

FLASHBACK!

Bits and Pieces

MATCHBOOKS GIVE TIPS ON FASHIONS: “The Soviets are using matchbooks (covers) to give women fashion tips. The program is part of the new campaign to make Russian women more attractive.” [RMS Bulletin, March 1966]

BOOK MATCH MAKERS INDICTED: “A Federal Grand Jury yesterday indicted nine of the Nation’s principle manufacturers of book matches on charges of fixing prices...Named as defendants in the indictment are Diamond International Corp., formerly the Diamond Match Corp. of New York City, its president, Richard J. Walters, and its vice president, Irvin H. Koenig; D.D. Bean & Sons Co., of Jaffrey, N. H., and its treasurer and director, D. D. Bean Jr.; E.C.M Corp., operator of the Match Corporation of America. New York City; Hunt Foods and Industries, Inc., owner of the former Ohio Match Co., Fullerton, Calif.; Lion Match Co., Carteret, N. J.; Maryland Paper Products Co., operator of the Maryland Match Co., San Jose, Calif., and its vice president, Harold Meitus of Chicago, who is also president of Superior Match Co.; Superior Match Co. of Chicago, and Universal Match Corp., of St. Louis.” [San Francisco Chronicle, January 11, 1966]

RUDOLF DVORAK WRITES: “...There are three main ways to fasten matches to books, not only in U.S.A., but in G. Britain, Japan, Switzerland, France, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Hong-Kong, etc. (I’m telling about the only countries I know about). One: Adopting the easiest way by fastening the matches with clips of iron wire. Two: This almost prevent the collector from getting nice covers that is fastening the covers very close together by means of glue. West Germany and Austria use this method. Czechoslovakia used this way, production of matches in books stopped seven year ago there. East Germany has adopted the USA way of mounting covers.” We assume that this is the mentioned above namely that of using “clips of iron wire.” “The third way of fastening the matches is most interesting and has been invented in Poland where the production of bookmatches started in 1962. The Polish covers have a very limited number of issues (about 140 different) and therefore are very hard to get. The matches together with the striking surface are fastened on the headside by a special clip. This enables the collector to get used covers in the best quality because the striking surface will be removed.” Rudolf has many covers to trade from Central Europe and will be happy to hear from collectors from U.S.A...P.S. We forgot to add Morocco, Australia to the above list of countries.” [RMS Bulletin, April 1966]

“THE EASTERN SWAPFEST will be held at the Holiday Inn, East S, Stroudsburg, Penn.. The Inn is north of the Delaware River Crossing and is about one mile from Routes 46 and 80 on Rt. 209 going toward Milford...Rates are ten dollars for up to four in a room..” [RMS Bulletin, May 1966]

“FAST-GROWING HOBBY: Phillumenists — fastest-growing collectors in the world — are coming to the fore..” [newspaper article, RMS Bulletin, May 1966]

OH, THOSE WERE THE DAYS! “[RMS] Convention room rates at the Americus Hotel are \$6.00 per person including free parking.” (!!)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: “On and after January 1st 1967, all bulk rate mail must be sorted and packed in numerical order, based upon the ZIP CODE number of the person addressed.” [RMS Bulletin, July 1966]