

COPACARTA

Volume 34
Number 1
September 2016



- The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta, Part II* by Federico Teppa ... 3
The 1918-1921 Panama and Canal Zone Carta- Paquete or Registration Envelopes
 by David Zemer ... 5
The Colombian Oval Date Stamps of 1888, Part II by Federico Teppa ... 15
More on the Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta by Alan D Anyon FRPSL ... 20

Editor's Remarks**Errata**

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

Stampshow Palmares

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

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

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

Exhibiting

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

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

Anglo French Postal Convention

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

COPAPHIL OFFICERS

President	Brad Wilde	3131 Walnut St, Apt 656, Philadelphia PA 19104	bgwndal@yahoo.com
Secretary	Scott Schaffer	15 Natureview Trl, Bethel CT 06081	schaffer_s@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Allan M. Harris	26997 Hemingway Ct., Hayward CA 94542	HPEXCHANGE@aol.com
Editor	Thomas P. Myers	P.O. Box 522, , Gordonsville VA 22942	tpmphil@hotmail.com
Sales Manager	Ken Adams	5112 S 193rd St Omaha, NE 68135	kenstampneb@cox.net
Webmaster	Patrick Lamastus	5406 Birchbend Loop, Oviedo FL 32765	patrick@iCollectPanama.com

Visit the Copaphil web site at <http://www.copaphil.org/>

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

Europe	Malcolm Bentley	155 Percheron Dr Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU212QX, UK	malcolm.bentley1@ntlworld.com
Panama	Dr. Ernesto Arosemena	P.O. Box 0830-01079 Panama City, Rep. of Panama	kikoaro@cableonda.net
Colombia	Santiago Cruz	Calle 33#16-50, Bogota, COLOMBIA	Scollectibles2003@yahoo.com

Advertising rates: Business card \$10.

From the President's Desk

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

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

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

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

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

The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta, Part II)

Federico Teppa

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

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

3) San Luis (stamp)

Vale \$10 de lei.
El Ajente jeneral,
Signature **Lozano Maria Perez**

(Printed in black)



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

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

David Zemer

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

Most importantly, the correspondence shows that there were three separate issues (printings) not two and that, contrary to statements in earlier publications, the ABN Co did not win the order for the first issue nor did it manufacture or print any registration envelopes.

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

Provisional Classification System to Replace Higgins & Gage

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

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

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

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

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



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

will be replaced by the new registration envelope system.

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

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

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

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

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

In addition, Ehrman wrote, "The Government of Panama will order Registered Linen

Stamped Envelopes, two sizes, like the British Post Office is using."

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

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

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

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

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

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

Carta-Paquete in a visible place.

January 3, 1917 – The ABN Co received an official letter, No. 10-C from Panama. The Secretaria de Hacienda y Tesoro confirmed that they had ordered



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

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

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

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

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

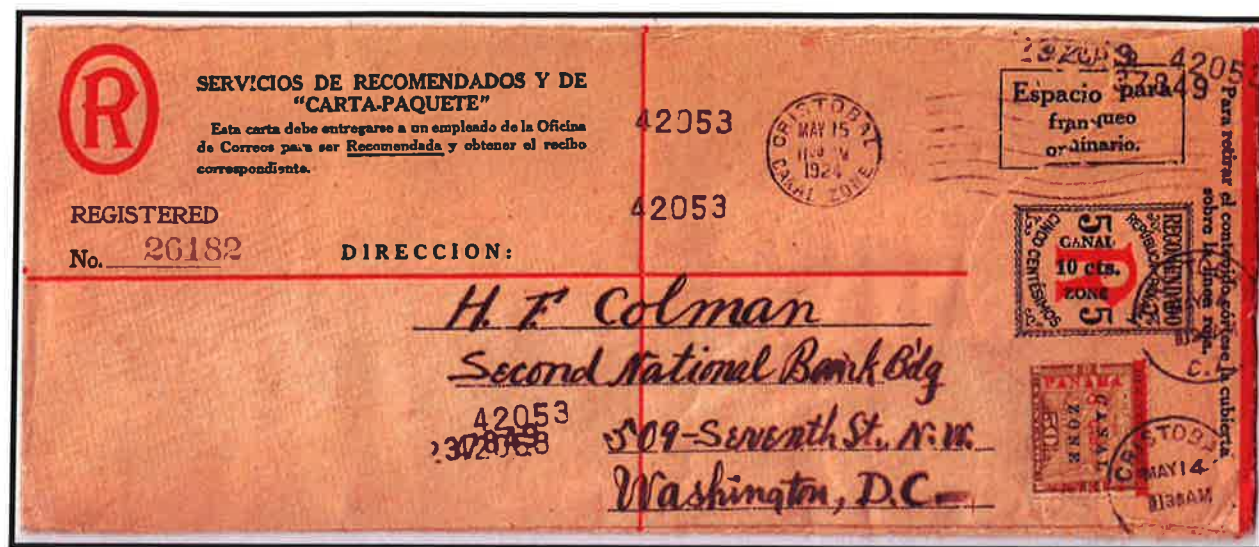


Fig. 3. RE2 - Large envelope with CANAL ZONE surcharge. With print variety RE2v1, mark over S in *Espacio* and RE2v2, gap(s) in frame.

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

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

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

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

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

RE1: First Issue—Small Registered Envelopes with Constant Varieties

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

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

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

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

RE2: First Issue—Large Registered Envelope with Constant Varieties

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

These two varieties were difficult

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

Linen Mesh is the Key to Identifying First and Third Issues

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

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

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

October 24, 1918 — In an internal memo from the ABN Co Foreign Department to Mr. Woglom in the Purchasing Department Mr. Woglom was asked to give a cost estimate for 50,000 of each of two sizes of linen-sized envelopes. Two examples of linen-sized envelopes were included with the remarks that they were made by an outside house but that Panama was not satisfied with them and wanted something better — the two envelope examples were not in the correspondence. Woglom was told that the envelope company Jones⁵ should be contacted to see what they would charge to make up the envelopes after ABN Co printed them.

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

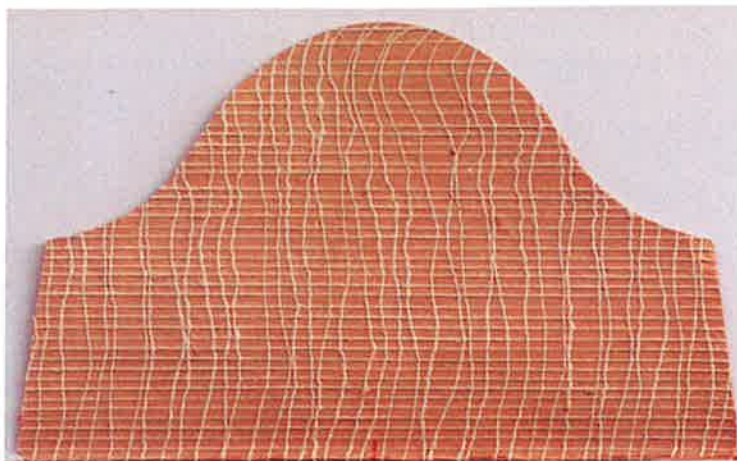


Fig. 4. RE1 & RE2: Coarse Irregular Mesh on inside of flap. the First Issue envelopes.



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

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

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

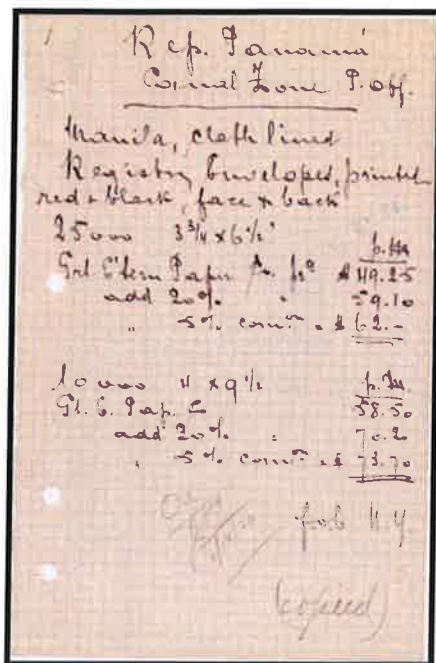


Fig. 6. Estimate of price to Panama.
Ordered through the Great Eastern Paper
Co.: Small Envelopes \$62/1000, Large
Envelopes \$73.70/1000.

ro and signed by Charles L. Stockelberg, *Jefe de Materiales y Compras*.

January 19, 1920 – In an internal memo ABN Co priced the order per 1,000 including its 20% margin and the 5% commission for Ehrman (fig. 6).

The same day the Foreign Sales Department placed an internal order for these Canal Zone envelopes (fig. 7).

July 30, 1920 – ABN Co sent Ehrman a coded telegraph stating that the "... registered envelopes were going forward 2 to 3 weeks."

July 30, 1920 – ABN Co wrote Ehrman that they were having difficulties obtaining paper and they were at the mercy of the paper manufacturers. In addition, there was a great deal of freight congestion due to strikes. They still expected to have the registered envelopes in two to three weeks but the manufacturer had not yet delivered them.

October 22, 1920 – ABN Co wrote Ehrman apologizing for the late delivery of the registry envelopes ordered last December but hoped to have them packed for shipment in a few days.

November 4, 1920 – ABN Co wrote Stockelberg that 25,000 small registry envelopes packed 12,500 to the case and 10,000 large registry envelopes

packed 5,000 to the case would be sailing November 6 on the S.S. *Advance*. This order contained the Second Issue, Foreign Order number 6250, with CANAL ZONE overprints and 10c registry fee. The bill was for \$2319.12. Panama sent ABN Co a check for this amount December 27.

The Canal Zone later decided that these registry envelopes did not hinder pilferage and returned all of the envelopes to Panama. In order to use these envelopes an agency in Panama obliterated "CANAL ZONE, Diez Centestimo, 10" (fig. 8, 9).

July 27, 1923. Fabio Arosemena, the Director of the Panama Telegraph and Post Office issued Decree Number 33. It authorized the use of both sizes of registry envelopes which had been made for the Canal Zone after CANAL ZONE and the 10 Centesimos had been obliterated by large rectangles in black ink and overprinted with a large 5 in black ink.

July 30, 1923. Decree Number 117 was issued by President Belisario Porras. It approved Decree Number 33. The first usage of these obliterated envelopes should have followed sometime after

FOREIGN SALES DEPARTMENT

Date January 19, 1920

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO

Please furnish REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
Canal Zone Post Office.

25,000 Registry envelopes - 3 3/4 x 6 1/2" open end, Manila, cloth lined
printed in black and red on face and back, as per sample but stamp
value to be Diez Centesimos (10)

Price \$1250

10,000 Registry envelopes - 4 x 9 1/2" open end, Manila, cloth lined, printed
in black and red on face and back as per sample but stamp value to be
Diez Centesimos (10)

Price \$725

Total \$1975

Shipping Instructions: Mark and ship to -
Charles L. Stockelberg
Jefe de Materiales y Compras
para la Republica de Panama
Panama, Panama

RECEIVED BY FOREIGN SALES

Fig. 7. January 19, 1920: The order F6250 with the
Great Eastern Paper Co. Total price: \$2287.



Fig. 8. RE3 - Small Obliterated Envelope



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

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

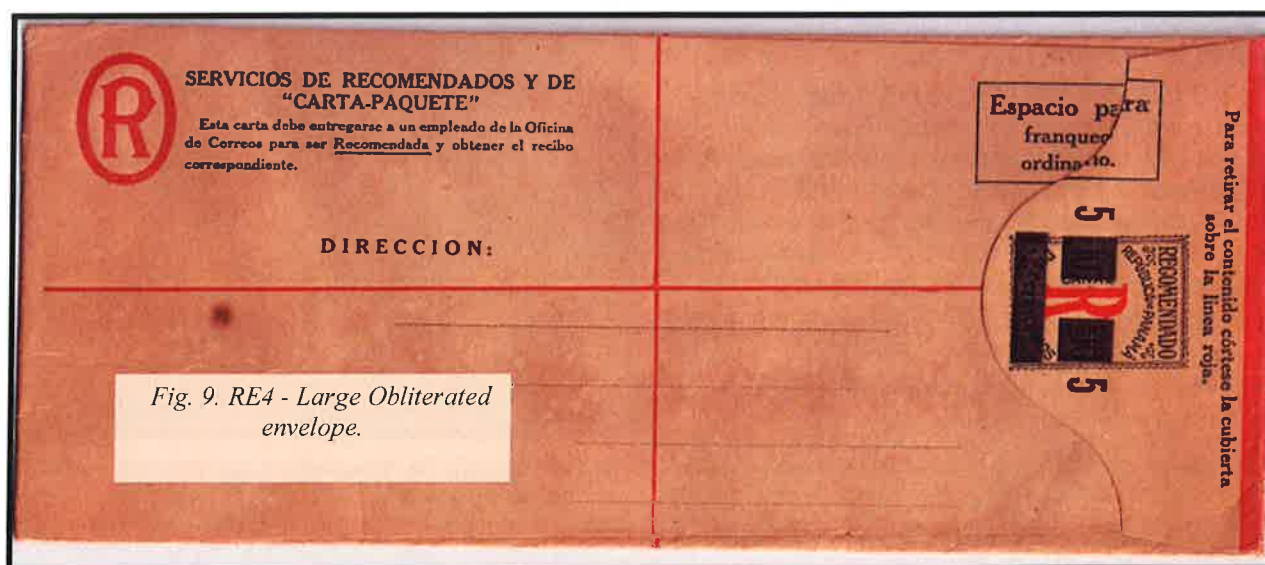
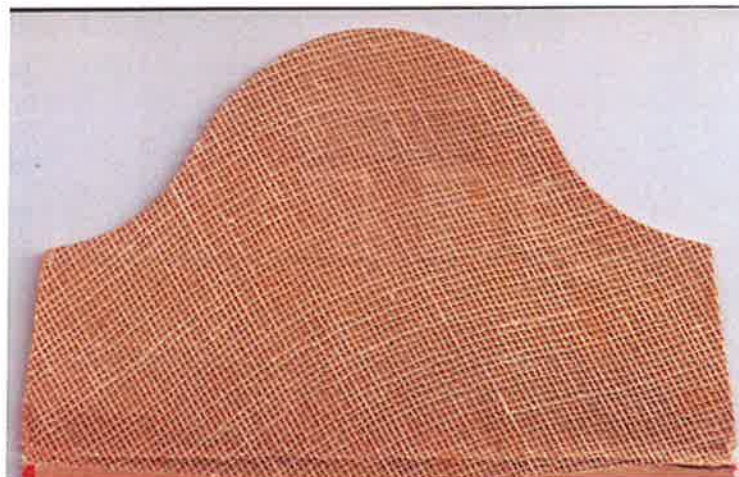


Fig. 9. RE4 - Large Obliterated envelope.

this date.

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

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

Second Issue Registered Envelope Without Obliterated Surcharge

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

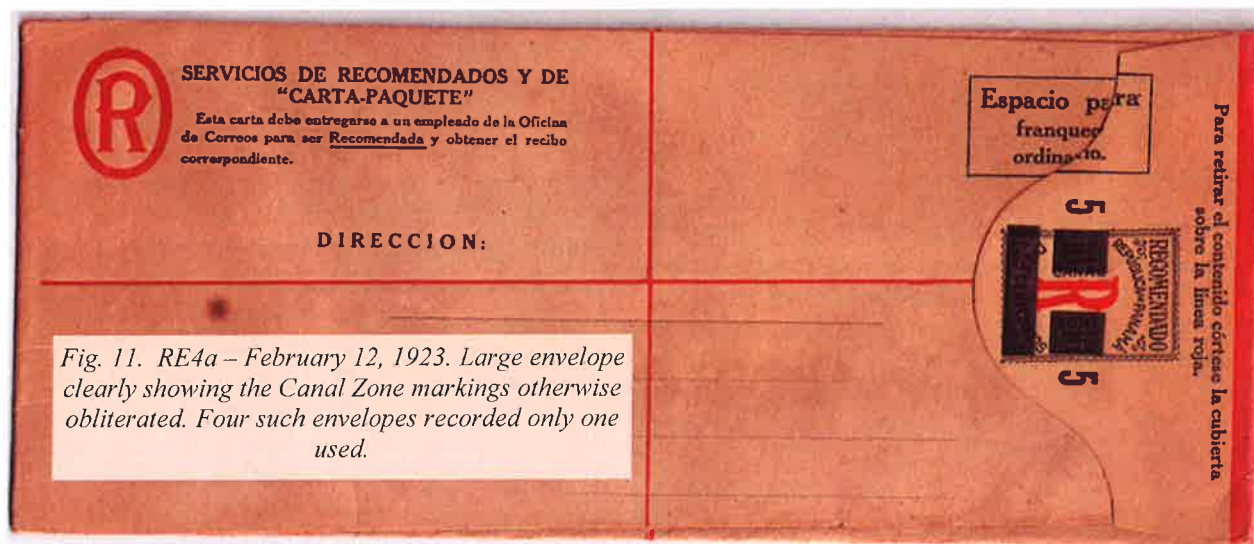


Fig. 11. RE4a - February 12, 1923. Large envelope clearly showing the Canal Zone markings otherwise obliterated. Four such envelopes recorded only one used.

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

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

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

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

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

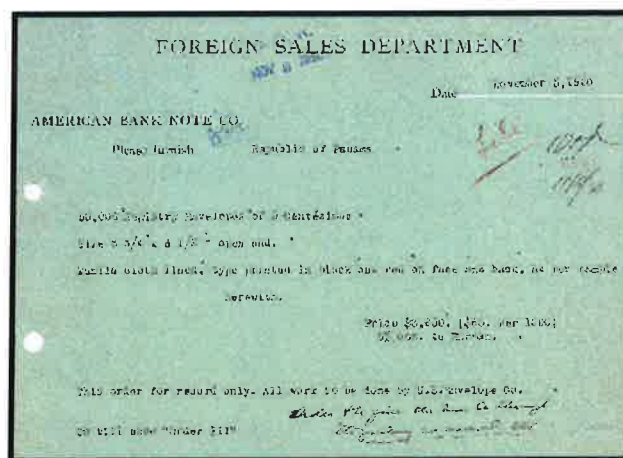


Fig. 12. November 5, 1920 - ABN Co Internal order for 50,000 small registry envelopes.

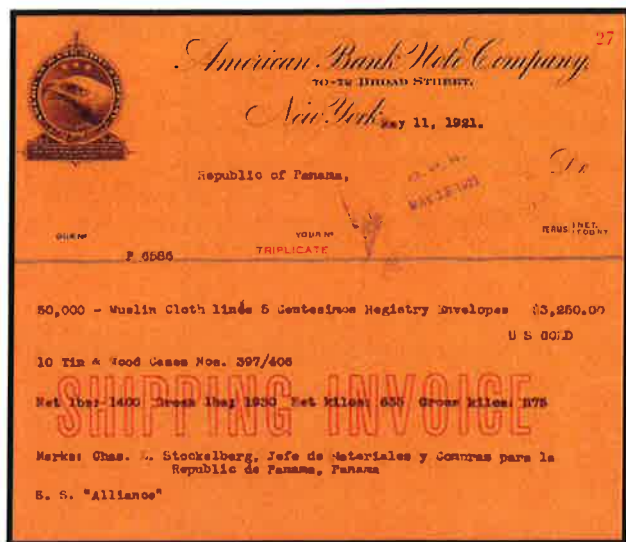


Fig. 13. May 11, 1921. Invoice of \$ 3250 to Panama for 50,000 small registry envelopes.



Fig. 14. RE5 - Third Issue.

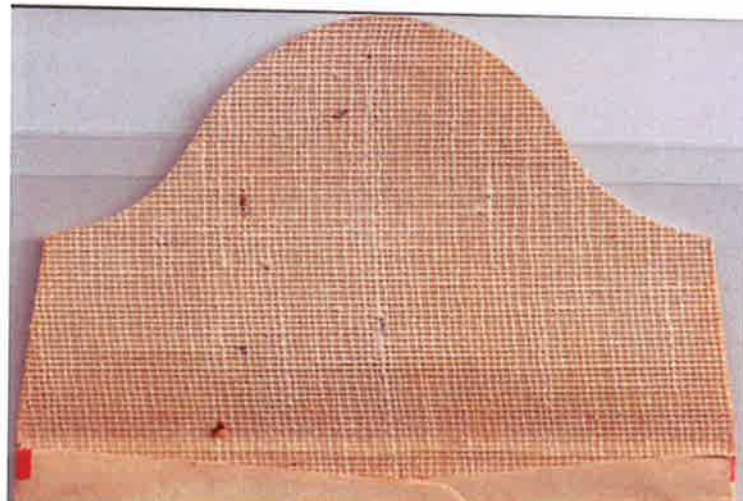


Fig. 15. RE5 -- Small, tight symmetrical mesh. Threads nearly parallel to envelope sides.

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

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

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

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

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

RE3 - Third Issue Registered Envelopes with Constant Varieties

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

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

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

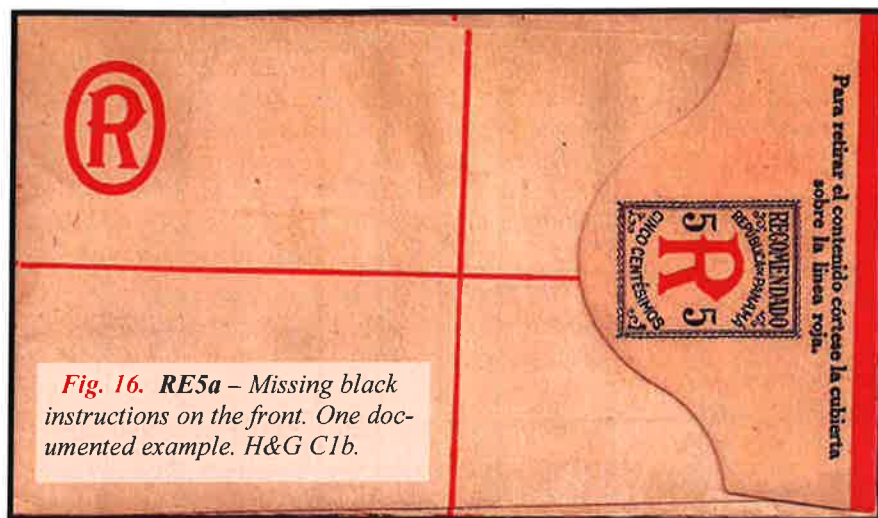


Fig. 16. RE5a – Missing black instructions on the front. One documented example. H&G C1b.



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



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



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

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

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

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

Manufacturing of the envelopes was complicated. Four

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

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

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

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

Estimate of Number of small envelopes in the First Issue

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

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

TABLE 1 - PANAMA REGISTERED ENVELOPE CENSUS AND PRICES

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

* Canal Zone overprints included in RE1 and RE2 totals without differentiating between the two different CZ surcharges: (CZ total).

--- no sale recorded or no price from a public sale.

G = prices from Gibbs Sale, May 21, 2015, Robert A. Siegel. P = Plass Sale July 10, 1998, Ivy, Shreve & Mader. Prices for Canal Zone overprinted envelopes not included.

** Previous to this study both issues, RE1 & RE5, were thought to be the same issue. Mint envelopes were very difficult to find until 2013 when a single lot consisting of 15 RE1 and 16 RE2 mint envelopes was sold first at a HR Harmer auction and then individually on the secondary (eBay) market.

last updated 2016-12-03

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

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

Number of large envelopes in the First Issue

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

Census and Prices

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

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

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

Acknowledgements – *Federico Brid's suggestions*

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

End Notes

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

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

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

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

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

Write for
Copacarta

The Colombian Oval Date Stamps of 1888, Part II

Federico Teppa

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Fig.3 Bucaramanga provisional killer stamp.

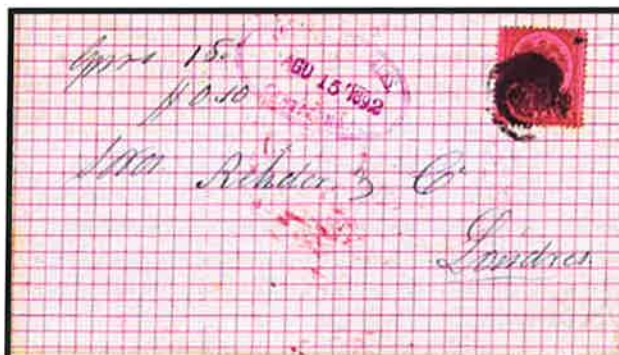


Fig.4 Cartagena provisional killer stamp



Fig.5 Ocaña provisional killer stamp



Fig.6 Buenaventura cancel on stamps

Other Oval Datestamp Types

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

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

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

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

Buenaventura Precursor :



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

The Railroad Cancels :



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10

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

Correo Urbano de Bogotá :

Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.



Fig. 15.

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

Bogotá Offices:

Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.

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

Official Mail:

Fig. 18.

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

Other ovals without datestamp

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

Correo del comercio :



Fig. 19.



Fig. 20.

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

Santa Rosa Franca:



Fig. 21.

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

Ipiales:



Fig. 22

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

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

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

References:

- Copacarta* 1990 Volume VII, Number 4. The oval datestamps of the correo nacional. By Jim Cross.
- Copacarta* 2008 Volume 25, Number 3. Correo del comercio cancellations. By Walter H. Weber.
- Colomphil* May 2001 #10. The Bogotá Urban post. By Alan D. Anyon.

More on the Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta

Alan D Anyon FRPSL

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



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

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

You too can be an author

Copacarta needs writers

LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELICS P. O. Box 56194, LONDON, E17 0GF, GREAT BRITAIN



ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTION & Retail Lists

**Specialising in South & Central
America and British Commonwealth
With Colombia & Panama In every sale**

**WE RUN REGULAR ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTIONS
SPECIALISING IN LATIN AMERICA. EACH SALE
INCLUDES STAMPS, POSTMARKS, POSTAL
HISTORY, POSTAL STATIONERY, PROOFS,
CINDERELLAS, REVENUES, ERRORS & VARIETIES.**

WRITE OR EMAIL FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE.

EMAIL: latamphil@btinternet.com

COPACARTA

Volume 34
Number 2
Dec 2016



From the President's Desk ... 2

French Canal by Bradley Wilde ... 4

Cable Aereo de Cúcuta al Rio Magdalena "Is it really a "Private Carrier"?
by Rainer Fuchs (AIJP, FRPSL) 14

Cubiertas and "Valor declarado" - the missing link....! by Robert Müller ... 15

New Large Die Proofs for Canal Zone/Panama 1917-1920 Pictorials Discovered
by David Zemer ... 18

Illustrated Covers Brighten a Collection Page by Thomas P. Myers ... 20

From the President's Desk

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

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

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

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

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

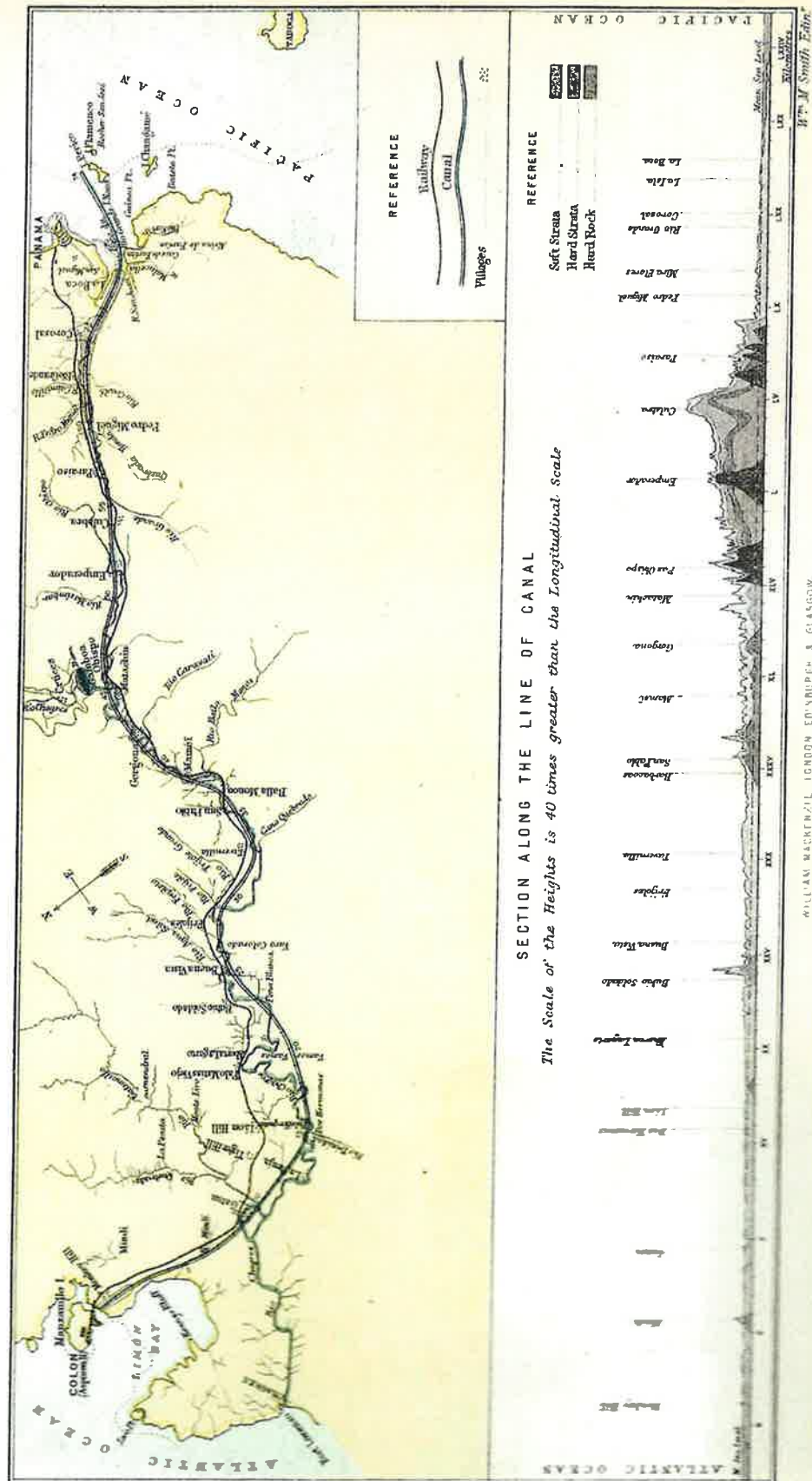
Sarasota Stamp Show

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

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

PANAMA CANAL

PLAN OF THE CANAL

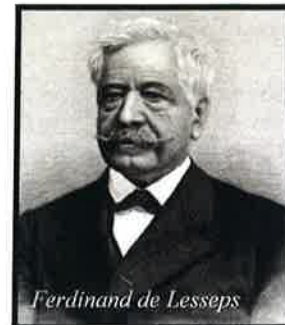


French Canal

Bradley Wilde

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

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



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



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

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



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



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



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



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



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

money to continue the construction.

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

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



Fig. 10. French Canal headquarters in Panama.



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

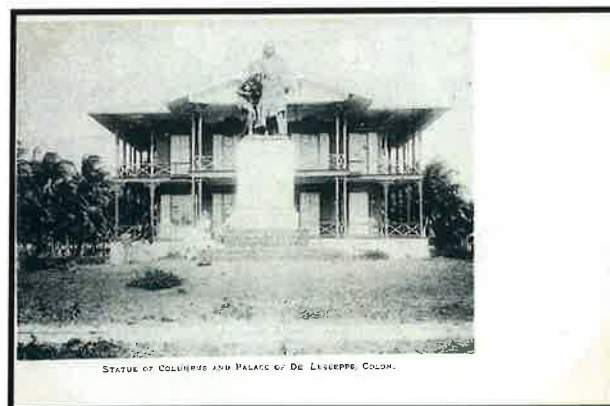


Fig. 12. De Lesseps' house in Colón.

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



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

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

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



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

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

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



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



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

Fig. 17. *Compagnie Transatlantique*

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

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

The Company post offices were at many of the

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

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

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

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



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



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



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



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





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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

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

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

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



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



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



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



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



Fig. 43.

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

LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELICS
P. O. Box 56194, LONDON, E17 0GF, GREAT BRITAIN



**ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTION
& Retail Lists**

**Specialising in South & Central
America and British Commonwealth**
With Colombia & Panama in every sale

**WE RUN REGULAR ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTIONS
SPECIALISING IN LATIN AMERICA. EACH SALE
INCLUDES STAMPS, POSTMARKS, POSTAL
HISTORY, POSTAL STATIONERY, PROOFS,
CINDERELLAS, REVENUES, ERRORS & VARIETIES.**

WRITE OR EMAIL FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE.

EMAIL: latamphil@btinternet.com



Fig. 44. Concerned letter from Russian investor.

Copacarta needs authors

Write for Copacarta

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

Rainer Fuchs (AIJP, FRPSL)

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

What is a private carrier?

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

El servicio de correos se prestó desde 1932.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued on page 19)

Cubiertas and "Valor declarado" - the missing link....!

Robert Müller

In 1865 Columbia issued its first registered stamps (5c R + 5c AR - service) and the first Cubiertas (25c as "certification sin contenido" and 50c "certification con contenido"). One could ask what the cubierta "sin contenido" was good for. The postage for a cover up to 10 grams was 10c plus 5c for registration service. The cubierta 25c allowed a weight up to 15 gram, it therefore covered the postage for a 15 gram letter (15 centavos rate letter) plus R and AR service!?

The 50c cubierta covered the complete postage up to 20 gram including the insurance for the declared value.¹ Until 1890 the permissible declared value seems to have been unlimited. I have seen cubiertas declaring thousands of pesos.

The cubierta covered the whole postage up to 20 gram. If the weight exceeded 20 gram the additional postage had to be fixed on the cubierta on the back or probably affixed on the front. I have seen complete covers, but not with additional postage on the front. But I can show a cubierta for the transport of a "Koppel Schloß" with added 1 peso stamp (fig. 1). A "Koppel Schloß" is a German word and means a "buckle" for a horse, probably something heavy.

The *Diario Oficial* No.7946 in December 1889 changed the rate to 10 centavos for each 10 pesos declared value with a limit to 100 pesos for one sending. During the war in 1899-1902 the use of Cubiertas seems to have come to a standstill. I have not yet seen any cubierta used during the war-time.

Following Valenzuela,¹ the rate went up to 50c for "10 pesos declared value" in 1903 and 20c per peso in 1904. I have not yet found any cubierta



Fig. 1. Cubierta with 1 peso stamp added.



Fig. 2. 1904 cubierta from Sogamoso using the obsolete rate of 1889.

used at this rate. The 1904 cubierta shown in fig.2 is the only one I have seen from this period. It is a 1 peso value for the sending of 100 peso. That means that the post office official in Sogamoso still used the old rates.

In 1907 the perforated issues came into use. Following Valenzuela, the rate changed in 1907 to "5% del vr. Hasta 20 Peso" and to "3% del vr. Hasta 40 Peso" in 1911. This is obviously an error or a misspelling. Actually the rate went down to 0.5%, which means 5c postage for up to 100 peso declared value in 1907.

And in 1911 it actually went down to 0.3%, which means 5 centavos for up to 165 peso declared value or 15 centavos up to 500 pesos.

The practice of the new rate were used in a way that the rate was calculated exactly to the cent, not as before in steps of 5c. In fig. 3 you see a 50 cubierta uprated by 5c for the declared value of 1.100 peso. (0.5% rate after 1907)

In fig. 4 you see a 5 centavo cubierta uprated by 1



Fig. 3. 1908 cubierta from Cartago to Popayan uprated by 5c for the \$1,100 declared value.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In about 1918 there was an order to punch all



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



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

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

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

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



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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

She further told me:

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

(Continued on page 19)

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

David Zemer

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

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

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

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

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

Continued on p. 19



Fig. 1. 15c large die proof.



Fig. 2. 12c large die proof.



Fig. 3. 24c large die proof



(Cable Aereo de Cúcuta Continued from page 14)

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

Literature References:

Dieter Bortfeldt, Carlos Valenzuela A. & Alfredo Frohlich. The Private Mail Carriers of Colombia. Bogota, Mai und Oktober 2006.

Louis Raul Rodriguez Lamus, Los Correos Y Las Estampillas de Cucuta y del Norte de Santander. Bogota, 1983.

Cable aéreo Gamarra-Ocaña, progreso por las alturas, Rodolfo Rincón Páez, Ausgabe 2011, Volumen 32, Seiten 295-302, <http://>

www.economicascuc.com/

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

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

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

(Continued from page 17)

way out since they were controlled sale.

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

Additions are welcome to: romer23@gmx.de

Footnotes

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

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



Fig. 4. 50c large die proof.



Fig. 5. 1 Balboa large die proof.

Illustrated Covers Brighten a Collection Page

Thomas P. Myers

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

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

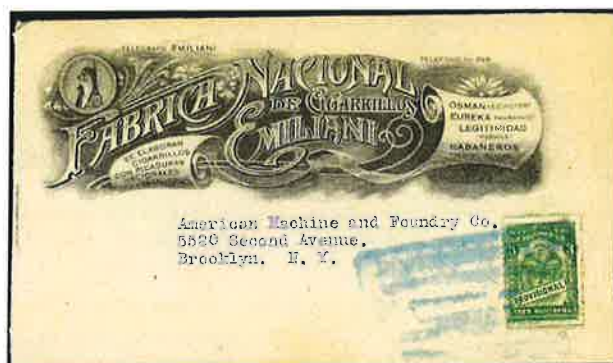


Fig. 1. Early illustrated covers used fancy graphics but did not illustrate the product.



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



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



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



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

COPACARTA

Volume 34
Number 3
March 2016



*Prephilatelic marks from Socorro.
(See article beginning on p. 25).*

- A "Well Known" Document of the 4th Issue of Colombia* by Eugene Langlais ... 4
Stamp Shortage Marks by Federico Teppa 6
Two Contributions from the Editor's Collection by Thomas P. Myers ... 9
The 1917 Canal Zone and 1918 Panama 12c ABNCo Stamps (31.10.2015)
by David Zemer 13
Bolivar Passport, 1900 by Robert Müller 23
A New Registration Label from Cartagena by Thomas P. Myers ... 24
Prephilatelic and Administrative Marks of the Province of Socorro, 1820—1822
by Manuel Arango Echeverri ... 24
New Civil War Provisionals from Garzón by Robert Müller 28

Editor's Remarks

The officers decided to make the New York issue especially large so this issue contains 30 pages rather than the usual 20 pages.

Palmares

Chicagopex 2015 . Gold award: Alfredo Frohlich *Republic of Colombia - International Mail 1886-1899*.

Westpex 2016. Grand Award: Santiago Cruz, The 1917 Perkins Issue; Reserve Grand: Alfredo Froehlich, Republic of Colombia, International Mail, 1886-1899.

The Michelsen Affair

A New Copaphil handbook, *The Michesen Affair*, will be available at our table in New York. Colombian collectors should probably have this one not only because it lays bare the details of the scandal but also aids in identifying some of its products.

Exhibits on Line

David Zemer's single frame exhibit of the Panama Ad Booklet is online at APS website. It is a high dpi pdf file so it takes a few seconds to download. It can be found by searching for Zemer or: <http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/MyAPS/>

Exhibits/Zemer-425726.pdf

New Exhibiting Handbook

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) to Publish First US Exhibiting Book Since 1988. Book to be released at NY2016 World Stamp Show: ***The Path to Gold: 175 Proven Stamp Exhibiting Tips*** by Steven Zwillinger is to be published by the AAPE.

A release ceremony and book signing is scheduled for 11 AM on Thursday June 2 at the Javits Convention Center in New York City, venue for NY2016 World Stamp Show.

The book is drawn from Zwillinger's six years of monthly columns on exhibiting in *The American Stamp Dealer and Collector*, his quarterly columns in the AAPE journal *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, and those in *WE Expressions*, the publication of WE-Women Exhibitors. The book will be available in softcover, hardcover and a contemplated deluxe edition. Ordering information will be available before the book's release.

Copacarta Illustrations

Some Copacarta authors prefer to embed

(Continued on page 27)

Write for Copacarta

COPAPHIL OFFICERS

President	Dario Diez		diez.dario@gmail.com
Vice-President	Brad Wilde	U.S. Logistics Center, Dept of State/Consular, 225 S Vermillion, Brownville TX 78521	bgwndal@yahoo.com
Secretary	Scott Schaffer	15 Natureview Trl, Bethel CT 06081	schaffer_s@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Allan M. Harris	26997 Hemingway Ct., Hayward CA 94542	HPEXCHANGE@aol.com
Editor	Thomas P. Myers	P.O. Box 522, , Gordonsville VA 22942	tpmphil@hotmail.com
Sales Manager	Ken Adams	5112 S 193rd St Omaha, NE 68135	kenstampneb@cox.net
Webmaster	Patrick Lamastus	5406 Birchbend Loop, Oviedo FL 32765	patrick@iCollectPanama.com

Visit the Copaphil web site at <http://www.copaphil.org/>

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

Europe	Malcolm Bentley	155 Percheron Dr Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU212QX, UK	malcolm.bentley1@ntlworld.com
Panama	Dr. Ernesto Arosemena	P.O. Box 0830-01079 Panama City, Rep. of Panama	kikoaro@cableonda.net
Colombia	Santiago Cruz	Cra 17 # 91-42, Bogota, COLOMBIA	Sccollectibles2003@yahoo.com

Advertising rates: Business card \$10.

COPAPHIL, COLOMBIA AND PANAMA AT NY2016

**COPAPHIL WILL SHARE A BOOTH WITH THE CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP.
VISIT US AT BOTH §79.**

- Volunteers are needed to help provide coverage for our society booth. Even if you can give only a couple of hours, it will be a help. Please contact Brad Wilde (bgwndal@gmail.com) to volunteer.
- COPAPHIL informal dinner. Wednesday, June 1. Copaphil will have an informal dinner at a local restaurant. Details on the time and place and a sign-up list will be available at our society booth, #879.
- COPAPHIL PUBLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE - THESE INCLUDE THE TWO LANDMARK PANAMA PUBLICATIONS
 - 1) *Panama Postal Markings* by the late Jim Cross;
 - 2) *The Stamps of Panama 1878-2010: Vital Statistics* by Federico Brid.
- TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE -
 - 1) *The Michelsen affair and the reprints of \$5 and \$10 of the 1868 issue of the United States of Colombia* by Dario Diez;
 - 2) *Recuperando Nuestro Prefilatelia a la Luz de los Archivos Historicas Nacionales*. The massive 3 volume work by Manuel Arango in electronic form.



For general information about the show and other programs, visit www.ny2016.org.

COPAPHIL Programs

Panama—The Path Between the Seas, Alfredo Frohlich, Sunday May 29 at 10am Room 1E08

SCADTA'S First Issues – An exhibit of Airmail stamps, Santiago Cruz, Monday May 30 at 11am Room 1E07

Colombia: The Affair Michelsen and the Reprints" of the 1868 Issue \$5 and \$10 Pesos, Dario Diez
Wednesday June 1 at 11 am Room 1E08

Philatelic Exhibits of Colombia & Panama

Court of Honor

Colombia - Plating Study of the 1861 Peso Stamp, Changing Philatelic History: New plating of Colombia's 1861 Peso stamp - A new discovery changing the philatelic history of the most elusive classic Colombia stamps, Alfredo Frohlich

Club de Monte Carlo Special Exhibit

Panama stampless cover 1777 to Quayaquil, marked *Franca a la Mano*, the earliest postmarked cover from the State of Panama
Alfredo Frohlich

(Continued on page 22)

A Well Known" Document of the 4th Issue of Colombia

Eugene Langlais

I have been interested in the postal history of Latin American countries, particularly Colombia and Panama, for many years. The knowledge of the postal regulations and texts as well as postage stamps and their cancellations enables us to better understand the letters we collect. Among the classic letters I could see in the past years, I've noticed that a number of them have anomalies. You will find below my analysis of one of these pieces (fig. 1):

The piece presented is in fact a cover front to Barcelona with a 50 centavos postage stamp of the 4th issue of Colombia (1862). The stamp is cancelled by the "Medellin Franca" ellipse, in gray color.

It bears the mark of entry into Spain "ESTRANGERO BARCELONA" and a "5R" (Reales) tax. The back side of this front cover shows a partial bill written in Spanish. Neither its origin nor its date can be identified. The sender "Eugène Foucou" applied his marking in blue on the front of the cover.

Remarks and analysis:

1 - Colombian rate: the postage paid could only cover the domestic rate. The tariff of the single letter applied as of January 1, 1862, was 10 centavos per 10 grams. The stamp on the document was issued in 1862. A postage stamp of 50 centavos means this was a heavy letter (40-50 grams).

2 - Spanish rate: the royal



Fig. 1. Cover front from Medellín to Barcelona.

decree of February 11th, 1854 gives the Spanish rates for covers coming from "South America": 4 reales for a single letter not exceeding 4 adarmes (7,16 grams) and 8 reales for a double rate, not exceeding 8 adarmes (14,32 grams).

3 - The postmark, *ESTRANGERO BARCELONA*, was applied to the entry into this town for maritime letters which took this way (Mediterranean Sea). This marking was not used on covers from South America by this sea way.¹

4 - The sender "EUGENE FOUCOU" was indeed a French merchant based in Marseille and Sète at this time. I was able to see many covers written by Foucou from Marseilles between 1855 and 1864. He actually had a service of steamers between Barcelona and Sète ("Cette" at his time). He also had an address in Marseilles (40 rue For-

tia).

5 - In fact, the 5 reales Spanish tariff was applied for letters (double rate) from France to Spain by sea way, between the conventions of April 1th, 1849 and July 1th, 1859.

6 - Blue ink was always used for the cancellations and postal markings in Medellín at this period.

I can therefore conclude that this document is a fake. The letter used to make the fake is a letter from France to Spain. The postal marking is false. However, the stamp of Colombia is authentic..

See examples of letters illustrating my comments below:

Cover from Marseille (September 25th, 1857) to Barcelona (September 30th, 1857) (fig. 2). Maritime entry marks



Fig. 2., 2a. Reproduction of the inside part text of the correspondence mentioned above



Fig. 3, 3a. Santiago de Chile to Barcelona, 1859

“ESTRANGERO BARCELONA” and Spanish tax of 5R (reales) under tariff of July 1st, 1849 (double rate, not exceeding 8 adarmes). Same sender and same addressee of the front cover stud-

ied.

Cover from Santiago de Chile to Barcelona (August 9th, 1859) (fig. 3). British date stamp at Valparaiso (July 16th, 1859) on the back side. According to the Franco-British convention of 1856, the letter went enclosed in a bag through France to the French border with Spain. Spanish tax (reales) 8R for a double rate under the 1854 Spanish tariff for the covers from “South American” countries to Spain. Date stamp «LA JUNQUERA» (Spanish land border) and date stamp «Barcelona» at the back side.

Cover from Marseille (September 8th, 1862) to Madrid (September 13th, 1862), via Barcelona (fig. 4). The French rate is 40 centimes, according with the **1859 new agreement** between France and Spain and “3” (cuartos) tax to pay by the addressee, according also with the agreement (8 cuartos = 1 real). The sender is “Eugène Foucou”.



Fig. 4, 4a

After hearing my explanation about the fake front cover, CORINPHILA offered to pay the buyer back.

End Notes

1) Covers from Cuba to Spain, by Spanish or commercial vessel, have this Spanish tax, but before February 1855. At this time, Cuba had specific

(Continued on page 27)

Stamp Shortage Marks

Federico Teppa

In 1892 Colombian postal regulations concerning how to deal with stamp shortages were very clear: the letters had to be marked «no hay estampillas» (no stamps available) with the amount paid and signed by the postal administrator. Prior to that, from 1866 the postmaster had to collect the postage fee and noted it on the cover, but these regulations were not always followed, and some postal agencies even printed their own adhesive labels.

In this article, I will describe the inscriptions concerning national stamp shortages, found on the covers prior to 1930, from the post offices that tried to follow the postal regulations without using labels or provisional stamps.

The inscriptions dealing with stamps shortages can be divided in 2 types:

- 1) Inscriptions in pencil or ink.
- 2) Inscriptions with special rubber stamps.

Type (A) Inscriptions in Pencil or Ink.

This type of inscription is hard to find, only a few examples have survived due to lack of interest in the past to preserve them.

The handmarks are usually accompanied by the town cancel, giving the date and the origin, but the postal fee paid is sometimes missing.

The earliest mark I have is on an 1885 cover from Barranquilla to Colon (Fig. 1). Shorta-



Fig. 1. Barranquilla cover with manuscript "5."

ge due to the civil war, the postmaster inscribed the value 5 cents by hand combined with a Barranquilla duplex cancel.

The 1885 civil war also caused a shortage of stamps from March through July of 1885 in the post offices of the Panama region. The cities of Panama and Colon dealt with the shortage by striking the letters with a black duplex cancel composed by a circular datestamp and an oval with transverse bars. But no inscription of value paid or stamp shortage was applied.

In the Type (A) inscription, there are also covers with just a simple ink or pencil mark and no indication of date or origin (fig. 2). Unless there is the sender address and some transit marks they are useless for any study.

Unfortunately, I have three covers in my collection with just an ink mark «no hay estampillas» (Fig.2) with no clue of their date or origin.

Two marks of this list are worth mentioning:

1) The 1891 Mark from Arauca (Fig.3). It shows the ingeniousness of the postmaster C.S.Salazar, that used an old rectangular die, in which in front of the month AGO (august), wrote the letter P to make PAGO (paid) followed by the postal fee 0.05 cs. The actual cancel on the cover is an oval datestamp ARAUCA 27/ Oct/1891. I could very well have placed this mark on the type (B) list, but no rubber handstamp was really created.

2) The 1904 mark from Magangue (Fig.4). It shows an

Table I. Summary of Type A Provisional Markings
the Location is identified by a postal cancel.

Location	Date	Inscription	Value	Color
Arauca (a)	27/Oct/1891	PAGÓ 0.05 cs /C.S.Salazar	Yes	Black ink
Arauca (b)	22/Oct/1929	Pagó porte	No	
Armenia	27/Oct/1924	Pagó 0.03	Yes	Blue pencil
Banco (a)	9/Dic/1924	Pagó \$003 no/ hay Estls	Yes	Black ink
Banco (b)	25/Feb/1926	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
Barranquilla (a)	12/Jun/1885	5 cs	Yes	Blue ink
Barranquilla (a)	4/Aug/1885	0.50	Yes	Black ink
Barranquilla (a)	5/Aug/1885	Franco	No	Black ink
Barranquilla (b)	3/Jun/1902	No hay estampillas pagó 40cs	Yes	Black ink
Bucaramanga(a)	7/Apr/1926	Pagó el porte del dia	No	Black ink
Bucaramanga(b)	23/May/1930	No hay especies 0.04	Yes	Red ink
Buenaventura	2/Mar/1901	Pago 10 c	Yes	Black ink
Buga	?	Pago 10 cts	Yes	Black ink
Cañasgordas	22/May/1925	Pago porte 003	Yes	?
Carmen(a)	2/Feb/1926	Pagó porte no hay especies	No	Blue ink
Carmen(b)	5?/Feb/1928	Pago porte no hay/ estampillas \$0.04	Yes	Blue ink
Chiriguana (a)	9/Aug/1922	Pagó porte	No	Black ink
Chiriguana (b)	7/Jul/1924	Pagó porte \$0.03	Yes	Blue ink
Cucuta	8/Dec/1924	Pagó porte	No	Black ink
El Banco	24/Oct/1928	Pago \$004 no hay especies	Yes	Violet ink
Gamarra	30/Ago/1923	Pagó porte	No	Black ink
Guapi	25/Sep/1912	Pagó 0.05 cs	Yes	Blue ink
Honda	2/Jul/1896	No hay estampillas de \$0.05/ pago el porte	Yes	Black ink
La Gloria	?	No hai estampillas	No	?
Libano	14/Dec/191?	Pagó porte/ No hay especies	No	Black ink
Lorica	11/Jun/192 ?	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
Kilometro 20 Dep. de Santander	18/Apr/1918	Pagó respectivo porte No hai especies	No	Black ink
Magangue(a)	19/Jan/1904	Pago el importe 5.00	Yes	Black ink
Magangue(b)	25/Oct/1929	No hay especies./ Pago porte \$0.04	Yes	Blue ink
Mompos (a) Undated red oval	Arround 1890's	No hai estampils	No	Black ink
Mompos (b)	11/Oct/1896	No hai estamp.	No	Black ink

Table I. (ctd.)

Location	Date	Inscription	Value	Color
Monteria	?/May/?	Pagó porte. No hay especies	No	Black ink
Ocaña	29/May/1931	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
Pamplona	11/Jun/1909	No hay estpillas	No	Violet pencil
Pereira	7/Apr/1924	Pagó 001	Yes	Black ink
	?	Pagó 003	Yes	Blue ink
Plato	20/Aug/1929	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
	15/Apr/1930	Pagó porte	No	Black Pencil
Popayan	18/Jun/1894	Porte pagado	No	Black ink
Puerto Berrio	1 ?/Apr/1925	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
	20/Sep/1927	Pagó porte	No	Blue ink
Puerto Wilches	28/Apr/191?	Pagó porte/no hay especies	No	Black ink
Rionegro	Dec/1893	No hai estampillas postales	No	Black ink
Undated fancy colombia				
Santa Marta	23/Nov/1924	Pagó porte	No	Black ink
Tumaco	14 – 25/May/1901	Pago 0.10 /Cabezas	Yes	Black ink
Valledupar	22/Jul/1920	Pago porte \$0.03	Yes	Blue ink
Velez (a)	?/Feb/1923	Pagó	No	Black ink
Velez (b)	11/Jan/1924	Pagó	No	Blue ink
Villanueva	11/Feb/1924	Pago porte \$002 no hay estampillas	Yes	Blue ink
Zambrano	7/Nov/1926	Pagó	No	Black Pencil
Zambrano	20/Nov/1926	Pagó porte no hay esp.	No	Blue ink

unexpected fee paid of 5 pesos. The reason is that from January 1904 the postal administration introduced new postal rates in gold peso currency. The gold peso was created in response to the inflation caused by the 1000 days war, and was worth 100 old pesos.

Postal agencies were not ready for the sudden rate change and many had not received the new stamps, so to handle the problem the postmasters were authorised to use the devalued old stamps in their stocks, with the exchange 100 to 1.

The postmaster of Magangue was accustomed to frank the mail with the devalued

old pesos stamps, but once also the old values were exhausted, he mistakenly inscribed

manually the postal fee 5 pesos
instead of 5 centavos.

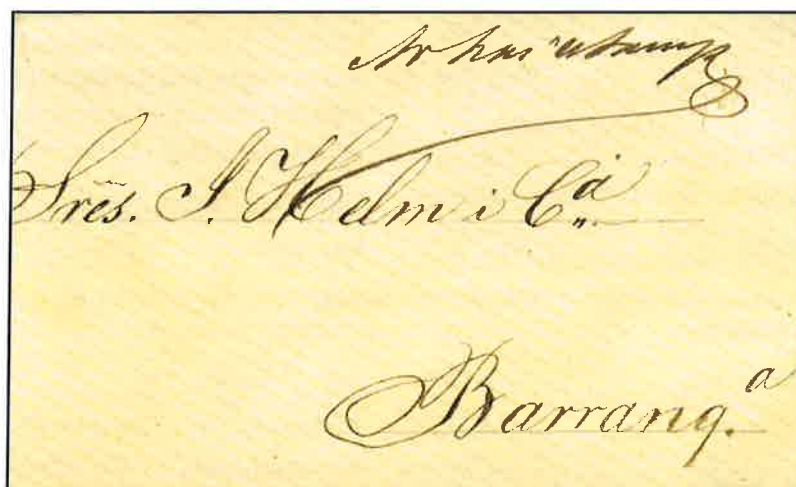


Fig. 2. No hai estampillas cover of unknown origin.

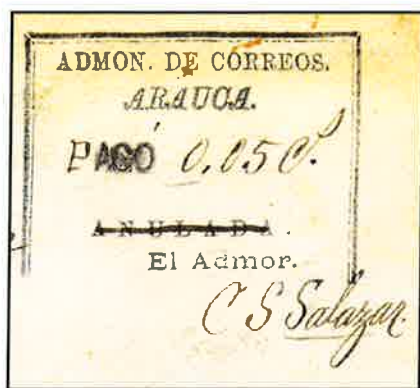


Fig. 3. 1891 Mark from Arauca made from an old rectangular die.

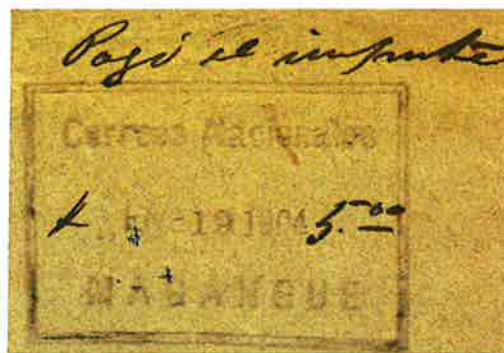


Fig. 4. 1904 mark from Magangué endorsed 5 pesos rather than 5 centavos.

Type (B) Inscription with Special Rubber Stamp .

This type of marks consists of a locally made handstamp only used when stamp shortages occurred. Some marks show the fee paid, while other have the fee handwritten, only in few occasions there is no indication of the amount paid.

Covers using a special rubber handstamp are rarely seen. The most common types are 1) Barranquilla (a) which was used during the month of June 1902; and 2) the type Barranquilla (c) used on many covers were sent for philatelic purposes; and 3) the type Medellín used between December 1924 through March 1926.

Table II describes and shows the Type (B) marks known to me. This list is far from being

complete.

Knowing all the postal troubles in Colombia, it is clear that I have only scratched the surface of the existing marks, but making a list of the known covers helps to understand the several periods of shortages suffered by the Colombian postal system.

I hope that other Copaphil members will publish their examples in Copacarta or send me the scans at fteppa@sunrise.ch .

Acknowledgements. Special thanks to Alan D. Anyon in adding many marks to my knowledge and without whom this article would have been far less complete.

Two Contributions from the Editor's Collection

Thomas P. Myers

A "no hay estampillas" cover from Carmen seems to date from 1904. There is no legible date stamp on the front of the first cover. The back bears two very faint rectangular back stamps which together seem to read 5 March 1904 (fig. 1).

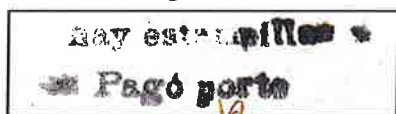


Fig. 1. Hand stamp from Carmen possibly 1904

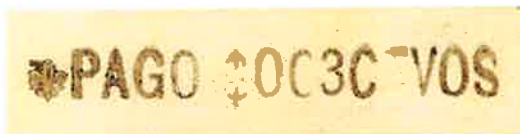
A second cover bears a manuscript "pago porte, no hay estampillas" from Puerto Wilches is clearly dated 28 April 1918 (fig. 2) giving a year date to the mark listed in Table A.



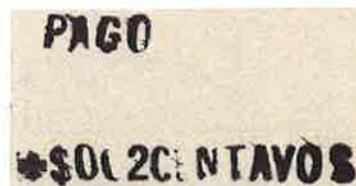
Fig. 2. Manuscript "pago porte" from Puerto Wilches, 1918.

Table II. Pago porte and No Ha Estampillas Handstamps (ctd.)**LOCATION**

ARMENIA (a)
5/Jan/1925 ⇌ 8/Jan/1925
(fleur de lys) PAGO \$003 CTVOS
51mm
Black



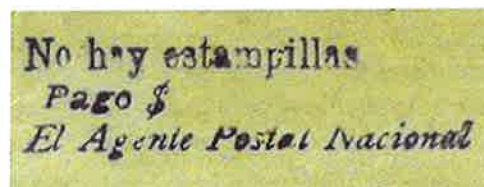
ARMENIA (b)
24/Dec/1925
PAGO
(fleur de Lys) \$002CENTAVOS
48mm
Black



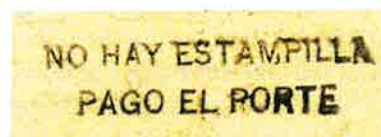
BARRANCABERMEJA
14/Sep/1927
Pagoporte (handwritten fee)
53mm
Violet



BARRANQUILLA (a)
4/Jun/1902 ⇌ 24/Jun/1902
No hay estampillas
Pago \$ (handwritten fee)
El Agente Postal Nacional
47mm
Violet



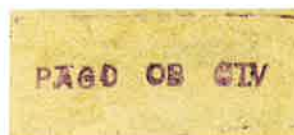
BARRANQUILLA (b)
29/Aug/1904
13/Oct/1904
NO HAY ESTAMPILLA
PAGO EL PORTE
Black



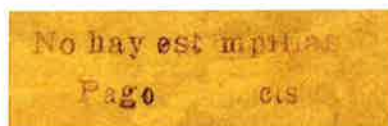
BARRANQUILLA (c)
15/Nov/1924 Violet
2/Dec/1924 Magenta
22 ⇌ 26/Feb/1926 red & blue
NO HAY ESTAMPILLAS
PAGO..... CENTAVOS (handwritten fee)
49X17mm



BUGA
30/Dec/1924
PAGO 03 CTV
45mm
Violet



CALI (a)
20/May/1902
No hay estampillas
Pago cts (handwritten fee)
Violet



CALI (b)
Probably 1920's
Pagó \$0.03 Tres CTVs
CALI,

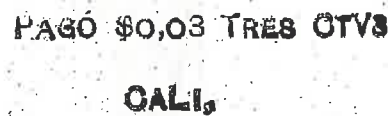


Table II. Pago porte and No Ha Estampillas Handstamps (ctd.)

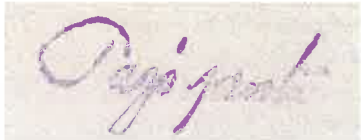
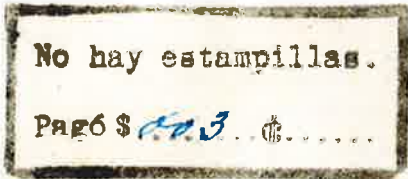
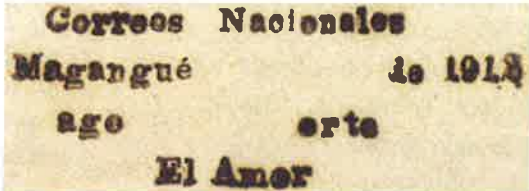
Location	Mark
CALI (c) 9/Jan/1925 <i>Black</i> 18/Jan/1925 <i>Violet</i> Pago Art.432 del/Codigo postal y Telegraf/Cali (handwritten fee) 63mm	
CARMEN Probably 1920's Pagó de porte \$_____ (handwritten fee) Peso_____gramos CARMEN-COLOMBIA.	
CARTAGENA (a) 1885 FRANCA <i>Black</i>	
CARTAGENA (b) 27/Feb/1926 PAGO 1 CTS CARTAGENA	
CARTAGO (a) 1/Dec/1904 ->NO hay ESTAMPILLAS<- / -Pago \$0.03- 92mm <i>Violet</i>	
CARTAGO (b) 5/Jan/1925 NO hay ESTAMPILLAS / PAGO \$0.03 <i>Violet</i>	
CUCUTA (a) 14/May/1892 10	
CUCUTA (b) 29/Nov/1924 Pagó porte 38mm <i>Violet</i>	
FUSAGASUGA 17/Jun/1925 No hay estampillas. Pagó \$.... c..... (handwritten fee) 45mm <i>Black</i>	
MAGANGUE 12/Oct/1912 Correos Nacionales/ Magangué de 1912 ago orte (handwritten fee) El Amor. (P character handwritten in (p)ago & (p)orte) 66mm <i>Black</i>	

Table II. Pago Porte and No Ha Estampillas Handstamps (ctd.)

MANIZALES
21/Jun/1918
NO HAY ESTAMPILLAS
+ PAGO \$.0.0 (last digit handwritten)
Violet

MEDELLIN
15/Dec/1924 *Black*
26/Dec/1924 *Blue*
5,15,16/Feb/1925
9/May 1925 *Blue*
5/Mar/1926 *Black*
PAGO PORTE \$_____ (hand written fee)
MEDELLIN
50mm

MOMPOS (a)
Probably around 1890's
MOMPOS (in oval)
No hai estampillas
33mm
Black & Violet

MOMPOS (b)
17/Mar/1889 *Violet*
5/Jan/1891 *Violet*
17/Ago/1892 *Black*
5/Sep/1892 *Black*
23/Apr/1899 *Black*
NO HAI ESTAMPILLAS

OCAÑA
19/Jan/1925
PAGO PORTE
53 mm
Black

PALMIRA
16/Dec/1924
22/Dec/1924
NO HAY ESTAMPILLAS
Pago tres centavos
83 mm
Violet

SUCRE
Date ?
COLECTURIA de HACIENDA
Pagó de porte
Peso_____g (handwritten fee)
SUCRE - - COLOMBIA
Black

TUMACO
1892
Franca. Pago Cs (handwritten fee)
63 mm
Black

ZAPATOCA
21/Apr/1923?
PAGO PORTE
NO HAI ESPECIES
Violet



The 1917 Canal Zone and 1918 Panama 12c ABNCo Stamps

by David Zemer

The 100th anniversary of the 1917 Canal Zone and 1918 Panama 12c, 15, and 24c stamps is nearly here but outside of the narrative in *Canal Zone Stamps* little has been published on their design and manufacture. This research will rectify this gap in our knowledge and uses the newly discovered correspondence between the American Bank Note Company and Panama as well as pre- and post-production materials to illustrate their design and production followed by several examples of these stamps on cover.

In 1916 all three denominations were ordered from Panama by the Canal Zone. Panama in turn forwarded this order to the ABNCo. These stamps were very popular with collectors which probably induced Panama to order three identical stamps *sans* the Canal Zone overprint for itself in 1918. The chronology for all six stamps is outlined in this article but only the design materials and examples for the two 12c stamps are highlighted. The design materials for the 15c and 24c stamps will be featured in a future article.

After the research on this series is published we hope to make available to the public the complete ABNCo files relating to the three stamps printed for the Canal Zone as well as those printed for Panama. The correspondence dates are the keys for any researcher who wishes delve further into this subject and are therefore printed in bold type.



Fig. 1a. Photograph for 12c stamp vignette - SS Panama steaming south through Culebra Cut August 11, 1914.



Fig. 2a. Photograph of SS Panama reduced to stamp size.

The Canal Zone 12c Stamp Order F5082

From order to manufacture: 1916-1917

January 16, 1916. Mr. E.C. Brooks from the ABNCo wrote to his management from the Hotel Tivoli in Ancon. He apologized for being late in reporting because he had been stuck in quarantine for two days after arriving from Callao, Peru. He had met with Mr. John Ehrman, the ABNCo agent in Panama, and among other business Mr. Ehrman told him that Panama had just received a loan and was *quite flush with money* therefore he considered *this a propitious time for securing some orders*. Mr. Ehrman hoped one of these new orders would be for 12c, 15c, and 24c postage stamps.

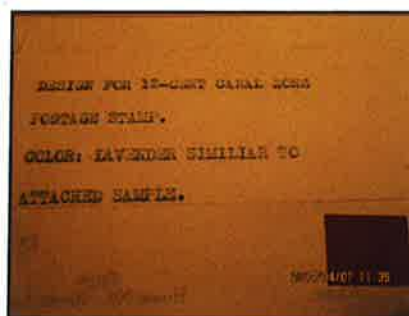


Fig. 1b. Frame color sample attached to back of SS Panama photograph.



Fig. 2b. Vignette reduced to stamp size, cut to shape.

September 30, 1916. The President of Panama issued Decree No. 164, *Decreto Numero 164 de 1916*, published in *Gaceta Oficial*, authorizing these three stamps. The same day Mr. Ehrman wrote the ABNCo with a copy of Order No. 98 signed by Juan B. Sosa, the *Secretaria de Gobierno y Justicia*, for stamps of the Republic of Panama to be used in the Canal Zone post offices. His letter reached the ABNCo October 14. The order for the 12c stamp, translated into English, was for

500,000 stamps, color light violet, of the denomination of

FOREIGN SALES DEPARTMENT 126 5082

Date October 17, 1916.

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO.

Please furnish República de Panamá

Engrave special stamp vignettes for postage stamps, as per photographs now in the Modeling Room for three denominations of stamps, as follows:-

12 Doce Centésimos de Balboa - vignette entitled "EL VAPOR PANAMA CRUZANDO EL CANAL - VISTA TOMADA DEL NORTE EN EL CORTE DE CULEBRA AGOSTO 11 DE 1914"

15 Quince Centésimos de Balboa - vignette entitled "EL VAPOR PANAMA CRUZANDO EL CANAL - VISTA TOMADA DEL SUR EN EL CORTE DE CULEBRA AGOSTO 11 DE 1914"

24 Veinticuatro Centésimos de Balboa - vignette entitled "EL VAPOR CRISTOBAL EN LA EXOLUBA DE GATUN EL 11 DE MARZO DE 1915"

NOTE:- Size, style and design are to be in accordance with the models that are now being prepared. Engravings are to be started at once so as to save time, as these stamps are wanted in a great rush. Mr. Major has promised to finish the engravings and give us a plate of each denomination in from 4 to 5 weeks. This means vignette and border plate for each.

To be charged in printing order to come.

Shipping Instructions:-

Fig 3. Order to engrave Special stamp vignettes.

MANAGER OF FOREIGN SALES

B/O.12; the vignette of which represents the steamer "PANAMA" crossing Culebra Cut, - near Emperador, on its voyage from South to North made on August 11, 1914; with the inscription "REPUBLIC DE PANAMA -CORREOS- in the upper part; EL VAPOR PANAMA CRUZANDO EL CANAL - VISTA TOMADA DEL NORTE EN EL CORTE DE CULEBRA Agosto 11 de 1914 doce centesimos de balboa" in letters and Figs, in the lower part.

All these stamps should be surcharged with the words

"CANAL ZONE".

In a separate letter he enclosed another order for 2000 additional stamps of each denomination to be sent to Panama in a separate package. These stamps were intended to be forwarded to the International Office of the Universal Postal Union for distribution among its members.

Mr. Ehrman asked the ABNCo to hasten this order as the stamps were to be placed in circulation on January 1, 1917.

This letter is a typical example of how the ABNCo kept

track of orders by order date and the F (Foreign) Order number. On the large majority of correspondence for this series of Canal Zone stamps the ABNCo wrote the order number and the date that the order was subsequently accepted, "F5082 10/24/1916", in manuscript.

October 2, 1916. Mr. Ehrman confirmed the order in a letter received by ABNCo October 14. At the end of the letter Ehrman wrote that the photographs for the vignettes and samples of colors for the frames were enclosed (Figs. 1a—photo 250 mm x 200 mm, 1b (color sample).

The ABNCo added the following in pencil at the bottom of the page:

Charge \$ 350 for each engraving, printing at \$ 0.65/ thousand stamps, surcharging at \$ 5 per 1000 impressions. Total costs

Engraving	\$ 1050.00
Printing	978.90
Surcharge	75.30
TOTAL	\$ 2104.20

October 9, 1916. Panama confirmed the order in a letter which arrived at the ABNCo October 17 and wrote that the Consul General of Panama would pay the bill.

In preparation for the expected order the ABNCo first photographically reduced the size of this photograph to that of the vignette and then cut it to the necessary shape (Figs. 2a (27mm x 20mm), 2b).

October 17, 1916. The ABNCo Foreign Sales Department filled out an internal order for these stamps (Fig. 3 -- tur-



Fig 4. ABNCo color sample of purple R2 to match Canal Zone request.

quoise paper). Due to the need for expediency the engraving department was given the go ahead to began work on the engraving and plates without waiting for approval of the design by Panama. A color sample, R2 purple, was chosen to match the frame color requested by the Canal Zone (Fig. 4).

October 21, 1916. the Manager of the Foreign Department confirmed to Panama that they had received the official order and were rushing it so that the stamps would arrive before January 1st. He also informed Ehrman that 502,000 stamps of each denomination would be printed and the price would be \$ 2,104.20.

October 24, 1916. The essay was approved by the ABNCo and a photograph was taken of the stamp (Figs. 5, 6). The Manager of Foreign Sales placed an internal order to engrave the borders and transfer the impressions (Fig. 7, turquoise). Besides being written in manuscript this date was rubber stamped on the selvage of some



Fig 6. Photograph of 12c essay.



Fig 5. Handcolored essays for 12c, 15c, 24c stamps approved October 24, 1916.

126

FOREIGN SALES DEPARTMENT

Date: Oct. 24, 1916

AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO.

Please furnish

República de Panamá

Vignettes being engraved on Order 5082.

Engrave border dies for 12, 15 and 24 Centésimos de Balboa as per models herewith.

Transfer	1 - 100 cm, vignette plate Rotary, 12 Centésimos de Balboa	15	24
1 - 100 cm, " " " "	15	24	
1 - 100 cm, " " " "	15	24	
1 - 100 cm, border " " "	12	15	24
1 - 100 cm, " " " "	15	24	
1 - 100 cm, " " " "	15	24	

Steel print 5020 impressions 100 cm, 12 Centésimos de Balboa Stamps, vignette in black. Border in light violet.

5020 impressions 100 cm, 15 Centésimos de Balboa Stamps, vignette in black: Border in light blue.

5020 impressions 100 cm, 24 Centésimos de Balboa Stamps, vignette in black. Border in light brown.

Paper Stamp.

Type print (Surcharge) "Canal Zone" across the face of all these stamps.

Gum and perforate.

Wax tissues 1 sheet to 1 sheet of stamps. See that wax tissues are larger than the sheets of stamps 100 cm. trifle

Put up in packages of 100 sheets of stamps in heavy white paraffine paper, and wrap each 5 packages in waterproof paper.

Engraving - \$ 1050.
Printing at 65 cts - 978.90
Surcharging - \$ 5 M shts - 75.50
\$ 2104.20

Shipping Instructions:—

Note: 2000 of each denomination of the above stamps are to be packed separately and sent to the Secretaría de Gobierno y Justicia; the balance to be shipped through the Panama Consul in the usual way.

MANAGER OF FOREIGN SALES

Fig 7. ABNCo Foreign Order to ABNCo for 12c, 15c, 24c stamps - October 24, 1916.

of the ABNCo specimen stamps. Previous to acquiring this correspondence one hypothesis was

that these dates were the dates the stamps were printed.¹ We now know that October 24, 1916



Fig 8. Approved 12c die proof - November 14, 1916.

is the date that the ABNCo confirmed the print order and entered it into their system.

True to their promise to rush this order into production the final die proof was finished and approved on November 14 and the frame plate proof approved November 16 (Figs. 8, 9).

A single-color, brown, die proof of the 12c stamp on hard paper has surfaced, provenience unknown, and could have been a test to see how a single color pictorial stamp would look (Fig. 10).

The frame plate proofs in issued colors came from Lot 544 in the 1990 ABNCo archive sale. The plates proofs were bought by several dealers, cut into pieces, and sold to collectors. So far as known no copy of the complete plate proof was made before it was cut up. The archive sale did not contain a similar plate proof for the vignettes and none are believed to have survived.

Among the sheets in Lot



Fig 9. 12c frame plate proof approved November 21, 1916.



Fig 10. 12c engraved single color trial proof - provenience unknown.



Fig 11. Plate proof multiple in issued colors.



Fig 12. Large Die Proof in issued colors, ex-Helme.

545 of the ABNCo archive sale there were .. three imperforate plate proof sheets of 100 stamps in issued colors on thin wove

paper, some archive notes affixed to reverse, usual tears, creases or splits affecting some sheet positions, 12c with some thinning on reverse .. which were divided into smaller lots and resold to collectors. No copy of these plate proofs was made (Fig. 11).

The Helme collection contained a large 12c die proof in issued colors. As it predates the ABNCo archive sale and has the die number C-1220 under the stamp we know that it was a production die proof and struck after the final die was approved (Fig. 12).

As previously reported in CZP most of the Canal Zone specimen stamps were bought by a group of collectors. Full sheet color photocopies were made, a sheet description and stamp position number written on the back in pencil, and then they were divided up among the participants. An example of these stamps with the top selvage and Foreign Order number both engraved and hand-stamped in red is shown in Fig. 13.

**Inscription should be Gaillard
Cut not Culebra Cut**

As noted in Canal Zone
Stamps, Executive Secretary



Fig 13. Canal Zone specimen multiple showing inscription and hand stamped F5082.

McIlvaine wrote to Narciso Garay, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Panama, November 27, 1916 pointing out that the official name of the cut had been changed from Culebra Cut to Gaillard Cut, and he requested that the inscriptions on the 12¢ and 15¢ stamps be changed accordingly.

December 5, 1916. Ehrman sent a coded cable to ABNCo.

Refer to order as per our letter of October 2nd if possible change word "Culebra" for "Gaillard" must be no delay first shipment. Juan Ehrman (Fig. 14).

ABNCo immediately cabled a coded message back

Refer to your telegram of Dec 5th. Too late to make change (Fig. 15).

December 6, 1916. ABNCo wrote to Ehrman that although they would like to help Panama it was too late to make a change and the ABNCo should be held blameless as it was not their fault.

December 8. Mr. Garay notified Mr. McIlvaine that after correspondence with the American Bank Note Company, Panama had been advised that it was impossible to make any changes in the inscriptions at

 A cablegram form from the Mexican Telegraph Company. The header includes "UNITED STATES and SOUTH AMERICA DIRECT" and "VIA COLON CABLEGRAM". It mentions "JAMES A. SCHRYVER, PRESIDENT" and "MEXICAN TELEGRAPH CO. CONNECTING WITH CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN TELEGRAPH CO. 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK". The body of the cablegram contains the text: "Cablegram received at 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK, to which office REPLY to this message should be sent marked 'VIA COLON.'" followed by a date field and a time field. The message is encoded in a grid: UPRIGNER PEBIAKNOH TEVAZHUOB WORD CULEBRA FOR GAILLARD KISEXYNUH BITYB. A note at the bottom states: "The foregoing Cablegram was received 'VIA COLON' Repetitions of doubtful words should be obtained through the company's office, 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK, and not by direct application to the sender. No inquiry respecting this message can be attended to without the production of this form."

Fig 14. Coded cable from ABNCo agent in Panama requesting name change from "Culebra" to "Gaillard" cut.

 A cablegram form from the Mexican Telegraph Company. The header includes "MEXICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY CONNECTING WITH THE CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICAN TELEGRAPH CO. VIA DIRECT NEW YORK COLON CABLE". It mentions "OFFICE: No. 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK." and "Telephones (4550) Broad (5577) Broad". The body of the cablegram contains the text: "Send the following Cablegram 'VIA COLON' subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to" followed by a date field and a time field. The message is encoded in a grid: YPGOLALJAZ TOOOZKAJ TOPOZAC HUHOBRAPUT. A note at the bottom states: "PLEASE READ THE CONDITIONS ON BACK AND WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR REFERENCE."

Fig 15. Coded cable from ABNCo informing agent in Panama that it was too late to make name change.

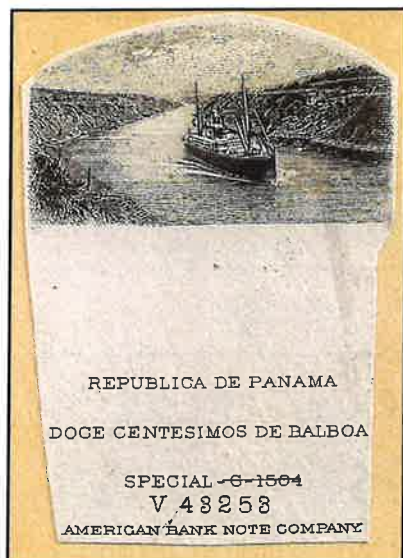


Fig 16. ca. 1924 - ABNCo renumbered vignette die.



Fig 17. ca. 1924 - ABNCo renumbered frame die.

that stage in the production.

December 22, 1916. ABNCo wrote Panama that they are shipping 1,000,000 stamps on the Steamer *Metapan* December 23rd:

500,000 12c
250,000 15c
250,000 24c

December 30, 1916. ABNCo wrote Panama that they were sending the remainder of stamps, 250,000 15c, 250,000 24c, on the Steamer *Pastores* that day and that they were sending 200 stamps of each de-

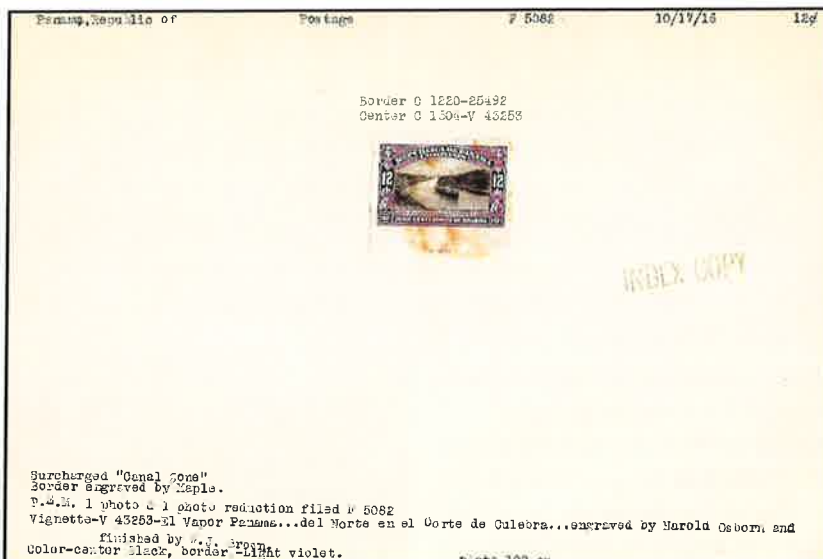


Fig 18. Index Card for 12c stamp.

nomination by parcel post to the *Secretaria de Gobierno y Justicia*.

The latter order was for the additional stamps for the UPU and a significant reduction from 2000 of each denomination previously ordered. No documentation has been found clarifying this change. To date no 12c, 15c, or 24c specimens have been recorded from the archives of the countries which should have originally received these UPU specimens.

According to *Canal Zone Stamps* Panama delivered the complete order of 1,500,000 stamps to the Canal Zone on January 17, 1917.

The 12c stamp and design materials after delivery

In 1924 the ABNCo renumbered all of its old dies. A variety of die proofs showing this change have appeared on the secondary market after the 1990 ABNCo archive sale. The vignette die number was changed from C-1504 to V 43253. The frame die number

was changed from C-1220 to 25492 (Figs. 16, 17).

Sometime after 1924 the ABNCo created a set of index cards which had a summary of design and printing data. These cards contain valuable information but are often incomplete or incorrect so the student should check any data with a second source if possible. Because of the unique situation of the Canal Zone and Panama often sharing the same or similar stamp some information on the card can be confusing. The index card for the 12c stamp provides the Foreign Order number F 5082 which is that for the Canal Zone order but does not mention that in 1918 there was a Panama order F5634. It also uses the date 10/17/16 as the order date whereas all of the correspondence uses 10/25/16 (Fig. 18).

In 1933 the plates were destroyed. Destruction plate proofs with the frame in green and the vignette in black, all on thin card were sold in Lot 546 at the ABNCo archive sale.



Fig 19a. 12c stamp - 10c registry fee + 2c letter, ex-Gibbs.



Fig 19b. 12c + 2c stamp - 2 ounce rate. Courtesy Richard Spielberg.



Fig 19c. 12c + 2c stamp + 1c envelope - uprated to pay 15c to Germany. ex-Gibbs.



Fig 19d. 12c + 1c stamp + 2c envelope - uprated to pay 15c to Denmark. ex-Gibbs.



Fig 19e. 12c + 1c stamp + 2c envelope - uprated to pay 15c to Austria. Courtesy Tom Brougham.

Lot 546 1918, 12c-24c Canal Scenes, plate proofs (214P-216P), set of three frame and vignette plate proof sheets of 100 stamps on thin card, in green-apparently from a printing made in 1933 when the printing plates were destroyed, notations to this effect in lower margin, usual creasing or tears affecting some stamp impres-

1917. Gerald Bliss, the Canal Zone postmaster at Gatun, and Emil J. Rall had sent *Mekeel's* a newspaper clipping stating that the stamps were expected to be issued Monday, January 22nd, somewhat earlier than expected and as they went to press *Mekeel's* had just received "specimens of these three beautiful stamps".

sions, most fine.

Their location is unknown today. The first mention of these stamps found in the US philatelic press was in *Mekeel's*² February 10,

The earliest known usage of the 12c stamp according to the Canal Zone Study Group is January 23rd³.

In 1937, 185,086 copies of the Canal Zone 12c stamp, Scott No. 49, were burned, leaving 314,914 issued.

Canal Zone 12c stamps on cover

Covers bearing the Canal Zone 12c stamp are not particularly difficult to find although the condition is often less than ideal. Because 12c paid the 2c rate for internal first class mail plus the 10c registry fee and quite probably because it was such an attractive stamp an average of 50,000 were sold each year until they were recalled in 1924.

The CZSG has started a

AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY. FOREIGN
SUBJECT: POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE USE OF POST OFFICES OF
THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.
DATE: May 21, 1918

Panama
to
New York
By 5634
Date 6/9/18

Enclosed find original order of the Secretario de Gobierno y Justicia, Sección de Correos y Telégrafos, Número 645-B, dated May 20, 1918 for:

1,000,000. stamps of B/O, 01 (Busto de Balboa) ✓
1,000,000 " " B/O, 02 (Busto de Córdoba) 5377
50,000 " " B/O, 12 (Vapor Panamá cruzando el Canal vista tomada del Norte en el sorto de Culebra, Agosto 11 de 1914.) ✓
50,000 " " B/O, 15 (Vapor Panamá cruzando el Canal vista tomada del sur en el sorto de Culebra, Agosto 11 de 1914.) ✓
50,000 " " B/O, 24 (Vapor Cristóbal en la esclusa de Gatun el 11 de Marzo de 1915.) ✓

The three last denominations are to be the same as those ordered for the Canal Zone Post Offices, but without the surcharge "Canal Zone".

This order will be confirmed by the Secretario de Hacienda y Tesoro.

Hoping you will give a prompt dispatch to this order.

Yours very truly,
J. Ehrman

Fig 20. May 21, 1918 - order from ABNCo agent in Panama for 1c, 2c, 12c, 15c and 24c stamps.

ment of Post and Telegraphs sent Juan Ehrman, the agent of the ABNCo in Panama, a letter stating that they would order 1,000,000 1c Balboa, and 1,000,000 Cordoba stamps as well as 50,000 each of the 12c, 15c, and 24c stamps all without the Canal Zone overprint, and that the *Secretario de Hacienda* would confirm the order.

May 21, 1918 the *Secretario de Hacienda* confirmed the order and Ehrman sent the original orders to the ABNCo (Fig. 20).

The ABNCo assigned the 1c, 12c, 15c, 24c stamps Foreign Order number 5634 and the 2c stamp Foreign Order number 5635. The order for the 1c Balboa stamp was the last for this portrait and was on a paper that was different in color to the previous 1c Balboa stamps. Because of this color differentiation one is able to link it to stamp with the 1921 Canal Zone overprint made at the Mt. Hope

census of covers bearing each of these three denominations. About 30 of the 12c have been recorded so far (Fig. 19 a-e). If you wish to contribute please send a scan of 300 dpi of both sides of any covers that you have to me. Eventually we hope to post a spreadsheet of our findings on our homepage.

We cannot offer a breakdown between those used to deliver mail and the unused copies sold to collectors but judging by the ease mint stamps are found today a large amount were never postally used.

The Panama 12c Stamp Order

F5634

May 20, 1918 the depart-

AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY.
70-72 BROAD STREET.
New York.
July 31, 1918.

Commercial Invoice
OUR NY F5634-5-
Panama.
YOUR NY

3 copies of this Invoice is handed to Consular with Balbo Leading & Sonnet.

1,000,000 - 1c postage stamps	739.00
50,000 - 12c " "	35.00
50,000 - 15c " "	35.00
50,000 - 24c " "	55.00
1,000,000 - 2c " "	700.00
	\$1655.00 U.S. Gold

4 cases Nos. 158 to 161-	gross lbs.	net kilos	gross kilos
158-	161	235	75
159	225	315	102
160	155	218	70
161	155	218	70

per S S Almirante
Declaro bajo juramento que las cantidades de mercancías y los precios de ellas, á que se refiere esta cuenta, son verdaderos.
AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO.,
(Executed by Mr. Page, Notary)
(Sgd) A.L. Schamp.

Fig 21. July 31, 1918 - invoice from ABNCo to Panama for 1c, 2c, 12c, 15c and 24c stamps.



Fig 22. 12c Panama specimen stamp.

printing plant in the Canal Zone, CZSG catalog number 46.B, and Panama invert, sc. 197a.

July 31, 1918 the invoice for this order was sent to the Panama Consul in New York City and the stamps were shipped on the S.S. *Almirante*. The cost to Panama for 50,000 12c stamps was \$ 35 (Fig. 21).

August 20, 1918 the ABNCo wrote Panama that they had been paid \$1551.56 for orders F5634 and F5635 on August 16 which settled the account.

August 23, 1918 Panama issued Decree No. 135 of 1918, *Decreto Numero 135 de 1918*, in *Gaceta Oficial*. It allowed the use of the 12c, 15c, and 24c stamp in Panama.

The legendary stamp dealer Kisimir Bileski bought Lot 569 at the ABNCo archive sale. It



Fig 23. 12c large Panama multiple showing same selvage as Canal Zone 12c stamp.

contained approximately 300 full and partial specimen sheets. Among these were three full sheets of the Panama 12c, 15c, and 24c stamps. Mr. Bileski sold country specimen stamps in lots of one stamp from each printing (Fig. 22). The Panama lots were priced at \$1000 each and along with the stamps came a list of all of the stamps and the Foreign Order numbers. In his list these three stamps were identified as

order 5634 which was the hand-stamped number in red on the selvage. One large block of the 12c with top selvage is recorded and it confirms that this stamp used the same plate as the previous 1916 printing of the Canal Zone - stamp order F-5082 (Fig. 23).

Bileski died in 2005 and the remainders of this lot were

(Continued on page 22)



Fig 25a, b. January 13, 1931 Only recorded commercial usage of 12c Panama stamp on cover. Panama Registry rate raised from 5c to 10c in 1929. 2c pays letter rate, ex-Helme.

(Continued from page 21)

believed to have been sold to another dealer. Their present whereabouts are unknown.

Panama did not need a 12c stamp in 1918. The internal letter rate was 2c, the external letter rate 5c, the registry fee 5c, and the A.R. rate 2 1/2c so there was no easy combination of stamps and fees that worked together with the 12c stamp but it could have been used for heavy letters or packages. Mint copies are easy to find but used copies are scarce and only one used copy with a clear date, Feb. 11, 1926, has been recorded (Fig. 24).



Fig. 24. 12c cancelled Panama stamp - Feb. 11, 1926.

In 1929 Panama raised its registry rate from 5c to 10c justifying the use of this stamp on internal letters but only one commercial cover has been recorded (Fig. 25).

The author would appreciate any information on the location of the remainder stamps of

Panama from Lot 569 previously owned by Bileski. Scans of any of these 12c stamps with a clear date and covers with this stamp would also be appreciated.

NOTE: This paper will be published simultaneously in the *Canal Zone Philatelist* as was done with previous papers.

Endnotes

- 1) Crumpacker, James W. , American Banknote Company Canal Zone "Specimens", CZP 115.
- 2) *Mekeel's* February 10, 1917, p. 54.
- 3) *Earliest Known Use by CZSG catalog number*, On-line Index, CanalZoneStudyGroup.org.

*Copacarta needs authors!
What can you contribute?*

(Continued from page 3) **NY 2016**

Competitive Class

Frame

- 1197-1204 Colombia Classic Issues 1859-1868. 8 Frames, James Johnson, Colombia
 1205-1212 Classic Colombia-The First Six Issues (1859-1863). 8 Frames, Richard Botero, Colombia
 2381-2385 Postmarks of Main offices in the Carrera General from Cartagena to Tuquerres. 5 Frames, Dario Diez, Colombia.
 2391-2398 Colombia pre-philatelic letters with content . 8 Frames, Jorge Enrique Arbelaez, Colombia
 2399-2406 Panama – The Path Between The Seas. 8 Frames, Alfredo Frohlich, Colombia
 3556-3556 The Servicio Postal Fluvial Envelopes of Colombia. 1 Frame, Deborah Friedman, U.S.A.
 3631-3638 Panama: First Issues as a State of Colombia and their forerunners. 8 Frames ,Alvaro Castro-Harrigan, Costa Rica
 4651-4658 Revenues of Colombia 1858-1904. 8 Frames, Manuel Arango Echeverri ,Colombia
 3763-3770 Panama Republic Postal Stationery to1940. 8 Frames, John Sinfield, Australia
 1061-1065 CANAL ZONE Overprints on Panama's 1909 ABNC Portrait Designs (1909-1923). 5 Frames, Thomas Brougham, U.S.A.

Bolivar Passport, 1900

Robert Müller

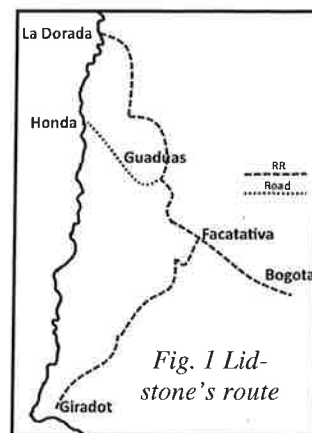
Among some Eric Harris material I found an interesting civil-war "pasaporte" from the Department of Bolívar dated 3 May 1900. There are some interesting transit marks like "censorship"-markings. The passport is for an Englishman, Mr. S. Lidstone who was bound for Giradot. He seems not to taken the normal route perhaps because of rebel activity.

He began in the normal way by taking a boat from Cartagena to La Dorada or Honda. He might have taken the train from La Dorada to Honda but there is no hint of this. He followed the road to Guaduas on June 7 (fig. 1), then to Facatativa (June 9), and then possibly the train to Giradot (no date, possibly the same day). This route was probably quicker than taking the boat directly up the Magdalena.

The first marking on the back page I cannot identify.

On the obverse is
imprinted:

Republica de Colombia Departamento de Bolivar, seccion de Gobierno y Guerra/ Pasaporte Num. 577/ Cartagena a 3 de Mayo de 1900/ Secretario de Gobierno y Guerra, encara lo de la Jefatura Civil y Militar del Departamento en lo local urgente.

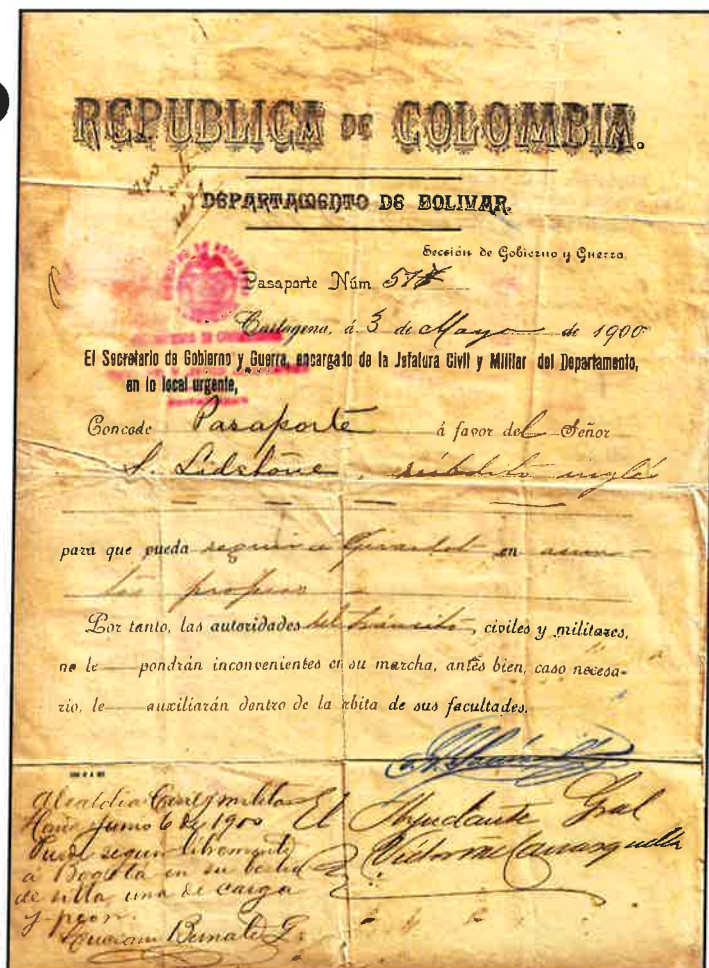


The text reads:

Concede Pasaporte a favor del Senor S. Lidstone, sujeto ingles par que pueda seguir a Giradot en asuntos propias.

Por lo tanto los autoridades del transito civiles y militares no le podran inconvenientes en su marcha, antes bien, caso necesario, le auxiliaran dentro de la orbita de sus facultades

“Alcaldía Civil y Militar Honda Junio 6 de 1900 Puede seguir libremente a Bogotá en su bestia de silla, una de carga, y un peon.



Prephilatelic and Administrative Marks of the Province of Socorro, 1820—1822

Manuel Arango Echeverri

Historical Background

The region of Socorro, also called Government or Governorship of Socorro during the Republican period was in the Spanish colonial times an administrative and territorial entity. The city was probably founded in 1671 and in 1683 was erected parish. Carlos III granted the title of Villa de Nuestra Señora del Socorro and in 1773 was allowed to use coat of arms.

During the emancipation of the American colonies (1810-1816) Socorro joined the United Provinces of New Granada, like the vast majority of the territory.

To reconquer New Granada the Spanish crown sent General Pablo Morillo (1775-1837) who arrived in Santa Marta on 22 July 1815. In 1816 he returned the city of Socorro to the crown and established a regime of repression headed by Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Fominaya, already known in those lands. The guerrillas of Coromoro, Charalá, Cincelada, Ocamonte and others fought the realistic [Royal?] army, making it difficult to control the region.¹ Antonia Santos Plata (1782-1819), a popular rebel leader, was captured and killed by firing squad on June 28.

On 17 December 1819 the Congress of Angostura issued the Fundamental Law that created the Republic of Colombia. The territory of the Viceroyalty of New Granada was divided



into three departments: Cundinamarca, Venezuela and Quito. Socorro remained a province of Cundinamarca.

In July 1919 Simon Bolivar ordered Colonels Antonio Morales (1784-1852) and Pedro Fortul (1780-1837) to cause an insurrection against Spanish rule in the provinces of Socorro and Pamplona. Morales excelled in his commission, but found great difficulties: complete administrative chaos; dilapidated public funds; and a hostile population that accused him endlessly and even intended to court-martial him. Eventually overcame all obstacles, successfully serving the functions of government.

Figure 1 shows a communication on which the first gubernatorial mark is being used by government, dated January 7, 1820. On it Morales orders the suspension of the collection of the *Media anata* tax.² The SOCORO mark, which is missing an "R", is the same used in colonial times for this city. On 18 October 1820, Morales was relieved by Pedro Fortul, a cousin of Vice President Francisco de Paula Santander. Fortul served in this position until February 1821, replaced in turn by Colonel José María Mantilla. These rulers were responsible for establishing an excellent administrative system in the Province.

On 12 July 1821 a new Congress in Cúcuta, under the presidency of José Manuel Restrepo, issued a new constitution based on that of Angostura, which divided the territory into departments and these in turn in provinces. Socorro became part of the department of Boyacá.

Postal and Administrative Marks

The pre philatelic marks of Socorro in this article are part of the documentary collec-



Fig.1. First and oldest known postmark GOBIERNO Y COMANDANCIA. SOCORRO, used on 7 January 1820



Fig. 2. Only known cover with the second mark of "El Socorro" Government. Dated the 28 January 1820, with the legend "LIBERTAD" at the bottom, addressed to Charalá.

tion of the General Archive of the Nation³ in Bogota. Undoubtedly they are of great interest because they have no resemblance to the marks of other provinces of the rising Republic of Colombia. All belong to the period 1820-1822, a period in which the political division and the administrative system of the nation were not clearly defined. We can define administrative marks as those that departed from the postal concept used by the colonial mail system and were used provisionally until the national mail system was organized by the Central Government.

Good governmental management of this Province is evident in the design of the marks used in correspondence, especially in letters of official nature, sent through out the territory without postal charge for it was official correspondence. In Figs. 2 and 3 we see the second mark, this time round, with the word "LIBERTAD" on the bottom

and the word "SOCORO."

The Province of Socorro



Fig. 3. Content of the previous cover, with surcharge used by the "Gobierno del Socorro".

decided to break with the mail system of former colonial rulers, hence their transitory nature reflected in the diversity for the short time they were in use. They are a good example of a country implementing new rules and procedures. Their use lasted until the province was placed under the governorship of the Department of Boyacá, following the Congress of Cúcuta determinations. Figure 4 shows the third mark, in red ink, this time in rectangular shape, dated 1 August 1820. Then we see a fourth mark of the Secretary of State (SECRETARIA DE GOBIERNO, Figure 5) in a letter posted on 3 September 1820.

By mid-1821, a fifth mark was used (Figures 6 and 7), with a quasi square design with four lines: REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA GOBIERNO. P. DEL SOCORRO, accompanied with an oval shape mark, containing the city of origin and portage paid



Fig. 4. One of two and oldest known cover with surcharge in red and in rectangular form, dated 1° August 1820, sent to the village of Sincelada. Third mark.



Fig. 5. Fourth type (rectangular) used by the Secretariat of Government. (Only cover known, dated September 3, 1820 with destination Riachuelo).



Fig. 6. Cover dated April 7, 1821 with cancellation SOCORRO FRANCA and a surcharge from the Government of "El Socorro". Fifth mark.

mark: SOCORRO FRANCA, as was customary during the colonial period.

Finally, in figure 8 is a letter signed by Governor Pedro Fortul, with the mark type 3. In Figure 9, is a letter signed by José María Mantilla in lieu of Colonel Fortul, showing that the Province is now part of the department of Boyacá.

At the dissolution of the Republic of Colombia in 1830, the country was named Republic of New Granada. Later, with the creation of the United States of Colombia, the Province of Socorro joined the



Fig. 7. Content of the previous letter, with surcharge used by the Government of "El Socorro".

group of constituent provinces of the Sovereign State of Santander.

Final Considerations

The plurality of brands and gubernatorial allusions experienced in Socorro fade with the enactment of the Law of August 3, 1824, signed by the Vice President of Colombia Francisco de Paula Santander (1792 -1840), organizing the mail system in order to create new sources of revenue for Government. By Decree of 15 May 1825, a new mail route between Bogotá and Caracas, capital of the department of Venezuela, was established with three times per month departures. The decree estab-



Fig. 8. Letter dated September 24, 1821.

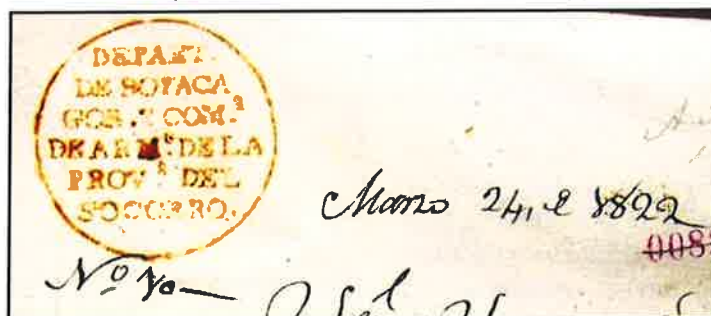


Fig. 9. Letter dated September 24, 1821.

lished the itinerary to be followed, schedules, traveling times of mailmen as well as wages and other relevant matters.

Marks outlined in this paper are certainly the result of an advanced gubernatorial scheme introduced by the first Republican governors to organize political and administrative affairs of the province, almost immediately after the creation of the Republic of Colombia. No other province used a similar scheme, demonstrating its national leadership in this field.

Endnotes:

1) Rodríguez Gómez, JUAN CAMILO. "La Independencia del Socorro en la Génesis de la emancipación colombiana". 2010. Revista Credencial de Historia. Edición 242.

2) The tax of the half annual income, or *annata*, was burdening the appointments of remunerated work places or favors that were done. It was earned when the interested party was entering possession of the favor or employment,

and was receiving this name because the tributary debt was fixed in half of what the remunerated employment or the granted favor was renting in one year.

3) Archivo General de la Nación. Sección, República, Fondo: Negocios Administrativos, tomo 89 y Fondo Asuntos Criminales, tomo 30.

(Continued from page 2)

their illustrations in the manuscript. That's OK as a guide but you should be aware that the image quality is much lower than if the illustrations are sent separately. As always, all figures should be referenced in the text and you should include a separate list of captions rather than letting me guess why you chose to illustrate that particular item.

(Continued from page 5)

postal rates in relation with Spain; because of it was a Spanish colony (single letter: 5 reales, not exceeding 5 adarmes).

The Latin American covers sent by British mail were enclosed in a bag through France to the land border with

Spain according to the Franco-British convention of 1856.

2) Dates of application of the 1849 and 1859 postal conventions: July 15, 1849 and February 1, 1860.

Article 5 of the 1849 postal convention: *the rate of the letters from the ports of the two countries by their respective steam-*

ers will be 3 Reales of Vellón in Spain for each single letter (not more than 4 adarmes) by increasing the fee of double letters on the basis of the third additional land tax, either 4 Reales + 1 real = 5 Reales for a double letter (not more than 8 adarmes).



Fig. 11. Letter carried on September 2, 1826, which shows us the philatelic mark, introduced in 1824 by the postal system of the Republic of Colombia.



Fig. 10. Mark used in the branch of sales taxes (Alcabalas), printed on this document, dated on March 13, 1822.

Be an author for Copacarta

New Civil War Provisionals from Garzón.

Robert Müller

For some time I have had three loose stamps from the 1894 Garzón labels on colored papers (1c on blue gray and 5c on buff) which are not listed in any catalog.

I recently bought a cover front with five of those stamps in lot at an Swiss auction which is most interesting (Fig .1).

The design is nearly the same as the 1c stamp from 1894 from Garzón. The wings on top have a large wing on the left, whereas on the original stamp from 1894 the large wing is on the right. On the bottom there are 2 small wings on the left with the last one nearly disappearing whereas on the original stamp the two small wings are on the right.

The 1c stamp is on blue gray and pink paper. The 5c stamp on pink and buff paper. The postage of 17c is probably philatelic, possibly not complete. If it were meant to be gold currency it should be 2c or a multiple of that if the cover was very heavy. The cancellation reads:

Correos Nacional
JUN 16 PAGO
GARZON

The original address was changed from "Vila, Conde & Co., Ocaña" to "Cartagena" and happily a receiving mark 10 Jul 1904! Otherwise we would never know that these stamps were printed in 1904!

On the back there is a handwritten "Muestra B" in red ink (fig. 2) in the same handwriting as the changed address. This confirms a philatelic opinion and the suggestion that there has been a



Fig. 1. Garzón cover with provisional labels.

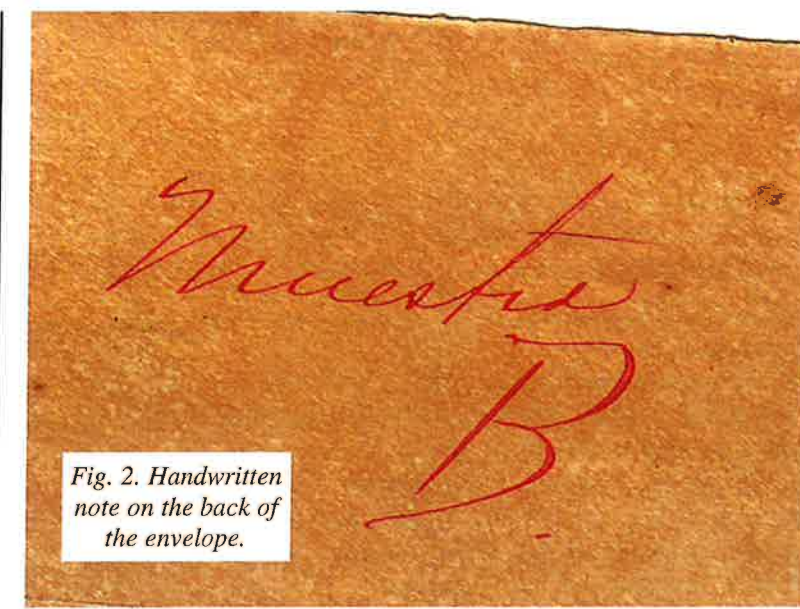


Fig. 2. Handwritten note on the back of the envelope.

"Muestra A" at least.

The cover seems to be original and authentic.

The receiving mark is from the departmental post, I have seen it on other covers. Does anybody have similar stamps or covers? Scans are welcome to romer23@gmx.de.

COPACARTA

Volume 33
Number 4
June 2016



1889 and 1890 covers from Tocaima and Cartagena to UK with oval date stamps (see article beginning on p. 6).



The Colombian Oval Date Stamps of 1888 by Federico Teppa ...	6
Garzón to USA via Bogotá by Thomas P. Myers ...	11
The private mail carriers of Enrique Urdaneta by By Federico Teppa ...	12
What's Selling on Ebay? ...	17
Treasurer's Report ...	19
A New Registration Label from Cartagena ...	16
A.O. Marks—What are they? ...	16
J&H Ferroni, Stamp Dealer ...	19
PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE ...	20

Castro Harrigan wins GRAND PRIX D'HONNEUR at New York

GRAND PRIX D'HONNEUR

Álvaro Castro Harrigan - Panama: First Issues as a State of Colombia and their Forerunners.

LARGE GOLD

Botero, Ricardo—Colombia Classic Colombia-The First Six Issues (1859-1863) , 95 points; Frohlich, Alfredo—Panama – The Path Between The Seas , 95 points; Johnson, James—Colombia Classic Issues 1859-1868, 96 points; ; Sinfield, John—Panama Republic Postal Stationery to 1940, 96 points.

GOLD

Arbelaez, Jorge Enrique—Colombia pre-philatelic letters with content, 93 points; Echeverri, Manuel Arango—Revenues of Colombia 1858-1904 , gold 92 points with special prize for material.

LARGE VERMEIL.

Diez, Dario - Postmarks of Main offices in the Carrera General from Cartagena to Tuquerres, 86 points; Brougham, Thomas - CANAL ZONE Overprints on Panama's 1909 ABNC Portrait Designs (1909-1924) , 88 points

SINGLE FRAME

Friedman, Deborah - The Servicio Postal Fluvial Envelopes of Colombia , 83 points; Zemer, David - World War I Censorship of Mail in the Canal Zone , 89 points

COPAPHIL OFFICERS

President	Brad Wilde	U610 I Street SE	Washington, DC 20003	bgwndal@yahoo.com
Vice-President	open			
Secretary	Scott Schaffer	15 Natureview Trl,	Bethel CT 06081	schaffer_s@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Allan M. Harris	26997 Hemingway Ct.,	Hayward CA 94542	HPEXCHANGE@aol.com
Editor	Thomas P. Myers	P.O. Box 522, ,	Gordonsville VA 22942	tpmphil@hotmail.com
Sales Manager	Ken Adams	5112 S 193rd St	Omaha, NE 68135	kenstampneb@cox.net
Webmaster	Patrick Lamastus	5406 Birchbend Loop,	Oviedo FL 32765	patrick@iCollectPanama.com

Visit the Copaphil web site at <http://www.copaphil.org/>

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

Europe	Malcolm Bentley	155 Percheron Dr	Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU212QX, UK	malcolm.bentley1@ntlworld.com
Panama	Dr. Ernesto Arosemena	P.O. Box 0830-01079	Panama City , Rep. of Panama	kikoaro@cableonda.net
Colombia	Santiago Cruz	Calle 33#16-50,	Bogota, COLOMBIA	Scollectibles2003@yahoo.com

Advertising rates: Business card \$10.

The Colombian Oval Date Stamps of 1888

Federico Teppa

In 1888 oval handstamps manufactured by Jose Samper were distributed for general use in most postal agencies except those in Panama.

This was the first time that a common type datestamp was issued to all post offices. Until 1888, individual postal administrators were free to choose the type of cancelation they would use, the result was a wide range of cancels, and usually only large towns used datestamps.

The handstamp is composed by a double outer oval with the mention "Correos Nacionales" on top, the date (MMM DD YYYY) in the middle, and the post office location at the bottom. It was generally struck on the envelope while the stamp was cancelled with a separate round killer forming the word Colombia (Fig.1).

The earliest known usage is November 3, 1888 on a revenue stamp from Pereira (fig. 2), probably used for postage (Fig.2). This handstamp was gradually replaced from 1893 by another common design, the duplex handstamp known as the Flower killer (see Copacarta Vol.28#4 June 2011), by 1896 this datestamp was completely replaced, even if a 1898 from Santa Rosa de Viterbo is recorded and similar versions

seem to momentarily reappear around 1908 (Aguadas and Tunja).

The postal marking is found in different colours: black, blue, red, green and different shades of violet. While the form and dimensions of the oval and the date remain in general standard, the size of the town characters varies, and the names can be



Fig. 1. Oval date stamp from La Mesa.

Some oval datestamps diverged from the normal design and had special features added, examples:

In his Copacarta article of June 1990, M. Jim Cross listed 37 towns known to him at that time. Combining his listing, with Mr. Robert Muller collection and mine, plus additions from articles and sales, I was able to record 128 marks from 90 different towns. The following table (Tab.1), list the oval datestamps inscribed "Correos Nacionales" on top with the town's name at the bottom. Are described: the town's name, the color of the strike, the style of characters used for the town's name, and the earliest and latest dates seen.



Fig. 2. The earliest known use of the oval cancel is on a revenue stamp from Pereira.

found printed in 6 different styles Table II



Block



Roman



Italic



Lower Case (italic)



Lower Case



Roman Capital



Arauca (small stars)



Bogotá (double oval)



Cali (Dotted oval)



Cartago (top line)



Espinal (stars + top line)



Manizales (top&bottom lines)



Pasto (fancy decorations)



Santa Marta (small stars)

Some oval date stamps diverged from the normal design and had special features added, examples :

Table I: "Correos Nacional" Oval Date Stamps

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Agrado	Violet	Roman	3 May 1890	10 Oct 1891
Aguachica	Black	Block	25Feb 1892	
Aguadas	Violet	Block	22 May 1891	
	Black	Roman	31 Jul 1908	
Almaguer	Green	Roman	19 May 1890	
Altamira	Black	Block	25 Jun 1895	
Antioquia	Violet	Lower case italics	13 May 1893	
Arauca	Black	Block	27 Oct 1891	
Barbacoas	Black	Block	27 Oct 1891	
Barranquilla	Violet	Block	30/May/1889	
Belen	Blue	Roman	2 Nov 1889	
Bodega Central	Black	Roman	?	

Table I: "Correos Nacional" Oval Date Stamps (ctd.)

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Bogotá	Violet	Block	29 Jul 1889	
	Violet	Roman	5 feb 1890	Jul 1893
<i>double oval</i>	Violet	Roman	27 Jul 1890	13 Nov 1893
Bucaramanga	Black	Block	12 Sep 1890	? Jun 1894
<i>Top line</i>	Black	Roman	? May 1894	
	Black	Italic	25 Feb 1892	10 Mar 1893
	Red	Block	On stamp	
	Violet	Block	24 Jul 1889	? ? 1891
	Black	Block	11 Nov 1891	4 Nov 1893
Buenaventura	Red	Block	On stamp	
	Violet	Block	24 Jul 1889	? ? 1891
	Black	Block	11 Nov 1891	? Jan 1894
Buga	Black	Block	7 Jan 1893	4 Nov 1893
Calamar	Black	Block	19 Jun 1892	21 Sep 1895
Cali	Violet	Block	1 Feb 1889	9 Mar 1890
	Black	Block	4 Jul 1890	6 Feb 1894
	Black	Roman	25 Apr 1890	1 Jun 1892
<i>Dotted oval</i>	Black	Block	1 May 1889	6 Nov 1891
<i>Large 18mm Cali</i>	Black	Block	20 Mar 1892	
Carmen	Violet	Italic	30 Jul 1889	
Cartagena	Violet	Block	13 Jul 1889	1 Jun 1892
	Violet	Roman	14 Jan 1892	1 Jun 1892
Cartago	Black	Block	28 Jul 1893	
<i>Top line</i>	Black	Block	19 Apr 1893	18 Oct 1889
Chinacota	Black	Lower case	20 Dec 1889	
Chiquinquira	Violet	Roman	25 Jul 188?	25 Oct 188?
Chita	Black	block	27 Aug 1894	
Chocontá	Green	Lower case	8 Jan 1889	15 Oct 1889
Corinto	Black	Block	22 Feb 1893	
Corozal	Violet	Roman	22 Jan 1890	
Cucuta	Violet	Roman	29 Sep 1892	
Cucuy	Violet	Roman	16 Jul 1892	
Espinal	Black	Block	29 Jun 1891	11 Jun 1892
Facacativá	Green	Lower case	4 Dec 1890	16 Jun 1891

Table I: "Correos Nacional" Oval Date Stamps (ctd.)

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Garzón	violet	Roman	12/Mar/1893	
	blue	Italic	6/Apr/1890	
Guacari	violet	Roman	18/?/1890	
Guataque	black	Roman	10/Aug/1891	
Guataqui	violet	Block	22/Apr/1893	
Honda	red	Roman	10/Aug/1893	
	violet	Roman	22/Feb/1889	16/Nov/1892
Jordan	black	Roman	20/Jun/1891	
La Gloria	black	Roman	15/Mar/1891	
La Mesa	black	Block	23/Nov/1890	13/Apr/1892
	blue	Block	18/Nov/1888	
Lorica	violet	Roman	25/Aug/1893	13/Apr/1894
	black	Roman	23/Jan/1894	12/Jan/1896
Magangué	violet	Roman	14/Dec/1889	31/Mar/1891
	black	Roman	13/Apr/1891	8/Ago/1892
	black	Block	2/Feb/1890	8/Feb/1890
Malaga	violet	Roman	29/Jul/1889	
Manizales	violet	Block	9/Dec/1889	2/Mar/1891
	black	Block	16/Mar/1891	
	black	Roman	5/Aug/1892	30/Sep/1893
Marinilla	violet	Italic	12/Oct/1890	
Medellin	violet	Roman	15/Mar/1889	29/Mar/1891
	red	Roman	28/Apr/1892	
	violet	Block	16/Nov/1891	1893
	black	Block	10/Jan/1892	
Mompos	violet	Roman	17/Mar/1889	23/Mar/1889
	black	Roman	5/Jan/1891	23/Aug/1892
Moniquira	violet	Block	29/Jan/1891	21/Jan/1891
Neiva	violet	Block	18/Apr/1890	15/Sep/1892
	violet	Roman	27/Jul/1892	
Ocaña	blue	Block	22/Mar/1891	15/Dec/1893
	black	Block	15/Oct/1894	9/Oct/1895
Palmira	black	Roman	11/Jun/1892	27/Aug/1892
	black	Block	23/Jan/1892	26/Oct/1893

Table I: "Correos Nacional" Oval Date Stamps (ctd.)

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Pamplona	violet	Block	17/Apr/1889	17/ ?/1890
	violet	Roman	29/Nov/1890	
	black	Roman	?/ ?/1895	
Pasto	violet	Roman	9/Aug/1891	
<i>Fancy decorations</i>	black	Block	19/Feb/1892	
Pereira	violet	Block	3/Nov/1888	16/Feb/189 ?
Popayán	violet	Block	19/Sep/1891	8/Jul/1896
	red	Block	?	
Puerto Berrio	violet	Lower Case	23/Sep/1889	
Puente Nacional	blue	Lower Case	30/Mar/1891	18/Jun/1894
P (Puerto?) Molino	red	Block	6/May/1893	
Puerto Nacional	violet	Roman	23/Jul/1890	29/Nov/1890
Quibdo	violet	Roman	7/Sep/1890	
	black	Roman	13/Aug/1890	12/Nov/1891
Remolino	red	Block	26/Feb/1893	
Ricaute	black	Block	5/Nov/1894	
Rioacha	black	Block	26/Aug/1892	
Rionegro	violet	Block	28/Apr/1893	9/Aug/1895
	black	Block	15/Jul/1890	
	blue	Roman	30/Sep/1889	
Rio Sucio	violet	Block	20/Jul/1889	1891
Salazar	violet	Block	15/Jul/1891	?/Jun/1892
Salento	black	Block	10/Aug/1891	
San Juan de Córdoba	violet	Roman	27/Apr/1891	19/Dec/1891
San Gil	black	Block	26/Oct/1894	
Santa Marta	violet	Italic	26/Jun/1890	
	<i>Small stars</i> violet	Roman	30/Sep/1891	
Santa Rosa	black	Roman Cap.	30/May/1891	
	violet	Roman Cap.	20/Dec/1895	31/Mar/1896
Santa Rosa de Viterbo	black	Block	27/Sep/1898	
Santo Domingo	violet	Lower Case it.	30/?/1889	
Santander	black	Roman	1889	
Sesquilé	blue	Block	3/Feb/1891	
Sincelejo	violet	Roman	27/Oct/1889	15/Jul/1893

Table I: "Correos Nacional" Oval Date Stamps (ctd.)

Town	Color	Style	Earliest	Latest
Socorro	violet	Block	<i>Date erased Cover Jul/1893</i>	
SonSon	Black	Roman Cap.	21/Apr/1892	
Suaita	violet	Block	30/Jun/1889	
Suaita	Violet	Block	30 Jun 1889	
Sup (ia)	Black	Roman	Oct	
Subachoque	Black	Roman	23 Dec 1896	
Tocaima	Black	Block	28 Jul 1889	? Jul 1893
Tulua	Black	Roman	19 Apr 1890	17 oct 1890
	<i>Top line</i>	Black	20 Jul 18??	
Tunja	Black	Block	22 Apr 1892	15 Aug 1892
	<i>Dotted oval, top & bottom lines</i>	Black	30 Aug 1908	
Tuquerees	Black	Roman	5 Jun 1893	
Ubaté	Violet	Block	16 Dec 1890	
Vélez	Black	Roman	28 ? 1889	
Villeta	Red	Roman	14 May 1890	16 Mar 1892
Viota	Green	Roman	22 Aug 1896	
Yaguará	Black	Roman	<i>On 1892 stamp</i>	
Zambrano	Blue	Block	14 Jun 1890	
Zapatoca	Black	Block	9 Jun 1895	



Barranquilla in the 1920s.

Preswick Crash Covers to Panama, 1954

Brad Wilde

About a month ago on ebay I was perusing "Panama" items on German ebay when the words "Panama" and "Plane Crash" caught my eye. The item for sale was a cover addressed to Panama from England that had been part of the mail on the December 25, 1954, British Overseas Airways Corporation deadly airplane crash at Prestwick, Scotland, where 28 of the 36 on board were killed. While I am aware of covers addressed in and out of the Canal Zone that were involved with plane crashes, this was the first associated with Panama I have seen.

The cover (Figures 1 & 2) was mailed from "B & F.....", Imrie House, 33-36 King William Street, London, E.C.4 in December, 1954. Unfortunately the date has been destroyed. It is addressed to the Panama Bank & Trust Co. Inc., P.O.B.

1774, Panama R.P. The handstamp applied to mail recovered from the crash is on the front. It is a rectangular box with the words "SALVAGED MAIL / AIRCRAFT CRASH / PRESTWICK 25-12-54" INSIDE.

The cover was then inserted in an envelope and forwarded to the addressee. This envelope (Figure 2) has "No. 422 On Her Britannic Majesty's Service" on the top and "POST OFFICE" on the bottom. It also has the rectangular handstamp on the front. On the back of this envelope is the same rectangular handstamp as well as a Panama City receiving mark showing the envelope arrived on February 3, 1955. The Stratocruiser was on a flight from Heathrow Airport, England to New York, United States with scheduled stop-overs at Manchester Airport, in Northern England and Prestwick Airport in Glasgow, Scotland. Be-

cause of bad weather the decision was made to skip the stop in Manchester and fly directly to Prestwick. The flight was delayed while they waited for a passenger to arrive from Manchester. The flight took off for New York City, but an hour into the flight it turned around and returned to London because of a mechanical problem. The passengers and crew were moved to another aircraft which left for Prestwick early in the morning on 25 December. There were 25 passengers and 11 crew members on the flight. When the plane approached Prestwick it encountered heavy, driving rains and landed short of the runway. The impact forced the port landing gear in the wing, which in turn cause the aircraft to turn over and burst into flames. The plane broke apart. Twenty-four of the passengers were killed and 4 of the crew. Luckily



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

seven of the crew were thrown from the airplane as it broke apart.

There were 250 bags of mail cargo on board the airplane and almost all of it was burned. However, letters that could be salvaged were. Interesting one of the letters contained a £900,000 consignment of diamonds. For over a week diamonds were being picked up on the scene and eventually almost 90% were recovered.

A public inquiry opened at Ayr, Scotland, on March 28, 1955, with questions about the operation of the air brake switch and any possible effect a failure may have caused. On the second day evidence was taken from air traffic controllers who agreed that the aircraft had descended on the runway more rapidly than usual, the inquiry also heard from a pilot of an aircraft that landed before the Stratocruiser about the condition of the airfield and approach lighting. The inquiry reported on 20 July that the accident was caused by an

error of judgment by the pilot and contributed to by the First Officer not turning on the landing lights. It concluded that the accident was not caused or contributed to by any wrongful act or party and/or mechanical defect in the plane.

The Stratocruiser (Boeing 377) was expensive to buy and



operate. Its reliability was poor, chiefly due to problems with the four 28-cylinder Pratt & Whitney Wasp Major radial engines and their four-blade propellers. The 377 had a "double-bubble" fuselage cross-section, resembling a figure-8, 6,600 ft³ (187 m³) of interior space, and a large cabin with two passenger decks. The lower deck served as a lounge, seating 14.

By the end of 1949 BOAC was using the plane for its trans-

atlantic flights. In 1955 BOAC B377s had 50 First Class seats (fare \$400 one way New York to London) or 81 Tourist seats (fare \$290).

The 377 was deemed to be one of the most advanced and luxurious of the propeller driven transports. A total of 55 were built, and within six years of first delivery, the Stratocruiser had carried 3,199,219 passengers, completed 3,597 transcontinental flights, 27,678 transatlantic crossings, and went between the United States and South America 822 times. During the first six years, the Stratocruiser fleet had flown 169,859,579 miles (273,362,494 km). The last 377 was delivered to BOAC in May 1950. The last one used by BOAC was retired in 1959,

Garzón to USA via Bogotá

Thomas P. Myers

Garzón is not a particularly common point of origin for mail in the late 19th century. Even less common is mail to the United States so the cover shown in Fig. 1 is interesting for that reason alone.

Garzón is a small town located high on the Magdalena River, 90 km south of Neiva, the last town of major importance on the river. It is 139 km south of Bogotá and 1386 km south of Cartagena as the crow flies (fig. 2).

I would have supposed that in this epoch the mail from Garzón would be carried down the Magdalena River by boat, most likely to Cartagena where it would be put aboard a ship bound for the United States.

But not in this case. Mailed in Garzón on 6 April 1890 the letter was diverted to Bogotá in the Cordillera Oriental on April 15 then forwarded back down the mountain to the Magdalena River where it was put aboard a mail boat to Barranquilla. In Barranquilla it received a double line circle transit mark on April 27. The letter transited New York on May 12 and reached its destination in Watsonville CA on May 19, 1890.



Fig. 2. Garzón, Bogotá and Cartagena.



Fig. 1. Garzón to Watsonville CA in 1890.

The Private Mail Carriers of Enrique Urdaneta

Federico Teppa

In recent years, after some acquisitions and the study of Colombian postal history, my attention was drawn by the fact that some of the rarest pieces had something in common, they were all addressed to Mr. Enrique Urdaneta.

Enrique Urdaneta is best known in the Colombian philatelic circles, by being the founder of the 1870 private post known as the *Correo Semanal del Dorado*, which was used for the correspondence between him and Eng. George Crowther during the search of the El Dorado gold, until the tragic death of both entrepreneurs during an explosion up in the mountains, near the Siecha lake the 18 November 1870.

But the Dorado stamps are not the only interesting mark in the mail addressed to Urdaneta, in the years between 1859 and his death in 1870, at least 5 different marks (*2 stamps and 3 handstamps*) can be attributed to his private service. These marks are: 1859 Serrezuela (*handstamp*), 1859 Santa Rosa (*handstamp*), 1863 San Luis (*stamp*), 1865-1868 San Luis (*handstamp*), and the 1870 El Dorado (*stamp*).

The reasons why I consider these marks being part of his private service, are that all of

them are known only on mail addressed to him, and none bears the mention of the words provisional or no stamps available, as it is the common practice in the Colombian postal service to manifest a usage due to lack of stamps. Furthermore, the first two marks are the only 2 known examples of pre-philatelic postal markings with a locality including a postage value of franking.

The legal basis for the private mail of Mr. Urdaneta, was laid by the law of 27 April 1859, when the Colombian Government stated in Article 2, that the mail service shall not be a monopoly of the confederation, therefore companies or individuals may take part in it, even in the same routes established by the General Government. The 28 August 1861 President Mosquera re-established the law of 29 April 1846, which Article 1 states that it is legal and free of any charge for private messenger services to transport domestic mail. Later, the article 3.10 of the 17 November 1861 decree, authorized the National Government to enter into agreements with private citizens that establish a trustworthy mail service, Article 6 of the same law stated that private citizens can establish the postal routes that seem convenient to them.

Thanks to these laws, individuals not only were allowed to furnish mail services, but also had the possibility to establish agreements for the use of routes without the additional charge of the official rate.

I suppose Urdaneta agents were instructed to collect the mail addressed to him, and upon payment, a handstamp or a stamp of his own creation was applied to the letter, from there it was either sent by a private carrier, or in combination with a national or state service. When payment was not collected, a manuscript inscription saying *payable at Bogotá*, was written on the letter.

Some people could consider that these marks may be bogus or made to defraud philatelists, but all covers are considered by specialists to be originals from the period, and since the 2 first marks were being used two months before the 31 august 1859 (*date of the first Colombian stamp*), we can also exclude any philatelic motivation.

The following list, describes the 5 private mail marks from Mr. Enrique Urdaneta by chronological order, with all the covers known to me:

1) SERREZUELA (*Handstamp*)

**SERREZUELA
FRANCA
UN REAL P**

(Blue color)

1 Real= 10 Cts.



1 Known cover :

- 22 June 1859 (Fig.1). Serrezuela (*now Madrid*) – Bogotá.

The Serrezuela cover as well as 2 of the San Luis (*handstamped*) covers, were first mentioned by Jim Cross in his report about the Gonzales Garcia Collection in June 1992 Copacarta.

2) SANTA ROSA (*Handstamp*)

CONFED GRANADINA CORREOS NLS

S.ROSA

10 CENT

FRANCA

(Red color)



2 Known covers:

- 3 July 1859. Santa Rosa – San Luis. *With a single strike of 10 cts. (From the the Juan Santa Maria collection. Sold at investphila in 2009.)*
- 17 August 1859 (Fig.2). Santa Rosa – San Luis. *With encomienda handwritten and double strike of 10 cts., to make a 20 cts. payment.*

3) SAN LUIS (stamp)**CONFED GRANADINA CORREOS NLS****S.ROSA****10 CENT****FRANCA***(Red color)***3 or 4 Known covers:**

- 17 February 1863. San Luis – Bogotá.
- 8 March 1863 (Fig.3). San Luis – Bogotá.
- 8 March 1863. San Luis – Bogotá. *(Cannot confirm if this cover mentioned in the Raymond Ireson collection is the same or is different from the above).*
- 15 March 1863. San Luis – Bogotá.

In the June 1996 Copacarta article about this stamp, Mr. Dieter Bortfeldt writes: “The stamp on the 3 letters bears no indication of whether it was a provisional stamp of the national government, a postal service of the state of Tolima or a **service operated by private citizens**”.

4) SAN LUIS (Handstamp)

Composed by 2 separate strikes:

S. LUIS.**FRANCA**

+

10*(1865 in green) and (1868 in blue)***4 Known covers :**

- 26 June 1865 (Fig.4). San Luis – Bogotá. *Green Handstamp. (ex, Gonzales Garcia Coll.)*
- ? 1865. San Luis – Bogotá. *Green Handstamp. (ex Juan Santa Maria coll.)*
- 30 August 1868 (Fig.5). San Luis – Bogotá. *Blue Handstamp. (ex Gonzales Garcia Coll.)*
- ? 1868. San Luis – Bogotá. *Blue Handstamp. (ex Juan Santa Maria coll.)*

5) El DORADO (stamp)

**EUC
CORREO SEMANAL
DEL DORADO
Porte 1 Real
FRANCA**

*(The stamps were printed in red over a wide variety of papers)
1 Real= 10 Cts.*



8 Known covers with stamp (including one with stamp cut out):

- ? 1870 (Fig.6). Guasca – Bogotá. 2 Reales handwritten over the 1 real value.
- 22 March 1870. Guasca – Bogotá.
- 14 April 1870. Guasca – Bogotá.
- 4 August 1870. Guasca – Bogotá.
- 22 August 1870. Guasca – Bogotá (stamp cut out).
- 23 September 1870. Guasca – Ambalema.
- 7 November 1870. Guasca – Bogotá.
- 16 November 1870. Guasca – Bogotá.

2 Known covers without stamp:

- 6 March 1870. Guasca – Bogotá. *Inscribed: correo semanal de la laguna.*
- 15 August 1870. Guasca – Bogotá. *Inscribed: correo semanal del Dorado.*

The two stampless covers have handwritten: porte un real pagadero en Bogotá (*Cost 1 real payable in Bogotá*).

It is possible that other marks exist. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any addition to make, or any information from letters addressed to Enrique Urdaneta and not reported in this article. You can contact me at: fteppa@sunrise.ch

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Robert Müller for sharing his knowledge and helping with useful and interesting information.

LATIN AMERICAN PHILATELICS P. O. Box 56194, LONDON, E17 0GF, GREAT BRITAIN



ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTION & Retail Lists

**Specialising in South & Central
America and British Commonwealth
With Colombia & Panama in every sale**

**WE RUN REGULAR ALL WORLD POSTAL AUCTIONS
SPECIALISING IN LATIN AMERICA. EACH SALE
INCLUDES STAMPS, POSTMARKS, POSTAL
HISTORY, POSTAL STATIONERY, PROOFS,
CINDERELLAS, REVENUES, ERRORS & VARIETIES.**

WRITE OR EMAIL FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE.

EMAIL: latamphil@btinternet.com

A New Registration Label from Cartagena

I have been recording registered mail for many years. This printed Cartagena label is a new one on me.

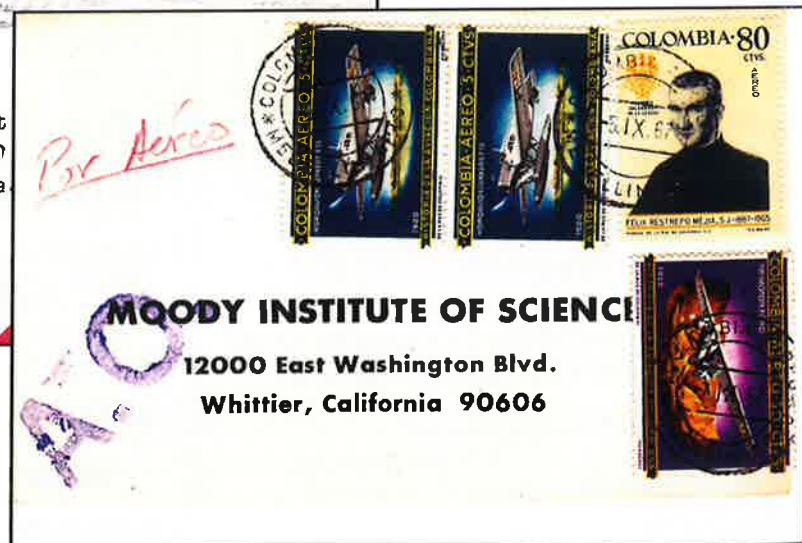
According to the machine imprint, the letter was mailed from Cartagena on 26 Sep 1927. It passed through the Canal Zone on the 28th and New Orleans on October 4, finally reaching Philadelphia on the 6th. By the way, Cristobal to New Orleans seems like an unusual routing for this period.



A.O. Marks—What are they?



What is the meaning of these A.O. marks on a 1962 special delivery letter from Cali to new Orleans and a 1967 post card from Medellin?



WHAT'S SELLING ON EBAY ????

It is always interesting to see what turns up on Ebay and what sells.

Recently was sold a particularly interesting City of Bucaramanga Official Cubierta. Sent May 11, 1891 to Concepcion. Used examples of Officials from Bucaramanga are scarce, but what distinguished this one was the marginal inscriptions that showed the instructions for use at left and a space for the signature of the postal official. It is Higgins and Gage Santander CC-7 and Scott GO35, unpriced - this example realized \$190 (381691699962).

These officials are listed in more detail in the late Dieter Bortfeldt's Philatelic Studies III "Official Cubiertas" published in 2012. This is the copy illustrated in the Bortfeldt book (fig. 1).

A seldom offered page of Colombia FOURNIER forgeries on a page that included 12 Stamps and 5 postmarks realized \$62. 391474308691. A significant number of classic era stamps that are forgeries continue to appear and often sell on Ebay. There are many articles and reference books available to learn from.

My favorite items that keep turning up misrepresented as SCADTA proofs are either separated parts of dealer Fred Kessler's calling cards or a clipping from his letterhead (fig. 2).



Fig. 2. "Kessler Proofs"



Fig. 1. Bucaramanga Official Cubierta

They can always be identified by the diagonal line in the upper left corner. Most recently one was offered as a "COLOMBIA Sc# C47 Color PROOF" with a minimum bid of \$16 - this one went unsold (381693873696).

Postal cards and envelopes have very few errors so I was surprised when one unknown to me turned up recently. Sent in 1924 and carried by SCADTA, this example of Higgins and Gage #8 has a second 3¢ stamp imprinted, inverted on the lower left. It realized a strong \$306 (311607838294).

There does seem to be a continuing trend of softness on Ebay for SCADTA provisional overprints. A cover from Girardot with a copy of C20 showing a partial double handstamp with a minimum bid of \$499.99 was unsold. The stamp itself catalogs \$625. A reconstructed used pair of the same stamp was sold for \$300 (201503307500).

I note a widening gap between prices realized for some Cartagena issues from the War of 1000 Days. For example: Scott 168 mint \$3.02 (\$30 Scv); #170 used \$3.27 (\$20 Scv); 171 mint \$3.75 (\$20 Scv); 174 mint \$8.75 (\$25 Scv).

On the other hand, unusual usage of stamps, especially Colombian States, easily bring more than catalog value. This includes not only pen cancels, but also interesting hand stamps. For example one lot that included Antioquia 57 and 57a with pen cancels Amalfi and Segovia brought \$20.50 (Scv \$5) 311638209575 and a copy of Bolivar 9 with the rare Morales pen cancel (fig. 3) brought \$39.87 (Scv \$3.75) 311636815360.



Fig. 3. Morales manuscript cancel

Hand stamp copies of Yaurumal on the Antioquia 5¢ Scott 95 brought \$3.31 and \$5.29 - this is a stamp listed with the Scott 25¢ minimum catalog value.

It should be noted that

stamps from a major collection of Colombian States pen cancels is being sold on Ebay - for anyone interested in this material, the prices realized provide insight into the level of demand for this material. There are

great pen cancel references listed in the bibliography CO-PAPHIL published.

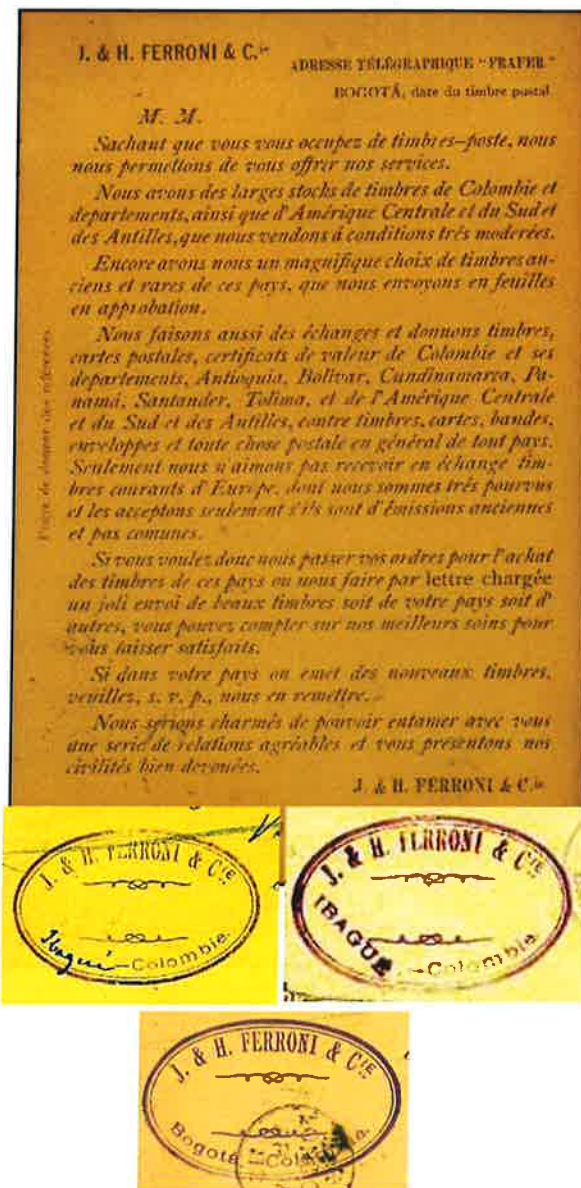
Treasurer's Report

INCOME STATEMENT 1 JULY 2015 - 30 JUNE 2016		BALANCE SHEET AS OF 30 JUNE 2016	
<u>INCOME</u>		<u>ASSETS</u>	
MEMBERSHIP DUES	1,446.75	CASH IN BANK	4,287.85
CONTRIBUTIONS	184.80	CASH ON HAND	
BOOK & CD SALES	286.76	INVESTMENTS (US BANK CD'S)(4)	12,280.48
MAIL SALE INCOME	-	PAYPAL ACCOUNT	48.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	75.13		
AD REVENUE	-	ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE (5)	211.13
FEES eBay & PayPal	13.78	TOTAL	16,827.46
TOTAL	2,007.22		
<u>EXPENSES</u>		<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
PRINTING	1,586.40	PREPAID DUES (6)	883.00
POSTAGE	1,202.56	PREPAID INSURANCE	0.00
MAIL SALES EXPENSE	-	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (2)	32.03
CD EXPENSE	-	TOTAL	915.03
FEES eBay & PayPal	-		
BOOK EXPENSE	240.65	<u>RESERVES</u>	
SUPPLIES, AWARDS, LIBRARY	154.61	BALANCE 30 JUNE 2015	16,374.86
INSURANCE/BANK FEES/TAX	40.13	MAIL SALE RESERVE (3)	
TOTAL	3,224.35	RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (1)	754.70
		NET INCOME FY 2015-2016	(1,217.13)
		TOTAL	15,912.43
NET INCOME	(1,217.13)	TOTAL LIABILITIES & RESERVES	16,827.46
Notes: (1) Reconciliation Entry Prior Year Reserve Adjustments (2) NY Sales Tax; Outstanding Check (3) No mail sale (4) \$1,500 transferred out of CD to bank account (5) \$211.13 check not yet received NY 2016 (6) \$90.00 in check not yet received NY 2017			

J&H Ferroni, Stamp Dealer

J&H Ferroni was a well-known Colombian stamp dealer at the end of the 19th century. He sent postal cards all over the world to offer his wares to new collectors (fig. 1). I have recorded them from Denmark, Switzerland, Sumatra, Jamaica, and Mauritius.

In March 1892 he was in Bogotá. (fig. 2). By November 1894 he had moved his office to Ibagué (fig. 3,4) and remained there at least through mid 1895.



Write for Copacarta

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

Volume I includes pre philatelic marks and postal documents, showing a great diversity of postal marks between 1770-1859, many of them unknown until now to philatelists. This information was found in the various archives of Colombia and especially in the General Archive of the nation in Bogotá. (802 pp). **Volume II** includes the reports of "José Antonio Pando and Riva": from his arrival to Cartagena on November 16, 1769, coming from Mexico, aboard the sloop "El Postillon". Pando sent regularly and systematically to the viceroy of the new Kingdom of Granada a great diversity of reports on the progress of the work commissioned by the Count Grimaldi. This volume presents 89 documents of letters and reports of its work to different authorities from 1769 until 1789. (584pp) pages, **Volume III** is a supplement that includes many pre-philatelic marks, finds not known before and others in which older dates are highlighted or colors have differences. 603 pages. *Member price postpaid including PayPal fees, on thumb drive: \$45 worldwide.*

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

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

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