

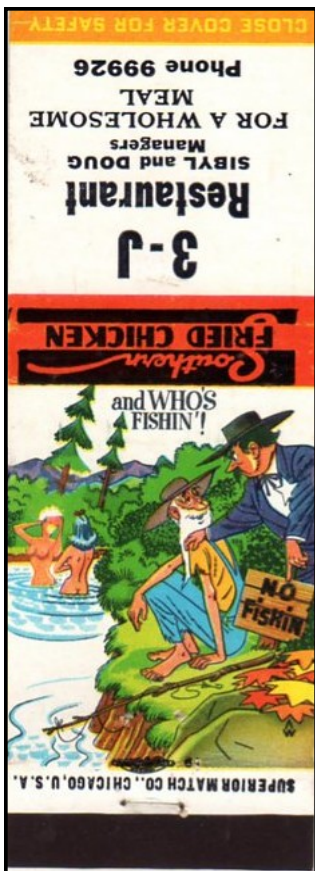
# Hillbillies

by Mike Prero

This is a semi-tough category, but an ever-popular one. A Hillbilly cover is one that depicts Hillbilly life via a cartoon. Jim Moffett's November 1985 listing of Hillbilly Sets lists 24 sets with a total of 121 stock design covers. (21 sets of 5 covers, 2 sets of 6 covers, and 1 set of 4 covers) Superior, Match Corp. of America, Monarch, Regal, Strike-Rite (Canada), Diamond, Chicago Match and other various companies all put out Hillbilly sets, from 1948-early 1970s. Although the first came from Chicago Match Company, those from Superior set the standard. The artwork is beautiful, and that's one of, if not *the*, main attraction here. The detail is superb; the colors are rich and attractive, indeed.

There are two basic types of covers here: the older ones and the newer ones. It's easy to tell them apart. The newer issues are thinner, to begin with, and the artwork is a world apart from the craftsmanship demonstrated in the older covers. Also, of course, the newer issues are reverse-strikers.

Another attractive feature of this category is that these covers were issued in sets, mostly of 5-covers, as noted above. That's another reason why Hillbillies make attractive displays.

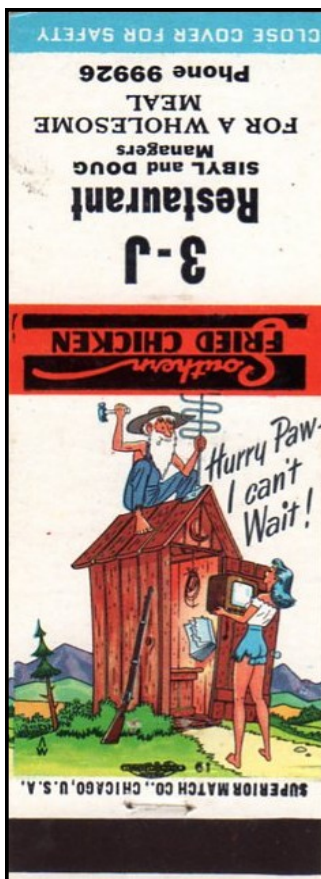


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You don't normally see the older Hillbillies in trade anymore, and, when you do, it's almost always broken sets. As with all of the older categories, your best bet for putting together a collection, here, is to either wait until they appear in auctions, estate sales, or mail bids...or make contact with some veteran collector who has a supply.

There's no listing of individual covers. Donna Longenecker, PA, had 6,790 as of July 2020.

[The following is Jim Moffett's November, 1985 listing of Hillbilly Sets] "Over the years there have been many lists of the 'Hillbilly' sets. This revised list is a composite of those [covers] put out by Superior, Match Corp. of America, Monarch, Regal, Strike-Rite (Canada), Diamond, Chicago Match and other various, miscellaneous Companies. There has been no effort on my part to try and distinguish between the various companies as many of them put out identical or similar sets. Unless indicated otherwise, all sets are with the strikers on the front. The dates indicated are the dates that they were first issued. All covers listed are from my collection. It is believed that they stopped issuing them in the early 1970's. There are a total of 24 sets with a total of 121 covers. (21 sets of 5 covers, 2 sets of 6 covers, and 1 set of 4 covers)"



<p><b>#1 - 1948:</b> Blabbermouth! Come On - Drop! Maw's Getting Fancy Spry - Aint She! What's It For?</p> <p><b>#2 - 1949:</b> Come To Pappy! Find Paw! Hawgtied! Purty Eyes Too! Swapped The Mule!</p> <p><b>#3 - 1950:</b> and I quit Chawin'! Can't figure it out! Duded Up - Ain't He! No Likker - Pull the Trigger! Not Unless You Shave!</p> <p><b>#4 - 1951:</b> Can't read Sheriff! Careful Zeke, It's Full! Goin' my way! kinda Sloppy Kissin'! Quit Pickin' on me!</p> <p><b>#5 - 1952:</b> and Who's Fishin'! Bath Again this year? How'll I get them off? Hurray Paw - I can't Wait!</p>	<p>Kissin' Booth - Kisses 25¢</p> <p><b>#6 - 1953:</b> Corn Squeezins! Durned Right—he says Yes! Headin' fer the Hills! Pretty Sunset...Ain't It? Time Out - Fellers!</p> <p><b>#7 - 1954:</b> Better than Granny's! Breakin' Her in Right! "I'll Make e'm Fit" Private Property - Sonny! Swing yore partner!</p> <p><b>#8 - 1955:</b> A Rattling Surprise! Guard Duty - Mountain Style Hogging The Picture! "Lem - At Your Age?" "Stop Wigglin' Hector!"</p> <p><b>#9 - 1956:</b> "Ah Kin Wait!" Better Explain T'Paw 'Bout Phony - Graphs" "Make sure This Time Paw!" "Won't be Long Now!" "Yep—Pickled Again!"</p> <p><b>#10 - 1957:</b> Don't Want None!</p>
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Fetch Me A Clothespin, Ma!  
Hold 'er In the Rut Grandpa! Kissin' Cousin!  
Might Not Be Hongry!

**#11 - 1958:**

"Be Right With Ya!"  
"Hey Thar, Watch Yo' Aim!"  
"Hurry Maw, We Need That Fer Band Practice"  
"Thanks Fer Th' Showah Pappy"  
"Zeke's Tryin' T' Impress Th' New School Marm"

**#12 - 1959:**

"Awful Powerful Stuff, Eh Pap?"  
"Dang Woman Drivers!"  
"Fellas, Git Up An' Say Howdy-doT' Yo' New Gran'maw"  
"Git In Fo' Yo' Bath, Iffen You're One Of Mine"  
"Hey, Ma, Git Th' Preacher, Anna Mae's Aim Got Better"

**#13 - 1960:**

Howdy, Sheriff!  
It Ain't Loaded!  
Wash Yer Own Durn Back!  
Whut's Brakes?  
Whut's Yer Name, Maw?

**#14 - 1962:**

Hey! Yore Ringin' Thuh Revenooer!  
Paw's Dustier Than Usual This Spring!  
Whar Yuh Got Her Treed, Rover?  
Yuh Been Samplin' My Likker Again?  
Zeke, See if You-all Got A Match?

**#15 - 1957:**

A Deal is a Deal  
Can't Budge Granpaw since we GotThe New 12"  
Screen  
I Know, Let's Play Checkers  
If You'd Stop Whittling We Could Start Fiddling  
Nothing Like Spending A Whole Day Fishing

**#16 - 1954:**

"If'n That's A Gurl Then Wot The Heck Is Effie?"  
"She's a Coy? Feuds Off!"  
"Too Bad Ye H'ain't Facin' This-a-Way, Willie!"  
"Wal, Thar She Be, Maw! Complete with Runnin' Water!"  
"Well Stacked-H'ain't it?"

**#17 - 1956:**

"Feller's A Farm Agent, Wants to see Y'all about Crop Control."  
"For Heavens Sake Don't Hit Any Into The Woods!"  
"Gosh, Juney May, Ah hate To Leave All This Behind!"  
"Looks Like A Nervous Haystack!"  
"Ye Don't Get Washin' Action Like Thet With Them Automatics!"

**#18 - 1958:**

"But Doc - It's Clem What's Ailin!"  
"Gawsh! Wotcha Use Fer Bait?"  
"Looks Like A Rough Honey-moon!"  
"Wal, He's Clean - But Bruised!"  
"Wrap 'er Up, Sonny!"

**#19 - 1962:**

"Sure A Mighty Purty Mule!"  
"Look's Like A Bumper Crop This Year!"  
"No Wonder The Durn Thing Wuz Outa Tune!"  
"Shut Her Off, ZEB - Cawfee's Ready!"  
"You Young'uns Bin At My Vitymins Agin?"

**#20 - 1950:**

"Gran'pappy ain't had a good rest since Pa got that gal dern WAR Surplus gadgets!"  
"I shore love yew tenderly!"  
"Lem Hawkins finally won Elvira's hand"  
"Maw, com'n git me out 'o this gal dern mail order shirt!"  
"See Pa, thats what there fer!"  
"Them buckshot 'n four slegs aire from last falls feudin!"

**#21 - 1957:**

Sam, You Can Read - What Does It Say?  
Go to Sleep Luke! You Finish Tomorrow!  
Wallpaper sure Looks Good Here!  
Painting the Fence  
Checking the Still  
Carry the TV Set

**#22 -**

Thank Goodness They don't Make em Like they Use To  
Pappys On Them New Fangled Liquid Diets  
Have You Been Here Before?  
But You Said You Were An Old Fashioned Girl



You Should See An Optomist

#23 -

She Cooks Too?

I Feel Like Play'n Checkers!

Can't Budge Him Since We Got The Color TV

I Didn't Mean 'em Birds 'n Bees

O.K.! Fish Ain't Bite'n Anyhow

#24 - **Striker-on-back:**

Can't Budge Him since we Got the Color TV

O.K.! Fish Ain't Bite'n Anyhow

I Feel Like Play'n Checkers

She Cooks Too?

