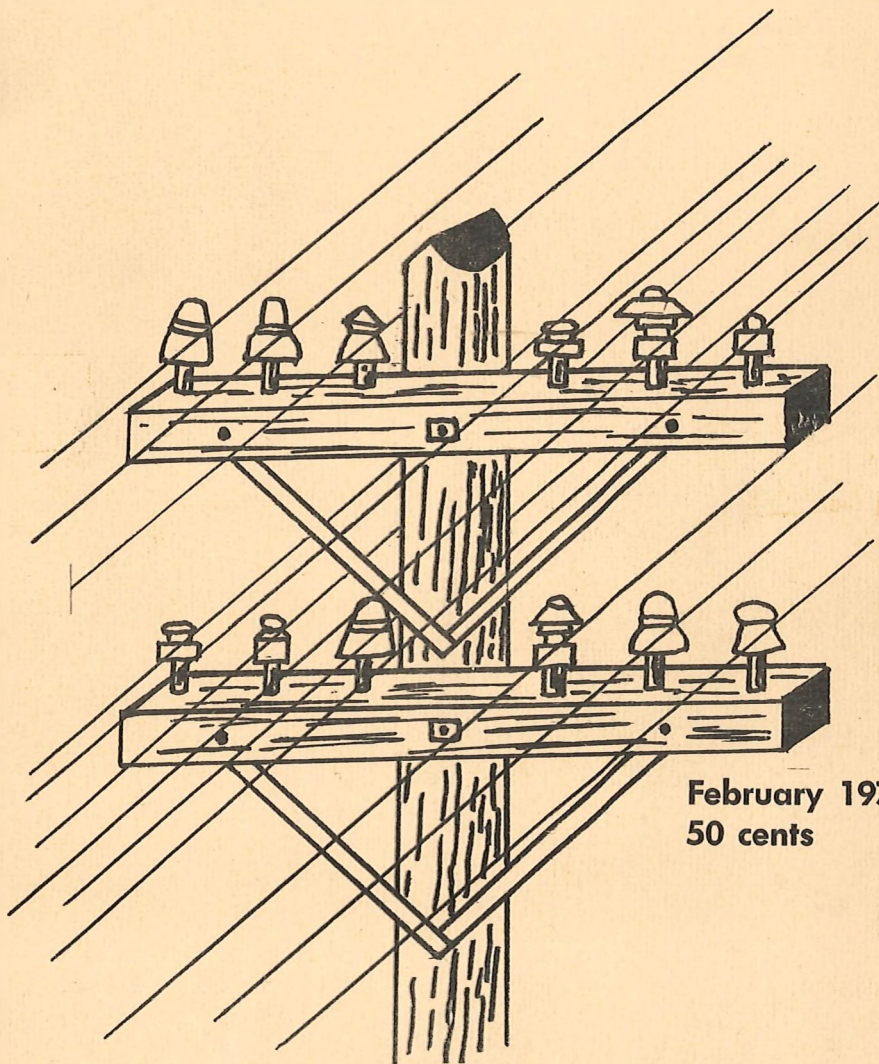


CROSS ARMS

*an eastern
insulator collectors'
magazine*



February 1972
50 cents

367 Signal Hill Road
King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

CROSS ARMS

An Eastern Insulator
Collector's Magazine

Vol 1. No. 1.

February 1972

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Photography Carmine DeMenna
Production Catherine, Amelia, Mary Alice Garrity

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WELCOME !!

Welcome to the first issue of CROSS ARMS, a monthly magazine published in the east and dedicated to the eastern insulator collector.

I've always felt the eastern collector needed a magazine he could use as a guide in his hobby of collecting insulators. A magazine he could communicate with telling us about new finds and facts concerning insulators. A magazine he could ask questions pertaining to his hobby and use the facts he gleans from between these covers to enrich his knowledge and collection.

We intend to help organize shows and swaps, publish some of the current prices of insulators, their area and abundance. We hope we can be a link to help the eastern insulator collector become familiar with his fellow collectors in his area.

I've had the frustrating experience, when I was a beginner, of not being able to find more people interested in collecting insulators. (I notice from your letters some of you have found the same to be true). As I traveled to shows and flea markets my list of names grew but I still felt something was needed to "bring them out". Hence, CROSS ARMS.

Your help is needed in all of the areas mentioned. Let's help make this magazine a success! We are only as good as the information we receive from you collectors out there.

Your Editor

SHOWS AND SWAPS

Since this is our first issue we are sorely lacking for material in this section.

Myself or a representative will attend all the shows and swaps that we can. We will publish a report about the gathering along with pictures of the event.

Send us write-ups and photo's of the shows or swap meets that you participate in or attend. We will be more than pleased to publish them. Presently the Eastern collectors seem to be rather loosely organized. I'm in high hopes that this magazine will help to bring all collectors together.

Photos should be 3 1/2 X 3 1/2 or as close to those dimensions as possible. This enables us to print a clear, concise picture.

Bear in mind, one close-up picture of a single rare insulator from a collection is worth ten photos of a distant view of an entire collection.

Have patience with us. We are still experimenting with paper, techniques, and our printer so we can give you a perfect picture every time. Hopefully, in the next issue I can give you a short list of ground rules to follow. Than your pictures can be reproduced just as beautifully as the originals you have been sending me.

All photos will be returned to the sender unless specified otherwise.

VIENNA SWAP MEET

The following is a report by Mr. William Spell, secretary of the Eastern Insulator Club from their new newsletter, "THE OPEN WIRE".

Some 60 collectors, 16 displays, a visit by the Milhollands, plenty of good food and some tall swapping joined to make the Vienna Swap Meet on November 21, a rip-roaring success.

Held at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department and promising now to become a regular event, the Swap Meet brought together collectors from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia for an afternoon not soon to be forgotten. Most unforgettable was the visit by Mr. and Mrs. Marion Milholland, co-authors of the book, MOST ABOUT GLASS INSULATORS. During the afternoon they chatted with collectors, autographed copies of their book and, so we've been told picked up some tips on new additions for the next editions of their book. Everyone found the two-some to be personable, and a real boon to the Swap Meet.

Vying with the Milhollands for first place as attention getters at the Meet were the colorful, interesting displays prepared by area collectors. The "Crown Jewels" Ribbon, awarded for the most attractive and unusual display of insulators, was won by Jim Barron of Springfield, Va. Jim, an avid collector for less than a year, featured in his display a portion of an actual pole, with two cross arms arrayed with some interesting pieces. To complete the effect he scattered autumn leaves around a drape at the base.

Congratulations, Jim for a fine effort and a well deserved award !

Among some of the other attractive displays deserving mention were Marvin Sawyer's two free standing poles, complete with crossarms and wire; Buck Cooper's transposition display, a real work of art; and Davy Crockett's colorful twinkling insulators. Although everyone's efforts can't be described in detail each collector deserves a pat on the back for a job well done.

Special thanks for arranging the Meet go to Davy Crockett, the mastermind behind it all; to his wife, Joan, for the (ummm-good) food; and to Scotty Allensworth, who made arrangements for the hall.

How about those two tables set up by Ken Ricketts and Russell Sprague?!? Did you ever see so many rare insulators in one spot in your whole life? And did you notice Marvin Sawyer's two Vietnamese insulators, Ed Thompson's "bird feeder", Jim Barron's Muncie, or Bill Spell's ceramic behemoth?

Thanks again to all who participated in this past meet and helped make it such a big success!

Did you know?

An Insulator Swap Meet is trying to be organized for some time in June. Any interested collectors please contact Mr. Bob Bretschneider, 154-14 35th Ave., Flushing, New York. 11354.

COMING SHOWS

MAY 15

South Hersey Heritage Bottle & Glass Club S & S
North & Delsea Dr., Rt. 47, Clayton, N. J., st St.
Catherine's Social Hall. Contact: Sam Baker, 1138
Lindberg Dr., Deptford, N. J., 08096.

APRIL 8 - 9

The Ithaca High School in Ithaca, New York will be the site for the 1st Eastern National Insulator Meet. 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. in Ithaca, New York High School Cafeteria. Room for 80 tables +. The rates will be \$8.00 for 1 day and \$15.00 for both days (not refundable). The "Crown Jewels" Ribbon will be awarded. The show will furnish an armed guard Saturday night, along with a small lunch counter and door prizes. Doors will open to the public at 9 A.M., admission will be \$.50. For accomadations call Howard Johnson 1-607-257-1212; \$16.00 - \$24.00; Sheraton 1-607-257-2000, \$15.00 - \$24.00; Meadow Court 1-607-273-3885, \$10.00 - \$24.00. Contracts are available from the sponserers of the event, Brad and Nancy Cook, 507 Ridge Road, Ludlowville, N. Y., 14862. Phone 1-607-533-7515 or send a S. A. S. E. to CROSS ARMS and we will gladly forward a copy of the contract to you.

Let's all get together and push this meet. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

The three following pictures are taken from the Editor's own collection. The pictures were taken with a Polaroid 250 camera, using a portrait lens attachment. The film is no. 107, the lens opening was 4, the background was an off white and the camera was 12 in. from the subject. All the insulators are light green or aqua, except the Columbia which is dark green with traces of smoke.



Left to right:

CD 196 H. G. CO. (back) Pat. May 2, 1898

CD 112 STERLING (back) £

Both insulators came from eastern Pennsylvania.



Left to Right:

CD 256 MANHATTAN (back) PATENTED JUNE 17, 1890.

CD 200 TRANSPOSITION (back) No. 2

Both insulators are a very dark aqua or light green.



CD 263 PAT'D MAY 12, 1891 COLUMBIA

This insulator is dark green with traces of brown smoke through out.

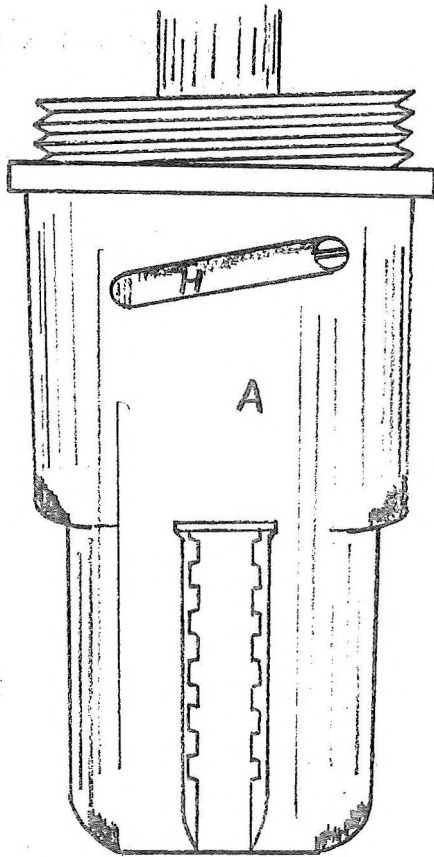
INSULATORS WITH SEGEMENTED THREADS

Segemented threads were used in insulators manufactured by Boston Bottle Works and National Insulator Co. On October 15, 1872, two patents were issued to Samuel Oakman. The wording of the patents were as follows:

Pat. No. 132,214--Former for Segmentally Screw Threaded Insulators. Samuel Oakman, Boston, Mass. Case A. Hollow tube having lower end slotted, within which a segment-screw is placed, turning on its axis. Interior segment-screws are opposite slott when molding. On cooling the segment-screws are turned so that the "former" can be withdrawn from article. Claim-The combination of the tube A with the center segment-screws H B B B B, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

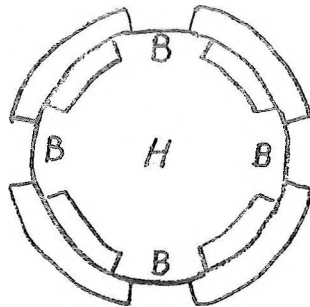
Pat. No. 132,215--A hollow tube is slotted in lower end. Through the slots project segments of screw-former dovetailed to tapering spindle sliding in the tube. In molding, the tapering spindle is slid down, forcing the screw-segments out of slots. When the glass sets the spindle is slid up. Drawing the segments within the tube, allowing the removal of "former". Claim--The combination of the tube A, the spindle D, and the segment-pieces CCC, operating substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

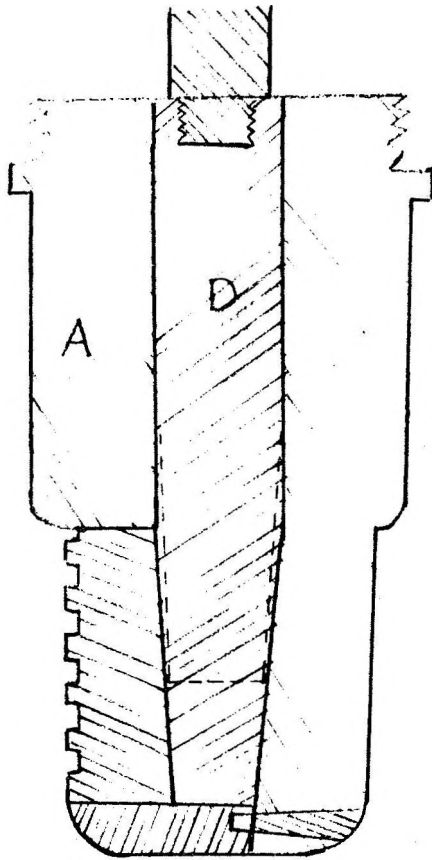
The following two pages contain copies of drawings from the United States Official Gazette 1872.



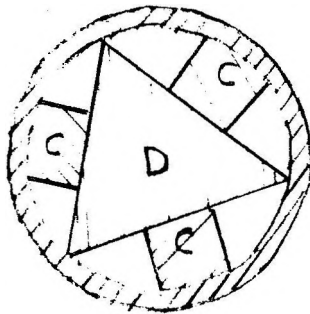
Оакман

PAT. 132,214





ÖAKMAN PAT. 132,215



INSULATOR OF THE MONTH

The following center page is removable and features our "insulator of the month".

This is in the center of our magazine so you can remove it without destroying the rest of the issue. The back of the page is blank so you can make any notations on this insulator.

From this issue on we will list in our table of contents page what next month's insulator of the month will be. Since I, as an individual, have only a fraction of the known information on any insulator I would appreciate any information you can pass on for publication.

The pull out sheet was designed with the idea of collecting the individual sheets and placing them in a standard 3 ring note book.

As of this printing I do not have any specific order in which I will be picking out the insulator of the month. The CD number I pick will depend on what information I have on the insulator.

In case you didn't read the table of contents the insulator of the month for March is going to be CD 145. Nickname: Beehive.

List of Embossings:

Front: Armstrong's C. S. C.

Back: Made in U. S. A. An "A" within a small circle. Asst. numbers. Smooth Base.

Front: Hemingray and numbers.

Back: C. S. A. Smooth Base.

Front: Hemingray and numbers.

Back: C. S. C. Corrugated Base.

Front: Hemingray C. S. with a Diamond and O entwined.

Back: E 14 Smooth Base.

No Name. Smooth Base.

Front: Pyrex - T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Back: Made in U. S. A. Pat. Appd. for. Smooth Base.

Front: Pyrex - T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Back: C. S. A. - Made in U. S. A. Smooth Base.

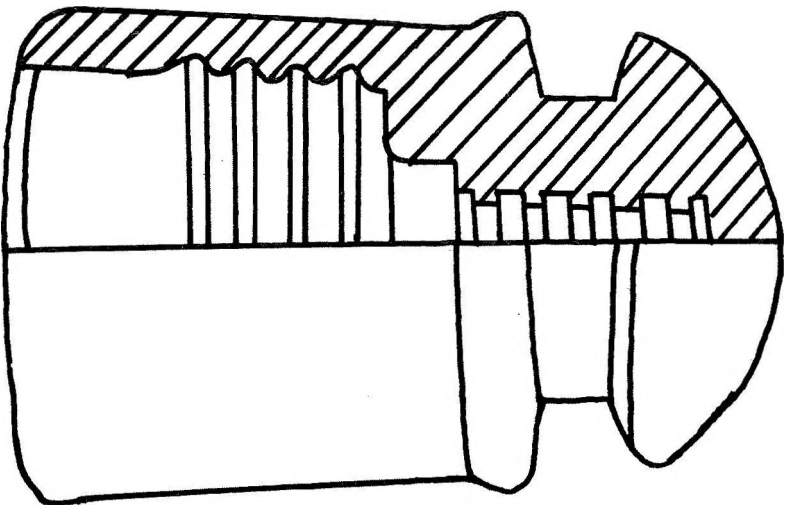
Front: ARC embossed - Whitall Tatum - numbers under "A" within a small circle.

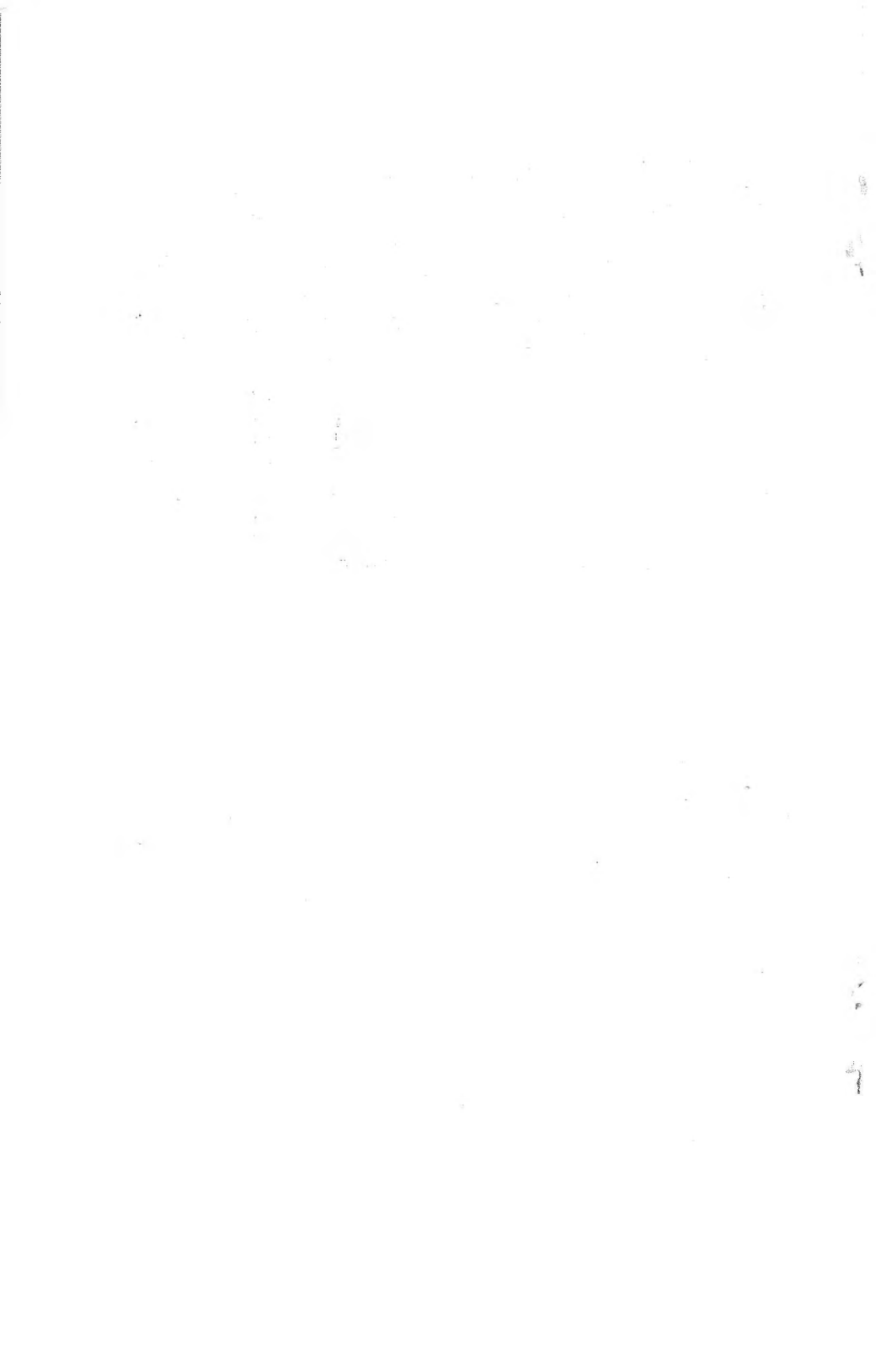
Back: on skirt C. S. C. - Made in U. S. A. Smooth Base.

This insulator was designed for carrier service primarily to hold a wire carrying high frequency electricity. The standard frequency is 61 cycles per second, carrier circuits carry up to 30,000 cycles per second.

The glass in these insulators are of special low loss glass. The embossed letters on the insulator tell the user what the insulator should be mounted on. Such as C.S.A. - C.M. - C.W. The C. stands for carrier circuit application. The S. stands for steel pin, the W. stands for wood pin, the M. means Mid span.

CD 128 has a smaller than average pin hole. This hole is normally lined with lead foil. Some of the inner skirts also have a thread configuration and are lined with lead or copper.





MARKET NEWS

This section is devoted to keeping collectors up to date on some of the going prices of insulators at the different shows and swaps. I intend to list the area or show where I got my prices, the CD number, name of manufacturer, the asking price and condition.

Example:

Penna. Area Flea Mkt.

Manufacturer	CD	Condition	Prices
Hemingray	152	mint	\$3.50

This section will also contain any information I can get concerning commeratives, repos., etc. At this printing I have heard that an American company is producing a Threadless Columbia CD 263. I will report in greater detail when more information is available.

CLUB FORMING

The Falls Church, Virginia, area is attempting to form an insulator club. A number of people have expressed interest in the club, so the basics are now being arranged.

The name of the organization will be the Eastern Insulator Club. The dues will be three dollars (\$3.00) per year. There's still time to join. Anyone interested just write to Bill Spell, 2903 Wickersham Way, T-4, Falls Church, Virginia, 22042, and he'll be glad to send you a form.

PORCELAIN INSULATORS

Porcelain insulators can be considered a "sleeper" right now.

This aspect of insulator collecting is slowly coming into it's own. Most collectors feel that a porcelain insulator lacks the beauty and history that their glass counterparts have. Thanks to interested collectors and authors like Gerald Brown of Two Butts, Montana, and Jack Tod of Phoenix, Arizona, the porcelain insulator is being discovered for what it really is.

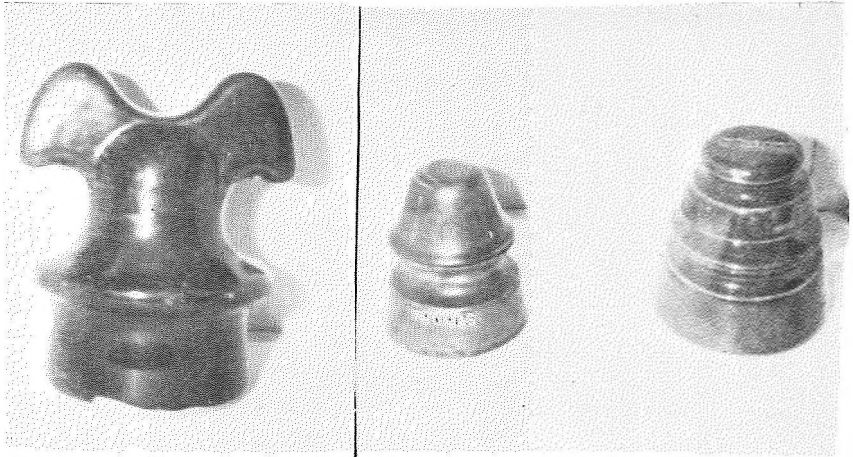
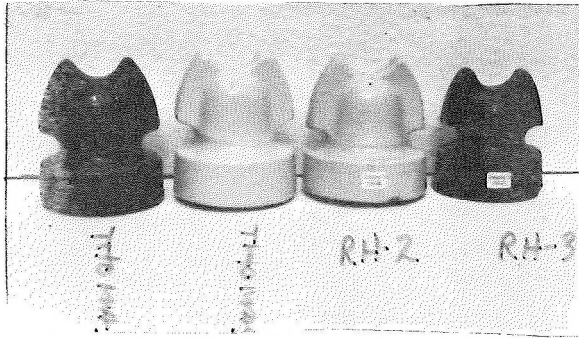
Porcelain has a much more colorful history than glass when it comes to power transmission. Porcelain seems to be easier to trace back to its original application. Again, like glass, it's the unusual that attract the collector. Some of the early tramps, ponys and flat top signals are slowly making an appearance on the shelves of collectors.

Porcelain insulators are much stronger mechanically than are those of glass and are not as liable to crack because of unequal internal expansion, a result sometimes which occurs where glass insulators are exposed to a hot morning sun. In order to avoid internal defects in large porcelain insulators it has been found necessary to manufacture some designs in several parts, and then cement the parts of each insulator together.

The color variations in the earliest models of porcelain are unlimited because exact batch mixing was uncontrolled. As batch mixing was introduced into the industry and quality control became an important part of every product, the color variations disappeared.

As overhead wires continue to go underground, the porcelain insulator will increase in popularity.

The helmet cables pictured below are color prints sent to us by Bob Bretschneider, of Flushing, New York. The three bottom pictures are from my own collection. I am lead to believe that the signal insulator is unusual because the embossing is raised rather than idented.



The following pictures are from the collection of Mr. Ferd Huber of King of Prussia. Ferd has been collecting for about 2 years. He likes to attend the flea markets and insulator shows and swaps, and like the rest of us is always eager to here about new finds.



TOP: CD 267 Embossed No. 4 Cable. Dark Green.

BOTTOM: CD 252 Patented (prism) June 17, 1890 (back) Knowles No. 2 Cable.

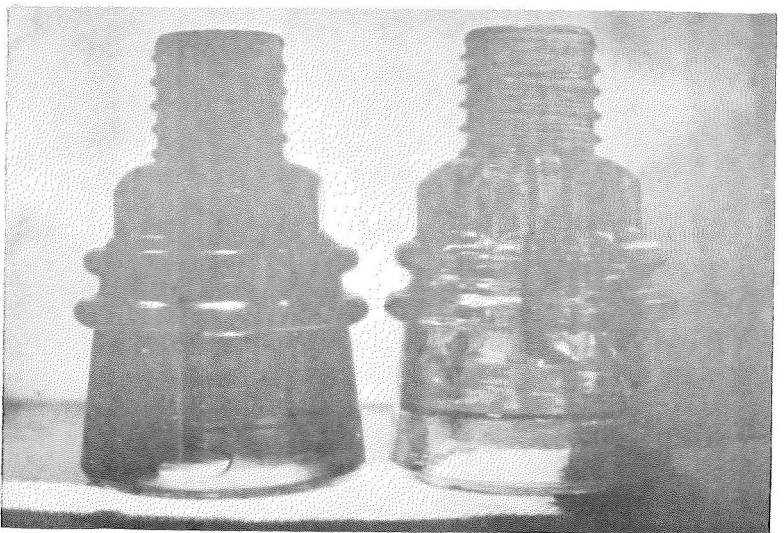




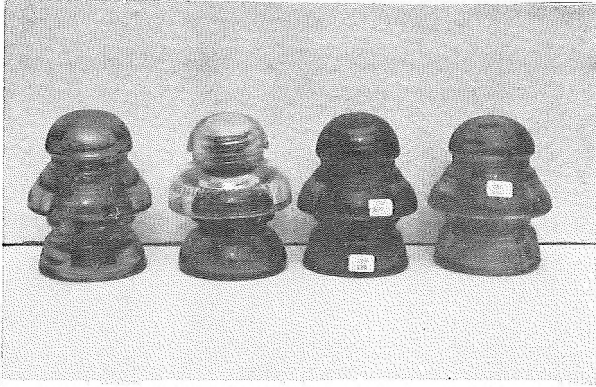
CD 125 Hemingray W. U. No. 5 (back) PATENT MAY 2, 1893.

This picture was sent to us courtesy of Brad and Nancy Cook of Ludlowville, N. Y. Brad and Nancy are among the leading collectors here in the east.

Embossed on inner skirt - Boston Bottle Works - Patent Applied For. This is a CD No. 458.

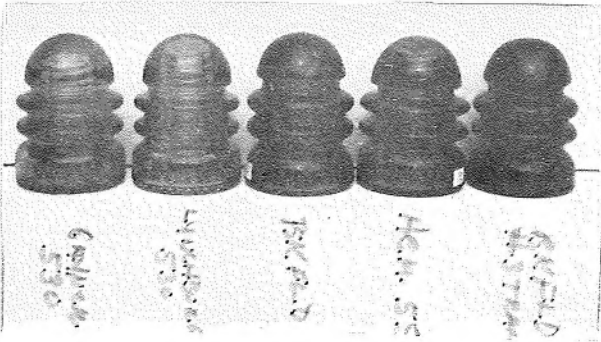


The pictures below were sent to me by Bob Bretschneider of Flushing, New York.



CD 190-191 From left to right:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Double diamond | 3. B |
| 2. Hemingray | 4. A. T. & T. |



CD 205 From left to right:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Gayner 530 | 4. Hemingray 55 |
| 2. Lynchburg 530 | 5. Brookfield #3 |
| 3. Brookfield | |

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This being our first issue I haven't been deluged in this department. Although we do not at this time have anyone with the national status of Milholland, Tod, or Brown here in the east, I think between all the collectors we can find an answer to any questions you readers can send us.

We have received many letters from collectors enclosing their subscription and wishing us well in our endeavor. Thanks! Below is a letter from Mr. N. R. Woodward in answer to our request to use his CD numbers.

Dear Mr. Garrity:

Your letter of January 9 was forwarded by Mr. Peters. Thank you for writing!

You are entirely welcome to use the CD numbers as much as you wish. This system was developed as my own personal reference system, with no thought whatever to its ever being used by others. It is far from perfect. If I were beginning now, with the accumulated knowledge at present, I could do much better. However, the CD numbers have been accepted into such general use that at this time it seems best to leave them as they are.

I am interested in your publication CROSS ARMS. I have not seen a copy, or heard about it. How long have you been publishing it? I am sure that an Eastern area magazine will fill an important need, since it seems that most of the best insulator material is West Coast oriented.

Good wishes!

Very truly,
N. R. Woodward

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Display ads:

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*\$12.00 per three issues

1/2 page - \$10.00 per issue
*\$25.00 per three issues

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Classified Advertising:

\$.05 per word (minimum \$1.00). The closing date for material will be the 10th of the month preceding the month of the issue.

Ads received too late for the deadline will be run in the next issue.

We accept no responsibility for errors except to reprint the incorrect portion of the ad in a later edition. We will do our best to make sure all advertisers are reliable but cannot be held responsible for the validity of their copy nor for their performance.

Send black and white prints or copies as they will reproduce with more satisfactory results. All material will be returned to the sender if specified, all other material becomes the property of CROSS ARMS.

*This is a slight change from our original price list.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: mint or VNM unless stated. CD178 Santa Ana, aqua--\$25; CD297 Locke 16, aqua--\$25; CD252 Knowles #2 cable dated with prism, aqua--\$30; CD145 dated E. R. , aqua--\$10; CD121 U. S. Tel. Co. , deep green (chip on inside)--\$15; CD162 P. L. W. (v. rare), green--\$60; CD296 Locke 20, aqua--\$12; CD190-91 PRR (v. rare) aqua--\$150; CD152 Cali. (purple)--\$12; CD120 Pat. Dec. 19, 1871, aqua--\$20; CD254 #3 cable, aqua--\$40; CD121 Duquense, aqua--\$15--unembossed--\$5; CD219 Hem-Lowex, amber--\$15; CD168 Whitall Tatum #11 (sm. chip inner skirt) (rare)--\$35; CD102 Hawley, aqua--\$12; CD131 threadless, aqua--\$95. No trades on these. Have many more, Lists welcome. Insurance & postage extra. Ferd Huber, 385 Allendale Rd. , King of Prussia, Pa. 19406.

FOR SALE ONLY: CD133 W. Brookfield (green) \$12; CD216 Armstrong 51-2u (amber) \$8; CD188 No name (aqua) \$12; CD234 (carnival #63) \$10; CD235 (carnival 662) \$10; CD296 Locke 20 (aqua) \$13; CD154 Whitall tatum #1 (purple) \$8; CD202 Fred M. Locke #14 pat. date (blue) (sml. chip base) \$12; CD252 Hem. #2 cable pat. date (aqua) \$8. All mint or VNM post. & ins. extra. Edward Szymala, 217 Spruce Street, Cresson, Penna.

"H. G. Co's Petticoat Patented May 2nd 1893", aqua, with double drips, exceptional value at only \$7.50 Whitall-Tatum #1: suncolored amethyst-\$9.00; aqua colored \$3.50. Lynchburg #36, beautiful yellow-green color only \$6.50. Hemingray #43 Saddleback, clear, \$3.50. Add \$.50 each post. and insur. Complete satisfaction guaranteed. Morfords Insulators, 165 Palmer St. , Sch'dy, N. Y. , 12303

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Make checks or money orders payable to CROSS ARMS.

All insulators made by American Insulator Co.
(whether embossed or not) can be identified by the
threads. The uppermost 1/2" or 3/4" of the pin hole
contains no threads. This is probably because of a
certain type of thread molding machine although I
have no proof of this fact.

Courtesy of Ken Kurtz

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