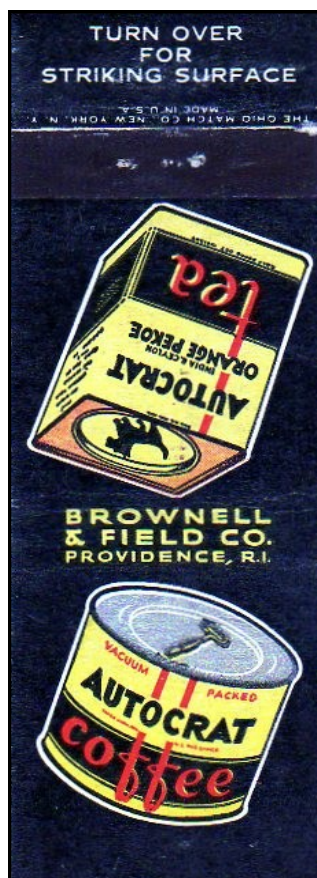


Collecting Coffee

by
Mike Prero

The British introduced coffee to the American colonies in the mid-1600s by bringing it into New Amsterdam (New York). Though coffee houses rapidly began to appear, tea continued to be the favorite drink in the New World until the Boston Tea Party in 1773, eventually leading Thomas Jefferson to write, "Coffee - the favorite drink of the civilized world." Did you know that, aside from crude oil, coffee is now the most sought after commodity in the world?! It is! Brazil continues to be the major coffee exporter in the world, and Indonesia holds third place, although Vietnam more than tripled its coffee exports in 1995-1999 and continues to grow as a major coffee exporter.



[covers courtesy of Loren Moore, CA]



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