

I wrote a letter to that museum explaining my interest, and one week later I received a package in the mail with a photo-copy of the original newspaper dated April 25, 1908. Also enclosed were photo-copies of other reports and photographs on the murder and hanging that had been written about in various books.

It was surprising to me that it was so easy to find out so much information in such a short time and that everyone I contacted would be so enthusiastic and helpful. I'm sure that just about every collector out there has his or her favorite mining town and by simply going to your local city or county library, you will be able to find out a vast amount of information that will be of great interest to you.

Many thanks to all of the helpful workers at the Yuciapa City Library and the great folks at the Eastern California Museum.

Shown to the right is a copy of the photograph of Joe "Hootch" Simpson in his unique post-mortem encore. The body was disinterred and hanged a second time so that a reporter from the Los Angeles Herald could take this photograph. (Photo courtesy of Eastern California Museum, Independence, California)



ANOTHER HERCULES MATCH SAFE FOUND

by **Larry Kuester**
Yorba Linda, California

I recently acquired another different Hercules match safe. This new style has the Hercules man on the front like all of the others, but with a different back. The back side shows a miner dressed in slickers with boots, a hat with an oil wick lamp, and holding two boxes of dynamite. The match safe, like the others, is made of metal and wrapped with celluloid plastic. The Hercules man and the miner are printed in black on an off-white background while the text, including the "H" on the Hercules box, is in red.

