

September/October 2005

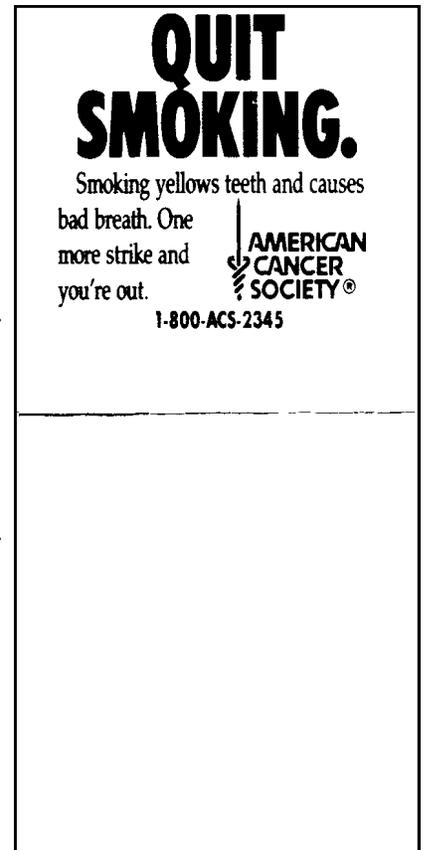
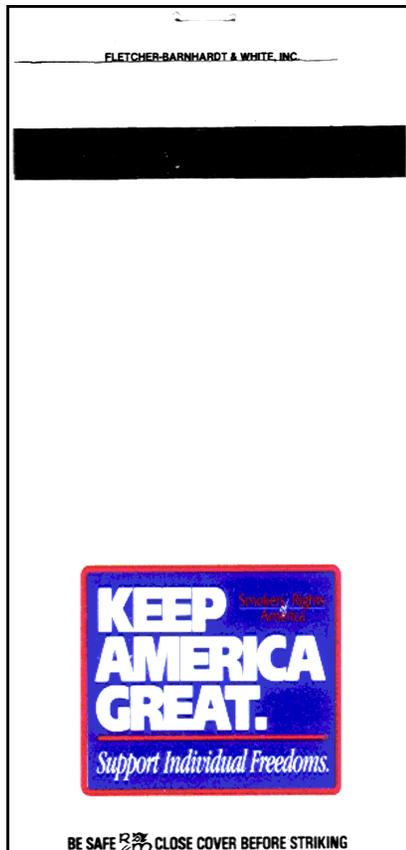
# Collecting..... "Anti-!"

by  
Mike Prero

"Anti"? "Anti-" what?... "Anti-"**EVERYTHING!** Come on! Here's a category for everyone who's anticipatory, antipodal, antipathant, antiquated [*that's where I come in*], antisocial, and/or antithetical. Like antipasto? Here's your category! Going to a therapist? Here's your chance to satisfy your collecting urge and channel all your neuroses and negativity into a constructive activity!

I actually didn't make this category up. The late Bill Thomas, FL, had an "Anti-" category, so that makes this a verifiable and legit category. Now, what you do with it is up to you!

This would be a small category, of course, but there *are* a number of "Anti-" covers around. I'm showing you several here. I suppose you could specialize...just focusing on anti-drunk driving, for example, but the "Anti-" category is actually much more comprehensive...if that cover is "Anti-" anything, it qualifies for this category, if that's the way you should choose to interpret it. After, when it comes to your own collection, *you* are the final word on what and what doesn't qualify for your collections.



So, let's take a look at what types come to mind right away...Besides anti-drunk driving, there's anti-speeding, anti-smoking (that's been an especially big one over recent years), anti-crime (I actually have more of those than any other "Anti-"), anti-Measure...whatever (Political); anti-specific product (Don't Drink Coke, Don't Fly TWA, etc....so that would also include here some of the union covers), anti-drug, anti-sex (pre-marriage)...Have I left any out? Probably, but this is at least enough to give you the idea.

I don't have a very extensive Political collection, but I would guess that of the categories mentioned above Political would yield the most covers in the "Anti-" category. I have various covers, for example, such as "Vote NO on Proposition 12", "Vote AGAINST Prop. 31", and so forth. Those would be the more obvious ones, perhaps, of the Politicals.

Union strikes provide covers. "Don't fly Eastern", "Don't shop at Albertson's", "Don't let the bourgeois factory owners take the food out of your children's mouths!" [OK, I made that last one up!]

The Anti-Crime covers are a big source for the overall category. Again, it depends on how you want to interpret such covers. The CRIME STOPPERS cover below, for example, doesn't have "anti-" anywhere on it (indeed, most Anti covers won't really have "Anti" on them), but I would take CRIME STOPPERS as meaning Anti-crime. That particular one was pretty easy, but the lines may get more blurred with other covers, such as neighborhood crime watch covers. You make the call.

Some of the 'odds & ends' covers may prove to be the most interesting. One cover may herald, "We don't serve Negroes"; one may announce, "Coca-Cola not served here"; another might declare "No women allowed". I've seen examples of all of these, so who knows what else may be out there!

