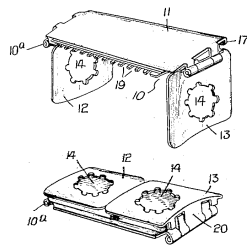


• B •

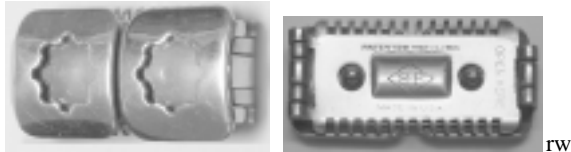
B*
Willy Bracht, Solingen-Haan, Germany. Trade name on 1932 list.

B-P Shaver

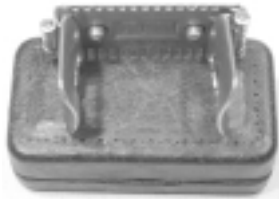
Bigelow Parkin Co., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Double edge, comb guard, folding thumb-finger grip. Several variations with chrome (or nickel) or gold finish, may be in brown or black leather pouch. B-P Advertisers: Bowman, Mutual Life Insurance. U.S. Patent No. 1376759, 3 May 1921, filed 9 Sep 1919, Christian E. A. Gronbech, Woodhaven, N.Y. L-W, p. 93. Also see Gronbech and Handy.



1921 Patent



rw



jk



ml

Two-piece copy of B-P; no identifying marks

B & R – The B&R Sanitary Safety Razor



Mfr. unidentified. Single edge thin rectangular blade 3/4x1-7/16 inch, comb guard has edge ribs to align blade, handle tapered near head with four knurled bands, rectangular back

plate swings away on pivot, marked Patent Pending, in small round tin. Also found in red cardboard boxes with white letters marked PATENT APPLIED FOR. Very similar to Dandy and Sanita razors.



ml



ml



jk

B&S – B & S – See Bonsa.

B-Y



Bestyet Razor Company, Inc., Tampa, Florida. TM first used 3 Sep 1920 for safety razors. TM filed 7 Sept 1920. Double-edge guard razor, straight handle, hinged section locks blade.



ml

Case marked THE BESTYET RAZOR CO. Inc. / CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Bain – Auguste Bain

Auguste Bain, 2. Rue Taitbout, Paris, France. Single-edge wedge blade, flat handle, comb guard, blade held at right angles to handle with lever or small thumbscrew. Blade marked A.B. / FRANCE, handle pierced with AB monogram, marked FRANCE / Auguste Bain / INV^t FAB^{1/2} / Bt^e S.G.D. G. / 2 R. Taitbout, Paris. Similar to Victor and Claffin. Design similar to U.S. Patent 237008, 25 Jan 1881, filed 4 Oct 1880, Pierre L. Fontaine, Paris, France.



jk



jd/bd
1890's letterhead

Kampfe Brothers History

KAMPFE BROTHERS was founded by Frederick, Richard, and Otto F. Kampfe. There is inconsistency in the various dates that have been given (or implied) for the start of Kampfe Bros. and the advent of the Star safety razor. According to a booklet published in 1975 by their successor, the American Safety Razor Co., Kampfe Brothers began manufacturing the Star safety razor in 1875 "in a one-room shop in New York City." Their first razor patent was applied for and issued in 1880 and listed New York City as the residence of all of the brothers. Most subsequent patents listed Brooklyn, N.Y. or New York City, borough of Brooklyn. Advertisements and letterheads for Kampfe Bros. from the 1890s to 1911 show addresses from 6 to 15 Reade Street, New York City.

An April, 1905 Kampfe advertisement stated that "every blade bears a reputation of 29 years standing". This implies that Kampfe Bros. had been making some type of cutlery since 1876. A full-page advertisement in the December, 1911 *The AMERICAN MAGAZINE* claimed

"Over half a century of blade making experience is behind the Star Safety razor. The Star itself has been made and used for thirty-six years. We were expert cutlery manufacturers before we invented the safety razor."

One could conclude that Kampfe Bros. (or their predecessor) started making cutlery around 1860 and the Star razor was first made in 1875. Over the years Kampfe Bros. and the American Safety Razor Co. have claimed that the Star was the "original safety razor" and "the first safety razor made in the United States".

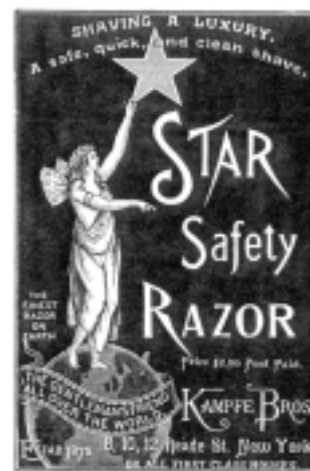
The first Kampfe safety razor patent application was filed on May 8, 1880 and was issued only 5 weeks later on June 15. The original 1880 patent showed a removable handle, probably wooden, that was short and stubby to enable it to fit within the blade holder for storage in its small round tin-plate container. The razor later became

considerably more complex than this original design. The patent specification stated that the object of the invention was "to provide a safety-razor which shall be simple and durable in construction, of small first cost, compact in form, and adapted to be used without soiling the fingers... [The]... refuse matter... will be retained within the hollow holder... permitting the use of the device without danger of soiling the fingers of the user." This feature has become known as a 'lather catcher.' A patent model was submitted with the application, and if it has survived, would surely be a prize for any razor collector.



1899

rw



1900

bz

The STAR name and the trademark symbols, a single five-pointed star and a row of three stars, were first used by Kampfe for safety shaving devices, razors and razor blades on June 1, 1880. A detailed illustration of a man shaving himself with a safety-razor in front of a shaving mirror was first used as a trademark on January 14, 1885.



SCHICK
MAGAZINE REPEATING RAZORS
EVERSHARP-SCHICK
INJECTOR RAZORS
Schick



The Schick Injector Razor

According to various short histories published over the years by the Schick Safety Razor Co., the Schick enterprise began in 1923 in Newark, New Jersey, when Jacob Schick, a retired U.S. Army Lt. Colonel, organized the Magazine Repeating Razor Co. Within a year, the company moved to Greenwich, Connecticut. Reportedly inspired by the repeating rifle, Schick applied for five injector razor patents between April 1921 and September 1929. During this time he moved from New York City, to Jersey City, New Jersey, to Sound Beach, Connecticut. Injector razor production started in Jersey City in 1926. In 1928, Schick sold his company to the American Chain and Cable Company, Bridgeport, Connecticut, which had been manufacturing his razors since 1926. He used the proceeds to establish a company to develop and market his electric dry razor.

In a half-page article on new inventions, the December 1926 *Scientific American* magazine described and illustrated the new Magazine Repeating Razor (along with the liquified carbon dioxide fire extinguisher): "The blades can be ejected with the speed of a cartridge clip from an automatic pistol." The first advertisement for the Magazine Repeating Razor that I have found was published in the spring of 1928.

After Schick's pioneering patents, injector development was continued by Octavius Victor Rodrigues, of New York, N.Y., a British citizen, and an Austrian, Leopold Karl Kuhn, who was still living in 1983 (at age 77) in Stratford, Connecticut. (See Patents in this section).

In November 1946, Eversharp, Inc. (a fountain pen manufacturer) acquired all the assets of the Magazine Repeating Razor Co., and renamed it the Schick Safety Razor Division of Eversharp, Inc., and later simply the Schick Safety Razor Co. The American Chain and Cable Co. produced products for Schick until 1958, when Schick started its own manufacturing operation in Bridgeport, Connecticut. That year Eversharp sold its Eversharp brand pen business to the Parker Pen Co. to concentrate on razors. In November 1960, Schick moved its manufacturing facilities to Milford, Connecticut.

Allen Appleby has summarized the Schick/Eversharp name evolution up to 1969:

The Magazine Repeating Razor Company continued to manufacture the razor until about 1950. Eversharp seemed to want to rename the Schick Injector Razor, perhaps because of confusion with the by then successful Schick Dry Shaver. Over the next few years, the name in

advertising and on packaging changed to reflect their ownership. The name became Eversharp Schick Injector Razor, with the 'Schick Injector' part getting smaller and printed in a different font and color that emphasized the phrase "Eversharp Razor". In fact, the ladies Fashion razor and its cheaper cousin, the Deb, were both marketed with only the Eversharp name on the razor, although the packaging still referred to Eversharp-Schick.

It would appear that the name Schick was such a part of the product, that a change would not have been a wise marketing decision. Eversharp continued to dabble in putting their name on products like the Lady Eversharp Beauty Razor and The Lady Eversharp Band Razor ... but they never fully re-created the Schick Injector Razor as the "Eversharp Razor".

In May 1970, Eversharp sold the Schick Safety Razor Company to the Warner Lambert pharmaceutical conglomerate, which in the mid-1990's acquired Wilkinson Sword. Warner Lambert was in turn acquired by pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, who began selling both Schick and Wilkinson razors under the Schick name in North America. In 2003 Schick-Wilkinson was acquired by Energizer Holdings Co., becoming Schick-Wilkinson. Energizer traces its history back to National Carbon Co., originator of the Eveready brand of batteries and flashlights.

A 1935 blade injector works just fine in the most recently made injector razor, and vice versa. And the blades from the first 1926 Magazine Repeating razor will also fit in the newest injector razors. But with the advent of multi-blade cartridge razors, the venerable Schick Injector is slowly disappearing.

Following are two contributions from Alan Appleby: A Schick Injector Razor Chronology and a detailed Guide to Dating Schick Injectors.

The last two sections comprise a table of Schick Injector patents and a chronological listing of Schick and Eversharp-Schick products with a few advertisement illustrations and instructions.