BLOWLAMP NEWS

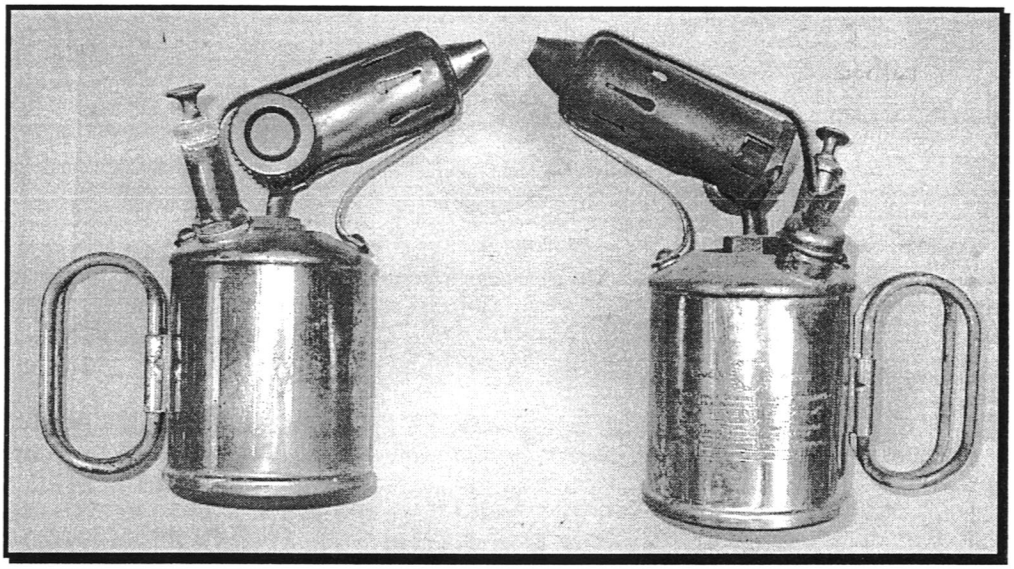
No 56

JUNE 2006

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

The argument still rages about the photograph of Ted Hewitt's Howes & Burley blowlamp published in issue 54. Everyone seems convinced it was made by Barthel, although Chris Naylor has seen a similar lamp marked Hahnel. I am sure someone will come up with a definitive answer, but until then, keep your thoughts coming in.

The photograph of Graham Stubbs Sievert 466 brought several comments, with Willy Mouton, Peter Wardale and Chris Naylor all confirming that the style of burner, with the control knob, was more common on the Radius 52 blowlamps. We even turned up some Radius literature to support the argument. Having passed the information on to Graham, I was convinced he had a Radius burner on a Sievert tank. That was until I received an email from Michel Duval, which included photographs of 2 complete Sievert 466 blowlamps.

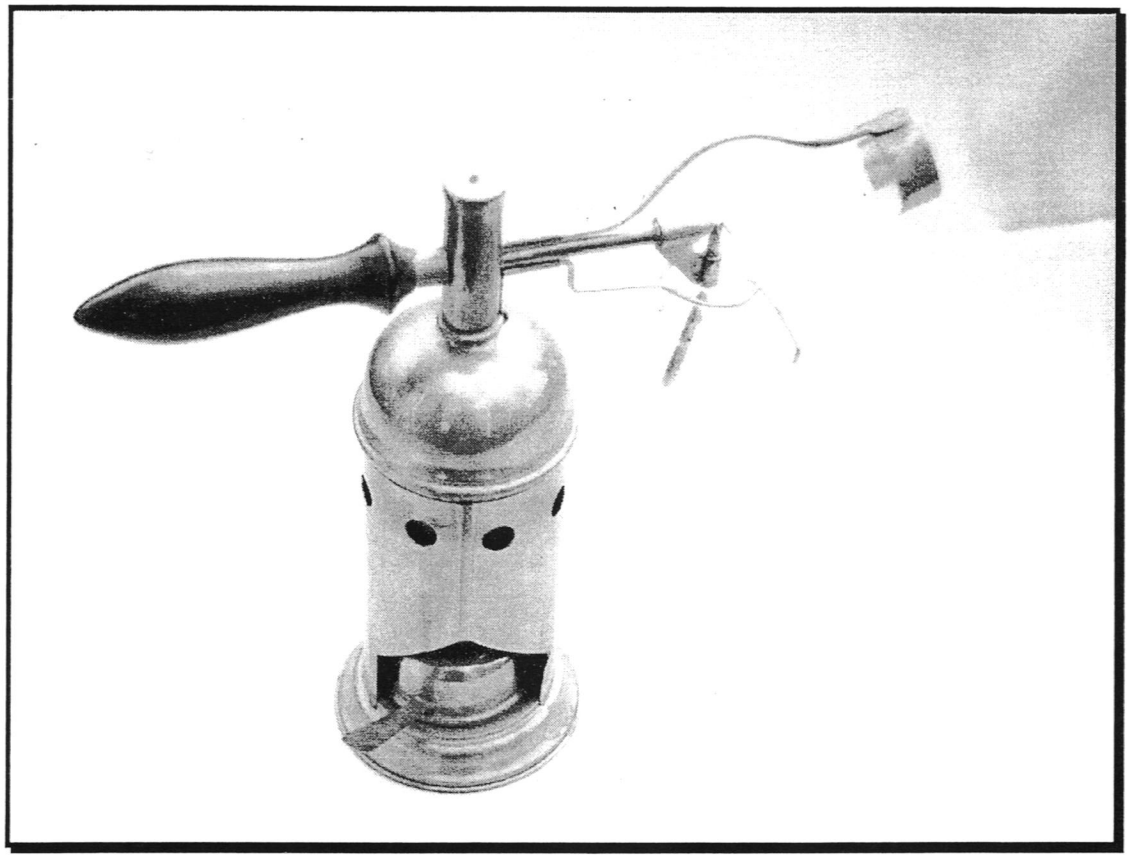


2 Sievert 466 blowlamps

The other photograph in the last Identity & Assistance feature was submitted by Malcolm Forster and showed a tank which was part of a device which may or may not be a blowlamp.

Dr Charles Smith and Brian Grainger are of the opinion that the tank shown in the photograph is part of an old steam atomizer, or steam vaporizer. These were around before electricity and the tank rested above a small alcohol lamp. Water was added to the tank, the burner lit and steam was emitted from the end of the upper tube. This steam would be emitted into a cup holding the liquid to be atomized. The resulting vapours were inhaled to remedy coughs or cold symptoms.

A complete steam atomizer (Picture supplied by Charles Smith)



Photograph of a similar device supplied by Brian Grainger

MEETINGS

BELGIUM – Saturday 11th March.

Our trip this year was somewhat cold and wet, but our hearts were soon warmed by the hospitality of our hosts Brigitte and Willy Mouton and the magnificent display of blowlamps they had organised at the exhibition hall.

I travelled with Keith Hawkins and Tom Bartlett on the Friday and met up with Paul Whiddett at Willy's house in the afternoon where we were warmly welcomed and given a tour of Willy's blowlamp collection. Having recently published a photograph of Paul Whiddetts HSL4, Willy produced his HSL4, which he had made, using only pictures from a catalogue for a guide. When the 2 lamps were side by side, it was difficult to tell which the genuine lamp was.

A dinner was arranged at the hotel for the evening where we met with fellow collectors, to exchange stories of latest acquisitions and prepare for Saturdays show.

The meeting on Saturday saw 52 collectors together in the hall and there were some fine blowlamps on show, with many opportunities to buy, sell or swap. I managed to add 9 lamps to my collection so I was well satisfied.

The hall was packed with over 75 sitting down to an excellent lunch, so thanks must go to Brigitte and Willy for all their hard work and to wish them luck with organising next year's event.

COPTHORNE – Saturday 6th May

Andy and Vera Feast had again organised the meeting held at the Historic Vehicle Trust Centre in Copthorne, Surrey. This is a great venue with all facilities on site, including camping and I am sure everyone attending will agree it was an excellent day. About 40 collectors gathered for the day and there were some good displays of blowlamps as well as plenty for sale and swap. There was a strong contingent from Europe and I think they all went away satisfied with their acquisitions. The ladies from the Trust Centre laid on an excellent buffet lunch and provided tea and coffee throughout the day.
It is just a pity that a few more home collectors did not join in, many of whom live within easy driving distance, as there was plenty of space for more displays. We need to support Andy and Vera, as these events take a lot of organising and we would not want to loose it for the future.

AUTUMN GATHERING at Toddington – Saturday 21st October 2006.

Invitations are enclosed for this year's Autumn Gathering and it is hoped that we can build on the success of last year.
The format will be the same as last year, with the emphasis being on the displays of blowlamps. We hope to fill the hall, so if everyone brings along their favourite lamps, we should be able to better last years display.
An important part of the day will be the selling, buying and exchanging blowlamps, so bring along as many as you have.
The cost for the day will be £12-50 (£20-00 for couples) and will include tea, coffee and lunch.
Keith Hawkins stepson, Dick, has again been persuaded to do the catering and those who attended last year will know just how good he is.

IDENTITY & ASSISTANCE

Michel Cochard brought this blowlamp to Copthorne, hoping that someone could identify it.

As you will see, this is a beautiful blowlamp and the only possible identification on the day was by John Byrne, who thought it might be an early Butler

Note the unusual burner construction.

N° 11,193 A.D. 1895

Date of Application, 7th June, 1895—Accepted, 24th Aug., 1895

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow Lamps used by Plumbers, Painters, and others.

I, GEORGE ANKRETT of 150 Saint Lukes Road, Edgbaston, in the City of Birmingham, Manufacturer, 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:—

This invention has relation to apparatuses used by plumbers in making metallic joints, by painters in burning off paint from surfaces to be re-painted and by others for sundry heating purposes.

The said invention has for its object, an efficient lamp, and consists of a taper mandril tube burner, having a series of holes through its walls for the entrance thereinto of atmospheric air which intermingles with the benzoline gas emanating from a nipple in communication with a generating tube attachedly connected to a spirit container, into which a cotton wick located within the generating tube depends.

The passage to the nipple is controlled by a valve, whilst the generating tube has situated thereunder, a starter cup for containing a small quantity of spirit which is lighted in order to first heat the generating tube for first starting the lamp.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing represents in longitudinal vertical section, a spirit blow lamp constructed, arranged and provided with improvements made according to my invention.

Figure 2 represents the burner part of the apparatus and the branch inlet pipe separately and partly in section and partly in elevation.

Figure 3 is a cross section of the burner tube upon the dotted lines x—x Figure 1, and

Figure 4 represents the regulating valve separately.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

The burner a, of the lamp consists of an open-ended and taper mandril tube, supported upon the middle of its underside by a vapor-generating tube b, which forms both the receiver for the wick, the vapor generating chamber, and the bracket connection between the burner and the spirit container c, into which the end d^2, of the cotton wick d located within the interior of the generating tube b, hangs, and by means of which the spirit is lifted to the burner through capillary attraction as usual.

The generating tube is closed at the top b^1, and is connected at the bottom b^2, by a union joint b^3, to the screwed neck c^1, of the spirit container c, which has handles c^2, at the rear for holding the lamp when in use.

The joint formed between the generating tube and the burner is packed with prepared asbestos, which prevents the insinuation of the spirit vapor through the joint.

Situated underneath the generating tube is an affixed or detachable starter e, consisting of a cup or vessel, into which a small quantity of spirit is placed and then ignited for preparatorily heating the spirit-saturated wick prior to the general heating of the apparatus, which, after once starting the lamp, is carried on by the conduction of heat from the burner through the metallic parts.

Directed upwardly from the topside of the generating tube, is a branch pipe f, for conducting spirit vapor evolved in the said generating tube to the burner a, and

[Price 8d.]

being surmounted by an inlet branch f^1, running lignable with the centre of the burner, and with the fore part fitted with a nipple f^2, having a taper hole f^3, up its middle and separated from the seat f^4, of the regulating valve g, by solid part f^5, so, that on the said regulating valve g, carried at the screwed end g^1, of the stalk g^2, working through the asbestos-packed gland g^3, and screwing into the screwed interior of the branch, coming up to its seating, the screwed-in nipple is protected or prevented from being unscrewed by frictional contact.

The regulating valve has a handle g^4, for turning the same, whilst the back open end a^1 of the burner a, which has atmospheric air inlet holes a^3, is covered by a wind guard a^2, consisting of a slotted cap, which may be placed in position when it is desired to protect the flame from excessive air currents.

The series of air-inlet holes a^3 are formed through the burner a little forward of the nipple, whilst other air holes (which are circular) are disposed near the mouth entrance to the said burner.

By constructing blow lamps as described the burner is isolated from the body of the lamp and explosions are prevented, whilst common air is admixed with the benzoline vapor in such proportions as to obtain perfect combustion, hence an intense heat.

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 :—

First. In blow lamps, employing as the burner, a taper mandril tube, with circular or equivalent piercings arranged substantially as described and set forth.

Secondly. In blow lamps, the combination with a burner as referred to in the preceding claim, of a nipple or a screwed-in nipple, separated from the valve by an intervening solid or part, substantially as described and set forth.

Thirdly. In blow lamps, the combination with the burner the nipple and the valve, of a branch pipe f, connected with the generating tube, substantially as described and set forth.

Fourthly. In blow lamps, providing the same, or the underside of the generating tube thereof, with a starting cup, substantially as described and set forth.

Fifthly. In blow lamps, the means of isolating the burner from the body of the lamp, substantially as described and set forth.

Sixthly. The general construction, arrangement and combination of the parts of blow lamps for painters, plumbers and others, substantially as and for the purpose as described and set forth.

Dated this 6th day of June 1895.

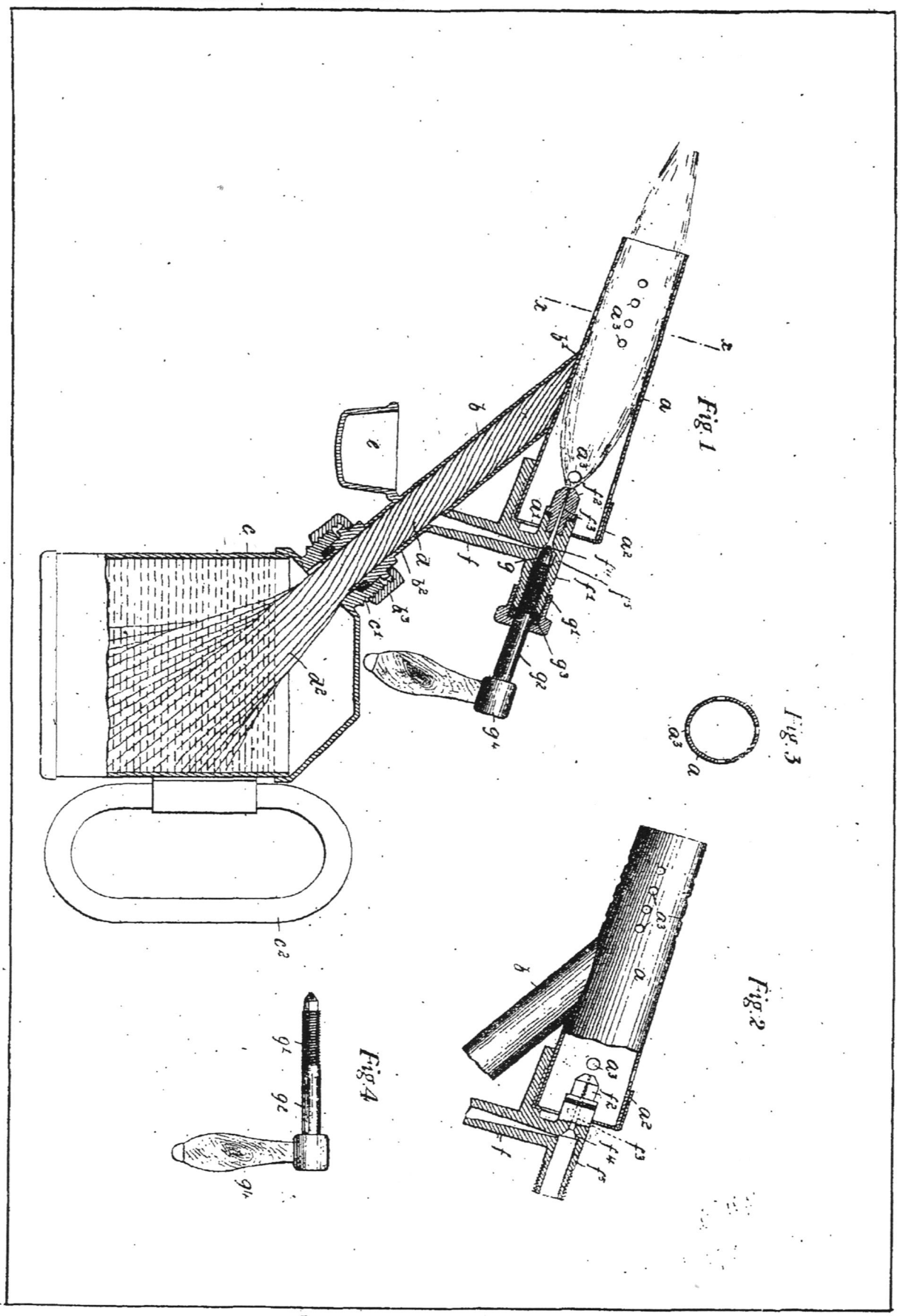
GEORGE ANKRETT,
By Henry Skerrett,
24 Temple Row, Birmingham, Agent for Applicant.

London : Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Darling & Son, Ltd.—1895

A.D. 1895. JULE 7. Nº. 11,193.

ANKRETT'S COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

(1 SHEET)



[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale]

LONDON.—Printed by DARLING and SON Ld.
for Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 1895.

Malby & Sons, Photo-Litho.

N° 18,384 A.D. 1896

Date of Application, 19th Aug., 1896
Complete Specification Left, 12th May, 1897—Accepted, 1th June 1897

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow Pipe Lamps for the Use of Plumbers and for Heating Purposes generally.

I WILLIAM PULLEN of No. 42 Lee Crescent, Edgbaston, Birmingham in the County of Warwick Electrical Engineer do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows :—

The object of my invention is principally to dispense with the air pumps or blowers ordinarily employed in blow pipe lamps for forcing by pressure of air the petroleum or other volatile liquid hydro-carbon from the reservoirs or containers to the vapourizers of the lamps; and my said invention consists in constructing and arranging for that purpose the parts of the said blow pipe lamps as hereinafter described.

I will describe my invention in connection with a blow pipe lamp for use by plumbers.

The cylindrical reservoir containing the petroleum or other like volatile liquid hydro-carbon is filled preferably by an opening at bottom fitted with a closing screw plug, the said reservoir being provided with a handle for holding the lamp when in use. The top of the cylindrical reservoir is cupped for the purpose hereinafter described and at the middle of the said top is a short pipe or wick holder which supports a globular or cylindrical vapouriser closed at top by a screw plug. In the vapouriser is a horizontal pipe or passage through which the flame is projected a cross vertical bar in the said horizontal pipe dividing or spreading the said flame. The petroleum or other volatile liquid hydro-carbon is fed from the reservoir to the vapouriser by an asbestos wick, the said wick rising through the axial wick tube described, and filling the space between the passage in the vapouriser and the sides of the vapouriser. At the handle side of the lamp and in line with the axis of the tubular passage in the vapouriser, is a nozzle or burner and passing from the said burner to the top of the vapouriser is a pipe by which the vapour produced in the vapouriser is conducted to the burner or nozzle. At the back of the burner or nozzle is a screw valve by which the passage of the vapour from the vapouriser to the burner is controlled and cut off.

In using my improved blow pipe lamp, say for burning off paint. a small quantity of petroleum is poured into the cupped top of the reservoir and ignited for the purpose of starting the lamp. The vapouriser is heated and the petroleum, raised by the capillary action of the asbestos wick into the said vapouriser is thereby vapourized and when the vapour has attained the desired pressure, the screw valve of the burner is opened and the vapour under pressure escapes at the nozzle or burner and is ignited, and a blow pipe flame produced the said flame passing through and projecting from the tubular passage in the vapouriser. By the heat of the blow pipe flame in the tubular passage of the vapouriser, the heating of the vapouriser and the production of vapour under pressure is continued after the exhaustion of the petroleum by which the starting of the flame was produced. In this way, the automatic feeding of the nozzle or burner with the vapourised oil under pressure is continued so long as the nozzle or burner valve is open and the supply of petroleum maintained to the vapouriser.

Besides burning off paint the lamp described may be used for heating plumbers' lead pots, soldering irons and the like.

[*Price* 8*d*.]

In order to determine a greater or less admixture of air with the vapour and thereby to determine the production of a non-luminous or luminous flame, I place a tubular cover on the nozzle; the said cover having a series of openings which may be more or less closed and the supply of air regulated at the will of the user of the lamp.

Instead of using a single axial wick tube a double wick tube, one on each side of the vapourizer may be employed; and for laboratory or other heating purposes, a vertical instead of a horizontal flame may be used; or a spreader may be arranged at the top of the vapouriser for producing two or more vertical and horizontal flames or jets.

My improved blow pipe lamps are applicable for heating purposes generally, the details of their construction being modified to suit the particular use to which they are to be applied.

Dated this Nineteenth day of August 1896.

W. T. WHITEMAN,
Agent for the Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Blow Pipe Lamps for the Use of Plumbers and for Heating Purposes generally.

I, WILLIAM PULLEN, of No. 42 Lee Crescent, Edgbaston, Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Electrical Engineer, do hereby declare the nature of my invention and in what manner the same is to be performed to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

The object of my invention is, principally, to dispense with the air pumps or blowers ordinarily employed in blow pipe lamps for forcing by pressure of air the petroleum or other volatile liquid hydro-carbon from the reservoirs or containers to the vapourizers of the lamps; and my said invention consists in constructing and arranging for that purpose the parts of the said blow pipe lamps as herein after described.

I will describe my invention in connection with a blow pipe lamp for use by plumbers and painters.

The cylindrical reservoir containing the petroleum or other like volatile liquid hydrocarbon is filled preferably by an opening at top fitted with a closing screw plug the said reservoir being provided with a handle for holding the lamp when in use. The top of the cylindrical reservoir is cupped for the purpose hereinafter described and at the middle of the said top is a short pipe or wick holder which supports a globular or cylindrical vapouriser closed at top by a screw plug. In the vapouriser is a horizontal pipe or passage through which the flame is projected, a cross vertical bar or bars in the said horizontal pipe dividing or spreading the said flame. The petroleum or other volatile liquid hydro-carbon is fed from the reservoir to the vapouriser by an asbestos wick, the said wick rising through the axial wick tube described, and filling the space between the passage in the vapouriser and the sides of the vapouriser. At the handle side of the lamp and in line with the axis of the tubular passage in the vapouriser, is a nozzle or burner and passing from the said burner to the top of the vapouriser is a pipe by which the vapour produced in the vapouriser is conducted to the burner or nozzle. At the back of the burner or nozzle is a screw valve by which the passage of the vapour from the vapouriser to the burner is controlled and cut off.

In order to determine a greater or less admixture of air with the vapour and thereby to determine the production of a non-luminous or luminous flame, I place

a tubular cover on the nozzle, the said cover having a series of openings which may be more or less closed and the supply of air regulated at the will of the user of the lamp.

For laboratory or other heating purposes a vertical instead of a horizontal flame may be used; or a spreader may be arranged at the top of the vapouriser for producing two or more vertical and horizontal flames or jets.

My improved blow pipe lamps are applicable for heating purposes generally, the details of their construction being modified to suit the particular use to which they are to be applied.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing represents in side elevation; Figure 2 in longitudinal section and Figure 3 in cross section a plumber's blow pipe lamp constructed according to my invention;

Figure 4 represents a section of the valve in its open position and

Figure 5 represents a modified blow pipe lamp constructed according to my invention as hereinafter described.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in the several figures of the drawing.

I will first describe the principal arrangement of my invention represented in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4.

a is the reservoir of the lamp containing the petroleum or other like volatile liquid hydro-carbon. The said reservoir is filled by an opening at top closed by the screw plug *b* (see Figure 3); *c* is the handle by which the lamp is held when in use; *d* is the cupped top of the reservoir constituting a shallow vessel for holding a small quantity of petroleum or methylated spirit by which the vapouriser is first heated for starting the lamp. The valve by which the passage of vapour of oil from the vapourizer to the burner is controlled may also be heated on starting the lamp by petroleum or methylated spirit poured into the small cup a^2 and ignited. Screwed into the middle of the reservoir *a* and projecting therefrom is a short pipe or wick holder *e* supporting the globular (or cylindrical) vapouriser *f* having in its axis a horizontal tube or passage *g*. In the middle of the pipe or passage *g* of the vapouriser is a cross pipe or bar *h* (or pipes or bars) for spreading or dividing the flame passing through the said pipe or passage; *i* is the asbestos wick by which the petroleum in the reservoir *a* is fed by capillary attraction to the vapouriser *f*. It will be seen that the asbestos wick *i* rises from the reservoir through the axial wick tube *e* and fills the space between the sides of the globular vapouriser *f* and the pipe or passage *g* as represented in the cross section Figure 3. The lifting of the asbestos wick *i* from the reservoir *a* into the vapouriser *f* may be assisted by means of a wire passed through the opening in the top of the vapouriser to draw up the wick, the said opening being closed by the screw plug *k*; *l* is the burner at the handle end of the lamp the said burner being in communication by means of the exit passage *m* and pipe *n* with the top of the vapouriser *f*. In line with the axis of the tubular passage *g* in the vapouriser and at the back of the burner *l*, is a screw valve *p* by which the passage of the vapour of oil from the vapouriser to the burner is controlled and cut off. In Figure 2 the screw valve *p* is represented in its closed position, the passage of the vapour from the vapouriser to the burner being cut off and in Figure 4 the valve is represented open and the vapour permitted to pass from the vapouriser through the pipe *n* and exit passage *m* to the burner *l*.

The nozzle or delivery end of the tubular passage *g* through which the flame passes is provided with a perforated pipe *q* for admitting air to the flame.

The space between the burner *l* and the vapouriser *f* may be covered wholly or mainly by a tubular cover or shield (not shown in the drawing) for protecting the flame. This cover or shield may also be used or the production of a non-luminous or luminous flame as before described.

In using my improved blow pipe lamp, say, for burning off paint, a small quantity of petroleum or methylated spirit is poured into the cupped top or shallow vessel *d* of the reservoir *a* and into the small cup a^2 and the said petroleum

ignited for the purpose of starting the lamp. The vapouriser *f* is heated and the petroleum, raised by the capillary action of the asbestos wick *i* into the said vapouriser, is thereby vapourised and when the vapour has attained the desired pressure, the screw valve *p* of the burner is opened and the vapour under pressure escapes at the nozzle or burner *l* and is ignited, and a blow pipe flame produced, the said flame passing through and projecting from the nozzle of the tubular passage *g* in the vapouriser. By the heat of the blow pipe flame in the tubular passage *g* of the vapouriser, the heating of the vapouriser and the production of vapour under pressure is continued after the exhaustion of the petroleum or methylated spirit in the vessel *d* by which the starting of the flame was produced. In this way, the automatic feeding of the nozzle or burner with the vapour of oil under pressure is continued so long as the nozzle or burner valve *p* is open and the supply of petroleum to the vapouriser maintained.

Figure 5 represents in elevation a blow pipe lamp for laboratory and other like work constructed according to my invention the said lamp having a vertical flame and being also provided with a spreader for producing two or more vertical and horizontal flames or jets. In this modified lamp the tubular passage *g* through the vapouriser *f* is vertical, the said vapouriser being supported by the side pipe f^2 through which the asbestos wick from the reservoir *a* is drawn into the said vapouriser *f* by means of a wire passed through the side opening at *r* in the said vapouriser.

The vapour is conducted by the pipe *n* from the vapouriser to the burner *l* the said vapour being regulated and cut off by the screw valve *p* as described with respect to the lamp Figures 1, 2 and 3.

When the vertical flame issuing from the projecting top of the passage *g* in the vapouriser is required to be spread, a spreader marked *s* may be fitted upon the projecting top of the passage *g* as represented in the drawing. By the use of this spreader a series of horizontal flames or jets and one or more vertical jets are produced. Although I have found wicks of asbestos to answer well yet wicks of other non-combustible fibrous material such as slag wool may be used in lamps constructed according to my invention.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my invention and in what manner the same is to be performed I declare that I claim as my invention of "Improvements in blow pipe lamps for the use of plumbers and for heating purposes generally"

The combination with the reservoir of the lamp of a vapouriser in communication with the burner of the lamp, the said vapouriser having a pipe or passage in line with the burner through which pipe or passage the blow pipe flame of the lamp is forced for the purpose of heating the said vapouriser and producing vapour of oil under pressure, the petroleum or other like volatile liquid hydrocarbon being conducted from the reservoir to the vapouriser by an asbestos or non-combustible wick, the petroleum in the vapouriser being first vapourised and supplied under pressure for starting the lamp by the burning of a small quantity of petroleum or methylated spirit poured in the cupped top of the reservoir and the automatic feeding of the vapour of oil under pressure being continued by the heat of the blow pipe flame passing through the tubular passage in the said vapouriser, the several parts being constructed, arranged and operating substantially as hereinbefore described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

Dated the First day of May 1897.

WILLIAM PULLEN.

London: Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Darling & Son, Ltd.—18: 7

Fig. 1

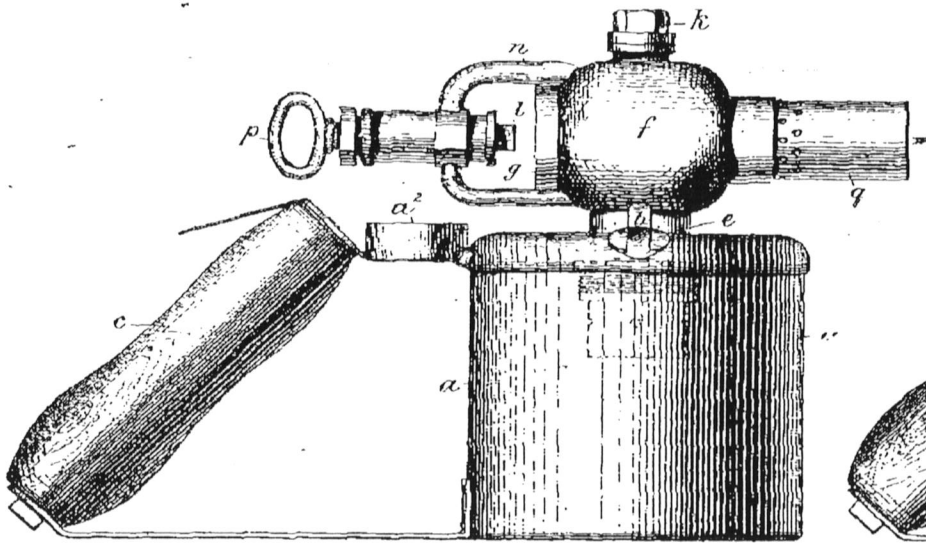


Fig. 4

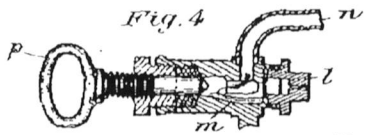


Fig. 2.

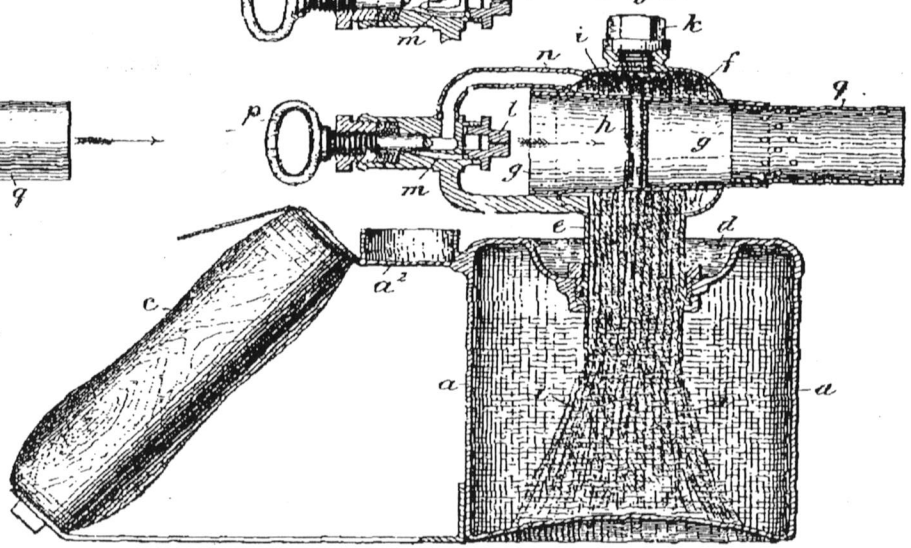


Fig. 5.

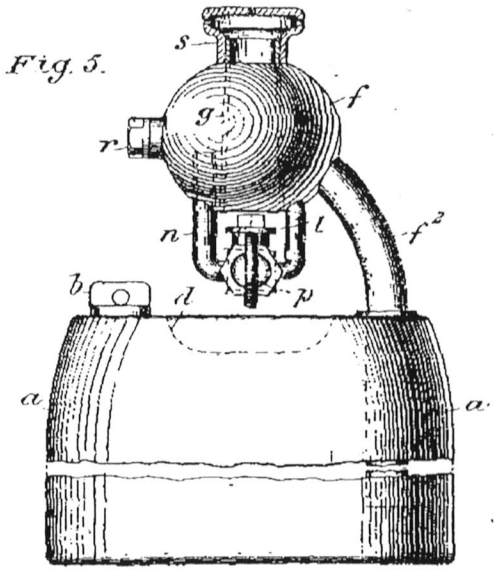
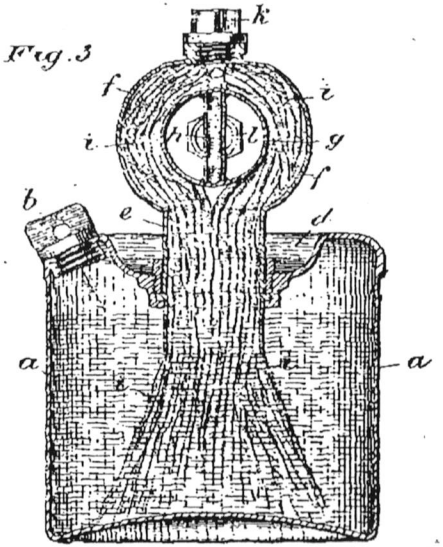


Fig. 3



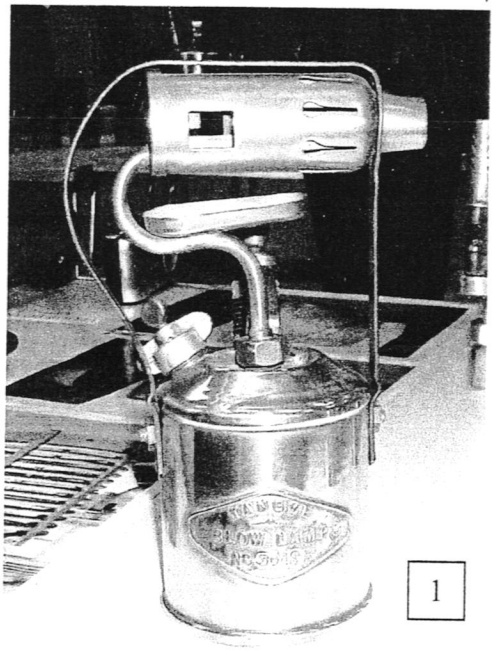
London: Printed by Darling and Son Ld.
for Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 1897
Malby & Sons Photo-Litho

Samedi 22 octobre 2005

We were some French collectors to take part at the meeting to North London the October 22nd.

Here is our report. On the last photo, you can see, from left to right, in the foreground : Guy GERARD, Robert LANGLOIS, in the background : Michel and Micheline COCHARD, Michel DUVAL and Andy FEAST. As susual, the atmosphere was very plaisant, it's always great pleasure to meet again the British collectors. There were many very good blowlamps and the exchanges were fruitful and numerous. The appointment is made for next year.

Micheline et Michel COCHARD



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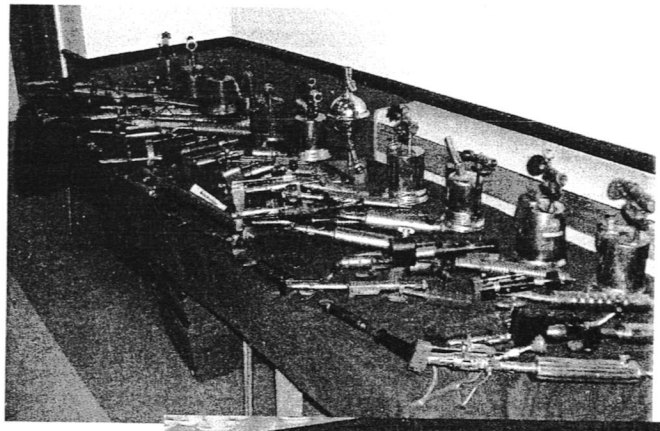
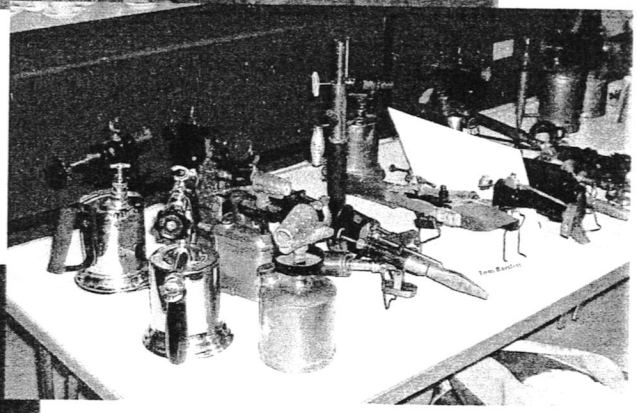
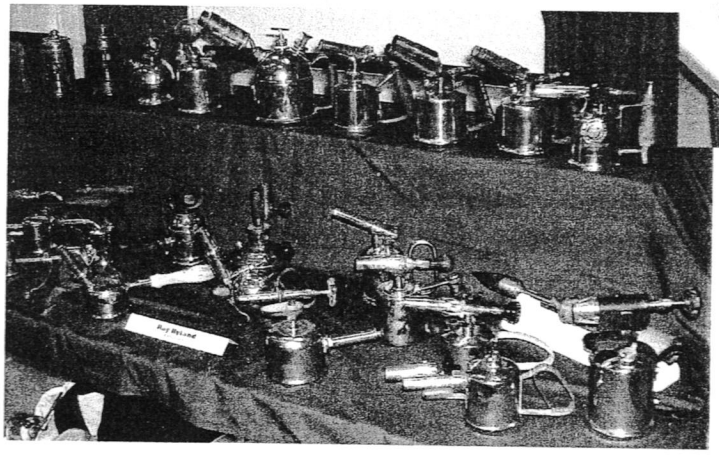
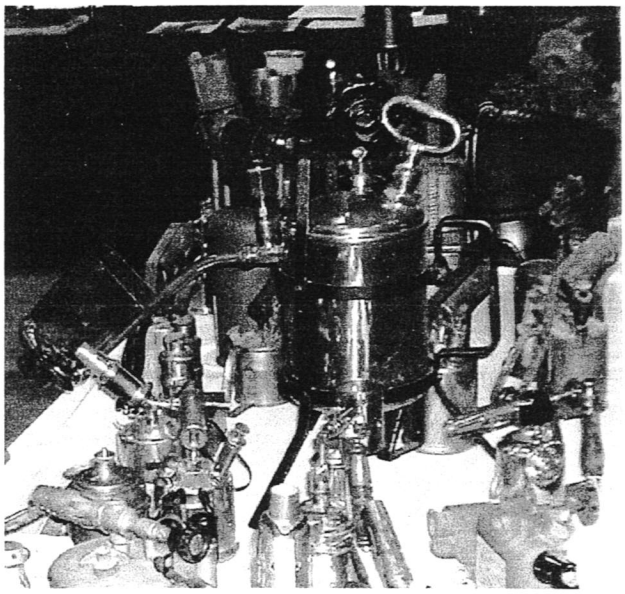
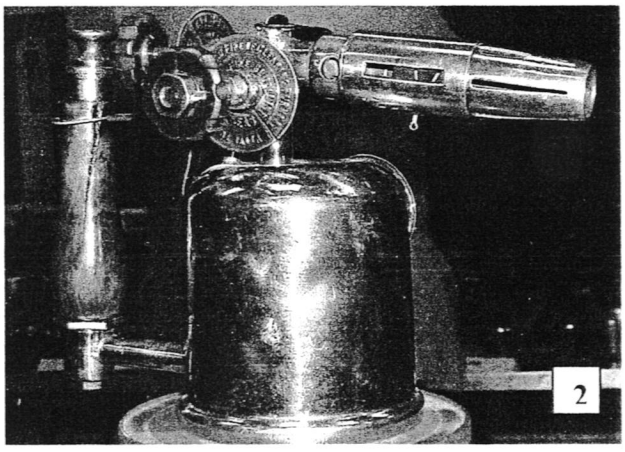




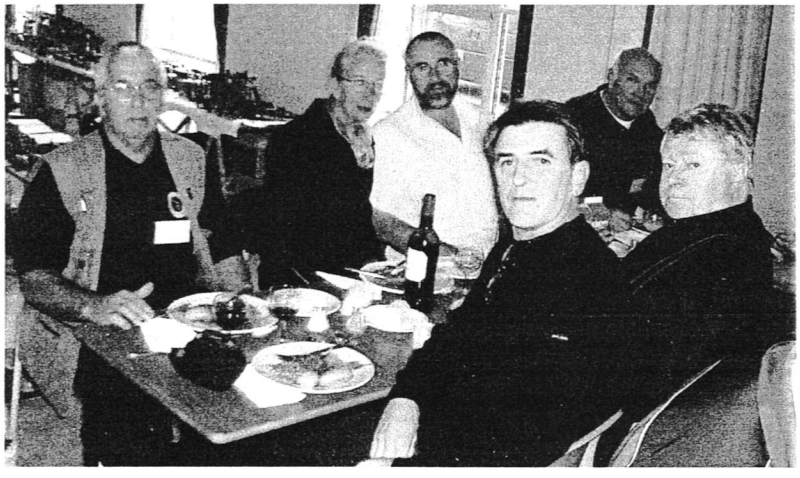


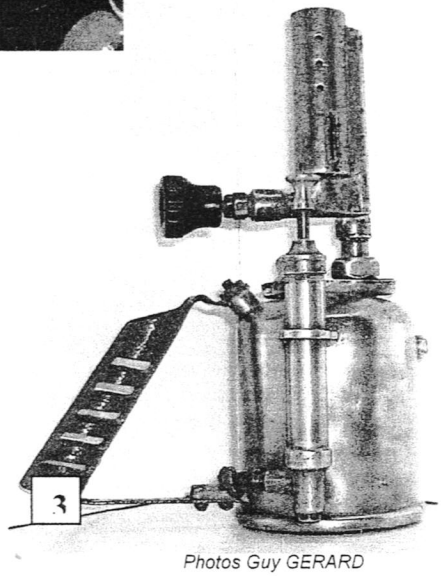
1 – Lampe TANGYE





2 - Lampe BLADON verticale
3 - Lampe EASILIT

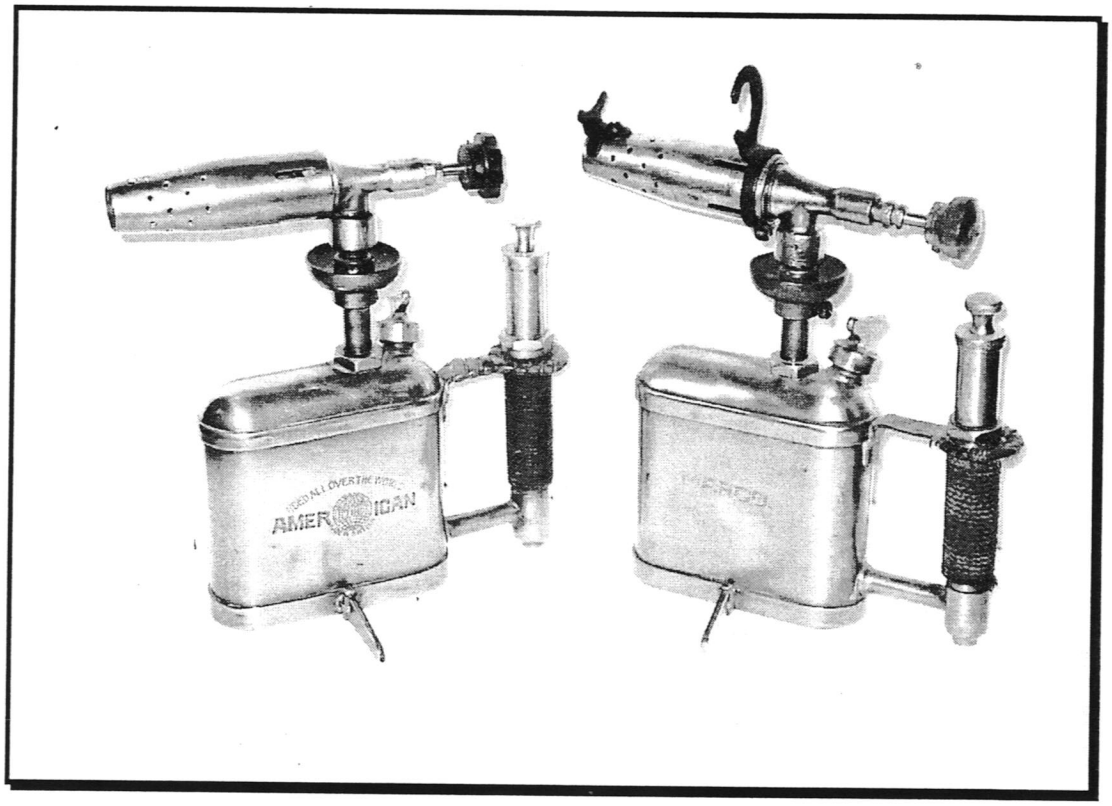




Photos Guy GERARD

OPTIMUS AMERICAN

Keith Hawkins bought a flat tanked "Auto" blowlamp which at the time was very dirty and had no visible identification marks. Keith thought it was an Optimus American, but when cleaning it, discovered it was a Marco.



As you will see from the photograph, they are identical, even down to the pattern of holes in the burner.

Keith says that the "American" is No 48, in a series of 4 lamps, numbers 5, 32, 38 and 48. The No 5 is of 1 litre capacity and is filled either through the base or through the pump. As I have never seen one and the diagram in the catalogue, produced by the French Club, is unclear, I am not sure which is correct. Numbers 32 and 38 are conventional top fillers of 1 litre capacity and half litre capacity respectively. All 4 are pumped, No 48 having the pump in the handle, whilst the others have their pumps in the top of the tank, on the right hand side of the handle. I am told that these lamps are quite common in the United States, but are less common in the UK (If anyone has a full set, I would like a photograph. Ed.) Another piece of information suggests that the No 48 is capable of reaching 3200 F.

So back to the Marco, it would appear that Optimus made blanks for other companies, which then leads to the question are there any No 48 style lamps with other names on and also did they make one for the Swedish market.

BURNING QUESTION

Keith Hawkins submitted the following interesting information.

A case of mistaken identity could solve the mystery of how ancient metalworkers fashioned intricate jewellery. Ceramic pots that archaeologists thought were used to strain curds, may actually have been Bronze Age Bunsen burners. Jewellery dating back to 1500BC often features delicately soldered knots and scrolls of wire and how metalworkers produced such details has been a puzzle, because anyone trying to solder over an open fire, would have burnt their fingers.

Jacqui Wood, an archaeologist who runs the Cornwall Celtic Village, a reconstruction of a Bronze Age settlement, has studied the ceramic pots at the Lake Ledro museum in Northern Italy. The sides of the pots are riddled with holes and when she looked inside, it appeared to be almost vitrified, suggesting that it had been heated repeatedly.

Thinking that the pot might be a lantern, Wood lit a rush light underneath it. Immediately a flame about 20cm high leapt from the top and when a slate was put over the top of the pot, the flame kept burning as air could still circulate through the walls.

"This could be very useful for soldering" she said, "you can put it on a bench and cover it until you need it"

(All very interesting, so just how long has the blowlamp been around)

RALLY DATES

More dates for those of you who like to meet up with other collectors.

Keith Hawkins will be at Banbury on 24/25th June, the Chiltern Rally, Prestwood on 1st/2nd July, Marcle Rally on 15/16th July, Leighton Buzzard Canal Festival on 29th July, Lincoln Rally 19/20th August, Honiton Hill Rally on 27/28th August, Great Dorset Steam Fair from 30th August to 3rd September, Essex Steam & Country Show on 9/10th September, Henham on 16/17th September, Collectomania, Midhurst on 29th October and Newark Tractor Rally on 11/12th November.

Norman Penny will be atBridport on 10/11th June, Canford Park, Poole on 17/18th June, Wincanton on 24/15th June, Sedgemore, Frome on 21/22/23 June, Purbeck Rally, Wareham on 19/20th August, Honiton Hill on 27/28th August, Bat & Ball, Wisborough Green on 2nd/3rd September, Harmans Cross, Swanage Railway on 9/10th September and Berwick St John, Shaftsbury on 16/17th September.

2007 CALENDAR

It may seem early to start thinking about this, but by the time the September issue arrives, it will be all too late.

If we can place an order for 25 or more, the price will be £9-00 plus postage, so if you would like a copy please let me know as soon as possible. I will be placing one order only and that will have to be submitted by early September, so that I will have them available for the Autumn Gathering.

So far, I have 3 photographs of blowlamps for inclusion in the calendar, so if you have a favourite lamp you would like to be considered for inclusion, please send a clear photograph, taken against a pale coloured background.

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

Editor – Ray Hyland, 47 Lockington Crescent, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1DA, ENGLAND
Telephone 01449 615648 Email ray.hyland@btinternet.com

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