

English Setters in America

Before the 1800s the Setter dog breed included Gordon, Irish and English Setters. In 1825, Edward Laverack of Whitechurch, England bought a brace of English Setters who's progeny swept all field trial competition for the next 50 years. In 1871 Laverack sold two of his dogs, Dan and Dick, to R.L. Purcell Llewellyn at a field trial at Shewsbury, England. The offspring quickly attracted the notice of sportsmen in North America. Dan sired Gladstone who quickly established himself as a top field performer and sire. Count Noble, a dog purchased directly from Llewellyn by Dave Sanborn of Dowling, Michigan in the 1870s, was bred to Gladstone's daughters. Those breedings produced dogs that dominated the field trial circuit. One of these dogs, Count Gladstone IV, won the inaugural National Bird Dog Championship, held at West Point, Mississippi in 1896. Today the Llewellyn name is given to the English Setter field dogs while Laverack's is given to the show dogs.

This exhibit will display some of the images of English Setters found on covers and cards used in the United States. Most of the early portrayals of English Setters only vaguely resemble the breed. The earliest cover found with a dog identified as an English Setter is shown below. The usage of English Setter images on covers is uncommon before the spectacular Du Pont Powder Company advertising products which included beer trays, cards and covers.

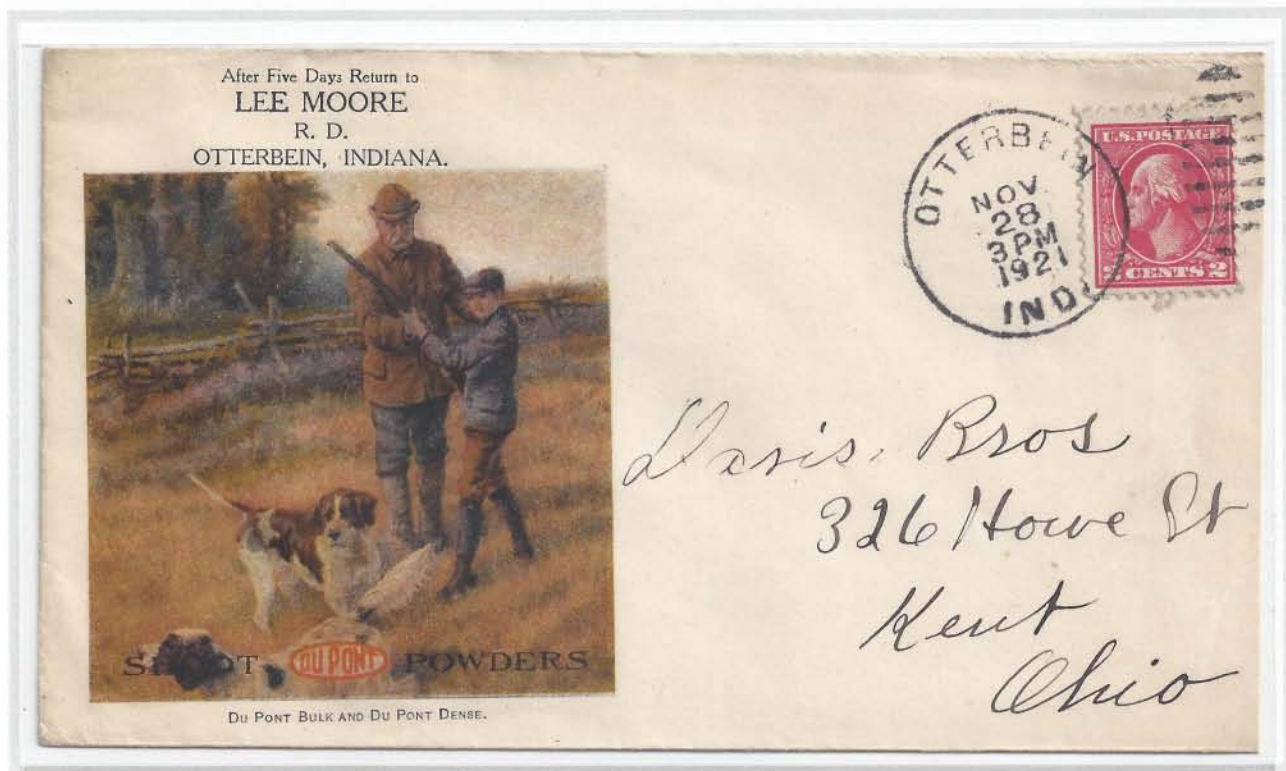
In 1917 Du Pont issued a series of 13 advertising postcards that reproduced paintings by noted sporting dog painter Edmund Henry Osthaus. Portrayed are the National Bird Dog Champions of 1896 as well as 1898 to 1910. All but one are Llewellyn English Setters. In 1909 a Pointer was Champion and is shown here for completeness. At least nine of these designs were also utilized to make covers and all are shown. The remaining four are unreported on covers.



Killbuck English Setter Kennels in Wooster, Ohio ca. 1883

The earliest reported advertising cover featuring a kennel for English Setters.

Du Pont Powders

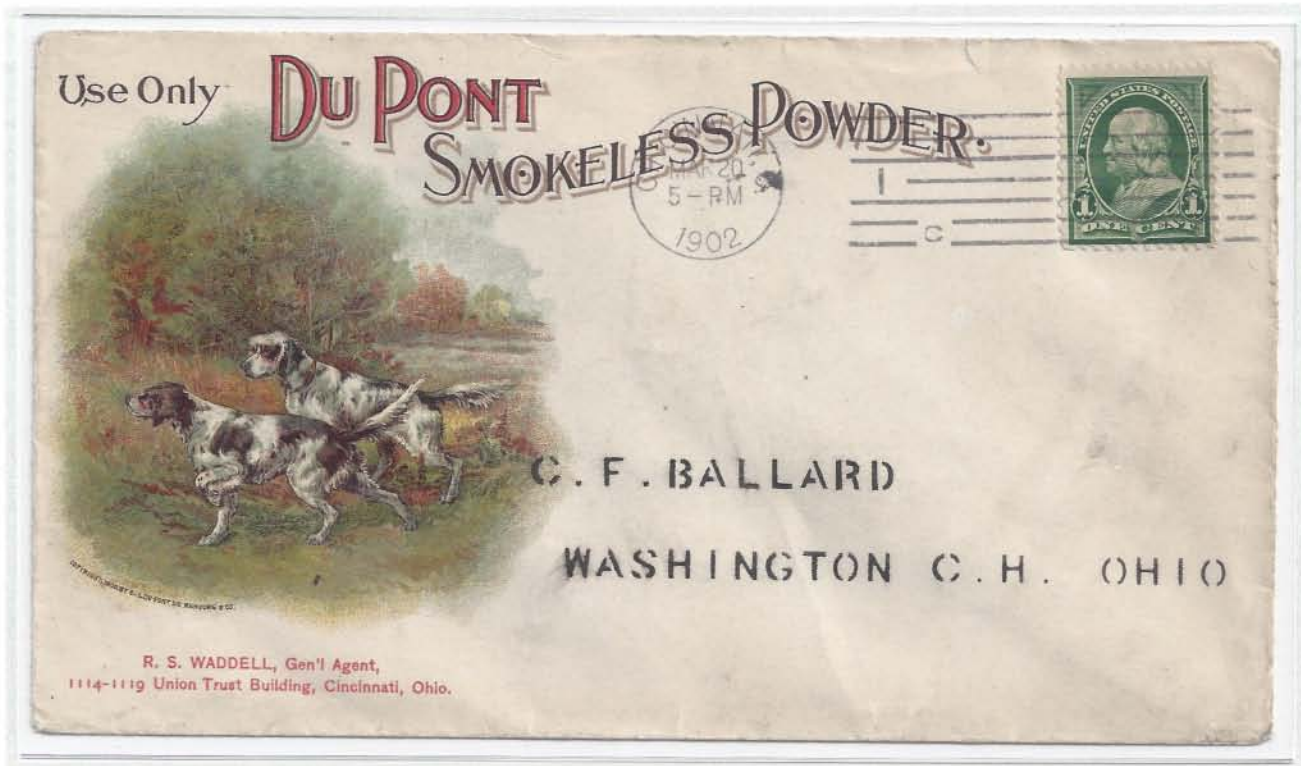


1921 cover illustrated with cropped Osthaus painting of boy learning to shoot



the full painting as shown on a Du Pont beer tray

Du Pont Nemours

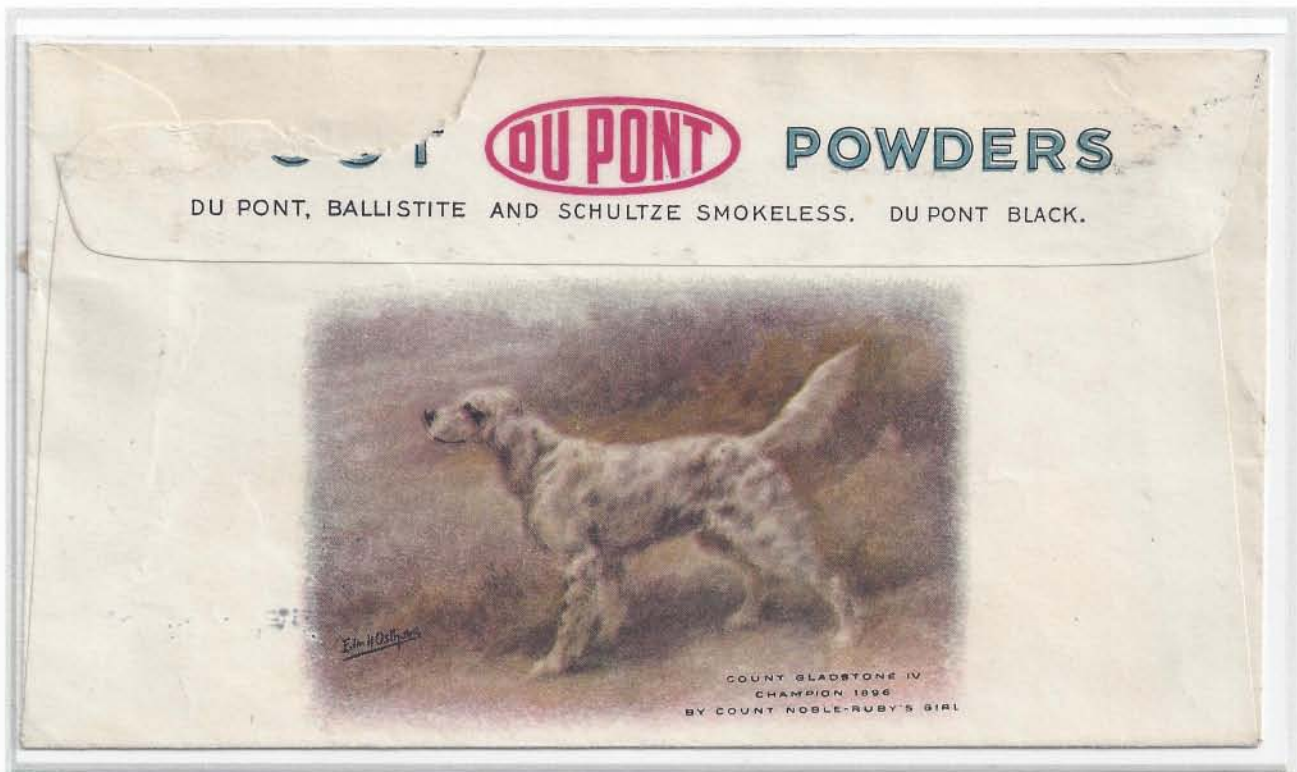


1902 cover illustrated with brace of English Setters, Du Pont Nemours 1900 copyright date

The earliest reported Du Pont advertising cover with English Setters.

Du Pont Powders

Count Gladstone IV (Champion 1896)



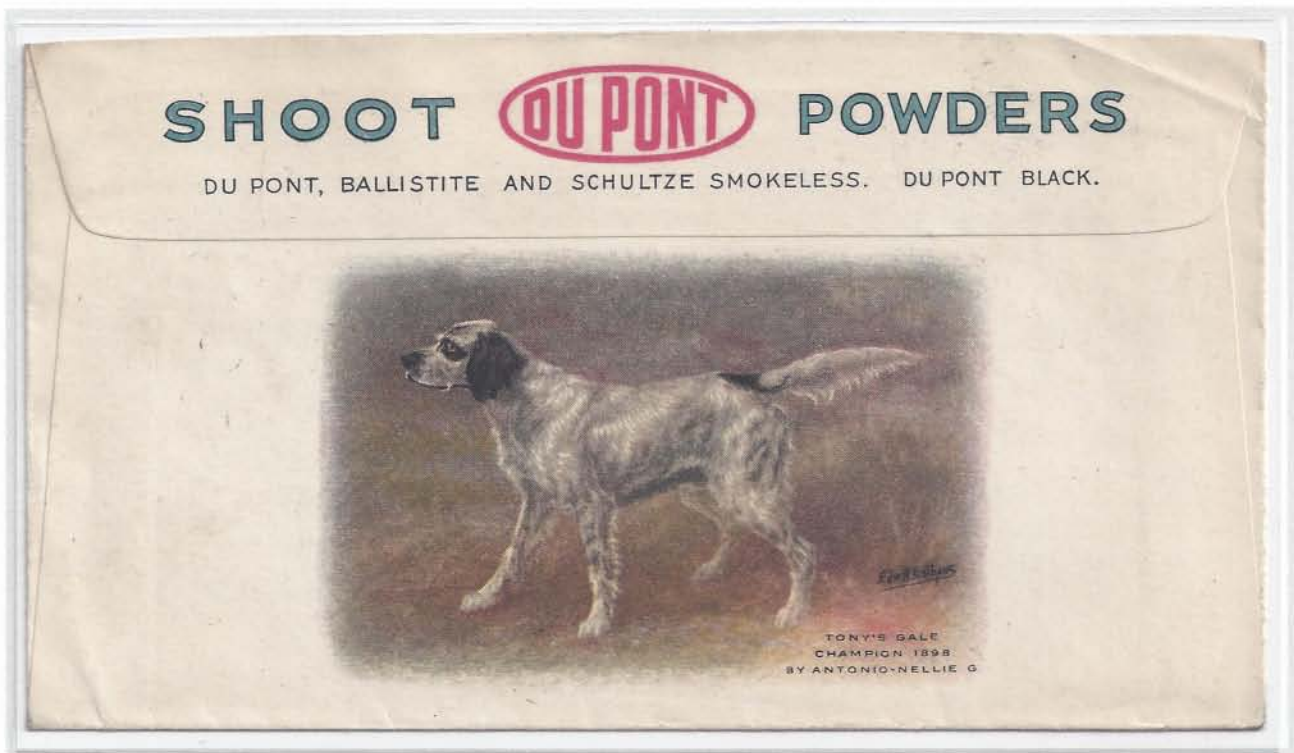
1917 cover with Osthaus image of "Count Gladstone IV" by Count Noble - Ruby's Girl



post card with Osthaus image of "Count Gladstone IV" by Count Noble - Ruby's Girl

Du Pont Powders

Tony's Gale (Champion 1898)



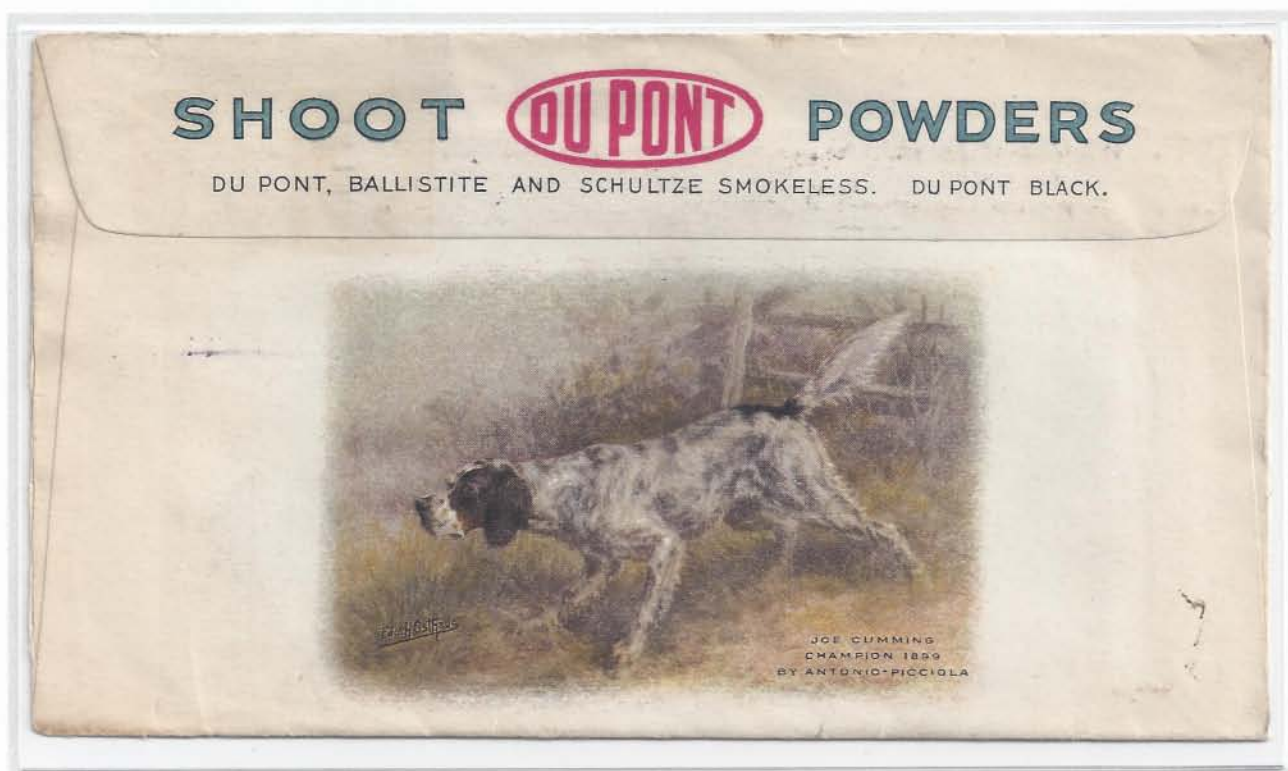
1917 cover with Osthaus image of "Tony's Gale" by Antonio - Nellie G



post card with Osthaus image of "Tony's Gale" by Antonio - Nellie G

Du Pont Powders

Joe Cumming (Champion 1899)



1917 cover with Osthaus image of "Joe Cumming" by Antonio - Picciola



post card with Osthaus image of "Joe Cumming" by Antonio - Picciola

Du Pont Powders

Lady Count Gladstone (Champion 1900) / Geneva (Champion 1903)



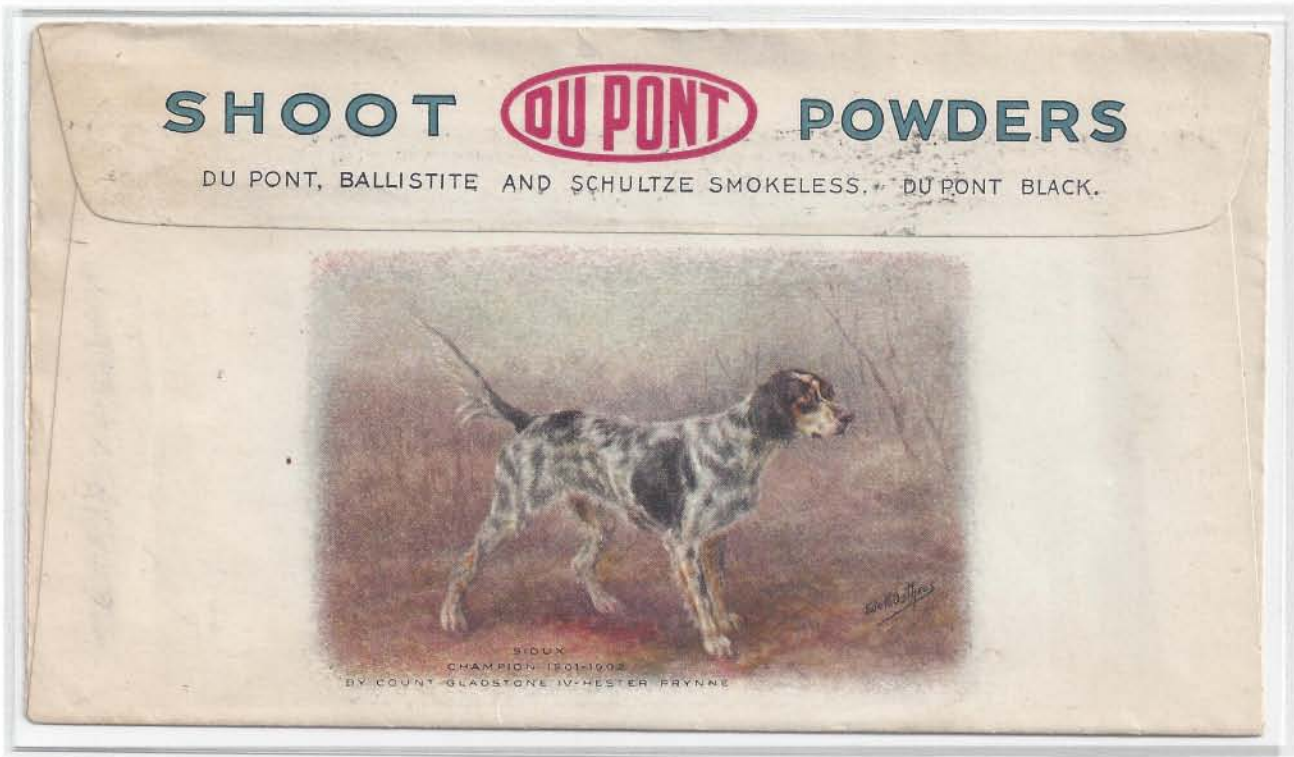
Osthaus image of "Lady Count Gladstone" by Count Gladstone IV - Dan's Lady



Osthaus image of "Geneva" (Champion 1903) by Tony Boy - Lena Belle

Du Pont Powders

Sioux (Champion 1901-1902)



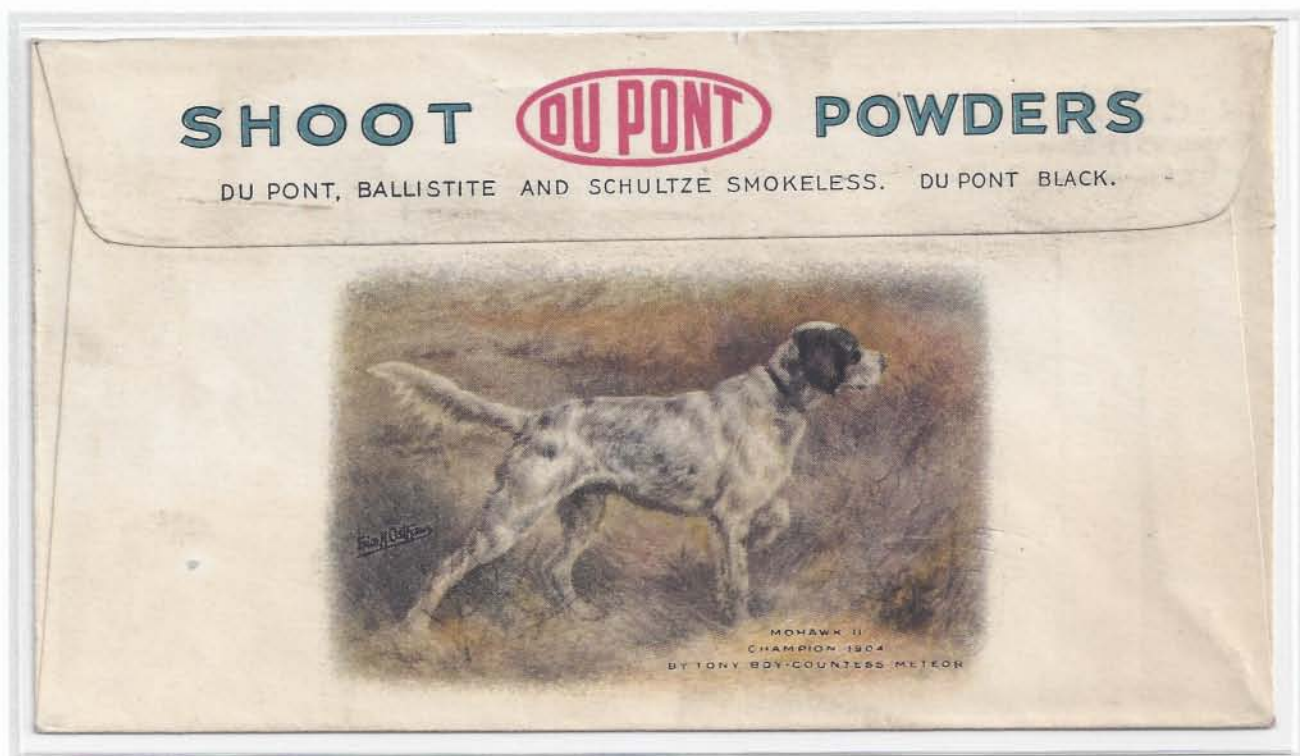
1917 cover with Osthaus image of "Sioux" by Count Whitestone IV - Hester Prynne



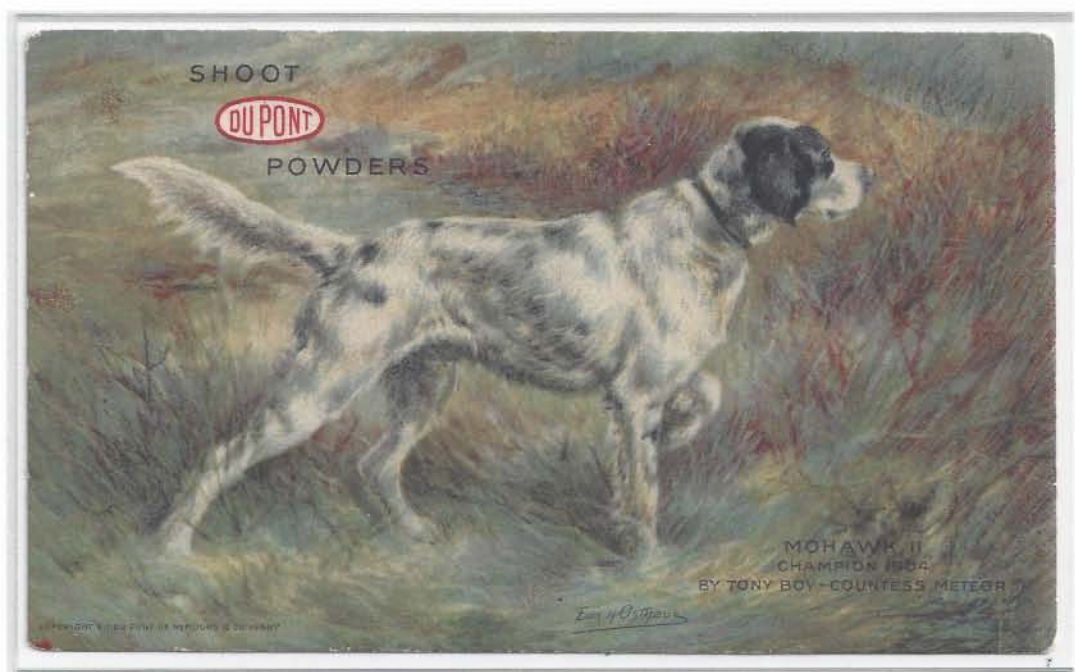
post card with Osthaus image of "Sioux" by Count Whitestone IV - Hester Prynne

Du Pont Powders

Mohawk II (Champion 1904)



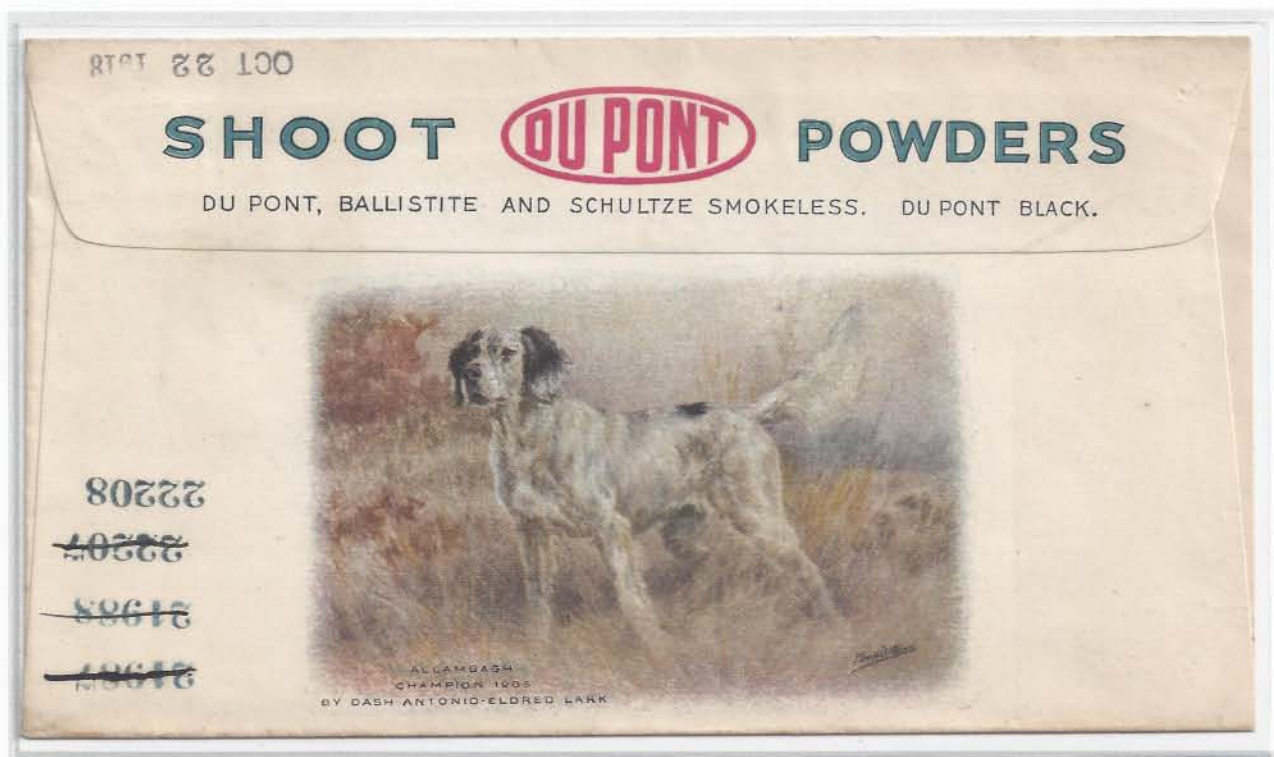
1919 cover with Osthaus image of "Mohawk II" by Tony Boy - Countess Meteor



post card with Osthaus image of "Mohawk II" by Tony Boy - Countess Meteor

Du Pont Powders

Allambagh (Champion 1905)



1918 cover with Osthaus image of "Allambagh" by Dash Antonio - Eldred Lark



post card with Osthaus image of "Allambagh" by Dash Antonio - Eldred Lark

Du Pont Powders

Pioneer (Champion 1906) / Prince Whitestone (Champion 1907)



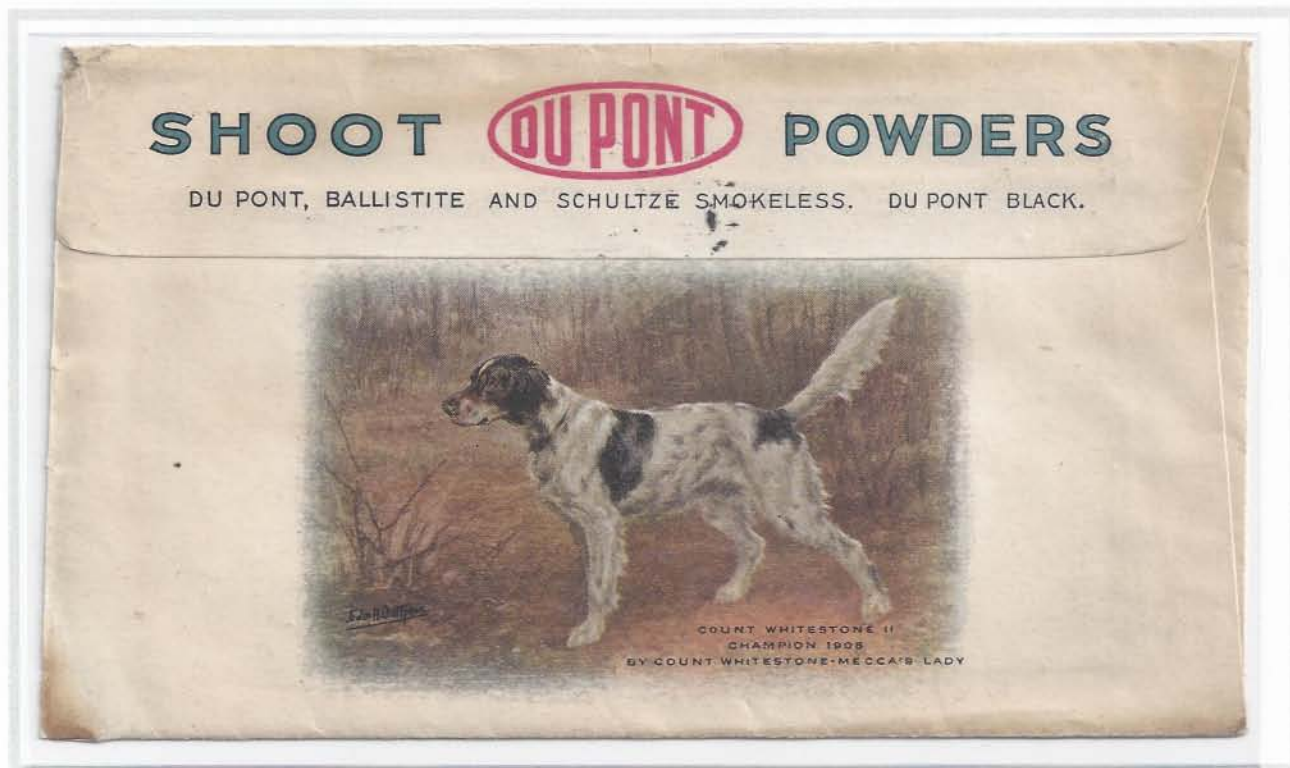
Osthaus image of "Pioneer" by Count Whitestone - Bonnie Doone



Osthaus image of "Prince Whitestone" by Count Whitestone - Queen Lilla

Du Pont Powders

Count Whitestone II (Champion 1908)



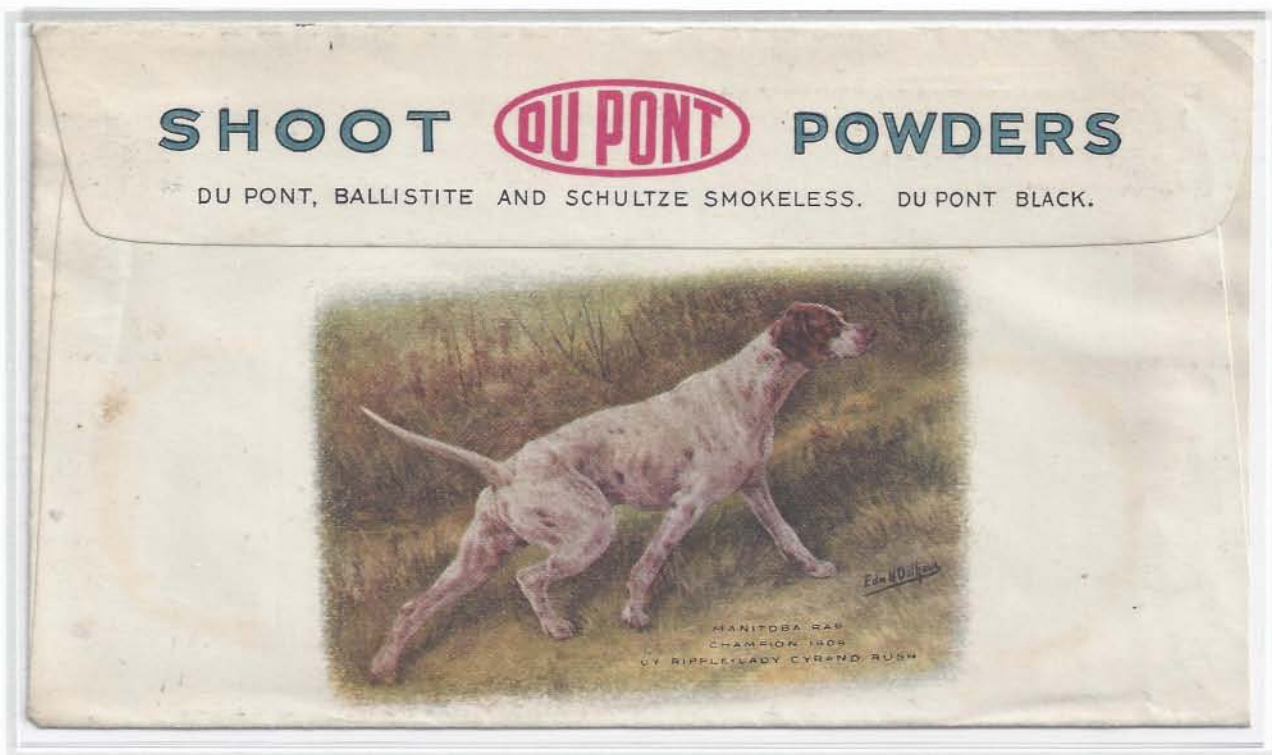
1917 cover with Osthaus image of "Count Whitestone II" by Count Whitestone - Mecca's Lady



post card with Osthaus image of "Count Whitestone II" by Count Whitestone - Mecca's Lady

Du Pont Powders

Manitoba Rap (Champion 1909)



1918 cover with Osthaus image of "Manitoba Rap" (pointer) by Ripple - Lady Cyrano Rush



post card with Osthaus image of "Manitoba Rap" (pointer) by Ripple - Lady Cyrano Rush

Du Pont Powders

Monora (Champion 1910)

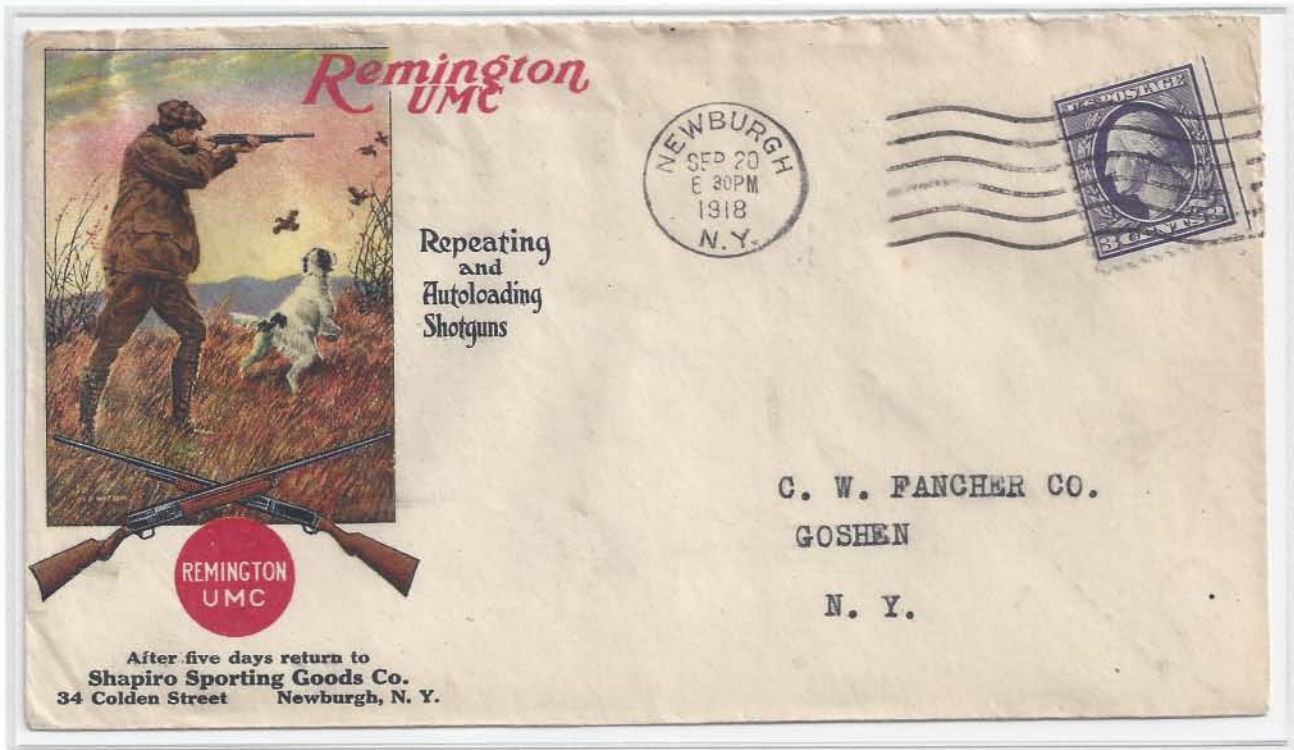


1923 cover with Osthaus image of "Monora"



post card with Osthaus image of "Monora" by Mohawk II - Tankus

Remington / US Climax Shells

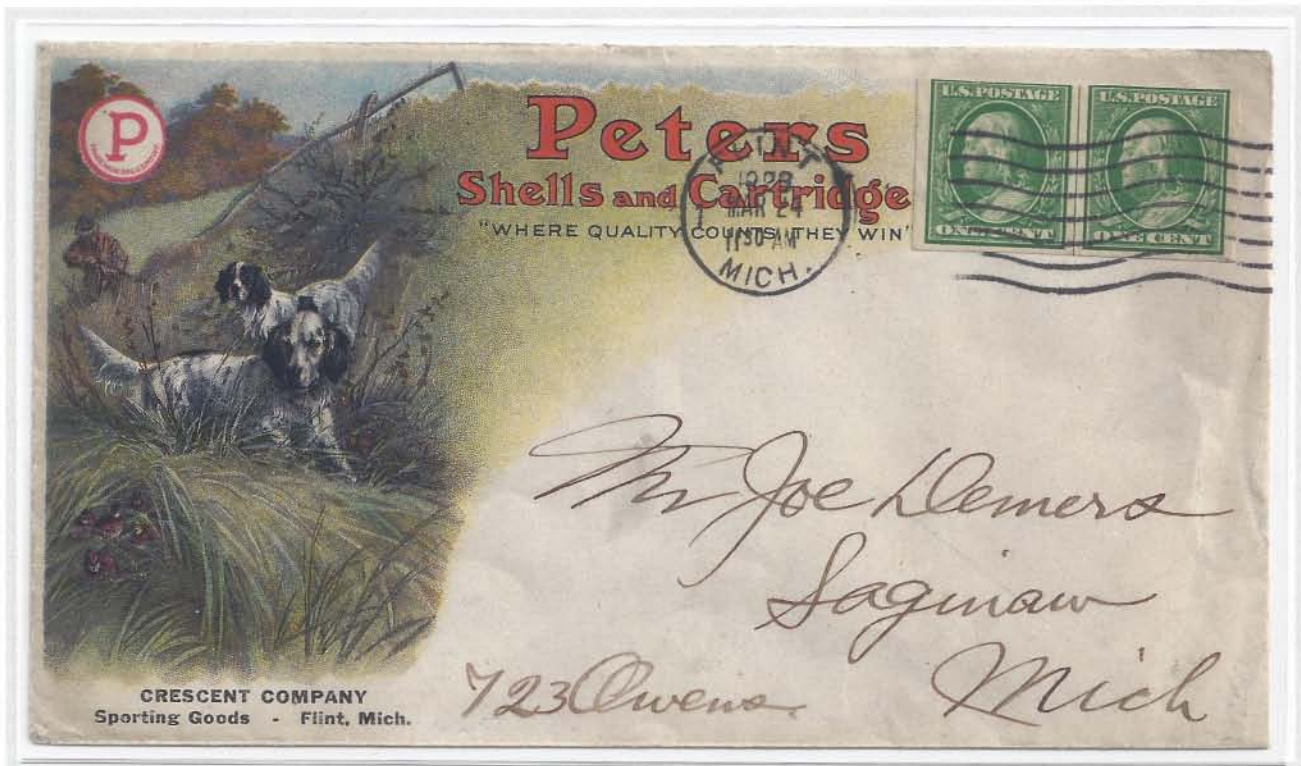


1919 cover with illustration of hunter with English Setter

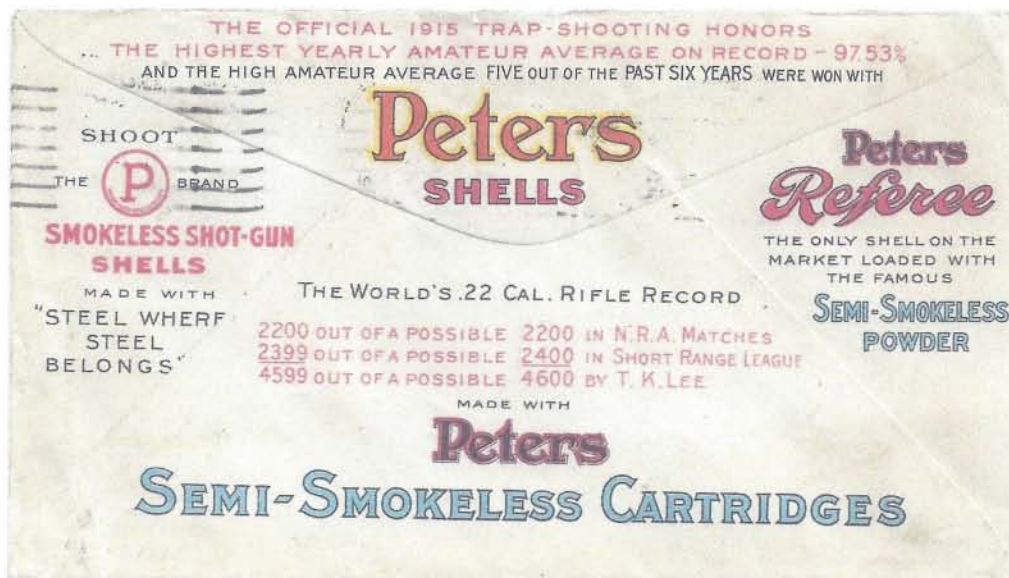


1920 cover with illustration of soldier hunting over a brace of English Setters

Peters Shells

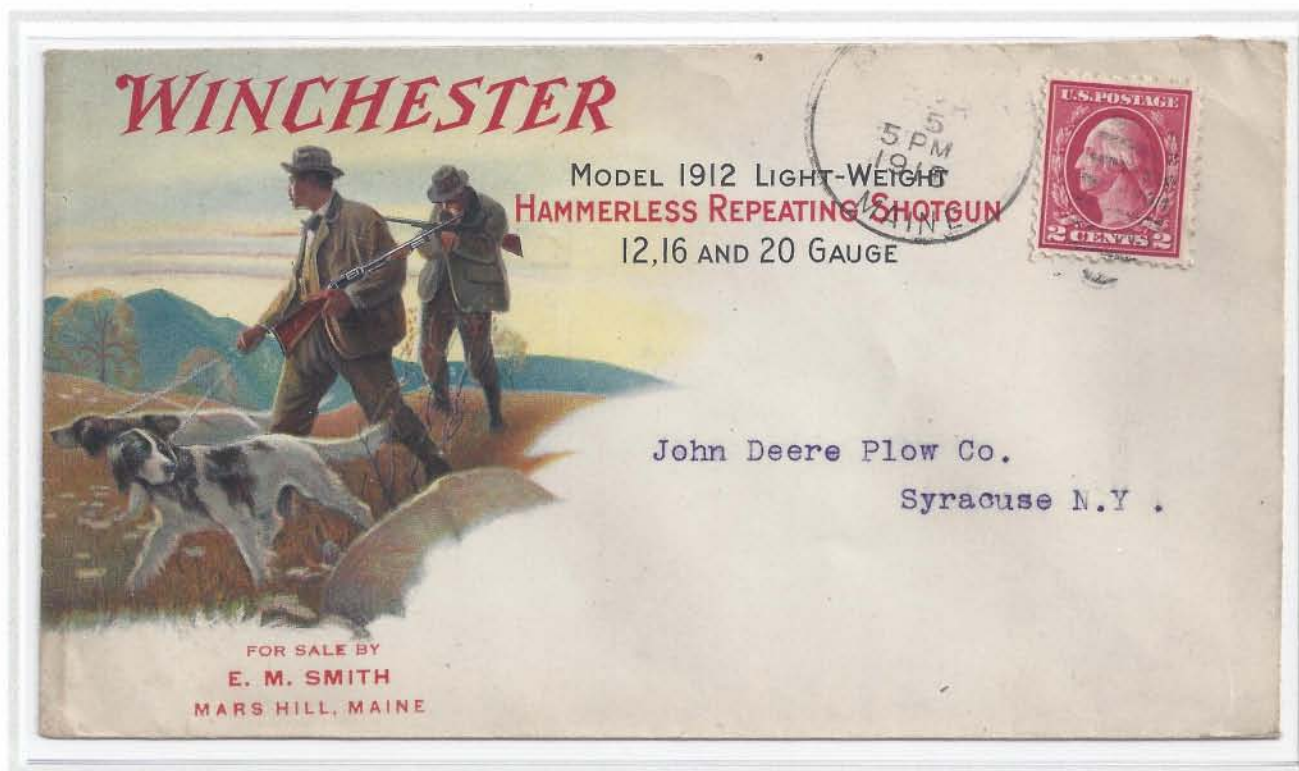


1928 cover illustrated with brace of English Setters



all over reverse of cover advertising (at 80% of original)

Winchester



1916 cover illustrated with brace of English Setters



all over reverse of cover advertising (at 80% of original)

Kennel Advertising Covers

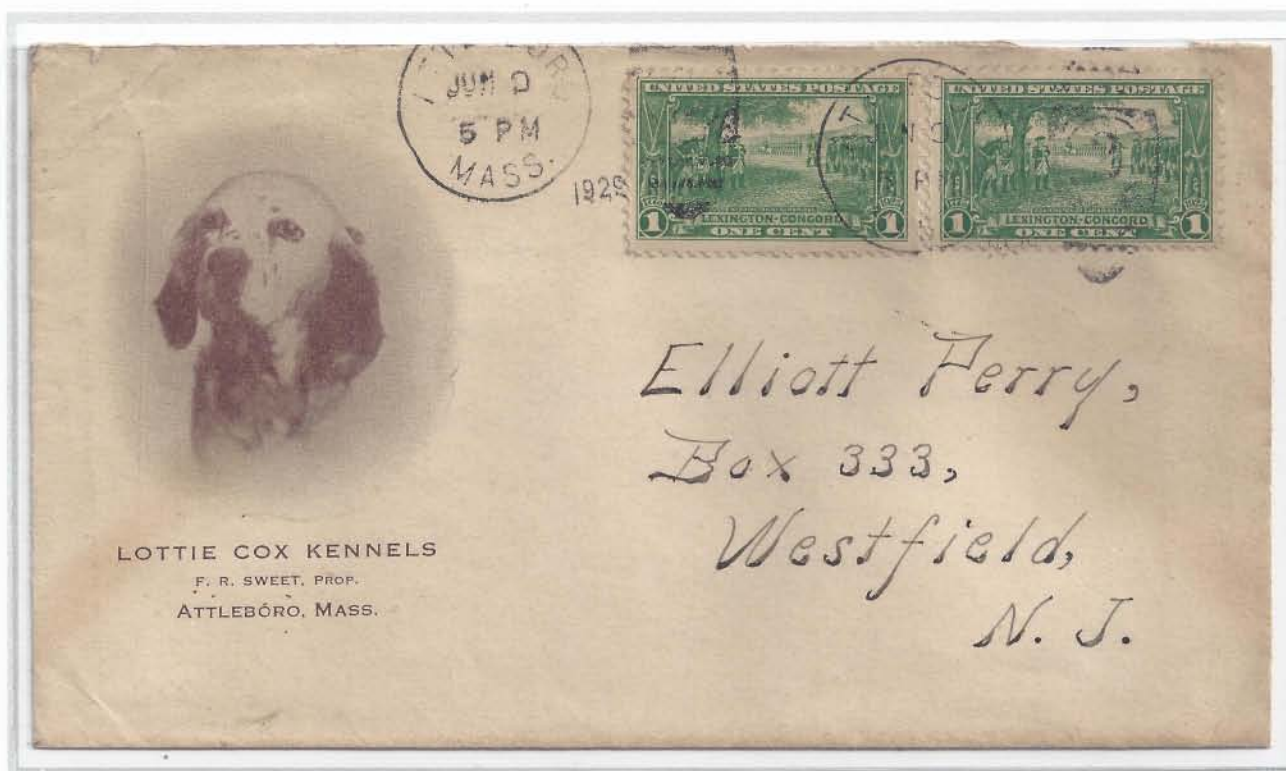


1886 Saint George Kennels (E.W. Jester) in Saint George, Delaware



1891 registered Woodbury Kennels illustrated cover used from Philadelphia

Kennel Advertising Covers

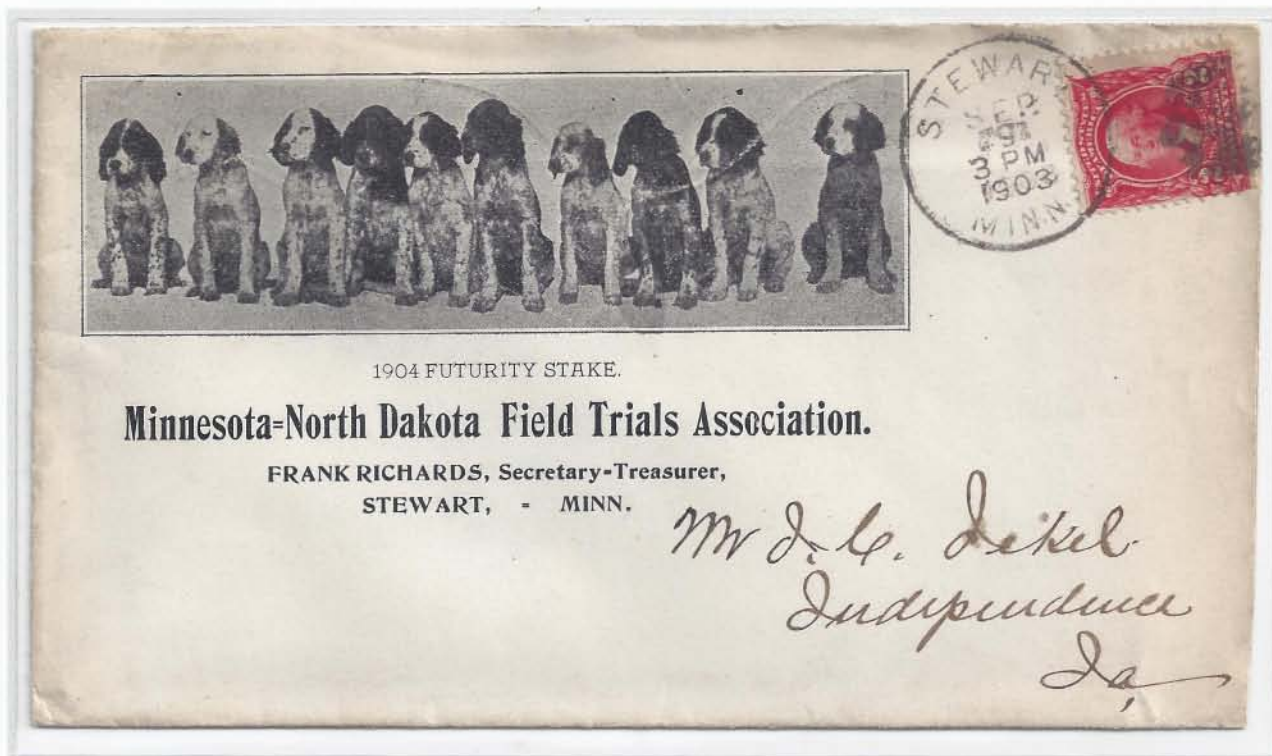


1929 Lottie Cox Kennels from stamp collector Frank Sweet to dealer Elliot Perry

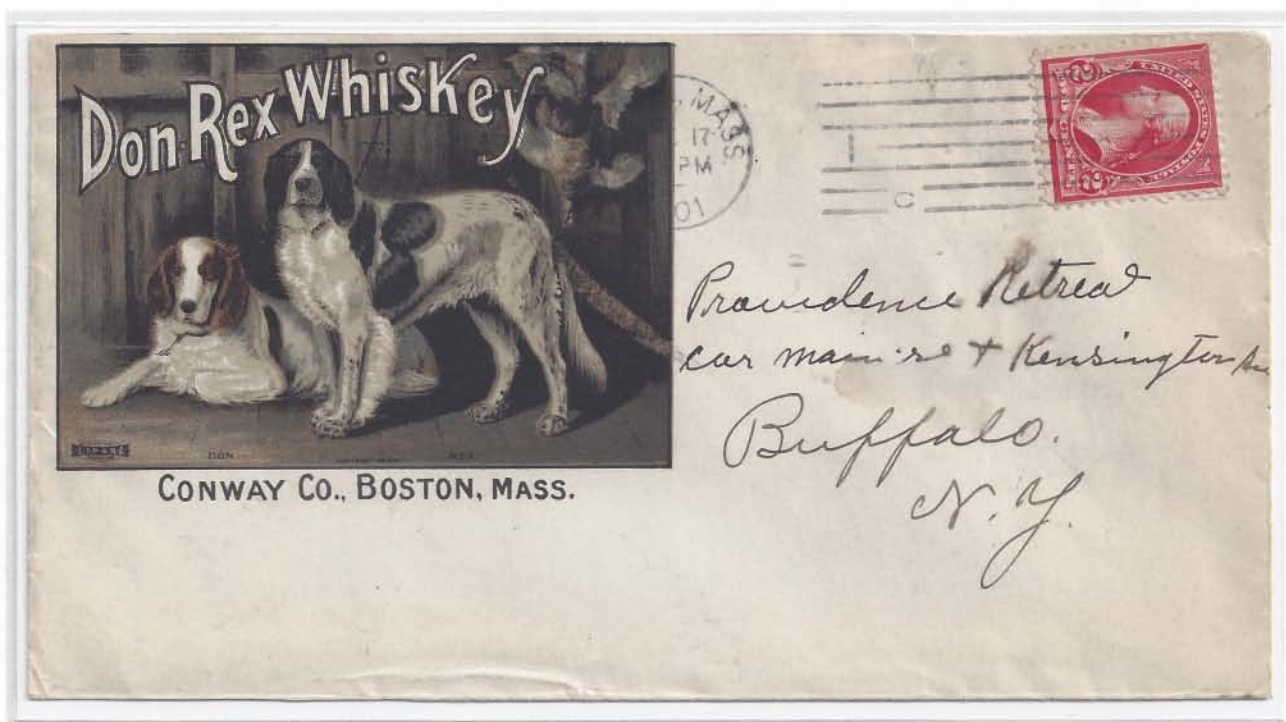


1930 registered Lottie Cox Kennels cover from stamp collector Frank Sweet to dealer Elliot Perry

Advertising Covers



1903 cover from Stewart, Minnesota with advertisement for 1904 Minnesota - North Dakota Field Trials

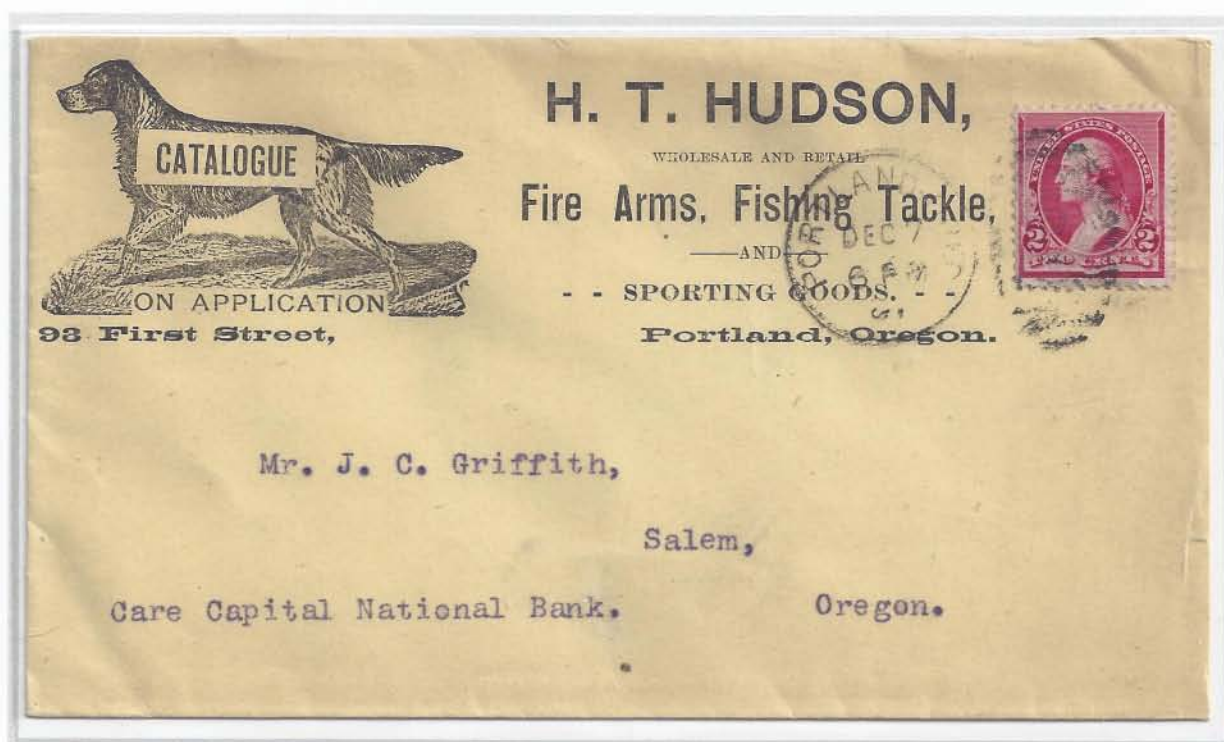


1901 illustrated cover of Don Rex Whiskey

Advertising Covers

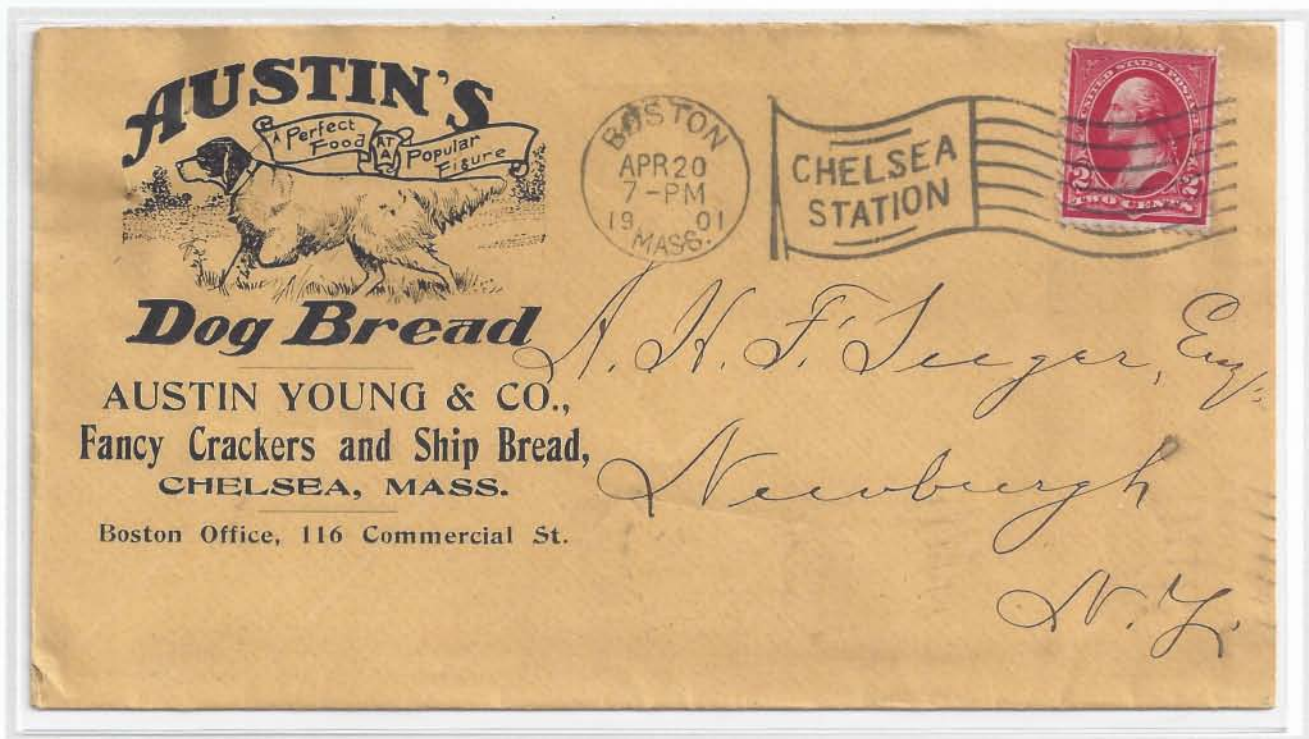


ca. 1875 advertising cover for Gowanda Improved Dog Power device



1891 illustrated advertising cover of H.T. Hudson

Advertising Covers



1901 Austin's Dog Bread cover



1916 H. Clay Glover's Imperial Dog Remedies cover

Setteresque Illustrations



ca. 1883 "Lay Up Treasures In Heaven" biblical tract cover

Laverack English Setters

Strephon (Champion 1979) / Duke (Champion 1991) / Billy (2001)

real photo post card of
"Strephon of Valley
Run" AKC Champion
in 1979



real photo post card
of "Valentine's Duke
Durham" AKC
Champion in 1991



real photo post card of
"Huntwood Esthete
Clouds of Glory" in
2001

