

ON THE LIGHTER Side

September 15, 1988

Vol. V, No. 9

ETC., Etc., etc.

IMPORTANT TRIVIA: There is a new magazine on the market called PHILIP MORRIS, (distributed by Philip Morris U.S.A.). In response to my letter, I received a phone call from a Mr. Stephen Weeks. He is interested in our club (as it is a related area) and said as soon as I send him our club roster, he will add all of us to their mailing list. This magazine (which comes out quarterly) has some great articles and pictures of various tobacciana subjects. So you should get on the mailing list in time for the winter issue - hope you enjoy receiving it.

Collectors' Corner (page 2) this month is a collage of items John Cuevas has put together for us. (Thanks, John) Starting at the top a short story on Ronson and the 'Banjo'. In the lower left hand, the original instruction sheet for the 'Banjo'. And in the lower right corner, a picture of an actual Banjo, in it's original box. It is especially interesting to note the "fluid" they suggest for filling!!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT....

FROM CAPONE TO LIGHTERS!

In a recent interview, Len Geisler related the interesting story of his becoming a lighter collector. Len said he has always been interested in the history of the city he lives in, Chicago; especially the Al Capone era - the days of the "speakeasys" and Art Deco. "Originally," Len went on to say, "I thought it would be nice to have a lighter or two from the Capone era ...I only wanted 1 or 2." But while he was looking for this '1 or 2' he happened to see an article on 'On The LIGHTER Side". He then got the idea that joining a club would get him in

touch with lighter collectors who might sell him a lighter or two. Len said the longer he read about lighters the more interested he became, until how he told this writer "I have one whole display case full and find more all the time." Len went on to describe just a few of his favorites. "...and there is a horse on a stand (made out of pot metal) with a lighter on the back. Then I found an Evans cigarette case that was black enamel with silver swirls. I especially like the cigarette case lighters."

One day Len went to a junk store and came up with 2 interesting pocket lighters. One is marked 'Germany U.S. Zone' with a picture of a naked girl. The other is a 'Simson' and has 'Berlin' on the front. The best part of this story is Len only paid 20¢ each and both lighters work!

Len further said he likes the junk stores best for lighter hunting. He told me he has even learned when the trucks deliver to junk stores and that's when he appears on the scene. Since Len works nights, he has free time during the day to explore. He feels the items are cheaper in junk stores as most of their items are donated.

During the interview one story came to mind, both to Len and your Editor. When I was in Chicago, Len came to take me on a tour. One of the spots we went to was one of Len's favorite thrift shops, where the week before Len had spotted some lighters in the window. The lighters were no longer in the window and when we asked the manager were they were - - she said no one had shown any interest so she threw them away! That lady didn't seem to understand our joint chorus of 'OH NO'!! But at least after that disappointment we managed to find 1 lighter buried in the back room - - a gold beer stein with a woman as a handle. Len being the nice guy he is, let me buy it as a souvenir of my vist to Chicago!

Len concluded by saying he is now looking for any old, unusual or deco lighters.

The Ronson Story...

It all started with the Banjo in 1927

The Banjo was the first automatic lighter the world had ever seen. (Press, it was lit. Release, it was out.) It didn't make headlines. But it did make "lighting up" a good deal easier. And it secured the lighter a place in the pockets of America once

and for all. It also made Ronson a good many new friends. We've been in the making-it-easier business ever since. Not just with lighters. With anything that can stand improving, revamping or just plain old-fashioned inventing.

RONSON®

RONSON LIGHTER

(FULLY PATENTED. OTHER PATS. PDG.)

Directions for Use

TO FILL

Use high grade gasoline, benzine or Energine obtainable in any drug store, etc.

Unscrew knurled cap "A". Carefully saturate absorbent material inside Lighter, using fountain pen dropper or teaspoon. Replace cap "A" and wipe Lighter. Repeat as required.

TO RENEW SPARK METAL

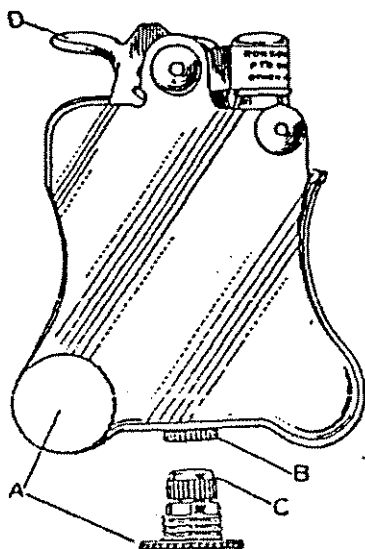
Additional Spark Metal will be found in Magazine "C". To reload: unscrew knurled cap "B", remove spring and insert new Spark Metal. Then replace spring and knurled cap "B".

TO OPERATE

Hold Lighter in one hand. Snap down sharply on thumb lever "D". To extinguish, simply release lever.

ADDITIONAL SPARK METAL

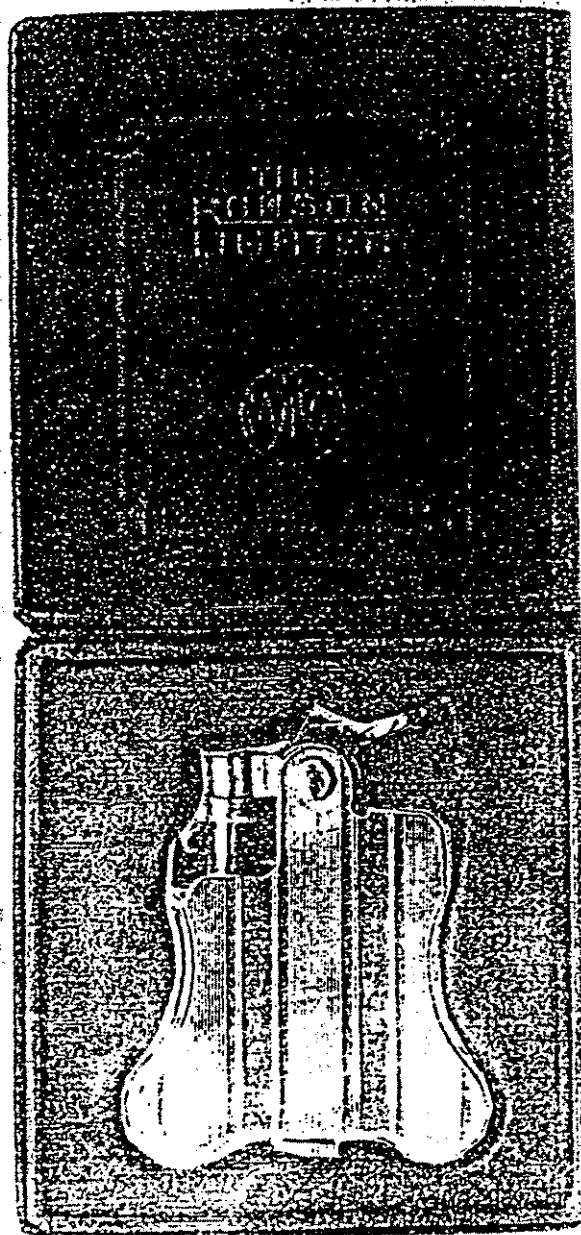
Obtain same from your dealer. For proper results specify RONSON IGNITERS.



THE ART METAL WORKS

Sole Manufacturers

ARONSON SQUARE NEWARK, N. J.



For Sale or Trade

The Dunhill Sylph, Tall Boy, Koopman's Magic Pocket Lamp, Roman Lamp (photo 559 in Bisconcini's book) - want to trade or sell. Also have EXTREMELY RARE Black Bar (Ronson) - scratcher or striker type NOT touch tip. John Cuevas. ALSO WILLING TO BUY ENTIRE COLLECTIONS.

Two 12" rulers, made in France, lighter is built right in the ruler, metric & regular 12", with a 12" flint spring. Mint condition. \$24.00 ea. Also have 4 beautiful Wedgewood table lighters. Mint Condition. \$42.00 each. Sid Chase

Road Grader

Negro Bottle Opener

Koala

Zero Airplane

Colin Day, Phone: (08)296-3871

Will trade or sell: Ronson

Banjo. \$250.00 John Cuevas

For Sale: Part of collection of fine lighters. If interested, write for details. Colin Day.

Jack Seiderman has 250 more lighters for sale, plus other collectibles, a new 25 page catalog & complete price list. (no more bidding) Send \$3.00 for 25 page cat. or \$7.50 for both 35 page original & this one & future mailings. (See pages 4 & 5 for sample pictures)

TRENCH ART - 20 MM (MK-2) Brass Shell Casing w/lighter in lid ("1943" on bottom of shell) Mounted on heavy marble base. (Shell 7" tall, total ht.w/base 8") \$25.00 (postage paid) Judith Sanders

URGENT - URGENT 1988 Convention Videos now available! Please order directly from Jay Meddaugh (Club Historian). Only 1 video for 1988 - cost \$10. This video is EXCELLENT and a must for OTLS Members.

WI. OME NEW MEMBER:

Greg Ryman

3264 Butterfield Ave.

La Verne, CA 91750

For Sale or Trade

Available:

Advertising/souvenir pocket type. List wants by subject. Will trade against 1910-30's round brass European inscribed types (liquid fuel or tinder wick). Warren Gerber.

I have many 50's, 60's advertising lighters and misc. duplicates. Will trade for 20's, 30's, 40's pocket lighters. I like lighters that show use, but still work. Contact Mike Holm.

For Sale: 14 karat gold Dunhill, 1930's, pocket, unadorned, fine condition. Judy Alster, 900 N.E. 195th St., N. Miami, FL 33179 (non-member ad)

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Pocket or Table Watch

Lighters Wanted. Bob Stowe

Looking for old junk lighters for parts - also Zippo with the hinge on the outside. Tom Zimmer

Wanted to buy - new or mint condition lighters with corporate logo engraved. Prefer Zippo. Write & describe. Fred Laird

I would like to buy a Ronson (Silver Plated) "Savoy" & a 3 piece Ronson "Waldorf" parlor set. Joe Roseman

We are looking for pre 1900 items. What are you looking for? Tom & Deb O'Key

Want any lighter with Erie, Pa. on it. Also want any table or pocket lighter for parts. I will buy them all if price is right. Please no junk. I'm looking for a project to fix them not junk them. Tom Prylinski

Looking for Ronson touch tip lighters & art deco airplane lighters. Marc Klarman

Wanted: Tank, cannon, armored car lighters. Must be in very good condition. Contact Jack Albertson.

Wanted to Buy or Trade

Would like to swap an original Calibri, in fair cond. & working, for a Ronson Banjo. Charles Arrundale.

Wanted: Ronson Banjo and pre-1958 Zippos - all must be in good condition - for cash or swap for Australian made lighters or rare tobacco tins of Western Australian origin. Rex Hodgson

Wanted: Cigar Counter Lighters run on batteries or electricity. Lighters made by NASSAU or IMPERATOR - flint must be on top or rasp wheel. WAR ERA lighters. BOOK SHAPED lighters. Will buy or trade. Would like to see pictures from members even if not selling. Jim Lohr

Looking for Catalogues, old ads or leaflets (or facsimile) of pre-1939 period. Please send detail with price to Jacques P. Cole. For research on Lighter Book.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Printed Once A Month
For Lighter Collectors

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