BLOWLAMP NEWS

No 58

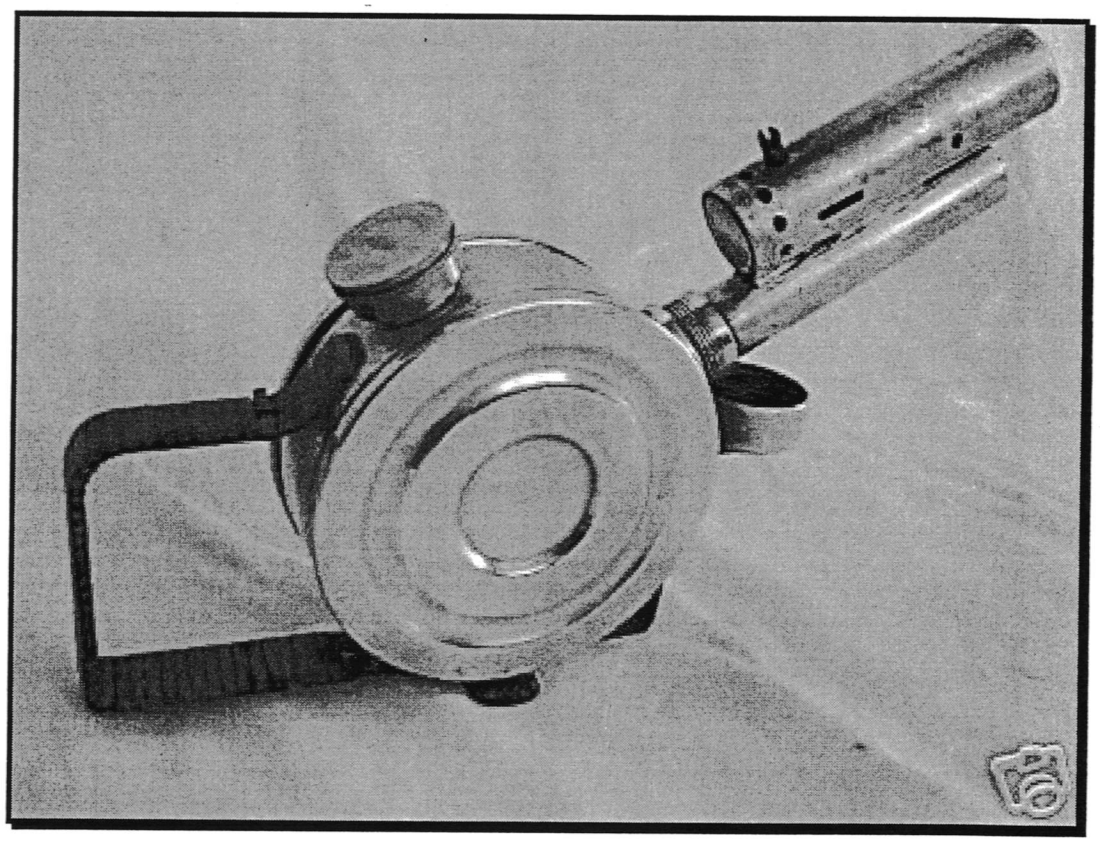
DECEMBER 2006

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

The end of another busy year and I hope everyone has managed to add some nice items to their collection. On a personal front, having attended the meetings at Lochristi, in Belgium, the spring meeting at Copthorne and the autumn meeting at Toddington, I have had what can only be described as a good year.

One noticeable thing, particularly with Ebay, is the ever spiralling prices achieved for blowlamps. I don't know if it is a world record, but in October a circular tank Herbergs lamp sold for 1,210-00 euros (£820-00). Agreed, it was a rare lamp, the like of which I have only seen once, at a meeting in Belgium, but I have to ask, if this is the way things are going, will blowlamp collecting become a pastime for the very rich. I do hope this is not the case and things start to settle down, because as I look through the membership list, there are very few young collectors in our ranks, and what chance will the youngsters have if the current trend continues.

Below is a picture of the Herbergs lamp for you to decide if it represents good value for money.



I will put the soapbox away now and return to the job in hand. The last newsletter brought in a good selection of comments, the first of which was from Chris Naylor, regarding the Globe type blowlamp to which Chris has made the following comments.

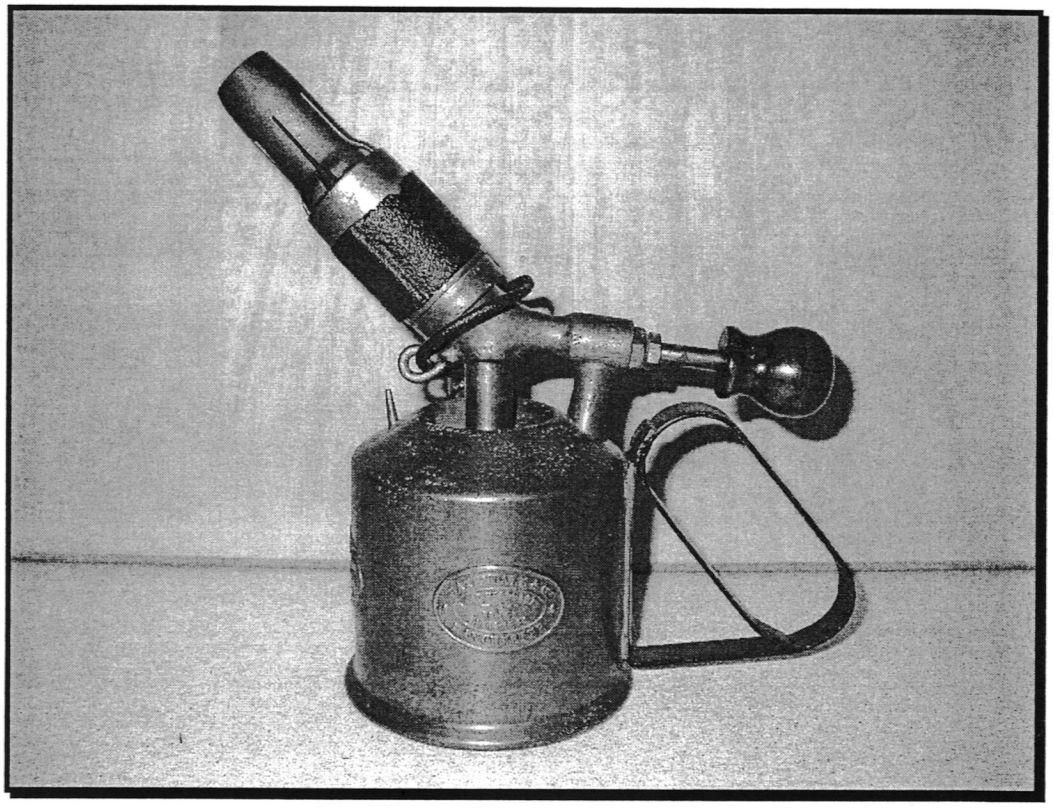
"Whilst I defer to Charles Smith and his colleagues, it seems to me from my limited knowledge of this range of torches – many of which Charles listed – that whilst the basic torch is very similar in each case, there are a sufficient number of detail differences which perhaps would lead one to question whether they were all made by Turner. (I acknowledge that Charles was not positive about Turner being the sole manufacturer). That said, Charles is not quite right in saying that "all have external front mounted feed tube to the burner". For a start the two examples shown don't. Nor indeed (*and more importantly*) does the 1889 Butler patent torch, or in fact, was it a feature of most of the other similar models. The only exception, of which I am aware, to have an external front mounted feed tube are of the Best Street Light Co. and Sun Vapour Street Light Co. (I believe Best Street – 1896 to 1920 – was formerly Sun Vapour).

One torch referred to by Charles as being manufactured by Turner and an "identical torch to the Butler Patent" I know nothing about, so I must reserve judgement on this. If indeed this particular Turner torch is *identica*l to the Butler patent, that would add weight to Charles' judgement. However a torch by the Knapp Mfg Co of New York was pretty close to the Butler patent, but again caution on my part is required as I know nothing of the relative dates of manufacture of any of these torches, which could be very relevant in terms of who purchased or developed the Butler patent.

Whilst I am treading very carefully here, and speaking from limited knowledge, all I am saying is that some further discussion and clarification might be worthwhile."

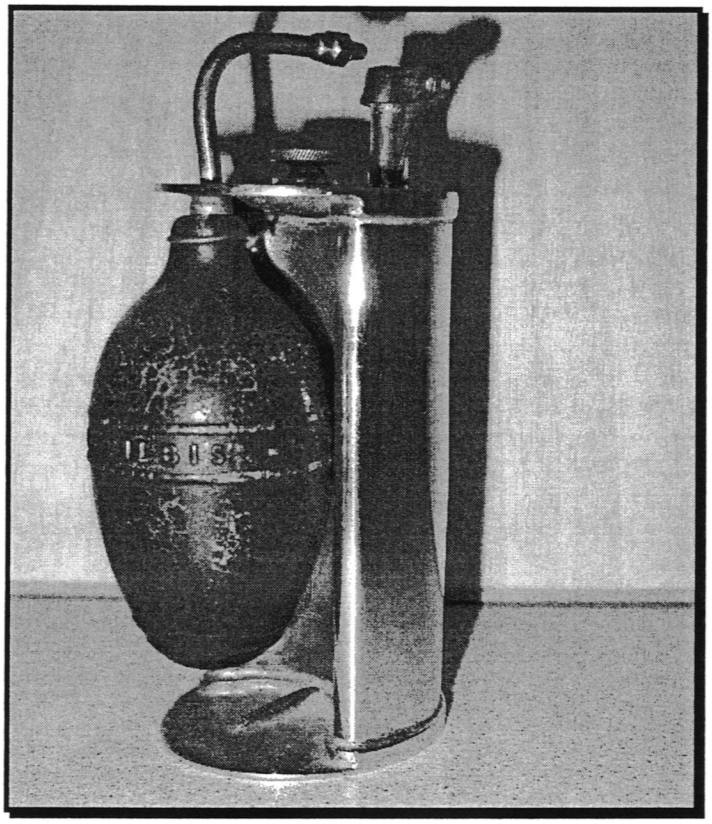
Next comes Keith Hawkins request for information regarding the Beanco blowlamp. Sylvia and Alan Black have emailed to say they have 2 examples of the Beanco blowlamp, the first is just labelled Beanco and the second Willander Beanco. The only reference they could find to the mark is from a copy of "The Ironmonger Diary" dated 1922 and again in 1927, where a company from Manchester called Baxendales used a brand name Beanco as well as Cobena (which is an anagram of Beanco). In the later catalogue they listed themselves with outlets in Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Dublin.

This photograph shows the Baxendale & Co plate soldered to a lamp owned by Michel Duval

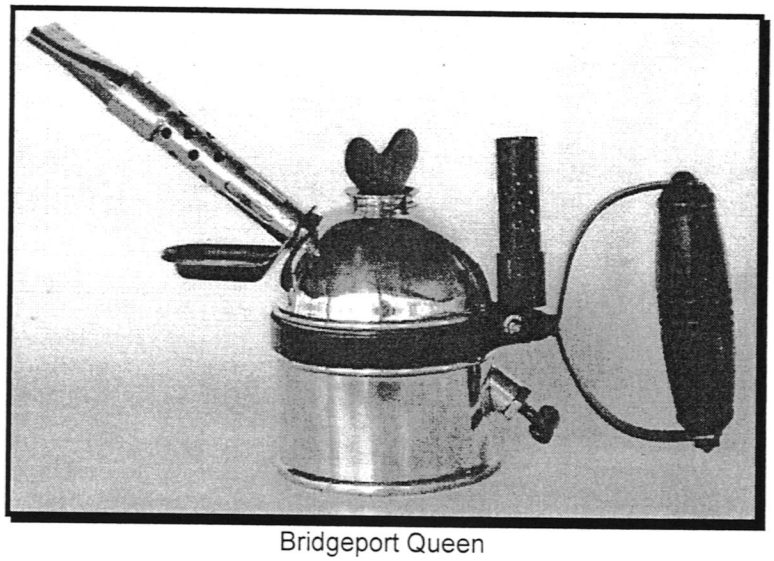


Michel Duval's Beanco, which is identical to the Optimus and Primus owned by Keith Hawkins

As well as the above photograph, Michel has sent a photograph of an interesting STEFFAN dental blowlamp, which works on a similar principle to the Kaplan torches submitted by Charles Smith.



Finally, in BN 57, I included a patent document, lodged by Arthur and Edward Shirley of Coventry, showing an improved portable vapour lamp or stove such as is used by plumbers' painters and electricians. The accompanying diagram had a striking resemblance to the Bridgeport Queen torch manufactured in the USA.



Bridgeport Queen

The Arthur Shirley patent was granted in 1901, but an article published in "The Torch" magazine December 2003 includes an extract from "The Metal Worker" of 4th February 1899 giving details of the Queen blow torch, manufactured by The Bridgeport Brass Co.

So was it a case of "Badge Engineering" or was there a connection between Arthur Shirley and Bridgeport Brass Co.

MEETINGS

The second Autumn Gathering was held at Toddington Village Hall on Saturday 21st October. With 27 members in attendance, the hall was filled with blowlamps of all descriptions. Keith Hawkins who is the prime mover in organising the event had his full complement of soldering torches on display which number over 60 different makes.
Seven members had travelled from France and Belgium to attend and they all appeared to go home happy with their new acquisitions. There were a lot of blowlamps, and cash, changing hands throughout the day, which can only be described as a resounding success.

Keith had again arranged for his step son, Dick, to organise the catering and with 39 sitting down to a 3 course lunch, the high standards of last year were maintained. Our thanks to Dick and all his helpers, please keep the date free for next year.

Keith has already booked for next year, so a date for your diary is **Saturday 20th October 2007.**

Other dates for your 2007 diary are:-

Saturday 10th March at LOCHRISTI, BELGIUM. – Brigitte and Willy Mouton have again agreed to organise this meeting and for those of you who have been before, it is definitely one not to miss. For anyone going for the first time you are in for a treat.

There is an invitation included with this newsletter; the hotel was new last year and the accommodation is excellent. There is also a dinner organised for the Friday evening so it makes for a very pleasant weekend.

Saturday 5th May at THE TRUST CENTRE, COPTHORNE, SURREY – Dave Ockenden is taking over the organisation of this event and with the backing of Vera & Andy Feast, who have organised the meeting in the past, I am sure it will continue to be a successful meeting. Invitations for this meeting will be included with the March Newsletter.

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I will stress that anyone organising an event puts in a lot of effort, but it is only successful if it is support by the membership. These events are an important part of the collecting year, they are opportunities to meet fellow enthusiasts, exchange stories and hopefully make some useful additions to the collection.

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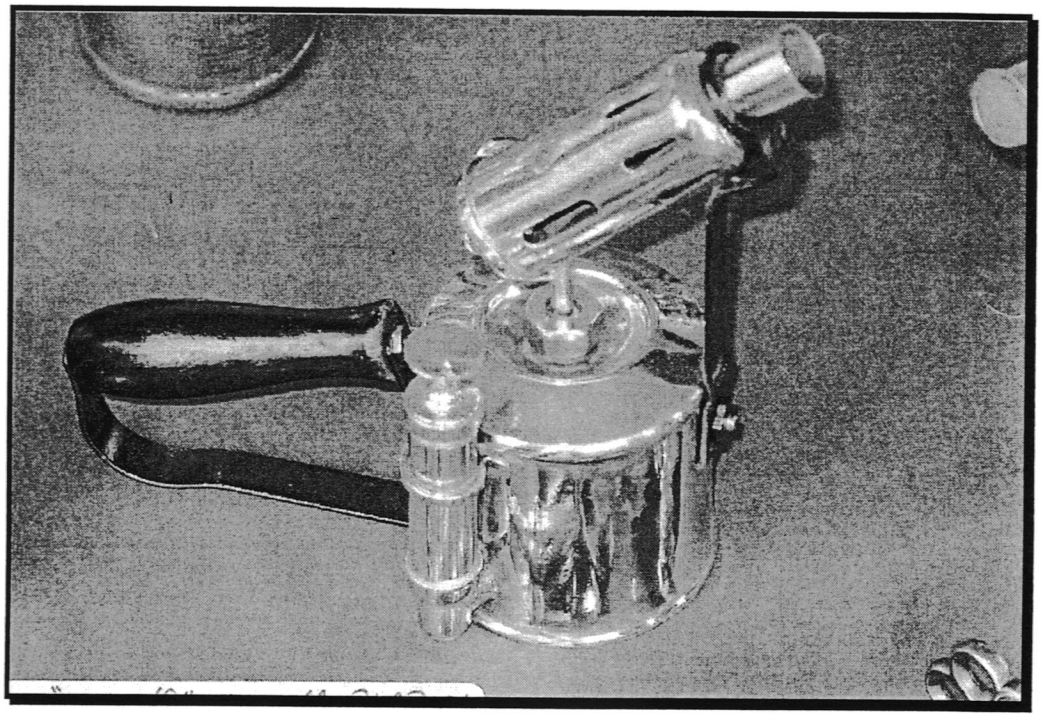
BLADON BLOWLAMPS

By Keith Hawkins

It would appear that there are quite a few Bladon blowlamps which never got into catalogues; also ones with no identification numbers etc. Others appear in catalogues, but for some obscure reason Bladon neglected to put dates on the catalogues.

Ray Gubb and Tom Bartlett both have two thirds of a pint, paraffin lamps with outside pump, as shown in the photograph below.

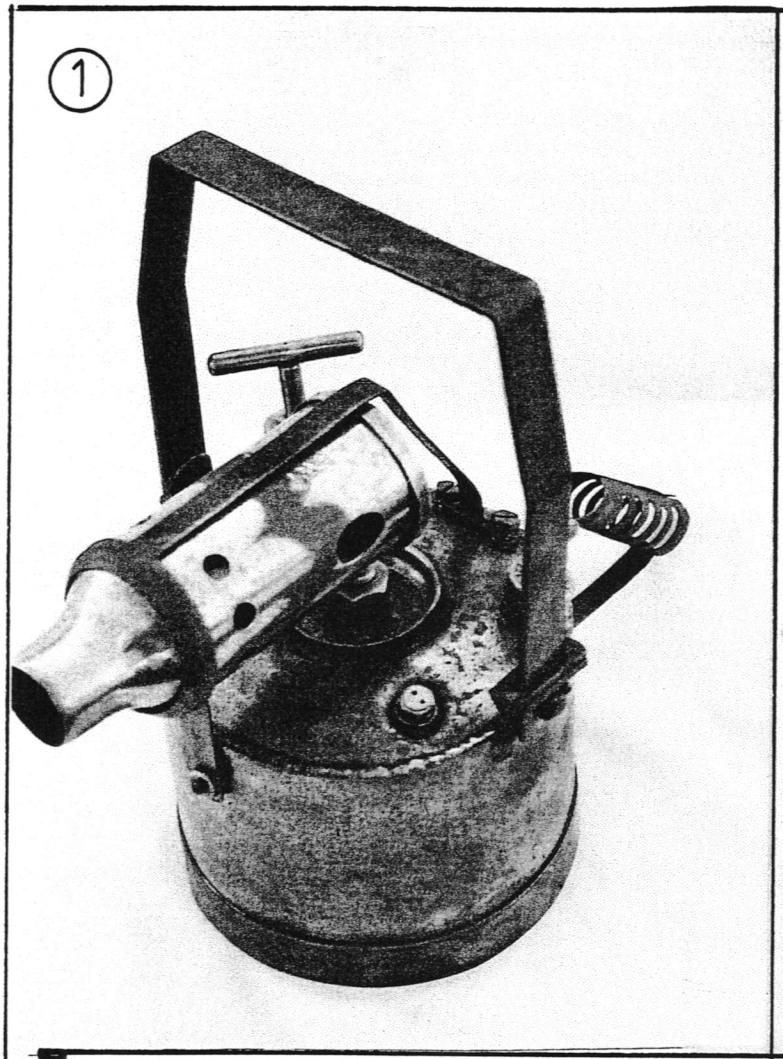


I have 2 lamps, the first one looking like a cut down version of a No 81, but with a No 56 burner, the rest of the working equipment is as the No 81, except for a circular brass spirit cup measuring 2.5 inches and a "T" shaped pump handle in brass. The capacity of this paraffin lamp is approximately 2.5 litres ant the tank is at present, unpainted steel.

The second lamp also has a steel tank and is of approximately 1.4 litre capacity, with a vertical burner, 5.0cm in diameter and a cast burner tube. It has a conventional Bladon type steel pump handle, with a filler and pressure release opposite the pump and the control knob at right angles to the centrally placed burner. This one is also paraffin fired and has no handle. There is no sign of a handle ever being fitted.

Both lamps have steel bands around their bases and the tops appear rather roughly welded.

(See photographs 1 & 2 on page 6)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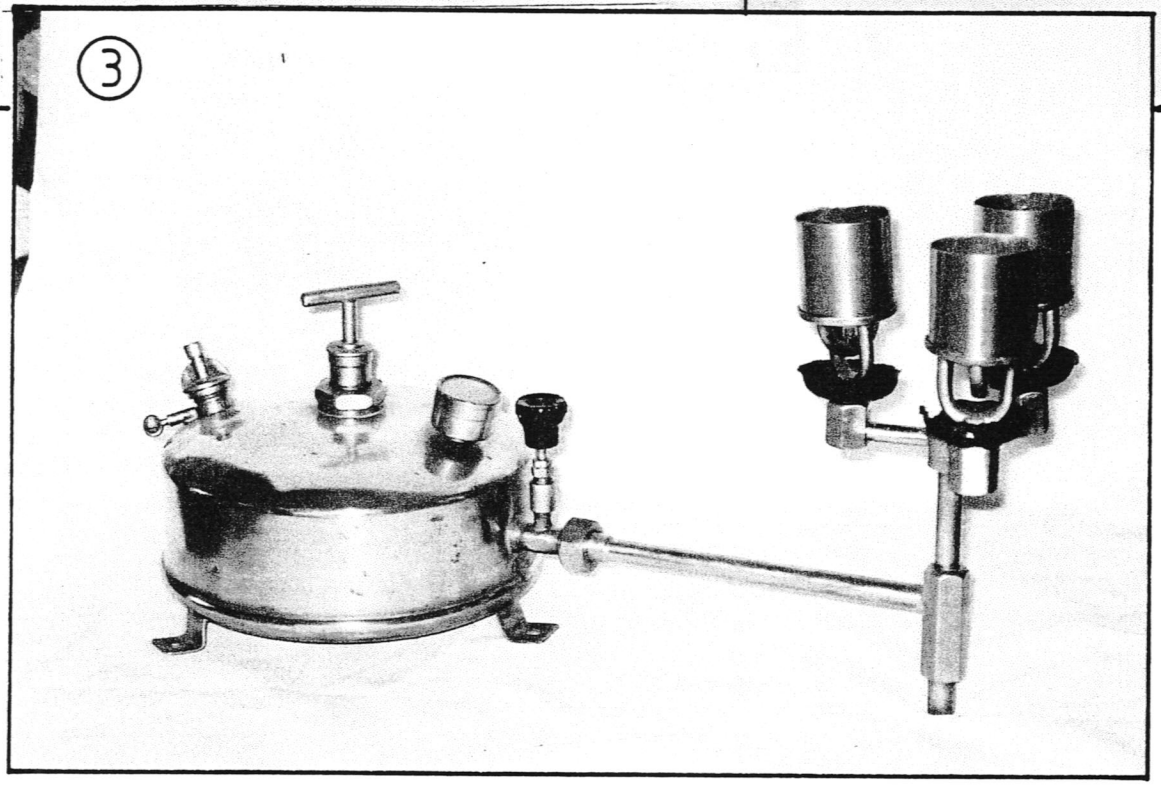
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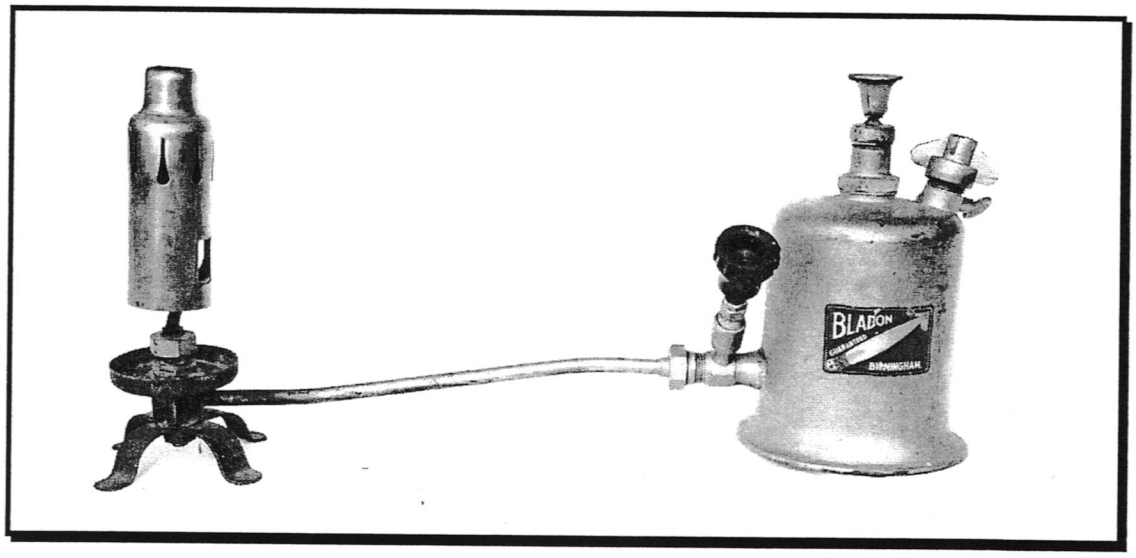
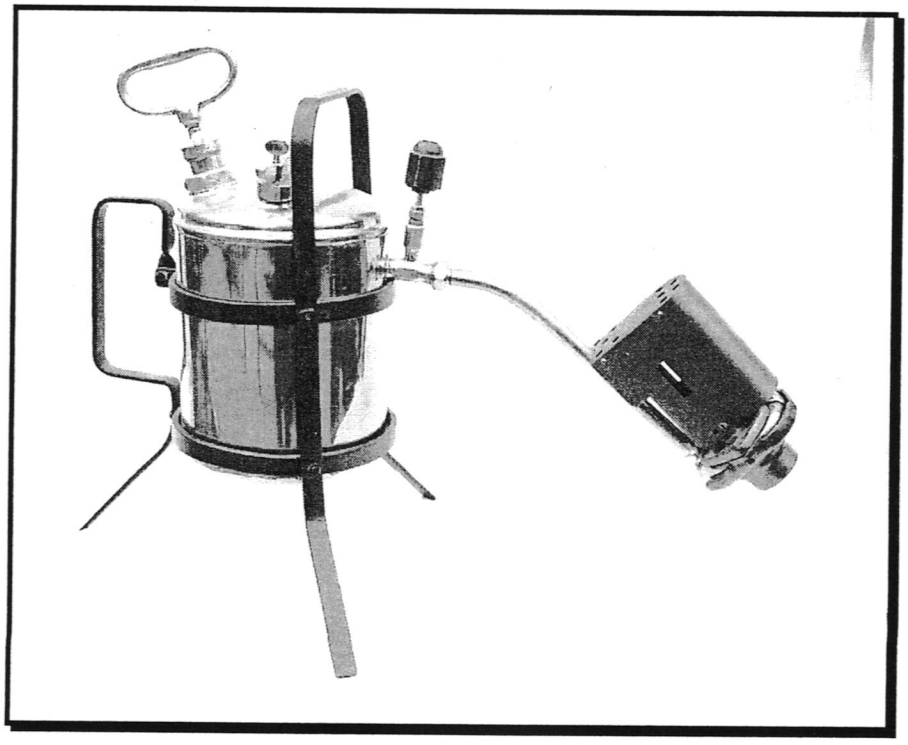
Photograph 3 on page 6 shows a 3 burner lamp. What was it used for? Was it for cooking or water heating, when placed under a tripod, or maybe for starting an engine!

As far as I know Bladon's did not make cooking type lamps, apart from the B69 which was for a plumber's furnace, the tank of which was one gallon capacity and based on the B81 brazing lamps; this was slightly smaller, at 6 pints, but the shape and equipment was the same.

So what do we make of all these, and there must be others, unconventional lamps, some of brass and others of steel, all with no identification numbers, but still with Bladon markings? When were they made and why is there no catalogue material? Has anyone got ant other unusual Bladon lamps?

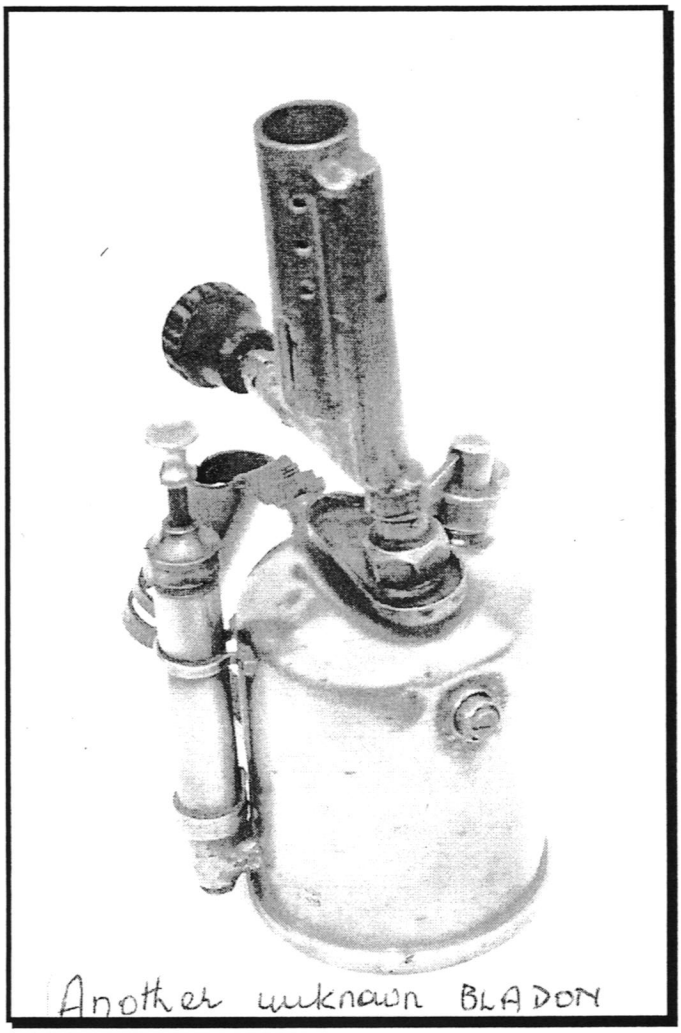


This is assumed to be an engine lamp – from the Editors collection



Another lamp from the Editors collection – recently acquired from Dave Rees – the lamp was used for caulking between the joints in ships decking.

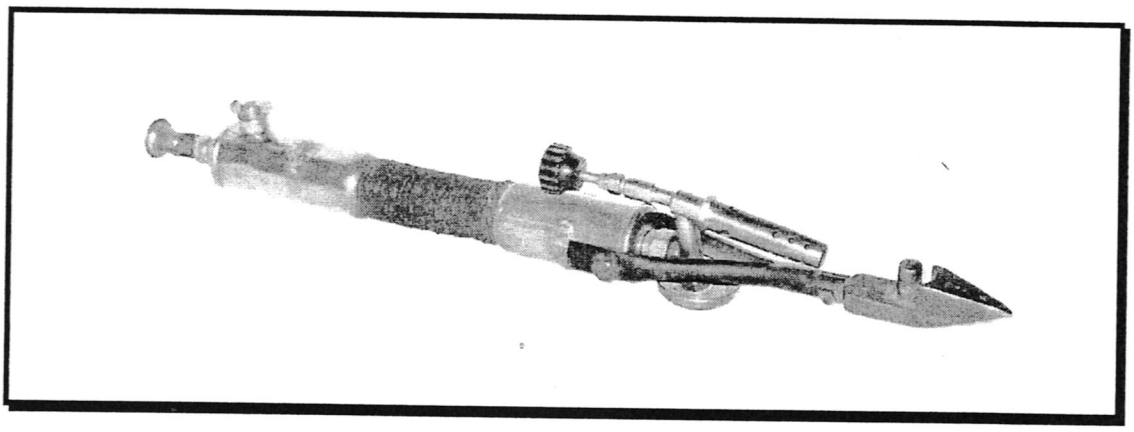
There were also several vertical lamps made, for use in laboratories or as stationary engine starting lamps, namely the B65, for workshop and laboratory use and the 2 lamps made specifically for starting Tangye engines; the vertical version of which is a "Diamond Brand" with an inclined handle and is numbered 3047. (Strangely enough Sievert also has a 3047 of similar design – whose was the original and who copied who?). Paul Whiddett has another Tangye lamp, this time with a horizontal burner and was numbered 3048. (Again Sievert made a 3048, but with a vertical burner). I also have a 1 pint vertical, with a steel tank, and no number – possibly of WW2 era.

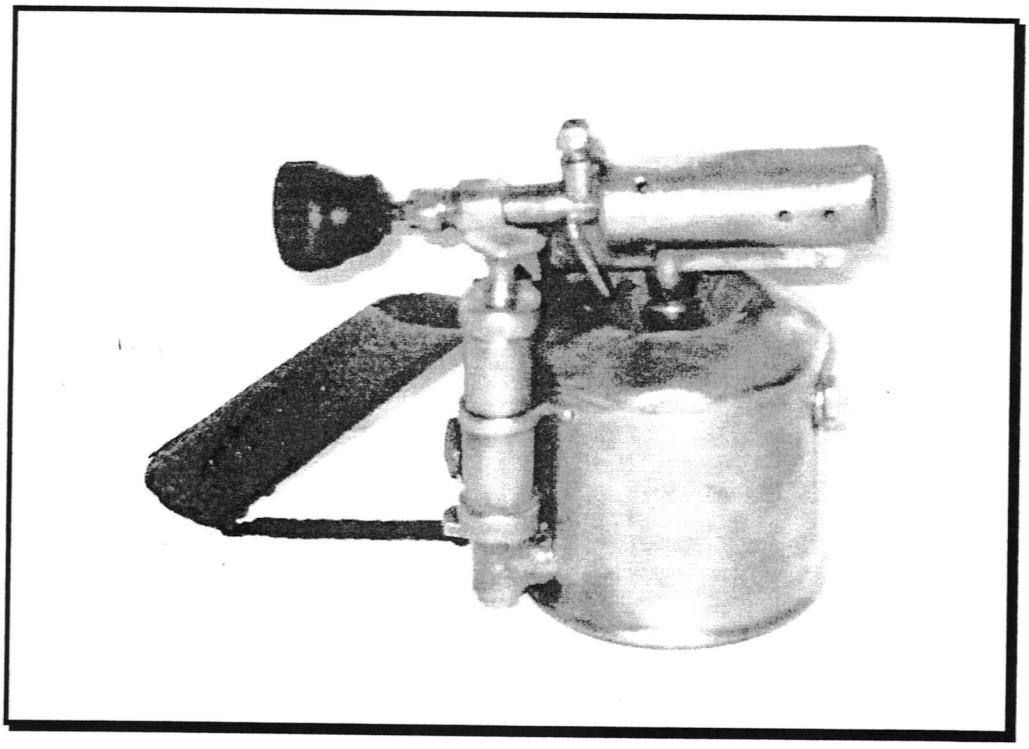


This vertical Bladon – with no number – owned by Russell Harrower.
The Editor also has one in his collection.

Bladon's did seem to like issuing catalogues with no dates on, which makes life very difficult when trying to follow their history. Following on with this line, I have a very "different to the norm" soldering iron, which does appear in one of their catalogues, but which was issued with no date. I have always thought that the only soldering iron Bladon made was similar to the Governor 12, but I have never seen one.

As you will see from the photograph it is totally different, with a very small burner and a string bound handle in the centre of the tank, the metal part of which is indented to leave the binding of the same thickness as the tank. The best thing about this lamp is that it was given to me some years ago at the Leighton Buzzard rally.





Finally, Ken Longden found this nice little petrol lamp with a very short burner. The tank is about 0.66 pint capacity and the lamp has all the indications of being fairly early; probably Diamond Brand, but again no visible number or identification.

FROM THE PATENTS OFFICE

This months offering is slightly different to the usual Patent document in as much as it comes from the United States Patent Office. That said it refers to a device that is commonly found on European lamps, in fact I have not seen one on any American lamp I have in my collection.
It is related to the "pin" type safety device which can be found on several makes of blowlamp and Graham Stubbs has asked if anyone knows anything about its history.

If you look at BN53 Page 7 you will see a cut away drawing of a blowlamp referred to in the history of Carl Richard Nyberg. The illustration dates from the turn of the 20th century, so it would coincide with the date of the US Patent.

So the question is "Who can lay claim to the invention?" Europe or America?

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILHELM WAHLBERG, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

VAPOR-BURNER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 719,537, dated February 3, 1903.

Application filed May 24, 1902. Serial No. 108,827. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILHELM WAHLBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vapor-Burners; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to portable lamps, and while especially desirable and efficient when so applied to use will also be found desirable upon other forms of lamps; and my invention consists of certain novel features of combination and construction of parts, the preferred form whereof will be hereinafter clearly set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, made a part of this application.

The object of my invention is to provide simple, cheap, and efficient mechanism which will insure that a flame having a maximum degree of heat may be generated from parts of minimum size.

A further object is to provide coöperating devices which will be absolutely safe under all circumstances.

A further object of my invention is to provide automatic means for the escape of a superabundance of gas should more than the desired quantity be generated within the oil-reservoir.

A still further object is to provide simple and effective devices for instantly cutting off the gaseous fuel from the flame, and thereby extinguishing the same when not required for use.

A further object of my invention is to insure that the requisite degree of pressure will be automatically provided.

Other objects and advantages will be hereinafter made clearly apparent, considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention complete ready for use. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of Fig. 1, showing the interior parts, as well as exterior outlines of said parts. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are devices designed as being very useful adjuncts to the lamp, whereby the parts thereof may be readily controlled.

In order to conveniently designate the various details of my invention and accessories required to illustrate a practical application thereof to use, numerals will be employed, the same numeral referring to a similar part throughout the several views.

Referring to the numerals on the drawings, 1 indicates the receptacle proper, which may be of any preferred shape and size and formed of any desired material and is preferably provided with a suitable handle 2, secured to the body portion in any preferred way. The said reservoir or body portion 1 is also provided with the tubular orifice 3, having the closure or cap 4 threaded thereon, said cap carrying a suitable washer 5, of leather or the like, in order that the gases within may be reliably confined.

I desire to call special attention to the bottom of my receptacle, as indicated by the numeral 6, said bottom being formed of some flexible material which will act as a movable diaphragm and move slightly upward and downward in response to the pressure from the gas within the receptacle. I also form, preferably integral with the top of the receptacle, the upwardly-extending gas-delivering throat 7, which continues downward within the receptacle, as indicated by the numeral 8, and is tubular throughout and designed to provide a seat for the wick 9, the object of which is to freely permit the passage of the gas, though checking the outward flow of the liquid contents of the receptacle, as will be obvious.

In order that the wick 9 may be quickly and easily introduced into its operative position within the tubular chamber 8, I provide the centrally-disposed orifice 10, formed in the central part of the bottom 6 and having a threaded cap or closure 11, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. In order that the outward flow of the gas may be placed under the reliable control of the operator, I provide the needle-valve 12, which is properly threaded and rotatably seated within the seat 13, as indicated by the numeral 14, said valve being provided with a controlling-handle 15, whereby the valve may be easily rotated in either direction, and thereby instantly cut off the flow of the gas through the aperture 16. The escape of the gas around the needle-valve 12 is pre-

vented in any preferred way, as by the stuffing-box 17, common to this form of lamp construction.

It will be observed that I have also integrally formed with the tubular throat 7 and contiguous parts the flame-directing nozzle 18, having a plurality of radially-disposed slotted apertures 19 near its inner end and a plurality of similar openings 20 near its outer end, the object of said openings being to introduce the required quantity of air to be commingled with the gas from the lamp before combustion has taken place, and in order that the size of the openings 19 may be varied as desired I provide the loosely-fitting collar 21, designed to coöperate with the nozzle 18.

It will be understood that the collar 21 may be secured in place by means of the rod 22, connected at its lower end to the bracket 23 and also connected at its upper end to the apertured lug 24, carried by said collar. It will, however, be obvious that the collar 21 may be threaded upon the nozzle 18, thus enabling said collar to be reliably and quickly adjusted and disposed in any preferred relation to the openings 19, thus insuring that the requisite quantity of air may be introduced into the nozzle 18 to be commingled with the gaseous product passing therethrough from the reservoir.

I desire to call special attention to the means I have provided for automatically preventing an undue pressure to accumulate within the receptacle 1, and thereby cause an explosion. The simple means I have provided for insuring that an excess of pressure will not be produced consists in this instance of the substantially vertically-disposed rod 25, which is pivotally connected in any preferred way to the bottom 6, as by the hook or staple 26, while the upper end thereof is conical in form and extends through an aperture provided in the top of the receptacle, and it is therefore obvious that since the bottom 6 is flexible and capable of moving downward upon undue pressure the said safety-rod 25 will be moved downward by reason of its connection with the bottom, and since the upper end thereof is conical in form an annular opening will be provided around the upper end of the rod, and thus permit the escape of the gas at this point and incidentally reduce the pressure within the reservoir to the safety-point.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a detail construction of the safety-rod 25, wherein it will be observed that the extreme end 27 thereof is conical or tapered. I have also provided the drip-cup 28, annularly disposed around the tubular throat 7, the object of said cup being to provide the initial means for heating said throat and the nozzle 18.

The simple appliance 9^a (illustrated in Fig. 3) will be found desirable for introducing and extracting the wick 9 from its seat and for other purposes.

The device illustrated in Fig. 5 comprises the members 29 and 30, pivotally connected together, the member 29 having the housing 31, designed to house or protect the pin 32 when the latter is not in use. Suitable notches or recesses 33 are also provided to enable the parts 29 and 30 to be easily opened or extended.

The entire instrument or device shown in Fig. 5 is designed to remove the charred end of the wick, inasmuch as the inner edges of the members 29 and 30 are sharpened like a pair of shears and may be used as such, while the point 32 is designed to loosen the charred end of the wick when it is desired to merely avoid trimming the same too closely.

Having fully described the construction and combination of parts deemed necessary in carrying out my invention, it is thought that the operation or manner of using the same will be fully apparent, though it may be stated that the annular cup-section 28 may be filled with gasolene or the like and ignited, which will insure that the throat 7 and nozzle 18 will become sufficiently heated to create a gas within the receptacle 1, when the valve may be opened by a proper rotation of the handle 15 and the gas at the end of the nozzle ignited and the collar 21 properly adjusted to insure that the desired degree of air will enter the openings 19 and become commingled with the gas, it being obvious that such commingling of the air and the gas is necessary in order to insure perfect combustion. Should the throat 7 become too greatly heated, the consequence would be that an undue quantity of gas would be accumulated within the reservoir, and the result would be that the bottom 6 would be forced by the pressure to move slightly downward and draw with it the safety-rod 25, insuring that an opening would be thus provided for the escape of the gas around the conical or tapered end 27 of said rod.

The various parts of my invention may be very cheaply and expeditiously manufactured of any desired or suitable material and easily assembled in their respective operative positions, and my improved lamp may be very advantageously used in or out of doors, since the flame is so strong that the wind cannot extinguish it.

My improved torch-lamp is useful for all of the many purposes to which such a lamp is ordinarily applied, as in laboratories, machine-shops, gas and water works, by plumbers and glaziers, tinkers in brass and other metals, wire-workers, instrument-makers, jewelers, and other similar uses where a very intense heat is required, as in burning off old paint, soldering, oxidizing, lead burning, tempering tools, &c.

Having thus fully described the construction and combination of parts involved in my invention and the manner of using the same, further reference to the details is deemed unnecessary.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described torch or lamp comprising a suitable reservoir provided with an inlet-orifice and a closure for said orifice; a flexible bottom section for said reservoir; a tubular throat and a valve coöperating with said throat; a flame-delivering nozzle having a plurality of air-inlets and means to regulate the size of said inlets, in combination with a safety-rod carried by said flexible bottom and having a tapered end adapted to extend through an aperture in the lid of the receptacle whereby when said flexible bottom is moved downward by undue pressure of the gas within the receptacle a vent will be provided for the escape of the gas, all combined substantially as specified and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILHELM WAHLBERG.

Witnesses:
OTTO TEDQUIST,
LEO J. SPAETGENS.

FIG. 1.

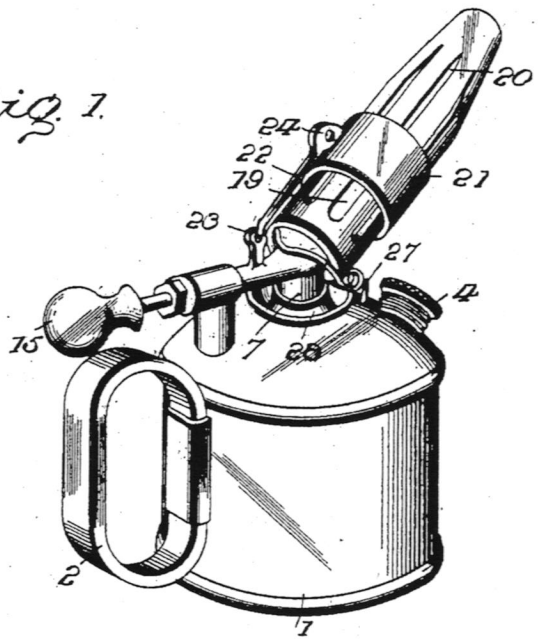


FIG. 3.

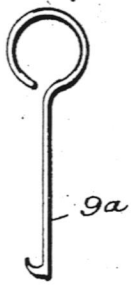


FIG. 2.

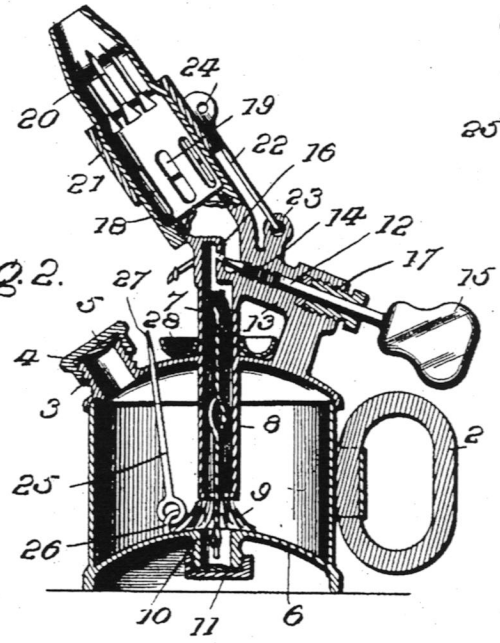


FIG. 4.

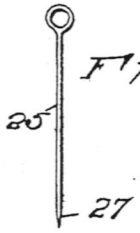
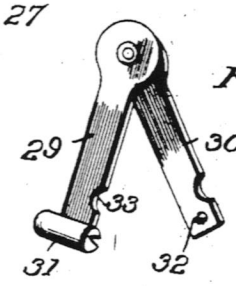


FIG. 5.



Witnesses
Wm. J. Jacobi
M. Cattlin Smith

Inventor
William Wahlberg,
By W. J. Fitzgerald & Co.,
Attorneys

WORKING BLOWLAMPS

I was recently looking through some old literature and came across the following article about repairing a burst water pipe, using a blowlamp. Unfortunately the article is not dated, but I thought it was worth including as I suspect that there are members who may not have attempted such a task.

To carry out a repair to a burst pipe, the following tools will be required:
(1) A good quality blowlamp of the size known as 1 pint. This can either burn paraffin (Fig.9) or petrol (Fig 10).

Fig. 9.—PARAFFIN BLOW-LAMP.

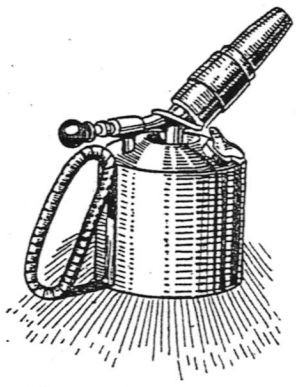


Fig. 10.—PETROL BLOW-LAMP.

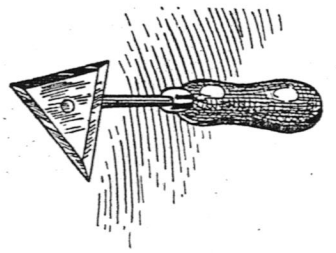


Fig. 11.—PLUMBER'S TRIANGULAR SCRAPER.

While the paraffin lamp may be safer, the petrol lamp gives far less trouble and if proper care is exercised there should be no danger. In no case should the lamp be filled in the house and it should be remembered that any quantity of petrol over 1 pint, kept in a dwelling-house, very properly lays the owner open to a very heavy fine. With either type of lamp, adhere to the makers working instructions closely; try no experiments. The cost of such a lamp is fairly high, but they are simply invaluable in all work relating to house repairs. Soldering, burning off paint, thawing frozen water pipes, repairing gutters, etc., are a few of the uses to which these lamps are put.
(2) A good stout pen knife.
(3) A triangular scraper (Fig.11)
(4) About 1 lb of tinman's (not plumber's) strip or blow pipe solder.
(5) Some powdered resin (a pennyworth is ample)
For some cases a soldering iron is required (Fig.12), but this is so generally required for other work that it is found in most houses. If one has to be purchased, however, it should be of the tinman's type and weigh about 1 lb., a smaller iron looses its heat too quickly to be of much use.

Examine the pipes.

Most of the water pipes about a house are of lead, and will run from 0.5 inch inside diameter up to 1.5 inches. The lead pips conveying the main water have thick walls, many of the water supply companies have rules regulating the thickness of the pipes which must be used. Pipes conveying water from the tank, not being subject to such heavy pressures, are thinner in the walls. In repairing the pipe, one of the most frequent difficulties is the inaccessible position in which they are placed and also where they burst. Assuming that the pipe is easy of access, it will be seen that at the point of damage the diameter of the pipe has been considerably increased, being generally bellied out on one side (Fig. 13) and the metal stretched until it has burst.

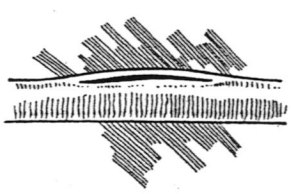


Fig. 13.—SHOWING LEAD PIPE SWELLED OUT AND BURST BY THE ICE.

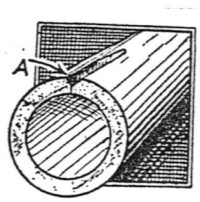


Fig. 14.—THE FIRST STAGE OF A SOLDERED REPAIR.

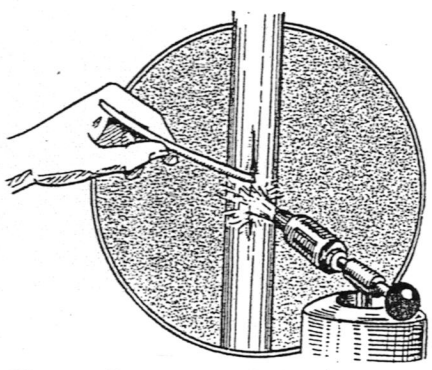


Fig. 15.—SOLDERING A VERTICAL CRACK.

Repairing a low pressure pipe by soldering.

If it is a low pressure pipe, it can be repaired without cutting as follows: with a light hammer or mallet, dress the swollen part of the pipe carefully back to as near its original diameter as possible and close up the crack, but do not loose sight of it. Then with the scraper (Fig. 11) or with a strong pocket knife, scrape the pipe bright all round the crack and then bevel out the crack as shown in Fig. 14 at A. Light the blowlamp and carefully play it on the pipe over the crack. Dip one end of a strip of the solder into the powdered resin and wipe it along the crack. Keep the heat of the lamp on the pipe until, by repeatedly testing it with the strip of solder, it is found to be hot enough to start melting the solder, when the flame of the lamp should be immediately raised almost off the pipe, just lifting it up and down or "flashing" it on the pipe to maintain the heat. Dip the solder in the resin frequently and melt it into the crack until it has filled it up and extended well over on each side. Care is needed or the pipe may be melted, while if the solder is merely melted on to a pipe like sealing wax it will not adhere unless the pipe is hot enough: the metal of the solder must actually combine with the metal of the pipe. Fortunately the pipe conducts the heat away very rapidly, so there is little chance of melting it if care is taken.

If the pipe is horizontal this is a fairly easy repair, but if it is vertical it is a much more difficult job. Prepare the pipe as before, it must be absolutely clean wherever the solder is to go. Then heat the pipe at the bottom end of the crack, holding the solder above the flame (see Fig. 15). As the solder runs into the crack, slowly raise the flame of the lamp, flashing it on and off the pipe until the whole length of the crack has been filled. The art is to regulate the heat so that the solder is kept plastic without getting so hot that it runs away. A vertical joint can sometimes be better soldered with a soldering iron, but here again care must be exercised or the iron will melt a hole in the pipe. Use resin as a flux and keep the point of the iron properly "tinned". It can be heated by being placed on a support over the flame of the blowlamp (see Fig.16).

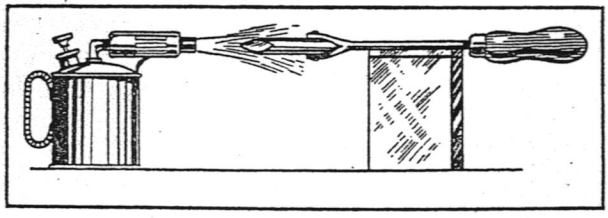
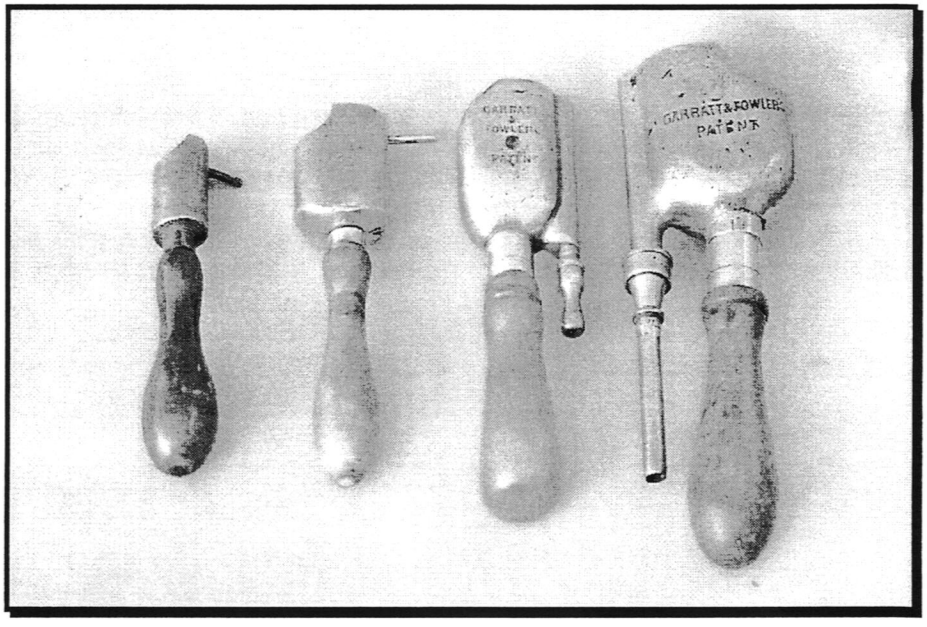
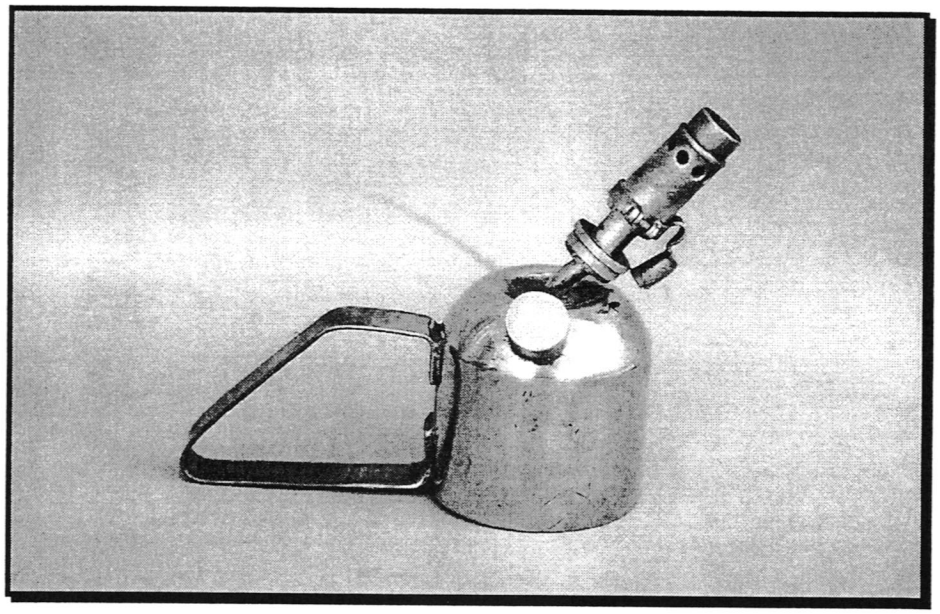


Fig. 16.—Heating Soldering Iron with Blow-lamp.

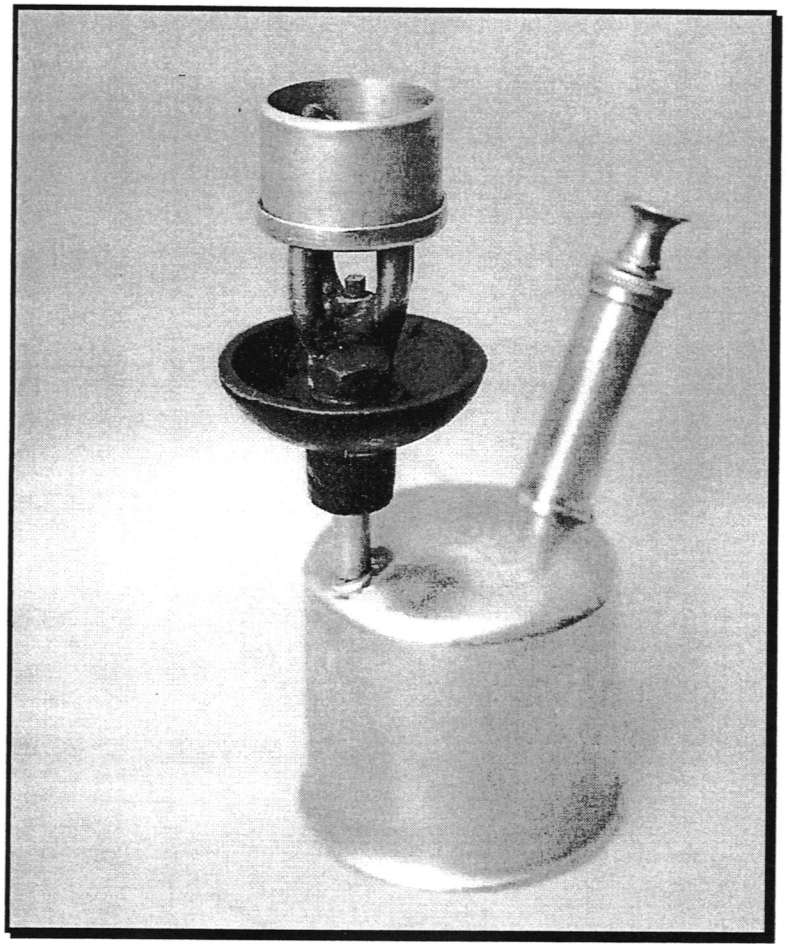
SEEN AT THE AUTUMN GATHERING



Not often seen together – all 4 members of the Garrett family – owned by Paul Whiddett



Dave Thomas was going to offer this one for inclusion in our Oddball feature, but having been told that another member has one just like it; perhaps it was a production lamp. If anyone has any information please let me know.



Another interesting lamp, owned by Dave Thomas, is this Radius
Any ideas what it might have been used for?

RESTORATION TIPS

Bob Prichard has been experimenting again, this time with the replacement filler cap bars, found on French blowlamps.

"Purely by chance whilst visiting a property, a gardener was repairing a fence, using heavy gauge galvanized wire. When told why I would like some, he willing let me have a piece. This was cut to the correct length and lightly scrubbed with emery paper to remove the new look. I already had an idea for the brass ends – a spare brass pump rod off a Monitor blowlamp. A piece about 12mm long was cut off and placed in the vice. A drill slightly smaller than the diameter of the wire was used to drill a hole in the centre and the rod cut to the correct length. Being a tight fit, the brass ends had to be tapped onto the wire with a hammer and then shaped with a file. A word of caution, make sure you thread the wire through the hole in the filler cap before you hammer the second of the brass ends in place".

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

You will find a subscription form included with this newsletter. Prices have been increased slightly to keep ahead of possible increases in printing, as the company I use has recently changed hands and there are no guarantees that we will continue to get the preferential rate we currently enjoy.

I do hope that the increase will not put too many people off renewing membership as I feel the Society has a strong base on which to grow.

THE BOOK

It looks like Ron; Graham and Charles are still on course for publishing their book on American torches in the early part of 2007. The more I hear about the content the better it sounds, with copies of period literature as well as photographs, covering all makes of torch, currently known to exist. Costs will be between $40 and $45, plus postage.

I am hoping to get a single shipment, to keep the costs down and so far I have reservations for 29 copies. There is still time to add your name to the list, before I have to place a firm order. For all those on the list, and I will be reminding you in the new year, I will need a deposit of **£25-00** to secure your copy.

CLASSIFIED

For Sale – Blowlamp Society Polo Shirts and Sweatshirts available in sizes S,M,L,XL &XXL. Colours available are Royal Blue, Bottle Green, Red or Black. Contact the Editor for details of costs and delivery.

2007 Calendar – 39 copies of the calendar have been sold so far and there is just one copy left in stock. Cost is £10-85 including P & P to the UK. Contact the Editor for details.

Wanted – Soldering Iron heaters, gas, petrol or paraffin fired. Tel Ray Hyland 01449 615648

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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