

# Fred Schmitt's Postal History

Resourceful information for the collector and seller of the world's 19th and 20th century mail communications, autographs, manuscripts and historic documents

# Treasures

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This Issue's  
Special Treasure...

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**A Philatelic Cover?** Not necessarily. This is a very special cover—bearing the entire set of the U.S. First Bureau issue of stamps overprinted for use on the Island of Guam, a U.S. possession. Covers like this one from 1900 are thought to be "favor covers" for philatelists, but when covers are franked with such a valuable set of stamps—and then sent to an exotic destination, like the Germany Mariana Islands—the value skyrockets. Contact us if you ever encounter something like this. We will pay you serious money for such discoveries!

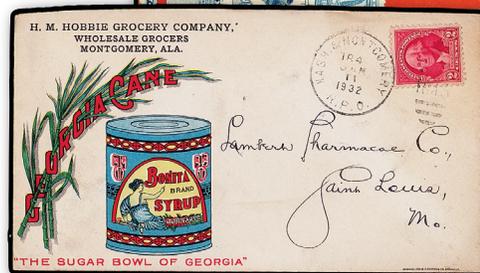
Luscious Color Over 100 Years Old...

## Colorful covers that sold lots of colorful products!

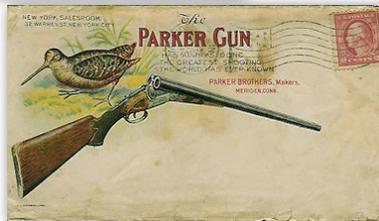
Advertising today is extremely colorful—from the billboard along the highways to the constant blitz of TV commercials. But think about this: How did advertisers attract attention with their promotional messages when such media were not available 100 years ago?

They did it with some of the most colorful envelopes ever produced—so colorful that there are few mailers today that could even pretend to imitate them.

Late 19th and early 20th century full color advertising covers are all the rage these days. Collectors seek them and are willing to pay high prices to buy them. They tell the story of through-the-mails commerce that gives us a peek into the world of yesteryear like little else.



It would be hard to find covers like these from modern times. Many such covers employed 6-color lithography. Few pieces of postal history are moving up in value as vigorously as early ad covers.



**A unassuming postal card suddenly becomes a serious piece of history about which movies are made**

Fred Schmitt's

## PERSPECTIVE



A Chinese postal reply card from the German legation in Peking (now Beijing), China in October 1900—just weeks after the besieged embassies had been relieved by troops from eight western nations at the height of the Boxer Rebellion. A piece of history worth some decent money!

**On a rainy Sunday afternoon, you're going through an old box of family correspondence and you come across a simple, yet somehow exotic-looking postal card like the one above.**

You put it aside. Later, you determine that the stamps on the card are all Chinese, yet the hand-stamps are German. A Google search tells you that the card was mailed by Germans from China to Germany during the Boxer Rebellion! (see p. 2)

An occasional bulletin from...



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54th Anniversary!