

Small Categories Series

Green Hat Matches

More than a few collectors carry on their entire careers without ever having owned a real GREEN HAT cover. They're old; they're rare; they're one of the hobby's precious commodities!

There was no GREEN HAT Match Co. "GREEN HAT" was a trademark used by Lion Match Co. Lion had started out in 1924 and quickly went on to become one of the industry's giants. Its GREEN HAT trademark was one of its earliest efforts. It was actually developed for the Albert Pick Co. [*i.e.*, *Albert Pick Hotels*] in 1926. As with all of the famous, early footers (Diamond Quality, Safety First, etc.), the GREEN HAT trademark is always located in the lower left hand corner of the extended cover, down where the CCBS would be. It's hard to miss, which is exactly what was planned. Plus, since most of these covers are so old, most are XL, or 'Tall,'. There are some that advertise GREEN HAT matches, but most advertise the usual array of varied businesses—Hotels, Restaurants, etc.

I've been collecting for 20+ years, now, and I specialize in the older covers, as well as doing the list on GREEN HAT matches...so, how many GREEN HATs do I have?...four! I'm sure that any of the major Oldies collectors, such as the late Harry Branchaud or the late Bob Oliver would have had much larger numbers. Joel Acus, OH, had 25 as of May 2001. There are only 69 listed. [These are all XLs shown here, but notice that two are *super* XLs!]

