

Match Manufacturers:

OWNAME RENEWABLE MATCHBOOK CO. (1925-1940's)

This is an interesting manufacturer because of the name, the age, and the odd covers it produced. It started in 1925 but later changed its name to the Owname Products Corp. It may have eventually been taken over by Lion Match Co. A few manumarks say mfg. by Lion Match Company.

Its production center was in New York City, and "Owname" was its trademark for the length of its existence. A number of different sources I've come across over the last twenty years indicate that it was this company who came out with the first 30-strike in 1935 (?).

The covers, themselves, are interesting because they're all 30-strikes, they're relatively rare, and most, if not all, have removable strikers (the strikers are simply held on by the staple). Plus, many of these covers are dated, such as the inside of one, shown below.

The covers aren't very attractive, but one, especially, deserves note because once you've see it, you won't forget it. It's a 30-strike cover for Anaconda Copper, if I remember correctly...and it's made out of copper! What a great advertising idea! Now, of course, with the price of copper, such would be impossible...yet another reason why the 'good ol' days' were just so darn good!

There are 362 Owname covers currently listed, but John Andrews reported having over 500 in June 1994. These are definitely keepers if you should ever run across one.

