

.22 Rim Fire Boxes
of the U.S.A.
ID. Reference



The CLINTON CARTRIDGE Co.
Chicago, Ill.

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INTRODUCTION

THANKS

Special thanks to the following collectors for helping me with this project by supplying me with box images and sharing their knowledge.

DAVE CLEMENCE

JOHN KUNTZ

RON MERCHANT

HEADSTAMPS (h/s)

Headstamp drawings courtesy of the RIMFIRE HEADSTAMP GUIDE by George Kass and Ron Merchant

R-8



The CLINTON CARTRIDGE Co.

S-1



S-2



S-2.1



S-3



"A" BOTTOM



"B" BOTTOM



Both Bottoms can be red or green

The Clinton Cartridge Co. was a creation of Sears, Roebuck & Co. of Chicago, Ill. First started in 1905 as a dummy company with the objective of obtaining guns from the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. Sears was discounting Winchester products against Winchester's policy. As a result, Winchester stopped selling to Sears. Sears responded with many efforts to obtain these guns including two dummy hardware jobbers, Clinton Cartridge Co. and the Meriden Fire Arms Co..

Sears ordered ammunition produced by Western and R.W.S. of Germany under the Clinton name. Both rimfire and centerfire pistol loadings have been observed with the Clinton brand. The following boxes were probably produced during the 1920's.

- S-1 **.22 SHORT.** "BLACK POWDER". Red and green label with cream colored printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around label. No product code. No h/s on a copper case. Lead bullet. "A" Bottom.
- S-2 **.22 SHORT.** "LESMOK". Red and green label with cream colored printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. No product code. Full wrap-around label. No h/s on a copper case. Lead bullet.
(a) "A" Bottom
(b) "B" Bottom
- S-2.1 **.22 SHORT.** "LESMOK". Like S-2 except it has a dot before the 22 on the top. "A" bottom.
- S-3 **.22 SHORT.** "SMOKELESS". Green and red label with cream colored printing. Buff, two-piece, full-cover box. No product code. Full wrap-around label. No h/s on a copper case. Lead bullet.
Variations noted:
(a) "A" Bottom
(b) "B" Bottom

END Examples



L-1



WRF-1



WRF-2



WRF-3



The CLINTON CARTRIDGE Co.

- L-1 .22 LONG (SHOT). 100 rd box produced by RWS in Germany for Sears. Green label on a buff box with black printing. "R-8" h/s on a copper case. Push through tray. No bottom label.
- WRF-1 .22 WINCHESTER RIM FIRE. "BLACK POWDER" 100 rd box produced by RWS in Germany for Sears. Green label with white printing. Two-piece pill box style box with push in tray. Full wrap-around label. No product code. "R-8" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- WRF-2 .22 WINCHESTER RIM FIRE. "BLACK POWDER" Like WRF-1 but "22-7-45" on top label
- WRF-3 .22 WINCHESTER RIM FIRE. "SMOKELESS" Like WRF-2 but red label with buff printing and the word SMOKELESS.

RWS Style BOTTOM

