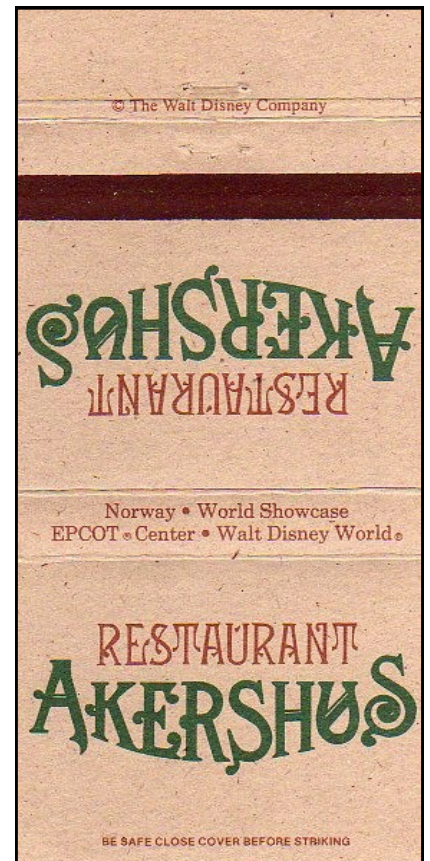
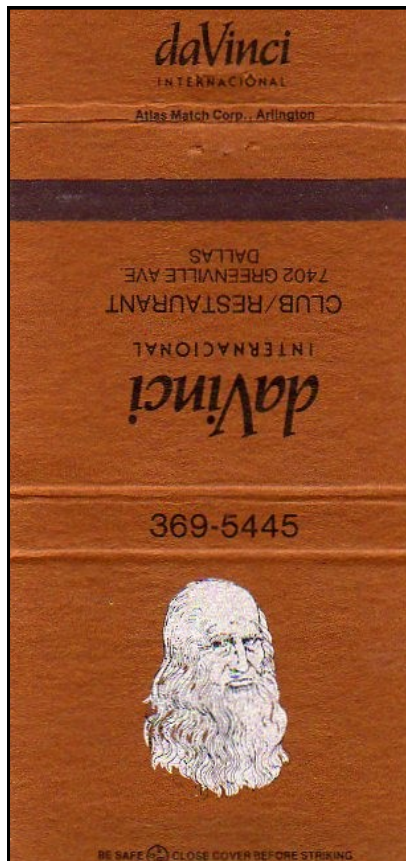
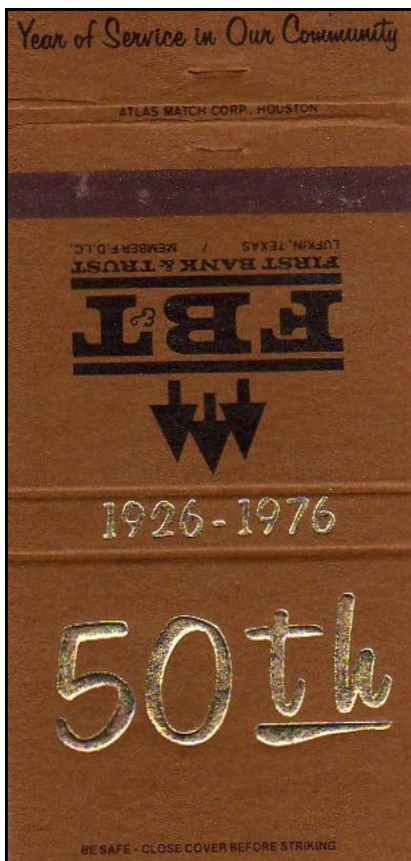


Collecting Jutes

by
Mike Prero

In case you've never seen a Jute, and you're curiously examining the pictures here to see what they are, I'm afraid they're not going to be that much help. The defining characteristic of a Jute is the texture. It has a cardboard, grocery bag feel and look about it. As you can see here, though, the vast majority are also brown—in various shades. So far, you might be ready to say that this sounds like a singularly unattractive category...Aha! But, you'd be wrong! Not only are these covers unique in their own way, but when part of





the design is done in foil, as many are, the result is a very attractive fancy cover [such as the one shown to the left].

And, as an added plus in this category that you might see as an incentive to collect Jutes, it's one of the few Fancies that is still being produced. That's because it's an Atlas Match Corp. product. Although Atlas apparently calls this type of cover a "Lincote," collectors have always called them "Jutes." You'll never see either term on an actual cover, though.

Since these covers first started appearing in the 1970s, all covers in this category are necessarily reverse-strikers. You'll also find that although most are brown in color, there are a few in other colors. I have one in green, for example. Ruth Hagan maintains the listing (257 the last time I heard, but that was back in 1995). The largest collection I know of is Judi Wittwer's, AZ, with 158+.

