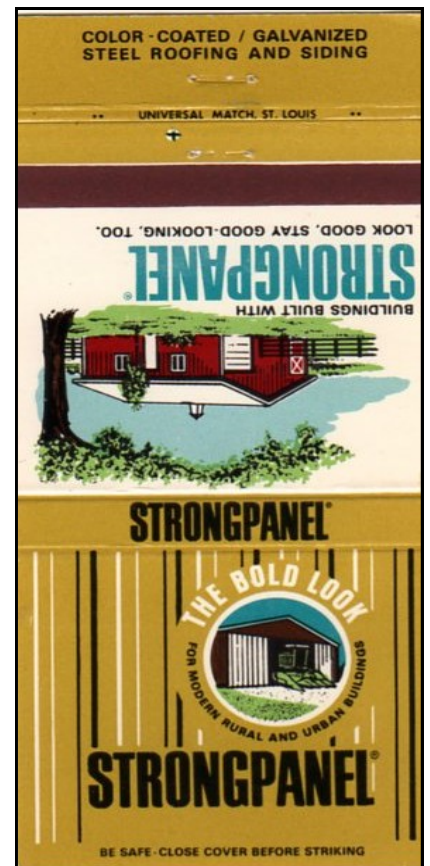
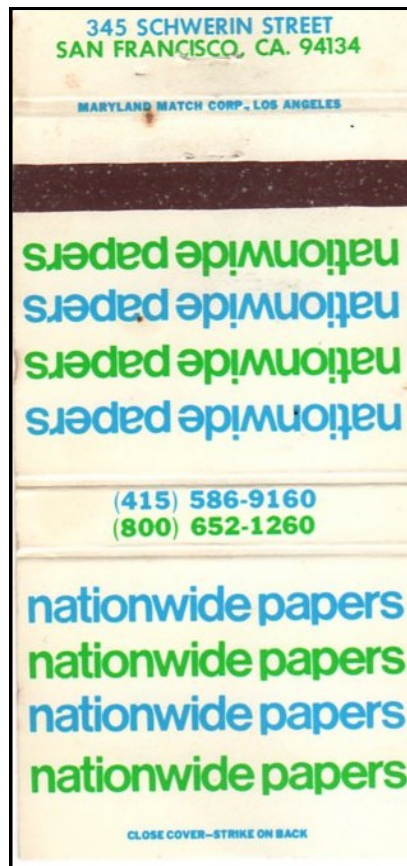
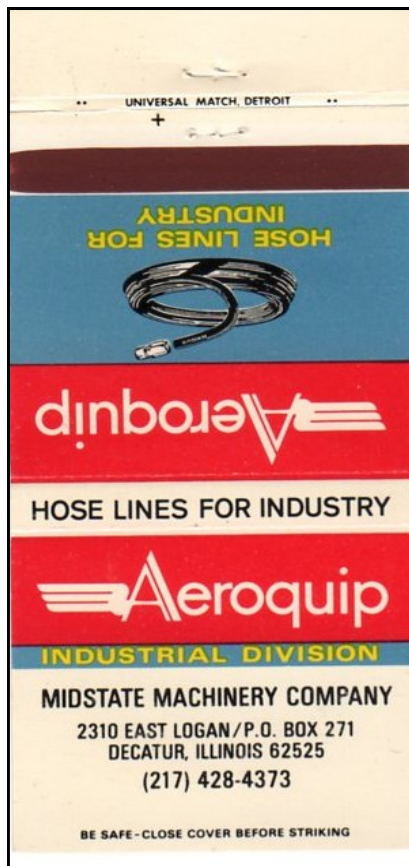


Hardware Stores, Cement Companies, and Other Exciting Topics

by
Mike Prero

Well, I hardly know where to begin! I'll no doubt end up inadvertently slighting a few collectors here,



but the unvarnished truth is...the vast majority of collectors simply don't want these covers. They don't fall into any of the major categories, and they don't belong to any of the popular smaller categories. Most of them are all text, and even the ones that *do* have graphics don't have any that people want...no little dog, no Indian, no...nothing! They're not AAA-approved or Recommended by Duncan Hines. They're not fancy or particularly colorful. Indeed, as covers go, they're almost singularly indistinctive and unattractive.

Just look at these representative samples. Who collects Rock Products, Refrigerants, and Carbon Products? Or, what about Machinery Companies, Galvanized Siding, and Paper Products? Even if you lump them altogether under, say, "Industrial Covers", how many people collect that? General collectors probably save them...but General collectors save everything, just because they're...General collectors and they save everything! Doesn't count!

Perhaps there's some more 'creative' collector out there some way who can see a more useable category for these covers, but, even, then, the vast majority of collectors wouldn't be interested.

So what does one do with them? They're legitimate covers, so I'm sure most of us wouldn't just throw them out. Personally, I put them on freebie tables. It salves my conscious, and *somebody* might want them.

