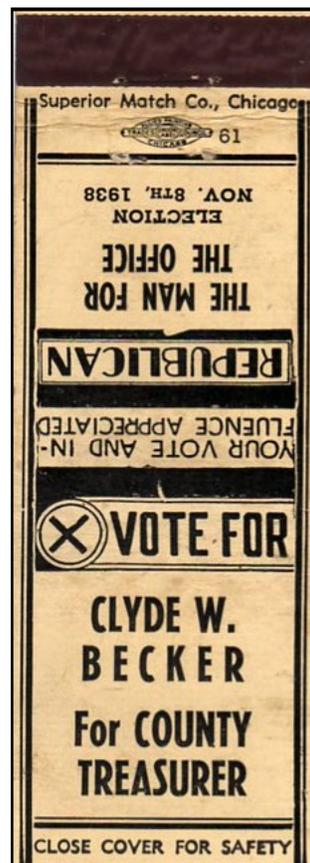
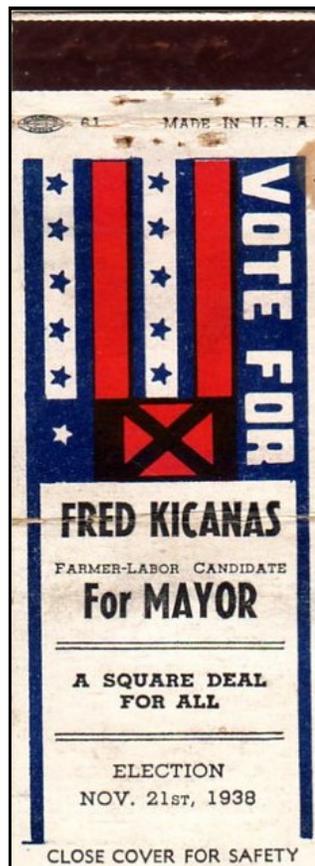
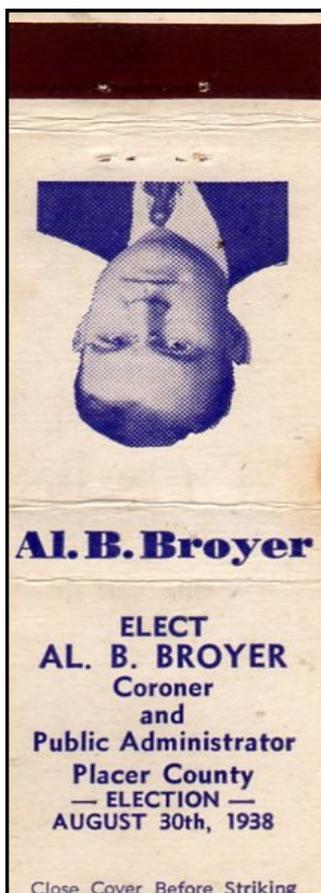


Dated Politicals

by
Mike Prero

Dated covers may be divided into smaller categories in a variety of ways, depending, as usual, on the likes and dislikes of the individual collector. Dated Political covers could certainly be seen as one of these sub-categories.



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Although one of the most frustrating discoveries for any Political or Dated cover collector to make is finding a nice Political cover...with no date on it, there's no such frustration with the covers pictured here.

These dated beauties, and others like them, chronicle both minor and major political contests across the country and through the last century. And, one needn't restrict oneself to just our own Dated Politicals. There are certainly such covers from other countries, as well. In the process, one more slice of history is recorded for posterity.

What's the oldest known Dated Political? Well, the oldest one that I know of is a McGill Match Co. cover issued for Stanley Adamkiewicz...in 1914. I can also dig up references for a J. S. Frelinghuysen DQ dated 1928 and an E. J. Lickley cover, issued by Star Match Co., also 1928. Certainly there must be some in between 1915 and 1928; I just don't know about them. Those in my collection don't start until the 1930s. Perhaps a Bob Oliver or a Harry Branchaud could have filled in the gap.

As for the size of a possible Dated Political collection, there are no stats available, since almost all holders of such covers either have them in with their Dated covers—or their Political covers—or with their respective Manumark collections. Actually, I don't know of anyone who breaks out just the Dated Politicals, but it certainly would make a startling collection.

Although I've only pictured 20-strikes here (because they were the earliest type produced and the most common), Dated Politicals exist in a wide assortment of shapes, sizes, and types. The older covers include Crowns, Stars, King Midas, Diamond and Lion Safety Firsts, Diamond Quality, etc. And there are more than actual covers, here. There are boxes, and I've seen a few old PullQuicks.

