

Items found in family correspondences can often yield valuable finds—and good money when sold to us.

(Continued from Page 1)

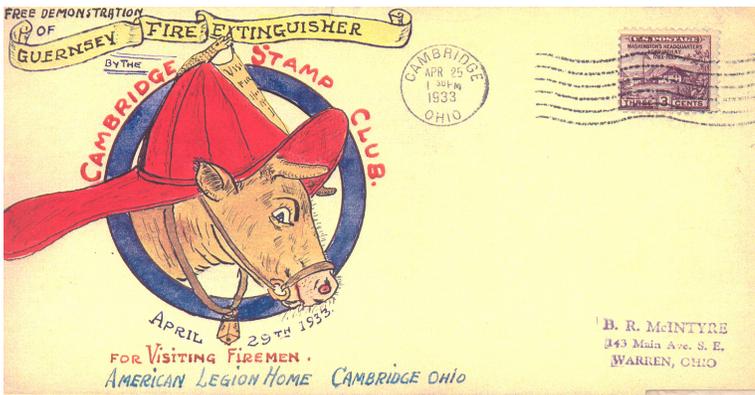
The Tannou Touva cover is important and valuable because, oddly enough, it may prove to be the only registered cover recorded that was mailed from the United States to Tannou Touva during the 1930s. It may be unique!

But there are often other unique items to be found in places like your own basement or attic. Millions of families have saved letters (usually in their original envelopes, which is quite important—letters without their outer envelopes are usually not that important) to and from family members in times of war, deprivation (the Depression), and happiness—through all eras of American history. If and when you discover this kind of material in your family, you need to contact Fred Schmitt right away.



Found by a stamp collector: this desirable handpainted cover from the early 1930s featuring the Visiting Firemen of Philately. Such VFP items are highly sought after by collectors. Value: \$200.

This is a large piece of business reply mail from 1913. Such covers were generally thrown out by recipients and are rare. But this one is made even rarer (and valuable) because it shows usage of both Australian and Tasmanian stamps on a registered cover. Value: \$150.00



Found in Attics & Other Places!

At right: The front and back of a cover that, on first inspection of the front only, looks very ordinary. It is a cover from a conscientious objector organization during World War II (quite rare, itself). But turn it over and one sees 24 half-cent postage due stamps indicating a whole stack of such covers returned to sender with postage due. Value: Over \$200.



At first glance, this envelope merely looks to be a common first day cover of the 5-cent 1938 James Monroe definitive stamp. But on closer inspection, it turns out to be a censored cover sent to a resident of Spain during the Spanish Civil War in 1938. The cover includes a letter which discusses the war. Such covers are rare and valuable—but combine such a usage with a first day cover and you have something rather unusual! Value: From \$150 to \$250.



Sometimes old correspondence will extend back to the Civil War—like this rare usage of a cover sent via "Flag of Truce" across the lines from North to South—to New Orleans, La. the value of such covers varies from \$350 to well over \$1,000. (Cover courtesy of Trish Kaufmann)