



BULLETIN



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Bonus Edition

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OOH! Old Ohio Hotels!

Now, while I admit right up front that I actually don't collect hotels (although I can certainly see why many collectors do), there's always been something about *old* Ohio Match Co. hotels that never fails to make me pause and look. I might be stretching the point just a tad, but one might even say that what Crowns are to Chinese Restaurants, the old Ohio's are to Hotels.

They're just so *nice* to look at! They're good-quality covers; they're almost always wide-strikers; the art work is often superb....Ah! [*I'm already talking myself into starting yet another collection!*] As a matter of fact, I *sort of* collect them already...in the sense that I developed the habit early on of saving old covers, even those not in my specific want areas...just because they were old and nice. So, I currently have a shoebox full of such, and a number of those are like the ones shown here. Come on! You have to



admit...they're just too nice to get rid of!

These covers are generally from the 1930's, so one might well argue that they'd be worth saving in any event. But, it's the art work, more than anything else, that's the main attracting feature, at least to me...It's what draws your eye to the cover in the first place.

And then, of course, there's always the text that may be particularly interesting. Look at the Eugene Hotel cover on the preceding page, for example. "Absolutely Fireproof". Did you ever wonder why so many of the old hotel covers have that on them? Because so many old hotels burned down. I remember when I researched the history of our local Auburn Hotel. It had burned down twice! So, now I wonder how many of the "Absolutely Fireproof" hotels actually burned down!

Notice, also, that these covers aren't the Ohio *For Safety* covers or the Ohio XL covers. These are another example of those 'in between' covers. They're definitely old (pre-World War II), but they're not in the 'Golden Oldie' class--no distinctive footer, etc. Still, they most certainly deserve their share of attention.

There are no collecting stats on these covers. I'm sure that any Hotel collector is familiar with them, but there would be no reason for them to break them out into Old Ohio Hotels. There's no listing of such either. Even with no numbers to go on, though, I imagine that there must be quite a few of them to be had, if only one takes the time to look.

So, the next time you're sorting through covers, you might look for these by-gone beauties. They're all around, fairly common, not rare, and worth your time and trouble.

