* the piston is actuated which forces air through the valve *q* into the tube *s* to the back of the plug *t* from whence it flows to the top of the reservoir and exerts pressure enough to force the benzoline up the pipe *i* through the burner *d* to the outlet *e*. On opening the valve *f* some of the benzoline will escape into the chimney *x* and fall into the dish *h* and when the dish is nearly full the valve *f* must be again closed. The liquid in the dish *h* is then lighted and allowed to burn itself out or nearly so when it will have sufficiently vapourized the benzoline in the passages leading to the outlet *e*. The valve *f* is then opened again to allow the vapour to escape through the outlet *e* where it is ignited. The burning vapour causes an inrush of air through the back of the chimney *x* and a very hot flame passes through the front end of the chimney which flame can be maintained for a long time by occasionally working the pump.

One of the chief advantages obtained by my improved construction of burner is that the full heat of the flame is directed on to that part which contains the cross tube or passage *d*¹ whereby the liquid passing from the reservoir becomes completely vapourized before it reaches the outlet *e*. A special feature of my burner is the use of the valve *f* by which the size of orifice for the escape of vapour and consequently the size of the flame can be regulated, and further any dirt can be

Williams's Improvements in Blow-lamps.

removed from the orifice by screwing the point of the valve as far as it will go through the outlet *e*.

It is obvious that a greater flame will require more vapour to feed it but the fact of the flame being larger will mean that a greater heat is being imparted to the cross tube or passage *d*¹ and a more rapid vapourization of the liquid is accordingly effected.

The operation of the blow-lamp shown in Fig. 2 is similar to that of Fig. 1, but the burner in this case can be heated by a loose dish or a dish such as *h* can be applied to it.

In Fig. 3 the benzoline flows by gravity from the reservoir *a* to the outlet *e*, a dish *h* being shown for heating the burner *d*.

I wish it to be understood that the improved burner may be applied to a lamp without a pump, or with any suitable form of pump other than that shown.

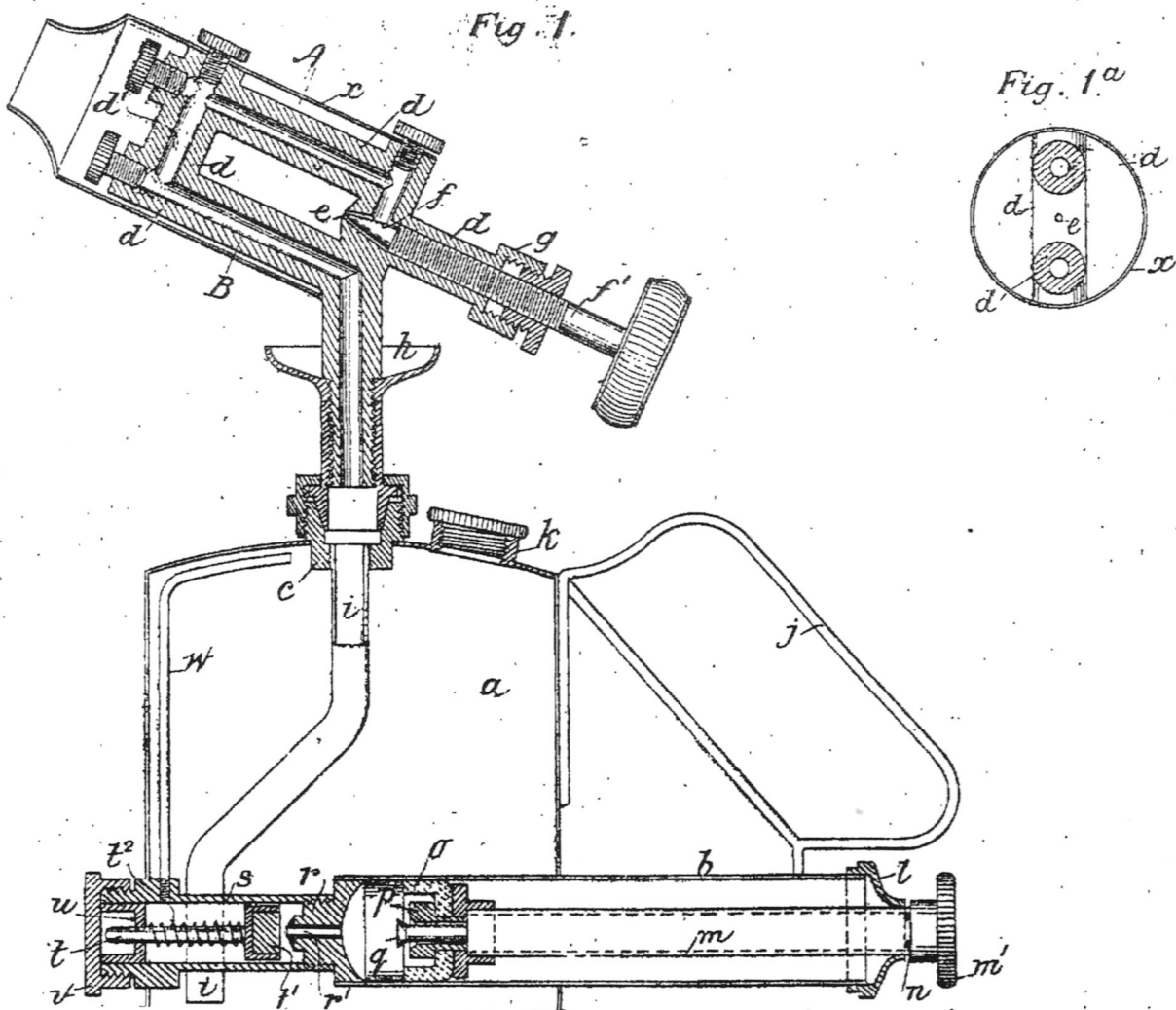
Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In a blow-lamp, the combination with the improved construction of burner in which a cross tube or passage within the chimney is exposed to the full heat of the flame from the burner outlet, of a valve for regulating the size of said outlet and consequently the size of the flame and for keeping the burner outlet clean and clear substantially as herein described and as shown.

2. The several combinations and arrangements of parts embodying my improvements in blow-lamps substantially as described and as shown in the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 13th day of February 1896.

H. B. BARLOW & GILLETT,
17 St. Ann's Square, Manchester, Agents for Applicant.



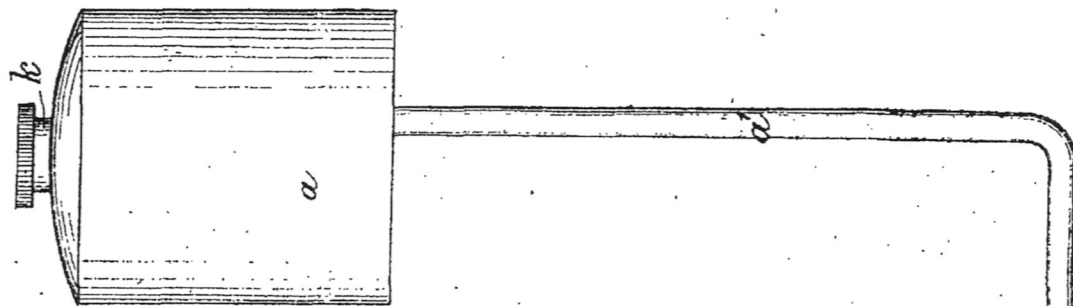


Fig. 3.

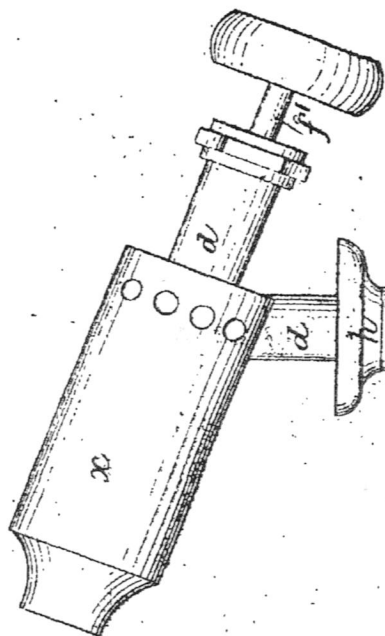
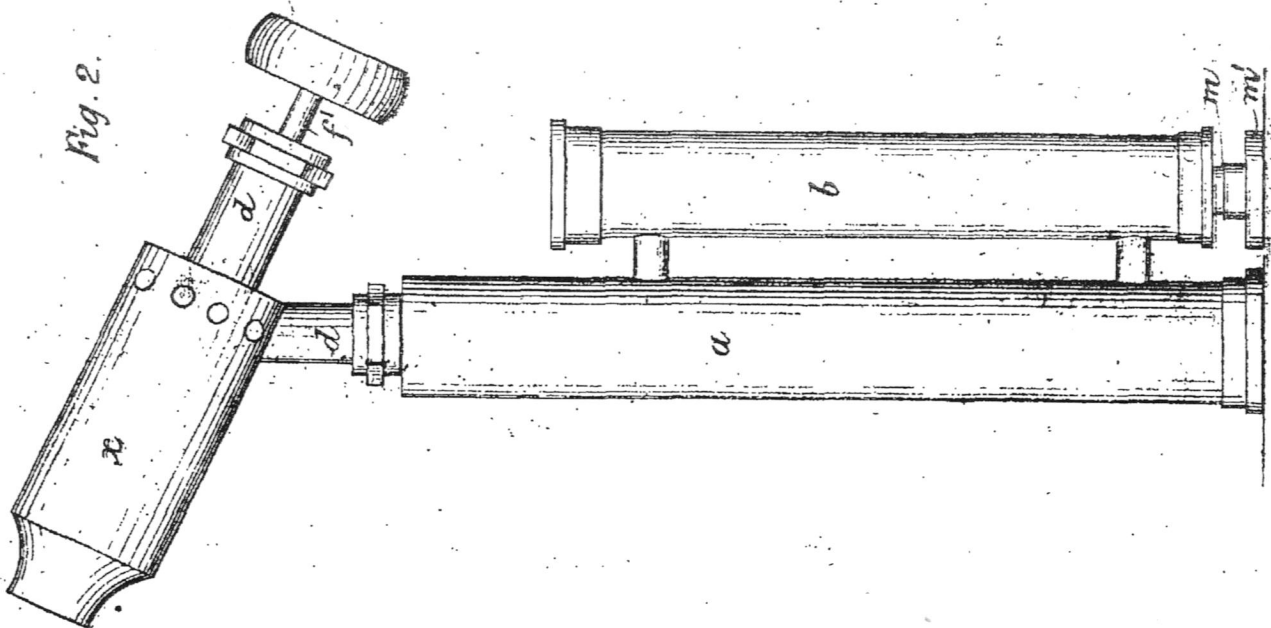


Fig. 2.





Date of Application, 30th May, 1895

Complete Specification Left, 29th Feb., 1896—Accepted, 18th Apr., 1896

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow Lamps.

I, HARRY WILSON of 137 Ombersley Road in the City of Birmingham, Pattern Maker, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

I construct the lamp in the following manner.

- 5 I use a container or reservoir carrying the spirit and cotton into which container passes a tube forming the generating chamber for the vapour and from the side of this tube extends a smaller tube closed at its extreme end and passing along the outer surface of the taper tube which covers the burner. This taper tube is made removable so as to facilitate cleaning.
- 10 A clip or connecting piece is placed over the taper tube and the smaller tube, for the purpose of conveying the heat to the latter and assisting in the generation of vapour.

- At the head of the generating chamber is a valve to regulate the flow of vapour to the nipple. The base piece of this valve extends downward into the generating chamber and is so formed that the vapour rising between it and the sides of the chamber will reach two converging channels cut in this base piece, preferably in a downward direction which two converging channels meet a channel taking an upward direction to the seat of the valve. The upper piece of the valve being cut with a channel to receive the nipple in the ordinary way.

- 20 In connection with the valve is a plug and key a half turn of which will entirely open or close the valve.

- Around the cup for starting the lamp, I form a sinking or channel to receive any overflow of the spirit thereby avoiding accidental firing. Instead of using the ordinary cork or packing for the feeder screw cap, I may use a screw cap with
- 25 central metal plug.

Dated this 29th day of May 1895.

HENRY F. TALBOT,
7 Cherry Street, Birmingham, Agent for the Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

30 Improvements in Blow Lamps.

- I, HARRY WILSON of 137 Ombersley Road in the City of Birmingham, Pattern Maker, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement, reference being had to the accompanying
- 35 sheet of drawings and to the letters and figures marked thereon:—

This invention refers to improvements in the construction of soldering or blow pipe lamps.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the lamp, and Fig. 2 a sectional view of the same.

- 40 *a* is a container or reservoir carrying the spirit and cotton. Into this container passes the tube *b* forming the generating chamber for the vapour. *c* is the burner tube.

[Price 8d.]

BIRMINGHAM
FREE

Wilson's Improvements in Blow Lamps.

made removable by screwing on or otherwise attaching to the arm *d* so as to facilitate cleaning the nipple *e*, which nipple *e* is screwed into the outer end of the channel *f*. At the head of the generating chamber *b* a valve is formed in the channel *g* to regulate the flow of the vapour to the nipple *e*. The valve is regulated by a plug *h* 5 having a screw thread *j* working in a seating *k* so that a half turn of the lever arm or key *i* attached to its top will cause it to entirely open or close the valve.

At the head of the valve is a chamber *l* having in it a recess *t* formed to give the vapour greater freedom when the valve is open, and from this chamber *l* extends the before named channel *f* to the nipple *e*.

Thus when the valve is open the vapour will rise into the chamber *l* and pass up 10 the channel *f* to the nipple *e*. From the side of the generating tube *b* extends a metal rod *m* preferably tubular passing along near to the outer surface of the burner tube *c* and having sliding upon it the clip *n* which is a bracket piece on the wind guard *o*. The sliding of this bracket *n* on the rod *m* adjusts the position of the wind guard *o* at will, and turning the the screw pin *p* will hold it firmly in 15 position. This bar or tube *m* also serves as a conductor of the heat to the generating tube *b* beneath the valve as at *q*.

The top *r* of the container or reservoir is sunk or dished round the starting cup *s* so as to prevent any of the spirit which may overflow from running down the sides 20 of the container *a*.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In soldering or blow pipe lamps the connecting of the burner and also of the 25 nipple to the valve portion as herein described and illustrated.
2. In soldering or blow pipe lamps the upright portion of the valve and the plug actuated by a lever arm or key.
3. In soldering or blow pipe lamps a rod or tube for the purpose of conducting 30 the heat from the flame tube to the generating tube, which rod or tube may or may not be used as a support for the wind guard of the flame tube.
4. Forming the top of the container or reservoir of soldering or blow pipe lamps dished or sunk round the starting cup for the purpose herein set forth.
5. Constructing soldering or blow pipe lamps with valve recess in chamber, 35 nipple, and regulating lever all substantially in position and formation as herein set forth and described.

Dated this 28th day of February 1896.

HENRY F. TALBOT,
7 Cherry Street, Birmingham, Agent for the Applicant.

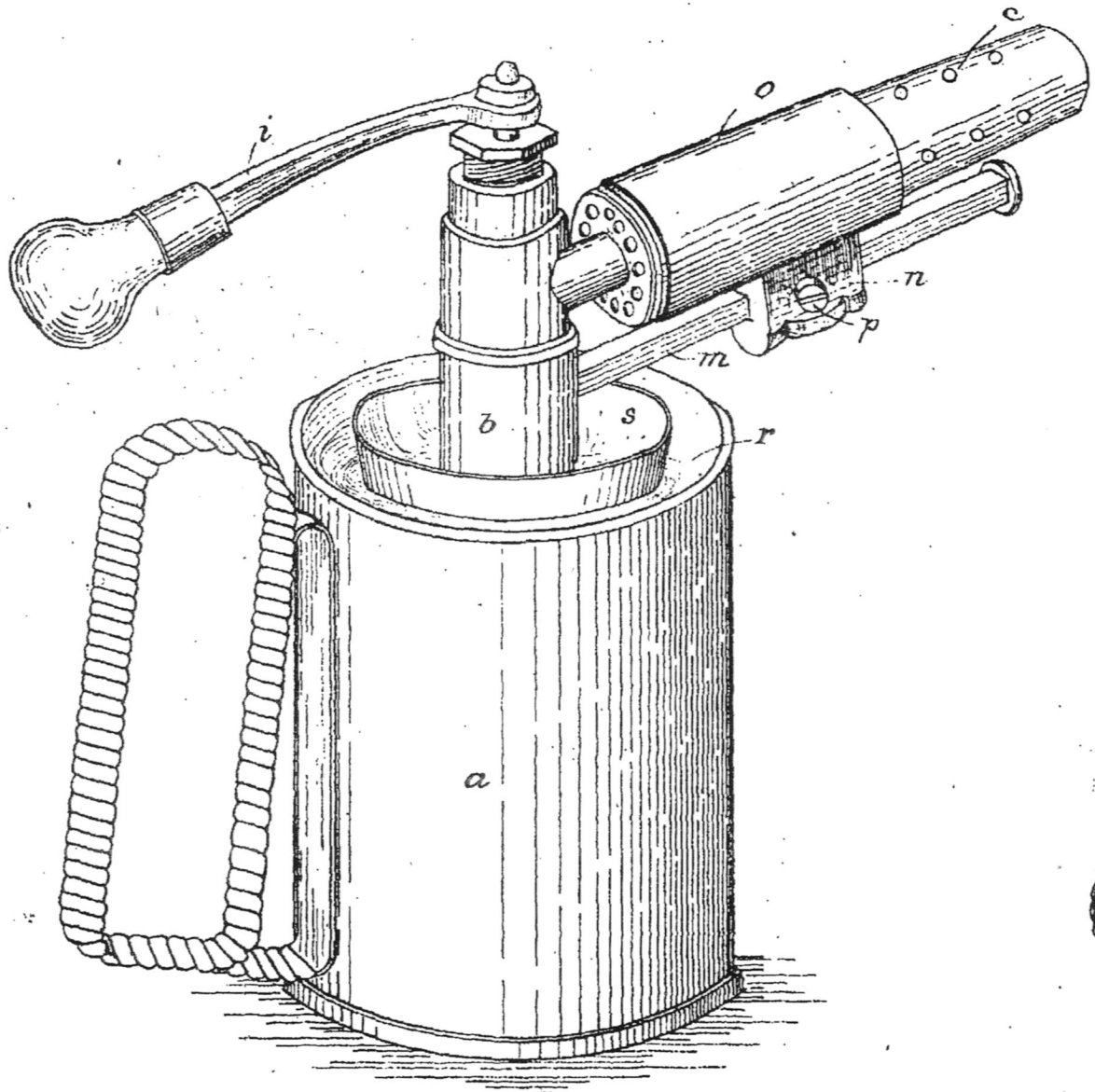
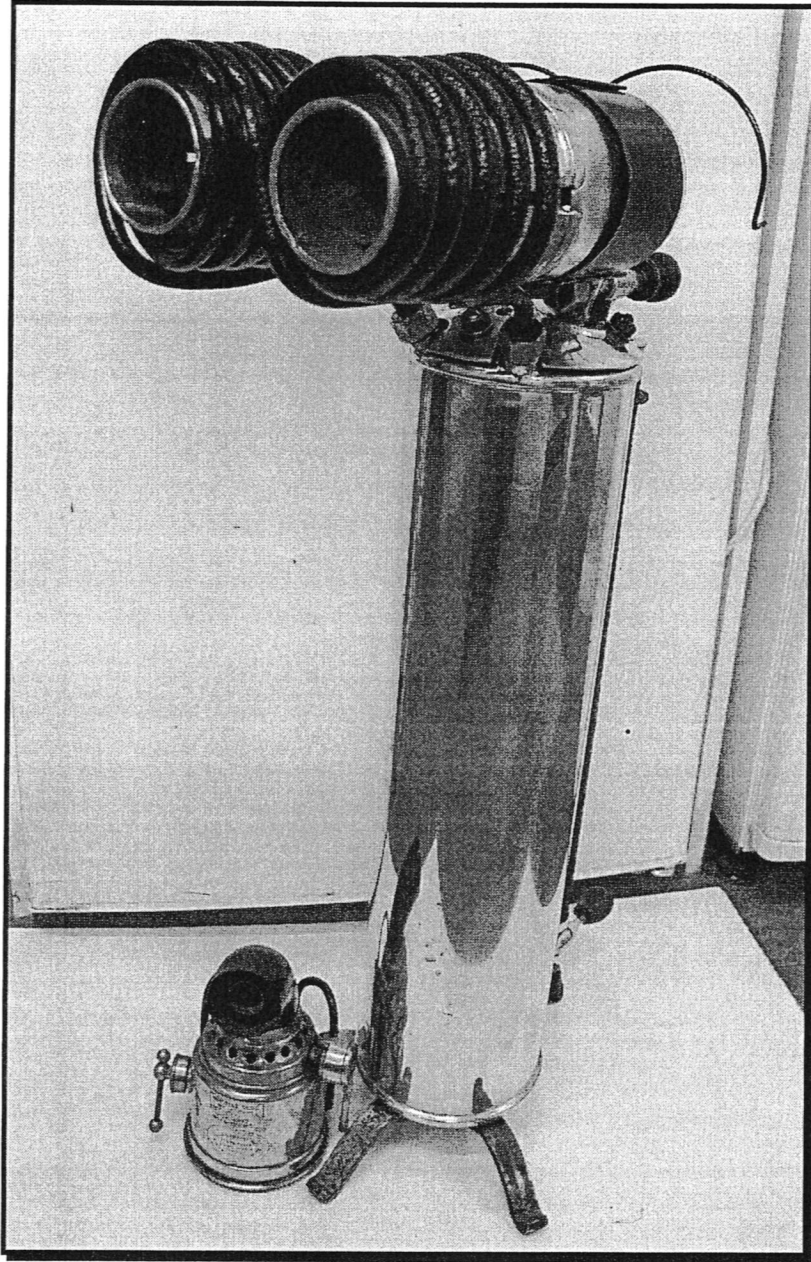


Fig. 1

RECENT DISCOVERIES

Here is the picture I promised of the Sievert HSL4 which was discovered while an engineering workshop was being cleared and is now in the ownership of Paul Whiddett.

Hopefully, if one can turn up, there may be others out there lying in the back of a shed just gathering dust. Happy hunting!



Paul has demonstrated the scale of the lamp by standing a Paquelin beside it.

LATE NEWS

Graham Stubbs has again been busy updating the Blowlamp News Index, a copy of which is included with this newsletter.

While updating the list, he has found 3 new names to add to the list of UK manufacturers, Gas Lighting Improvement Co, William Soutter and James Wooley.

Finally there are a few amongst us who have not renewed their subscriptions and a reminder will be included with this newsletter. If you do not intend to renew, please let me know.

CLASSIFIED

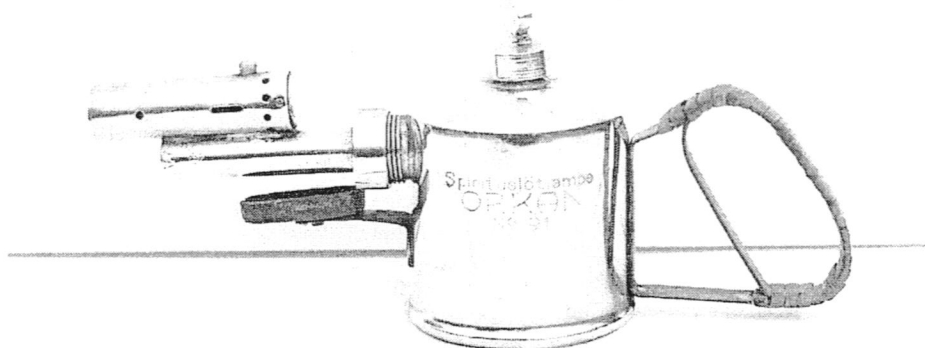
- For Sale** Collection of 60 blowlamps, all different, plus a few Primus stoves. Will not split, the lot for £550-00 ovno.
For details contact Seymour Moss 0208 529 0620.
- For Sale** Collection of 31 blowlamps, 3 braziers lamps, 4 soldering irons 5 Primus stoves and a bag of assorted items. £200-00 (Includes Primus, Bladon, Monitor, Optimus, Sievert, Radius, Burmos Barthel and Three Crowns.)
For details contact Mary Butler 01225 764304.
- For Sale** Collection of 84 blowlamps for sale individually or as one lot (includes Phoemax, Taymax, Monitor, Butler, Burmos, Governor, British Safety Stove Co, Sievert, Optimus, Eriksson, Primus, SH & S, Bladon, Veritas and Buflam)
For details contact Dave Goodin 01772724634.
- Wanted** Unusual Monitor blowlamps – contact Trevor Bateman 01928 724955
- Wanted** Doesit lamp and Paquelin without regulator – contact Bob Prichard 02476 636363

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Blowlamp News is published in March, June, September and December. Any items for inclusion in the next issue should be with the Editor at least 4 weeks before the issue date.

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Orkan No 91 from the editors collection.