

Antique or Junque: 'Mr. Ed' worth more if he speaks French

by Anne McCollam

Q: The "Mr. Ed" puppet seen in this photo is in the original box and has never been opened. Pulling a string makes him move his mouth and talk. He says 10 phrases and has a mane made of yarn.

MR. ED - This Mr. Ed puppet is in the original box and has never been opened. It is probably worth between \$200 to \$250. CNS Photo. PEARL CHINA CO. MARK - Pearl China Co. located in East Liverpool, Ohio, used the mark on vase you have. CNS Illustration. Can you tell me when he was made and what he is worth?

A: "Mr. Ed" was a television show in the early 1960s that featured a talking horse. The show was so popular that it generated a variety of toys that included games, records and books. "Mr. Ed" must have been a real trouper, it has been said that he often did his scenes in one take.

Mattel Toy Co. made your puppet in 1962 and its value would probably be \$200 to \$250. They also made one that spoke French that has collectors kicking up their heels just to buy one for at least \$1,000.

Q: This mark is on the bottom of a porcelain vase I have. My vase stands taller than 8 inches and is decorated with gold glaze that has a floral pattern. It is in perfect condition.

What can you tell me about its age, the manufacturer and its value?

A: Pearl China Co. located in East Liverpool, Ohio, used the mark you provided. The firm was an outlet and sold pieces of china that were made by several other companies. Homer Laughlin China Co. in Ohio was one of the factories they had contracts with.

Your vase was made in the early 1900s and chances are it was made by Homer Laughlin China Co. Its value would probably be \$75 to \$125.

Q: Could you please give me an idea of the value of my set of porcelain that we bought in the 1960s? Each piece is marked "Wedgwood Bone China - Made in England - Asia - R4310." The set consists of eight each dinner plates, luncheon plates, side plates, cups, saucers, seven soup bowls, six dessert bowls, and one platter. The dishes are decorated with a white Greek key pattern on green rims and white backgrounds.

Also, I would like to find a business that sells replacements.

A: Wedgwood China Co. in England made your dinnerware. The pattern is "Asia" and the number "R4310" also identifies the pattern that was made from 1962 to 1976. Because there are missing dishes, you technically have a service for six set of dinnerware.

Replacements Ltd. and the Silver Queen are two well-known replacement firms. That should get your search started.

The value of your set would probably be \$1000 to \$1500.

BOOK REVIEW

"Country Living: American Glassware - What Is It? What Is It Worth?" (House of Collectibles, \$19.95) is a

colorful guide to glassware. It was written by well-known antiques and collectibles experts, TV hosts, and columnists, Helaine Fendelman and Joe L. Rosson. They present everything you want to know about American glass from its golden age to the present. There are more than 100 color photos and illustrations of blown and blown-molded glass and pressed glass.

Each example is showcased with a photo, described in detail, its provenance explained, and value appraised. Fendelman and Rosson have provided the history of American glassware, a glossary of terms, and descriptions of important styles and manufacturers. They also clearly explain the meaning and significance of fair market value and insurance replacement value.

If you've always wondered about your vintage glassware, this glossy guide will provide a wealth of information to solve the mystery.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

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