

COPACARTA

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Number 3
March 2007



Postage due cover from Cottontown TN to Barranquilla. Mailed on May 7, the letter passed through New York on May 10 where it received a postage due mark. When the letter reached Barranquilla on May it was assessed 40c postage due. (cover from the Irvin Heimburger collection).

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UPCOMING MEETINGS — MAKE PLANS NOW

2008 WESTPEX, April 25-27, 2008 San Francisco.
2010 NAPEX, early June Washington DC. Dates to be announced.
2012 CHICAGOPEX, late November, Chicago. Dates to be announced.

Annual Dues: US \$10; Canada \$12 ; Foreign \$15

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COPAPHIL News

Copaphil members contributed three exhibits to the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition last February. Alfredo Frohlich won the Grand Award for *Classic Colombia* as well as a Gold medal and the APS Medal of Excellence pre-1900 (picture on next page)..

He has added twenty pages since winning a Large Gold at Washington 2006 and participating in the Champion of Champions Class at Stamp-Show 2006. After judges suggested that he increase the amount of postal history he added eleven covers for the first issue. Most spectacular is the second earliest known cover, dated 6 September 1859, franked with a 5¢ stamp. Also important is the seventh earliest known cover dated 12 Oct 1859, franked with a 2½¢ stamp and a 10¢ stamp. He recommends that exhibitors attend the critique, visit the frames with the jurors and follow their recommendations. But remember, if you hear it

once, it's an idea. If you hear it frequently you should pay attention.

Tom Myers garnered a Gold medal at Sarasota as well as the American Philatelic Congress Award for his exhibit entitled *The Mancomún Airmails of Colombia* while Santiago Cruz earned a Vermeil medal for *Colombia Official Cubiertas*.

Copaphil members have been active elsewhere. Jerome Casper won a Gold medal at SANDICAL for his one-frame exhibit, *SCADTA Postal Stationery*. An earlier version of this exhibit may be viewed on-line at <http://www.aerogramme.com/exhibits/scadtaps/overview.html>.

Copaphil members will also be participating in the international show in St. Petersburg in June. Among them are Manuel Arango, Dieter Bortfeldt, Santiago Cruz, Alfredo Frohlich, James C. Johnson, and Felipe Toro.

Editor's Notes

Again this quarter we feature a wide range of material from classic Colombia to modern Panama. There are six different authors, all but one regular contributors. **We need more authors**. If you know

your subject, even if you are just learning, write for our journal. I will be glad to help with the writing and a panel of experts will help you with the content, if necessary.

From the President's Desk

It is gratifying to see the recognition that exhibits of Colombia and Panama are receiving at United States exhibitions. It was not that long ago that such material was rarely seen at the national level. For the second year in a row Alfredo Frohlich will be competing in the APS Champion of Champions competition with his continually improving collection of Classic Colombia. This is a result of his receiving the Grand Award at the February Sarasota show. At Westpex in San Francisco this April he will be showing for the first time a new exhibit – Classic Colombia – the 5th, 6th and 7th Issues (1863-68). Other than the now sold and broken up collection of Alex Rendon, this is the only exhibition collection of this material I know of. I hope some of you will be able to see this exhibit.

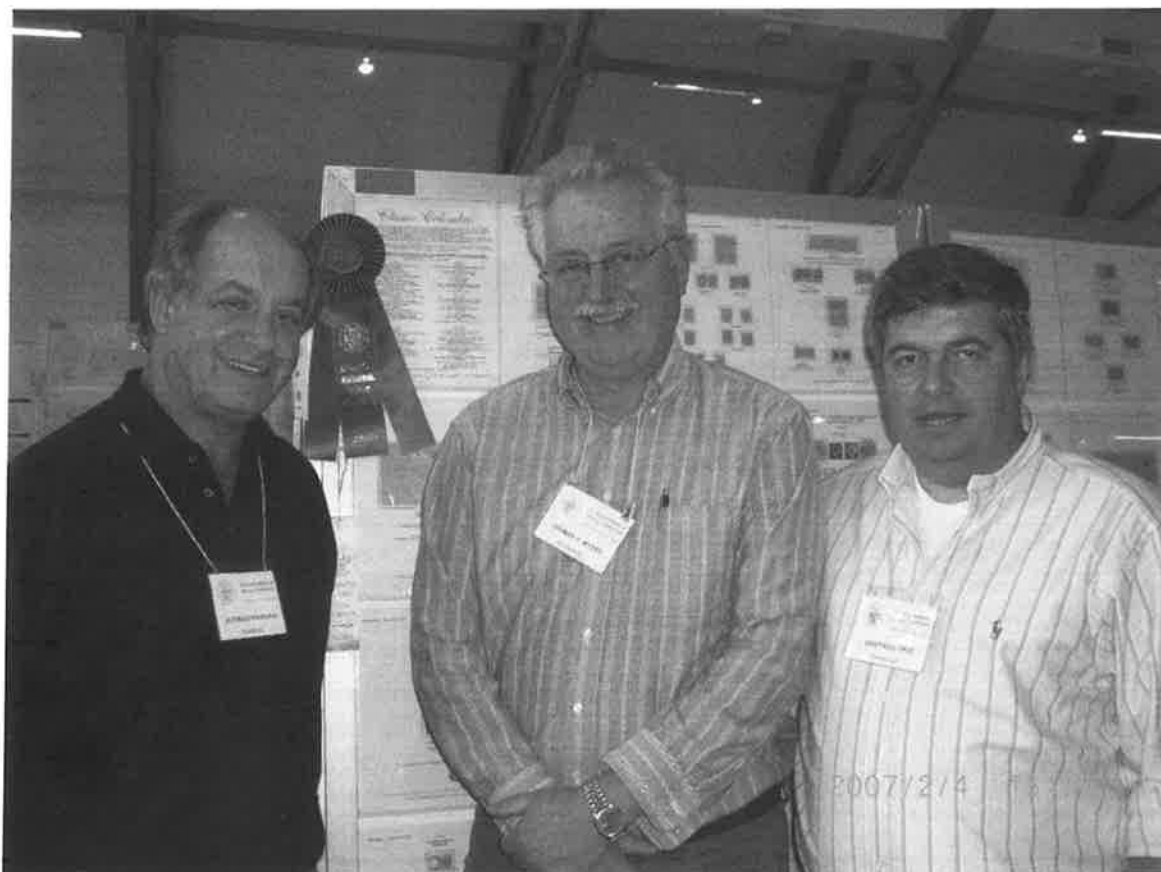
Next year will be the 25th Anniversary of the

founding of COPAPHIL. In connection with that milestone, we have been discussing with the Collectors Club of New York the possibility of doing a program in the fall of 2008. We would especially like to highlight Panama as it has been many years since such material was shown.

More immediately, Alfredo Frohlich has been invited to speak at the Collectors Club of New York on April 11th on Classic Colombia. The program is at 6:30 pm at 22 East 35th Street in Manhattan. Guests are always welcome so if you are in the area, consider attending. There is an informal social hour before the meeting with time to look at the material and a Dutch treat dinner in the neighborhood after the meeting for anyone who would like to go. I plan to be there.

Debby Friedman rbreuerl@nycap.rr.com.

Frohlich Wins Grand Award at Sarasota



Grand Award winner Alfredo Frohlich (left) at Sarasota with Tom Myers and Santiago Cruz

Colombian Red Cross

Manuel Arango

Henry Dunant, founder of the International Red Cross, crossed Lombardy in 1859, a place where blood and fire were protagonists. On his arrival to Solferino, he was horrified to witness a battle where thousands of wounded soldiers died because lack of medical aid condemned them to an avoidable death.

Along with four Genevans, Dunant decided to create the "International Committee of aid to the wounded", which later would become the "International Committee of the Red Cross" (ICRC).

One of the first steps of this committee and also the first achievements in the establishment of international human rights was to persuade the Swiss Government to summon an international conference in which twelve countries participated. The conformation of the International Humanitarian Rights was officially introduced with the first Geneva Convention in 1864. Its dispositions were improved and completed in 1906. Later in 1907, the Fourth Hague Convention defined the categories of combatants in case of capture, the prisoner's military statutory rights, and also special treatment benefits during their time of captivity.

The National Society's members of the International Federation of the Red Cross used either the Red Cross emblem or logo or the half Red Moon on a white background. The First Geneva Convention in 1864 adopted the Red Cross on a white background as its symbol.

Each national society used the Red Cross symbol with two intentions — as a protector, and as an indicative character. The first was used in the period of armed conflicts. The second was used to identify the different activities, personnel, or buildings of the National Society.

Elements of this emblem were already in use in Colombia as early as 1881. The Colombian Government was committed to fulfil the recommendations of the Geneva Convention with respect to ambulances and hospitals, which was declared effective in article 1134 of Law 35, on May 20, 1881. The prescribed Decree # 660, on August 31, 1881 in chapter II, article 354, established the use of the symbol of the Red Cross in the ambulances and hospitals of the military service (fig. 1).

On October 18, 1899 Colombia started suffering the so-called Thousand Days war, between Liberal and Conservative parties. It was one of the

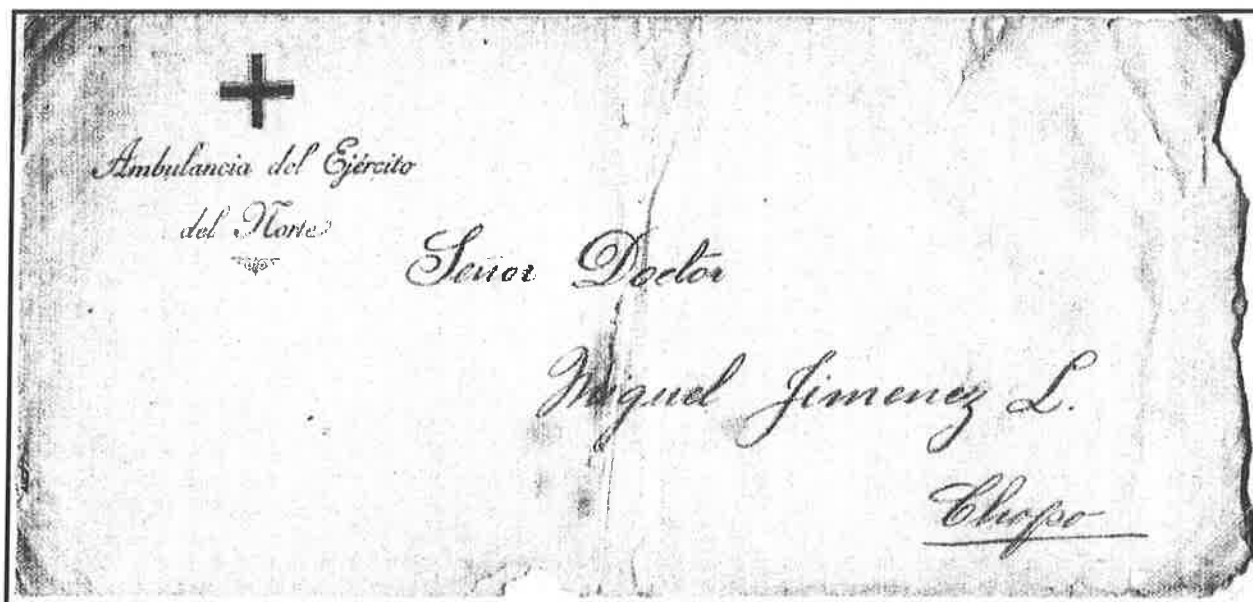


Fig 1. Cover delivered by hand during the Thousand Days War. Addressed to Doctor Miguel Jiménez L, who served in the Ambulancia del Ejército del Norte. The Logotype of the Red Cross on this cover is the earliest known postal use of this emblem in Colombia.

bloodiest and most violent civil wars of national history. The Battle of Palonegro in Santander was the bloodiest of all. This battle occurred from May 11th to May 26th of 1900.

At this time, in Bogotá, Mr. Santiago Samper, Mr. Hipólito Machado, Mr. Nicholas Buendía, Mr. Lisandro Reyes and Mr. Jose Maria Montoya were emulating the performance that was making the Red Cross such a well-known international organization. They organized ambulances with corresponding doctors, medical instructors, pharmaceuticals, nurses and charity sister nuns, and offering this service to the Government with the name of the Red Cross to aid the wounded and patients in the battlefield.

The National Government provided the humanitarian and medical aid through the service of the *Ambulancia del Ejercito del Norte*, directed by Doctor Carlos Putnam with a very active participation in the Battle of Palonegro. This service work started in February of 1900. These two antecedents were very important in the formalization and creation of the Red Cross in Colombia.

Foundation of the Colombian Red Cross

In 1913 Dr. Adriano Perdomo proposed the foundation of the Colombian Red Cross to the National Medical Congress gathered in Bogotá. The National Society of the Colombian Red Cross was inaugurated on July 20, 1915 in the Colon Theatre of Bogotá. It was recognized by the Colombian government and its president Dr. Jose Vicente Concha, according to Legal Resolutions of February 22nd, 1916, and November 6th, 1920, emanated from the Ministry of Government.

The Colombian Red Cross was accepted as a new member of the ICRC during its March 1922 meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

Because of importance of a campaign to gather funds for the newborn Colombian Red Cross and for the anti-tuberculosis fight, the first stamps allusive to these institu-



Fig. 2. First fund-raising stamp for the Colombian Red Cross and the anti-tuberculosis campaign.



Fig. 3. Red cross stamp on the back of a cover from Medellín to Germany dated 10 Nov 1930.

tions were printed in the middle of 1930 with a value of 2 cents (figs. 2, 3 — see back page). The size of the sheets is not known. The largest known fragment has 45 stamps.

Red Cross Week in 1933

In May 1933 the National Government, through the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, officially ordered a surtax of 0.05 cents in favor of the Colombian Red Cross on each letter introduced in the internal service, overseas correspondence included.

Decree #970 issued on May 20th, 1933, imposed this surtax for the week from May 22nd to May 28th of 1933 making this disposition official only for Bogotá.

Because the National Government dictated the corresponding decrees only two days before the celebration of the Red Cross Week there was no opportunity to print the necessary stamps.

Officials opted to overprint the existing *Lucha Antituberculosa* stamps of 1930 with the number "5" in red ink, 1½ cm in height (fig. 4, 5). For this week only this type of overprint was used.

The other three overprint types were used in 1934.



Fig. 4. Overprinted stamp for use in Bogotá in 1933.

A second decree was published in the *Diario Oficial* 22304. Decree 1008 of May 27, 1933 extended the five cents surtax to the cities of Medellín and Buenaventura. It was established the week of May 29th to June 3rd, 1933, on the Red Cross celebration and therefore, one of the obligatory uses of this surtax.

The Administrator of the Post office of Medellín, Mr Andrés Londoño and the President of the Departmental Red Cross, Doctor Gustavo Uribe Escobar, subscribed an act in which they indicated the number of stamps provided during that week, according to the three different types of stamps that were prepared in a perfectly legal way



Fig. 5. Medellín Type II



Fig 8. partial sheet of Medellín type III. Changing location of overprint indicates that the overprints were applied by hand, one at a time. Imperforate between stamps in columns two and three.

and completed all of the postal requirements.

Doctor Uribe was a famous and recognized philatelist of that time. His interest in preparing these postal species very carefully can be deduced.

The first type is an octagonal label with a perforated white bottom, red frame, and a legend printed in red, saying: **CRUZ ROJA-SELLO ADICIONAL, Valor \$ 0,05 Medellín-1933**. Four hundred and ninety-one of these stamps were prepared (fig. 5, 6 – see back page).

Of the stamp corresponding to the second type, to be used as surtax to all circulating letters during the week of May 20th to June 3rd of 1933, they also printed 2831 units in an octagonal label with white background, exteriors in red, and with a legend in black saying: **CRUZ ROJA - SELLO ADICIONAL, Medellín 1933** (fig. 7— see back page).

1679 units of the third stamp used in Medellín for the Red Cross Week of 1933 were prepared according to the act of June 6th, 1933. Type III was prepared using *Lucha Antituberculosa* stamps from 1930, with an overprint in red, similar to the one used in the stamp (fig. 8).

There are no valid reasons to think that these stamps with any other than red were legally printed. In my opinion, stamps overprinted in violet or blue are fantasies.

Bucaramanga also joined the celebrations for the Colombian Red Cross during 1933. The publishing house LA CABANA BUCARAMANGA lithographed a stamp in deep red and green on a white background, perforated 11 1/2 (fig. 9). The pertinent legislation is not known.



Fig. 7. Medellín Type III



Fig. 9. Red Cross stamps from Bucaramanga..

END OF PART I

A SCADTA Crash Cover with a Story to Tell

Debby Friedman

The crash of the "Chocó" in 1929 and the resulting crash covers are well known to airmail collectors, but this is the story of one of those covers that constitutes a remarkable footnote to airmail history. The first recorded mention of the May 16, 1929 crash at Giradot of SCADTA's plane, the "Chocó," is in F.W. Kessler's *The Air Posts of Colombia*, 1936, p. 85. Kessler states:

Only a very few covers are known to have been preserved."

"In a few cases, where the sender delivered this printed notice in a damaged condition so that it could not be used to frank the envelope, the

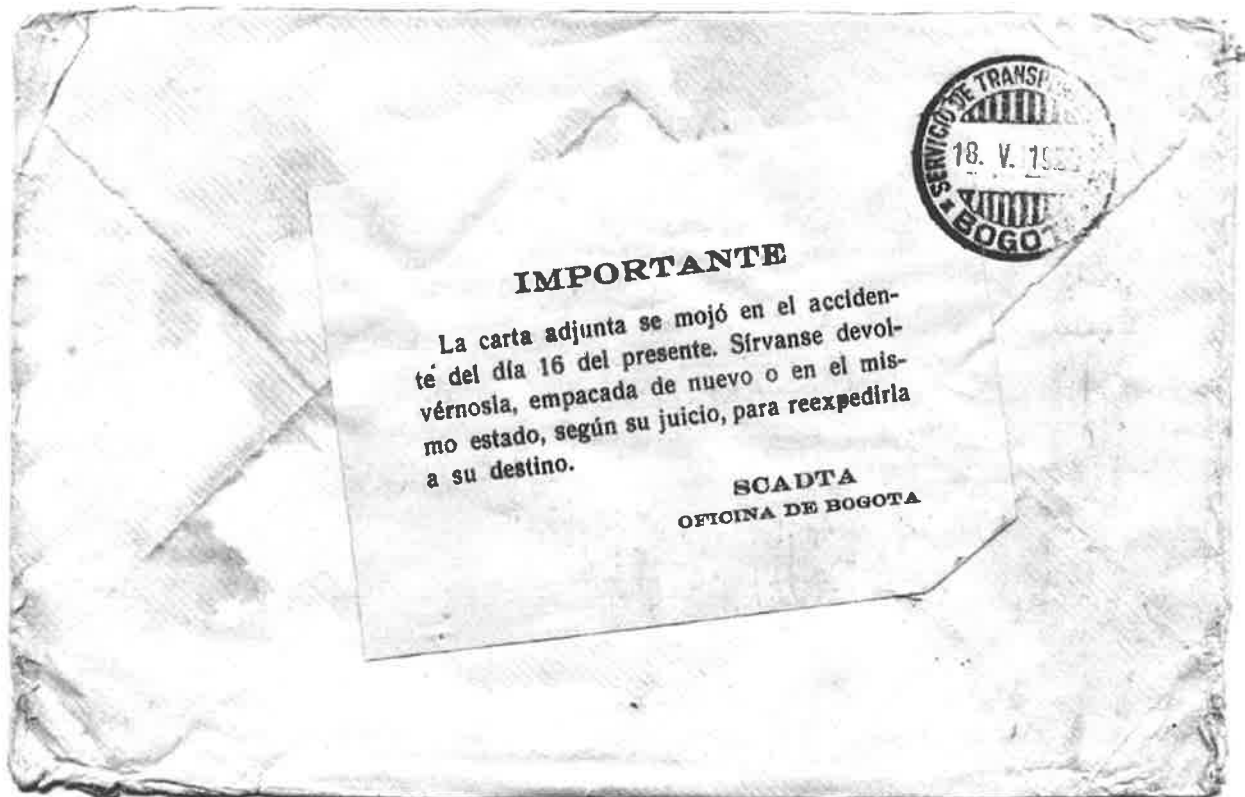


Fig. 1. Official printed notice on the back of a crash cover could be used instead of stamps when re-mailing the cover, either in its damaged condition or with the letter put into a new cover.

1929 crash at Giradot of SCADTA's plane, the "Chocó," is in F.W. Kessler's *The Air Posts of Colombia*, 1936, p. 85. Kessler states:

"When taking off at Giradot on May 16, 1929, a SCADTA plane was crowded into the river bank by a river steamer and turned over in the water. The mail was soaked and was returned to Bogota. Each cover received an official printed notice (Fig 1). These notices could be used instead of stamps when re-mailing the cover, either in its damaged condition or with the letter put into a new cover. These covers did not have to have any further stamps, as the SCADTA recognized the above notices in full payment of the air-postage and Na-

SCADTA accepted this mail without the printed notice but marked it with the special cachet illustrated in violet. (Fig 2) These covers must however bear regular Colombian National Postage, cancelled by the SCADTA Office in Bogota on May 20, 1929. The cachet represents payment of air mail postage."

On p. 47 of his book, Kessler illustrated part of a cover with this special star cachet, addressed to a Senorita Emilie Stadler. This cover was in the sale



Fig. 2. Star cachet

of the Leo Harris

Collection (Christie's/Robson Lowe, New York City, November 3, 1988). The illustration shows it was sent to Germany. In the March 2003 Main-sheet, p.15-16, Brian Moorhouse wrote about and illustrated a second cover with this star cachet. This example had a typed address to a company in Cartagena and a printed return address Roberto Beck & Cia, Bogota. The cover was franked with 4¢ National postage and a 20 cent Mendez overprint SCADTA stamp. He wrote:

"Note that the stamps did not wash off this cover and it is my supposition that such mail that was still basically intact with its original franking was marked with the special cachet to alert SCADTA officials that this had been in the crash and that it was being forwarded 'as is' and further signified that postage had been paid in case its exposure to the river water had loosened the stamps and they should come adrift during the course of transit to the addressee."

Fig.3 shows what is the third recorded cover, addressed to Senor Fritz Stackmann y Senora in Germany. It is in the same handwriting as the cover illustrated in Kessler. This cover remarkably has its original contents, the invitation to Frido Kessler's wedding to Alicia Trujillo. This is one and the same F. W. Kessler who published *The Air Posts of Colombia*. Clearly there were 2 stamps that fell off of this cover. Interestingly, a cover of mine with the label at-

tached (Fig 4) is addressed by typewriter to a Kessler in Philadelphia, likely a relative. The envelope is identical to the one containing the wedding invitation.

Whether either of the explanations offered for the different markings is the real one will likely never be known as anyone who might have known the details has long since passed away.

With regard to Kessler, he was in both Panama and then Bogota in the 1920's and met Alicia there. He obviously learned about SCADTA while in Colombia. Though I understand he was not a stamp dealer. Alicia was a well known illustrator in Colombia. After their wedding they moved to New York. In New York, he made the acquaintance of Dr. Cole and it was Alicia who mounted the entire legendary Cole airmail collection. This was an

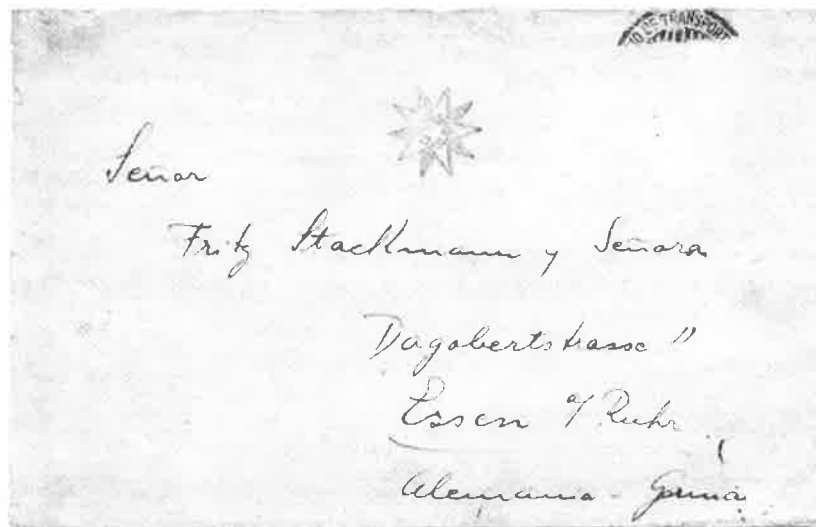


Fig. 3. Crash cover with star cachet containing an invitation to the wedding of Frido W. Kessler, son of the aerophilatelist who first described these crash covers.

Collaboration Needed

Jim Cross is planning a second edition of *Panama Postal Markings, 1758—1950*. Those who wish to contribute to the second edition should contact him at Box 2245, El Cajon CA 92021 (jimacross@cts.com).

expensive process – the late Herbert Bloch recounted that Dr. Cole received less when his collection was sold than he paid to mount it.

How remarkable that Kessler's wedding invitations were on the plane that crashed!

If anyone has additional information about or covers from this crash, please contact me at rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com.

TOBIAS TRUJILLO S. Y SU SEÑORA
SALUDAN A UD. ATENTAMENTE Y TIENEN EL
HONOR DE INVITARLE AL MATRIMONIO DE
SU HIJA ALICIA CON MR. FRIDO W.
KESSLER, CEREMONIA QUE SE CELEBRA-
RA EL DIA 31 DE MAYO A LAS 11 A. M. EN LA
IGLESIA DE LA VERACRUZ Y EN SEGUIDA
ACOMPÑARLOS A SU CASA DE HABITA-
CION, CARRERA 7ª. NUMERO 666.

BOGOTA, MAYO DE 1929.

SEÑOR

Fritz Hackmann + Frau

SE ESPERA EL FAVOR DE UNA RESPUESTA.

Fig. 4. Invitation to the wedding of Alicia Trujillo to Frido Kessler included in the crash mail of the Chocó in 1929.

Introduction of Envelopes in Colombia

Thomas P. Myers

Everyone with a passing knowledge of philately knows that the earliest letters were simply folded sheets of paper with the address written on the outside. These folded letters were eventually replaced with envelopes. The question is, when and why did this transition take place in Colombia?

In the mid nineteenth century many countries charged postage according to the number of sheets in the letter and the distance it was to be carried. Since an envelope counted as a separate sheet most missives were sent as folded letter with the address on the outside of the last sheet containing the letter.

In the United States the penalty for envelopes was removed after July 1, 1845 but the first machines for the manufacture of envelopes in the US were not patented until 1848.¹ Nevertheless, folded letters remained common for at least another decade.

By the same token, the Colombian postal law of 1859² specified that letters should be charged by *weight* and distance carried. If the weight of an envelope did not advance it to the next increment, no additional postage was charged for the envelope.

The earliest envelope known to me originated in Barranquilla in September 1856 (fig. 1). It was mailed to Switzerland, traveling first by a Royal Mail steam packet to Southampton,³ then transferred to the French postal service for onward carriage to Switzerland.

Unfortunately few of the transit marks are distinct. Even at high magnification the *Barranquilla debe* mark is barely distinguishable on the front of the envelope. It obscures a rectangular *Colonies & Art. 13.* mark typically placed on colonial mail addressed to France between 1846 and 1855.⁴ This is a somewhat later usage.

The letter entered the British postal system at Cartagena in September where it was marked with a handstamp in use from 1846 to 1869.⁵ The illegible double line circle marks record the letter's passage through France.

Next is a letter that dates to about 1860, franked with an oval Bogotá *de oficio* in red, and addressed

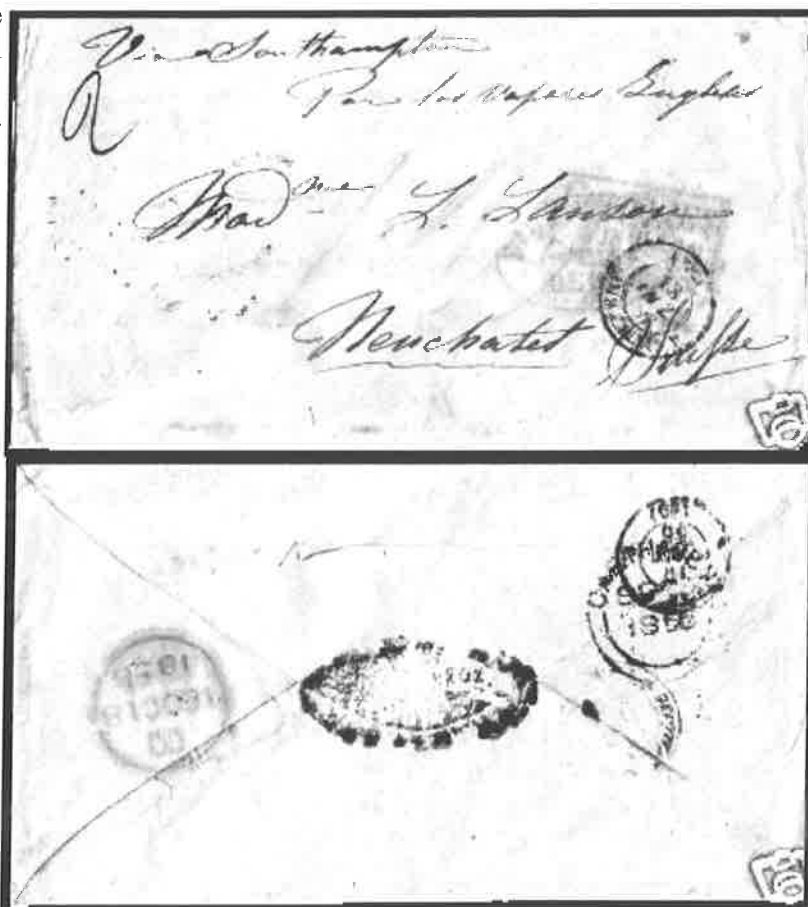


Fig. 1. 1856 envelope from Barranquilla to Switzerland via English ship and French mail.

to Sr. Dr. Gaytano Uribe, Colombian Consul in Quito (fig. 2). It is number 86 in a correspondence that lasted at least until number 679 in 1868. There are no transit marks.

Although folded letters continued well into the 1860s envelopes were used with increasing frequency. The change was encouraged by the fact that letters were charged by weight rather than by the number of sheets. The weight of an envelope

again became a factor in the 1920s with the reduced weight allowance for air-mail.

I hope that others will be able to contribute to the early use of envelopes in Colombia.

References

- 1) *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, vol. 1, Fifth Edition, p. xi.
- 2) Lei organica de Abril 1859 de los correos nacionales. In *Studies in the Philately of Colombia* by John N. Myer, 1940, pp. 72-76.
- 3) M.H. Ludington and Geoffrey Osborn (1971) *The Royal Mail Steam Packets to Bermuda and the Bahamas, 1842—1859*. Howard Robinson, *Carrying British Mail Overseas*, p. 151.
- 4) Salles, Raymond (1972) *Encyclopedie de La poste maritime francaise historique et catalogue*. vol. 8, p. 21.
- 5) Robson Lowe (1940), *Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire, 1680—1900*, Third Edition, p.50.

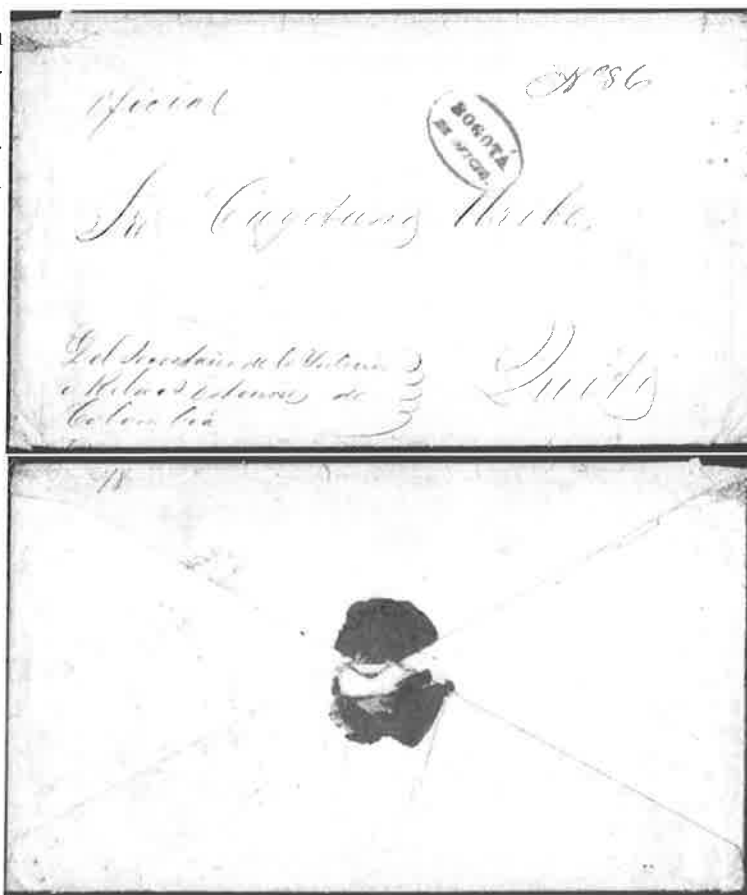


Fig 2. Official mail from Bogota to Quito about 1860.

Sales Manager's Report

Jim Cross

Results of Mail Bid Sale 30 were a bit disappointing. Only 47 of the 19 lots were sold. Sales totaled \$3011.00 earning a commission of \$301.10 for the publications fund. Sale 31 will be held on 31 August 2007. The catalog for the sale will be mailed with the June issue of COPACARTA.

Consignors should send lots to arrive between the 1st and 15th of May. Consignors who plan to send more than fifteen lots should contact me by mail or email with a list of the items before mailing them. Consignors are responsible for furnishing the minimum bid they will accept. Each lot must contain material that can reasonably be expected to sell for \$5.00 or more and that is the minimum reserve that can be accepted.

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
6	\$50.00	47	\$37.50	67	\$45.00	117	\$160.00
11	70.00	48	75.00	69	160.00	121	25.00
12	160.00	52	450.00	70	16.00	123	22.50
17	120.00	53	90.00	81	40.00	124	25.00
23	50.00	55	27.50	84	32.50	125	150.00
26	40.00	57	60.00	86	32.50	127	40.00
28	35.00	58	6.00	87	32.50	139	25.00
29	37.50	59	5.00	90	15.00	141	7.00
33	10.00	62	175.00	94	45.00	143	5.00
35	65.00	63	55.00	95	32.50	156	7.00
44	90.00	64	75.00	104	30.00	180	45.00
46	25.00	65	110.00	115	100.00		

Prices Realized for Mail Bid Sale 30

Santander 1 Centavo Stamp of 1886

Walter H. Weber

Having examined the Santander 5¢ stamp of 1886, Sc5 (COPACARTA September 2006), I now would like to comment on the one centavo blue stamp of the same issue, Sc4.

I have observed two types of lithographic stones of this stamp. The principal differences between the original and the second stone are:

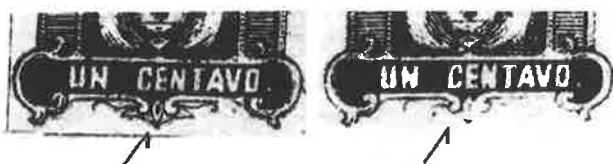


Fig. 1. Comparison of bottom ornament on genuine (left) and reprinted stamp (right)

1) The original has clear printed lines between the stamps while the second stone does not have them. These lines are the shadows pasting the individual transfer papers. This, of course, is not a great help in identifying single stamps.

2) On the original stone the decoration at the bottom center of the stamp has a very clear "drop" with curved lines catching the drop (fig. 1) while on the second stone this cannot be seen very clearly.

3) The first stone has a cleaner and clearer printing.

I have a complete sheet of 7x13 plus 9 stamps sideways at the lower right with the top pointing toward the right for a total of 100 stamps (fig.2).

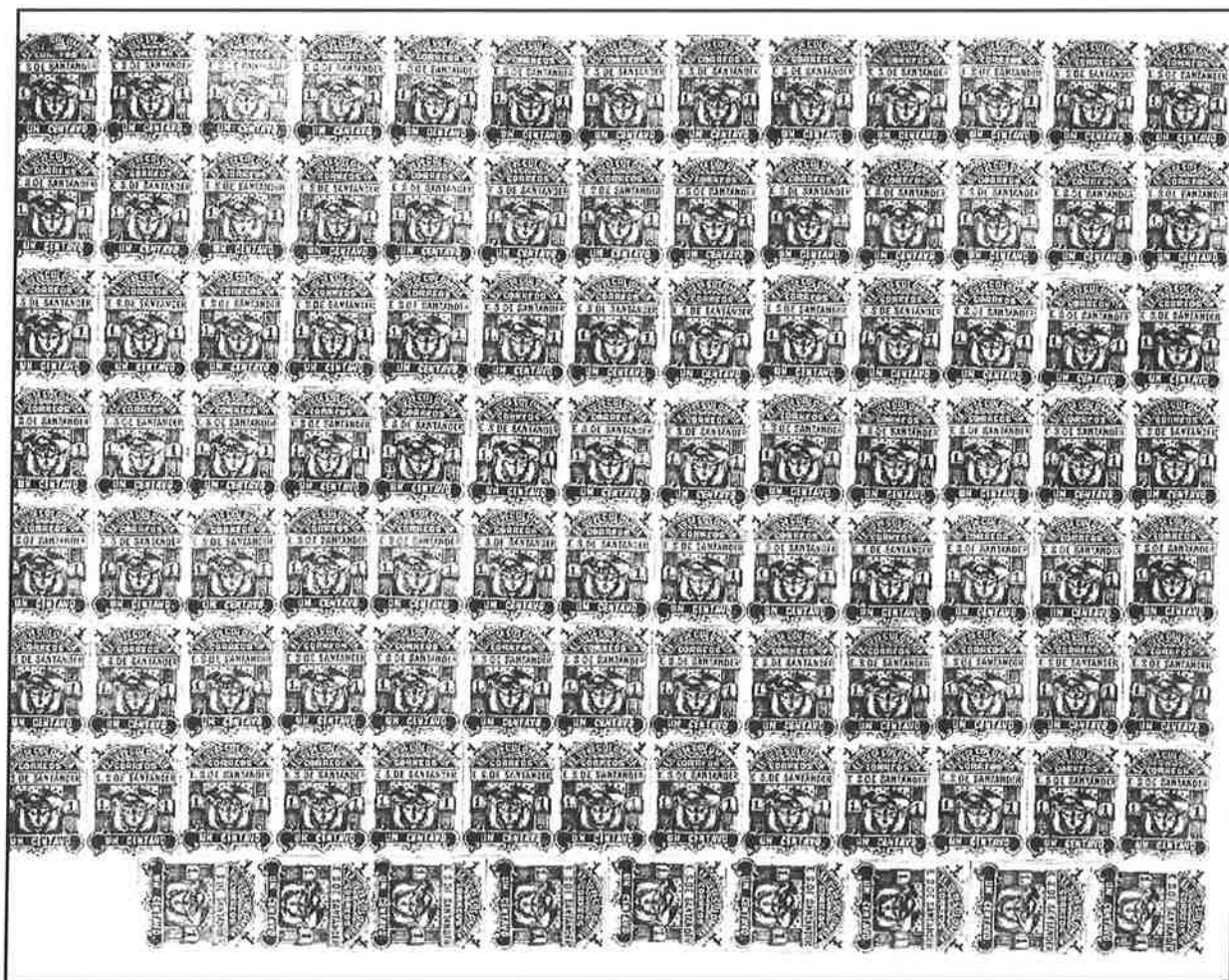


Fig. 2. Complete sheet of 100 of Type I. It is composed of seven rows of thirteen stamps and one row of nine stamps placed horizontally with the top to the right.

I do not have a complete sheet of the second issue that supposedly has a total of 22 stamps: three rows of six and one row of four stamps set horizontally in the lower left corner of the sheet with the tops toward the left (fig. 3). I strongly assume that this layout is correct because I have the following:

1) One multiple of ten stamps of the last two rows with six stamps pos. 13 to 18 and pos. 19 to 22 - the four stamps sideways to the LEFT which are the right/left/bottom margins of the sheet (fig. 3 bottom).

2) One multiple of five stamps, pos. 13 to 16 and pos. 19+20 that completely overlaps the first block. This is the only multiple with gum.

3) One multiple of four stamps pos. 1+2 and 7+8 (fig. 3 upper left)

4) One pair pos. 12 +18 that includes the bottom selva that partially overlaps with the first block (fig 3 lower right).

I do have manuscript and hand stamp cancelled single stamps - they all seem to be from the origi-

nal stone. I also have two covers, one fake from Matanzas illustrated on p.17 of the Sept 2006 COPACARTA in the article about the 5 centavos (Sc. Nr. 5) and another one illustrated on page 18 of the same article from Barichara to San Gil with a 1ctvo.. and 5 ctvs. stamp. The stamps on both covers are from the second stone as described above; therefore I am not sure that the second cover is genuine.

Conclusion: I believe that the second stone with most probably 22 stamps (see above) is a forgery but a authorized or unauthorized reprint on a modified stone.

If anyone has any covers showing the 1 centavo stamp or a complete sheet or large multiple of the second type, please contact me at lipaugus@une.net.co

Note: I would like thank Thomas Myers and Dieter Bortfeldt for their advice and help.

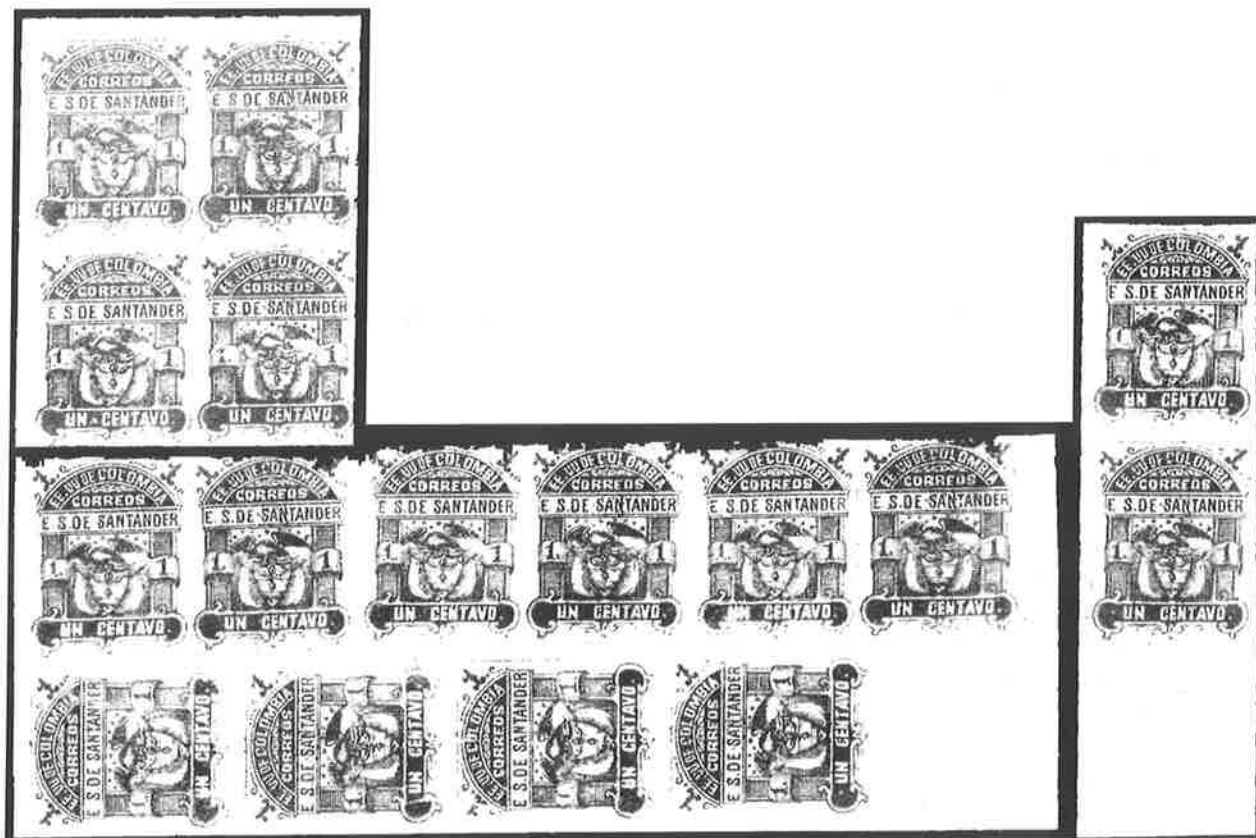


Fig 3. Partially reconstructed sheet (3 x 6 + 4) of Type II. In contrast to the Type I sheet, the stamps in the bottom row point to the left. Note also that there are no shadow lines between the stamps. Pair at right is composed of positions 12 and 18 plus the blank space at the lower right of the sheet

Postal Services in the City of Panama

Jim Cross

Most towns in Panama have only one post office, Colon has a separate office in the Zona Libre and Santiago has a separate office at the Escuela Normal. Only Panama city has a large number of postal substations. I touched on the known pre-1950 stations in an article in the December 2000 COPACARTA, which also illustrated some of the markings. The Panama Postal Markings Handbook contains a complete set of pre-1950 markings that had been recorded by 2003.

About the middle of the 1950's the city was divided into postal zones. The zone numbers were not immediately incorporated into the postal markings. The earliest postal marking with a zone number recorded is a cancel of Zone 5 Justo Arosemena dated 5 May 1965. A 13 Jul 1957 cover in my collection shows a zone number in the printed return address. This is the earliest seen thus far. Eventually there would be zones from 1-16. Zones 5, 6 and 9 were later subdivided creating zones 5A, 6A and 9A. The marking of Zone 1 has not been seen. It is believed that it was initially served by the central post office, located in the former French Canal

Co. headquarters building on Cathedral Plaza. When the central post office moved to a new building, this became the Panama Canal Museum. A local post office was apparently opened in that area to serve the Casco Viejo (the old section of the city). A cancel for Panama Cathedral from 14 Jul 1975 has been recorded, but it does not include a zone number.

In recent years Panama has assigned numbers to all post offices. They are numbered by province. The former Province of Panama was subdivided into the Provinces of Panama Este and Panama Oeste with Panama Canal serving as the boundary between the two areas. The post offices in Panama Este are assigned numbers in the 800 series. I am indebted to member Pedro Guevara who furnished a listing of post offices which he has compiled. It shows both the new post office number and the physical location of the office.

The following is a list of the Panama city zones with the new post office numbers, the earliest recording marking with the zone number and the earliest recorded marking with the zone name:

Zone 1	Catedral (?)		14 Jul 1975	
Zone 2	Chorrillo	Panama Este 0817		
Zone 3	Gran Centro		7 Sep 1971	7 Sep 1971
Zone 4	Calidonia	Panama Este 0815		10 Jul 1969
Zone 5	Justo Arosemena	Panama Este 0816	3 Jun 1959	5 May 1965
Zone 5A	????		16 Aug 1971	16 Aug 1971
Zone 6	Bethania	Panama Este 0818		
Zone 6A	Bethania	Panama Este 0819		
Zone 7	Obarrio	Panama Este 0823	28 Jul 1975	30 Oct 1962
Zone 8	Pueblo Nuevo	Panama Este 0827		23 Oct 1962
Zone 9	San Fco de Caleta	Panama Este 0830		21 Nov 1956
Zone 9A	Carrasquilla	Panama Este 0834		11 Sep 1969
Zone 10	Parque Lefevre	Panama Este 0835		18 Dec 1956
Zone 11	San Miguelito	Panama Este 0859	6 Nov 1972	25 Sep 1972
Zone 12	Juan Diaz	Panama Este 0838		
Zone 13	Pedregal	Panama Este 0839		
Zone 14	Tocumen	Panama Este 0857		1 Nov 1959
Zone 15	Las Cumbres	Panama Este 0850		
Zone 16	Alcalde Diaz		4 Sep 1972	

In addition to the above, postal markings have been seen from the following which appear to be postal substations:

Centro Postal
 Centro Commercial
 Hotel El Continental
 Hotel El Panama
 Instituto Nacional

The list of new post office numbers includes the following which apparently were not postal zones.

Maria La Antigua	Panama Este 0820
Paitilla	Panama Este 0831
Plaza Panama	Panama Este 0837
Universidad	Panama Este 0824
World Trade Center	Panama Este 0832

Dr. Ernesto Arosemena has informed me that there are postal stations in a number of the other large hotels in Panama City, but no postal markings from these have been reported. It is possible that

these are like the hotel at the former Fort Gulick where our party ate lunch on the 2003 tour. We were able to buy postage stamps, but post cards that we mailed there were sent to a regular post office where they were cancelled.

Illustrated below (fig. 1) is the reverse of a cover with the only recorded example of a marking from Zone 11 San Miguelito. This cover also is a perfect example of how the habits of many Panamanian mailers make many covers difficult to exhibit. The illustration of the front side of the cover shows that the address was written in large handwriting covering most of the cover, leaving room only for the 3c stamp which combined with the 10c Gandhi stamp on the reverse paid the 13c airmail postage to Guatemala. There is an incredible amount of thematic interest in India for the Gandhi stamp, such that a perfect non-philatelic use on cover could probably be sold for \$50 or more. This cover, in spite of the scarce postal marking, is worth much less, because of its appearance and because it would have to be opened out to show both stamps



Fig. 1. Only recorded example of a marking from Zone 11, San Miguelito.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Copaphil members are entitled to two classified ads per year. They are not to exceed 50 words per entry.

Forgeries of Civil War Stamps of Colombia

Alan D Anyon

On pages 9-10 of the December 2006 issue of this journal (Vol. XXIV No.2) appeared an article written by John N. Luff in 1904 and entitled *Forgeries of Colombia*. Singled out were the 5c green/blue (Sc.268) and the 20c without mentioning the color (Sc.270, 286) of the 1902-03 Bogotá issue and the 5 and 10 pesos stamps of the 1903-04 Barranquilla issue (Sc 221 - 223). All of these had been reported as existing in forged condition and in his article Luff refutes those claims. Now, over 100 years later, it is time to re-evaluate these stamps.

Two very different types of the 5c exist and they are found not only on the green/blue, more correctly green/pale green stamp, but also on the blue/blue printing (Sc.285). Table I indicates the significant differences between the types.



Fig. 1. Genuine



Fig. 2. False



Fig. 3 Genuine



Fig 4 False

Type II is very rarely found in used condition and the used examples seen have bogus cancels. Why would bogus cancels be used other than to

provide credibility to counterfeit stamps? Furthermore only Type I has been seen with sewing machine perforations or perforated 12. The presumption is that Type II is a counterfeit.

As Luff's article illustrated there are two distinct types of the 20c stamp but they have only been found on the brown/buff printing (Sc.270). Significant differences between the types are as follows.

Type II has only been seen with bogus cancels and has not been encountered perforated. The presumption is that Type II is a counterfeit.

Whilst Luff discusses the 5 and 10 pesos values of the 1903-04 Barranquilla issue he does not mention their colors, there being 3 for the former and 2

for the latter. There is a comment in parenthesis in the previous COPACARTA article that the 10 pesos color is given as green but the author was un-

Table I. Comparison of Types I and II of the 1904 5¢ green/blue (Sc268) and blue/blue (Sc285).

	Type I (Fig. 1) <u>Genuine</u>	Type II (Fig. 2) <u>Forgery</u>
fish tail ending to C and S of CORREOS	absent	present
top of cap in centre of shield	pointed	rounded
DE between REPUBLICA and COLOMBIA	malformed	well formed
white space at top of left and right pillars	narrow	wide
frame around base of left pillar	narrow	wide
bottom limb of E of CORREOS	thin	thick
printing	not sharp	sharp

Table II. Comparison of the two types of the 20¢ brown on buff (Sc270) of 1904.

	Type I (Fig. 3)	Type II (Fig. 4)
0 of left 20	squared	rounded & taller than 2
C and O of CORREOS	almost touching	separated
paired upright lines in left and right columns	clear	almost fused
ornament at top of left column touching R of REPUBLICA	no	yes
printing	sharp	blurred



Fig 5. Genuine



Fig 6. False



Fig 8. Genuine



Fig 9. False



Fig 7. 5 peso with bogus circular cancel.

able to find that information.

Only the 5 pesos printed in claret (Sc.220) has been encountered in two types with the following characteristics.

Type II has been seen with a bogus circular cancel reading **CORREOS / 23 AGOS**

190(?) / BATA.... (Fig.

7) and has not been seen perforated. The presumption is that this type is a counterfeit.

Of the two colors of the 10 pesos value only that printed in green (Sc.223) has been encountered in two types with the following characteristics.

Type II has been seen with the same bogus cancel found on the 5 pesos stamp and it has not been found perforated. The presumption is that this type is a counterfeit.



Fig. 10. 2 centavo proof.

Table III. Comparison between the two types of the 5 peso claret of 1903 (Sc220).

	Type I (Fig. 5)	Type II (Fig. 6)
colour	magenta to deep claret	brown-purple
O of CINCO touches circle round 5	yes	no
P of PESOS touches circle round 5	yes	no
CINCO PESOS	thick letters	thin letters
right hand CORREOS	thick letters	thin letters
VALIENTE in tablet under arms	legible	illegible
period after right hand CORREOS	square	vestigial

Table IV. Comparison between the two types of the 10 peso green of 1903 (Sc223).

	Type I (Fig. 8)	Type II (Fig. 9)
colour	apple green to olive-green	bright green
0 in left 10	thick	thin
circle round right 10	complete	big break near A
period after right hand CORREOS	square	round
lower left flagstaff	short/vestigial	long
mark below frame under M	absent	present

Before leaving these Civil War issues it is worth mentioning the existence of the 1902 Bogotá issue 2c black/rose (Sc.266) printed on a variety of colored papers. Some collectors may wonder if such stamps are counterfeits but close examination of examples show all the characteristics of the issued stamps. Papers in buff, yellowish green, turquoise-green, turquoise-blue, chrome yellow and bright

carmine have been seen. These are all probably trial printings. In addition this stamp has been found printed in deep blue on white paper with the design enclosed in a box (Fig. 10) and this is presumed to be a proof.

If any reader can add information to this article the writer would be very pleased to receive it via the editor.

Market Report

Jim Cross

I can report on only a couple of sales in this quarter's column. The George Alevizos Public Auction 129 on 30 January 2007 had a number of Colombia and Panama items, many of which I recognize as items previously offered and unsold. This is one of the few large auction firms that does not publish prices realized, so I cannot report on this sale.

The Soler & Llach sale on 19 Feb 2007 also had a quantity of Colombia and Panama lots. This sale has rather high minimum bids and a number of better items remain unsold and are offered on the Internet at the minimum bid. Sales prices are reported in Euros without the 18% purchaser's commission.

Lot 113 - 1865 registered cover Bogota to Palmira with 10c and 20c stamps sold for 1500 Euros.

Lot 114 - 1867 cover to Paris with 10c stamp paying internal postage; British Santa Martha marking on reverse and other markings sold for 50 Euros.

Lot 116 - 1873 letter from Bucaramanga to New York with Ferguson Noguera forwarding agent marking with British 4p orange tied by British Santa Martha postmark sold for 900 Euros.

Lot 118 - 1883 letter from Barranquilla to Breslau with two copies of 1881 5c blue in different shades sold for 450 Euros.

Lot 449 - 1883 registered letter from Panama to Callao, Peru with the 1883 10c orange and the

1883 registration stamp with number 1907 sold for 800 Euros.

Among the unsold lots was **lot 451**, an unfranked official cover from the Colon postmaster addressed to Eugene LeBeouf who was the fiscal agent of the French canal company in Colon. It may have contained a return receipt for a registered letter, the minimum bid was set at 1000 Euros.

The unsold Colombia lots included **Lot 117**, a *Camisa de Cauca* cover from Rio Sucio to Quibdo, ex-Ferrari, ex-Burrus, and ex-Champion. It is one of two known covers with the stamp, the other was last in the collection of Dr. Gene Scott. The minimum bid required was 14,000 Euros.

Two interesting sales on eBay included the Larsen reconstruction of Plate II of the first issue of Tolima which sold for \$1225 and a copy of Bolivar 1 with a Cartagena ms. cancel which sold for \$292.



Correspondence from Neiva in 1773

Manuel Arango

The web page of the *Archivo General de la Nación de la República de Colombia* includes a number of documents pertinent to the postal history of Colombia. Among them is a very interesting Colonial cover from NEIVA figs. 1, 2), including its content. As far as I know is the only recorded cover from Neiva and the third oldest of the Colombian Colonial Period: Jun 29, 1773. (<http://negrosyesclavos2.archivogeneral.gov.co:8080/>)

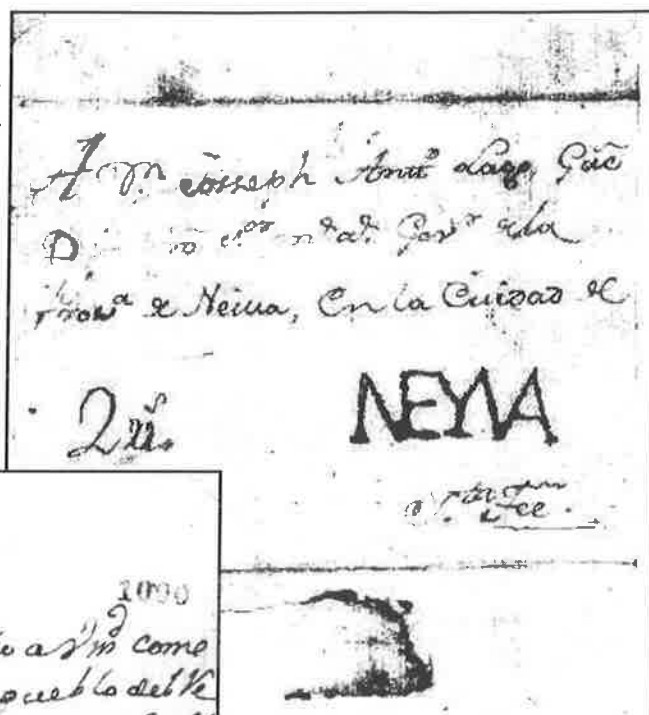


Fig. 1. Outside of 1773 cover from Neiva.

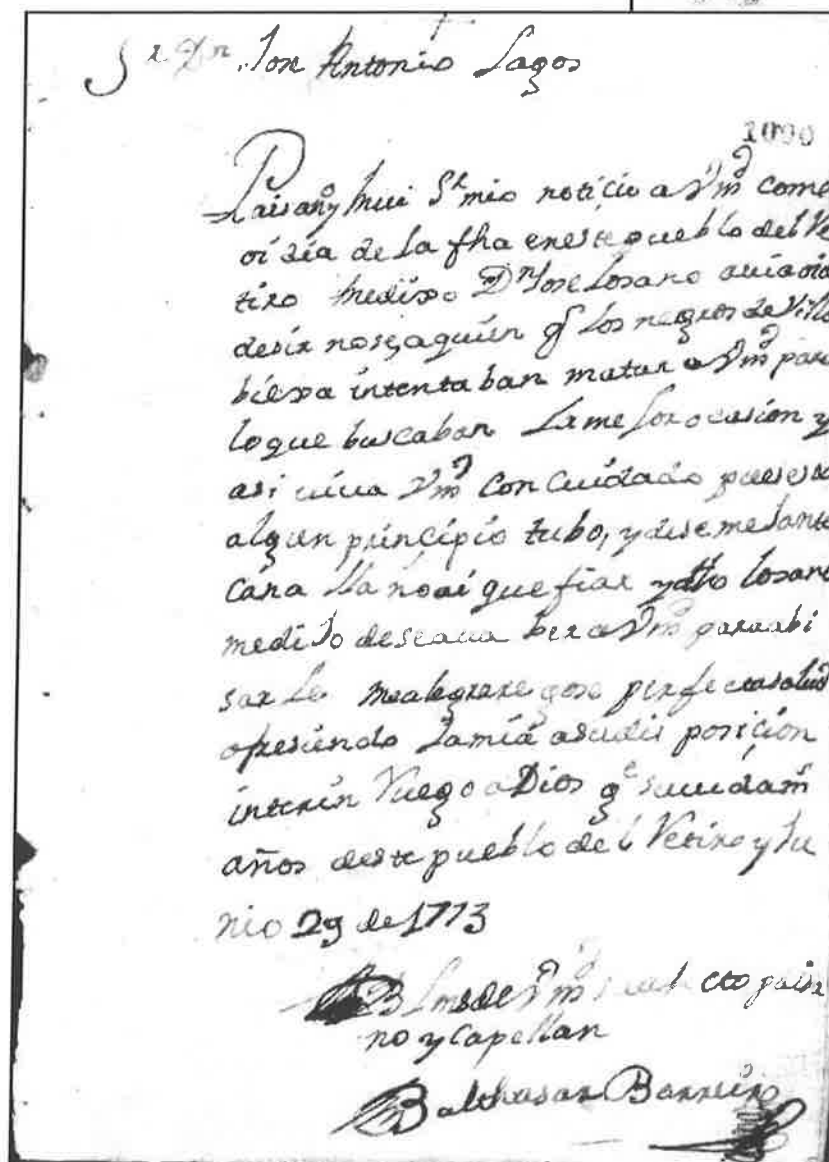


Fig. 2. Text of message from Balthasar Barrio to Don Antonio Lagos dated 29 June 1773.

Fig. 3. Bogotá Red Cross stamp on cover to Medellín dated 22 May 1933, the first day of use of this stamp.

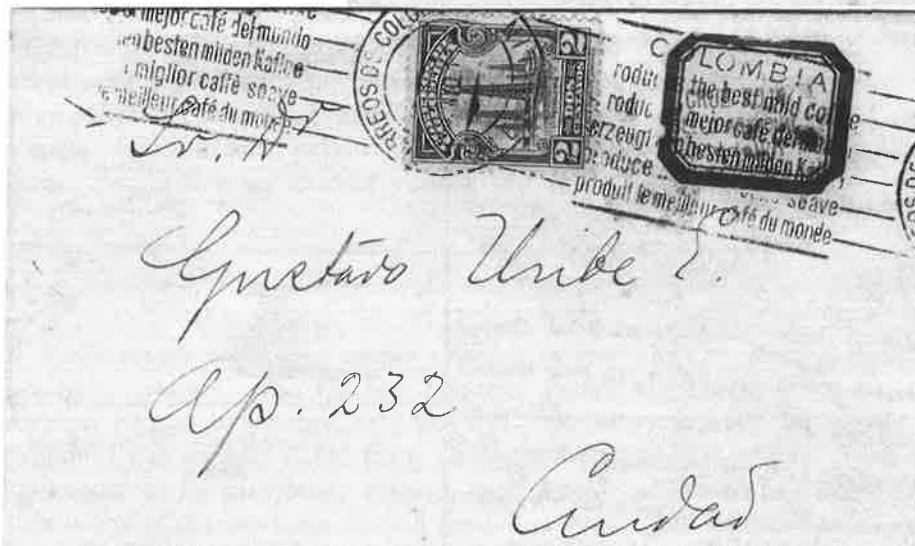


Fig. 6. Local letter with Type I Medellín Red Cross stamp.



Fig. 7. Medellín Type II Red Cross seal on airmail cover to U.S.

COPACARTA

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"Bugaramanga" cover recently sold on line by Estudio 20 S.A.. ex Marco Del Pont; ex Salinas De Lozada; ex Elicabe; ex Mautalen and ex Dr. Mario Kurchan.

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Copaphil Exhibits at StampShow

Classic Colombia by Alfredo Frohlich in Champion of Champions competition
Revenue Stamps of Colombia: 1858-1933 by William L. Welch in open competition.

Fred and Bill will give guided tours of their exhibits at the show.
Tour times to be announced at Copaphil meeting on Friday at noon

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COPAPHIL News

Copaphil members have been actively exhibiting during the last several months. In April Alfredo Frohlich received a gold award for the first showing of his exhibit of Classic Colombia - 5th, 6th and 7th Issues (1863-1868). Alejandro Ortiz received a vermeil award for his exhibit of Antioquia. at **WESTPEX** in April. This was the first time that Alejandro has exhibited. He showed nineteen covers from the pre-stamp period from towns in Antioquia followed by the stamp issues including a number of uses on cover. These included a registered cover with the 1902 registration stamp (Scott F5). This is the first registered cover from Antioquia that Jim Cross had seen. Several judges commented that it was a difficult exhibit to judge because it contained elements of postal history within a traditional exhibit.

After the **WESTPEX** show David Zemer and Jim Cross attended a 90th birthday party for our

Errata: My apologies. I had intended to have the front and back page of the last issue in color.

The caption below Figure 3 in Debby Friedman's article on a SCADTA crash cover mistakenly identifies the cover as a wedding invitation for Kessler's son. It is for Kessler himself.

member David Leeds given by his family.

At Paraguay's first international philatelic exhibition, **Paz del Chaco 2007**, Tom Myers won a large vermeil for his exhibit, the Mancomún Airmails of Colombia while Alfredo Frohlich garnered a vermeil for his exhibit on crash airmails of Colombia.

A week later in **St. Petersburg** Dieter Bortfeldt won a large vermeil for his exhibit, *Internal Mail in Colonial Colombia*; James C. Johnson also garnered a large vermeil for his exhibit, *Scadta Agents and Agencies*; Felipe Toro won a gold for *Colombian Airmails*. Santiago Cruz earned a gold for *The Valiente Scadta Issue* as did Manuel Arango for *Tributes and Fiscal Stamps of Colombia*. And, Alfredo Frohlich gained a large gold for *Classic Colombia*.

2007 StampShow will be held in Portland Oregon from August 9 to 12. The Copaphil meeting will at 12 noon on Friday, Aug 10. In addition to an informal meeting I will be making a PowerPoint presentation on the *Riches of Colombian Airmails*. Alfredo Frohlich will be showing his Classic Colombia 1863-1868 in the Champion of Champion's class at StampShow in Portland. Bill Welch will

(Continued on page 5)

From the President's Desk

It is gratifying to see the recognition that exhibits of Colombia and Panama are receiving at United States exhibitions. It was not that long ago that such material was rarely seen at the national level. For the second year in a row Alfredo Frohlich will be competing in the APS Champion of Champions competition with his continually improving collection of Classic Colombia. This is a result of his receiving the Grand Award at the February Sarasota show. At Westpex in San Francisco this April he showed a new exhibit – Classic Colombia – the 5th, 6th and 7th Issues (1863-63) for the first time. Other than the now sold and broken up collection of Alex Rendon, this is the only exhibi-

tion collection of this material I know of. I hope some of you will be able to see this exhibit.

Next year will be the 25th Anniversary of the founding of COPAPHIL. In connection with that milestone, we have been discussing with the Collectors Club of New York the possibility of doing a program in the fall of 2008. We would especially like to highlight Panama as it has been many years since such material was shown. More immediately, Alfredo Frohlich spoke to the Collectors Club of New York on April 11th on Classic Colombia.

Debby Friedman rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com

[illegible]

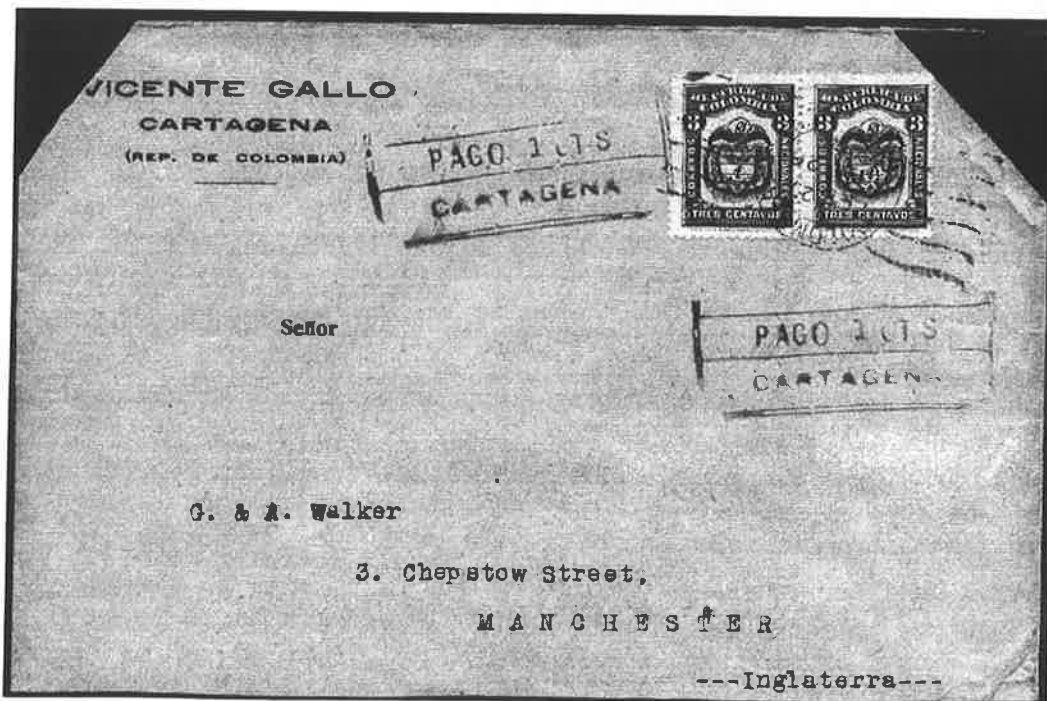
(Continued from page 3)

being exhibiting revenue stamps in open competition. If you don't know much about Colombian revenues, and most of us don't, this is a great opportunity! Both Alfredo and Bill have agreed to give guided tours of their exhibit.

great chance for North Americans to show their exhibits in Colombia. If you are interested contact me at tpmphil@hotmail.com.

An FIAF sponsored exhibition will be held in **Bogotá** from September 30 to October 1. This is a

Most of you have seen David Zemer's solicitation of new members on Ebay. He has been successful beyond our dreams, attracting nine new Copaphil members in the last year. **Congratulations David!!** And thank you.



Evidently short of 1¢ stamps, the postal clerk in Cartagena applied a boxed handstamp reading "PAGO 1 CTS." The letter was mailed on 27 Feb 1926. Steven Roche Collection.

Colombian Red Cross, Part II

Manuel Arango

The decree that authorized the extension of the Red Cross surtax to the cities of Medellín and Buenaventura was discovered since the publication of Part I of this article.

Decree 1008 of May 27, 1933 was published in the *Diario Oficial* #22304. It extended the five cents surtax to the cities of Medellín and Buenaventura. It was to be used the week of May 29th to June 3rd, 1933, on the Red Cross celebration and therefore, one of the obligatory uses of this surtax.

In Buenaventura the Red Cross tax was assessed at one centavo rather than five. The justification is unknown but all fragments and letters

show this rate (figs. 10, 11)

Red Cross Week in 1934

Decree No. 990, dated May 9th, 1934 and registered in *Diario Oficial* 22594, made compulsory the surtax in favor of the Red Cross in all the localities scheduled to have such festivities. Without legal foundation it was honored only the cities of Bogotá, Medellín, and Barranquilla during the week from May 21st—27th, 1934.

To resolve this legal limbo the National Government issued the Law 9a, on November 15th, 1934 to regulate the Red Cross stamps. Overprints of the types II, III, and IV were only used in **Bogotá** during this period in 1934 (fig. 12).

Red Cross Week in **Medellín** for 1934 was scheduled from the 28th of May to the 2nd of June. This time authorities were better prepared and issued a lithographed stamp in red and sepia, measuring 26mm x31mm, perforate 12. As a special characteristic of this edition, we can emphasize the poor quality of the gum used. (fig. 13, 15).

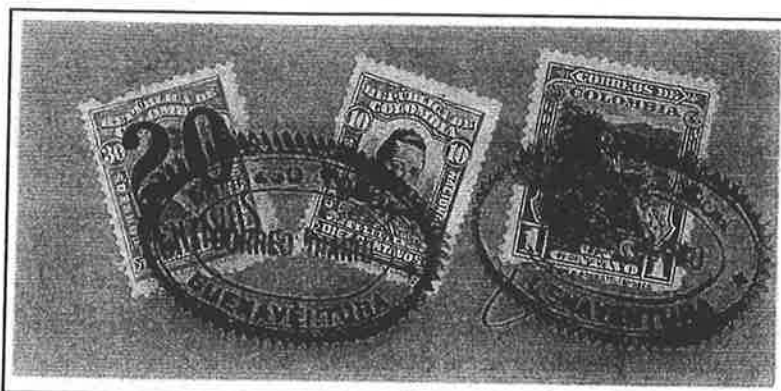


Fig. 10. 1¢ Buenaventura Red Cross stamp mailed via Expreso Tobon.

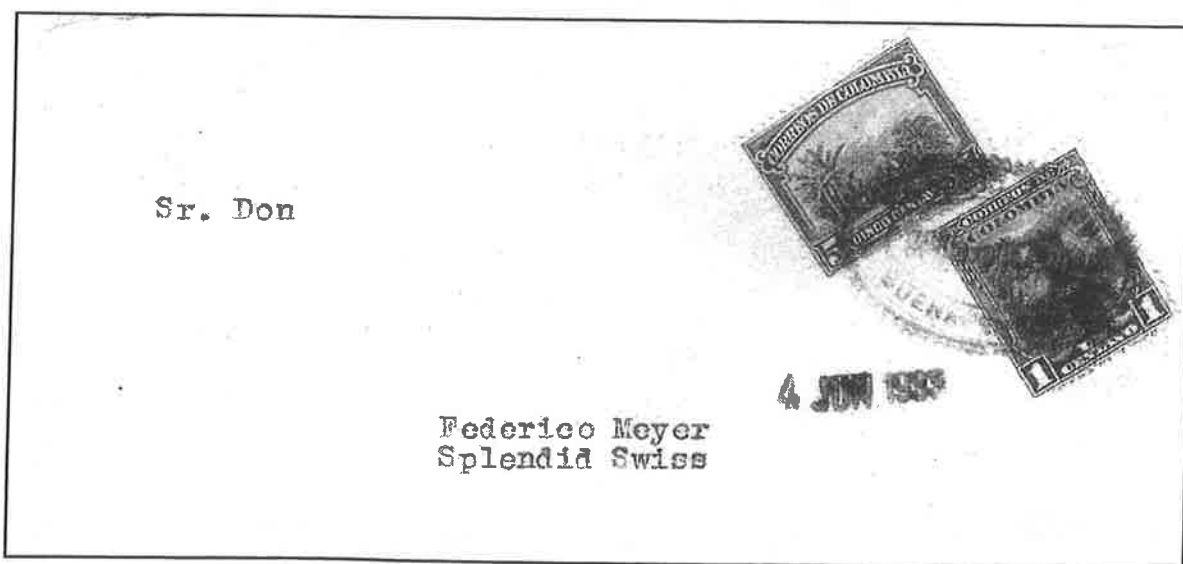


Fig. 11. Local letter (cropped) with 1¢ Buenaventura Red Cross overprint.

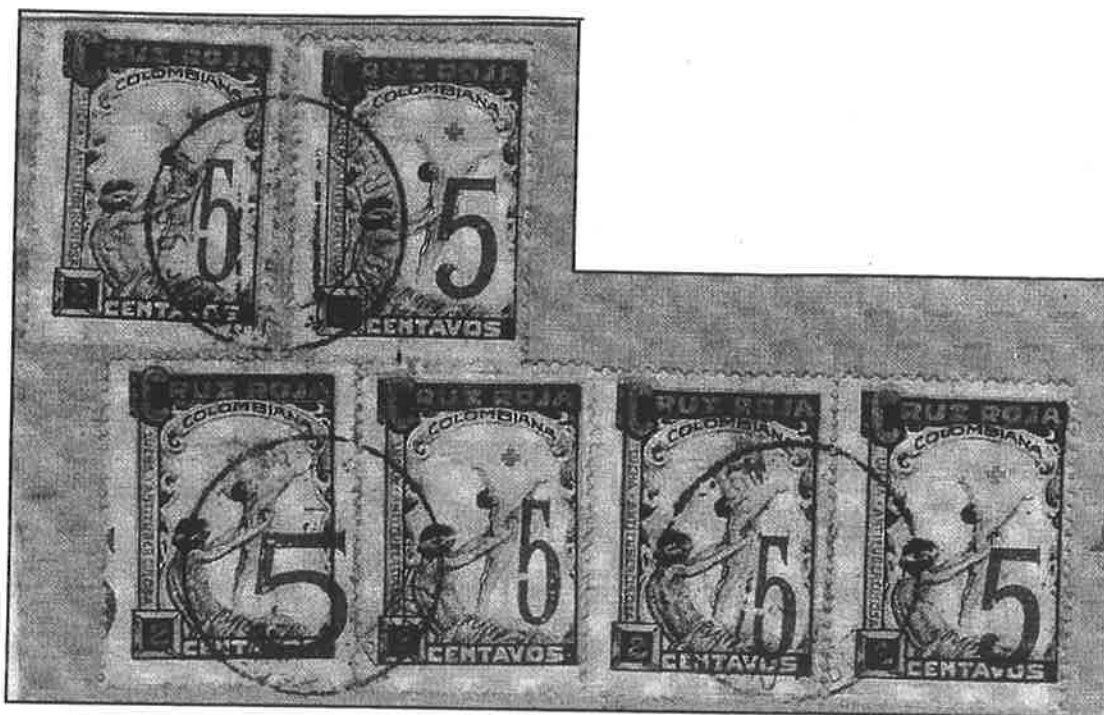


Fig. 12. The three types of Red Cross overprints of 1934.



Fig. 13. 5¢ Red Cross stamps from Medellín.

Pereira, Cúcuta, and Barranquilla also printed elusive stamps in 1934, with different designs in each city.

Pereira issued a rectangular stamp measuring 47mm x 21mm that contained letters and symbols of the Red Cross on a white background, each costing one cent. Five stamps were required to pay the Red Cross surcharge. This stamp was used

during the week of May 21st-27th, 1934, for all the correspondence (fig. 13, 16),

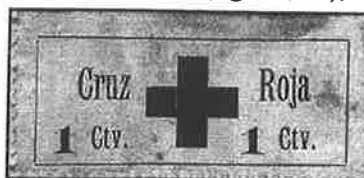


Fig. 14. 1¢ Red Cross stamp from Pereira.

There is no information regarding the establishment of the Red Cross Week from the City of Cúcuta. However, there is evidence of the im-

pression of commemorative one cent stamps in red on white background, perforated 11 ½, and lithographed with the effigy of Mercedes Abrego (Fig. 17, 18).

Similarly, there is no information regarding the establishment of Red Cross Week in Barranquilla. Nor are there any known commemorative stamps of the event in favor of this organization. But the use of Lucha Antituberculosa stamps without an overprint in June 1934 (fig. 19) suggests that such a celebration did take place.

Acknowledgements. Thanks to the cooperation of Carlos Valenzuela who provided these two photocopies of the Buenaventura participation during this Red Cross week.

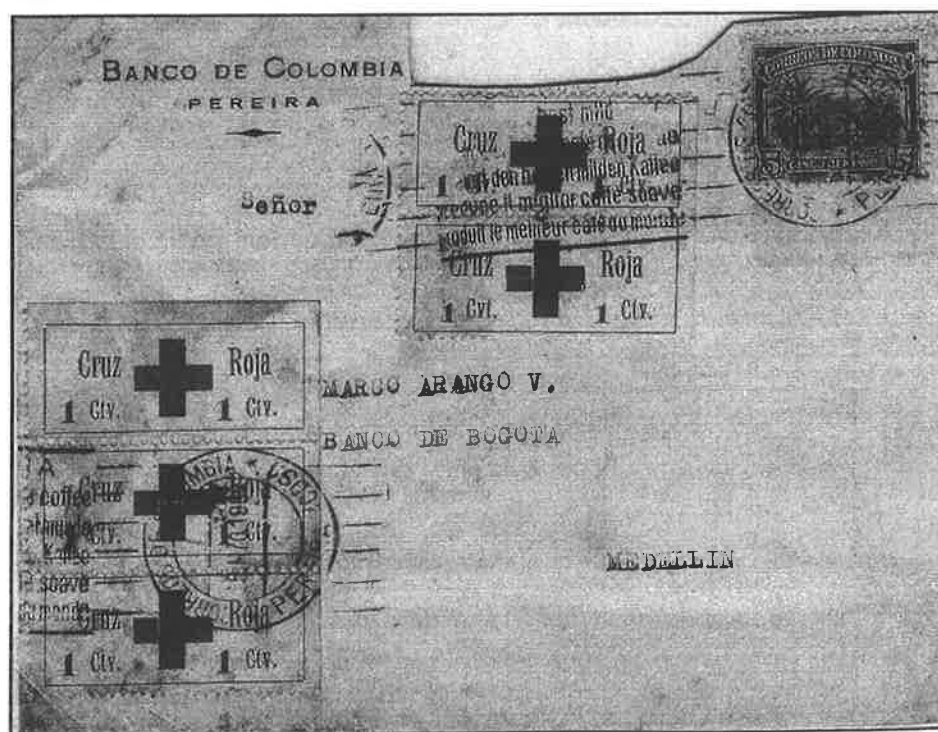


Fig. 17. Red Cross stamp from Cúcuta used from March to May 1935.



Fig. 15. Red Cross cover from Medellín to Bogotá, 2 June 1934.

Fig. 16. Red Cross cover from Pereira to Medellín, 25 May 1934. Note that the Red Cross stamp at the lower right contains two errors 1) the "Is" are in smaller type than on the other stamps; 2) "Cvt" instead of "Ctv" at the left.



COPACARTA CD. Volumes 1-23 of COPACARTA are available on disk from Joe Hahn, 1015 Old Boalsburg Road, Apt G-5, State College PA 16801-6149. The cost is just \$20 + \$1 to US addresses and \$2 to all others.

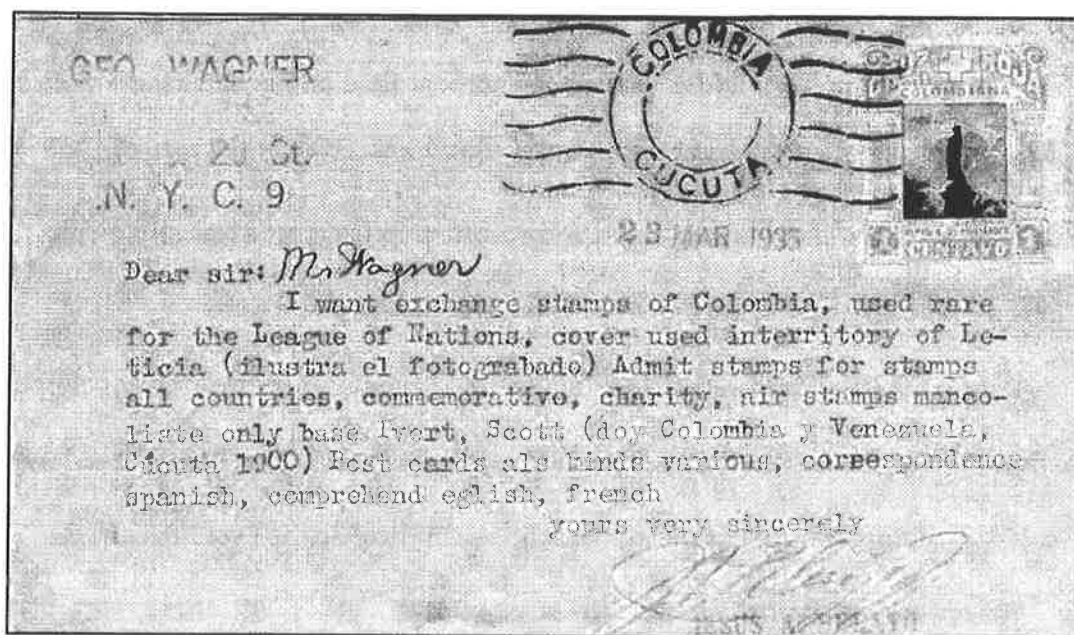


Fig. 18. Post card from Cúcuta dated 23 Mar 1935. This card is one of a number sent by Geo Wagner from Cúcuta to solicit stamp exchanges between March and May 1935.



Fig. 19. Barranquilla to Ocaña, 8 June 1934 using the original Lucha Antituberculosa stamp printed in 1930.

Notes on the 4¢ Registration Stamp of 1917

Thomas P. Myers

There are several features of the Perkins, Bacon issue of 1917 that have puzzled me for some time. Foremost among them is the inclusion of a 4¢ registration stamp that features the pier at Puerto Colombia (fig. 1). A note from *Eco Postal* of Valencia, Spain accounts for its existence:

Our correspondent in Colombia tells us that "when the new series of stamps printed in England was placed in circulation on November 1, 1917, not all of the plates ordered were sent. Some values were quickly used up and it was necessary to revert to the use of ½¢, 1¢, and 2¢ stamps of 1918 [sic] issue and to accept registered letters to countries



Fig. 1. 4¢ registration stamp of the Perkins, Bacon series of 1917 intended for mail to members

of the South American Postal Union without the 4¢ green and blue stamp that was intended for this service.

The *Resoluciones*
del Congreso
Postal Sudameri-

cano de Montevideo held in 1911 confirm that the cost of a registered letter or an AR letter among member countries was 4¢. Article 3, paragraph 4 reads, "The fixed rate for registered mail, AR mail, and requests for information on registered mail that had not been mailed with an AR receipt, as well as the cost of express mail, are reduced to 20



Fig. 2. 4¢ AR stamp for mail to members of the South American Postal Union.

From 1911 to 1923, one gold centavo (Colombian) was equivalent to 5 céntimos so the registration fee to members of the South American Postal Union would have been 4¢ as indicated in the note to *El Eco Postal*.

Unfortunately, my files do not include either a registered letter to a member country of the South American Postal Union or an AR letter between the time it was formed on February 2, 1911 and the formation of the Pan American Postal Union in 1921. Perhaps a reader can provide an image.



1935 airmail cover from the
Canal Zone to the UK with
mixed CZ and Panama
franking.

Colombian Late Fee Stamps

Leonard Piskiewicz

Colombia issued its first Late Fee ("Retardo") stamp in 1886. Denominated 2½ centavos, it was intended to pay the fee for acceptance of a letter deposited after the regular mail closing time at the local post office.

Late Fee service was authorized by Resolution 851 of the Ministerio de Gobierno dated 17 November 1886. It was to begin on 1 January 1887 [4].

Examples of Colombian Retardo stamps properly used on cover are quite scarce and are seen only infrequently.

An example of a domestic use in 1890, from Cartagena to Soplaviento, about 30 miles apart in the Department of Bolivar, is shown in Figure 1. The Retardo stamp is the first issue 2½¢ black on lilac paper (actually gray) and the 3¢ domestic letter

rate was paid by singles of the 1¢ green and 2¢ red stamps of 1883.

Initially the late fee was 2½¢ for both domestic and foreign mail; an example of a letter postmarked NOV 27 1897 from Panama to New York with 10¢ postage and a 2½¢ Retardo stamp has recently been offered by a dealer.

Resolution 17 of 3 October 1903, published in *Diario Oficial* No. 11946 dated 20 November 1903, raised the late fee to 5 centavos for mail passing through Tumaco [4].

In anticipation of the rate change a 5¢ Retardo stamp had been issued in 1902. This fee for late letters remained in effect until late fees were discontinued by a decree of December 7, 1918.[1]

With the issuance of late fee stamps of new designs in 1914 denominated 2¢ and 5¢, it appears that the late fee for domestic mail was reduced to 2¢. A cover to Switzerland posted in



Figure 1. Cover postmarked Cartagena APR 30 1890.



Figure 2. Cover postmarked Medellín 18 Sept 1916.



Figure 3. Postcard postmarked Medellín December, 1918.

Medellín in 1916 showing the 5c late fee paid is shown in Figure 2. Regular postage is paid by a 5c numeral stamp of 1908 and the late fee is paid by a single Retardo stamp of 1914.

A postcard to Costa Rica from Medellín in December, 1918 is shown in Figure 3. In this case, the international postcard rate was paid by a 2¢ rose numeral stamp of 1908 and the late fee was paid by a 5¢ Retardo stamp of 1914.

In 1919, in Medellín there began the use of “provisional” late fee stamps, at first overprinted “Retardo” by typewriter and then in 1921 with a typeset overprint (applied as groups of five overprints by letterpress). Whether or not these should be recognized as “real” stamps has been a topic of controversy and has been written about in the philatelic literature for many years afterward. Some writers tell the story of authorization by the Medellín Postal Administrator Carlos A. Molina [2] and include a quote of a statement by him certifying that the stamps were overprinted by order of this office and had postal use. A later writer states flatly that all of these overprints are bogus.[3]

Whether or not the overprinted stamps are bogus, examples used on cover exist, such as the example in Figure 4. The 2¢ carmine rose Nariño stamp of 1917 is overprinted "RETARDO" in purple by type-

writer. Whether the overprinted stamp served a real postal purpose has been debated, but an early writer reports that in Medellín at that time, the ordinary mail closed at 5 P.M., but single letters were accepted only until 4:45 P.M., and the 2¢ late fee allowed for acceptance until 5 P.M.

While the overprints may not have been authorized by the national postal authorities, used, off-cover examples of these overprinted stamps with Medellín postmarks and a few examples on cover exist such as the Figure 4 cover, even though it

may have a "philatelic look" to it.

The foregoing is a very condensed history, and readers are invited to send additional information not included here to the author for future publication.

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- 1) Myer, John N. *Philately of Colombia*, New York: John N. Myer, 1940, p. 47.
- 2) Piquero, M. "Los Sellos de Retardo de Colombia," *Revista del Centro Coleccionistas del Uruguay*, October, 1933 (v. 14, n. 41), pp. 18-19. Ref. 1.
- 3) Trouseau, Charles "Los Sellos 'RETARDO' emitidos en Medellín," *FilBa* (Club Filatelica de Barranquilla), March-April, 1962, pp. 5-7.
- 4) *Colombia Catálogo Enciclopédico 1859 – 2004*.



Figure 4. Cover postmarked Medellín 21 NO 20.

Review: Poste Maritime Française. Premier Service Postal de Pacifique Sud; Consulat de France à Panama 1843-1848 (French Maritime Mail. First Service in the South Pacific; French Consulate at Panama 1843-1848), Louis-Eugene Langlais. Published 2006 by L'Académie de Philatélie. Softcover 21cm x 29.7 cm., 148 pages, 16 color illustration, in French.

Price 40 Euros, postpaid. Available from Brigitte Abensur 8 Rue des Fossés 54700 Pont-à-Mousson, France. Internet payment by Paypal to Brigitte.abensur@wanadoo.fr. Payment can also be made by check in euros payable to the Academie de Philatelie (add 15 Euros for bank charges) or a postal money order payable to Academie de Philatelie at the above address or bank transfer to Academie de Philatelie IBAN FR76 1870 7000 2802 8191 1790 011 BIC CCBFRPPVER.

Our charter member Eugene Langlais has written a comprehensive work on the maritime mail service that operated between 1843 and 1848. Transoceanic mail before the Universal Postal Union is a complex subject. Although Great Britain already had regular maritime lines to parts of Latin America, the French wanted to improve dealings with countries on the West coast of South America. At the end of 1842 the French King Louis Philippe issued an edict establishing a service operated by the French Consulate at Panama. From September 1848 on, France no longer was involved in the forwarding of mail for Pacific countries.

There is a second era of French packet boats, but that is not the focus of this book.

This book reflects extensive research and incorporates a massive amount of information that is not found elsewhere. The summary of the contents provides a good sense of the book's contents:

- Historical Preamble
- France considers starting a postal organization at Panama to improve the routing of mail across the Isthmus towards the countries of the South Pacific Ocean.
- The Organization Plan
- First Postal Organization in Central America
- The Marcescheau Affair
- Tariffs, Conventions, and Postal Accords
- Postal Material, Notices, and Important Dates
- Table of Paquebot Sailings
- Correspondence Known to Date
- Bibliography

Even if knowledge of French is limited at best, the book has much valuable and easy-to-understand information that would help the student of this era of postal history. The rates and sailing information alone are worthwhile.

NB: Gift of the author to COPAPHIL; the COPAPHIL Library will have this book available for loan.



1844 cover from the French Consulate in Panama to the French consul at Lima. This image is on the front cover of the book published by the "Académie de Philatélie" in December 2006.

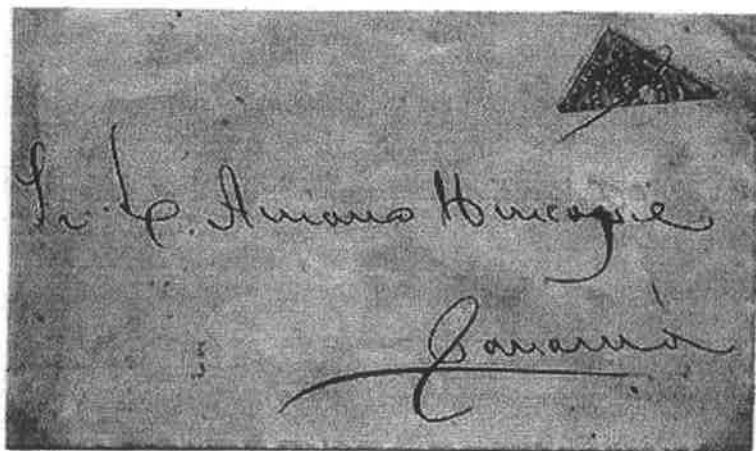
MARKET REPORT: *Fritz-Walter Lange Panama Collection*

Jim Cross

The sale of a large postal history collection is not a simple process. In most of these collections, the whole may be greater than the sum of its parts. Usually the material will have been accumulated over a long time period (I have accumulated my two Colombia collections over a period of 35

years). While the individual items have a retail value, the fact that they are all available at one time without the long accumulation process may be worth an additional premium. If they are not sold together it may be difficult or even impossible to again create a similar collection.

All of these factors must be weighed by the seller. The Lange collection was first offered by private treaty during Washington 2006 where it was being exhibited. The asking price was not shown in the listing. The contents of the collection have previously been reviewed in this publication. In summary, it included mail originating in Panama from the Colonial period thru 1900 including mail carried by forwarding agents and mail originating in the British and French consular post offices, 19th century incoming mail to Panama and mail transiting Panama, especially that handled by the British consular post offices. Because of its broad scope it was probably not as attractive at private treaty because many potential buyers might have been interested only in parts of the collection.



On the other hand the accumulation process is part of the fascination of collecting and not everyone wants to purchase a ready-made collection. In addition there may not be a collector with the means (or the desire) to purchase the collection at the time it is available for sale.

The largest auction firms are generally unwilling to list items individually unless they are quite valuable. That costs more time and money for catalog preparation and also increases the probability that there will be some unsold items, an awkward result if the seller wishes to dispose of the entire collection.

When the auction firm does list individual stamps or covers as lots, the results can be spectacular. The best example that I have noted in our collecting area was the sale of the Jairo Londoño classic Colombia stamps by CORINPHILA, a sale

The collection was offered in the David Feldman sale on 3 December 2006 in 22 lots, 1055-1076. Only 7 single items were offered as lots. 17 lots were sold including all but one of the lots offering a single cover. It is my opinion that far more of the items could have been offered as single lots. For example, the earliest recorded cover from Panama, which was the most expensive Panama cover thus far recorded when it was purchased, was lotted with fifteen other pre-stamp covers, including scarce covers from Los Santos, Nata, and Veraguas. One of the two recorded uses of the 1887-1888 issue 2 centavos stamp on cover was lotted with 24 other covers with stamps of that issue, etc.

Nevertheless the results of the sale were imposing. The seventeen lots sold for a total hammer price of 118,300 Euros to which an 18% buyer's commission must be added. The five unsold lots had a total reserve of 41,600 Euros. It is possible that some of the sales were to dealers who will



Hawaii with Panama transit sold for 20,000 Euros. (This was the most expensive lot in the sale)

Lot 1066 - Twelve covers from Europe to South America with Panama transit did not sell for a reserve of 5000 Euros.

Lot 1067 - Twenty covers with French consular origin or French paquebot markings sold for 5000 Euros.

Lot 1068 - A cover from France to La Boca (only pre-independence cover to this destination) sold for 3400 Euros.

Lot 1069 - A cover from Great Britain to Chile with Panama consular transit sold for 220 Euros.

break up the large lots and offer individual covers for sale. It will be interesting to see if this happens.

Lot 1055 - Sixteen pre-stamp covers from Panama, including the earliest recorded cover, sold for 15,000 Euros.

Lot 1056 - Twenty-two covers from Panama with Colombia stamps from the U.P.U. period 1881-1887 sold for 8000 Euros.

Lot 1057 - Five covers including four with bisects or quadrisects of Panama first issue stamps and the only known registered cover from the period did not sell for the reserve of 16,000 Euros.

Lot 1058 - Twenty-five covers with stamps of the 1887-1888 Panama issue sold for 20,000 Euros.

Lot 1059 - Seventeen stampless covers with British Consular post office transit markings sold for 7000 Euros.

Lot 1060 - A cover from the British Consular Post Office with "A Colon" marking sold for 1100 Euros.

Lot 1061 - Eight covers with British stamps cancelled in the British Consular post offices sold for 5500 Euros.

Lot 1062 - Twenty covers with various Panama forwarding agent markings from 1825-1876 did not sell for a reserve of 16,000 Euros. Based on prices for similar covers at recent sales this reserve seems to be excessive.

Lot 1063 - Three covers from Australia to Europe with Panama transit markings did not sell for a reserve of 2600 Euros.

Lot 1064 - Five covers from Chile to Europe with Panama transit markings sold for 3000 Euros.

Lot 1065 - A cover from the Danish West Indies to

Lot 1070 - A cover from Guatemala to Germany with Panama transit (scarce use of the Guatemala stamps) sold for 6800 Euros.

Lot 1071 - A cover from Honduras forwarded by the Honduras consular postal agency in Panama (only known cover with this marking) did not sell for a reserve of 2000 Euros.

Lot 1072 - A cover from Japanese Offices in China with Panama transit sold for 13,000 Euros.



Lot 1073 - Four covers from New Zealand to Europe with Panama transits sold for 3000 Euros.

Lot 1074 - Five covers from El Salvador to Europe with Panama transits sold for 2800 Euros.

Lot 1075 - Nineteen covers from the U.S. with Panama transits sold for 9500 Euros.

Lot 1076 - A cover from Peru to the U.S. with mixed franking and Panama transit sold for 2800 Euros.

Thanks to Brian Moorhouse for the illustrations.

Barranquilla 1902

Eric Harris

Going through my collection of covers from the *No hay estampillas/ Pago \$...../ El Agente Barranquilla*, during the Civil War and its aftermath, I was intrigued by the stamp changes that took place during 1902.

Of the second issue of the 1902 Cartagena provisionals, a pair of 10¢ brown, (Scott 190) appear on a cover to Hamburg dated April 15 (fig. 1) and another pair on a cover dated May 28. The former is an early example of the doubling of the UPU rate.

However, the last use of the 1899-1901 issue that I have, is a registered cover to Paris with four x 5 centavos stamps (Scott 163) plus 10c Registration (Scott F11, perf 11) dated May 24 1902.

By the beginning of June stamps appear to have run out and I have recorded four examples of

The third Cartagena issue of 1902 makes its first appearance July 8, with the 20¢ (Scott 193) on a cover to Costa Rica (I have a photocopy of the front). A registered cover to New York on July 29 is franked with 2 x 10¢ (Scott 192) and the earlier Registration stamp (Scott F11 perf 12). The 5¢ (Scott 191) appears on a postcard to New York on August 23.

Catalogues indicate a date of 1902-3 for the Barranquilla Provisionals, although Temprano (1977) refers to a contract for printing dated December 12 1902. Walter Weber points out that stamps were often being issued, by the Post Office,

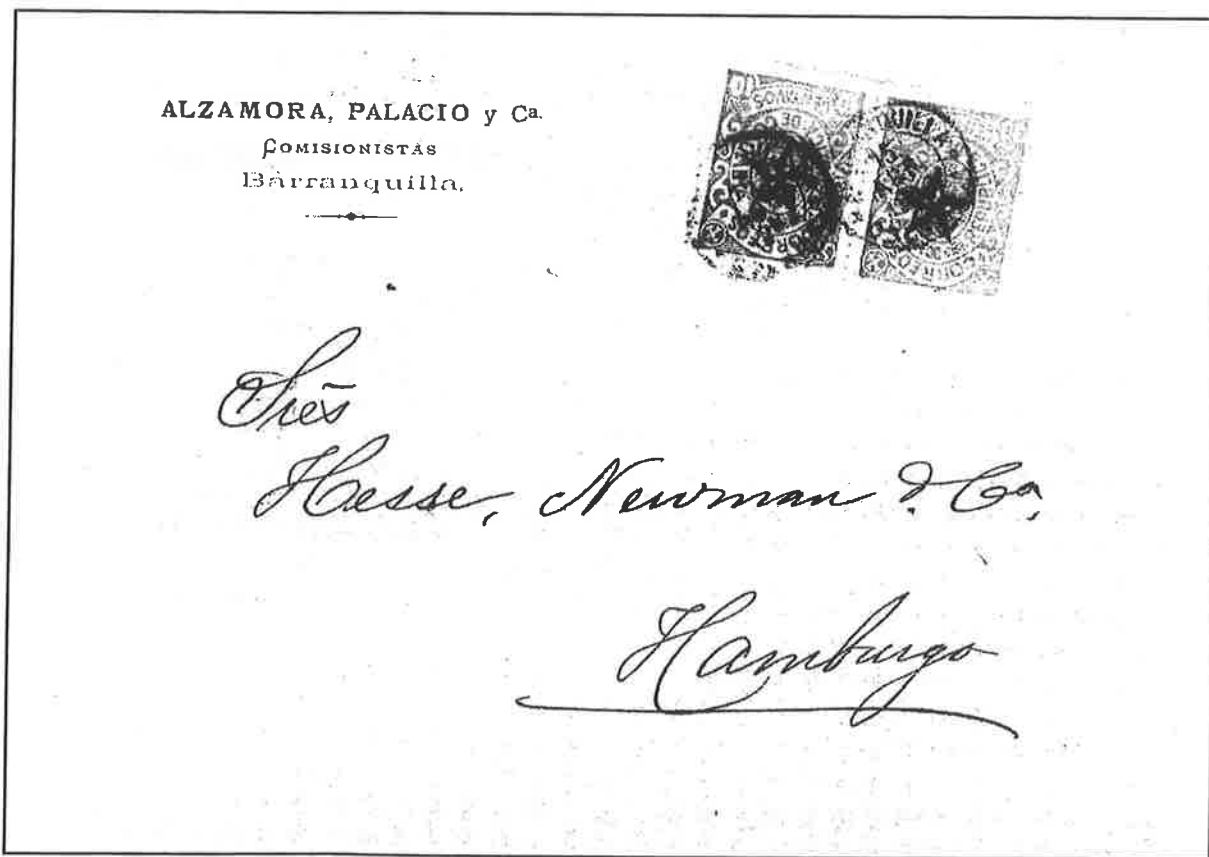


Fig. 1. Barranquilla to Hamburg, 15 April 1902. The 10¢ rate is paid in spite of the fact that the UPU rate had been, doubled to 20¢ per 15 grams a month and a half earlier, on March 1, 1902

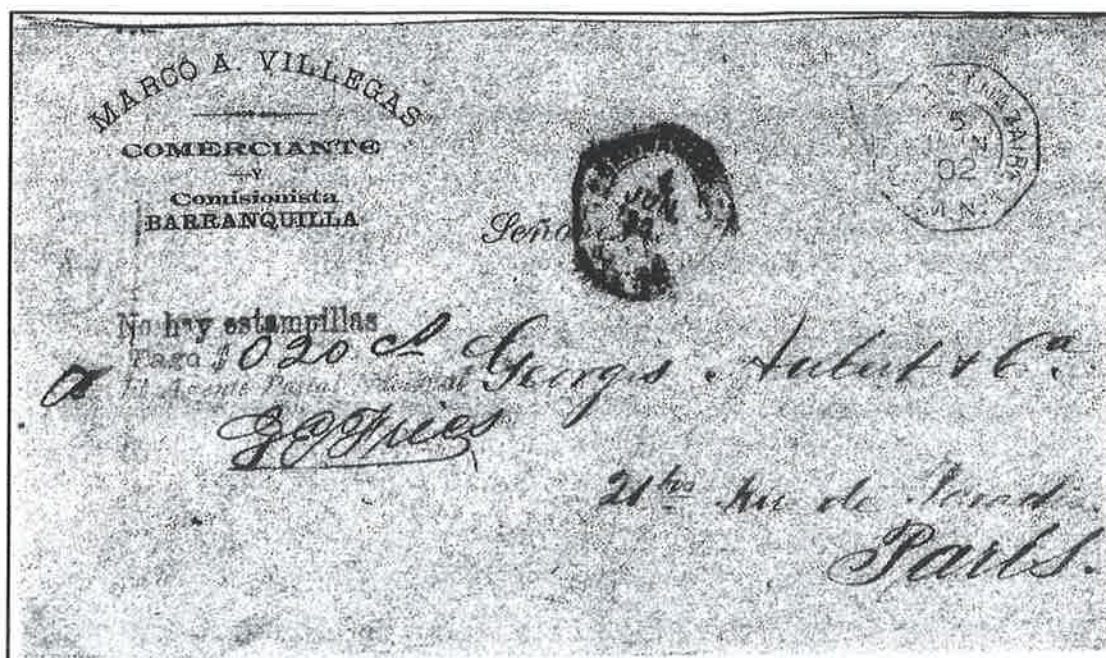


Fig. 2. Barranquilla to Paris, 4 June 1902. Received in Paris on June 24.

before the official governmental decree was issued. He has a cover with the 20¢ purple, Hill of La Popa (Scott 202b), dated September 20 and Debbie Friedman has the 20¢ dull blue, (Scott 203a), on cover to New York, dated October 20. A registered cover to New York, received there on October 28, has 20¢ (Scott 202b) and two earlier (1895) 10¢ (Scott F11, perf 12) registration stamps.

An unusual item in Walter Weber's collection is a 2¢ postal stationary card, dated November 25, additionally franked with a Barranquilla 2¢ blue (Scott 195) and a Bogota 2¢ rose (Scott 266). This is addressed to Winch Bros., stamp dealers in U.K.

On all the covers there is a large Barranquilla censor handstamp, COPAPHIL Type VS 1 (fig. 3).

I am grateful to Debby & Walter for their help in preparing this article and hope that with assistance from members, it should be possible to find more definite dates for these major changes, in stamp issues, at Barranquilla during 1902.



Fig. 3. VS-1 censor mark. Found on the back of all covers illustrated here. This cover was forwarded to Cartagena to catch the mail boat..

31st Mail Sale in this Issue

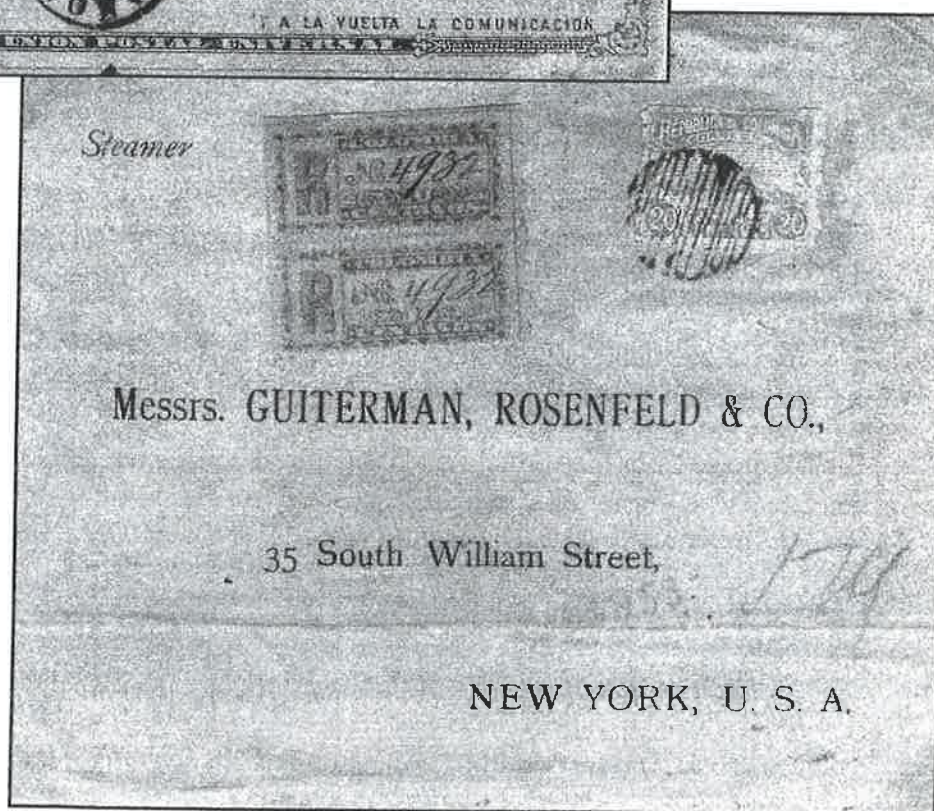
The catalogue of Mail Sale 31 is enclosed with this copy of COPACARTA. The sale of 150 lots will close on 31 July 2007. The sale contains a number of the classic Colombia lots which were unsold in the previous sale reoffered with lower reserves.

There are a number of new lots of Antioquia. The sale includes 21 lots of Colombia counterfeits and reprints. This material is duplicates of items in the COPAPHIL reference collection which was donated to the American Philatelic Society and all proceeds from these lots will go to the COPAPHIL treasury. There are only limited lots from Panama as no other consignments of Panama material were received for the sale.



Fig. 4. 2¢ postal card supplemented by 5¢ Cartagena stamp overpaying the UPU postal card rate by 2¢.

Fig. 5. Barranquilla to New York, October 1902. Received in New York on 28 October. This is the earliest cover from Barranquilla to pay the 20¢ UPU rate that is known to the author.



UPCOMING MEETINGS — MAKE PLANS NOW

2010 NAPEX, early June Washington DC. Dates to be announced.
2012 Chicagopex, late November, Chicago. Dates to be announced.

Alfredo Frohlich's classic exhibit will be competing in the Champion of Champions competition at StampShow in Portland OR on August 9-12, 2007. Join us if you can.

A Letter from Colombia to Peru during the War of the Pacific

Jörg Maier

The War of the Pacific between Chile and the joint forces of Bolivia and Peru lasted from 1879 to 1884. Bolivia soon backed out leaving Peru to face the modernized Chilean navy, which controlled the sea. Chile's land invasion of Peru began in November 1879. Lima fell to the Chileans in January 1881 but Chileans did not take control of postal affairs until December. They remained in control of Lima until the end of the war in 1884.

Chile, Peru, and Colombia were all members of the UPU when the cover in Figure 1 was mailed on

February 9, 1882. Even though the envelope bore no postage stamps it was accepted in the Barranquilla post office where it was marked with a circular date stamp and a circle T, both in red, to indicate postage due.

Traveling from Barranquilla to Panama, then down the Pacific coast, the letter reached Lima where it was marked with a multada handstamp of Chilean origin and assessed 20 centavos postage due, double the letter rate of the missing franking.



Fig. 1. Barranquilla 9 Feb 1882 to Lima, Peru which was occupied by Chilean armed forces. Circle T mark applied in Barranquilla. Multada/Lima mark applied by Chilean postal authorities in Lima.

Other Latin American exhibits at StampShow

Cuba Maritime Postal History Prior to UPU Membership in 1877 by Geoffrey Lewis; *The Peruvian Security Seal for Certified Mail of 1916* by Henry Marquez; *Airmails of Bolivia* by Roger G. Schnell; *Nicaragua - Airmail (The Early Years)* by Glen Stafford; and *The First Issues of Bolivia* by Arthur K.M. Woo.

Estado Soberano de Santander: The 10 Centavos of 1886

Walter H. Weber

The 10¢ violet is the third and last of the 1886 issues. Violet (plum) is the most common shade while deep violet (reddish purple) is less frequently found. All complete sheets and multiples that I have seen have 7 rows of 13 stamps plus 9 stamps placed sideways bottom row to the *right* with the top of the stamp to the right (fig. 1).

I have never seen any indication of a second printing or sheet with the sideways stamps of the bottom row pointing to the *left* as described for the 1 and 5 centavos stamps.

The plate for the 10¢ stamp was prepared from the plate of the 5 centavo stamp with changed

value tabs. Each sheet has two of the famous 5 centavos error -- "CINCO" instead of "DIEZ" in positions 11 and 26 (fig. 2). The two positions can be easily distinguished since the stamp in position 26 has a dot or period after "CENTAVOS." In short, the two 5 centavos are not transfer errors but errors created by failing to change the value legend.

The stamps were printed on 60 to 80 my wove paper. There are stamps (up to now I only have a pair in 65 my, without gum, reddish purple) showing the water mark "LACROIX FRERES".

The stamps were issued imperforate but the Collin & Calman catalog of Sept. 15th 1890 men-

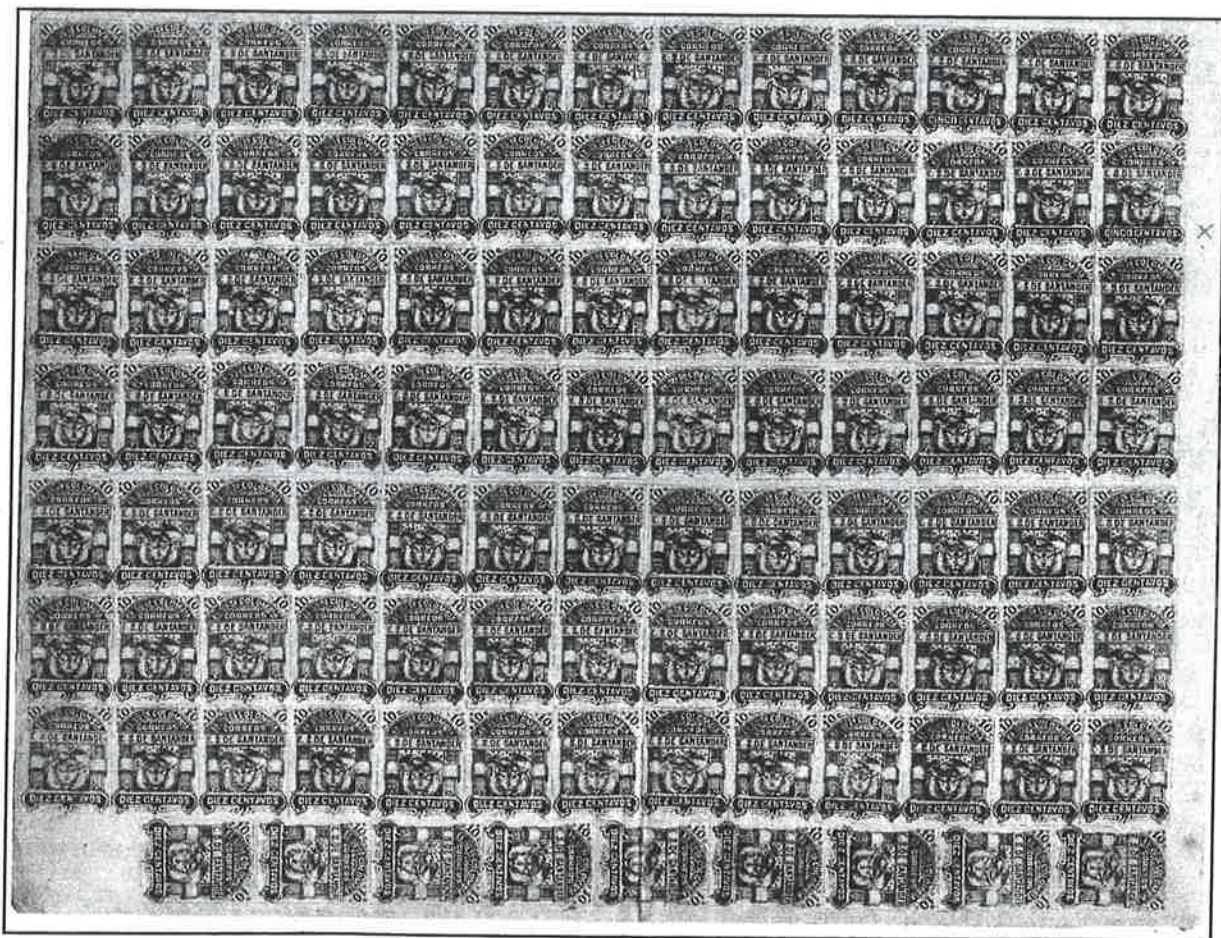


Fig. 1. Complete sheet of 100 composed of nine rows of thirteen stamps and one row of nine stamps set horizontally with the tops to the right.



Fig. 2. 5¢ error at positions 11 in Row 1 and position 26 in Row 2. The two are easily distinguished by the dot following centavos in position 26.

tions the perforated (12) stamp. (see fig. 3). It is also listed by Barriga but not by Temprano.

There are many smaller flaws. White dots frequently appear between the letters of the "DIEZ CENTAVOS," several positions have a colon after "EE" of EE. UU. DE COLOMBIA, and there are many color spots resulting from poor printing.

The 10 centavos stamp has been bisected to

be used to pay 5 centavos rate (fig.4). I also do have a bisected stamp of the "CINCO" error used by the Tesoreria General, Bucaramanga (see *Copacarta* Vol. XXII, no. 2 Dec. 2004, pp. 37 + 40).

Manuscript cancellations, like the crispy Zapotoca shown in figure 4, are most common. There are oval cancellations from Ocaña (fig. 5) and Socorro, the last with a very nice ornamental oval design (fig.6). The Tesoreria General Bucaramanga used a double line oval mark (fig. 7).



Fig. 3. Privately perforated.



Fig. 5. Oval cancellation from Socorro.

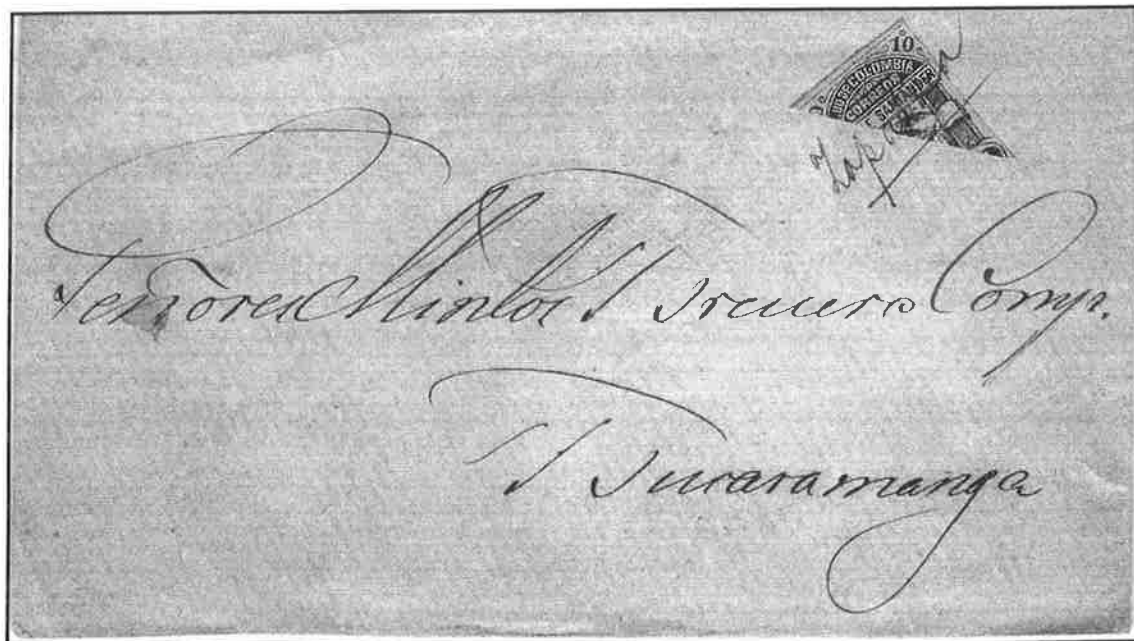


Fig. 4. Zapotoca manuscript cancel on letter to Bucaramanga.



Fig. Violet and deep violet shades of the 10¢ Santander. Both blocks include the cinco centavo error. On the left in position 26; on the right in position 11.



Fig. 6. Oval cancellation from Socorro with ornaments above and below the name of the city..



Fig. 7. Double line oval cancellation from the Tesoreria General, Bucaramanga.

COPACARTA

Volume 25
Number 1
September 2007



Registered SCADTA cover from Bogotá to Paris dated 16 February 1929 with provisional registration stamp featuring large manuscript R.

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Copaphil Auction ends October 31. Send in your bids

COPAPHIL News

The **BIG NEWS** is that Alfredo Frohlich won the Champion of Champions Award at 2007 StampShow held in Portland OR in August. A photograph is on the next page. Alfredo also won a gold medal for his late classics exhibit Bill Welch received a gold medal for his exhibit of Colombian revenues.

The Interamerican Philatelic Exhibition 2007 organized by the Club Filatélico de Bogotá will be held in Bogotá from September 24 to October 1. Many of our members will be showing.

Dues notices were sent out in last month's **COPACARTA**. Many answered promptly. Others did not. If your mailing label is marked "last issue" please renew or allow your membership to drop. For those who joined in 2007 please note that your initial membership was for FY 2006—

**Copaphil dues for 2007—2008
are past due!**

This may be your last issue.

2007 i.e., through June 2007 Your mailing label will be marked 6/07.

I continue to need authors who will write for **COPACARTA**. Write up an interesting cover. Get your feet wet. You don't need to be an expert on everything. Don't be shy. As editor my job is to help authors with their text and illustrations. My email address is in the box below. Please send text as an attached document. For maximum clarity covers should be scanned at 300 dpi and stamps at 600 dpi.

UPCOMING MEETINGS — MAKE PLANS NOW

2010 NAPEX, early June Washington DC. Dates to be announced.
2012 Chicagopex, late November, Chicago. Dates to be announced.

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Annual Dues: US \$13; Canada \$15 ; Foreign \$18

From the President's Desk

Congratulations to Alfredo Frohlich for winning the APS Champion of Champions with his exhibit of "Classic Colombia" at the annual APS Stampshow, held in Portland Oregon in August. This is the first time an exhibit of Colombia has won this prestigious award. Competing for this award were the grand award winners of the 27 APS national-level shows held in the twelve months preceding the competition so his win is most impressive. Unfortunately, this means the exhibit can no longer be shown competitively at a US national show. If you have not seen this still improving exhibit before, I hope you will have the opportunity to see it at an international show or perhaps at a national show in the US in a Court of Honor

Exhibiting raises the awareness of other collectors about the rich possibilities Colombia and Panama have to offer. I expect there will be a diverse group of exhibits on display at our biennial meeting in San Francisco at WESTPEX April 25-27, 2008. WESTPEX is one of the top national shows and always is oversubscribed. The prospectus will be available on the show's website www.westpex.com in late September.

We have 50 frames reserved for COPAPHIL members. If you have never shown, this would be a great time to try. You do not have to be a US resident to exhibit. Even if you don't exhibit, do consider coming to the show. San Francisco also offers a great tourist experience.

October 19-21 the APS is holding a one time all-airmail show "Aerophilately" at its headquarters in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. If you attend, do make time to view the COPAPHIL Reference Collection that was donated to the APS last year.

On a personal note, many of you already have heard that my airmail collection which is near and dear to me is going to auction in November. This does not mean I have given up collecting Colombia. Sometimes we have to make difficult choices and this was one. I started this collection in 1968 so it is like saying goodbye to old friends. I am parting with this collection as a result of a decision my husband and I made to buy an apartment in and move back to New York City. While I don't expect to be full time in New York for approximately a year, we expect to be part time residents by November.

Debby Friedman Rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com



*Alfredo Frohlich accepting Champion of Champions Award at StampShow 2007.
(Photo courtesy of American Philatelic Society).*

The Market Report

Jim Cross

Soler & Llach 19 June 2007

This sale included 20 lots of pre-independence Panama covers dated between 1874 and 1888.

Only 7 of the lots sold. Prices in Euros do not include 18% buyer's premium.

Lot 408. A cover from Panama to Genoa franked with a British 1880 1d red tied by the E88 cancel of Colon. This very rare example of the printed matter rate sold for 1900 Euros.

Lot 411. A 17 July 1881 cover from Panama to New York franked with the 1881 10c violet and the 1877 20c blue, both bisected with a hand-stamped Union Postal Union to show that the 1877 issue stamp was used at the U.P.U. rate. Cover sold for 2800 Euros.

Lot 413. Circa 1882 unsealed envelope mailed at the 1 centavo printed matter rate, franked with a bisected 1881 2c vermillion stamp. Sold for 1200 Euros.

Lot 420. Cover with complete contents 6 Aug 1888 written aboard H.M.S. Triumph off Chile and franked with an 1883 4d green tied by the PANAMA C35 duplex. This stamp was not sent to the British Post Offices in Panama or Chile and is a possibly unique use of this stamp with the Panama cancel. Sold for 1300 Euros.

Lot 422. This was a sleeper lot misdescribed in the catalog as a local use of the 5¢ stamp of the Colombia 1886 issue on a cover dated 1 Oct 1887. Two copies of this stamp are known paying postage due on incoming letters to Panama, but no use to pay a local rate letter has been recorded and this would be a real rarity as described.. The lot was actually a use of the 5¢ stamp of the Colombia 1883 issue on a cover from Colon to La Boca. The date of the Colon CDS is almost illegible, but the last digit of the year has a line visible at the bottom which could be the bottom of a 5 or 6, but not of a 7. This is still a very scarce domestic use within Panama. It sold for 345 Euros.

Ebay

It continues to be interesting to watch items listed on Ebay, both to find what is sold and also

what is not sold. This gives a good indication of the current market.

Lot 160148579486. This was a previously unrecorded use of Panama stamps in Nariño, a pair of Panama 10c stamps of the 1892 issue used on a cover from Pasto to Hanover, Germany in Oct 1903 (fig. 1). Sold for \$610.



Fig. 1. 1892 cover from Pasto to Germany using Panama stamps.

Lot 220135413102. A previously unrecorded copy of the 1936 privately overprinted Arosemena 5c on ½c arms stamp (Scott C19) used on a cover addressed to Peggy Seglet, DQM Office, Quarry Hts. CZ. This was offered by an Australian dealer for \$250, but did not sell.

Lot 320142434826. A mint copy of the Colombia 1861 2 ½ c black (Scott 13). The photo showed it was cut close at the left. Listed at \$550, but did not sell.

Lot 190132702092. A mint tete-beche pair of the 20c 1859-1860 Timbre Nacional, described as unlisted. Sold for \$356.

Lot 190129201807. A FAM-14 First Flight Cover to Macao originating in Panama. One other FFC from the same correspondence sent to Hong

Fakes Again Offered on Ebay

Thomas P. Myers

Let the buyer beware. As most readers know many early Colombian stamps have been faked. Most dealers do not know the difference so it is up to the buyer to know what he is purchasing. Recently bell2more offered a group of stamps from the 1861 issue (Sc13-16, fig. 1) on Ebay, Lot 160124973410, with the following description:

Colombia, SCARCE STAMPS, ALL WITH LT. HINGE THINS, NICE LOOKING. OG: ORIGINAL GUM, NH: NEVER HINGED, UNUSED: MINT NO GUM, VF: VERY FINE. MIXED CONDITION: Faulty to Fine

He also offered a fake copy of Sc17 (fig. 2) with the same characteristics. It was described as

COLOMBIA - GRANADA NICE APPEARANCE USED RARE STAMP! SOME FAULTS.

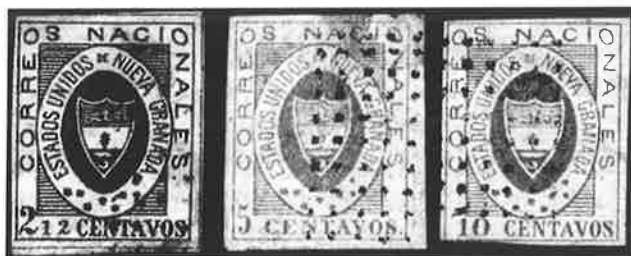


Fig. 1. Three fakes of the 1861 issue. All have 8 stars, not 9, in the oval. The dot matrix cancellation was never used on Colombian stamps.

I would agree that the tear at the right just beneath toe E of *Nacionales* is a fault.

The first and most obvious indication that the stamps are fakes is that all four of them have just eight stars, rather than nine, in the double line oval beneath the shield. Second, and a little more

subtle, is the dot matrix cancellation that appears on all four stamps. Such a cancellation was never used in Colombia. There are other differences with the originals but this is sufficient to identify them as album weeds.

I advised the seller that the stamps were not genuine. Bellmore thanked me for the information but the offending items were not immediately removed. Later the description was changed to read,

Colombia SCARCE STAMPS ALL WITH LT. HINGE THINS NICE LOOKING. SOLD STRICTLY AS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT MANY FORGERIES EXIST IN THIS ISSUE.



Fig. 2. 20¢ with dot matrix cancellation and eight stars.

The price was also reduced. The offending offers include the statement, "bid with confidence. We are members of ASDA and the APS." I expect better from members of both organizations.

There was only one bidder, *slederman1* who paid \$24.99. At this writing the 20¢ stamp remains on sale as a "buy it now" item.

We should all be disappointed. We should not expect a dealer to be an expert on everything you must do your own preliminary expertising.

Colombian fakes have been described from time to time but the best available compendium is Dieter Bortfeldt's, *The Workbook, Notes on Reprints and Forgeries of Colombian Stamps*. Part I deals with the stamps of the national government, Part II with the states. Both volumes are available from the author.

Kong is known. Sold for \$213.61.

Lot 270140962406. A mint set of the 1921 SCADTA issue (Scott C25-35) with Scott value of \$405 sold for \$89.

Lot 170127455376. A Colombia 10c Servicio

Fluvial envelope on buff properly used from Calamar to Munich, Germany in 1893 sold for \$305.66.

Lot 330118895385. Mint sheet of 72 of the 1920 CCNA 10c green unsold for a reserve of \$1595.

AR Service in Colombia and Panama to 1903

Jim Cross

The June 2007 issue of the *London Philatelist* contained an article by David Handelman, a Canadian collector who specializes in AR postal history of the world (his collection includes the 7 April 1902 cover which is the earliest registered Panama cover showing the new 1902 postal rates).

While his article is concerned with AR service in the British Isles it contains important information about the UPU regulations covering such service which make it easier to understand the AR postal history of our area of interest.

It is unclear exactly what was meant by the term *Anotacion* in the early Colombian postal regulations, but the stamps for that service from the 1865 and 1870 issues are cataloged as registration stamps, rather than acknowledgment of receipt stamps. The initials AR stand for the French term "Avis de reception" which is used in the UPU regulations. It is usually translated Acknowledgment of Receipt in English and Acuso de Recibo in Spanish.

The requirement to provide return receipts for international registered mail was adopted by the UPU on 1 April 1879 and was in effect when Colombia joined the UPU on 1 July 1881. At that time the return receipt form was partially completed by the sender and attached to the registered letter. Apparently the stamps showing the payment of any required fee were attached to the receipt. The regulations required the return of the receipt to the sending post office by registered mail.

The earliest AR item from Colombia that I



Fig. 1a. 1890 AR cover from Bogotá to Ibaque.

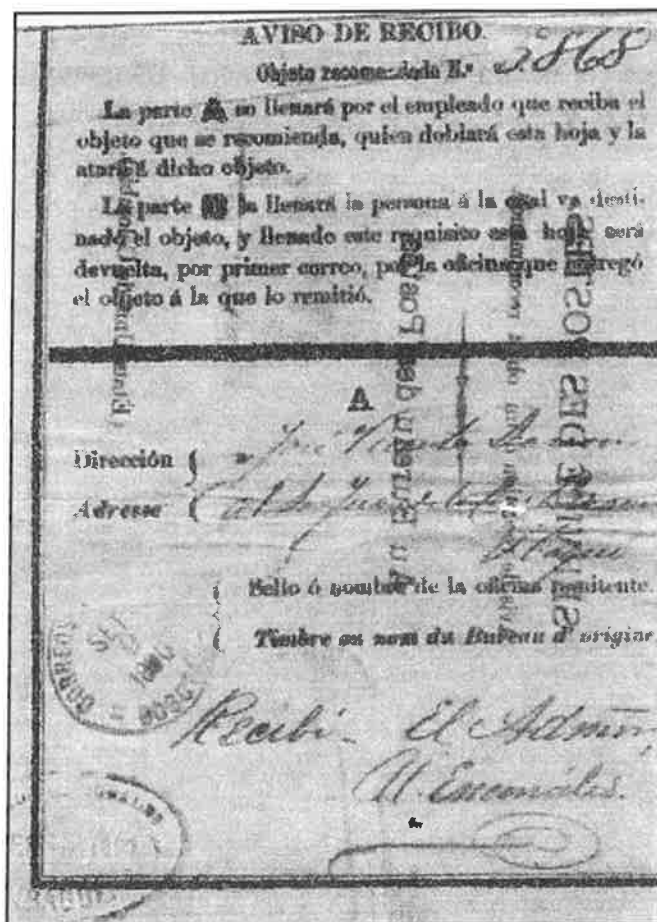


Fig. 1b. AR form attached to 1890 cover from Bogotá to Ibaque.

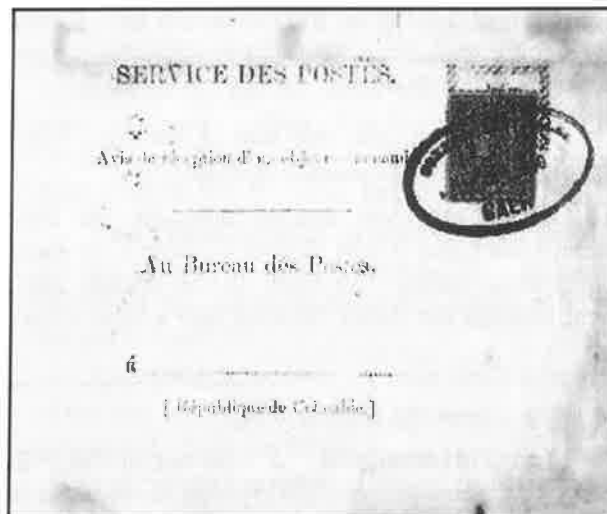


Fig. 2. 1890 AR receipt from Cali.

am aware of is an 1890 registered cover from Bogota to Ibague which has its AR form attached. This item, shown in Fig 1, is from the Handelman collection. There is no indication on the cover or form of the collection of an AR fee.

An AR form from an 1890 cover from Cali to the U.K., also from the Handelman collection, is shown in Figure 2. This form has a 5 centavos stamp affixed to pay the AR fee.

Several of the official registered envelopes which returned signed receipts to the sending post offices have survived. Figures 3 and 4 show



Fig. 3. 1883 AR receipt from Panama.

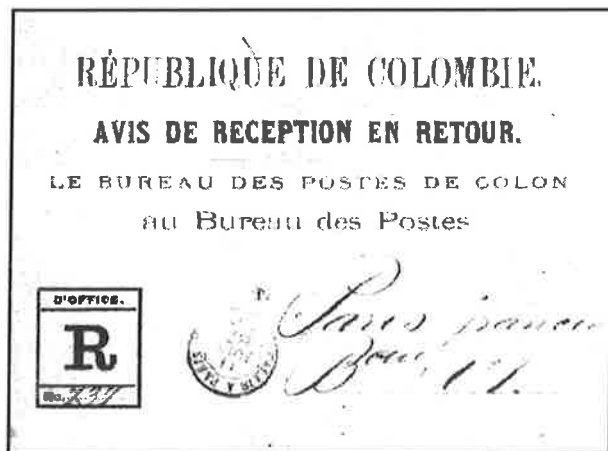


Fig. 4. 1887 AR receipt from Panama.

an 1883 receipt from Panama and an 1887 receipt from Colon. Both of these covers are ex-Helme and now in the collection of Charles Meroni Jr.

On 1 July 1892 the UPU Treaty of Vienna

came into effect. It required that AR or *avis de reception* be marked on the registered cover. It was no longer necessary to attach a receipt form to the letter. A receipt form was to be completed by the receiving post office and returned to the sender, still by registered mail. During this period the stamps showing payment of the AR fee were affixed to the registered covers.

In 1893 Colombia issued a special 5¢ AR stamp. The stamps served two purposes: to show the payment of the fee: to provide the necessary



Fig. 5 (upper). 1893 cover from Colon to USA conforms to new UPU regulations; (lower) enlargement of AR Colon mark.

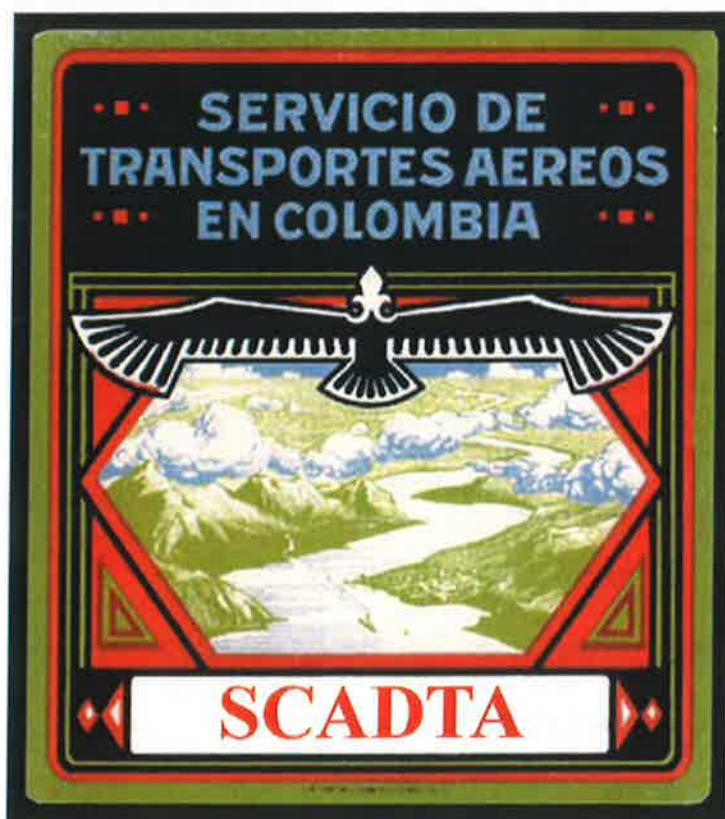
marking for covers in the form of the large AR letters in the stamp design. The earliest recorded cover with the new procedure was sent from Colon to the USA on 28 February 1893.

When the special AR stamps were not yet available the Colon postmaster had two handstamps prepared. One has a large A.R. with COLON COLOMBIA below it (Fig. 5), while the other has a smaller AR with the same legend. The first handstamp has only been recorded on this cover, while the second was used intermittently until Panama became independent. The AR fee on this cover is paid by a 5¢ stamp of the 1892 issue for Panama. One other cover from Colon is known using the same 5¢ stamp and the smaller AR handstamp.

When the Colombian stamps were received

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Manuscript R on SCADTA 20 centavos stamp

Eric Harris

There appears to have been a shortage of the 1923 SCADTA registration stamp (Scott CF1), at Bogota, from late in 1928 and into 1929.

The last use of the overprinted stamp in 1928 that I have is October 11 1928.

The first provisional, with a red pencil R, is on a cover to Hamburg, postmarked Bogota December 17 (fig. 1). The second, with a much larger R, on a February 16 1929 cover to Paris (see

front cover). The two stamps are compared on the back page.

Further stocks must have become available, as a cover from Bogota to Cartagena on April 9 has the standard overprint 20 centavos stamp.

Can members extend the dates of the use of the manuscript R at Bogota and did this shortage occur at other towns?

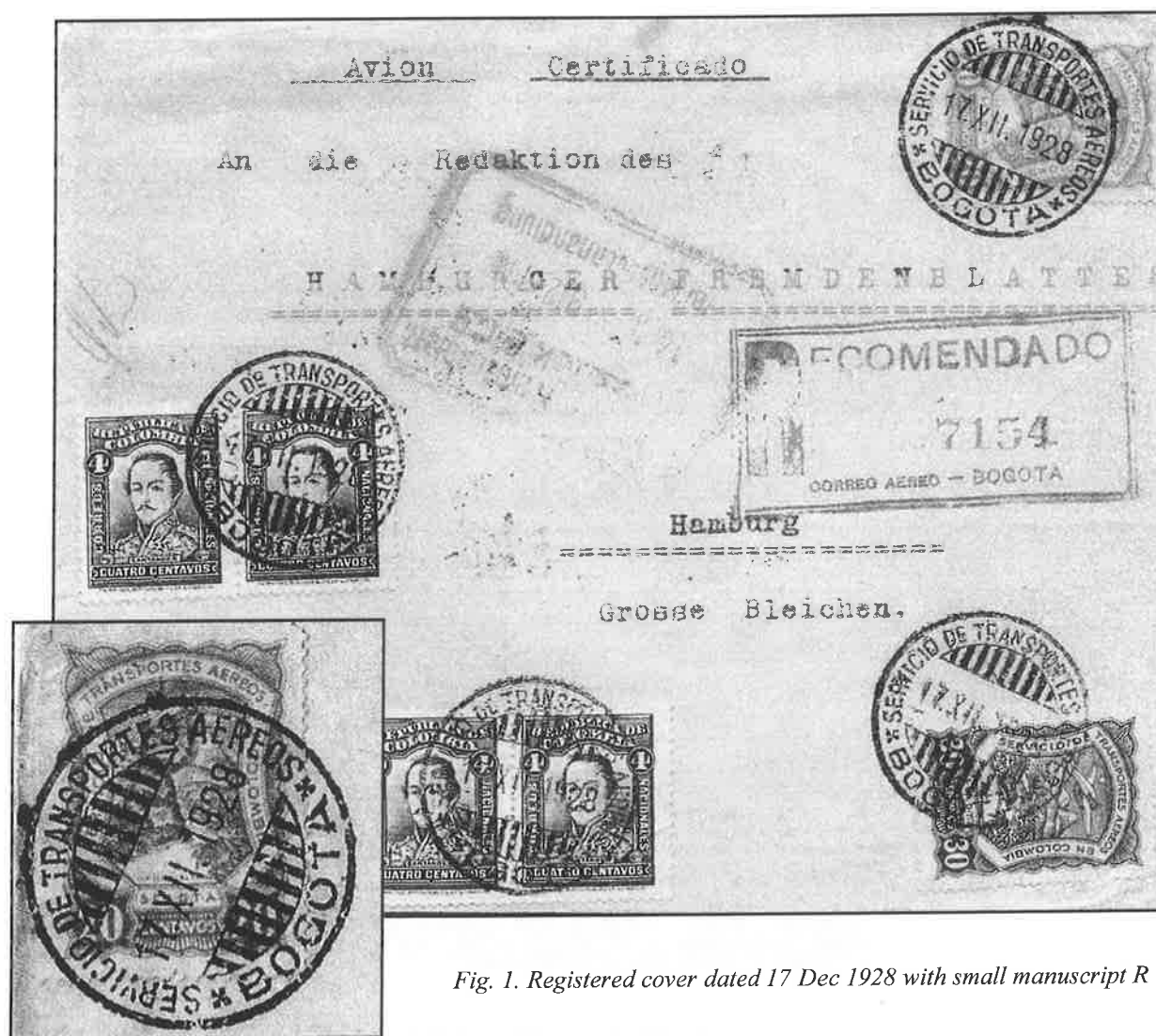


Fig. 1. Registered cover dated 17 Dec 1928 with small manuscript R

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The Search for Garage Hudson

Don Avery

My present count after six years of searching is four stamps, one black and three red, and five covers, three red, one black, and one unknown. All stamps are used, and the dated material runs from 2 to 30 April, 1924.



Fig. 1. 10¢ Hudson Garage stamp.

Garage Hudson was located on La Calle Principe de Vergara (fig. 2). Whether Zugbi had a garage in Barranquilla, as suggested by Bortfeldt and Frohlich, is an open question. Why stamps were printed in both red and black is an open question too.



Fig. 2. Garage Hudson in Cartagena about 1924.

The Stamps

Let us start with the words of the Williams brothers in their book, *Cinderella Stamps*.

Garage Hudson issued two 10¢ stamps, both in the same design, one in blue-black and the other in red, and we have been told of an example of the second color cancelled in black 17 Abr 1924. These stamps are imperforate and were printed by the firm of Fran-

cisco Valiente. The design shows a Ford touring car running along the seashore with the hill of La Popa on the left and some buildings on the right: at the foot is "Cartagena" and at the top "Garage Hudson-Barranquilla."

The source of their information was probably John Swales, whose notes are in the possession of Alan Anyon and Brian Moorhouse. Swales noted in 1971 a red stamp with the above date; and in Alan Anyon's notes the description of the vignette is word for word identical to that of the Williams brothers. The attribution of the printer is unverified, but Valiente did print stamps for Colombia during the 1920s.

Swales also said that the two stamps were described in the one and only issue of *La Pola*, a journal of the Colombia Study Circle of England. Both stamps were in the collection of Herbert Strauss.

From all this we can assume the existence of two stamps, one back and one red. Bortfeldt and Frohlich state that two single copies are recorded, and Alex Rendon noted two single copies both

used in April.

Now we can add two red stamps, bringing the total to four. Christer Brunstrom noted in the summer of 2007 of his journal Atalaya that he owns them, both with the ZUGBI cancel and dated Abr 8 and Abr 20, 1924.

The Covers

Four covers are shown in the Bortfeldt Frohlich book, three with the red stamp and one with the

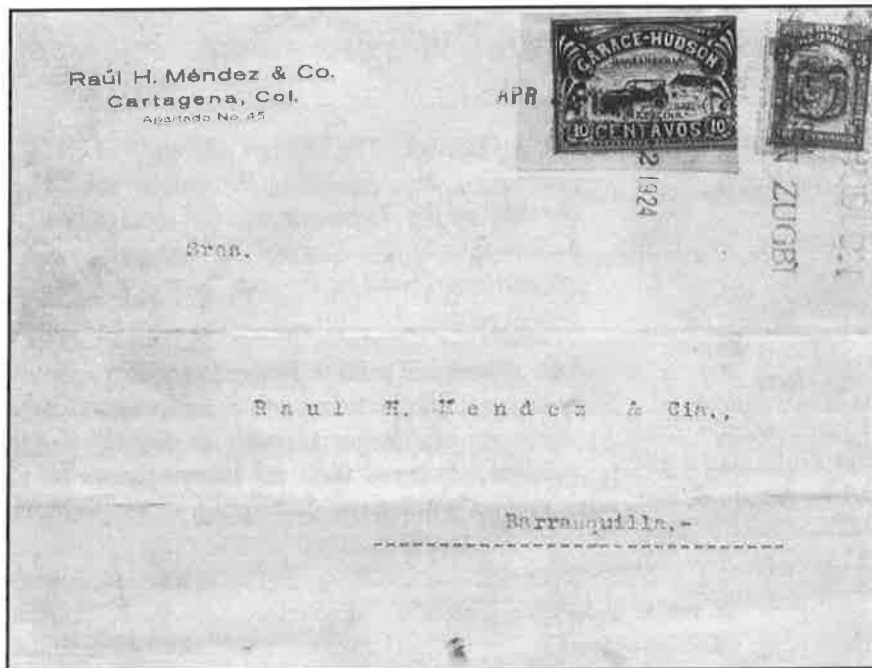


Fig. 3. Cover from Raul H. Mendez of Cartagena to himself in Barranquilla. Both stamps are cancelled with a Hudson Garage mark.

black stamp. The common cancel was GARAGE HUDSON/ABR (date) 1924/Salomon Zugbi (fig. 3). One cover is pen cancelled and one has a multiple strike of *Barranquilla* with no date (fig. 4).

Notice that the two covers shown here are both from Raul H. Mendez of Cartagena addressed to himself in Barranquilla. A third cover is addressed to Vicente Gallo of Cartagena, a well known philatelist ???

The story of the fifth cover is interesting and unfinished. It first appeared in an auction of the Robert Murray stamp shop on March 25, 2002 valued at five pounds. It reappeared in



Fig. 4. Cover from Raul H. Mendez of Cartagena to himself in Barranquilla. National and carrier stamps are cancelled with a straight line *Barranquilla*.

Murray's Auction of *Cinderella Stamps* from the collection of the late David C. Jefferies of October 3, 2005 valued at ten pounds! The 2005 listing was as follows:

132 **Colombia**: 1924 cover to Cartagena with 3c postage stamp, plus Garage Hudson 10c label, both cancelled GARAGE HUDSON/ABR 16 1924/SALOMON ZUGBI. Cover torn at left.

A letter and two emails to the shop went unanswered.

Conclusions

Recent discoveries have added two Hudson Garage stamps, bringing the total of to four' and one cover which brings the total to five.

Copaphil Auction ends October 31. Send in your bids

AIRMAIL FROM COLOMBIA DURING WORLD WAR II

Thomas P. Myers

During World War II most mail leaving Colombia was censored. Analysis of censorship, registration marks, and other transit marks on over 150 covers from Colombia between 1939 and 1945 permits a definition of the routing of Colombian airmail during the war.

British censorship of mail began on 3 Sep 1939 but mail to and from the U.S. was not regularly censored until December 5.

British censor tapes are particularly useful in determining where mail was censored and hence the routes by which mail was carried since the location of many censors is known (Flynn 2006).

Initially British codes were simply numbers. When the Empire Code was introduced in the spring of 1942 censor the numbers were prefaced by letters. Censor tapes coded D or ID were censored in Jamaica; E or IE in Trinidad; and C or IC in Bermuda.

There were four airmail routes out of Colombia during World War II (fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Air routes from Colombia during World War II.

1) North on FAM 5 to Jamaica, Miami, and New York.

2) East on FAM 5 to Curaçao and Trinidad where mail could be transferred to FAM 6/10 for eastern South America or to FAM 22 for transmission to Africa, Asia, or Europe via Africa.

3) West on FAM 5 to the Canal Zone where mail could be carried north to Jamaica or to des-

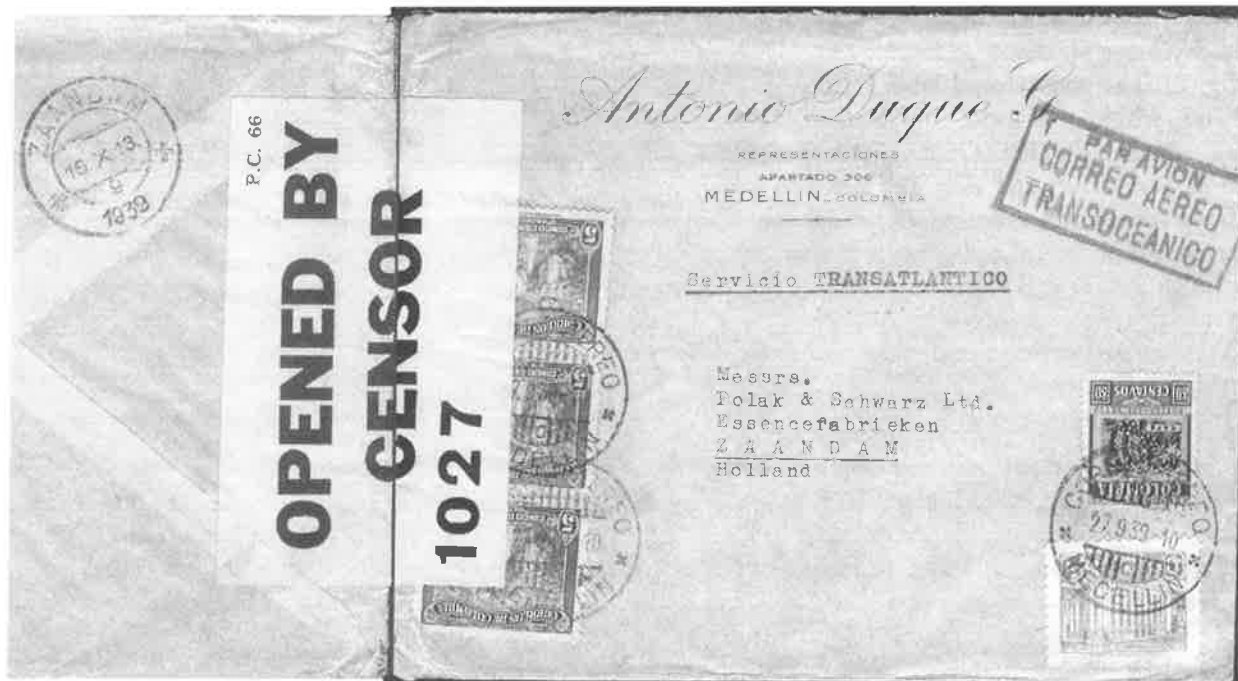


Fig. 2. Earliest reported censored cover from Colombia to Europe Medellín 27 Sep 1939. PC66 censor label applied in the UK.

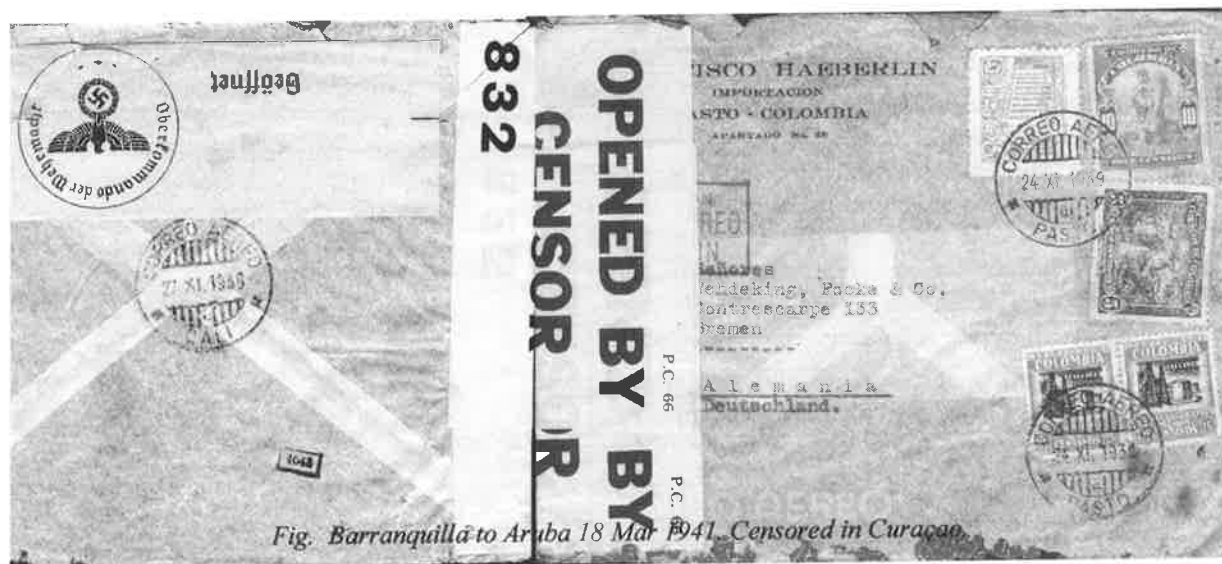


Fig. 3 Pasto to Germany via Cali 24 Nov 1939. Censored by British Label PC66 and German censors.

tinations in Central America or even the United States via FAM 8 or transferred to FAM 9 for carriage southward.

4) South on FAM 9 from Cali down the west coast of South America.

Censorship of Colombian airmail to Europe began late September as demonstrated by a letter to the Netherlands dated 27 Sept 1939 (fig. 2). The censor used label form PC66, which was used only in the UK and in Gibraltar. Of ten letters addressed to Europe over the next two years six are censored and four are not. Some were censored twice, by both British and German censors (fig. 3). The last uncensored letter that I have recorded was to Switzerland dated 7 Dec 40.

The lack of censorship on early wartime mail is partially explained by PanAm flights skipping Bermuda to avoid censorship from 15 March to September 1940. Subsequently PanAm's flights to Europe stopped at either Bermuda or Trinidad where mail could be censored.

Avoiding Bermuda does not account for the lack of censorship



Fig. 4. Barranquilla to the USA 12 Nov 1941. Censored by British censors in Jamaica.



Fig. 5. Circular censor mark applied in Miami through March 1942.



Fig. 6. Honda to USA, 16 Jun 1942, censored in Miami.



Fig. 7. Armenia to USA, 2 Dec 1943. Cellophane censor tape applied in New York.



Fig. 9. Barranquilla to Aruba 18 Mar 1941. Censored in Curaçao.

on two letters to Germany in December 1939 or on a letter to Switzerland in December 1940. Curiously the letters to Germany that were not censored by the British were the only ones not censored by the Germans.

Before America entered the war the British censored American mail in Jamaica (fig. 4) but in my sample just 4 of 20 Colombian letters to the United States were censored. The intermittent censorship may have been due PanAm flights by-passing Jamaica or to the intermittent nature of censorship.

American censorship began about a week after the declaration of war on 8 December 1941. Circular censorship marks were used briefly (fig. 5). More commonly paper tapes (fig. 6), and later cellophane tapes, were used (fig. 7). The censor numbers on these tapes reveal the location of the censor and thus the route by which mail was carried.

The volume of mail addressed to Europe relative to the amount of mail addressed to the United States dropped sharply after the American entry into the war. In my sample, mail destined for Europe was censored in New York rather than in Miami.

A registered letter dated 3 February 1939 demonstrates that some mail



Fig. 8. Bogotá to Mexico via the Canal Zone., 23 Feb 1942. Abierta por Censura Defensa Continental.



Fig. 10. Barranquilla to British Guiana via Trinidad on FAM 5. II31 censor mark indicates censorship in 'British Guiana'.

destined for the United States and Europe was routed via the Canal Zone shortly before the war. From the Canal Zone it could have been directed to Miami via Jamaica. Much less mail was directed to Central America than to North America or Europe. Canal Zone transit is unusual.

Most registered letters to the United States were back stamped in Miami and/or New York but not in the Canal Zone. The single letter that I have seen that passed through the Canal Zone was addressed to Mexico on 23 Feb 1942 (fig. 8). It was censored in Central America, probably

the Canal Zone, which indicates that it was carried from Barranquilla westward on FAM 5 to the Canal Zone.

Mail to Aruba, Curaçao, Trinidad, British Guiana, Brazil, and Uganda was directed eastward on FAM 5. Mail to Aruba and Curaçao was censored in Curaçao (fig. 9). Mail to British Guiana by-passed the Trinidad censor to be censored in British Guiana (fig. 10). Mail to Brazil was censored in Trinidad. Most of it bears the location letters IE (fig. 11).

Unfortunately censor tape on the letter to Uganda (fig. 12), a scarce destination from Colombia, does not bear the location numbers. It was back stamped in Leopoldville clearly demonstrating that it was carried across the Atlantic on FAM 22, which stopped in Trinidad. If the letter had been carried to New York where the flight began it would almost certainly have been censored in that city.

Letters from Colombia to Argentina (fig. 12) were not censored during the war. This lack of censorship on Colombian mail contrasts with the evidence of censorship tapes on

mail from Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, and Panama to Argentina after the United States entered the war. This anomaly is best explained if Colombian mail for Argentina was transferred to FAM 9 at Cali where there were no American censors. Presumably mail from Colombia to Ecuador, Peru, and Chile also avoided censorship.

In theory mail from Colombia to Europe might be carried via FAM 9 and Air France or LATI to avoid British censorship prior to the termination of LATI's South Atlantic flights in December 1941. I have never seen Colombian

mail directed via the South Atlantic even before PanAm opened its North Atlantic route. Nor are there rate tables indicating that such routing was possible.

Earlier versions of this article were published in the *Airpost Journal* and the *Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*

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Fig. 11. Buenaventura to Brazil via Trinidad, 1 Oct 1943. Censored by British censors in Trinidad.

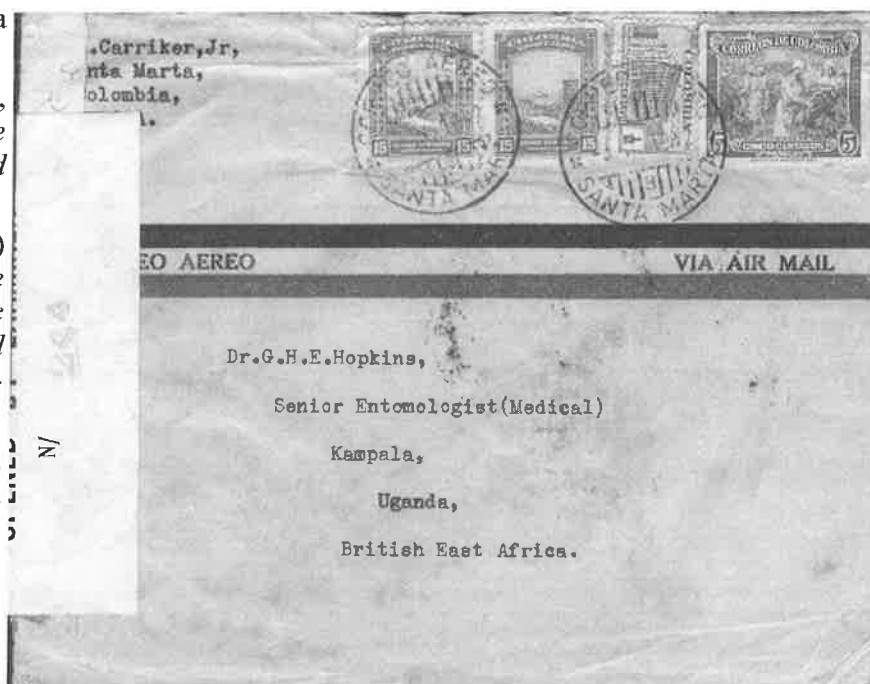


Fig. 12. Santa Marta to Uganda via FAM5 and FAM22.

Willing to trade or buy Colombian better items, specimens, imperforates, oddities, and "Ferrocarril Caldas, and Cubiertas posted from Panama. Manuel Espejo, P.O. Box 912, Cordoba 14080 Spain*



20¢ SCADTA stamps provisionally validated as registration stamps by the addition of a manuscript R in red.



Santander postage stamps used as revenues in 1896.

COPACARTA

Volume 25
Number 2
December 2007



Pair of booklet stamps on a picture post card to Sweden.

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COPAPHIL News

The big news is personified by the smiling picture of Bill Welch on the facing page. He had just won the Grand Award in Bogotá for his revenue exhibit. I hope that you had the chance to see it at StampShow where it won a Gold. A summary of the awards is on page 6.

Our next opportunity to exhibit our Colombia and Panama material will be at WESTPEX, in San Francisco. It will be held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott on April 25 to 27, 2008. Allan Harris will be showing his Panama airmails and Jim Cross will be exhibiting his material from the early Republic. I haven't seen this exhibit in a long time so I'm looking forward to it. I expect to show a new exhibit of the "Riches of Colombia Airmails."

As many of you know, our President Debby Friedman sold her beloved airmails at a Cherry-stone auction in November. Many of you will

have received copies of the catalog. It's an excellent reference that should be in the library of everyone who collects Colombia. Aside from the pleasure of viewing the pieces, there is much to be learned from the auction descriptions. Jim Cross summarizes the results on page 4.

Web Site of Note.

Juan Santa Maria's *Historia de los correos en Colombia. Prefilatelia* may be found at <http://www.lablaa.org/blaavirtual/publicacionesbanrep/boletin/boleti3/bol10/correos.htm>.



The site includes numerous illustrations as well text.

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From the President's Desk

Congratulations to Bill Welch who won the Grand Prix with his exhibit of the Revenue Stamps of Colombia 1858 – 1933 at the Exposition Filatelica Interamericana held in Bogota in September. This is major recognition for revenues which have come a long way in the last thirty years - back then they were less than welcome at philatelic exhibitions. Also, congratulations to our other members who won awards at the show – a complete report is on page 6.

For me the arrival of cold weather is usually when I have more time for philately. With my focus on down-sizing our possessions before we move, finding time is challenging. High on my to do list is applying to exhibit at WESTPEX. If you have not already done so, this is the time to start making plans to attend and exhibit at our biennial meeting. Join us to make this a successful celebration of our 25th Anniversary.

WESTPEX 2008, one of the country's top shows, will be held April 25 – 27 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott. The show welcomes overseas exhibitors and no prior exhibit record is required. The prospectus and hotel information is all on the show website www.westpex.com. COPAPHIL has 50 frames reserved, half of which are already committed; two are new exhibits. The deadline for applying for COPAPHIL frames is February 19, 2008. If you do not have access to the Internet, contact me and I will mail you the information and application. Both one frame and larger exhibits are welcome. WESTPEX is a show that is always oversubscribed. If you apply after our deadline, there is no guarantee frames will be available.

On Saturday April 26 from 10:30 – 12 COPAPHIL will have a program followed by a general membership meeting. Jim Cross will speak



Bill Welch receiving Grand Award in Colombia.

on Panama Registered Mail. Tom Myers will also be presenting a program of interest to us on *British Airmail to Colombia* at the invitation of The Great Britain Collectors Club. That is scheduled for 1pm on Saturday, April 26.

Lastly, I hope you will consider taking a more active part in COPAPHIL. Besides writing for the journal, there are other interesting possibilities including leading a study circle in an area of special interest or working on an update of our landmark bibliography. Please contact me to explore the possibilities.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Debby Friedman

Rbreuer1@nycap.rr.com

LIBRARY SUCCESSION PLANNNING

Bob D'Elia has spent almost 25 years working tirelessly to develop and manage the Copaphil library for our members benefit. To members doing research on almost any Colombia or Panama subject, this is an invaluable resource. It is one of our most valuable assets.

Unfortunately the time has come to develop a plan to relieve Bob of the burden of the library. Important decisions need to be made to ensure the long term maintenance and accessibility of the materials. We need a librarian. If you reside in the United States and have a serious interest in managing our library in the future, please contact Debby Friedman by either email or mail.

The Market Report: The Deborah Friedman Colombian Air Post

Jim Cross

The Deborah Friedman Colombian Air Post collection was sold by Cherrystone auctions on 7 November 2007. It was divided into 246 lots. 148 lots were sold for just over \$250,000 plus 15% buyer's premium. The 98 unsold lots were estimated in the catalog at almost \$100,000.

The collection included a number of great rarities including items never before offered in a major auction. Prices quoted below do not include the 15% buyer's premium.

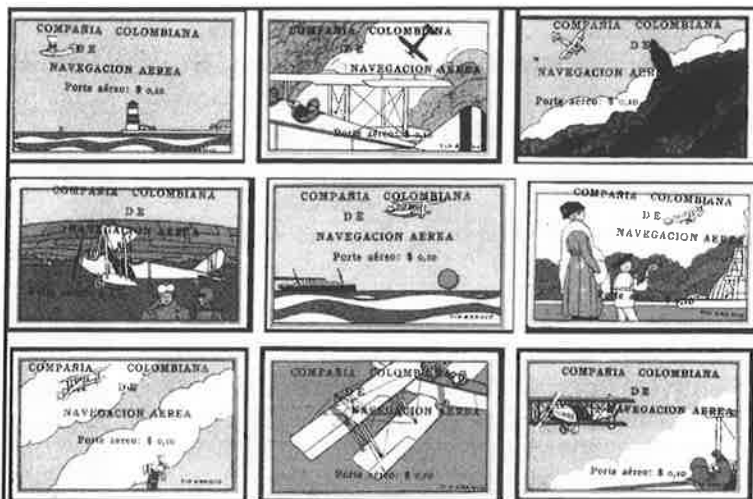
Realizations for the provisional surcharged stamps suggest that Scott has overvalued them. The same is true for the machine consular surcharges.

The most spectacular lot in the sale was Lot 11, a complete mint set of the nine CCNA stamps, Sc C2-C10, described as being without the usual faults that are common in the set (although C4 was poorly centered). Estimated at \$40,000 it sold for well over catalog at \$45,000, a new record.

Lot 8, the 1919 airmail stamp, variety with



Lot 16, fuselage and tail of a biplane, sold for a record-setting \$11,000, a thousand dollars over estimate.



Lot 11, a complete set of CCNA stamps sold for a record-setting \$45,000.

serifs on the 1 (Sc C1a) on a flown cover to Puerto Colombia estimated at \$5,000, did not sell.

Lot 9, a group of 19 different Curtis Aereo Plane & Motor Co. labels including eight that were overprinted to produce the CCNA stamps, estimated at \$5000, sold for \$5500.

Lot 16, the CCNA Fuselage and Tail of Bi-plane stamp (Sc C7) on cover, one of seven recorded, estimated at \$10,000, sold for \$11,000, a record for the overprinted covers.

Lot 17, the CCNA Ocean Liner stamp (Sc C10) on a FFC of the 22 February 1920 flight from Cartagena to Barranquilla, signed I. Heiman, estimated at \$3,500, did not sell.

Lot 22, the 1920 SCADTA set (Sc C12-C16), described as possibly the only remaining set in complete sheets, ex-Matthews & ex-Braunstein, estimated at \$5000, sold for \$4500.

Lot 26, a collection of 26 covers with various 1920 stamps, used prior to 15 September 1921, estimated at \$3000, sold for \$5250.

Lots 27 and 37, the lesser known SCADTA first flights brought \$2300 and \$1500 re-

spectively, well over estimate.

Lots 39-42. The four 1921 covers sent to the American Woolen Products Co. in NY sold for \$2,600, \$5250, \$5500 and \$11,000, a total of \$24,350 (estimates totaled \$22,500).

Lot 77, the 1921 handstamped 30¢ on 50¢ (Sc C22) on cover (5 covers and a post card recorded), estimated at \$2500, sold for \$6250.



Lot 141, with mixed consular and gold currency issues, sold for \$8000. well above its \$5000 estimate.

Lot 105, two 1923 SCADTA covers with manuscript paid markings used due to stamp shortages, estimated at \$5000, sold for \$4500.

Lots 141 and 142, two registered covers with SCADTA consular service stamps from Canada, each with multiple franked with multiple stamps and estimated at \$5000 each, sold for \$8000 and \$8500 respectively, both records for Canada, and by far the highest realizations for any SCADTA consular covers in the collection.

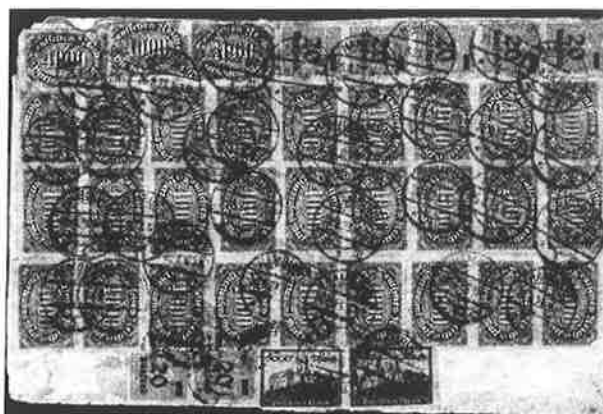
Lot 145, a SCADTA consular service cover from Costa Rica with handstamped C.R. in black on 20¢ blue, estimated at \$1500, sold for \$3250.

Lot 156, a 1929 cover from Finland, believed to be the only known SCADTA usage from

Finland, bearing a 30¢ stamp of the Gold Issue brought \$1400 — \$400 over estimate.

Lot 165, a large 50¢ postal stationery envelope used from Germany to Barranquilla franked with 39 German stamps on the reverse and nine 10c green SCADTA stamps with handstamped A (3 with inverted handstamps). Envelope has faults on both sides, but is one of only three recorded uses of the 50c envelope. Lot was estimated at \$3000 and sold for \$7500.

Lot 198, a registered SCADTA consular service cover from Sweden, estimated at \$2500, sold for \$2800.



Lot 165, a large SCADTA envelope franked with nine consular stamps, three with inverted overprints, and thirty-nine German stamps estimated at \$3000 went for more than twice that at \$7500.

Exposición Filatelica Interamericana

The Exposición Filatelica Interamericana was held in Bogotá from the 25th to the 30th of September 2007. The big news is that Bill Welch won the Grand Award with his exhibit, *Revenue Stamps of Colombia, 1858—1933*.

There were one hundred and five competitive exhibits in addition to two Court of Honor exhibits and five special exhibits that were non-competitive for a total of four hundred and eighty-five frames. Included were thirty-three one frame exhibits. There were also sixteen entries in the literature competition. It was a philatelic feast for collectors of Colombia.

The amount of Colombian material was overwhelming. Rarely, if ever, has so much Colombian material ever been exhibited in the same place.

Most notable was the showing of classic material, both from the national postal system, early and late, and from Antioquia. Other states were not represented.

There were two excellent Colombian revenue exhibits. As noted, Bill Welch won the Grand while Manuel Arango won a gold as well as the Research Award.

The exhibit, *Caos postal en la Guerra de Mil días*, was the only exhibit of post classic material. Unfortunately, it arrived too late to be judged. The field is wide open for collectors of post-classic material.

Colombian airmails were featured in seven exhibits, only one of which attained a gold medal, probably on the strength of having two CCNA covers. One was redundant. Otherwise, CCNA was not represented nor was there early SCADTA material.

No Panama nationals participated in the show but their country was represented by Alvaro Castro Harrigan's *Panama, Colombia: Segunda Emision de Mapas*, which took a gold as well as Francisco Perez Camacho's *Sellos de la "Emision Nacional de Panama" 1915*.

Large Gold

- *Revenue Stamps of Colombia, 1858—1933* by Bill Welch. Also the Grand Award.

Gold

- *First Flights of the Colombian Airmail Service* by Mario Ortiz.
- *Classic Colombia, 6th, 7th, and 8th Issues* by Alfredo Frohlich.
- *Panama, Colombia: Segunda Emision de Mapas* by Alvaro Castro Harrigan.
- *Tributes and Fiscal Stamps of Colombia* by Manuel Arango. Also the Research Award.
- *Emisiones provisionals de Antioquia* (one frame) by Rodrigo Uribe.

Large Vermeil

- *Colombia Air Mail 1929—1940* by James Johnson.
- *Mancomún Airmails of Colombia* by Tom Myers
- *The Workbook III* (literature) by Dieter Bortfeldt.

Vermeil

- *Colombia-Correspondencia Oficial y franquicias* by Dieter Bortfeldt,
- *Sellos de la "Emision Nacional de Panama" 1915* (one frame) by Francisco Perez Camacho.
- *The Airmail Postal Stationary Issued by SCADTA for Correspondence* (one frame) by Jerome V. Casper.

Large Silver

- *Colombia en cancelaciones* by Andrés Mendoza.
- *SCADTA, Marcas Colombianas en la emision del año 1923* by Ricardo Botero.

Silver

- *Colombia, a Philatelic Orchid Garden* (one frame) by Dieter Bortfeldt.
- *SCADTA-Ecuador* (one frame) by Diego Gandara Perez.
- *The "Sonntag" Airmails, 1930—1932* (one frame) by Rolf Alvers.

Bronze

- *Los Correos Privados en Colombia* by Cesar Jaramillo.

Late Arrival (not judged)

- *Caos postal en la Guerra de los Mil días* by Juan Costain.

Court of Honor

- *Classic Colombia* by Alfredo Frohlich, which had previously won the Grand Award at StampShow 2007 in Portland, Oregon.
- *Estado soberano de Antioquia* by August Peinado.

Special Class (non-competitive)

- *SCADTA, Papeleria y Propaganda* by Gianmarco Caruso.

The Panama Advertising Booklet of 1911

David Zemer

This article is being published simultaneously with an abbreviated version in the Collectors Club Philatelist.

In an article in *COPACARTA*, in 1989,¹ David Leeds discussed two distinct types of Panama booklet stamps. Leeds referred to them



Fig. 1. Booklet pane in horizontal format from the advertising booklet.

respectively as the “handmade” issue that had advertisements from local merchants printed on the booklet and the “machine” issue. In his article he showed examples of each type.

The difference between the stamps of these two types of booklets is shown in Fig. 1, a pane of the 1¢ stamp from the advertising booklet, and, Fig. 2, a pane of the 1¢ stamp from the machine booklet.

The year after his article the American Bank Note Company Archives were sold by Christie's² at auction. To the delight of many philatelists, specimens and production materials of stamps and stationery from several countries, including Panama, were made available for sale to the public for the first time. Included in the Panama section of this sale were specimens of both types of booklets that Leeds had written about and full specimen sheets of the stamps used in the two different types of booklets.

I refer to the series of ABNCo stamps used

in these booklets (Sc 195 – 201), as the “1909” issue although, with one exception, the orange colored ½¢ stamps, the first stamps were produced in 1908. ½¢ stamps were also printed in 1908 but only in a rose color and which were not released to the public until 1915. While there were multiple printings of this 1909 issue through 1920 there was only one printing of each type of booklet.

My present research will only examine the “handmade” or “advertising” booklet shown in Fig 1. The unique stamps that went into this series that were produced and sold to the public without gum. This special un-gummed issue and the “machine” book-

lets issue will be covered in future articles.

Scott's Catalogue does not differentiate this advertising issue from the un-gummed stamps or from the later issue that was specifically designed for mass-produced booklets. Lacking any distinction between these three types of



Fig. 2. Booklet pane in vertical format from the machine booklet.

stamps in Scott's and other catalogues most collectors have overlooked them. It is hoped that publication of this research will lead to new catalogue numbers, dates of production, and eventually separate prices for both these two types of booklets and for the un-gummed stamps printed for, but not used in, the advertising booklet. Once these stamps are officially distinguished from one another perhaps other collectors will have the satisfaction of finding these stamps tucked away in their own collections.

I will begin with the few early references concerning the advertising booklet in the philatelic press and correct or revise some of the previous assumptions. Next I will examine the material from the Christie's ABNCo auction and show examples of the specimen booklets. Finally I will show examples of some of these stamps on cover, request help from other collectors and finish with a suggestion on how the major stamp catalogues could revise their listings of these stamps.

1911 - First Philatelic Reports of Panama's Booklet Stamps

In a report published Feb. 18, 1911, *Mekeel's*³ wrote that Gerald Bliss, the postmaster at Pedro Miguel, Canal Zone, had written to them and had made reference to two new Panama stamps, a one-half cent stamp and a one-cent stamp, and to a new stamp booklet that was expected to soon appear on the market in Panama

"... The Panama Republic will also place on sale another innovation in the shape of a stamp book somewhat on the order of those current in the States only that the Panama book will have several denominations incorporated, viz., 6 ten-cent, 6 five-cent, 18 two and one-half cent, 6 one-cent and 12 one-half cent, six stamps to a leaf and representing a face value of \$1.47, the book selling for \$1.50. It was in one of those books that Mr. Bliss inspected the new stamps but upon trying to obtain one was informed that they would not be issued until the office was ready to supply the new stamps in sheet form. It might be worthy of note that the stamps in book form are un-gummed and anyone who has handled stamps from the Isthmus will readily understand the reason; also the covers of the books and interleaves carry the advertisements of Panama business firms for which I understand they pay \$5.00 per

annum."

A week later in *Mekeel's*⁴ the following appeared:

Panama. - Gerald D. Bliss sends us a copy of the new stamp book issued by the Republic. This book contains six 10¢ stamps six 5¢ 12 2½¢, 18 1¢ and 18 ½¢, the face value being \$1.47. The books are sold by the Post Office at each??, and as all the slip-sheets are printed with advertisements on both sides, they must be money makers.

The 1¢ has not been previously chronicled for Panama, but was issued some time since for the Canal Zone. This stamp is not yet on sale except in book form. The book also contains the new ½¢ stamps, which are of the 1905 design, and printed in a single color. This stamp is issued in sheets of 70, seven vertical rows of 10 stamps, says Mr. Bliss, "and it seems reasonable to assume that the remaining three rows are detached and bound in the books, the leaves of which consist of two horizontal rows of three. This is not official, however, and is only the result of a little 'Sherlock Holmes' deduction on the part of the writer, but it is further supported by the fact that the stamps are bound in the books by the left margins. The stamps are un-gummed and I infer that Panama 'O. G.' is now a thing of the past, if indeed such a thing ever occurred."

In 1984 the *Canal Zone Philatelist*⁵ carried an article concerning the advertising booklet and quoted a carbon-copy of a letter signed by Bliss that is the same one that *Mekeel's* referred to on February 18th.⁶

The Bliss letter is dated January 25, 1911, and is addressed only to "Dear Sir" so perhaps copies of it had been sent to more than one publication.

Bliss mentions that when he was at the Panama City post office the cashier showed him the new stamps and the new booklet. He also refers to viewing a "specimen" of the new stamps but it is not known if he used the word specimen in a generic sense or if the stamps he viewed had been overprinted "specimen" by the ABNCo.

One minor difference between the *Mekeel's* article and the carbon-copy of the Bliss letter is the annual price to be paid by the advertisers, \$5 in *Mekeel's* and \$6 in the *Canal Zone*



Fig. 3. back cover of ad booklet at left, front at right.



Fig. 4. Inside back cover at left; front at right.

MANUEL ESPINOSA B. Ave. Central 193. VENTAS POR MAYOR Y AL DETAL. FARMACIA CENTRAL WHOLESALE AND RETAIL AT MODERATE PRICES. PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED BY GRADUATED PHARMACEUT.	SURTIDO COMPLETO PARA A LA VILLE DE PARIS. SEÑORAS, CABALLEROS Y NIÑOS.	SORTIDO COMPLETO PARA SEÑORAS, CABALLEROS Y NIÑOS. PRECIOS BARATOS. "EL CIELO" Almacén de Novedades de Ignacio Ruiz García COMPLETE ASSORTMENTS OF LADIES' AND MEN'S GOODS MODERATE PRICES.	HEURTEMATTE & CO. BAZAR FRANCÉS "PANAMÁ" Importadores de toda clase de Mercaderías Francesas, Americanas, Indias y Alemanas, Etc. VENTA AL POR MAYOR Y MENOR Al precio fijo y al contado. CASA EN PARÍS: HEURTEMATTE & CO. 4, Rue de Trévise
ALMACÉN DE MODAS Y ARTÍCULOS DE FANTASÍA VENTAS POR MAYOR Y AL DETAL. LA PALAIS ROYAL. PRIMER CLASE AND UP-TO-DATE FANCY AND DRY GOODS STORE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL INSPECTION SOLICITED	PINEL & CIA. FERRETERÍA y Depósito de Maderas. PRECIOS SIN COMPETENCIA.	"LA ULTIMA MODA" P. ODUBER & CIA. ESQUINA CALLE 5 Y CALLE DE SOSA DIRECCIÓN CARTEGRÁFICA: MODA-PANAMA. Nuevo establecimiento importador de toda clase de mercaderías EUROPEAS Y AMERICANAS. Especialidad en el ramo de artículos para señoras y niños. Recibo surtido de sombreros, lino, botellas, lino de hilo para ropa, interior, ropa de noche, lino y paños. Artículos de escritorio de alta calidad para el comercio. Perfumería, Joyería, Pañuelos, Etc. VENTAS POR MAYOR Y MENOR.	WALK-OVER SHOES. AMERICAN BAZAAR. FURNISHING & SHOE AGENTS FOR TODOR'S SHOES NAVY STRAW HATS YOUNG STRAW HATS BORSALINO FELT HATS Visit our ladies' department in Colon.
FERRETERIA Lyons HARDWARE.	GUARDIA & CO. L u m b e r BUILDING MATERIAL, PAINTS AND ALL KINDS OF HARDWARE. FERRETERIA Y MADERAS.	Maduro Lupi Company EIGHTH STREET AND NORTH AVENUE LARGEST DEPARTMENT STORE ON THE ISTHMUS PANAMA CITY, PANAMA.	BOTICA Y LIBRERIA Farmacia, Drogueria, Perfumeria, Papeleria, Utiles de Escritorio. "LA UNION" Benedetti Hermanos Plaza de la Catedral Apartado No. 128. PANAMA.
FRANK ULLRICH & Co. COLON AND PANAMA. LIQUORS, PROVISIONS AND CIGARS. WHOLESALE & RETAIL. MODERATE PRICES. SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO ORDERS OF MEN-OF-WAR.	P. ODUBER & CO., 52 & 54 8TH ST., PANAMA. THE LADIES' STORE. ONLY FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN.	JOYERIA RELOJERIA SILVERWARE SOUVENIRS DE JOSÉ MISTELLI	LA POSTAL DE G. GARCIA Tarjetas, Albums, Fonógrafos y Discos. RELOJERIA DE JOSÉ MISTELLI.
C. QUELQUEJEU & Co. COMERCIANTES IMPORTADORES DE ABARROTES MADERAS Y TODA CLASE DE MATERIALES DE CONSTRUCCION COMISIONISTAS	LA CARAQUEÑA El Almacén más surtido de Panamá VENTAS POR MAYOR Y MENOR BAKATO Y AL CONTADO S. SHOCRON. SOUVENIRS. J. MISTELLI.	LA MASCOTA CARLOS W. MÜLLER Cathedral Square, Panama Complete Assortment of Ready-made Clothing: Hats, Underwear, Ties, Umbrellas, Shirts, Stockings, etc. English Tweeds, Diagonals, Serges, etc. Ladies' and Children's Shoes of All Kinds. Always in stock a full line of genuine Panama Hats, from Montecristi, for Ladies and Gentlemen. OPEN UNTIL 7 P. M.	METROPOLE HOTEL PETERSEN & SILVERS AVENIDA CENTRAL PARQUE DE SANTA ANA PANAMA R. DE P. Decorado y amueblado recientemente — Habitaciones — Aire acondicionado. Comidas a la carta.

Fig. 5. Advertising covers and interleaves of specimen booklets of 1911: column 1, pp. 1,2,5,6,9; column 2, pp. 3,4,7,8,11; column 3, pp. 10, 13, 14, 17, 18; column 4, pp. 12, 15, 16, 19, 20.

Philatelist.

Note that in the first *Mekeel's* article and in the Bliss letter the number of panes of the different denominations is the same, a total of eight, with a total of 48 stamps. The number of panes per denomination in the second *Mekeel's* article,

a total of 10 panes, is the number found in both the production and specimen advertising booklets and the total number of stamps in these booklets, 60, is the number given on the booklet front covers. The total face value of stamps in both articles is \$1.47.

The *Canal Zone Philatelist* article also listed the Panama 2¢ stamp, (Sc 198a) as being among those stamps in the booklet. This is an error as there were no 2¢ stamps in the booklet nor do any records show this 2c stamp being printed for Panama by the ABNCo in 1910.

Sale of the American Banknote Company Archives – September 1989

The sale of the ABNCo archives made it clear that the ABNCo manufactured these booklets in the United States. Until this sale took place many philatelists had thought that these booklets had been made in Panama under the supervision of the Panama Postal System⁷.

Sample Collection or Record book – Lot 4

Lot 4 of the ABNCo sale was listed as “1858-1972, Sample collection in two albums.” A page from Luxembourg is shown in the catalogue. This “sample collection” appears to have been a method to keep track of all of the stamps printed by the ABNCo for foreign countries and it seems to have been created by the ABNCo well after most of the stamps were printed. The pages for Panama consist of many different stamps, normally with one stamp of a particular type and then a vertical typewritten list of print dates with the month, year and the respective Foreign Order number of each printing. There is no information on the amount of stamps printed.

The pages for Panama also contain information for stamps overprinted for the Canal Zone by the ABNCo but there is no distinction made as to which printings were only for Panama, only overprinted for the Canal Zone or for both. A summary of what is known about this 1910 printing is shown in Table 1.

One group of collectors bought most of the Canal Zone specimen stamps in this sale and thoroughly documented them. Each member of the group also received full color photocopies of most Canal Zone stamps and booklet covers for use in later research. They later published a series of articles concerning their findings in the *Canal Zone Philatelist*. By comparing this Canal Zone information with similar Panama specimen stamps we can be fairly certain as to the validity of print dates and order numbers for both the Canal Zone and Panama.

Advertising Booklet SPECIMEN

One specimen copy of these advertising booklets was sold in Lot 516 and one in Lot 517. There is a partial photograph of the Lot 516 booklet in the catalogue.

Both lot descriptions were incorrect as it stated that there were two panes of each of the 1¢ (Sc 197) and rose ½¢ (Sc 196) when in reality these booklets have three panes of the 1¢ (Sc 197) and three panes of the orange ½¢ (Sc 195).⁸

All of the stamps in the booklets were

Table 1. Print information from the 1990 ABNCo Archives Sale on the Panama stamps printed in 1910

Scott #	Description	Print Date(a)	Foreign Order Number (a)	Date on Specimen stamps	Foreign Order Number on Specimens	Glue
195	½¢ orange map	9/10	2659	*	*	No (e)
197	1¢ green Balboa	9/10	2689 (typo)	9/27/10 (b)	2659 (b)	No (d,e)
199	2½¢ red Arms	9/10	2659	9/27/10 (c)	2659 (c)	No (c,e)
200	5¢ blue Arosemena	9/10	2659	9/27/10 (d)	2659 (d)	No (d,e)
201	10¢ purple OB	9/10	2659	9/27/10 (d)	2659 (d)	No (d,e)

(a) Record Book, Lot 4, Christie's ABNCo Sale, September 1990

(b) Information about Lots 513 from persons who bought these lots

(c) Information from K. Bileski who bought Lot 569. * Bileski appears to have overlooked this printing of the 1910 orange ½ stamp as 6 sheets were mentioned in the Christie's Sale.

(d) In my collection

(e) Specimen stamps in the two Specimen Booklets

overprinted SPECIMEN in red and had a security hole punched in the lower right hand corner and no gum on the back (see back cover).

At the top left of this booklet cover (Fig. 3 right) is the ABNCo's Foreign Order Number, F 2659. In the center of the cover the letter C is imposed on *de P*, a logo for *Correos de Panama*, the Panama Post Office.

At the bottom of the cover is "60 Sellos Postales", 60 Postage Stamps, and "VALOR B/- 1.50", PRICE in Balboas (equivalent to the US Dollar).

Local postal rates are printed on the inside

front cover (Fig. 4 right):

- *Letters: 2½ cents for up to 20 grams and 1½ cent for each additional 20 grams*
- *Post cards: 1 cent; for a bundle of one dozen cards (souvenir folder of 12 cards): 1 cent*
- *Postal packages: 10 cents for the first pound, 12½ cents for two pounds, 15 cents for 3 pounds and 2½ cents for each additional pound*

On the inside of the back cover is an advertisement for VILLALAZ & Co, shown in Fig. 4 left.

The ads in two production booklets have been documented previously by company name

Table 2 – Listing by page number of the advertisements in the booklet

Page #	Description of advertisement
1	Farmacia Central – Prescriptions Carefully Prepared
2	Pinel & Cia.- Ferretería y Depósito de Maderas
3	A La Ville De Paris – Surtido Completo
4	La Palais Royal – Up-to-date Fancy and Dry Goods Store.
5	Guardia & Co. – Lumber, Building Supplies, all Kinds of Hardware
6	The Ladies' Store, P. Oduber & Co.
7	Lyons - Hardware
8	Frank Ullrich & Co Liquors, Provisions and Cigars
9 ^a	C. Quelquejeu & Co. – Importadores de Abarrotes
10	"El Cielo", Almacén de Novedades de Ingacio Ruiz García
11	La Caraqueña – El Almacén más surtido de Panamá
12	Heurtematte & Co., Bazar Francés
13	"La Ultima Moda", P. Oduber & Cia.
14	Maduro Lupi Company – Largest Department Store on the Isthmus
15	American Bazaar, Eisenmann & Eleta.
16	Botica y Librería, "La Union", Benedetti Hermanos
17	Joyería, Relojería, Silverware, Souvenirs de José Mistelli
18	La Mascota, Carlos W. Müller
19	La Postal De C. Garcia, Relojería de José Mistelli.
20	Metropole Hotel – Petersen & Silvers
21b cover	Villalaz & Co., Frente al Mercado Público

a) The 9th page in the exploded specimen booklet did not have a number

b) 21 cover: no number as this ad was printed on the inside of the back cover

but never shown. The companies advertising in the two Specimen booklets are the same as those in two previously documented booklets.⁹ A copy of all 20 Interleaf ads is shown in Fig. 5 and they are listed in Table 2. Note the small interleaf page numbers below the staple holes on the left hand side for odd numbered pages and right hand side for even numbered pages.

Exterior Rates Printed on the Back Cover

On the back of the booklet cover (Fig. 3 left) are the following "exterior" rates. "Exterior" means foreign mail but excluding post to the Canal Zone and the United States for which "interior" or internal Panama rates were charged.

Postal package rates for foreign destinations without a declared value: 40 cents for packages up to five kilos for France, England, Italy and Germany and up to 1.05 meters long x 1.05 meters wide x 40 cm in height.

The last sentence on the back cover references the convention signed by José Domingo de Obaldía, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and George B. Cortelyou, Postmaster-General of the United States, between Panama and the United States on June 19, 1905. The text of this *POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA* was printed in its entirety in the September 2001 issue of *COPACARTA* and the December 2007 issue of *The Canal Zone Philatelist*.

Lots Containing Sheets of Specimen Stamps

In this sale there were two lots of ABNCo stamps which were in complete or partial sheets. As some of these stamps are incorrectly described in the *Christie's Catalogue* the descriptions given here have been corrected as best possible.

LOT 513 The Scott numbers for the 1906 Hamilton Bank Note Company stamps, 185 – 193, were sometimes used instead of the 1909 ABNCo stamps, 195 – 201. The correct description is shown here with the original (often incorrect) numbers in italics and underlined.

The number of sheets of each stamp follows the denominations in parenthesis.

513 1909 (1906) – 21, 1¢ – 50¢, Postage & Commemoratives, red 'Specimen' overprint

(197S, 198S, 200S, 201S, 220S-232S) (187S, 189S-191S, 197S, 220S-232S), three sheets of each except for 1909 (1906) 1¢ (9), 2¢ (9), 5¢ (14), 1921, 2¢ (2), each stamp with overprint and security punch, 1921 1¢ – 4¢ (author: "4¢" is in error as there are no 4¢, ABNCo stamps) sheets separated in two, some separation through, otherwise fine.

LOT 569 also contained some sheets of this 1909 issue and here too there were obvious errors, reprinted below in italics and underlined. The number of sheets of each stamp follows the denominations in parenthesis. As best as can be determined the following 1909 issue stamps were in this lot: Sc 195, 196, and 199.

569 1905 – 57 perforated file copy sheets of 100 stamps, each overprinted "Specimen" in various types and with security punch comprising 1909 (1906) 2½¢ (8), 1909-1915; Sc 195 ½¢ orange (6) and Sc 196 ½¢ rose (3)

Booklet Mock-Up

After the sale Giana Wayman offered a mock-up of the advertising booklet for sale. She said that it came from Lot 837, the last lot of the sale, described as a carton of unrelated proofs and specimens. The mock-up was soon sold to a collector but in a letter she wrote

It is impossible to adequately photocopy the "Mock-up" and it is quite delicate. There are 20 pages of write-up and designs for ads, 3 of which are printed cards of the companies. There are 9 pages laid out for stamps, one of each value of which has a stamp tied by punched holes. Interestingly the 2½¢ & 5¢ are the 1909 ABNCo stamps and the 10¢, 1¢, & ½¢ are Hamiltons.¹⁰

Advertising Booklet Perforations

The stamp panes from the Specimen booklets have torn perforations on three sides and full selvage on the left with a straight edge as shown on the 1¢ Specimen booklet pane in Fig. 6. This is in contrast to the stamp panes in the booklets sold to the public. The specimen pane in Fig. 6 can be compared with the production pane in Fig. 1. Both types are un-gummed but note that production booklet in Fig. 1 has cut perforations in the horizontal direction and torn perforations in the vertical direction.

Manufacture of the Advertising Booklets

The booklets must have been difficult and time-consuming to manufacture. The booklet panes first had to be created, most likely by tearing a full sheet into two sections; one part of 3 horizontal x 10 vertical stamps on the left, selvage, side for the booklet panes. The other part, the right-hand remainder of 70 stamps, was most likely sent to Panama and as mentioned by Bliss sold over-the-counter. Then the panes were created by cutting the left block of 30 stamps horizontally into five panes of 3 horizontal and 2 vertical stamps. The final assembled booklets required 10 panes of 6 stamps to be placed in a prescribed order between 10 sequentially numbered interleaves. Then all 20 panes and interleaves were put between the booklet covers by hand. The left sides of all interleaves, panes of stamps, and booklet covers then had to be stapled with no edges sticking out.

Distribution of Advertising Booklets to the Public

Except for the two Specimen booklets and the mock-up from the ABNCo sale no official documentation concerning these booklets has been discovered. We do not know how many booklets were produced, how many of the un-gummed stamps were printed in September 1910, how many booklets were sold, or when they were distributed to the public. The only record found of a sale by the Panama postal authorities was that of the booklet that *Meekel's* received in February 1911 from Bliss. However, several full booklets in mint condition and several exploded full panes are known to exist and are recorded as having been sold at public auctions.

The high retail price of a full booklet, \$1.50, in 1911, with a 3¢ premium to the value of stamps, may have played a factor in the low number of these stamps found today. The lower domination stamps could have been used by the general population but 5¢ stamps were normally used for foreign letters and the 10¢ stamps for foreign registered letters. It is doubtful if many workers would have wanted to invest this much money, more than a full day's pay for the average



Fig. 6. Pane from specimen booklet with torn perforations on three sides.

non-US laborer on the Panama Canal, in order to have these stamps on hand.

If buying stamps without gum was preferred to buying stamps with gum then customers only had to ask for some of the un-gummed stamps printed in 1910. This lack of gum may also be the reason that few of these stamps are found today in collections, mine included. Collectors tend to prefer to buy mint stamps with gum as opposed to mint stamp without gum. Since mint stamps of this 1909 series with gum are plentiful then one would expect that neither dealers nor collectors would choose to save the un-gummed issue.

It appears fairly certain today that the general public was not able to buy these [which] booklets in 1911. The new orange ½¢ stamps (Sc195) are known to be cancelled as early as 4 February 1911 but they are neither clipped at the top nor bottom and therefore are not booklet stamps.

The earliest recorded on-cover usages of the other new stamp, the 1¢ stamp (Sc 197) are dated towards the end of 1912 and they too are not "cut-perforation" booklet stamps.

A pair of stamps, dated December 9, 1913, is identified as booklet stamps by the clipped perforations at the bottom of the stamps on the picture postcard shown on the front cover with the detail in Fig. 7.

The largest known used block on cover, showing top and bottom cut-perforations, is un-



Fig. 7. cut perfs on pair from picture post card on front page.

der-paid, noted on the front of the cover, and on a registered cover to Argentina (Fig. 8, 8a). Note that the bottom perforations are cleanly cut but the top are not. All documented usages of these booklet stamps are clustered towards the end of 1913. It could be that these booklets were released to the public at this time because on 15 January 1914 Panama decreased the internal rate for letters from 2½¢ to 2¢ to match the Canal Zone's 2¢ letter rate to the United States.¹¹ This rate change could have been an incentive by Panama to use up as many of these booklets containing the 2½¢ stamps (Sc 199) as possible before the rate changed.

Future Research

The early philatelic press had surprising accurate accounts about these booklets. I only discovered these Bliss letters because parts of the *Mekeel's* weekly magazines were scanned in

searchable format and uploaded to a website that I found with Google. Because of this link to Bliss I checked the Canal Zone Study Group's *Philatelist* and was delighted to discover that one of CZSG members, Bob Karrer, had a signed copy of the first Bliss Booklet Letter that I could use in my research. Anyone with access to *Mekeel's* magazines is encouraged to read through them beginning in 1911 as they might be able to shed more light on these or the machine series of booklets.

After the ABNCo archive sale it was rumored that the internal documents of the ABNCo would be sent to the APS Library but so far this has not happened. If they still exist and could be examined then they would be a great help for philatelists, not only for this research on Panama booklets, but also for all stamps printed by the ABNCo.

Collectors are also urged to reexamine their own collections for mint, non-gummed copies of these 1909 stamps, either clipped at the top or bottom, indicating booklet stamps, or non-clipped, indicating the rest of the 1910 printing. The back of the stamp should be white without any brown gum stains.

1909 ABNCo stamps on covers should be carefully examined for stamps with clipped top or bottom perforations. A starting point would be covers and postcards dated towards the end of 1913.

I would be very interested in seeing any used booklet stamps especially those with legible postmarks or on-cover. If you have any please contact me at P.O. Box 654 Skoeyen, NO-0214 Oslo, Norway, or at sosa-hill@hotmail.com.



Fig. 8 Cover, to Argentina, Block of 4, cut perfs top.

Summation



Fig 8b. Cut perfs at bottom of stamps.

The philatelic press recognized the advertising booklets as early as February 1911 when Gerald Bliss, the Post Master at Pedro Miguel, Canal Zone wrote *Meekel's*. One complete booklet was received by *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News* from Bliss that month.

The release of full specimen booklets and specimen sheets with Foreign Order Numbers from the archives of the American Bank Company in 1990 showed that the advertising booklets were definitely ordered by Panama from the ABNCo and printed by the ABNCo in September 1910 as Foreign Order **F 2659**.

The stamps in these booklets were cut horizontally in panes of 3 across and 2 down and had full selvage to the left. The 10 booklet panes of stamps were separated from each other with 10 different interleaves printed with advertisements and then stapled with two staples into the booklet covers. They only have cut perforations at either the tops or bottoms of the stamps.

The stamps printed for this booklet, Sc 195 (½¢), 197 (1¢), 199 (2½¢), 200 (5¢), and 201 (10¢) did not have any gum and as this is the only time during the 12 years that these 1909 stamps were printed without gum this unique 1910 issue of un-gummed stamps, all with the same Foreign Order number **F 2659**, deserves to be listed in the major stamp catalogues.

Because some of these booklet stamps have been found on dated covers it appears that these booklets were released to the general public in the latter part of 1913 - right before Panama lowered its letter rate to the United States from 2½¢ to 2¢. However this does not rule out that they were in circulation as early as January 1911.

These advertising booklets, panes, and stamps should be better described and identified in the major catalogues. The clearest way to identify them would be as booklets, BK. An alternative,

but not nearly as concise, method would be as minor letter listings.

As they were printed

before the "machine" booklets, the advertising booklet stamps could be identified with the letter "a", for example 197a. The un-gummed stamps of this 1910 printing could be listed as 19b. The machine booklets could be identified with the letter "c", for example 197c with a comment that there is no 198a or 198b, and lastly, the only known major error, the 1¢ inverted center could be identified as 197d as it was first used after both types of booklets were issued to the public.

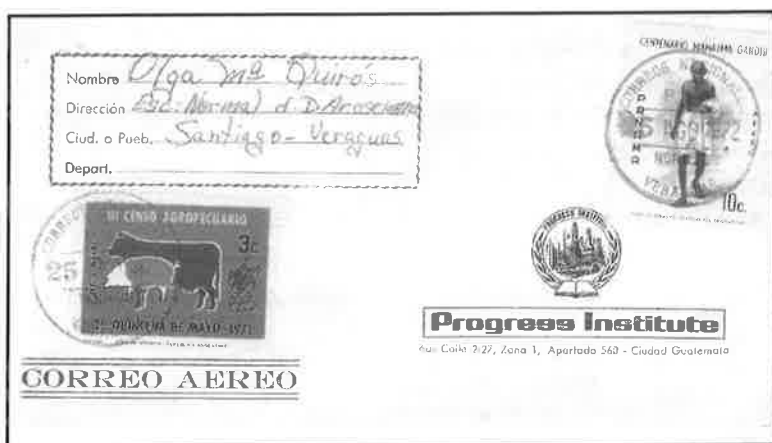
Notes

1. Leeds, David, *COPACARTA*, 1989, p. 49
2. Catalogue from *The American Bank Note Company Archives, United States Possessions, Latin American and Worldwide*. New York, September 12, 1990. Christie's Robson Lowe.
3. *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News*, Feb 18, 1911 Volume XXV, Number 7, Whole Issue Number 1051. Online Source: http://www.geocities.com/pdstampinfo/1911_02_18_issue.htm
4. *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News*, Feb 25, 1911 Volume XXV, Number 8, Whole Issue Number 1052 Online Source: http://www.geocities.com/pdstampinfo/1911_02_25_issue.htm
5. *Canal Zone Philatelist*, 1984, Issue 73, Vol. 20, nr. 4, p. 25. Online Source: www.CanalZoneStudyGroup.com
6. Carbon copy courtesy of Bob Karrer. It has Bliss's original signature.
7. Conversation with David Leeds.
8. Both of these specimen booklets are in my collection and any reference to them in this article is from examination of these booklets.
9. Ibid, Leeds, and *Panama: the c. 1911 Advertising booklet, The Mainsheet*, Vol. 25, No. 98, May 2000, edited by Brian Moorhouse.
10. Correspondence with Giana Wayman.
11. Rate decree: *Number 162, 30 Dec 1913*, courtesy of Federico Brid.

Panama's Gandhi Stamp, a Surprising Philatelic Rarity

Jim Cross

Panama had a relatively modest stamp issuing program until 1964. In the following four years the government contracted with a firm which agreed to provide stamps without cost in return for the rights to sell them to stamp dealers outside of Panama. The contractor was given the authority to design the stamps and most of the numerous stamps issued from 1964-1968 had sports, space or fine art themes which would sell well to thematic collectors.



*Ghandi cover from Santiago to Guatemala,
5 August 1972.*

When the contract was terminated Panama resumed its relatively modest program of stamp issues. Most commemoratives were for events of importance to Panama. One exception was a 10

centesimos airmail stamp issued on 17 December 1971 commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mohandes (Mahatma) Gandhi (Sc C384).

The decree specified that 200,000 of the stamps would be printed. The choice of the denomination was interesting. At the time 10 centésimos paid the basic rate for a domestic airmail letter. The rate for an airmail letter to Central America and the United States was 13 centésimos, so if the Gandhi stamp was used on a letter to these destinations a 3 centésimos stamp had to be added. Relatively few letters were sent by domestic airmail in Panama and only a limited number of these domestic airmail covers have been saved. The majority of the available covers from this era are from mail to correspondence schools in Los Angeles and in Guatemala which had many Panamanian students and sold the envelopes from their correspondence to stamp dealers.

There were few stamp collectors in Panama during the time when the stamp was issued. While I was a specialized dealer in Latin American stamps I found that there were few requests for modern new issues from any Latin American country. I would

Table 1. The items sold

Item	Origin	Destination	Other stamps	Remarks	Price
Piece	Aguadulce				29.00
Piece	Guabito				21.00
Cover	Los Santos	Panama		Stamp on back	86.00
Cover	Panama	Los Angeles CA	3c stamp	Legal size envelope	103.50
Cover	Carti Sugtupo	Panama	1c postal tax stamp		127.50
Cover	David	Guatemala	3c stamp		132.50
Cover	Sona	Guatemala	3c stamp + ?	Second stamp removed	132.40
Cover	David	Guatemala	3c stamp		127.50
Cover	David	Guatemala	3c stamp		173.50
Cover	Santiago	Guatemala	pair of 2c stamps	Gandhi stamp on back	153.50
Cover	Guabito	Guatemala	3c, 5c & 8c stamps	Registered. Gandhi stamp on back is missing a corner	193.50

estimate that no more than 5000 of the Gandhi stamps were sold mint to dealers and collectors and the number may be quite a bit less than that. Over the three decades when I was a dealer, I seldom had more than two or three of these stamps in stock and those sold quickly.

Apparently the availability of the stamp in 1971 was not widely publicized and relatively few were purchased by collectors or dealers in India. Beginning about 1990 I began to receive periodic inquiries from India for these stamps.

There may have been official first day covers with the stamp, but I have never seen one. When I began collecting 1950 - 1985 Panama airmail covers, I was able to trade some older covers for a lot which originally came from the collection of David Leeds. It included two uses of the Gandhi stamp on cover. I found two other covers in dealers stocks. Then in August of this year I bought a specialized collection on Ebay. This was a collection of 205 covers organized by their origin in Panama and almost all were from 1971 and 1972. Most were addressed to correspondence schools in Guatemala. This collection contained eight additional covers with franking which included a Gandhi stamp. It also included two pieces with the stamp clipped from airmail covers.

I selected three Gandhi for my collection and planned to sell the others on Ebay. I had no idea what prices they would bring, but I suspected that



Ghandi cover from Chiriqui, May 26, 1972.

there would be interest from thematic collectors, especially those in India. I listed the first cover with a starting bid of \$9.99 and one of the two pieces with a starting bid of \$.99 and waited to see what would happen. The listed cover had the Gandhi stamp on the back so it would probably have to be opened out for mounting in a collection. When the lots were listed the bidding started slowly, but a number of individuals were watching. There was a flurry of bidding during the last hour and the cover closed at \$86.00 and the piece sold for \$29.00.

Over the next two months I listed the other eight covers and the other item on piece. Later covers sold for even more than the first cover. For the record, the prices realized for the nine covers are listed in Table 1. Table 2 records my three covers and four other covers that I know of with the stamp.

Table 2. Other recorded covers

Item	Origin	Destination	Other stamps	Remarks
Cover	Panama Zone 11	Guatemala	3c stamp	Gandhi stamp on back
Cover	Santiago-Normal	Guatemala	3c stamp	
Cover	Volcan	Guatemala	8c stamp	Registered. Strip-3 Gandhi stamps on back
Cover	Bocas del Toro	Guatemala	pair of 2c stamps	Registered Strip-3 Gandhi stamps
Cover	Chitre	Guatemala		Postage only 10¢. No postage due marking
Cover	San Carlos	Guatemala	3c stamp	Registered ordinary mail. Pair of Gandhi stamps
Cover	Panama-Tocumen	Tyler TX	3c, 8c, 50c & 1B stamps	Legal size special delivery. Sc C361 & 531 are also very scarce on cover

1918 AR Cover at the South American Postal Union Rate

Thomas P. Myers

In the January 2007 issue (vol. 24 no. 4) I wrote about the reduced registration and AR rates among members of the South American Postal Union. Special stamps were issued for that purpose but I had never seen a cover sent at the reduced rates.

Recently I purchased an AR cover from Bogotá to Argentina at the South American Postal Union rate (fig. 1a). The cover was sent by Antonio Rincon, a well-known philatelist, to Stanley Gibbons' branch office in Buenos Aires in January 1918.



Fig. 1a. Cover from Barranquilla to Argentina paying the registration and AR fees at the South American Postal Union rates.

Unfortunately, the cover is franked entirely with ordinary stamps rather with registration and AR stamps. It bears eight 2¢ stamps and six stamps for a total of 11¢ (3¢ postage + 4¢ registration fee + 4¢ AR fee). It is surely an example of the Postal Union of South America rates.

Unfortunately he did not use a 4¢ registration stamp, but that does not diminish the cover's importance.

Somewhere there must be a similar cover using registration and AR stamps. I would love to be able to publish a scan.

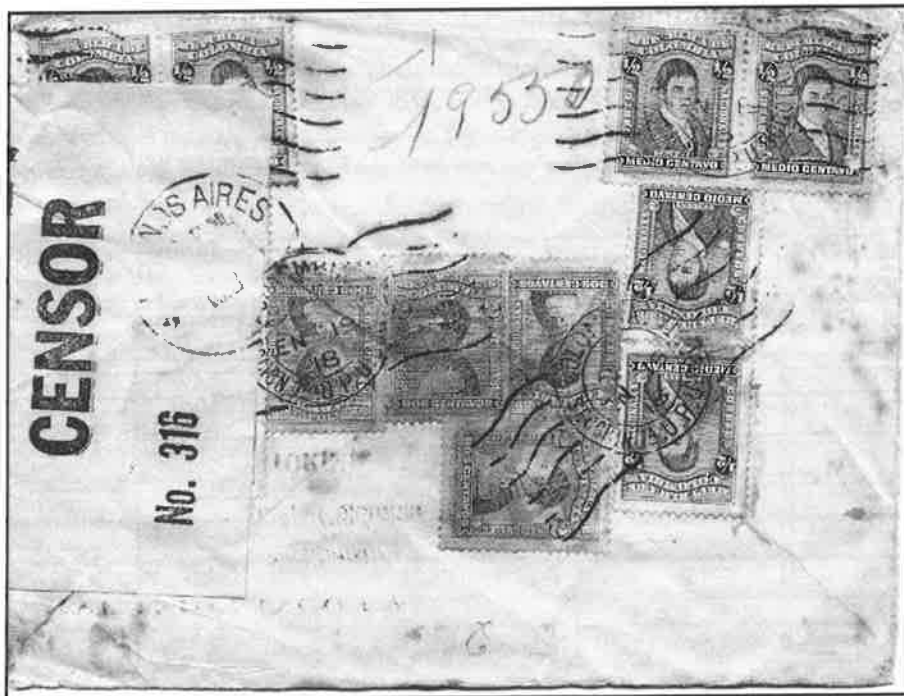


Fig. 1b. Reverse of cover franked with ordinary stamps.

The Cundinamarca 1883 Cubierta

Walter H. Weber

The declared value letter labels of Colombia, known to philatelists as *cubiertas*, were issued by the national postal authorities and also by the Colombian states of Cundinamarca, Santander (Bucaramanga only) and Tolima. It is recognised that all of them have been postally used and they can be found in numerous collections. One exception is the provisional typeset label printed in black on green paper, with a nominal value of 20c, issued in 1883 by Cundinamarca which I have seen as a scarce philatelic item in several collections but always in mint condition.

It might be that because the article was written in German in a journal with a restricted circulation the information only reached a very limited number of people.

The *cubierta* covered by the article was used in Pacho, a small town in Cundinamarca (capital Bogotá) and was sent by Luis Lara to Aurelio Racines in Bogotá with the note *una carta sin valor declarado* (the letter has no declared value). The letter bears the manuscript figure 3 indicating this was the third with the cubierta sent from Pa-

cho. The *cubierta* was glued on the front of the cover and mailed on November 6, 1883 being delivered four days later on November 10, 1883 to Aurelio Racines who signed it as received. The cover has a note from the post office in Bogotá *Certificado en Bogotá No. 19*.

It is apparent that this *cubierta* on cover is a real rarity of Colombian philately as no other examples have been recorded.

(Translated by Alan D. Anyon)



Fig. 1a. Unique used example of the 1883 Cundinamarca provisional cubierta on cover.

Reading literature recently acquired, much to my surprise I found an article published in January 1968 in the Bulletin of the Philatelic Club of Berlin and written by the late German Prof. Dr. A. Narath. It describes, with an illustration, a unique example of the Cundinamarca *cubierta* used on a letter (see Fig.1a). This is one of several articles on Colombian *cubiertas* written by Dr. Narath, sometimes in conjunction with the late German collector R. Bartels.



Fig. 1b. Reverse of cover shown in Fig. 1a with Bogotá certification in manuscript.



Specimen booklet panes from 1911 booklet.