

Match Manufacturers:

Art Match Co.

(c. 1920's-1935)

"The Art Match Co." If you're a fairly new collector and have never heard of it, you should remember the name. Art Match Co. covers have the three special factors that cause them to be "keepers": age, scarcity, and uniqueness...at least, many of them do.

The Art Match Co. operated out of Grand Rapids, MI, not a traditional match industry location. The company wasn't around for all that long, but they produced some distinctive (and, thus, sought after) covers ...mainly because of their footers. The earlier Art covers carried either a Safety First (as can be seen by the second example here) or a Quality (first example shown) footer, both of which always makes a collector's eyes dance with glee!

Hardly anything is known about this company. It was always small, wasn't around for very long, and 70 some years has a way of clouding issues. The covers here, though, may well lead to some speculation. Notice that the last two have actually been manufactured by Lion Match Co., and these two are definitely later issues than the first two. Thus, it may be that towards the end, Art had stopped manufacturing and had become just as intermediary...or, it may be that Lion took Art Match over...or, perhaps Art just couldn't handle all its business and farmed out some to the larger manufacturer??

Only 49 Art covers are currently listed; over half are Qualities; one is dated 1930.

