

COPACARTA

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*Editor's Remarks***Errata**

Your editor made two serious omissions in the last issue of Copacarta. He truncated the article entitled *The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta* and *The Colombian Date Stamps of 1888*. Both are completed in this issue. My apologies.

Stampshow Palmares

Once again Copacarta members participated heavily in Stampshow and did us proud. Once again, Colombians led the way.

Cof C Competition. *Colombia - The 1917 Perkins Issue*, Santiago Cruz; *Panama, The Path Between The Seas*, Alfredo Frohlich; *Chile: The Rouletted Issues 1877-1899*, Alfredo Frohlich. **GOLD.** *SCADTA'S First Issues - A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps*, Santiago Cruz; *Colombia's Cartagena Provisional Civil War Issues - 1899-1902* Alfredo Frohlich; *SCADTA Mail from and to Switzerland*; George W. Struble. **VERMEIL.** *Panama Postal Rates 1881-1906*, Bradley Wilde. **SILVER.** *Canal Zone Meter Mail & Uses*, Jerry Eller also Meter Stamp Society Award.

Single Frame Grand and Gold. *Replating Colombia's 1861 1 Peso Stamp*, Alfredo Frohlich. **GOLD.** *The 1918-1921 Canal Zone and Panama "Carta-Paquete" or Registration Envelopes*, David Zemer also Canal Zone Study Group Silver United Postal Stationery Society Single Frame Award, and United States Possessions Philatelic Society Single Frame Award.

Exhibiting

Beginning in January judges will be using the point system for scoring exhibits. I have been in the minority that objected believing the point scoring is an egregious example of misplaced concreteness. Be that as it may, the scoring system has been published in the new judge's handbook available on the APS web site. The editors have made a remarkably lucid explanation of how the point system should be applied and what to expect from it. They are to be congratulated on a job well done!

At BALPEX 2016 I found judges focusing on two things that were new to me. First, they now ask you to *quantify* items marked as important—as if rarity were the only reason an item might be important. Second, several judges mentioned subtle variations in the color of exhibit pages due to the pages being made from different lots of paper.

Anglo French Postal Convention

The June 2016 issue of *Stamp Lover* has an excellent review of a book entitled, *The 1836 Anglo-French Postal Convention*, published by the Royal Philatelic Society, London. For those with a passing interest in pre-UPU mail the review is probably enough but those with a serious interest in the subject should consider adding it to their library.

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From the President's Desk

It seems hard to believe that New York 2016 is behind us. What a wonderful show it was with excellent participation by COPAPHIL members and Alvaro Castro Harrigan winning the Champion of Champions for his outstanding Panama exhibit. I spent many hours looking at all of different Colombian and Panamanian exhibits and was thoroughly impressed and, to be truthful, slightly envious of some of the items that were included within the exhibits. Such a wealth of knowledge that was shared with everyone. So thank you exhibitors for all of your hard work collecting the material, researching it, and writing it up.

While I know that there are some exhibits on the Copaphil website and Patrick Lamastus' excellent website it would be nice to be able to upload more of the exhibits so that information on rates, quantities printed, earliest known usages, and scarcity could more quickly be established. It is a shame that only those who were physically able to attend the show were able to take notes on information in the exhibits. It would be great if more people could view them and enjoy the pleasure of seeing so many scarce items.

The Canal Zone Study Group has a list on the website that can be quickly accessed showing earliest known usages for all of the Canal Zone stamps. As well, for some of the scarcer issues, there are lists of the covers reported bearing those

stamps and their usage. Would the membership be interested in doing something similar? For a number of years I have printed out copies of covers mailed from Panama that I came across for sale on eBay or at auctions, as well as those in published exhibits. A link in our webpage to a spreadsheet containing the Scott number(s), date of mailing, place of mailing, and where they addressed to would very helpful establishing the scarcity of covers for exhibit purposes. It can be embarrassing, as has happened to me, to state that a specific number of covers bearing a certain stamp are known and then find one in another COPAPHIL member's exhibit at the same show. I realize, however, that there is a reluctance to share information on rarity as this could have an impact on what one's fellow philatelists are willing to pay and thus, possibly bid up the price for an item at auction. It is a double edged sword. However, in the long run I think that the more information that is available, the healthier our hobby will be.

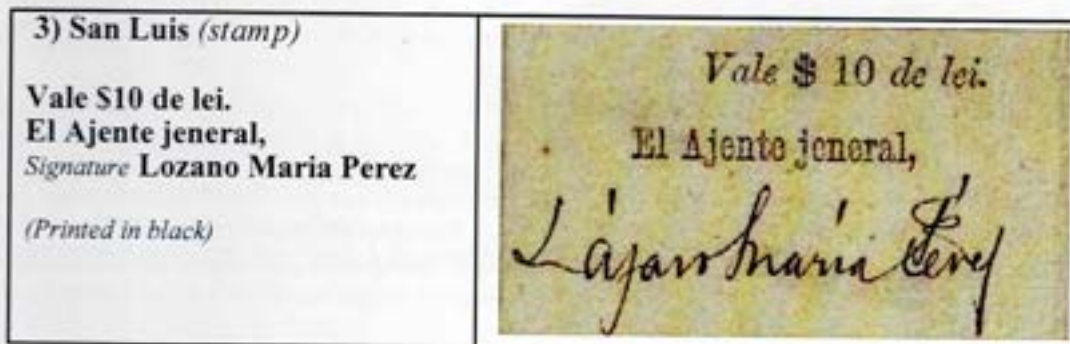
Finally I would like to thank our former officers and current editor for all of the hard work that they have done for the past decades for COPAPHIL and Copacarta. They are the ones who have kept our organization alive and I know that while it has been a labor of love it was also stressful. Gracias a todos!

The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta, Part II)

Federico Teppa

This the second part of an article that should have been published in its entirety in the last quarter. The editor apologizes for his error and the confusion that it has caused.

Your editor erred by illustrating #2 and #3, both from San Luis, with the same image—a red circular mark. The correct #3 is shown below



The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta (Errata)... continued from previous page



Fig. 1. (R. Müller Coll., ex Gonzales Garcia Coll.)
Serrezuela, 22 June 1859.



Fig. 2. (F. Teppa Coll.)
Santa Rosa, 17 August 1859. Cover with 2 strikes.



Fig. 3. (F. Teppa Coll.)
San Luis, 8 March 1863.



Fig. 4. (R. Müller Coll., ex Gonzales Garcia Coll.)
San Luis, 26 June 1865, green.



Fig. 5. (R. Müller Coll., ex Gonzales Garcia Coll.)
San Luis, 30 August 1868, blue.



Fig. 6. (ex Juan Santa Maria Coll. Investphila sale 2009)
El Dorado, 1870. Cover with the 2 Reales overwritten.

The 1918-1921 Panama and Canal Zone *Carta- Paquete* or Registration Envelopes

David Zemer

In the previous 2012 article^{1,2} there were many unanswered questions about the ordering, manufacturing and shipping of the registration envelopes and my feeling was that they would remain unanswered. However, in 2014 the correspondence between the American Bank Note Company and its agent in Panama was acquired and with it many of the gaps from 4 years ago are now filled in.

Most importantly, the correspondence shows that there were three separate issues

(printings) not two and that, contrary to statements in earlier publications, the ABN Co did not win the order for the first issue nor did it manufacture or print any registration envelopes.

A shipping date for the first order was not discovered nor do we know for sure how many envelopes were printed. However, we now have correct shipping dates as well as the amount of envelopes printed for the second and third issues. This new information along with a large number of used covers has proved invaluable in differentiating the first issue envelopes, some of which were surcharged for the Canal Zone, from the third issue that were only used by Panama.

Provisional Classification System to Replace Higgins & Gage

To keep track of the three Registration Envelope issues a new classification system is under development by COPAPHIL, the Colombia/Panama Philatelic Study Group. Following the example of the *UPSS Canal Zone Postal Stationery Handbook*, edited by Irwin Gibbs, RE will signify Registered Envelopes. The five different registered en-

velopes in this study are identified as RE1 – RE5. Major errors or major varieties are given a small letter “a,b,c” following the number RE1-RE5. Less important print varieties are identified with the letter “v” and then a digit. Examples of rework are identified with the letter “r” and then a digit.

RE5a for example: 5 identifies the fifth distinct envelope and “a” the first major error for the RE5 envelope.

RE1v2: “1” is the first distinct registered envelope with print variety number “2”.

The universal standard for cataloguing Panama Registration Envelopes, published by Higgins & Gage, is both incorrect and incomplete and hopefully



Fig. 1. RE1v1 - Gap under N in Recomendada.

will be replaced by the new registration envelope system.

Correspondence dates are listed in bold type so that anyone who wishes to study these envelopes will easily be able to find copies of the original documents.

FIRST ISSUE – Ordered Through STARK & Co. not the ABN Co

Juan Ehrman is often referred to when documenting the early Panama/Canal Zone ABNCo stamps. He was the ABNCo agent in Panama responsible for winning most of the government printing business. He often alerted the ABNCo to upcoming orders and for several decades he was responsible for obtaining the ABNCo contracts for many of the postage stamps, postal stationery, revenue stamps, and a large amount of non-postal stationery, letterhead, business cards, etc. in short, almost anything that needed quality printing for the gov-

ernment of Panama. He also sent the ABN Co reports on competitors and their attempts to win printing contracts.

November 23, 1916 – Ehrman wrote to the Foreign Division of the ABN Co thanking them for the coded cable warning him that Mr. Stark from Stark & Co., the general purchasing agent for Panama based in New York City, was in Panama and that Ehrman should ... *do all you can to prevent our orders being handled by him ...* Ehrman replied that ... *immediately I saw Mr. Aurelio Guardia, Secretary of Hacienda. He is not in favor of the contract with Stark & Co. and in his message to the Congress he recommends not to renew it.*

In addition, Ehrman wrote, "The Government of Panama will order Registered Linen Stamped Envelopes, two sizes, like the British Post Office is using."

December 7, 1916 – Ehrman must have been fairly certain that he would get the Registered Envelope contract for ABN Co as he wrote,

The Panama Government will shortly send you an order for 500,000 Registered Stamped Envelopes size 9 and 500,000 Registered Stamped Envelopes size 6 Cloth lined. A part of the above will be for the Canal Zone Post Office. The models will be sent to you in due course.

December 20, 1916 – ABN Co wrote their agent telling him that that they had not yet received an order for 1,000,000 cloth-lined envelopes and that ... *due to the condition of the paper market cloth-lined paper is very expensive.*

December 23, 1916 — Panama's *Gaceta Oficial*

Decree # 53, paved the way for the tamper-proof register envelopes as it ... *forbade the inclusion of valuable objects like gold, jewelry, coins, precious stones, etc. within regular or registered mail. The decree made it clear that such inclusion would be subject to forfeiture of the valuables unless they were sent by a system of Carta-Paquete or "Package-Letters."*

The decree required the "Package-Letters" to have a cover made of strong or clothed lined paper and lacquered in such a way that no one would be able to open it without leaving evidence that the security of the letter had been violated. The decree further stated that all shipments of this nature would be marked *Carta-Paquete* in a visible place.

January 3, 1917 – The ABN Co received an official letter, No. 10-C from Panama. The Secretaria de Hacienda y

Tesoro confirmed that they had ordered



Fig. 2. Print varieties RE1v2 (gap under letter o in *Recomendada*, RE1v3 (broken lower right N in RECOMENDADOS), RE1v4 (Broken upper left corner 1st E in PAQUETE). RE1v5 is defined as all three varieties on one envelope as shown here.

200,000 envelopes for the service of *Recomendados* and *Carta-Paquete* through their agent Ehrman & Co.

No other relevant documents, including the referenced order for 200,000 envelopes, were found in the 1917 correspondence and quite unusually, there is no discussion of these envelopes or this order. Later correspondence makes it clear that Stark & Co. handled the order.

No other documentation for the envelopes ordered for Panama from Stark & Co. has been uncovered.

Gibbs wrote that the Panama Canal Press at Mount Hope, Canal Zone had received 9000 small (size 6) and 1000 large (size 10) registry envelopes August 1918 from Panama. A few months later a second order of 16,000 small and 9,000 large registry

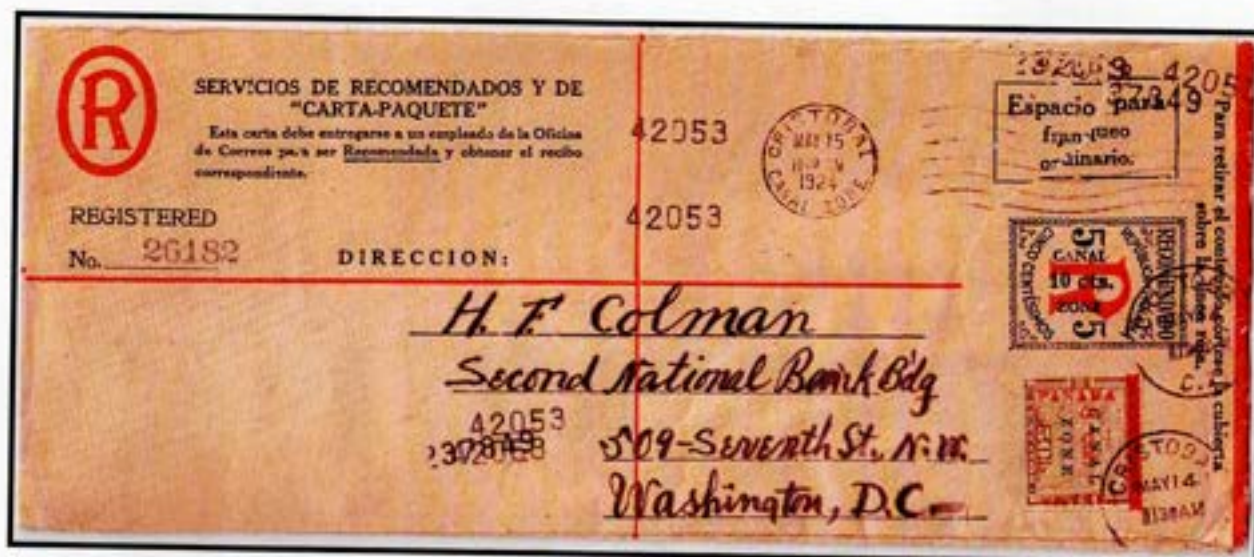


Fig. 3. RE2 - Large envelope with CANAL ZONE surcharge. With print variety RE2v1, mark over S in Espacio and RE2v2, gap(s) in frame.

envelopes arrived from Panama. These envelopes were overprinted for use in the Canal Zone and uprated from 5 cents, the registry fee in Panama, to the registry fee in the Canal Zone of 10 cents.³

September 4, 1918, — *Gaceta Oficial* published Decree # 140 which authorized the usage of inviolable, tamper proof, envelopes for registration and Package—Letters based on Decree # 53. The specifications for these envelopes are given and the Decree required that incoming mail which contains money must also be in similar tamper proof envelopes.

No announcements of a first day of usage was found but the earliest reported postmark on the Panama small envelope is October 24, 1918. The earliest reported postmark on the small envelope overprinted for the Canal Zone is October 25, 1918.

The earliest documented postmark on the Panama large envelope is December 12, 1918.

November 1918 - J.P. Coveleski sent *Mekeel's Weekly* one short and one long registration envelope each of which was overprinted CANAL ZONE. He also stated that 15,000 of each size were issued. Besides the addition of the CANAL ZONE overprint he wrote that the rating was doubled from 5 cents to 10 cents to comply with Canal Zone registration rates. This appears to have been the first time that these registration covers had been mentioned in the philatelic press.⁴

RE1: First Issue—Small Registered Envelopes with Constant Varieties

Constant print varieties found on RE1, the small First Issue envelopes, are assigned a catalogue number beginning with "v". The Panama envelopes surcharged for the Canal Zone often have these varieties and examples with this surcharge are shown when possible.

The RE1v1 variety has a gap under the letter n in *Recomendada* (fig. 1).

Example of RE1v1 on Surcharged Small Registered Envelope – CANAL ZONE Surcharge

Three varieties that appear together have been assigned three separate numbers, RE v 2, 3, 4 as well as a common number, REv5 in case it turns out that they are always together (fig. 2).

RE2: First Issue –Large Registered Envelope with Constant Varieties

Sometimes the word *Espacio*, in the box where the stamp is applied, has a mark over the letter "S" and is classified as RE2v1. In addition gap varieties exist on the frame or box surrounding the text. For the moment one number, RE2v2, is assigned to any first issue large envelope with a frame gap but there are examples of these gaps appearing in different locations on the box so additional numbers might be used in the future to differentiate among them.

These two varieties were difficult

to catalogue because they are hidden by a stamp on most used envelopes (fig. 3). These varieties were first noticed on Panama envelopes and later on the four envelopes overprinted CANAL ZONE in the Gibbs' auction catalogue, Lots 1268-1271.

Linen Mesh is the Key to Identifying First and Third Issues

The key to differentiating the First from the Third Issue is the mesh lining the insides of the envelopes. Both sizes of envelopes of the First Issue have a coarse, irregular mesh, Fig. 4. In the section of this article on the Third Issue a scan of its fine mesh is shown.

One mark that was first considered to be a variety is inside of the indicium red R. However all of the first series large envelopes seen so far have this characteristic but none of the first series small envelopes seen have it. Often the mesh can be seen through the R, Fig. 5, and the red security stripe, *linea roja*, at the top of the envelope, making it possible to distinguish between the first and third issues without looking at the mesh on the inside of the envelope.

SECOND ISSUE: ABNCo Order 6250 - Canal Zone 10c Registry Envelopes

October 24, 1918 — In an internal memo from the ABN Co Foreign Department to Mr. Woglom in the Purchasing Department Mr. Woglom was asked to give a cost estimate for 50,000 of each of two sizes of linen-sized envelopes. Two examples of linen-sized envelopes were included with the remarks that they were made by an outside house but that Panama was not satisfied with them and wanted something better – the two envelope examples were not in the correspondence. Woglom was told that the envelope company Jones⁸ should be contacted to see what they would charge to make up the envelopes after ABN Co printed them.

December 7, 1919 – Ehrman alerted the ABN Co that Panama would soon send them an order for Canal Zone postage stamps, stamped envelopes, postal cards and 25,000 small and 10,000 large "Register Envelopes" with a registry fee of 5c. He

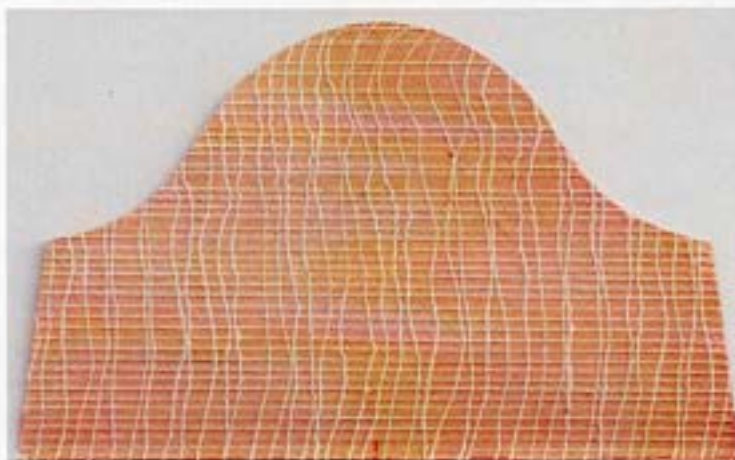


Fig. 4. RE1 & RE2: Coarse Irregular Mesh on inside of flap. the First Issue envelopes.



Fig. 5. Large R showing outline of coarse mesh. Red mark inside of indicium R is not a variety, and is found on all large First Issue, RE2, envelopes.

also noted that *These Register Envelopes were sent by Stark & Co in 1917 and were manufactured by the Great Eastern Paper Co. 379 Broadway, New York.*

December 10, 1919 – In a letter Ehrman confirmed the order of December 7 and corrected the registry fee to 10c, the rate in the Canal Zone. Panama had not been satisfied with the envelopes from Stark & Co. and Ehrman asked that a better quality of glue be used to prevent the envelopes becoming "... unglued by themselves". He also warned that the ABN Co must attend to the whole order to prevent the Panama Government ordering directly from another paper company. The ABN Co gave the registry envelope foreign order number 6250. Included with the letter was the original order in Spanish on the letterhead of the *Secretaria de Hacienda y Teso-*



Fig. 8. RE3 - Small Obliterated Envelope



Fig. 8a. RE3v1, last letters "d" and "a" connected.

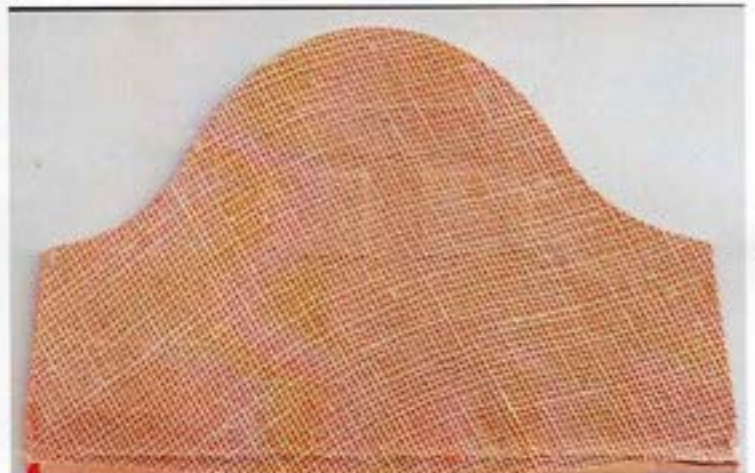


Fig. 10. Smaller, symmetrical mesh not laid out parallel to the sides of the envelope. Used in both the small and large Second Issue envelopes.



Fig. 9. RE4 - Large Obliterated envelope.

this date.

One small constant print variety has been catalogued in RE3, the smaller envelope: the last "d" and "a" in *Recomendada* are joined with a small spot. 14 of the 24 RE3 covers in our census show this variety (Fig. 8a).

The linen mesh in these envelopes was much tighter than in the first and those examined have the mesh at an angle to the sides (fig. 10).

Second Issue Registered Envelope Without Obliterated Surcharge

Coveleski wrote in a note found in a used unobliterated envelope that so far as he knew only five envelopes were known without the surcharge, and "... only one envelope known used". Including the two in the Gibbs auction, three unused envelopes are recorded. Fig. 11.

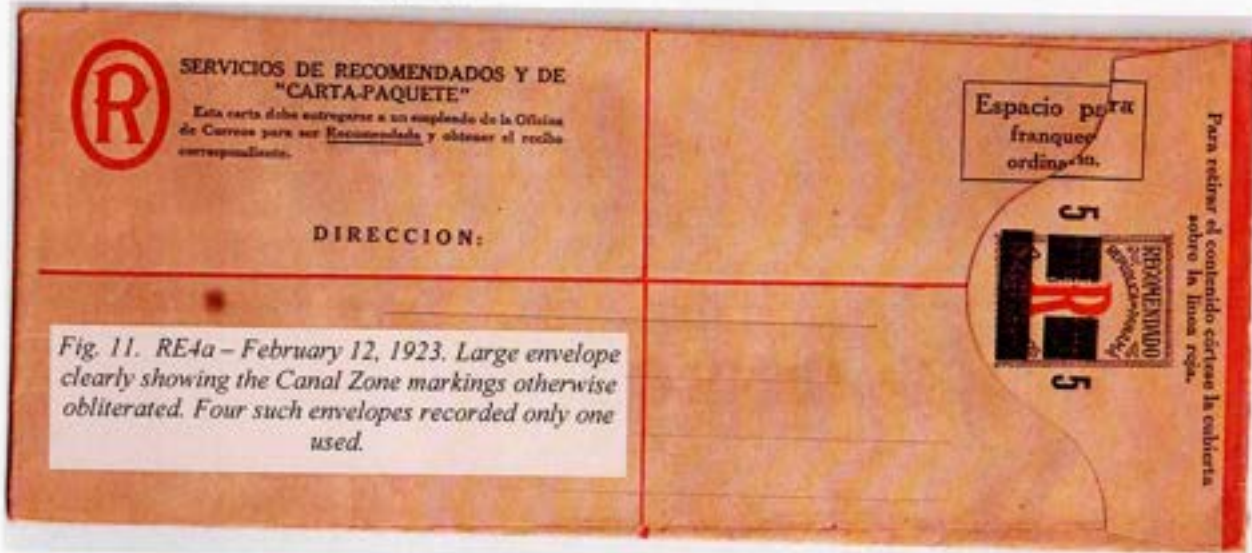


Fig. 11. RE4a - February 12, 1923. Large envelope clearly showing the Canal Zone markings otherwise obliterated. Four such envelopes recorded only one used.

THIRD ISSUE: ABNCo Order 6556/6586 - 5c Panama Registry Envelopes

August 8, 1920 - there are 2 handwritten memos dated November 1920 with cost estimates for 50,000 5c lined registered $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inch envelopes to be made by the US Envelope Co. The price estimate is \$ 2640 with a delivery in 4 months.

September 24, 1920 - ABN Co received a letter from Ehrman with Order No. 10 from Panama for 50,000 small registered envelopes, Balboa 0.05, Size $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The ABN Co assigned it order number 6556 and noted that it is similar to F 6250 (the CANAL ZONE envelopes, RE3) but with a registry fee of 5c instead of 10c. ABN Co first wrote that it is to be "... supplied by the Great Eastern Paper Co." but struck that company's name out and wrote "... by the US Envelope Co.". This is the first indication that the US Envelope Co. had been responsible for the manufacturing and printing of all three issues of registry envelopes.

November 5, 1920 - Internal order 6586 from the Foreign Sales Department for 50,000 Registry envelopes of 5 Centesimos. Size $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inch open end. Manila cloth lined, type printed in black and

red on front and back as sample. Price \$3,250 (\$65 per 1000), 5% commission to Ehrman. Work to be done by the U.S. Envelope Co. No reason was found for the new order number, 6586, but we suspect that it was because the first internal order number, 6556, was for the cancelled Great Eastern Paper Co. order (fig. 12).

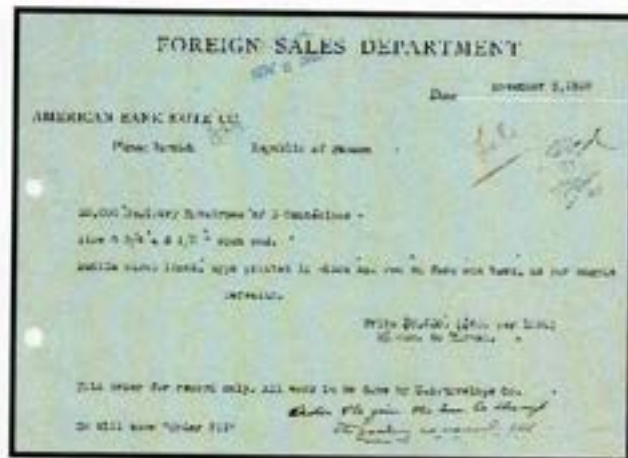


Fig. 12. November 5, 1920 - ABN Co Internal order for 50,000 small registry envelopes.

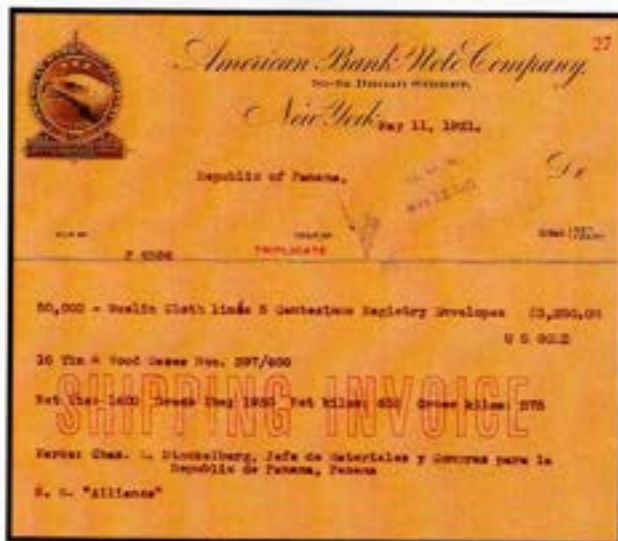


Fig. 13. May 11, 1921. Invoice of \$ 3250 to Panama for 50,000 small registry envelopes.



Fig. 14. RE5 - Third Issue.

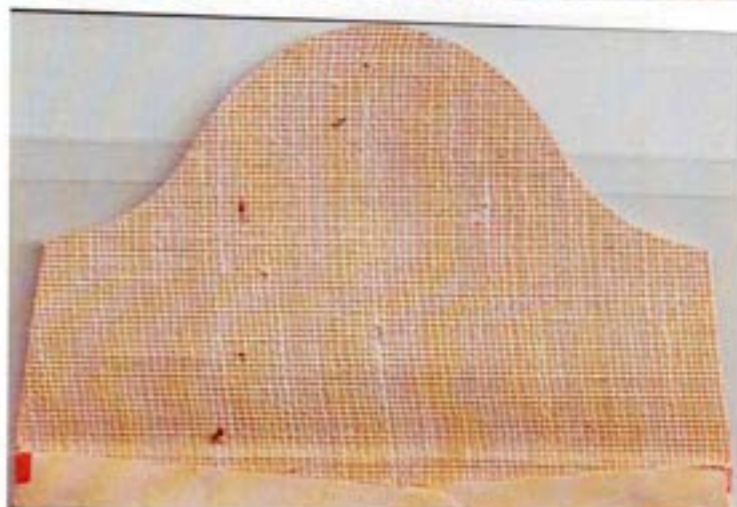


Fig. 15. RE5 - Small, tight symmetrical mesh. Threads nearly parallel to envelope sides.

January 5, 1921 – ABN Co wrote Ehrman giving an estimated shipping date for the registration envelopes as March 20.

May 11, 1921 – ABN Co sent Stockelberg an invoice of \$ 3250.00, for Order F6586, 50,000 Muslin Cloth lined 5 Centesimos Registry Envelopes. The shipment was in 10 Tin & Wood Cases and the net weight was 1400 pounds and would sail on S.S. *Alliance* May 13 (fig. 13). May 16 Chubb & Sons certified that they were insuring this May 13 order for \$ 3288.

The typical sailing time between New York and Panama was seven days giving an estimated date of arrival in Colon, Panama for the Third Issue is May 20 (fig. 14). Panama must have been running out of the small envelopes as the last recorded postmark on a First Issue small envelope is June 1921. The earliest recorded postmark on a Third

Issue registration cover is a few months later, September 1, 1921. The latest recorded postmark is July 12, 1926.

On the outside FE5, the Third Issue envelope, appears to be identical to FE1, the small First Issue envelope. However, the red vertical and horizontal registration lines can vary in thickness between 0.8 and 1.3 mm. The small, symmetric mesh on the inside is the definitive distinguishing difference between the two envelopes (fig. 15).

RE3 - Third Issue Registered Envelopes with Constant Varieties

One Third Issue envelope has been discovered with the black instructions missing on the front. Higgins & Gage recognize this unique error as C1b (fig. 16).

Quite surprisingly the same indicium with a mark inside of the R found on every large envelope of the first issue, is been found on one small envelope and classified as RE5b (fig. 17).

Indicia and type showing rework have been documented. In order to easily identify "rework" a lower case r is introduced into the catalogue system. At first it was thought that the indicia with rework were scarce but in about 20% of the

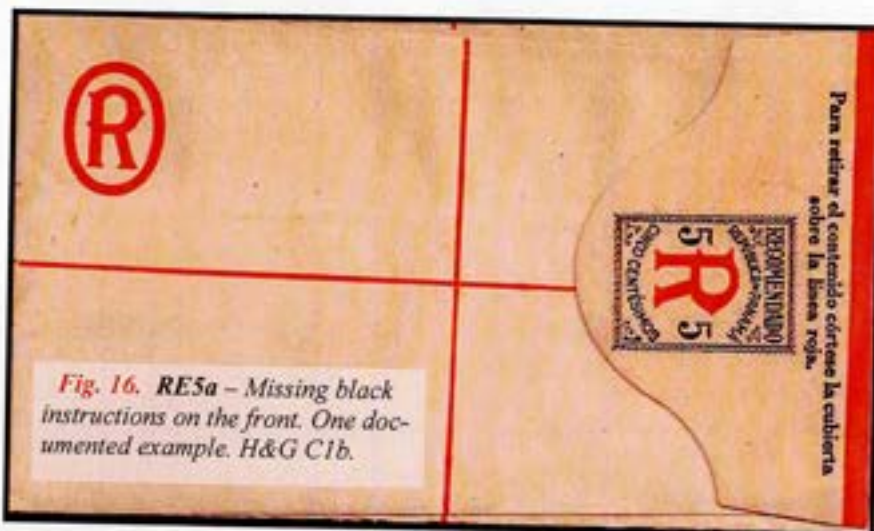


Fig. 16. RE5a - Missing black instructions on the front. One documented example. H&G C1b.



Fig. 17. RE5b - Red mark inside R in Indicium identical to that on all large envelopes of type RE2. One documented example.



Fig. 18. RE5r1: S in CENTESIMOS protrudes into frame + rework below it. RE5r2: R in REPUBLICA protrudes into frame



Fig. 19 above: RE5r3 *sp* in *correspondiente* damaged; below: RE5r4 Rework on *spo* in *correspondiente*.

census S of CENTESIMOS protrudes into the frame and the ornamentation below that S has been repaired. Envelopes with these varieties are classified as RE5r1. The R of REPUBLICA also protrudes into the frame, and classified as RE5r2 (fig. 18).

The letters *spo* were sometimes broken in the First Issue large covers and needs more research but this is a constant variety in the Third Issue where *spo* had been replaced or repaired. RE5r3 designates the broken letters and RE5r4 the repaired letters (fig. 19a, b).

Discussion of ERRORS, REUSE OF INDICIA, BROKEN TYPE and REWORK

Manufacturing of the envelopes was complicated. Four

different plates had to press onto each envelope with the last two pressings onto the front of the completed envelope. No varieties have been found on the vertical print on the envelope back and flap. Probably due to the need to press the two horizontal plates on the envelope with folded layers type was easily broken. Broken type or rework have been assigned a catalogue number when several have been found.

It was a surprise to find that the red R in the indicia of the large covers of the First Issue used on a small cover of the Third Issue. Only one example is recorded but there could be more.

These three Panama issues have one known major error, RE5a, the envelope without the black instructions on the front shown in Figure 16.

Rework of type and the indicia are given catalogue numbers. Canal Zone surcharges and one error with double horizontal print on a small envelope with a Canal Zone surcharge have been well documented by Plass and Gibbs of the Canal Zone Study Group and by the United Postal Stationery Society and therefore not repeated here.

Estimate of Number of small envelopes in the First Issue

There is no record of the Canal Zone post office destroying unused registration envelopes from the 1918 First Issue and they were used from late 1918 until 1924. A total of 25,000 small envelopes and 10,000 large envelopes were surcharged CANAL ZONE.

No reliable source has been found giving the amount that Panama received from Stark & Co. in the First Issue shipment. However, a rough estimate can be made.

TABLE 1 - PANAMA REGISTERED ENVELOPE CENSUS and PRICES

Panama Registered Envelope	Higgins & Gage #, Issue date	ISSUE # / Year Printed	Recorded Number of Envelopes Unused	Recorded Number of Envelopes Used	Earliest Reported Postmark	Latest Reported Postmark	Prices Recorded: Unused Envelopes	Prices Recorded: Used Envelopes
RE1 - Small 165mm x 95 mm	C1, 1922	1/ 1918	24 (CZ.9)*	47 (CZ.10)*	10/24/1918	04/06/1921	\$ 35**	\$ 50
RE2 - Large 240 mm x 125 mm	C1a, 1922	1/ 1918	24 (CZ.5)*	43 (CZ.5)*	12/21/1918	05/17/1925	\$ 60**	\$ 75
RE3 - Small Obliterated CANAL ZONE 165mm x 95 mm	C2, 1924	2/ 1920	10	24	02/20/1924	05/26/1926	\$ 315 G \$ 935 P	\$ 260 - \$ 350 G
RE4 - Large Obliterated CANAL ZONE 240 mm x 125 mm	C2a, 1924	2/ 1920	4	3	08/15/1925	03/06/1926	\$ 1600 G	\$ 800 - \$ 980 G
RE4a - Large Un-Obliterated CANAL ZONE 240 mm x 125 mm	----	2/ 1920	3	1	02/12/1923	----	\$ 2650G	\$ 2760G \$ 5775P
RE5 - Small 165mm x 95 mm	C1, 1922	3/ 1921	2	26	09/01/1921	07/12/1926	---	\$ 50
RE5a Black instructions Omitted	C1b, 1922	3/ 1921	1	---	---	---	---	---
RE5b Red mark inside red R indicium	---	3/ 1921	---	1	09/05/1921	----	---	---

* Canal Zone overprints included in RE1 and RE2 totals without differentiating between the two different CZ surcharges: (CZ total).
 --- no sale recorded or no price from a public sale.
 G = prices from Gibbs Sale, May 21, 2015, Robert A. Siegel. P = Plass Sale July 10, 1998, Ivy, Shreve & Mader. Prices for Canal Zone overprinted envelopes not included.
 ** Previous to this study both issues, RE1 & RE5, were thought to be the same issue. Mint envelopes were very difficult to find until 2013 when a single lot consisting of 15 RE1 and 16 RE2 mint envelopes was sold first at a HR Harmer auction and then individually on the secondary (eBay) market.
 last updated 2016-12-03

In 1921 the Canal Zone returned 25,000 small and 10,000 large second issue envelopes to Panama. These had *CANAL ZONE* obliterated but were not put into circulation until 1924 because Panama had received the third issue of 50,000 small envelopes in 1921. With a total of 75,000 small envelopes available it took Panama five years to use them yielding an average usage of 15,000/year.

The First Issue stock was depleted by mid-1921. This gives an estimate of 37,500 small First Issue envelopes (2.5 years x 15,000/year) used by Panama.

Number of large envelopes in the First Issue

Usage of RE2, the large First Issue envelopes, starts in late 1918 and finishes in mid-1925. The number of these used large envelopes found is fewer than the small envelopes so an estimate would be between 25,000 and 50,000 originally delivered to Panama. The first reported postmark on RE4, the Second Issue large obliterated envelope, is July 1925 leading to the hypothesis that Panama issued these large Second Issue obliterated envelopes after all of those from the First Issue had been sold. Only three used large obliterated envelopes from the Second Issue have been documented suggesting that Panama quit selling these in 1926.

Census and Prices

A census for the Second Issue obliterated envelopes began in 2012 and has been expanded to all three issues. The Gibbs' sale prices realized for the Second Issue with estimates for the other issues have been added to the table (Table 1).

If you have not yet contributed and have any of these covers please send a 300 dpi scan of both sides to SOSHILL@HOTMAIL.COM. As shown in the census the population of these covers that were available for research is extremely low and there could well be additional major as well as minor varieties.

Contributors – The following persons have helped make this research possible by sharing scans: Melvin Bick, Federico Brid, George Campbell, Mike Demski, Wayne Menuz and Brad Wilde. Other sources used include the Gibbs, Leeds and Plass auction catalogues, the Sinfield Panama Stationery Exhibit at NY2016, the CZSG Mail Sale Catalogues, as well as other auction catalogues and online websites including eBay.

Acknowledgements – Federico Brid's suggestions

as always have proved to be extremely valuable. Ruthann Bates' has proofread and improved the article as well as corrected the grammar making it more reader-friendly than the original text.

End Notes

David Zemer, The 1918 Series of Panama and Canal Carta-Paquete or Registration Envelopes, *COPACARTA*, Volume 30, Number 2, December 2012, p. 5-14

David Zemer, The 1918 Series of Panama and Canal Carta-Paquete or Registration Envelopes, *Canal Zone Philatelist*, Vol. 48, No.4, Whole No. 185, December 2012, p. 40-43.

Irwin J. Gibbs, Canal Zone 1918 Registration Envelopes, *Canal Zone Philatelist*, Vol. 40, No. 3, Whole No. 152, September 2004, pp. 21, 25 – 28.

Meekel's Weekly Stamp News, Nov. 30, 1918. pp. 365, 366.

From correspondence with Ross Towle: "Berlin & Jones" had been manufacturing envelopes since 1847 and its predecessor since 1843.

Write for

Copacarta

The Colombian Oval Date Stamps of 1888, Part II

Federico Teppa

This is the second part of an article that should have been published in its entirety in the last quarter. The editor apologizes for his error and the confusion that it has caused.

Even with its broad distribution, the lack of examples on loose stamps gives to the oval datestamp a very low rate of survival, this is the reason why in this list many towns are missing and 46 towns are known by only 1 exemplar. In general, except from the main cities, only a few copies have survived.

Based on the examination of the covers, postcards and cubiertas from the period, the following facts emerge :

Barranquilla, a mayor postal agency, has only 2 known examples of an oval datestamp (as an arrival stamp on cubiertas), that proves that they had received a copy, but was never used for ordinary mail. They kept using their own circular datestamp to cancel the outgoing mail.

Bogotá, the capital city, didn't use their oval hanstamps as cancel for ordinary mail either. The double oval datestamp is found only as arrival mark. The violet block oval is a transit mark from a letter originating in Tocaima and addressed to the U.K.. The violet roman oval

is also used as an arrival mark, with the exception of an official "Valor declarado" (declared value) originating in Bogotá. As Barranquilla, Bogotá kept using their own circular datestamp to cancel the outgoing mail. I suppose that Barranquilla and Bogotá, who had large quantities of mail and who were already using a circular datestamp to cancel their mail with a single strike, considered a waste of time to apply 2 strikes from 2 different handstamps to cancel outgoing mail, leaving the use of the oval datestamp only for the arrival or transit of mail.

Beside the usual Colombia killer mark, other killer marks are rarely found, probably used only as a provisional replacement when the Colombian killer mark became unusable. Examples are: Bucaramanga (Fig.3), Cartagena (Fig.4) and Ocaña (Fig.5). Sometimes the oval datestamp itself was used as cancel for the stamp, the most common examples are Cali and Buenaventura (Fig.6).

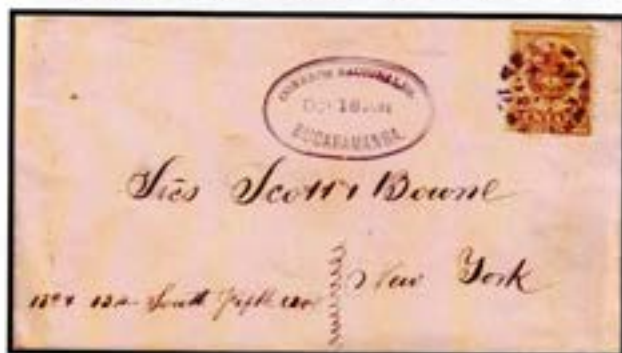


Fig.3 Bucaramanga provisional killer stamp.

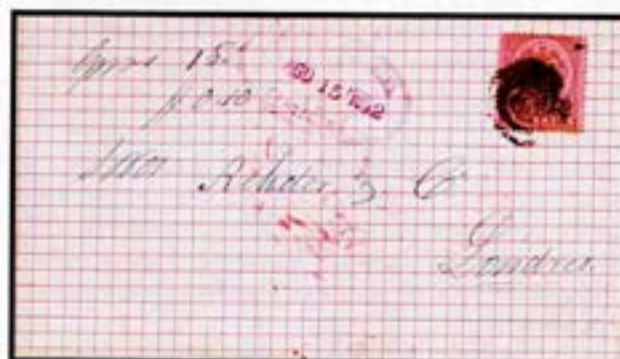


Fig.4 Cartagena provisional killer stamp

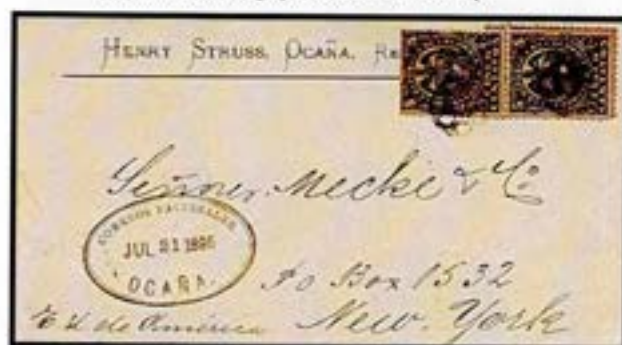


Fig.5 Ocaña provisional killer stamp



Fig.6 Buenaventura cancel on stamps

Other Oval Datestamp Types

An oval datestamp precursor with on top "Agencia postal Nacional" was used to cancel the stamps from 1887 to 1888 in Buenaventura (replaced by the common "Correos nacionales" datestamp oval).

Other oval datestamps without the inscription "Correos nacionales" on the top, were also put in circulation by the railroad agencies between 1891 and 1897, and by the Correo Urbano de Bogotá (local city mail of Bogotá) between 1888 and 1895. They were all used as cancels and no Colombia killer was ever used.

Bogotá also began to remove the "Correos nacionales" on top of the oval stamps, by adding the name of their different handling mail offices from 1895 to 1899. Used as arrival mark

Another postmark with the inscription correos nacionales on top, but without the town's name at the bottom, was probably used in Bogotá for the official mail.

Buenaventura Precursor :



Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Agencia postal Nacional	Buenaventura (Fig.7)	Green	Block	May/1887	1888
Agencia postal Nacional	Buenaventura	Violet	Block	1888	

The Railroad Cancels :



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10

Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Estacion (Top&bottom lines)	De Fontibon(Fig.8)	violet	Roman	9/Jul/1891	24/May/1892
Ferrocarril de la Sabana.	Bodega de Bogotá (Fig.9)	violet	Lower Case	24/Aug/1891	28/May/1897
Ferrocarril de la Sabana.	Bodega de Facatativá	violet	Italic	8/7/1894	
Ferrocarril de la Sabana.	Estacion Madrid(Fig.10)	violet	Lower Case	31/Oct/1896	

Correo Urbano de Bogotá :

Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.



Fig. 15.

Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Correos de la ciudad.	Bogotá (Fig.11)	violet	Roman	26/Jul/1889	25/Aug/1890
Correos de la ciudad. (Small)	Bogotá (Fig.12)	violet	Roman	21/Dec/1888	1889
Correos de la ciudad.	Bogotá	violet	Block	15/Mar/1893	
Correos de la ciudad.	Bogotá (Flat) (Fig.13)	violet	Roman	22/Feb/1894	Mar/1894
Correos de la ciudad.	Bogotá (Between 2 stars) (Fig.14)	violet	Roman	24/Aug/1894	
Correos de la ciudad.	Bogotá (Between 2 flowers) (Fig.15)	violet	Roman	1895	

Bogotá Offices:

Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.

Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Admon Gral de Correos	Bogotá (Fig.16)	black	Roman	5/Jul/1895	
Seccion 4a Oficina 2a. Dotted oval	Bogotá (Fig.17)	violet	Roman	6/Jun/1898	6/Feb/1899

Official Mail:

Fig. 18.

Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Correos Nacionales.	...cion (..?) oficial. (Fig.18)	black	Roman	29/Aug/1894	

Other ovals without datestamp

Similar oval shape cancels without date included in the middle, are also found from 1888. The best known example is the oval shape handstamp used to cancel the mail from 1888 until 1896 by the private carrier based in Cucuta and known as Correo del comercio (see *Copacarta Vol.25#3 2008*). Less known undated oval marks are the Santa Rosa Franca (of which its franca mark on the stamp remains a mystery to me), and the Ipiales cancel found on a stationery postcard.

Correo del comercio :



Fig. 19.



Fig. 20.

Top	Bottom	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Correo del comercio	Cucuta (Fig.19)	violet	Italic	Sep/1888	Sep/1890
Correo del comercio	Cucuta (Fig.20)	violet	Block	Nov/1891	May/1896

Santa Rosa Franca:



Fig. 21.

Top	Bottom	Center	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
República de Colombia (Fig.21)	Santa Rosa	Franca	violet	Roman	?	?

Ipiales:



Fig. 22

Top	Bottom	Center	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
República de Colombia. (Fig.22)	Oficina de correos.	Ipiales	violet	Roman	?	?

There is no doubt that many other oval datestamps from different towns exist, and I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any addition to make. You can contact me at: fteppa@sunrise.ch.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Robert Müller in adding many marks to my knowledge and without whom this article would have been far less complete.

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- Copacarta* 2008 Volume 25, Number 3. Correo del comercio cancellations. By Walter H. Weber.
- Colomphil* May 2001 #10. The Bogotá Urban post. By Alan D. Anyon.

More on the Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta

Alan D Anyon FRPSL

In his fascinating article under the above title (COPACARTA Vol. 33 No. 4 p.12-15 June 2016) Federico Teppa brings to our attention the fact that a number of rare early Colombian postal history pieces were all addressed to Sr. Enrique Urdaneta, the founder of the weekly mail service of El Dorado between Bogotá and Guasca. He lists five different handstamps or labels falling into this category. The writer can add a sixth type to these, illustrated here. It comprises a folded letter sheet with a manuscript postage indication of 10c(entavos) and a handstamped PAGO (paid) sent from San Juan de Cúcuta to Sr. Urdaneta in Bogotá by Sr. Manuel Viana on the 9th July 1863. This letter sheet is the only recorded example of the type discovered so far.



It is hoped that Mr Teppa's article and this one will encourage our readers to search for further private mail carriers associated with Sr. Urdaneta.

Mr Teppa lists as his type 3 the San Luis provisional (information corrected in this issue of COPACARTA) created by General Lazaro María Pérez when he was the local postal agent. He was born in Cartagena and a distinguished soldier and writer before he became the Colombian Ambassador to Germany based in Berlin. His illustration and signature appear in *Colombia Illustrada* No.12 of 2nd April 1890 and the signature is similar to that of the provisional label issued 23 years previously. There are two types of the label with a different font in the '\$' of 'Vale \$10 de lei'.

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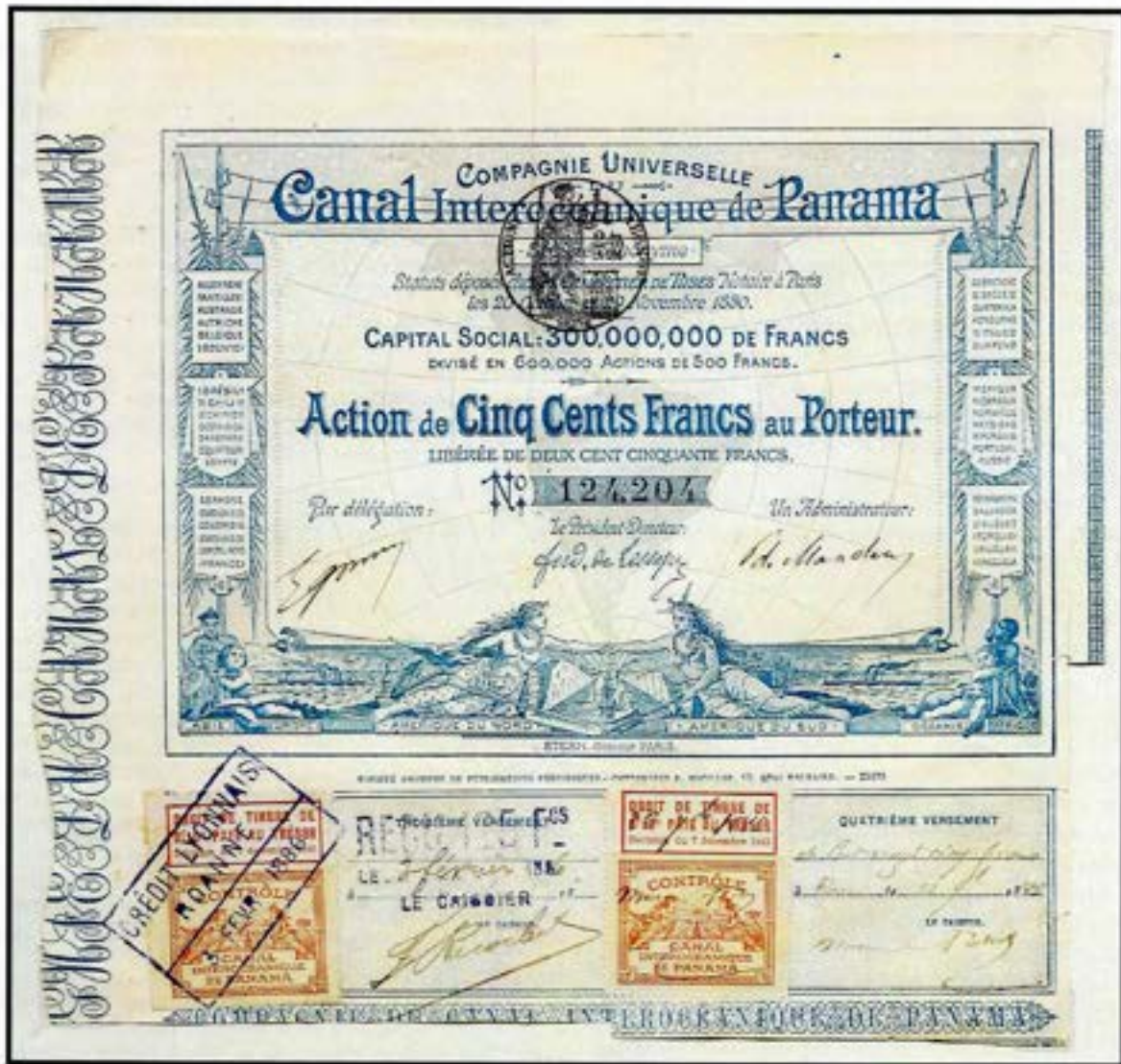
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From the President's Desk

First I want to thank my good friend Dario Diaz for holding the reigns of Copaphil for the past two years. Being the President of an organization is never an easy job and is even more difficult when the officers are spread all over the Western Hemisphere. I especially want to thank him for guiding us during the largest stamp show that Copaphil participated in - the New York World Stamp Expo last year. I only have a problem with Dario when he outbids me for cubiertas used to and from Panama. However, fortunately for our friendship, Panamanian cubiertas just don't show up that often.

The hardest job in running an organization with a publication is that of editor. The editor is required to come up with a Copacarta edition every quarter and try to ensure that the material covers a wide range of interest - from stamps, to flights, to postal history, to postmarks, etc. The editor is not the writer and can't be expected to have the wide range of knowledge from which to write articles each quarter. However, we, the collectors do have the material and information necessary to fill Copacarta each time. I know that most of us, and I include myself, think that we don't have the expertise to write something that is new, pertinent, and interesting. But this isn't true. If each member of Copaphil wrote a small article about their favorite stamp or cover - why was the stamp issued, a description of who or what is depicted on the stamp or the stamps on cover, as well as a scanned illustration(s), our editor would have enough material to fill Copacarta each quarter for years to come. The articles do not have to be an in depth scholarly researched report. I know that I greatly enjoy reading short articles with illustrations about stamps and covers, even if they aren't in my sphere of collecting. A short 3-4 paragraph description is not that difficult to write. It doesn't have to be in English. If you are more comfortable writing in Spanish the editor can do the translation. It doesn't have to be a "classic" stamp either.

Modern stamps and postal history can be very interesting. For example, what were the Colombian airmail rates to Asia from 2000 to 2010? A nicely illustrated article would prove extremely valuable to future collectors as the rate usages would be recorded. Also, is there someone who

could provide new issue information for the stamps of Colombia and Panama. Were first day ceremonies held? How many stamps were printed? Who was the printer? Copaphil is a great organization, but for it to continue to exist we need to keep publishing Copacarta. Please think about what I have written, look at your collection, pick out a treasured item, and write something about it. If you found that item interesting, I can guarantee that others will as well.

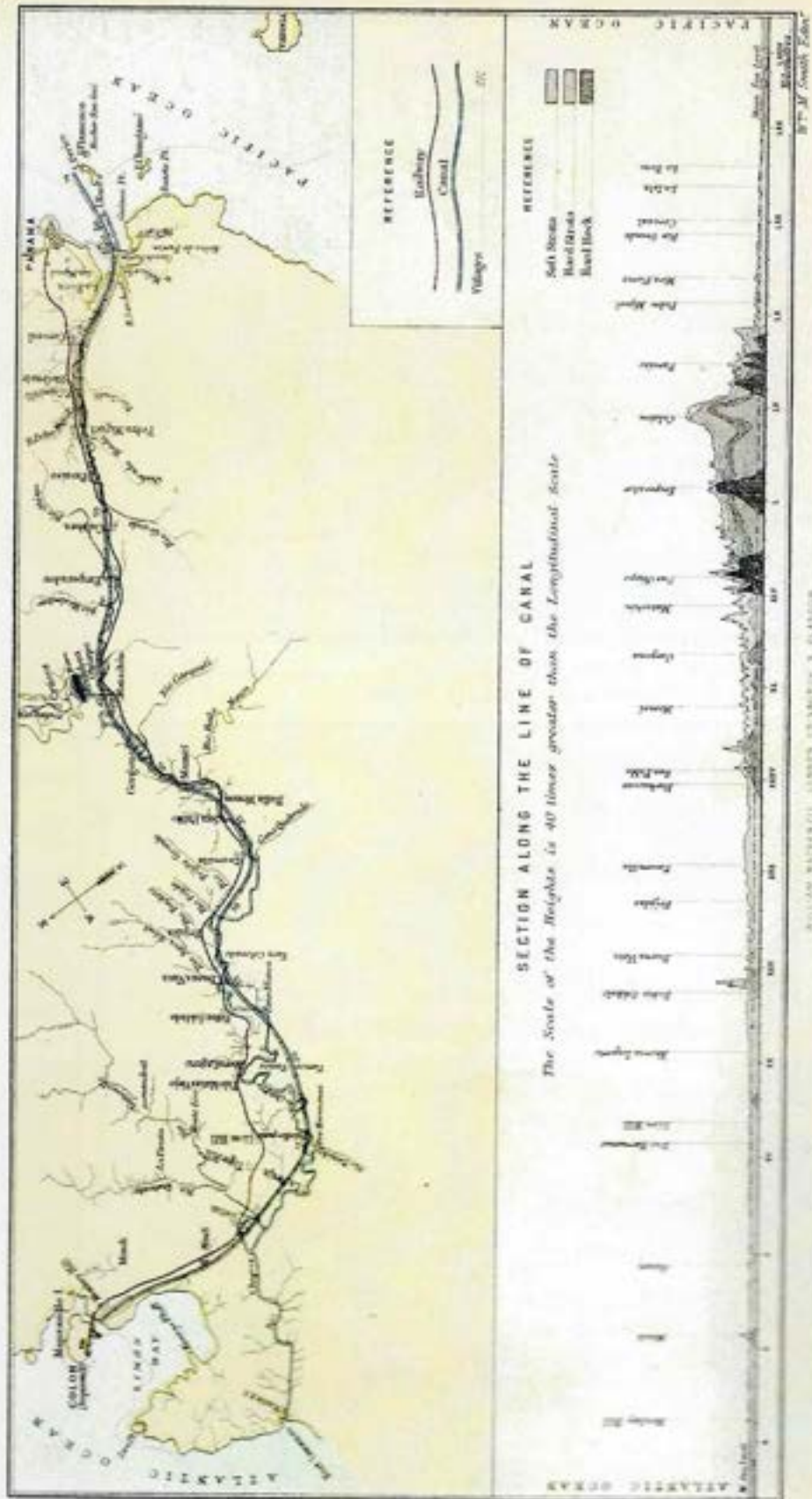
I also think it would be great if we had one person in Colombia and one person in Panama who would report on the new issues of each country and any first day covers that were produced (with the quantity made/sold if possible). I know that in Panamanian philately we really don't have a good feel for how many first day covers were serviced for most of the issues. If we can report the information now, it will make the next generation of collecting that much easier.

Sarasota Stamp Show

The annual stamp show in Sarasota "Sarapex" will take place February 2-4, 2018. Alfredo Frolich has arranged for us to be a participating organization for the show so I hope there will be a large turnout for exhibits. I plan to show my "The Isthmus of Panama Commemorates the 25th Anniversary of the Opening of the Panama Canal" exhibit, albeit with a shorter title. The Canal Zone Study Group will also be a participating organization so it will be a wonderful opportunity for members of the two groups to meet. Please make sure that you get your prospectus in as quickly as you can as last year the exhibits were filled quite early. The Canal Zone Study Group and other philatelic organizations have produced medals to be awarded to exhibits at national shows. Do the members believe that it would be a good idea for Copaphil to do the same? Please let me know.

Our group has a fair amount of money in the bank and I would appreciate input from the members on any booklets that we might produce. While Federico Brid has done a marvelous job on Panama stamps and postage rates, I wonder if there is something that would be worth publishing that would be of interest to the Colombian side of Copaphil. Having been a collector of stamp for nearly 45 years I sometimes forget that articles that were published years ago might not be known to newer collectors. If you have any suggestions on harder to find articles that would be beneficial to republish please let either Tom or me know.

PANAMA CANAL, PLAN OF THE CANAL.



French Canal

Bradley Wilde

This article tells the story of the two French companies associated with the efforts to build a canal at Panama through philately and deltiology. From 1513 when Vasco Nunez de Balboa discovered the Isthmus of Panama, proposals have been made to build a canal across the isthmus. As early as 1819 the Spanish government authorized the construction of a canal and the creation of a company to build it. After the completion of the Suez Canal in 1869, France thought it could do a similar project in Panama and in 1876 a survey of the isthmus was done by Navy Lieutenant Lucien N. B. Wyse (1844-1909) (Fig. 1), a great-nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte.

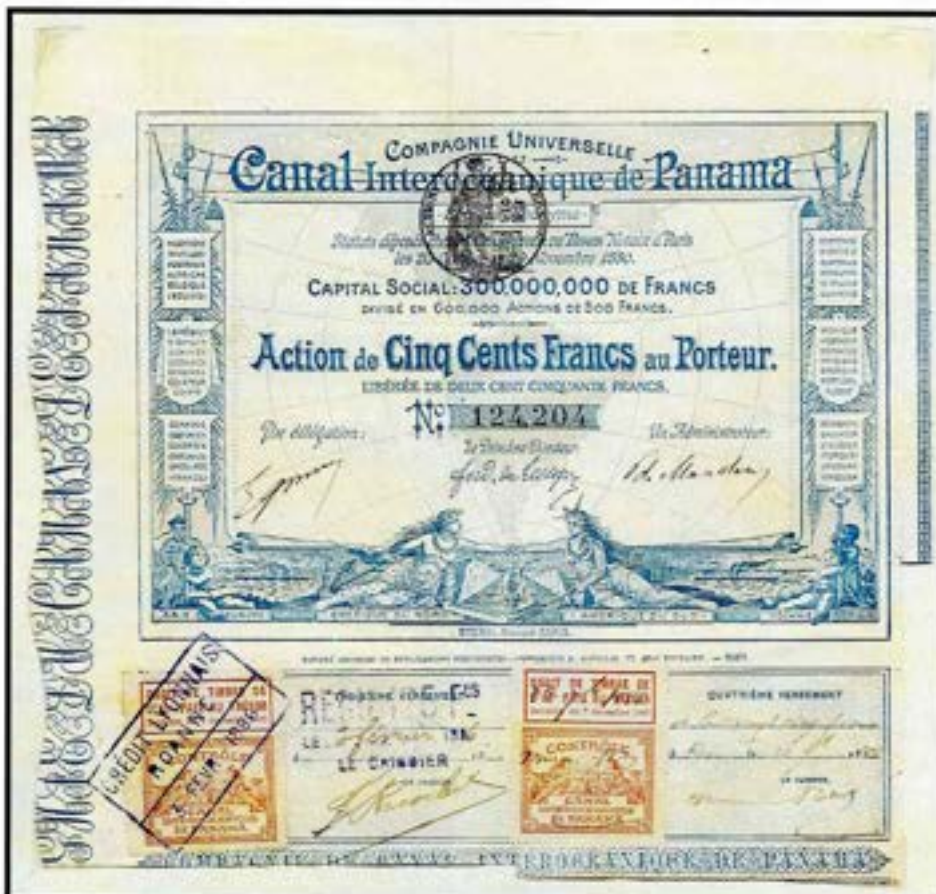
In 1879 Ferdinand de Lesseps (1805-1894) (Fig. 2) formed the *Compagnie Universelle du Canal Interoceanique de Panama* and on January 1, 1881, work commenced on a sea level canal. The chief superintendent was Armand Reclus (1843-1927) (Fig. 3). Over \$80,000,000 was subscribed for bonds



Ferdinand de Lesseps



Figs. 1-3. Founders and leaders of the French Canal company.



(Figs. 4 & 5) to pay for the construction and for the purchase (\$25,000,000) of the Panama Railroad. A large number of commercial pamphlets and books were published (Fig. 6) in order to meet the demand for information on the company, Panama, and the planned route. As well, once construction began the company issued the *Bulletin du Canal Interoceanique* (Fig. 7), a monthly bulletin mailed to the share and bondholders. Throughout the next six years a long series of bond offerings were made in order to raise

Fig. 4. Bonds were issued for construction and for the purchase of the Panama Railroad.



Fig. 5. Bonds were issued for construction and for the purchase of the Panama Railroad.



Fig. 7. Bulletin du Canal Interoceanique was mailed monthly to the share and bondholders.



Fig. 8. Showing envelope from Paris, France, headquarters."



Fig. 9. Company envelope from Panama with distinctive Panama oval cancel.



Fig. 6. One of many pamphlets issued to meet the demand for information on the proposed canal.

money to continue the construction.

The company had two headquarters, one in Paris (Fig. 8) and one in Panama City (Figs. 9 & 10) in the former Grand Hotel on Cathedral Plaza. A house, the Folie Dingler (Fig. 11) was built in Ancon for Jules Dingler (1836-1901) who became the new Director General in 1883. The house was later used as an isolation dwelling for small pox victims before being destroyed in 1910, as well as a house for DeLesseps which was near the Statue of Columbus (Fig. 12) in Colon. The state had been donated by the Empress Eugenie in 1870. Dingler's chief assistant was Philippe Bunau Varilla (1859-1940) who in 1903 signed the Panama Canal treaty on behalf of Panama.

The plans called for a sea level canal and it was estimated it would take 8 years to complete. During the first phase, from March 12, 181, to the end of 1882, the entire project was under the firm Couvreur and Hersent. During the second phase, 1883 through 1885, the work was accomplished



Fig. 10. French Canal headquarters in Panama.



Fig. 11. Folie Dingler was built in Ancon for Jules Dingler who became Director of the Company in 1883.



Fig. 12. De Lesseps' house in Colón.

by a number of smaller contractors under supervision of the company itself. The third phase, between 1886 and 1887, saw the work done by a few large contractors. Finally, in the fourth phase, beginning in 1888, the sea level project was finally,



Fig. 13. Service des Etudes was responsible for the design work.

though temporarily, abandoned in favor of a lock canal with the idea that, after the lock canal was functional, the channel could be deepened gradually to make a sea level canal.

The French company was divided into two main departments – the *Service des Etudes* (Fig. 13) which was responsible for the design work and the *Service des Travaux* (Fig. 14) responsible for overseeing the actual construction. However, the actual excavation for the canal was done via a bidding system. During the second phase over 30 contractors were involved with the construction, but eventually this was reduced to six. The *Societe de Travaux Public & Constructions* (Fig. 15) was responsible for excavating the Obispo and Emperador sections. The Pacific section was ex-



Fig. 14. Service des Travaux was responsible for overseeing the actual construction

cavated by the *Enterprise Baratoux Letellier et Cie* (Fig. 16). The vast majority of the equipment (dredges, excavators, dump cars, steam engines, and cranes) and personnel were imported into Panama. The primary shipping lines used by the Company was the *Compagnie Transatlantique* (Fig. 17).

Workmen came from all over the Caribbean and Europe to assist with one of the grandest engineering projects of the 19th century. At the peak nearly 40,000 individuals were working on the canal. With such a large number one would expect that mail addressed to the employees would be readily available. In reality, such communications are very difficult to find with fewer than 10 such letters reported (Figs. 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22). Many



Fig. 15. Letterhead of The Societe de Travaux Public & Constructions.



Fig. 16. Letterhead of Enterprise Baratoux Letellier et Cie.



Fig. 17. *Compagnie Transatlantique*

of these workers perished quickly from the heat, malaria, yellow fever, and other tropical diseases. While the poorer workers merely were given a number at their gravesites, there was demand for funeral sculpture (Fig. 23) for the higher level European employees. In less than three years five of the six General Directors had died of fevers.

It is believed that the Company established an internal mail system with the blessing of the Panamanian (Colombian) postal service. Mail was carried within the company offices for free and out of office mail would be delivered to the post office either in Colon or Panama City where regular postage stamps would be used to forward the mail to its ultimate destination.

The Company post offices were at many of the

stops along the Panama Railroad: Colon (Figs 24 & 25), Bas Obispo (Fig. 26), San Pablo (Figs. 27 & 28), Paraiso (Fig. 29), Gorgona, Culebra (Fig 30), La Boca (Fig. 31), and Panama City (Fig. 32).

All cancellations are the name of the town, Canal du Panama, date in a bar, all in a double circle. Covers with the Company markings are very rare with most only existing with two or three examples reported.

During the construction, in 1885, a revolution led by Pedro Prestan (1852 – 1885) took place on the isthmus and communications with Bogota, the capital, were interrupted. As well, Colon was burned by the rebels. By the end of March stamp supplies had been exhausted and the Panamanian post office began accepting letters without postage. They (Figs. 33 & 34) were cancelled per UPU regulations.

The majority of the work force was from outside of Panama and malaria and yellow fever decimated the ranks of the workers despite the 200 bed hospital built in Colon (Fig. 35) and L'Hospital Central de Panama (later Ancon Hospital) (Fig. 36) run by the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. However, due to diseases that killed over half the workers, as well as financial and engineering problems the company went bankrupt in 1889. The collapse of the company was a scandal with 104 legislators involved in the corruption and Ferdinand de Lesseps and his son Charles (1849-1923) were charged with mismanagement. Both were found guilty, but only Charles spent a year in prison as by that time Ferdinand de Lessep's health had deteriorated.



Figs. 18, 19. Incoming letters from Norway (L) and Mexico (R).



Figs. 20, 21, 22. Incoming letters from Great Britain (UL) and France (UR and L).



Fig. 23. Workers wished to be remembered by more than a number ordered head stones from European sculptors.

In 1894, in order to try and recoup the investment of the stock and bond holders the *Compagnie Nouvelle du Canal de Panama* was created. Nearly 65,000,000 French francs (\$12,000,000) was raised for this company (Figs. 37 & 38). The company engineers changed the plans from a sea level canal to a lock canal. However, investor interest in the canal was inadequate and by 1895 the company was looking for a buyer. During this time the company continued corresponding with its investors who lived throughout the world (Figs.



Figs. 24, 25. Letters mailed from (above) and to Colon (R)



Figs. 26, 27. Company post offices at Bas Obispo and San Pablo.



Figs. 28, 29. Company post offices at Paraiso and Gorgona.



Figs. 30, 31. Company post offices at Culebra and La Boca.



Fig. 32. Stampless cover from company post office at Panama. Mailed 17 Jan 1896.



Fig. 33. When stamp supplies were exhausted at Panama stampless covers were prepared in accord with UPU regulations. Cover dated 17 April 1885.



Fig. 34. Registered stampless cover from Panama, 22 Jun 1885, carried by French paquebot.



Fig. 35. 200 bed hospital at Colon served workers suffering from malaria and yellow fever.



Fig. 36. L'Hospital Central de Panama (later Ancon Hospital).

39 & 40). However, by 1899 all work had ceased and the primary focus was on trying to sell the company (and its valuable Colombian grant to

build the canal). At this point, one of the largest shareholders with Philippe Bunau Varilla (Fig. 41). However, work needed to be done to maintain what had been accomplished as well as maintenance on the physical properties. Reports were sent back on a regular basis from Panama (Fig. 42).

In 1899 the United States Isthmian Canal Commission was formed to look for a Central American canal route either in Nicaragua or Panama. In 1902 the decision was made to build in Panama and the French company was sold to the United States Government for \$40,000,000. Over the next decade bond payments were made and some bonds were redeemed (Fig. 43). While the bonds and shares were nearly worthless investors hoped that the United States would honor them and sought information on how they could redeem



Figs. 37 (L) and 38 (R). Panama office of the *Compagnie Nouvelle du Canal de Panama* that was created to recoup the investment of stock and bond holders.



Fig. 39 (L) and 40 (R). Investors in the failing company lived in the UK, Ireland, France, and elsewhere.

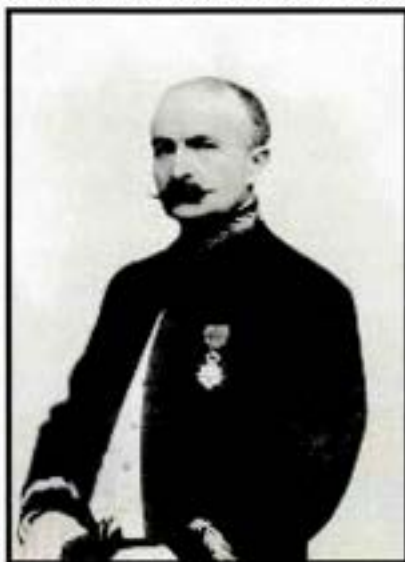


Fig. 41. Philippe Bunau Varilla, one of the largest shareholders.



Fig. 42. Report on maintenance work, 18 May 1900.



Fig. 43.

them (Fig. 44). However, the United States never agreed to do so and many of the French Canal bonds are still available to collectors at a reasonable price.



Fig. 44. Concerned letter from Russian investor.

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Cable Aereo de Cúcuta al Río Magdalena Is it really a *Private Carrier*?

Rainer Fuchs (AIJP, FRPSL)

Over the past years since the late Dieter Bordfeld, in cooperation with Alfredo Frohlich and Carlos Valenzuela had published his work on the private carriers of Colombia, much new information was found. Furthermore, I come to the conclusion that the status of some of the private carriers may have to be revised as, what I believe, previously, much was interpreted in a way which does not stand today's research and understanding.

What is a private carrier?

It sounds like a simple question, yet apparently it was not easy to answer for the earlier students and collectors.

In my point of view, a private carrier is a mail forwarder / carrier who carries / transports and maybe even delivers mail. Under the assumption that these private companies are not charities but wanted to be remunerated for their services, they cannot work for free, unless they are subsidised by the Government.

Most of the well-known private carriers got their services paid either by issuing and using their own stamps or by applying handstamps on the covers while I assume that the handstamp was only applied after the sender had paid the respective letter fee.

Some time ago I acquired two covers from the "Cable Aereo de Cucuta al Río Magdalena" (fig. 1) and wrote a 8-page article in German language



Fig. 1. Corner card from the Cable Aereo de Cucuta al Río Magdalena.

on that company which has been published in German Publication "Michel Rundschau", the monthly magazine of the publishers of the well known Michel Stamp Catalogues, issue July 2016, Pages 24-37. I plan to translate that article in due time into English language as well.

My conclusion that I also mentioned in that article is that the "Cable Aereo de Cucuta al Río Magdalena" was not a "Private Carrier" but a state owned company which only transported their own inter-office mail and maybe mail on behalf of the Co-

El servicio de correos se prestó desde 1932.

Se colocaban sellos con propaganda de los servicios de cable, sobre estampillas de correo nacional o simplemente sobre la cubierta que contenía la correspondencia.

lombian Post but has not charged any fee for their services.

The few known covers from that company are only franked with the respective national postage rate plus, in case Inter-Colombian Airmail was paid for, SCADTA stamps. The senders address on the covers indicates that the "Cable Aereo de Cucuta al Río Magdalena" was an state company (Empresa Oficial) operating under the Ministry of Public Works (Bajo La Dependencia del Ministerio de Obras Públicas).

The only early reference that this company also transported mail, and this may have been the reason why it was classified by Dieter Bordfeld as a "Private Carrier", is the note on page 61 in the book by Luis P. R. Lamus: *Los Correos y las Estampillas de Cucuta y del Norte del Santander*.

Apparently until 1932, mail has been transported but no indication on fees charged is mentioned, just that advertising handstamps had been struck on the stamps or on the cover itself.

I would appreciate any opinion on that. Maybe some members have supporting documents which rebuts my opinion.

(Continued on page 19)



Fig. 4. 5c cubierta uprated with 1c numeral stamp to send 200 pesos.

cent. for a sending of 200 peso for the rate of 6 centavos (0.3 % rate after 1911)

The latest use of a cubierta I have seen is one used in 1912. After that there is a large gap. For some reason the use of cubiertas ended there. Or, they may still be sleeping in the postal archives.

Actually cubiertas had been official documents. The signature of the receipt was the proof that the money had reached the receiver. For my understanding cubiertas therefor should not have reached the public market in used condition. They must have been offered to the philatelic market after a special period. One can compare them to franked parcel-cards, that are on the market from several countries. (Parcel cards from Colombia are quite scarce compared to other countries.)

In 1918 Valenzuela entered the last change in the rates for declared values in his statistics on the postal rates of Colombia. The rate rose to 100 times the rate before!!! Now it was 3 centavos per 1 peso declared value. Nowadays you would say, that this is a good job of "lobby work" on the politics.

Until recently I had never seen any declared value covers until the early 1930s, when the large stationary envelopes came into use. Last month suddenly a range of declared value covers appeared on a German auction sold for "bid" from which I was lucky to buy some.

Fig. 5 is a single use of the 3c "Cubierta postal" about the unbelievable amount of 0.25 Peso. Please note the Manizales cancel "Oficina de Valores Declarado" and receiving mark "Recibi Camilos" beside the Aguadas receiving date-cancel. Note also the punch in the 3 centavos stamp picture.

In about 1918 there was an order to punch all



Fig. 5. Solo use of a cubierta postal from Manizales, 27 July 1920.



Fig. 6. Uprated "Cubierta postal" from Ibaguè in 1920.

stamps that were used for internal use like package cards. As the envelopes returned to and were kept at the originating post office they fall into this category. Fig. 6 shows an uprated "Cubierta postal" about 32 Peso with correct 96 cent. postage. Fig. 7 shows a normal private cover about 15 peso correctly franked with 45 centavos. The higher denominations) except some 1cent stamps) were all punched.

Also very interesting are the postally used Revenue stamps on figs. 8 and 9. There first one is about 20 peso (60c postage), fig. 9 about 27 Peso (81 cent. postage).

In 1928 Colombia issued the large Valor Declarado covers. Nothing is told about the postal



Fig. 7. Private cover about 15 peso correctly franked with 45 centavos. The higher denominations were all punched, the normal manner of cancelling revenue stamps.



Fig. 8. Revenue stamps incorrectly used to pay postage.



Fig. 9. Revenue stamps incorrectly used to pay postage.

rates for this value declared covers in the book of A.V. Costa. I have a 4c envelope from 1931 with 27c postage for 30 Peso declared value (fig. 10).

One more from 1942, a 5c envelope with 50c postage for 46 Peso declared value, which may be a postal rate of 5c postage for each 5 Peso, same rate as in 1890.

And one cover from 1964 (30c envelope) with 287.33 Peso declared has no stamps added. It may be a postal rate of 5c postage for each 50 Peso or part of it.

Finally let me cite Debby Freidman what she wrote to me in an email some time ago:

One reason cubiertas except for the perforated issues are so common is because of the deal Michelsen had with the govt to buy them. Ocaña is probably the most common origin since they appear to have returned all of their archives for the sale. I used to have three 1 peso covers of the 1890 second issue with consecutive numbers and at least one other pair. This probably explains why there is such a large gap after 1911.

She further told me:

The late Walter Blell had told me the use of these covers was only where there were no banks at the time. As banking expanded, they no longer were needed except in the smallest places. He also said that they often came back to the post office in Bogota where the women at some point clipped the stamps, likely for selling in kilo mixes. The majority of the used ones that exist are due to Walter Blell coaxing the women to part with them. I have what was Walter's collection of them. I don't know how the unused ones found their

(Continued on page 19)

New Large Die Proofs for Canal Zone/Panama 1917-1920 Pictorials Discovered

David Zemer

Sparks, an auction house in Canada, had an amazing lot for sale early October 2016. Five large die proofs of the Canal Zone/Panama pictorials, Scott numbers 49, 50, 51, 58 and 59 for the Canal Zone and 214, 215, 216, 218 and 219 for Panama. (figs. 1-5).

Panama and Canal Zone collectors had seen more than a few other ABNCo die proofs of similar size but of different stamps in the past but to my knowledge this is the first time that these five have been made public. All of the other large die proofs have the 1924 revised die proof number in pencil at the bottom right-hand side in the same manner as these five pictorials and were recorded before the 1990 ABNCo Archive sale. I suspect that these five also predate that sale.

It would appear that the frame of the 12c die proof is not the final color but the other four are most likely the final colors. It is difficult to be sure because after 100 years some of the colors might have changed.

The final price in US Dollars was about \$2,900 including the 15% buyer's fee.

This article will be published in both *Canal Zone Philatelist* and *COPACARTA*.

Continued on p. 19



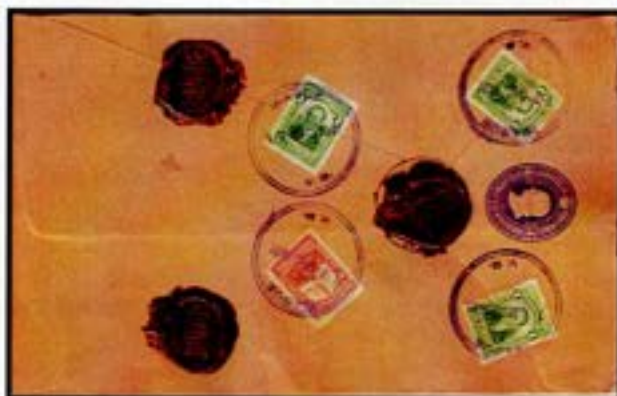
Fig. 1. 15c large die proof.



Fig. 2. 12c large die proof.



Fig. 3. 24c large die proof



(Cable Aereo de Cúcuta Continued from page 14)

In any case, it is very evident that the area of the Private Carriers of Colombia is an area still full of surprises but I feel we need to have a new unbiased look at some of the companies.

Literature References:

- Dieter Bortfeldt, Carlos Valenzuela A. & Alfredo Frohlich. *The Private Mail Carriers of Colombia*. Bogota, Mai und Oktober 2006.
- Louis Raul Rodriguez Lamus, *Los Correos Y Las Estampillas de Cucuta y del Norte de Santander*. Bogota, 1983.
- Cable aéreo Gamarra-Ocaña, progreso por las alturas, Rodolfo Rincón Páez, Ausgabe 2011, Volumen 32, Seiten 295-302, [http://](http://www.economicascuc.com/)

www.economicascuc.com/

CICA - Centro de Interpretación del Cable Aéreo de Gamarra (CESAR) a Ocaña) Norte de Santander. Bases para una propuesta museográfica y de Gestión para la difusión Del Patrimonio Industrial von ARO. Paola Andrea Laino Cruz. <http://repository.javeriana.edu.co/bitstream/10554/178/1/arq18.pdf>

Internet Page of the Colombian City of Ocaña: <http://www.ciudadocana.com/ocana-datos-generales/historia/el-cable-aereo-historia/>

Any feedback or additional information, please send to rainer@fuchs-online.com.

(Continued from page 17)

way out since they were controlled sale.

Again it becomes clear why these large covers after 1928 are so extremely rare. Maybe the future will bring up more secret archive treasures.

Additions are welcome to: romer23@gmx.de

Footnotes

- 1) see postal rates in Carlos Valenzuela Acosta 2002, p.47, Ley de 29 April 1865.

Panama/CZ large die proofs continued from p. 18.



Fig. 4. 50c large die proof.



Fig. 5. 1 Balboa large die proof.

Illustrated Covers Brighten a Collection Page

Thomas P. Myers

Illustrated covers are frequently useful to dress up what otherwise might be a pretty plain album or exhibit page. The earliest date to the 1920s when fancy graphics were favored (fig. 1). Product illustrations came into vogue by the early 1930s. Most were single color illustrations but occasionally three-color lithography was favored by a few firms that wished to impress because of the higher cost of the process (fig 2).

Many different products are pictured from automobiles (fig. 3) and airplanes (fig. 4) to flour (fig. 2), tobacco products (fig. 1), and whiskey (fig. 5).



Fig. 1. Early illustrated covers used fancy graphics but did not illustrate the product.



Fig. 2. Three-color lithography was favored by firms that wished to impress.



Fig. 3.1. A touring car is shown on this 1935 cover from a parts shop in Medellin.



Fig. 4. A drug store in Cali chose an antique airplane which had nothing to do with its business.



Fig. 5. Whiskey is advertised in this wartime cover from Cali.



The 5c Yellow-Orange of Cartagena. See article beginning on p. 11



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Write for Copacarta

Recent Palmars

FLOREX 2016

Three of our members earned awards at FLOREX 2016 :Santiago Cruz, *Colombia - The 1917 PERKINS Issue* (gold award); David Zemer, *The 1918 - 1921 Panama Carte-Paquetes or Registration Envelopes* (Single Frame Grand Award and gold award) Alfredo Frohlich , *Colombia 1904 - 1905 World's First Inflation Rated Mail* (Vermeil).

FILATELICX FIESTA 2016

Gold. Alfredo Frohlich Chile - The Rouletted Issues 1877-Santiago Cruz Colombia - The 1917 Perkins Issue, also the Steve and Cathy Schumann Award.

Vermeil. Larry Crain Colombia National Post Rates 1904-1944

SARASOTA NATIONALSTAMP EXPOSITION, 2017

Single Frame Gold. David Zemer, The 1819-1921 Panama "Carta-Paquete." or Registration Envelopes, also APS Research Award, U.S. Postal Stationery Award, and U.S. Possessions Philatelic Society Award.

Gold. Alfredo Frolich, SCADTA Airmail Stamps

for SCADTA Airmail Service in Ecuador; Santiago "Cruz, SCADTA's First Issues — a Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps.

Vermeil. David Zemer, The ABN Company 1917-1920 Canal Zone and Panama Pictorials.

ARIPEX 2017

Large Gold. Santiago Cruz, SCADTA's First Issues - A Traditional Approach to Air Mail Stamps , also American Air Mail Society Medal .

Gold. Alfredo Frohlich Survivors - Crash and Salvaged Air Mail In, From and To Colombia, also Auxiliary Marking Club Award of Merit.

Large Vermeil. David Zemer ,The ABNCo 1917 - 1920 Canal Zone and Panama Pictorials .

Large Silver. Bradley G. Wilde. Canal du Panama: The French Effort to Build a Canal at Panama

One Frame Gold. David Zemer The 1918 - 1921 Panama Carta-Paquetes or Registration Envelopes

SOUTHEASTERN STAMP EXPO PALMARES, 2017

Large Gold. Santiago Cruz ,Colombia - The 1917 Perkins Issue, also Collectors Club of Chicago Award; Alfredo Frohlich, Colombia – Postal History of the Forwarding Agents , also Postal History Society Award.

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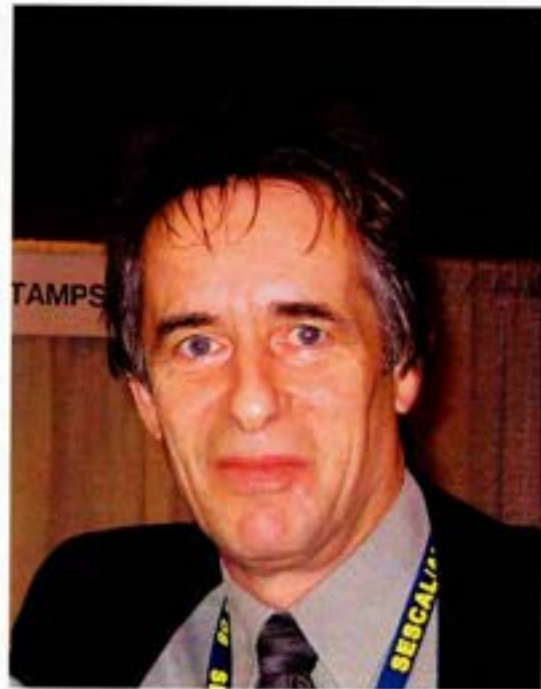
Brian Moorhouse - An Appreciation

I was sad to hear the news that Brian Moorhouse died on July 15 in England after a courageous battle with brain cancer. He is survived by his wife, Mimi and his children. Brian was known to most COPAPHIL members as a dealer in Latin American philately. He was a charter member of COPAPHIL and will be sorely missed not just by Colombia and Panama collectors, but also by all who collect any Latin American country. We send our sympathy to Mimi and his family.

I first connected with Brian in the early 1980s when he was doing business as South American Stamp Supplies. He would send by mail photocopies of material that might be of interest. I know I found many gems to add to my collection in that pre-Internet era. He also ran auctions for many years that offered fascinating material and literature that would not otherwise have been available. It was obvious even in those early days how knowledgeable he was and how willing he was to share that knowledge. That knowledge grew through the decades. He was also totally honest and straightforward in his assessments of his offerings.

Brian was an enthusiastic proponent of the study of Latin American philately. His editorship of *The Mainsheet* is probably his most important work in this field. In 1981 Brian became editor of *The Mainsheet*, the journal of the Spanish Main. Starting with Number 24, he edited eighty issues, ending with Number 104 in 2004. The wide range of articles on Latin American philately constitute an invaluable body of knowledge.

Brian's dealer stand was a must visit for those able to attend international exhibitions. He also came with his stock for many years to WESTPEX and the APS summer STAMPSHOW. Those opportunities enabled many of us to find gems to add to our collections. He was always welcoming, seemingly having time for everyone. I was fortunate once to visit his home in Peterborough and go through his stock of Colombia, much of which did



not make it to shows. I remember I found some wonderful items that made my trip worth the effort.

Brian brought a special perspective to the trade as not only a dealer but also an exhibitor and FIP judge. His exhibits won major international awards. His last award was in Finland this year where his exhibit of the Classic Stamps of Haiti won a large gold.

Last year Brian edited and published a book *Extracts from the Dr. Arthur K.M. Woo Collections*. Brian was instrumental in the development of many of those collections. Each country represented was a visual treat, including some Colombia gems.

Celebrating his life now, thank you for not only helping many philatelists improve their Latin American collections but also to elevate the recognition of the importance of Latin American philately at major stamp shows around the world. You will also be remembered as a gentleman and a friend.

Postage Stamps Used to Pay Panama Stamp Taxes

David Zemer
Sosahill@hotmail.com

Panama has had a stamp tax for legal documents and receipts since its independence from Colombia in 1903. Loose used fiscal stamps are not difficult to acquire but telegraph receipts (Fig. 1), bank checks, legal documents, or passport pages using fiscal stamps to pay this tax are harder to find.

This article will show the only whole documents recorded where regular postage stamps paid the tax because a fiscal stamp or stamped paper was not available. No similar documents have been recorded on eBay or for sale at a public auction.

Examples of postage stamps used to pay stamp taxes on legal documents

When judicial proceedings or similar matters are presented to the court, they are written on *papel sellado* or stamped paper.

At the top of the legal-size piece of paper is a printed seal. The principal elements of this seal are the coat of arms, a value and type of class of the paper and the binary (two) years of validity (fig. 2). This seal transforms ordinary paper into stamped paper. Because of the seal this type of paper becomes a revenue item that is a companion to the revenue stamps. Ancillary paper items that are part of the legal proceedings and used as supporting documentation to what is written on stamped paper have to be authenticated and need to be accompanied by revenue



Fig. 1. April 17, 1919. Fiscal stamps required by Ley 24 de 1915 paying two cents fiscal tax. Eight words telegraphed to San Salvador for a cost of \$2.10. This Central & South American Telegraph Co. receipt is for telegraph number 4 of 13.



Fig. 2. Printed seal on *Papel Sellado* valid two years, Bienio 1915-1916. 1st Class document, 20c fee. Courtesy Joe Ross

stamps. Besides the revenue stamps, the officer that certifies that the ancillary or supporting item is authentic needs to verify, sign and date the item.

Figure 3 is a partial scan of the top page of the *Gaceta Oficial* that was used as supporting documentation during a judicial proceeding and as

such, it was taxed at the present stamp paper rate of 20 cents. The stamps were attached and authenticated by the memo on the right. Twenty cents of revenue stamps should have been used, but as none was available postage stamps were used.

Figure 4 is a sheet from a judicial proceeding in Colon. There was no stamped paper available and the lawyer converted a plain sheet of paper to a stamp paper. Fiscal stamps were not available so two postage stamps satisfied the twenty cent stamp tax.

As in the example of Figure 4 stamped paper was not available and figure 5 shows how a plain sheet of paper was converted to a legal document by adding the stamp tax of twenty cents. Fiscal stamps were not available so these four five-cent stamps fulfilled the stamp tax.



Fig. 3. September 22, 1908, two 10c Hamilton Bank Note Company stamps, Sc. 191, used to pay the stamp tax to



Figure 4 - December 18, 1908. Two 10c HBN Co stamps, Sc. 191, used to pay the 20c stamp tax. Courtesy Federico Brid.

Figure 6 is a credit contract between Mr. Levy and Martina Garrido to pay Mr. Levy five Panama pesos every month until the entire 90 pesos for furniture that Mr. Levy sold to M. Garrido was paid. A. Emilia Martinez signed the contract because M. Garrido does not know how to sign her name. The two one-cent postage

stamps probably paid the stamp tax for a receipt that five pesos were collected by Mr. Levy.

Follow up Articles

In 1915, Panama passed a tax-stamp law, *Ley 24 de 1915*, and the ABNCo received new contracts to print tax stamps, liquor bands (Fig 10), and *papel sellado*. The tax went into effect before those new fiscal docu-

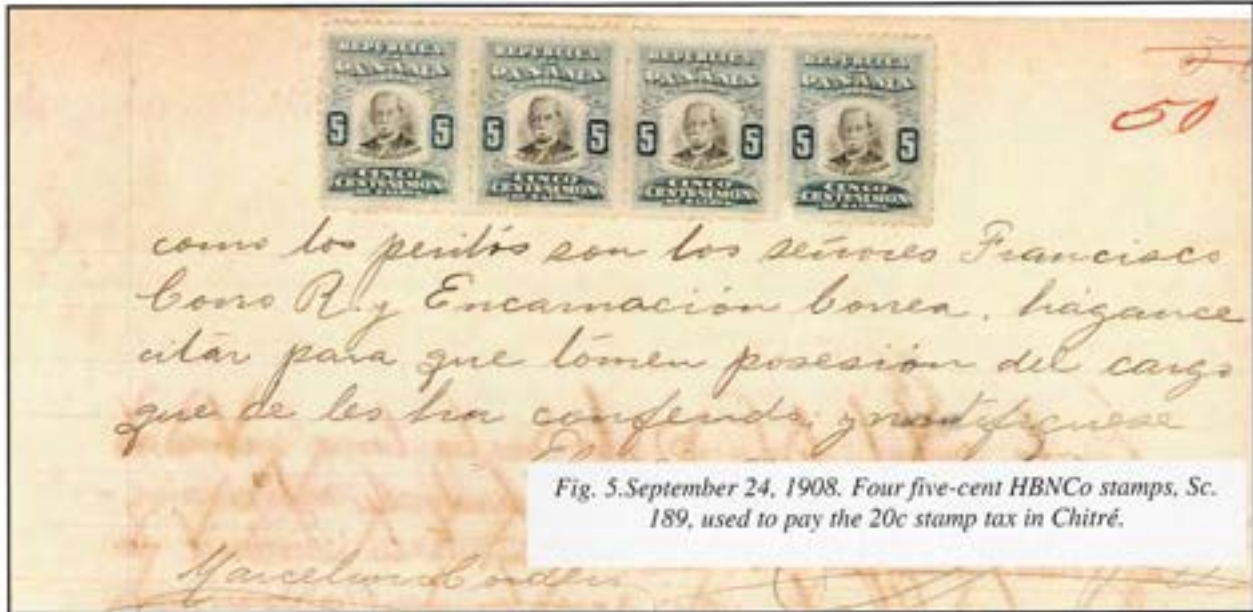


Fig. 5. September 24, 1908. Four five-cent HBNCo stamps, Sc. 189, used to pay the 20c stamp tax in Chitré.

ments arrived in Panama and, judging from the number of used, loose postage stamps overprinted *Ley 24 de 1915* found in stamp collections, many postage stamps were quickly overprinted and converted to provisional tax stamps. This law and the fiscal stamps and documents will be covered in more detail in several separate articles.

Request for Information

This article is the first in what will be a long series touching on Panama fiscal stamps and stamps paper using the newly discovered correspondence between the ABNCo, its agents in Panama, and the government of Panama.

Research into these subjects is ongoing and the author would appreciate scans or photocopies of any fiscal or other documents dated 1940 or earlier with fiscal stamps or postage stamps attached as well as loose postage stamps overprinted *Ley 24 de 1915*.



Fig. 6. December 10, 1914. A 20c fiscal stamp paid the tax for a credit between \$50 and \$100. The two one-cent American Bank Note Co. stamps, Sc. 197, paid the stamp tax.

28

2-

He recibido del señor DOMINGO VASQUEZ, en su carácter de Cura de los menores Consuelo, Alfonso y Mariano Palmarola, la suma de cincuenta Balboas (B. 50.00), por mis honorarios como Curador ad litem, de los menores mencionados en el juicio de rendición de cuentas iniciado por Ramón Palmarola Ruiz, contra su ex-Curador, según auto de 5 del presente mes dictado en el juicio citado por el señor Juez 1° de este Circuito.

Panamá, 8 de Julio de 1.915

Pablo Ruiz

V. B°.

El Juez 1° del Circuito.

Francisco J. San



ms



Figure 7 - July 8, 1915. A two-cent AB/Co stamp, Sc. 206, paid the two-cent stamp tax for ad litem services in behalf of minor children. Courtesy Federico Brid.

Panamá, Octubre 31 de 1915

EL SEÑOR *Coma Sabata*

A RICHARDO CARROLO R.

DEBE:



Se le destinan las taberías de los frentes
dadas a la casa Avenida Anco.

\$ 6.00

\$ 6.00



Cuentista.

R. Carrolo

Fig. 8. October 31, 1915. Two one-cent stamps, Sc. 197, paid the tax on a plumbing receipt.

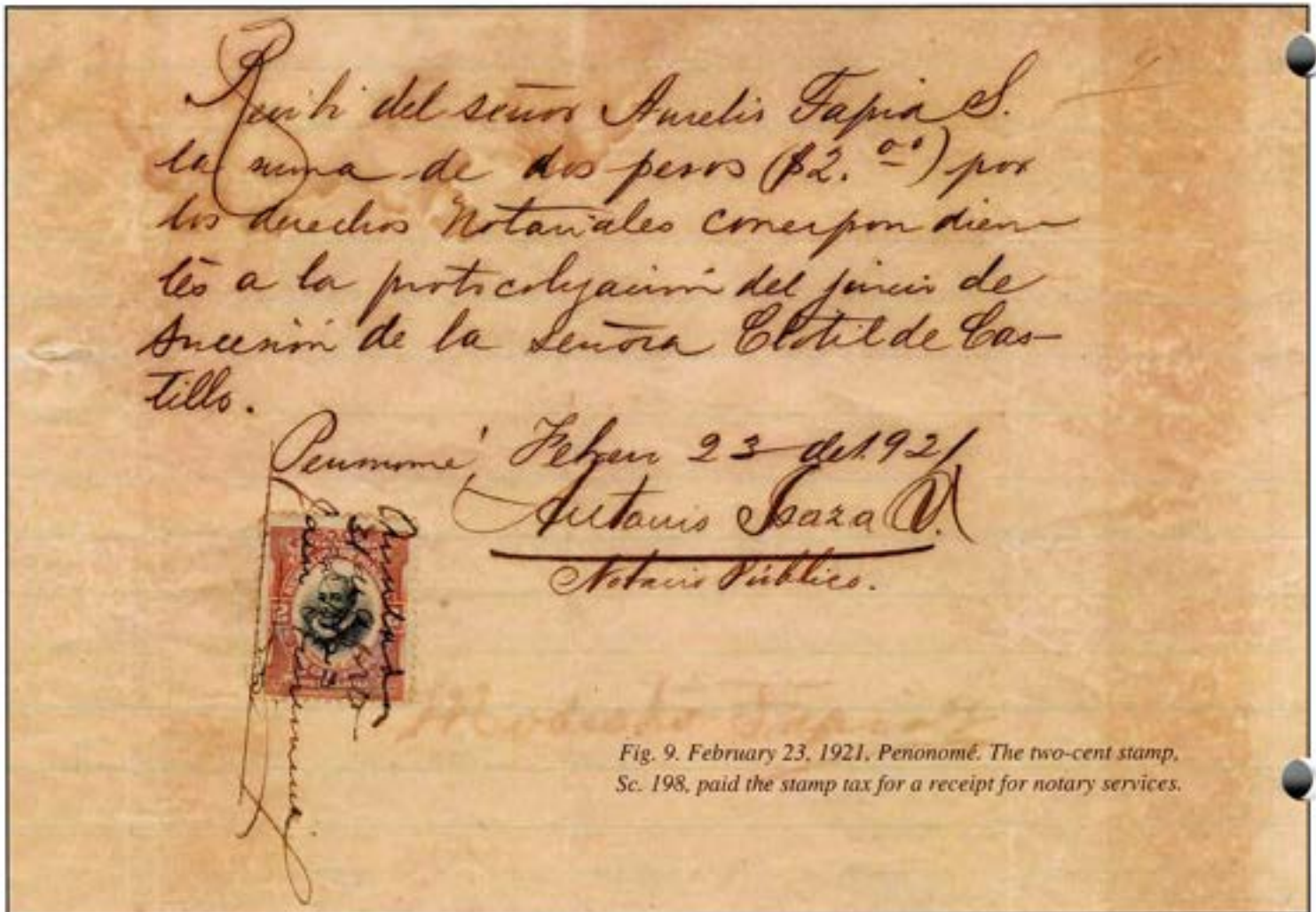


Fig. 9. February 23, 1921, Penonomé. The two-cent stamp, Sc. 198, paid the stamp tax for a receipt for notary services.



Fig. 10. Five-cent liquor band authorized by Ley 24 de 1915. Courtesy Joe Ross

The Spanish American Philatelic Society

Debby Friedman

I recently came across a little booklet titled *The Spanish-American, a Commemorative Booklet and Philatelic Directory* published in 1902 by the Spanish-American Philatelic Society (fig. 1). While I have not found dates for the society's existence, it was likely brief. The society included all of the Americas. Information in publications like this help to identify names that can be associated with covers that may be philatelic. The by-laws indicated they would have a standing committee to purchase new issues and varieties to distribute among its members. The representative in Colombia was the legendary Antonio Rincon (fig. 2). It would be interesting to know what "varieties" he got into circulation. Rincon also has a small ad in the publication (fig. 3).

Members of the society in Colombia and their listed occupation as of 1902 included:

- Antonio Rincon, Comerciante, Bogota
- Focion Soto U., Comerciante, Bogota
- Augusto Merchan, Student, Bogota
- Elicier Q. Suarez, Comerciante, Bogota
- Alfonso Quijano, Student, Bogota



Fig. 2. Antonio Rincon V., one of Bogotá's leading stamp dealers.

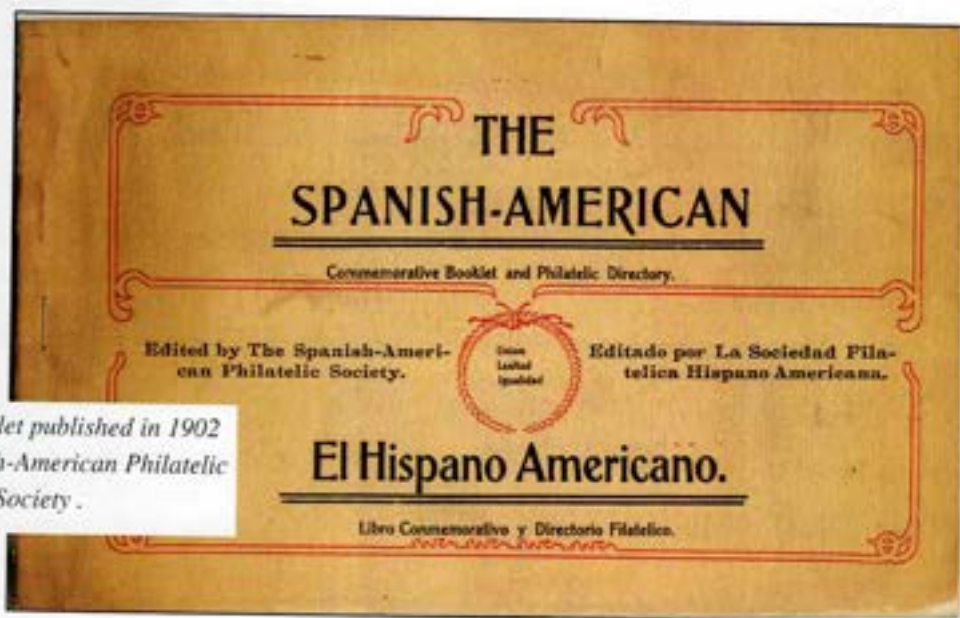


Fig. 1. Booklet published in 1902 by the Spanish-American Philatelic Society.

- Luis Rosas, Comerciante, Bogota
- Rafael Barberi C., Student, Bogota

There was also included a directory of Spanish-American Philatelists by country. It was described as revised and up to date. This list was not limited to society members (fig. 4). That list included a name well known to Colombia collectors - Michelson, then Consul General of Denmark.



Fig. 2. Antonio Rincon's ad.

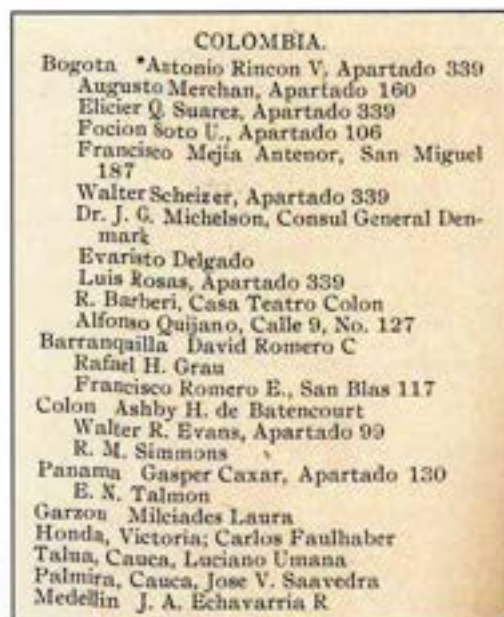


Fig. 4. Colombian members of the Spanish American Philatelic Society.

EL CORREO EN COLOMBIA

COPAPHIL is pleased to be able to offer copies of the scarce 2013 two volume softcover publication *El Correo en Colombia*, published by *Revista Semana*. These profusely illustrated volumes contain a series of essays in Spanish on diverse aspects of Colombian philately. Each volume is 82 pp. The authors include historians and subject matter experts as well as philatelists. A limited number of copies are available.

Tomo I 1500-1900; The origins from mule to telegraph

Tomo II 1900-2013; The transformation from airplane to postal code

Examples of subjects covered include Imperial Mail and Routes, Chasquis, Pre-philatelic postal markings, Stamps of the sovereign states, 1874 mail routes, Colombia and the UPU and Red Ink (War of 1000 Days), Birth of airmail, SCADTA, Private mails, Golden age of airmail and Adpostal and its successor "4-72". The final essay is the "Joys of Colombian Philatelic Rarities by the late Dieter Bortfeldt.

Member price postpaid including paypal fees: \$20 to the US; \$35 worldwide.

To order, email to Alan Harris at copaphilusa@aol.com. Paypal payment should also be sent to copaphilusa@aol.com.

The 5c Yellow-Orange of Cartagena, 1903

Thomas P. Myers

It is a shame that more has not been written about the regional stamps of the War of a Thousand Days. There is some real philatelic interest there in the stamps themselves as well as the postal history.

The major catalogs are agreed that is a total of 16 Cartagena stamps. Scott gets to 17 by including the 1c stamp of Bolivar overprinted with wavy lines (fig. 1) in the series of 1899.

The fascination of collecting Cartagena stamps comes in the variety offered-- with or without control marks; vertical or horizontal control marks; perforate or imperforate; lines of perforation missing; even the occasional proof.



Fig. 1. Scott is the only major catalog that lists the overprinted 1c Bolivar stamp with the Cartagena national issues. It comes with both horizontal and vertical overprints

In this essay I shall devote my attention to a stamp to which none of the catalogs give a major listing, the 5c yellow-orange of the 1901 series (fig. 2). It is a minor listing in a set of four stamps thought to have been issued in 1901 though Michel says 1902. Scott does not mention it.

Temprano lists the 5c yellow-orange as #137n and describes it as imperforate and without a control overprint. According to the major catalog listings, the basic stamp, #137, is violet, has a control mark (fig. 3), and comes in a number of varieties. Temprano also lists a castaño (brown) stamp



Fig. 2. Block of the 5c yellow orange dated 17 Aug 1903.

imperforate and without a control number. The 5c is the only stamp in the series that comes in a variety of colors but I have not yet recorded an example of the brown 5c stamp.

If we were suspicious we might suspect that the 5c yellow-orange was a proof since it lacks the perforations of regularly issued stamps as well as the control mark characteristic of Cartagena wartime stamps.



Fig. 3. Normal 5c stamp of 1903 in purple with control mark (star).



Fig. 4. 20 Aug 1903 Cartagena to Arjona—the earliest cover I have recorded for the 5c yellow orange.

However we do find it used not only as loose stamps which could be cancelled by favor, but also on letters from several different correspondences. The earliest is a railway cover dated 20 Aug 1902 addressed to Arjona located on the main road southwest of Cartagena (fig. 4).



Fig. 5. AR form to Budapest dated 1 Jun 1903.

The next clearly dated cover is 1 Jun 1903 (fig. 5), ten days later. It is an AR form, part of a correspondence between Cartagena and Budapest. Five other covers in this correspondence bearing the 5c yellow are dated between 3 Jun and 2 Nov 1903 (figs. 6, 7).

Other destinations and dates include Colon (15 Aug 1903, fig. 8) and two to Panama addressed to different persons and in a different hand (fig. 9). The latest use of the 5c yellow known to me is addressed to Barranquilla and dated 15 Dec 1903 (fig. 10).



Fig. 6. Part of the correspondence of Budapest, 3 Jun 1903.



Fig. 7. Part of the correspondence of Budapest, 20 Aug 1903.



Fig. 8. Letter to Colon dated 15 Aug 1903.

Conclusions

The 5c yellow-orange was legitimately issued and used in spite of the fact that it did not bear a countermark and is not perforated like the other stamps in the series. It is evident that its postal use extended to a number of different individuals over an extended period of time. They were not used in a controlled mail context.



Fig. 9 Two covers addressed to Panama, each in a different hand suggesting a different correspondence.

The known period of use of the 5c yellow-orange extended from 20 August 1902 (Wednesday) to 15 December 1903. The earliest date may be attributable to a mis-dated canceler. Otherwise the dates form a tight unit extending from June to December 1903. The 1903 letters were mailed on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday suggesting that the post office was open seven days a week.



Fig. 10. Latest known use of the 5c gold, 15 Dec. 1903.

Colombia/Panama on-line Exhibits

Title	Web address
Colombia: the Unknown War	http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibit_ID=716&lng=EN
POSTAL HISTORY OF COLOMBIA	http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibit_ID=670&lng=EN
SCADTA Postal Stationery	http://www.aape.org/exhibit_view_frame.asp?
Colombia - Express 1917	http://usspecialdelivery.com/exhibits/columbia/
The 1920 Panama and Canal Zone 50c	https://stamps.org/userfiles/file/MyAPS/Exhibits/Zemer-

Notes from the Past—edited by Debby Friedman

News about the Colombian Republic was frequently reported in the pages of the American Journal of Philately. At the beginning of the 20th century the issues of the War of 1000 days era gave the editors a great deal to chronicle and editorialize upon. Published by Scott, the numerous "new" issues were viewed very skeptically.

The following is the Chronicle Report in Volume 16, the May 1, 1903 issue, pp167-168:

"There seems to be no end to the atrocities perpetrated by this republic. What is more, we find that these things actually do postal duty as we have seen them on letters, so that the hope that they were frauds, and that therefore they could be excluded from the catalogue, fails us.

Mr. W.F. Gregory has shown us two stamps, which he says were issued sometime ago, and which appear to be part of the regular issue of 1902. They are a trifle larger than other stamps of the series, but resemble them in a general way, having the National coat of arms in a circle in the center; at the top is the inscription "CORREOS - REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA" in two lines and the value below. On the 5 pesos the value is written 5 CINCO PESOS 5 and on the 10 pesos, DIEZ 10 PESOS...(Fig 1 Scott 273-74).



Fig. 1. Sc273 and 274.

We have the 50 centavos, with portrait of Simon Bolivar, printed in rose. (Fig 2) This color was



Fig. 2. Cartagena issue Scott 214a.



Fig. 3. Scott H2.

not included in the list of this stamp which we gave in March. The Monthly Journal also reports the companion 1 Peso stamp, with portrait of General Prospero Pinzon, printed in two shades of blue and in a smaller size, 18x24mm., instead of 20x26.5mm. The registration return receipt stamp of Antioquia has appeared in a new color. (Fig 3)

Lastly, we have two stamps in the Department of Bolivar - a 1 Peso with bust of Fernandez Madrio [d] and a 5 Pesos with bust of Rodrigues[z] Torices (Fig 4). For unadulterated ugliness these are about the worst! However, they appear to have served one good purpose, as the agent of the official who sent them to this country informs us that he was ordered to purchase with them a lot of new shirts and some cigarettes with the gentleman's monogram. It scarcely seems necessary to make any comment on the uses to which the Postal Service of this country is being put."



Fig. 4. Scott # 65 & 67

British Air Mail in Colombia, 1928

From *British Air Mail Leaflets*, May 1928

18. Barranquilla (Colombia)—Bogotá—Buenaventura—Manizales—Medellin—Bucaramanga—Cali, &c.

COLOMBIA (South America)	Letters and Postcards 1/- per ½ oz. Printed and Commercial papers, sample, 6d. per ½ oz.	By ordinary route via New York and air route 18. Gains of up to 10 days for Bogotá, Buenaventura, Medellín, etc. Correspondence cannot be registered.
--------------------------	--	---

COLOMBIA (South America).—Semi-Official service. The Colombian Air Mail Company (Scadta) provides rapid clearance through the Customs, pays all Customs charges, forwards to destination and collects Customs charges on delivery. These facilities, combined with speedy transit over the Company's system, normally ensure a saving of up to several weeks in time of delivery compared with the use of the ordinary service.

Places served :—Apuila, Armenia, Barranca-Bermeja, Bucaramanga, Bogotá, Buenaventura, Boga, Calamar, Cali, Cartagena, Ciénaga, Cucuta, El Banco, Espinal, Facatativa, Girardot, Honda, Ibagué, La Esperanza, Libano, Magangué, Manizales, Medellín, Montería, Neiva, Pamplona, Palmira, Piedecuesta, Pereira, Popayan, Puerto Berrio, Puerto Santos, Puerto Wilches, Rionegro, San Francisco, San Gil, Santa Marta, Santa Rosa, Socorro, Taganona, Tulua, Tunja, Zapotoca.



Colombian air mail stamps no longer required for air transport in Colombia.

Word has been received that **Ray Ireson**, a charter member of COPAPHIL and a COPAPHIL President many years ago, has passed away. He was best known for his award winning thematic exhibit "The Panama Canal Story". The Canal Zone Study Group has a cd of the exhibit available for purchase. He also had an award winning collection of "The Private Post of El Dorado" that was shown as a one frame exhibit. COPACARTA

published an article Ray wrote "The Stamp of El Dorado" in June 1995. This collection was sold as one lot at Eastern Auctions in June 2016. It realized 9,000 Canadian plus a 17% buyers commission. For more information about this intriguing carrier, the June 2016 COPACARTA had an article by Federico Teppa on "The Private Mail of Enrique Urdaneta."

Bisects of the Numeral Issues, 1904 - 1924

Thomas P. Myers

Bisects have a long if somewhat checkered history in Colombia. They were never authorized yet they appear intermittently over an extended period of time.¹ Often they were accepted but occasionally the recipient was forced to pay postage due.

One might suppose that unless philatelically inspired, bisects most commonly would originate in small towns where inattention by the postmaster or difficulty of transportation might lead to shortages.

Arango Issue

The earliest numeral bisect that I have recorded is a 1907 local AR letter in Barranquilla. In addition to a bisected 10c of the Arango-Medellin issue the cover also bears a 10c registration stamp also printed by Arango (fig. 1). In addition there is a manuscript AR in the upper left corner of the envelope. A mute oval hand stamp ties the bisected stamp to the cover. In 1907 the *correo urbano* letter rate was 1c per 15g; the registration fee was 10c; and the AR fee was 5c. With a wink and a nod the bisected 10c stamp could have been valued at 6c rather than 5c so the fees could have been properly paid.

The only domestic usage is a bisected 2c stamp used to pay the



Fig. 1. Local letter in Barranquilla paying the 1c local letter rate + 10c registration fee + 5c AR fee.



Fig. 2. Bisected 2c stamp used to pay the local letter rate in Cucuta.



Fig. 3. Bolivar to Buffalo NY via Barranquilla, 1912.

1c local letter rate in Cucuta (fig. 2). The rate was current from 1907 to 1915.² The stamp is barely tied with a straight line *anulado* hand stamp with which I am otherwise not familiar.

A 1912 cover from the village of Bolivar via Barranquilla to the Foster McClellan Company of Buffalo NY bears two 2c Lit Nacional stamps plus a bisect bringing the total postage paid to 5c, the correct rate to the USA (fig. 3). Foster & McClellan was the maker of a celebrated proprietary remedy.

A cover originating in Sincelejo in 1915 is also addressed to Foster McClellan of Buffalo. Instead of using company stationery as the previous cover it uses the stationery of the originating firm, Garcia & Samudio (fig. 4)

Another 1912 cover, this time from Ubala, Cundinamarca, passed through Barranquilla on May 8 on its way to Dr. Joseph Lister in Chicago (fig. 4). Note the color of the envelope which is reminiscent of Dr. Lister's proprietary medicine, Listerine. The letter carried the same he same combination of Lit. Nacional stamps as the previous cover.

Plato, a small town on the Magdalena river in the Department of Magdalena was the source of a bisect cover mailed to M. Trilete of Binghamton NY in 1920 (fig. 6). This seems a little late for a numeral cover since the Centenary series had appeared in 1910 and the Perkins Bacon in 1917 but there was obviously a stamp

shortage and the Plato postmaster was using what he had on hand.

Numeral stamps remained in stock in Barran-



Fig. 4. Sincelejo to Buffalo NY, 1915.



Fig. 5. Ubala, Cundinamarca to Dr. Joseph Lister in Chicago, 1912.



Fig. 6. Plato to Binghamton NY 1920.



Fig. 7. Short paid registered letter from Barranquilla to New York, 1924

quilla as late as January 1924 when 2c stamps of the Lit. Nacional issue of 1908 were used with a 5c stamp and a registration stamp of the 1917 Perkins Bacon issue (fig. 7). The reason for 8c postage is not clear to me since the UPU rate was 10c from 1921 until August 1925 when the letter rate was reduced to 8c per 20g.

Observations

All of the covers recorded here were business covers. While that does not exclude their philatelic origin it does make it somewhat less likely.

The frequent use of 2c bisects on international mail suggests shortages of 5c stamps which paid the UPU rate as well as 1c stamps which might have been properly used with 2c stamps to make up the 5c rate. The post masters appear to have been quite inattentive.

Two of the covers originated in a city, Cucuta and Barranquilla, where stamp supplies should have been maintained by a competent professional. The others originated in towns whose administrators might not have been so careful.

All but one of the letters were addressed to the United States yet they passed without question through the exchange office at Barranquilla. Perhaps Colombian authorities did not wish to obstruct or delay business correspondence.

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- Myers, Thomas P. (2013) Bisects of the 1877 Liberty Issue. *Copacarta* 31(1): 15-17.
- Valenzuela Acosta Carlos (2002) *Historia Postal de las Tarifas de los Correos en Colombia*. Bogota. p. 72.

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RECUPERANDO NUESTRA PRE FILATELIA A LA LUZ DE LOS ARCHIVOS HISTÓRICOS NACIONALES, Manuel Arango Echeverri

COPAPHIL is pleased to make available this landmark, new publication by our long time member in Colombia, Manuel Arango Echeverri. He has devoted years to research the Pre-Philately of Colombia. The result of this extensive research is this work. The author has made available for sale through COPAPHIL, his work on a thumb drive.

Volume I includes pre philatelic marks and postal documents, showing a great diversity of postal marks between 1770-1859, many of them unknown until now to philatelists. This information was found in the various archives of Colombia and especially in the General Archive of the nation in Bogotá. (802 pp).

Volume II includes the reports of "José Antonio Pando and Riva": from his arrival to Cartagena on November 16, 1769, coming from Mexico, aboard the sloop "El Postillon". Pando sent regularly and systematically to the viceroy of the new Kingdom of Granada a great diversity of reports on the progress of the work commissioned by the Count Grimaldi. This volume presents 89 documents of letters and reports of its work to different authorities from 1769 until 1789. (584pp) pages. **Volume III** is a supplement that includes many pre-philatelic marks, finds not known before and others in which older dates are highlighted or colors have differences. 603 pages. *Member price postpaid including PayPal fees, on thumb drive: \$45 worldwide.*

Colombia: The Michelsen Affair and the 'reprints' of the \$5 and \$10 of the 1868 Issue of the United States of Colombia, Dario Diez, 55pp monograph, 2016

For more than one hundred and twenty years the so-called Michelsen "reprints" have been the subject of many discussions in world philatelic circles. Since Gustavo Michelsen began selling them in 1890-91, the legality of these issues has not been clearly and objectively established. Michelsen tried to make his creations look, to the philatelic world, as "authorized reprints. It is difficult to differentiate them from the genuine. This book demonstrates that Michelsen's so called "reprints" are fakes and presents reliable parameters to identify the different printings of the genuine \$5 and \$10 Pesos stamps from the counterfeits. *Member price postpaid, including paypal fees: \$15 to the US; \$25 rest of the world.*

Panama Postal Markings through 1980 by the late Jim Cross, 2329 markings, 320 pp. *Member price postpaid, including PayPal fees: \$30 to the US; \$55 rest of the world.*

The Stamps of Panama 1878-2010: Vital Statistics by Federico Brid, 160 pages of vital information including postal rates, authorization decrees, and numbers printed. *Member price postpaid, including PayPal fees: \$25 to the US; \$45 rest of the world*

To order any of these publications, email to Allan Harris at copaphilusa@aol.com. Paypal payment should also be sent to copaphilusa@aol.com.

COPACARTA

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*First flights of the Linea Transandina from Medellin.
See article beginning on p. 13.*



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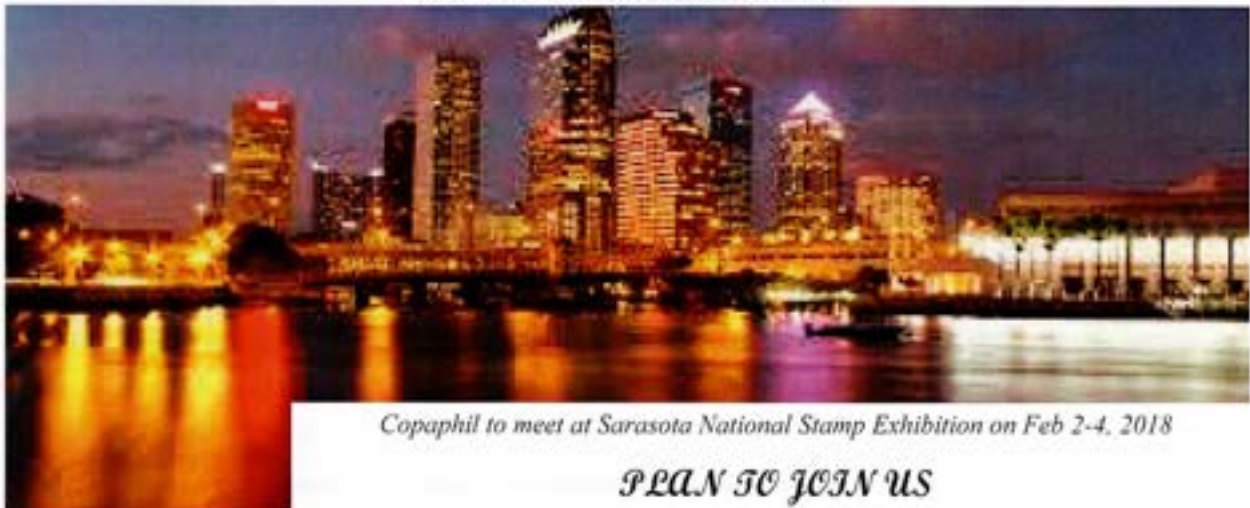
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Exhibits for Sarasota 2018

So far there are eight Panama/Colombia accepted for our bi-annual meeting at Sarasota. There is still time before the deadline so send in your exhibit form.

- David Zemer, *The Panama 1c American bank Note Company Stamp*, 2 frames
- Ricardo Botero-Escobar, *SCADTA - The First Years (1920-1923)*, 8 frames
- Dario Diaz, *Begin and End of an Airmail Sys-*

tem, 5 frames

- Brad Wilde, *Panama Canal 25th Anniversary - Canal Zone*, 8 frames
- Brad Wilde, *Panama Canal 25th Anniversary - Panama*, 6 frames
- Alfredo Frohlich, *Replating Colombia's 1861 1 Peso Stamp*, 1 frame
- Alfredo Frohlich, *The Last Classic Colombia Issue 1866-1869*, 5 frames
- Santiago Cruz, *Colombia - the 1917 Perkins Issue*, 8 frames
- Alfredo Frohlich, *Colombia - The Bolivar Centenary Issue of 1934*, 1 frame
- Manuel Arango, *Colombia - Revenues in the Twentieth Century*, 8 frames

Exhibits on Line

I want to remind our members, particularly our newer members, that there is a great deal to be learned from on-line exhibits. *Colombia: the Unknown War* at http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibit_ID=716&lng=EN; and *Postal History of Colombia, 1886-1899* at http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibit_ID=670&lng=EN.

Lanman & Kemp

Like many other Latin American countries, Colombian pharmacies did a considerable amount of business with the firm of Lanman & Kemp of

(Continued on page 18)

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Perkins Bacon Issues of Colombia*

Ross A Towle

A recent trip to London presented the opportunity to examine the Perkins Bacon Archive at the Royal Philatelic Society, London. I concentrated upon the postal stationery items produced by Perkins Bacon for Colombia. I was interested in what was produced, quantities produced and when they were produced and sent to Colombia.

The correspondence file for Colombia ends in 1912. A tender was issued in 1912 to produce postal cards but nothing appears to have come from it. However, the Invoice Books did contain four invoices for postal stationery.

The first invoice, dated 14 February 1917, based



Indicium design of Colombia's capitol building in the city of Bogotá, used for the 2c cards and the 3c envelope. Underneath: PERKINS, BACON & Co LD. LONDON.

on the contract of 8 July 1916, was for the following:

- 50,000 single 2 centavos red postal cards (H&G 20)
- 25,000 2c+2c red message/reply postal cards (H&G 21)
- 45,000 3c lilac brown envelopes (H&G B7A)

and were sent via the ship *St. George*.

The second invoice, dated 21 February 1917, also based on the contract of 8 July 1916, was for an additional 105,000 3c violet envelopes (H&G B7A) sent via *Port Napier*.

The third invoice, dated 11 April 1917, also based

* This article is reprinted from the July-August 2016, Whole No. 409 issue of *Postal Stationery*, the journal of the United Postal Stationery Society, Inc. (UPSS) and is reprinted here by permission. More information about the UPSS is at www.upss.org, or contact upss-ed@pachell.net.



H&G 20 single card, international UPU rate of 2c.



H&G 20, message half. Bilingual French and Spanish text at lower left reads "the attached card is intended for the response."



H&G 20, reply half. Bilingual French and Spanish text at lower left reads "This part is valid for sending to the Republic of Colombia." Although reply cards were only permitted to be returned to the country of issue beginning April 1, 1886, promulgated by the UPU Congress of Lisbon in 1885, this may be the only instance of a reply card stating its "to be returned to" country.



H&G B7A envelope.



H&G E1 and E2 (upper portions).

on the contract of 8 July 1916, was for



Indicium design of Colombia's coat of arms, used for the 1c green and 1½c lilac brown wrappers.

Underneath: PERKINS, BACON & Co LD, LONDON.

25,000 1c green wrappers (H&G E1)

25,000 1½c lilac brown wrappers (H&G E2)

and were sent via *Foyle*. The *Printing Journal* indicates these were printed "4 on".

The fourth invoice, dated 6 September 1918, based on the contract of 4 August 1917, was for the following:

50,000 single 2 centavos red postal cards (H&G 20)

25,000 2c+2c red message/reply postal cards (H&G 21)

10,000 1c green wrappers (H&G E1)

5,000 1½c lilac brown wrappers (H&G E2)

and were sent via *Nortonian*.

Acknowledgements. I would like to thank Mark Copley, Curator, for his assistance.

End Notes

1. Perkins Bacon Invoice Book No. 16 (Oct. 1916-Sep. 1918), access PB-ACC-140116, pp. 206-207.
2. *Ibid.* p. 215.
3. *Ibid.* p. 277.

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Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted *LEY 24 DE 1915* to Meet a Shortage of Revenue Stamps

David Zemer

Tax stamps were required on a multitude of items in Panama before and after its independence from Colombia. This article will focus on Panama postage stamps overprinted *LEY 24 DE 1915* to create 1c and 2c tax stamps.

The 1915 law, *Ley de 24 de 1915*, required a tax stamp of ½ c on half bottles of country rum and 1c on half bottles of beer and 2c on full bottles of beer and half bottles of "extraordinary" rum. Many other goods and services needed a tax stamp, e.g., up to four ounces of tobacco or packages of up to 16 cigarettes required a tax stamp of 2c. Any fiscal document up to a value of \$5 had to have a 1c tax stamp and documents between \$5 and \$10 required a 2c tax stamp. Fiscal documents included personal checks and all receipts. To ensure that counterfeit stamps were not used Panama ordered high-quality engraved tax stamps from the American Bank Note Company (ABNCo).

When tax stamps were not available, current postage stamps were used as an alternative.¹

Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted *LEY 24 DE 1915*

At least twice during 1915 either tax stamps ordered from the ABNCo did not arrive from New York in time to meet the needs of the tax authorities, or Panama unexpectedly ran out of tax stamps.^{2,3} To temporarily meet these shortfalls, Panama created provisional tax stamps by overprinting various postage stamps with *LEY 24 DE 1915*.

Six different postage stamps overprinted *LEY 24 DE 1915* have been



Fig. 1. ½ c Map stamp ABNCo, Sc195. The lilac *LEY 24 DE 1915* reads across. Courtesy Joe Ross



Fig. 2. 1c Portrait of Balboa, ABNCo, Sc197. (2a) Unused, (2b) double overprint, (2c) *LEY 24* on left side, (2d) black overprint. Overprint normally red, but known in black. Usually reading down but known reading up. Courtesy Joe Ross

recorded.

At least five different overprints are known. The first overprint appears to be from a handstamp and is lilac or purple. It is best seen in figures 1 and 4. The second overprint is type set, usually in red, reading down as in Figures 2 a-c, but it also exists in black, Figure 2d, 3. The red overprint is also recorded reading upwards but not shown here.

The 2c portrait of Cordoba, Figure 3, Hamilton Bank Note Company (HBNCo), Scott Number 187, with black *LEY 24 DE 1915* reading down, is noteworthy because it was overprinted again, *HABILITADA*, Decreto No. 152 de 27 de Nov. de 1919. No *LEY 24 DE 1915* overprinted examples of this stamp without the 1919 overprint are recorded.

The 8c portrait of Hurtado, ABNCo, Scott Number 213, has *LEY 24 DE 1915* in red reading across but above this overprint is *H.* (for *Habilitada*) *B 0,02*, which revalued it from an 8c postage stamp to a 2c tax stamp (Fig. 5).

The 10c portrait of Obaldia, HBNCo, Sc191, has been recorded with a similar overprint to that on the Hurtado stamp but with two different values,



Fig. 3. 2c Portrait of Cordoba, HBNC Co, Sc187, black overprint reading down. Not known without the second overprint: HABILITADA, Decreto No. 152 de 27 de Nov. de 1919. Courtesy Federico Brid



Fig. 4. 2c Portrait of Cordoba, ABNC Co, Sc198. Purple LEY 24 DE 1915 hand-stamp overprint reading down



Fig. 6 - 10c portrait of Obaldia devalued to 1c, HBNC Co, Sc191: (6a) Devalued to 1c, (6b) devalued to 2c, (6c) devalued to 1c ("C" for Cerveza).



Fig. 5. 8c Portrait of Hurtado, ABNC Co, Sc213. Devalued from 8c to 2c

1c and 2c (Figs. 6a, 6b). In addition, a variation has a large red letter "C" in the middle, probably to pay the 1c tax on a bottle of *cerveza* (beer) (Fig. 6c).

In both my collection and in what I have seen on eBay, the 1c Balboa stamps far outnumber all the others overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915.

Two prominent Panama philatelists, Joe Ross and Federico Brid, have the same experience.

Several of the stamps have a clear date, always 1915, from a merchant's cancellation stamp, Fig. 6.

From the ABNC Co correspondence it is clear that Panama often required both postage and fiscal stamps to be "rushed" to Panama. Besides the two examples documented in 1915 one more request for a rush order of tax stamps related to this research was found in a letter from Mr. Ehrman to ABNC Co dated December 17, 1919, and it could be that the 1919 overprint in Fig. 3 is a consequence.

Mr Ehrman wrote:

The Government having exhausted its stock of



Fig. 6a. Oct. 25, 1915. Courtesy Joe Ross.



Fig. 6b. 1915, month and day missing.

Timbres Nacionales of small denominations has decreed to use the stock of old postage stamps, about 162,500.

He goes on to reference an order dated September 10, 1919 asking ABNC Co

...to ship 1, 2, 10, 20 cent Timbres Nacionales and 1 Perfumes. The urgency that you ship part of the order, remainder to follow later, cannot be overestimated. The Fiscal Agent is very anxious to receive at least a part of the order as soon as possible.

Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915 Used for Postage

In 1922 F.E. Heydon published his booklet *The Postage Stamps of Panama*⁴ and devoted Chapter 33 to the subject of "Revenue Stamps Used Postal-

ly." This chapter might not be familiar to today's Panama students and is therefore printed in its entirety. To date it is the only known reference on the subject of Panama postage stamps overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915 used for postage.

When the revenue stamps designed for cigarettes, bull ring tickets, etc., and made by surcharging the regular postage stamps "Ley 24 de 1915" appeared, a considerable number of them were used for postage by the ignorant classes...mostly negroes from the West Indies, British Guiana, etc., and also native Panamanians, who, being unable to read, had not the slightest idea as to what the mysterious surcharge was meant for. In fact many of the postal employees were no better informed. However, very few of these misused stamps have been preserved, the recipients of the letters having been as ignorant as the writers, and they are now decidedly scarce. I list the following:

- 208(Sc191). 10c violet, black center, surcharge rose-red
- 213(Sc197). 1c green, black center, surcharge rose-red
- 213(Sc197). 1c green, black center, surcharge black

The 1c green "Ley 24 de 1915" revenue stamps were not valid for postal use and I have in my collection a cover bearing one of them with a postage due stamp to secure collection of proper rate on delivery. While these are all that I know of, the existence of others is very probable.

Taking into account the ignorance of officials at the smaller towns on the Isthmus, and the inadequate supplies furnished them, of which the bisected stamps are ample proof, it would not surprise me to see examples of almost any of the smaller revenue stamps, which are rather numerous, used for postage.*

Heydon was right in some respects but a present

*Most, if not all, of the bisected stamps that Heydon refers to are fakes made to deceive Heydon, stamp dealers, and collectors. They will be covered in a future article.



Fig. 7. August 1915. Purple overprint is by a hand stamp. Neither stamp is recognized as valid for postage. Postage Due marking applied. Ex-Brett.



Fig. 8. October 11, 1915. Passed through the post to US without postage due. Courtesy Joe Ross



Fig. 9. - October 26, 1915. The stamps are not Canal Zone stamps and therefore were not cancelled and postage due "T" marking applied. Return address on back: United Fruit Company Steamship Service. Ex-Brett



Fig. 10. November 9, 1915. Both stamps were recognized as valid for postage. No postage due. Return address on back: Arthur G. Gehrig, C/O American Bridge Company, Cristobal, Canal Zone. Ex-Brett



Fig. 11. December 4, 1915. Prescott had been the postmaster of Panama City in 1910 and possibly still was the postmaster in 1915. Courtesy Joe Ross

day look at these tax stamps and their usage points to reasons different from those that he gave.

It is more likely that these stamps were sometimes used for postage because 1) businesses and merchants had to buy them to affix to their documents and probably saw no reason why they could not also be used for postage; see for example Fig. 7 to Gov. Goethals, Fig. 8, to the Superintendent of the Panama Rail Road, and Fig. 9 to the Electrical Engineer in the Panama Canal Co.; 2) if someone received a document with one of these stamps that had not been properly cancelled it would seem reasonable to assume that the stamp could be re-



Fig. 12. April 5, 1917. Greene family members were very well-known collectors/dealers of Panama and Canal Zone stamps. This rose-colored 1/2c stamp, Sc196, was rarely used for postage except by stamp collectors and dealers. One 1/2c stamp has been removed.

moved from the document and used for postage, much like "skips" today; and 3) people, like the Greens who lived in the Canal Zone, Fig. 12, just wanted to have fun to see if they could send a letter with a revenue stamp and not get caught.

Usage on Cover of Postage Stamps Overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915

Covers with overprinted postage stamps are illustrated in date order.

The handstamps using the purple ink were probably used until a proper typeset overprint could be made. This example from August 1915 is not only the single example of this overprint on cover recorded, it is the earliest use of any stamp overprinted *Ley 24 DE 1915* on cover.

Summary

Panama used tax stamps to collect taxes on goods and services. In 1915 they passed a law, *LEY 24 DE 1915*, and ordered a relatively small number of stamps from the ABNCo. The law required an unanticipated large amount of 1c and 2c tax stamps to be used and they soon ran out of these and provisional tax stamps were made by overprinting postage stamps with *LEY 24 DE 1915*.

Only one cover is recorded with a purple *LEY 24 DE 1915* made by a handstamp so there is a good chance that handstamp(s) were used to overprint some stamps and were later replaced by overprints that had been typeset. Six different stamps are



Fig. 13. July 6, 1917. From the very small town of Chitre. 5c pays registry fee. Second 5c pays foreign postage and therefore over-pays postage to US by 3 c. Only registered cover known with LEY 24 DE 1915 overprint.



Fig. 14. Oct. 30, 1917. From the Swiss Consulate to Switzerland. 5c stamp on address side. Note the 10c stamp with LEY 24 DE 1915 overprint already had been marked by a merchant and does not have a Panama cancellation but was treated as a label. Ex-Helme.



Fig. 15. Feb. 28, 1925. From the very small town of La Concepcion. 1c pays post card rate to US. Courtesy Joe Ross.

known to have been overprinted and I believe that companies and merchants used them to pay taxes but when the need arose put them on envelopes to use as postage stamps. However, so did well-educated Americans living or working in the Canal Zone who should have known the difference.

Heydon was right when he said that there very few examples known on cover. Four of mine are from the George Brett hoard and appear to be all that he had. The late well-known Panama philatelist Dr. James Helme had only one in his estate. However, pleasant surprises do arise: the cover in Figure 13 appeared on eBay in 2017.

Heydon was wrong when, without offering any evidence, he wrote that the overprinted stamps were often used by the illiterate masses of Panama. With a very few exceptions all of these overprinted used stamps that I have seen off-cover have been cancelled by merchants and I suspect many had been on the backs of checks.

I have noticed examples of these stamps more than a few times on eBay – usually in large lots of Panama stamps – and I suspect that many collectors used them as space fillers during the past 100+ years.

This is an ongoing research project and scans of variations of those overprints shown here, stamps with LEY 24 DE 1915 or similar overprints not shown here, stamps on-cover, or any with a date in the cancellation would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact me at SOSAHILL@hotmail.com or through the editor of this publication.

Acknowledgements.

Thanks to Federico Brid for contributing figures and reviewing the article, Joe Ross for contributing figures of revenue stamps and bands, and Ruthann Bates for editorial suggestions.

End notes

1 – David Zemer (2017) *Panama Stamps Used to Pay Taxes*. *Copacarta* 33(3): 4-8.

2 – David Zemer, *Panama's American Bank Note Company Fiscal Stamps and Liquor Bands Printed in 1915. Part 1.*

(Continued on page 19)

Colombia Official Cubiertas Catalog Project

The Official Certificates (often called Official Cubiertas) of Colombia have not been adequately covered in any catalogs since Collin & Calman 1891 and Scott 1895. Even in these catalogs, the listings are not comprehensive. There has thus been a long-standing need for a comprehensive catalog listing these items. Figures 1 and 2 are examples of this fascinating material.

One of our members, Steve Phelps, is has prepared a new comprehensive catalog for these Official Certificates. It is presently in final draft and assistance has been provided by leading collectors across the world in providing additional data and review. We are hoping to move to publication in order to have this work available to collectors in the next few months.

This catalog covers both national and local issues for the "Estados Unidos" and "Republica" periods. While each section is primarily organized by year of issue, notes annotate where an issue appears to have had use in a single locality. Each issue has a full-size image of an actual high resolution example of the issue, a listing of types by paper and primary variations, a listing of sub-types capturing all known printing variations; an indication of the relative rarity of that item is planned. The catalog also contains appendices with a cross reference to all prior catalog listings, detailed measurement information for selected issues and a cross reference alphabetically sorted by locality for those wishing to organize items in that manner. Figure 3 is an example of the format for each listing.

As a final pre-publication milestone, we wish to invite the COPAPHIL members, who have knowledge in this area, an opportunity to provide additional review and/or information about any additional issues which may not have been captured. Any interested members should contact the author directly at sjphelps@mashgiach.org.



Fig. 1. Official cubierta.



Fig. 2. Official cubierta

SECTION I - NATIONAL ISSUES - ESTADOS UNIDOS

1867 Estados Unidos - First Issue 125x75mm (frame size)

Figure OC-A
(OC-1B-BE)

OC-1A - black, blue wove	R
OC-1B - black, blue batonne	R
OC-1C - black, white wove	RR
OC-1D - black, white with gray ruled lines	RRR
OC-1E - black, white with blue ruled lines	RRR

Variety identification for all OC-1 types:

- a1: First line 41.2mm, break at 26.5mm; Second line 41.2mm, break at 25.2mm
Small 'O' in "OFICIAL"
- a2: First line 41.4mm, break at 18.8mm; Second line 41.4mm, break at 22mm
Lower right leaf same orientation as corner. No comma after "Administrador"
- a3: First line 41.4mm, break at 18.8mm; Second line 41.4mm, break at 22mm
Lower right leaf same orientation as corner
- a4: First line 40.6mm, breaks at 10mm & 27.2mm;
Second line 41.8mm, breaks at 10mm & 25.5mm
Small 'A' in "COLOMBIA", Normal/Large 'W' in "ESTADOS"
'E' of "SALE" is higher than rest of letters

Fig. 3. Sample page from Cubiertas catalog.

Notes from the Past, edited by Debby Friedman

The War of 1000 Days Barranquilla and Cartagena issues gave the editor of the *American Journal of Philately* considerable reason to comment about new issues that came to the editor's attention along with information from correspondents. News from the Colombian Republic was frequently reported in the pages of the *American Journal of Philately*. Published by Scott, the AJP viewed the numerous "new" issues with great skepticism.

The 50 centavos, 1 peso, 5 peso, and 10 peso Barranquilla issues found used and on cover saw use after the peso had been devalued at the rate of 1:100 on 1 Jan 1904. Many of these covers seem to be philatelic in origin judging from the number of stamps employed (fig. 1). Note the cover illustrated was sent from Cartagena, not Barranquilla. Others appear to be commer-



Fig. 1. Registered letter from Cartagena to Hungary, 6 Feb 1904.

cial (fig. 2).

The following is the Chronicle Report in Volume 16, the March 1, 1903 issue, p.83:

The flood of new issues from this country still continues. We have reason to believe that many of

these stamps are of even more questionable nature than we had hitherto supposed. Merchants of this city having business connections in the Colombian Republic have recently informed us that the currency there is now so debased that it will not be accepted in any other country at any price. In order to make small purchases here, merchants there buy stamps at the post offices and send them to commission houses in this country to be sold for whatever they will bring, and the money thus obtained is applied to payment of their bills. To assist this scheme, the various states are allowed to print anything they please and to make as many changes of color as they see fit, in order to

(Continued on page 12)



Fig. 2. Commercial use of the 5 peso stamp dated 15 Mar 1904, after the peso was devaluated on 1 Jan 1904 (ex Jim Cross).

(Continued from page 11)

create new varieties which is hoped will be salable to stamp collectors.

Last month we reported a new 1 Peso stamp printed on orange-brown,¹ we have now seen the same stamp printed on bright rose [Scott 217] and hear of it in blue [Scott 218]. We have received from a correspondent in Cartagena a 50 centavos stamp with the portrait of Simon Bolivar, printed in green, scarlet, yellow and pale brown [Scott 212,213,211,215]. We have also received a 5 Pesos stamp printed in violet (two shades)[Scott 220, called claret] and brown [Scott 221]. The letter which enclosed these stamps was franked with the 20



Fig. 3. 50c, 1P, 5P, and 10P values of the Barranquilla issue. Many were used after the peso was demonetized

centavos "Hill of La Popa" stamp [Scott 202], and we cannot hear of any of these new varieties or of the stamps reported last month in used condition. This makes us very suspicious of the stamps and we think it is

possible that they are an out and out swindle. We shall not chronicle them at length until we have further information regarding them. (Fig. 3).

End Notes

1) February 1, 1903 V.16 p. 59 "We have received two more hideous labels from this country, which we understand are for use in Barranquilla. We shall illustrate them in our next number. The first is a large rectangle with portrait of General Prospero Pinzon in a central oval, the name of the country above and value below. The second has the National coat of arms in the centre, surmounted by the usual inscriptions.

Imperforate

1 p orange brown [Scott 216]

10 P bright green [Scott 223]

SARASOTA NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Every two years COPAPHIL meets at a national stamp show. Our 2018 meeting is at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition February 2-4. Anyone who has ever been to one of our meetings knows that the Colombia and Panama material on display will be a real treat. It is an opportunity to see collections rarely seen in the US. This year's show promises to be no exception. COPAPHIL will give a special prize for the best exhibit of Colombia or Panama.

Details about the show, exhibiting, programs, dealers and hotel information are on the web site at <http://www.sarasotastampclub.com/show.html>.

COPAPHIL's program is Saturday February 3 from 1-2 pm. While the subject is to be announced, it is sure to be interesting. We plan to share a table with the Canal Zone Study Group. Volunteers are needed to help staff our table. If you are planning to attend the show, please consider signing up for a couple of hours - it is a great opportunity to meet others with like interests. Please send an email to Brad Wilde at bgwndal@yahoo.com, if you are willing to help. Our current publications will be available for purchase - there you can save the cost of shipping! Do check at our table about a Friday evening dinner - we try to arrange for an informal dinner when we meet.

The SCADTA slogan roller "Utilisez le Service Aéropostal" Exists in Two Types

Pierre Weexsteen



Type 1 is on back of an envelope from Bogota 24.VI.1930 to Paris without arrival date, postmark of Barranquilla 27.VI.1930.

Type 2 is on back of a stationery from Bogota 8.IV.1929 to Lille France without arrival date, postmark of Barranquilla 9 and 10.IV.1929.

Recently, I found a second type of the SCADTA slogan roller of Barranquilla "Utilisez le Service Aéropostal en Colombie ! Vous épargnerez beaucoup de temps."

The slogan roller is the same in the 2 types. The differences are in the postmark.

Type 1:

- Thin bars inside the postmark
- Small stars before and after Barranquilla
- Q of BARRANQUILLA is an O with a slash.
- O de TRANSPORTES on the vertical bar

Type 2:

- Large bars inside the postmark
- Large stars before and after Barranquilla



- Q of BARRANQUILLA ordinary.
- P de TRANSPORTES on the vertical bar

These types exist for the roller in French, and also for the other languages (Table I). Type 1 is the most common. If anyone can provide examples of the French or German version, type II, please contact the author or the editor.

References:

Eric Harris (1988) *Use the Colombian airmail – Late Markings*. Copacarta May 1988

Table I. Barranquilla Roller Cancel Marks, 1927—1934

Dates recorded	Utilisez le Service Aéropostal en Colombie! Vous épargnerez beaucoup de temps. French version	Colombia tiene un servicio aereo completo. Aprovechalo. Spanish version	Fly your mail in Colombia! Ask your Post Office about it! English version	Kolumbianische Luftpost 10 Tage Zeitgewinn! Tarif und Annahme durch jedes Postamt. German version
Type 1 	11/7/1927 - 28/1/1932	11/7/1927 - 28/5/1934	27/12/1927 - 7/2/1928	30/1/1928
Type 2 	10/4/1929		5/7/1929	

Direct Air Service, Medellin—Turbo 1933

By 1932 SCADTA had developed an air service that covered most of Colombia (fig. 1). The principal routes were the Magdalena River route, which connected Barranquilla to Giradot with a rail connection to Neiva; and the Transverse Route, which linked Barranquilla to Buenaventura and Tumaco. Bogotá, Giradot, and Ibagué were connected by laterals from the principal routes. Barranquilla, Ciénega, and Maracaibo were also linked by lateral routes.

An examination of the map in fig. 1 reveals that the important city of Medellin was not connected by air with any other city. The omission was rectified on July 3, 1933 when a flight by the Urabá, Medellin and Central Airways (UMCA) linked Medellin with Turbo, Antioquia's port city on the Gulf of Urabá, 340 km north of Medellin (fig. 2). Only 80 covers were carried on this flight.

A UMCA flight on July 15 tied Medellin to Bogotá, the capital city, by air. 273 letters were carried on this flight.

Both flights were certified by Manuel J. Tobon, SCADTA agent in Medellin, on 10 August 1933 (fig. 4, opposite page). He certified the first flights of July 3 and July 15, 1933, the colors of the cachets, and specifies that 80 letters were carried on the Medellin-Turbo flight while 273 covers were

SCADTA-Airways System in Colombia (South America).



Fig. 1. Air service in Colombia in June 1933 (from brochure soliciting British packages to be carried by SCADTA air express).

carried on the Medellin—Bogotá flight. He did not certify the return flights.



Fig. 2. Medellin Turbo first flight.
80 covers were carried.



Fig. 3. Medellin Bogotá first flight.
273 covers were carried.

SOCIEDAD COLOMBO-ALEMANA DE TRANSPORTES AEREOS

CODIGOS:
A. B. C. SA. ED. IMPR.
A. B. C. SA. ED.
RUDOLF WOSSE
BENTLEY'S
GALLAND

"SCADTA"

OFICINA DE BOGOTÁ
CARRERA 8A. NO. 391
TELEFONOS: 22-50 - 31-50
DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA
AVIATICO

CERTIFICADO.

El suscrito, Jefe de la Administración de Correos Aéreos de Medellín, República de Colombia, certifica:

1o. Que el día 3 de Julio de 1933 se inauguró el servicio de CORREO AEREO DIRECTO entre Medellín y Turbo (Urabá) en aviones de la UMCA (Urabá Medellín & Central Airways). Se usó un cachet especial conmemorativo carmín. Número de pliegos transportados: 80.

2o. Que el día 15 de Julio de 1933 se inauguró el servicio de CORREO AEREO DIRECTO entre Medellín y Bogotá en aviones de la SCADTA. Se usó un cachet especial conmemorativo verde. Número de pliegos transportados: 273.

Fig. 4. Letter from Manuel J. Tobon, SCADTA agent in Medellín, certifying the first flights of Jul 3 and Jul 15, 1933.

Medellín, Agosto 10 de 1933.

AGENCIA DE LA SCADTA
MEDELLIN

Manuel J. Tobon
MANUEL J. TOBON.

A SOUVENIR OF THE CCNA

Debby Friedman

Having not seen this item in the literature, illustrated here is a piece of jewelry created by the legendary air mail dealer, the late Fred Kessler. It is a 1 x 2½" enamel charm that reproduces one of Colombia's multicolored air mail stamps - Scott C2, Woman and Boy Watching Plane (fig. 1). The back is engraved *F.W. Kessler/Air mail stamps/New York* in three lines (fig. 2).

The charm was made in Spain and appears to be silver, but is unmarked. It was likely a Kessler gift to a few good customers or friends. This one came from the estate of Ernest Kehr who certainly would have known Kessler. Kehr was a prominent promoter of stamp collecting on TV, radio, and in his newspaper columns. My copy of Kessler's *The Air Posts of Colombia* has Kehr's bookplate.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

WHAT'S SELLING AT AUCTION AND EBAY

Debby Friedman

Recently there have been a few auctions with quite a bit of Colombia Classics and Air Mail. Looking at the estimates, prices realized and the Scott catalog values, there is often a disconnect for single stamps. While the catalog prices are a guide, sold prices and unsold lots reflect current levels of collector interest. I do think the pool of buyers for classics is thin, especially for stamps and covers that are exhibition quality. As for air mails, demand appears to be focused on specific usage. The most recent auctions with significant Colombia material were the January 2104 Spink auction of James Johnson's International Large Gold collection "Colombia First Commercial Airlines 1920-21 and the November 2016 Spink auction of Felipe Toro's collections of Classic Colombia and Airmails. The Colombia lots in the September 2017 Cherrystone sale were primarily unsold lots from the Toro auction. All of these catalogs and prices realized are archived on the company web sites. I strongly recommend reviewing the results. One of the things you will notice is that famous provenance such as Newbury, Hubbard, Londoño, Goeggel, Frohlich, Kaplan, Wickersham, Gebauer or Johnson alone was not enough to result in a sale.

A particularly notable example is the offering of a set of 10 covers that show all 10 positions of C1, including C1a. These were flown on June 18, 1919. In the November 10, 2016 Spink sale of the Felipe Toro collection the set was offered with a start price of 7500 Euros (\$8843 US) plus 20% buyers commission; it was unsold. The lot was next offered in the September 2017 Cherrystone auction with an estimate of \$8500 plus a 15% buyers commission. Once again it was unsold. The Scott catalog for the stamps used is \$19,500.

My former airmail collection was sold ten years ago. I find it interesting to see some of my material reappearing in the Johnson and Toro sales. Some of the material sold for similar prices, but I am picking only two of my favorite items to illustrate the problem of determining a fair market

price or appraisal for unique material.

Spink 2016 - Lot 1228 was a 50 centavo SCADTA postal stationery envelope (in the same condition as when I acquired it) with spectacular A hand stamped overprints, some inverted along with German inflation franking. Based on information compiled by Jerry Kasper, I have records of 5 used examples. In the 2007 auction of my collection, this cover brought \$7500 plus 15% commission. In the 2016 Toro sale, it was offered with an estimate of 1500 Euros (\$1771) and sold for 2000 Euros (\$2361) plus \$20%; this was approximately 30% of the prior realization (fig. 1).

In the 2014 Johnson sale, the legendary four **American Woolen Company** covers that once resided in my collection and Cole's were offered and apparently once again separated. Johnson had purchased all four of the covers in 2007, but one



Fig. 1. Spectacular SCADTA stationery with German inflation issues sold for \$2361 plus \$20% in the Toro sale.

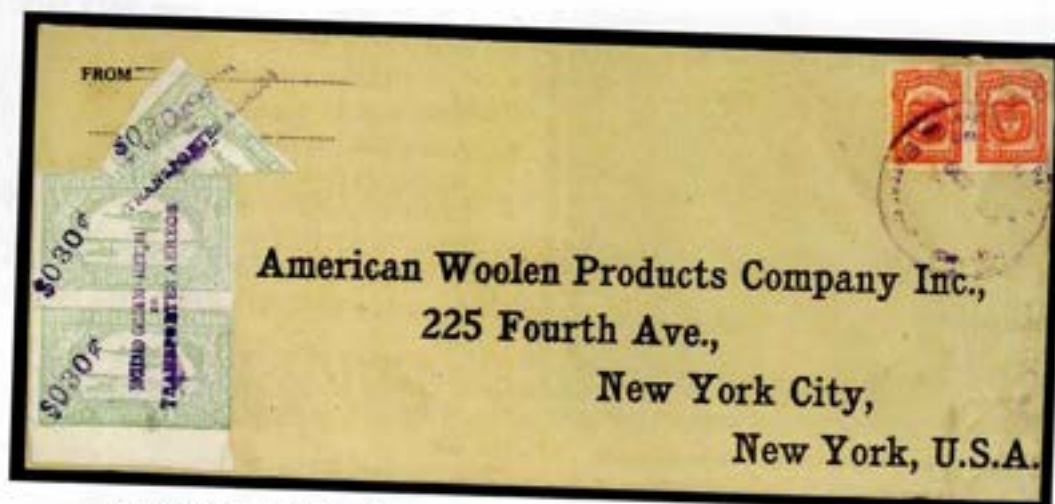


Fig. 2. American Woolen Company cover brought \$8855 plus 20% buyers commission

did not sell this time. The most spectacular of the covers is Lot 1112 in the Johnson sale (Lot 42 in mine). It has a S 030 c" surcharge on a vertical pair of the 50c 1920 SCADTA issue and a diagonal half used (Scott C24). It was carried on the October 27, 1921 flight of the Colombia. The Woolen Company covers were first illustrated in Kessler. The group of 4 covers has been referred to as the "Greatest Find in SCADTA Stamps". This cover is considered to be the most important of the group and was described in the 2014 sale as "One of the greatest gems of Colombian aerophilately (fig. 2)." In 2007 it realized \$11,000 plus 15% buyers commission. In 2014 it realized 7500 Euros (approximately \$8855) plus 20% buyers commission. This is approximately 20% less.

Once in a great while an airmail item appears that is unlike anything I have even seen - there was one such item in the Toro sale. It is described as an "artists sketch in watercolor, a delightful essay featuring the background design used for the 10c "Ocean Liner and Biplane", The only artwork recorded of any of ...multicolored adhesives of the CCNA. This would have been associated with the Curtis label which was overprinted for use by the CCNA. It was Lot 1153 which sold for 2800 Euros (\$3305) plus 20% buyers commission. It is on a larger white paper which does not show in the copy. I understand this received a 2016 Moorhouse certificate, likely after the auction as it was not mentioned in the description.

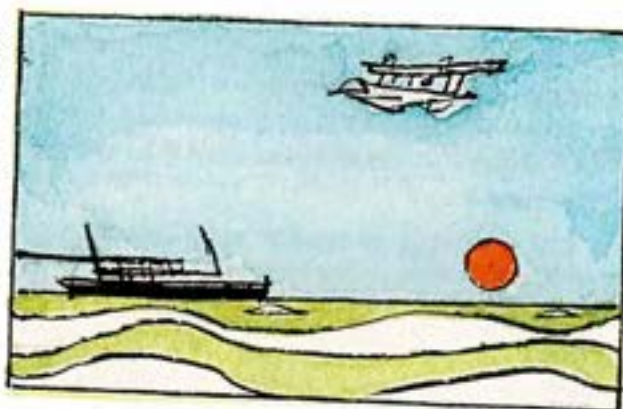


Fig. 3. Artist's watercolor sketch featuring the background design used for the 10c "Ocean Liner and Biplane" in the Curtis series brought \$3305 plus 20% buyers commission.

Another airmail item I had never known to exist was a folder of 24 photographs (or identifiable photographs from this folder) that was given as a gift from SCADTA to the delegates of the First Technical Inter-American Conference of Commercial Aviation held in Lima Peru in 1937. Individual photographs from this folder have recently begun to appear on Ebay; several of the photographs have been sold and others are listed as of this writing. The prices realized so far range from \$29.99 to \$62. The image shown here (fig. 3) is #20 of 24 and is described as: "Julio" doing maneuvers of link up at SCADTA's airport in Barranquilla and is 24x17cms. In order to preserve the information about the contents, below is a copy of the card that



Fig. 3. Julio during maneuvers at Barranquilla.

was enclosed with the original folder - it shows what was once included. (fig 4)

I also note a frequent disconnect between Scott catalog and the prices stamps are generally bringing on Ebay. Where prices for individual stamps are significantly more than catalog, that is most often a reflection of either a rare cancel or an undervalued stamp.

- C20 mint no gum - \$925/\$324.95 unsold

INDICE:	
1 Vista aérea de la Plaza de Bolívar, Bogotá.	15 Ruinas del Convento de la Paja, Cartagena.
2 Vista panorámica de la Sabana de Bogotá. Al fondo se destacan los Nevados de la Cordillera Central.	16 Vaporos turísticos del río Magdalena, en Barranquilla.
3 Nevado del Tolima (5.620 m.)	17 Fachena en las orillas del río Magdalena.
4 Nevado del Ruiz (4.800 m.)	18 Aeropuerto de la Seadta en Barranquilla.
5 Hidroplano de la Seadta sobre las lagunas de las Sabanas de Bolívar.	19 Despacho de un avión internacional de la Panamericana Airways en el Aeropuerto de la Seadta en Barranquilla.
6 Cuadro de pescadores en la Ciénaga Grande (Dpto. del Magdalena).	20 "Julio" atracando en las mañanabras de ataque, Aeropuerto de Barranquilla.
7 Selva virgen sobre las playas del Pacífico entre Buenaventura y Tumaco.	21 Revisión general de un hidroavión en las talleres de la Seadta en Barranquilla.
8 Bahía indígena entre Buenaventura y Tumaco.	22 Aeródromo de Soledad, campo de aterrizaje de la Seadta en Barranquilla.
9 Tipo de indio de la región del Cauca.	23 Vista parcial del Aeródromo de Soledad.
10 Casa de indígenas en el Rio Ataró (Cauca).	24 Revisión general de un avión en los talleres de la Seadta en el Aeródromo de Soledad.
11 Bahía de Zarcuno, en la región forestal con Panamá.	
12 Botes de pescadores en el Golfo de Ushá.	
13 Paisaje del río Magdalena.	
14 Amanecer en la Bahía de Santa Marta, sobre el Mar Caribe.	

Fig. 4. Index of folder given to delegates to the Commercial Aviation held in Lima Peru in 1937.

- C25-35 mint, original gum \$613.55/\$315 unsold
- C38-50 Mint \$199.60/\$14.30
- Antioquia 19 used \$55/31
- Antioquia 24a mint \$1500/\$405
- Antioquia 69 mint hinged \$16/\$34.67
- Cundinamarca 15 mint hinged \$37.50/\$8.27
- Scott 73 \$2.10/9.99 fancy Bucaramanga Franca cancel
- Scott 418 \$0.65/\$15.02 Expreso Medellin cancel
- Bolivar 19 \$3.75/ \$6.68 Simiti cancel
- Santander 5 \$0.30/\$10.49 fancy Charala cancel



Fancy Bucaramanga Franca cancel



Simiti cancel



Fancy Charala cancel



Expreso Medellin cancel

(Continued from page 2)

New York. Much of their correspondence has survived but a great deal of it has had the stamps removed. Francisco Pérez has written a very nice article about the stamp "less" Lanman and Kemp covers from Costa Rica in *Timbre 27*, May 2014. It can be found at <http://estampillascr.com/downloads/Timbre27-2.pdf>. I recommend it to your attention.

Mompos Cover is Everything it Ought to Be

Thomas P Myers

This is one of the prettiest covers I have seen from this period. Originating in Mompos, a small but important commercial entrepot on the Rio Magdalena, it is franked with a 10c stamp of the 1886 series cancelled with nice clear oval date stamp from Mompos dated 17 Feb 1889 with a

"Colombia" killer and a French paquebot marking from the 7th of March. An annotation indicates that Mlle. Ribon replied to the letter on April 9.

It is a nice addition to anyone's collection.



Fig. 1. 1889 cover from Mompos to Paris via French paquebot.

(Continued from page 9)

3 – David Zemer, *Panama's American Bank Note Company Fiscal Stamps and Liquor Bands Printed in 1915. Part 2. IMPUESTO de CONSUMO INTERNO.*

4 – F. E. Heydon, *The Postage Stamps of Panama, CHAPTER XXXIII, Revenue Stamps Used Postally.* Severn-Wylie-Jewett Co., Portland, ME, 1922, pp 59, 60.

ERRATA

For the last several years I have been extremely confused about the volume and number of each issue leading to inconsistent numbering errors as shown below. The dates and years are always correct

Month & year	Correct vol & number	Volume and year on cover page
Dec 2013	31(2)	31(2)
Mar 2014	31(3)	32(3)
Jun 2014	31(4)	31(4)
Sep 2014	32(1)	31(4)
Dec 2014	32(2)	32(2)
Mar 2015	32(3)	33(3)
Jun 2015	32(4)	33(4)
Sep 2015	33(1)	33(2)
Dec 2015	33(2)	33(2)
Mar 2016	33(3)	34(3)
Jun 2016	33(4)	33(4)
Sep 2016	34(1)	34(1)
Dec 2016	34(2)	34(2)
Mar 2017	34(3)	33(3)
Jun 2017	34(4)	34(4)

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

RECUPERANDO NUESTRA PRE FILATELIA A LA LUZ DE LOS ARCHIVOS HISTÓRICOS NACIONALES, Manuel Arango Echeverri

COPAPHIL is pleased to make available this landmark, new publication by our long time member in Colombia, Manuel Arango Echeverri. He has devoted years to research the Pre-Philately of Colombia. The result of this extensive research is this work. The author has made available for sale through COPAHIL, his work on a thumb drive.

Volume I includes pre philatelic marks and postal documents, showing a great diversity of postal marks between 1770-1859, many of them unknown until now to philatelists. This information was found in the various archives of Colombia and especially in the General Archive of the nation in Bogotá. (802 pp).

Volume II includes the reports of "José Antonio Pando and Riva": from his arrival to Cartagena on November 16, 1769, coming from Mexico, aboard the sloop "El Postillon". Pando sent regularly and systematically to the viceroy of the new Kingdom of Granada a great diversity of reports on the progress of the work commissioned by the Count Grimaldi. This volume presents 89 documents of letters and reports of its work to different authorities from 1769 until 1789. (584pp) pages, **Volume III** is a supplement that includes many pre-philatelic marks, finds not known before and others in which older dates are highlighted or colors have differences. 603 pages. *Member price postpaid including PayPal fees, on thumb drive: \$45 worldwide.*

Colombia: The Michelsen Affair and the ' reprints" of the \$5 and \$10 of the 1868 Issue of the United States of Colombia, Dario Diez, 55pp monograph, 2016

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