

Who's Got It? Part I

Last year's article on the missing Piso cover [May/June 2000] got me to thinking [again!]. I'll bet there are other hobby "treasures" that we've also lost track of over the years. Rare items, interesting items—items that we shouldn't forget and eventually become totally ignorant about. For example, several months ago I spent a rather intense period pouring through various old club bulletins in quest of bits and pieces of information that might prove useful. Fascinating! Just seeing the different approaches and focuses of the different club bulletins over the years is worth examining—but, that's for another day. Look at some of the references to 'treasure' I found...

[Long Beach bulletin, June 1972] "Cecil B. De Mille, world famous movie director, actually began the first scheduled airline...It was in 1919 that the Mercury Aviation Company began...Mercury Aviation was absorbed by TWA later." There was no known cover in 1972. **Does anyone have one?**

[Long Beach bulletin, Dec. 1974] "The largest matchcover known in the world is 3 feet long containing 540 matches. Made in New Zealand, it is called "Ao-te-roa." **Does anyone here actually have one?**

[Long Beach bulletin, June 1976] "About 1930 the Town House in Los Angeles issued a set of 10 covers. They were made by Lion Match Co., New York, with the Safety First warning on the front tip. The covers are numbered on the back. At one time the only known set was owned by Vance Marks of Kingman, Arizona." **Who's got it now?**

[Long Beach bulletin, Sep. 1977] "Venture Match in England wanted to issue silver Jubilee souvenir covers. They had started their printing run in three sizes before they discovered that it was necessary to get permission from the Silver Jubilee Appeals Committee. The committee refused permission. Venture, having invested a goodly sum already, appealed the decision. A compromise was worked out to allow Venture to sell what was already printed, but they were not to make more." All

three covers are larger than 40-strikes; each is dated 1977; striker is on the saddle. Some were sold here. **Does anyone have any of these?**

[Long Beach bulletin, Oct. 1977] "On August 14, 1977, the Associated Press announced that Maryland Match will begin to sell a child proof match. These matches were created by an operator of a police and fire communications system, Robert Giglio, 48...These matches use a false striking strip on the matchbook. The child is thus diverted from the real striking surface." **I've never seen one of these. Has anyone else?**

[Long Beach bulletin, Nov. 1977] "In Amsterdam, N. Y. during the 1930's there was a matchbook factory, New York Amsterdam Lucifersfabriek. Little or nothing is known of its general production, except for one set of movie stars...Roscoe Yorgey indicated in 1944 that this set was believed to have been distributed only in Borneo." There were 23 covers sponsored by Star Tabak. **Has anyone ever found this set?**

[Long Beach bulletin, October, 1978] "Many collectors own parts of the 10-piece 1939 Bellevue Hotel set issued in San Francisco at the time of the Golden Gate Exposition. In 1944 it was not believed that anyone owned a complete set. The color scheme is blue and green on silver. Each cover bore a legend about some point of interest in San Francisco." **Was anyone ever successful in putting this set together?**

[Long Beach bulletin, Feb. 1979] "Al Policke once owned the world's smallest cover which Edgar Perkins dubbed the Hummingbird. It was smaller than a midget." **Who's got it now?**

[Long Beach bulletin, May, 1979] "The Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council has issued a Bryant & May sovereign size cover picturing an illustration of a friction match and tin case. The cover says on the back: "Stockton-On-Tees, home of John Walker, Inventor of the first friction match, 1781-1859." **Who's got one?**