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President's Remarks

This is my last President's report. I have enjoyed my time doing so and am not really leaving, just moving on to a different role in Copaphil. Beginning with the next issue Tom Myers and I will work on Copacarta together so he can show me what needs to be done to be the editor of our journal. I would like to thank Tom for the excellent work that he has done and have a bit of trepidation about taking on his duties. However, Tom has a number of other editorships he is involved with and he has asked that someone else take over. Wherever you are when you read this please mentally send Tom a large thank you for making Copacarta the excellent journal that it is.

I have always wanted to be the editor of the journal of one of the philatelic societies that I belong to and since I will retire from my diplomatic career on April 27, 2018, this seems like an excellent opportunity. It will be a lot of work to keep up the impressive look of Copacarta. Thank goodness for computers and the wonderful editor programs that are out there.

There are a few things I plan to change in the journal. Philately, whether we like it or not, is a dying hobby. I was among the "young ones" when I was a charter member of Copaphil so many years ago and, unfortunately, still am. Membership numbers in organizations continues to fall and Copaphil isn't immune. We need to figure out ways that the society and the journal can better meet the needs

of the new collector.

As such I would like to include sections within Copacarta that have articles in every journal. I plan to add a section on deltiology in Copacarta. The first article, on C. L. Chester, appears in this issue. The link between philately and deltiology is strong with the large number of used postcards out there and many of my stamp collecting colleagues also will have a small group of postcards they have assembled. Hopefully, by doing this we can find new members to join and then slowly introduce them into the joys of stamp collecting.

I would like to add a section on the new issues of Colombia and Panama. For that I will need help. Luckily, I have a person in Panama who will report to me whenever a new issue comes out with as much information as he can obtain about the designer, the printer, number issued and if first days were available. But I will also need someone to do the same thing for Colombia. By recording the information on new issues we will better serve future collectors. As a person who collects postal history I certainly wish I had first hand information on the Panama issues of the last couple of decades. I remember when I lived in Panama that there were a couple of people who designed cachets for the new issues. Are collectors in Colombia and Panama still doing so? If they are, I would like to report on their efforts.

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Legal background of SCADTA Registered Letter Service and when did it start? Request for Information

Rainer Fuchs (AIJP, FRPSL)

As some readers may be aware, I collect in detail the provisional registration stamps of SCADTA on issue 1921 and 1923, the so-called "common issue." Despite the fact that there are only a few catalogue numbers, non including sub-types, are known, the area is still quite complicated. There is very little supporting documentation if someone like me likes to look behind the reason of the issuing of these stamps and to document the various types, overprint colors, usages on local and foreign covers and to document the four postage rate groups with such covers.

Introduction

Collectors of the stamps and postal history of SCADTA will know that the issue 1921 (the so-called third issue) did not contain a registration stamp. For easy reference I illustrate some examples of the 1921 (third issue) «R» provisional stamps so readers are aware how they look but since the objective of this article is not the details of these stamps I refrain from showing all known types and varieties (Fig. 1).

The stamp listed by Gebauer/Londono in their book, an «R» stamp on a provisional issue of

Fig. 1. SCADTA Registration Stamps



5 Centavos
Type I, blue-violet handstamp, postmark Barranquilla



10 Centavos
Type I, blue handstamp, postmark Medellin



15 Centavos
Type III, red handstamp, postmark Barranquilla



20 Centavos
Type II, red handstamp



30 Centavos
Type I, black-blue handstamp



50 Centavos
Type II, black handstamp
(Not listed by Gebauer (Londono))

1921/22 (Gebauer/Londono No. 61b), «R» overprint on 30 Centavos over 10 Centavos (Gebauer/Londono No. 36) yellow is apparently very rare as the basic stamp (fig. 2) was already withdrawn from circulation. That 30 Centavos over 10 Centavos stamp was issued as per Gebauer/Londono on 5 May 1922 due to lack of 30 Centavos stamps of the third SCADTA issue of 1921.



Fig. 2. Collection Santiago Cruz, Ex Gebauer

This stamp is also illustrated in the "Handbook of the SCADTA Provisional Surcharges 1921-1923" by Santiago Cruz & Dieter Bordtfeld, 2004 and is as quoted in the book as the only known example. The authors also asked the question why did they surcharge the «R». In the same book the authors state "*The handstamped «R» Registration stamps appeared as from July 1922 (earliest dates recorded on covers)*". This is outdated information as my own census records a cover used on 14 June 1922. See the paragraph at the end of this article. Furthermore the authors in the same book claim "*this stamp was used most likely on the 5 May 1922, 2 month earlier*"... it seems to be a «trial». Here I must ask, upon what did they base this claim? There is no dated postmark on the stamp, the «R» handstamp is also not tied by the postmark so I support the version of a «trial». Anyway, the objective of this article is not to question the accuracy of previous books.

I end this paragraph with a correlation of different catalogue numbers and types, without taking into consideration the colour of the overprint and varieties (Table I).

Previous articles

While the stamps themselves are covered in detail

in the contemporary literature, the legal background of the registration service remains obscure.

In order to analyze the data I started a census of known covers franked with these issues and studied the earliest/latest date of use as well as the post offices where the stamps have been used, split into type of overprint and color of overprint. On that topic I also published some detailed articles (see table below) in *Copacarta*, *Michel Rundschau* and *SG Lateinamerika* (Fuchs 2010, 2011a, 2011b, 2012). The latter article currently undergoes a major rework in order to add the latest research and findings since the initial article had been published.

Furthermore there were earlier articles by Jim Cross (2006) and Carlos Valenzuela (1998) on the (Registration) fees of SCADTA, however, without going into details. Also the legal aspect is not considered in these articles. Furthermore, the late Colombia authority Dieter Bortfeldt in his *Colomphil* Magazine, No. 12, February 2002 published a detailed article on these stamps, giving some earliest / latest date of use, information on forgeries, overprint types etc. but again, no information on the legal background.

The legal background

Despite of many years of study and research it is not yet clear to me when the registered letter Service of SCADTA from and within Colombia did started and what the legal background of it was. I assume there were some sorts of agreements with the Ministry of Communications of Colombia. To complicate the story even further, there are some SCADTA registered letters dating back up to:

- October 1921, Bogotá registered (*certifiquese* = certify) via Barranquilla 24.10.21 and Hamburg PÜ to Johanna Behr-Heyder in Cöln (Corinphila May 2003 Auction, lot 97) with SCADTA registration fee not paid.
- 4 November 1921, Bogotá registered via Barranquilla 7.11.21 (not flown – Goeggel error) to Johanna Beyr-Heyder Cöln 3.12.21 (Goeggel p86, Corinphila February 2013, lot 4446, Corinphila May 2003, lot 85).

Table I. Correlation of catalogue numbers and types,

Denomination	Type	Michel	Gebauer	Temprano
5 Centavos	I	21	50	R22
	III		51	R23
10 Centavos	I	22	52	R24
15 Centavos	III	23	53	R25
20 Centavos	I	24	54	R26
	II		56	R28
	III		55	R27
	IV (*)	NL	NL	NL
30 Centavos	I	25	57	R29
	III		58	R30
50 Centavos	II	26	NL	R32
	III	26	59	R31
30 on 10 Centavos	?	NL	61b	NL
(*) = New type, as per Dieter Bortfeldt local issue				
NL = Not Listed				

- 18 March 1922? Bogotá (Cross p46) via Giradot (where SCADTA stamps were cancelled) registered via Barranquilla (where Colombian stamps cancelled? to Berlin NW52.

As it can be seen, there were at least a few SCADTA registered stamps dating back to 1921 while the third SCADTA issue of 1921 did not contain a Registration stamp. Why was it forgotten to order from the German Empire State printing house in Berlin and when and where is it noted that the provisional "R" stamps were prepared?

Strangely enough, the fourth SCADTA issue of 1923 had a Registration stamp («R» on 20 Centavos) included, hence the provisional "R" stamps were in use for over a year until the forth issue was being issued? There would have been time enough to order a «R» stamps from the printing house, or was the registration service in the early years still in "experimental" phase, not justifying the order of registration stamps from the printing house?

This leads me to some questions:

- Was it initially not foreseen that registered letters would be transported? Was there no agreement with the Colombian government to also transport registered letters?
- Is there any SCADTA document announcing the start of registered letter service?
- What about registered covers from abroad to Colombia carried within Colombia by SCADTA? Was there any announcement when that registered letter service started? It is noteworthy to know that i.e. the SCADTA consular overprints on stamp issue 1921 also had provisional Registration stamps with the apparently same «R» handstamp of Type II but this was for SCADTA covers sent to Colombia from abroad.
- In June 1922 SCADTA entered into a contract with the Colombian Post. Could it be that only in that contract the use a registered mail was manifested? Who has a copy of that contract or knows where such a copy is available, maybe as an online resource? Are copies / tran-

scripts of the other SCADTA contracts with the Ministry of Communication in Colombia known?

Cover Census

The cover census I maintain and which is definitely far from complete, currently shows a total of about 90 registered covers (originating in Colombia only) with these provisional issues whereas the earliest known registration cover with a registration stamp (overprinted with «R») of 14 June 1922 and the earliest known registered cover where ordinary SCADTA stamps served as registration of October 1922.

Acknowledgements. I would like to thank Robin Pizer of the UK for sending me details on some articles and past auction offerings which were of great help in preparing this article.

I appreciate any information on the question mentioned about, manifested by clear scans. Kindly send this preferably by Email to: rainer@fuchs-online.com or, in case you have no Email facility, send colored copies by ordinary letter to: Rainer Fuchs, Am Burkardstuhl 33, 97267 Himmelstadt, Germany.

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Cross, Jim (2006) Colombian Registered Mail to

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Valenzuela Acosta, Carlos (1998) Tarifas de la SCADTA 1920-1940. *Colomphil* No. 2, June.

(Continued from page 2)

We also need to publish articles that pertain to areas that are more easily available to the novice collector who might not have the desire to spend lots of money on his collection. For example, in the next issue there will be an article on Panama postage dues on cover. While, as the author, I think it is an interesting article and provides information about the numbers of the different covers reported, this is not an area that a novice collector can successfully build a collection due to the dearth of available material. Within Panama, for example, Tulio de Carlo, used to produce very nice cachets for the new issues. These covers are available on the market and it would be nice if an article could be written about who he was and his covers. Elmer Smith also produced a lot of FDC in the 1950s and 60s and an article about him and

a listing of the covers known that he made would be helpful.

I would like input as to other areas that you, the membership, think should be covered in Copaphil. Without new members we all suffer. First, it is always good to have new members to have new comrades in philately. Secondly, more members mean more dues for the organization. And, thirdly, to be completely non-altruistic, if we don't have new members who is going to buy our collections when it is time to sell. I know that we all are not buying our stamps and covers as an investment, but I don't think that we all plan on them being worthless when it comes time to sell. But, postage stamps values, like any other commodity, is simply about supply and demand. So no matter how rare (or interest-

(Continued on page 19)

A Description of Naré in 1836¹

John Stuart

Founded in 1750, Nare is located at the mouth of the Naré River, upriver from Puerto Berrio. It was one of the important stopping points for travelers on the Magdalena River until eclipsed by Puerto Berrio in the 1870s. At the time of the conquest Naré was inhabited by Palagua Indians led by Chief Naré who hindered the efforts of Luis Beltrán, a Dominican, who became the patron saint of Colombia. Beltrán nearly died when poisoned by a native Naré woman.

Although Naré was commercially important much earlier, it was not officially founded until 1857. In 1900 it had a population of just 500 persons. John Stuart described Naré in 1836:

...Reached Naré at nine o'clock in the morning. At a short distance on this side of Naré, the river of than name flows into the Magdalena. It is a beautiful limpi stream, of considerable width at the mouth, and the water was very cool and refreshing. Naré is th e great entrepot for merchandise and produce to and from the rich province of Antiochia [sic]; and yet is it the most dirty, wretched-looking place of its size on the river. It consists of about one hundred and twenty huts, and about eighteen hundred souls. The rate of provisions is nearly twice as high as in Mompox, and very often not to be had at any price. Eggs six for a real; pork three dollars per arroba; fowls four reales each, and so on. At this place we found we were again to lie by for two days; and, to crown all, the bogas had the impudence to apply to me for the dollar each which had been promised



Fig. 1. Location of Naré.

to them in case they kept up with the champan of Col. Piñarez! Of course they had forfeited it. I endeavoured to appeal to the black alcalde of the place to forward me more expeditiously,; but, when I entered this house for that purpose, I found his worship already in familiar chat with the very worst of the crew, and dealing out rum to them, for he also kept an anise shop. A stranger should beware of ever placing the least dependence upon a river alcalde, who is generally a person of the very same stamp as the bogas [boatmen] themselves: and should there evn be found one who I willing to render assistance to you, he is deterred from doing so through the fear of being maltreated by the bogas, from whose vengeance (76) they have no means of defence in

those isolated villages. ... The only person of any consequence residing at this time in Naré was a coloured man named Torres. He kept a store of goods, was postmaster, with salary of fifteen hundred dollars per annum, and was also the government agent; he did, besides, a large business in the



Fig. 2. Naré franca, 1856.

commission and forwarding line. This person received us very kindly and ordered his son — a young man of about twenty-two years of age, and of complexion two or three shades darker than himself — to put us up the provisions we required. We found here, as is the case in every town and place in New-Granada, a French apothecary, who seemed to thrive very well in his business. Indeed, all those I had yet seen seems equally prosperous.

[On the 10th Stuart] chartered a canoe, and, accompanied by a guide, set out on a little trip up the Naré, as far as the bodegas, a distance of about two leagues.... Within less than two miles up, the little river narrows by one half. Neat little *rosas* line each shore at short and regular intervals, and the inhabitants appeared much better off and more cleanly clad than on the Magdalena (77) ... After advancing two miles farther, the shores rose to a height of eight hundred to a thousand feet, ... When even miles distant from Naré we reached the bodega (storehouse), a very neat brick building, the roof covered with tiles, having a house and garden attached for the accommodation of the keeper. Among a variety of merchandise which were here awaiting conveyance to the interior, I saw a two-horse pleasure-wagon of American manufacture, the body being enclosed in a very heavy box; and we were told that sixteen Indians would be required to carry it over the mountains.

We got back to Naré at four P.M. Fine guavas grow here, and I saw some trees bearing very large shaddock oranges. (79)

In 1881 Mrs Rosa Carnegie Williams had this to say about Nare:

Naré, the principal place of import for the flourishing state of Antioquia, but itself consisting



Fig. 3. Manuscript cancels from Naré, 1858-1865

of a miserable collection of huts...

In spite of its importance from the 1850s through the 1860s I have recorded only a single stampless cover (fig. 2) and five manuscript cancels from Naré (fig 3). It is hardly a complete sample but it does suggest the locale's diminishing importance by the 1870s.

End Notes

Steuart, John (1838) *Bogota in 1836-37. Being a Narrative on an Expedition to the Capital of New-Grandada, and a Residence of Eleven Months.* Harper & Brothers, New York., pp. 76 – 79.

Williams, Rosa Carnegie (1882c) *A Year in the Andes: Or, A Lady's Adventures in Bogota.* London Literary Society.

Upcoming Stamp Shows*

There are nine national level stamp shows in the U.S. during the next few months. Most are in the south or southwest but St. Louis and even Cleveland are willing to risk the March weather. The closest

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, Sarasota FL, February 2-4, 2018

ARIPEX, Mesa AZ, Feb. 16-18, 2018

TEXPEX, Grapevine TX, February 24-26, 2018

Some additions to the Numeral Overprint Provisionals of 1918

Robert Müller

Recently a fantastic block was offered on eBay that proved my theory of shifted overprints on this issue. As I figured out the position of the overprint respectively in the case of the missing "s" in "Especie" is not always on the same sheet position of the 10c stamp. This block shows why. Because obviously sometimes the overprint shifted one position to the left or right and produced some overprinted sheet margins. Then the missing "s" variety shifted one stamp to right. So you can find every overprint variety on 2 different original stamps.



Now, I am still waiting for a pair with and without overprint from the other side of the sheet.

Colombia/Panama Exhibits for Sarasota 2018

So far there are eleven Panama/Colombia accepted for our bi-annual meeting at Sarasota.

David Zemer, *The Panama 1c American bank Note Company Stamp*, 2 frames

- Ricardo Botero-Escobar, *SCADTA - The First Years (1920-1923)*, 8 frames
 - Dario Diez, *Begin and End of an Airmail System*, 5 frames
- Brad Wilde, *Panama Canal 25th Anniversary - Canal Zone*, 8 frames
- Brad Wilde, *Panama Canal 25th Anniversary - Panama*, 6 frames
- Alfredo Frohlich, *Replating Colombia's 1861 1 Peso Stamp*, 1 frame
- Alfredo Frohlich, *The Last Classic Colombia Issue 1866-1869*, 5 frames
 - Santiago Cruz, *Colombia - the 1917 Perkins Issue*, 8 frames
- Alfredo Frohlich, *Colombia - The Bolivar Centenary Issue of 1934*, 1 frame
- Manuel Arango, *Colombia - Revenues in the Twentieth Century*, 8 frames
- Thomas P. Myers, *Riches of Colombia Airmails, 1932-1931*, 5 frames

A Flight to Bogota in 1922¹

Charles P. Lohse

On a recent trip to Columbia [sic] my business in Barranquilla had taken more time than I had bargained for and my next stop was Bogotá, which meant a 10 days' journey, at least. This trip is made by steamer to La Dorada, then by train to Beltran, then by steamer to Giradot, and then the final train trip to Bogotá. It is more than 600 miles, and it consumes between 10 and 13 days, and is frequently made under anything but pleasant conditions. The Magdalena River is shallow, the air full of insects, the heat intolerable, the steamers slow and possessed of a propensity for running aground. The trip is such a bugbear that the prospective traveler regards it with apprehension and postpones it as long as possible.



*Steamboat on the lower Magdalena. —
Barranquilla to La Dorada.*



*Steamboat on the upper Magdalena —
Beltran to Giradot.*

It is now possible to make this voyage in a far more pleasant fashion and in the short time of 46 hours the Sociedad Colombo-Alemana de Transportes Aereos was formed in December, 1919, for the purpose of transporting passengers, mail, gold, and other valuables by airplane. The route is between Barranquilla and Giradot and Neiva, and as the planes are equipped for landing solely on water, the route follows the course of the Magdalena River between those points.

The ships used a Junker² sea planes the wings being made of "duraluminum." I decided to go to Bogotá via the air route, and so on a beautiful morning our little ship took the air at 6:40, rising



Junker planes at Giradot.

gracefully into the wind with the pilot and myself as the only human freight. After three hours our first stop, El Banco, was reached and we descended to take on fuel mail, and incidentally breakfast, which I had missed that morning. After an hour's stay we continued to Puerto Berrio where we arrived at 1 o'clock to take on mail from Medellín and the interior, and also to lunch. An (245) hour later we left, taking with us a mechanic who happened to be in Puerto Berrio, and climbing to 6,000 feet maintained this altitude for the rest of the 3-hours' trip. Shortly after 4 o'clock we arrived over Giradot, descending in a graceful spiral.

(Continued on page 16)

Upated Cubierta—Rare 50c Usage and an Exceptional Cubierta

Robert Müller

I recently bought a very interesting cubierta from Barranquilla on eBay. Not only is it an extremely rare usage of the 50 cent stamp from 1886 (fig. 1) —I have only recorded one cover in the last 30 years with this stamp — it is also an unusual uprate of a cubierta. The postage for "valor declarado" mailings changed in

1890. The exact date is unclear but in 1890 two new series of cubiertas from 10c to 1 Peso were printed in blue or with colors to meet the new "1%" postage rates: 10c for an amount up to 10 Pesos up to 1 Peso for a maximum of a 100 Pesos per mailing. Until then it had been 50c postage, no matter how great a value was declared. I have seen amounts of some thousand pesos. In this case the old 50c cubierta was uprated by a 50c stamp to meet the new 1 Peso postage for a declared value of the new maximum of 100 Peso. To establish the date of change I went through my collection. The earliest one I found is used 5 Feb 1890, also in Barranquilla (fig. 2). On the other hand I found one from Ortega dated 17 June 1890 (fig. 3) using the new 50 cent cubierta for the old tariff (864,- Peso). So the change of the tariffs may have been 1 January 1890, but the change was ignored by



Fig. 1. 1890 cubierta from Barranquilla to Barranquilla

some clerks, because no functioning banking system was offered in smaller cities.

The cubierta was to be sent within the city of Barranquilla. This is the first time I have seen that a cubierta was sent inside a city. But then it was redirected to Bucaramanga. It is also possible that the destination "Barranquilla" was a mistake. But the different ink and the different handwriting let me guess, that the addressee meanwhile moved to Bucaramanga. Unfortunately the addressee just endorsed his name, not the town or place, when



Fig. 2. Barranquilla to Bogota, 5 Feb 1890.

he received the money. Something is puzzling. The endorsed sending day is Sep 12, 1890. But postal cancel is Sep 10, 1890. Probably just another mistake. Normally there are no postal cancels on cubiertas, only sometimes from the receiving post office (less than 10%). In this case the receiving mark is on the back, but again from Barranquilla (not from Bucaramanga). It is cancelled Oct 2, 1890. This would mean a time of 3 weeks for the cubierta to travel to Bucaramanga and back. This would be possible. It is also a proof that the cubiertas were archived in the sending office.

Inspired by this discovery I checked my stock and found two additional cubiertas with "Archive" cancels, one from Barranquilla the other from Cartagena. The one from Barranquilla has a small violet line cancel reading "Mar 28, 1890" (fig.2). The one from Cartagena has a somewhat faint violet oval date cancel "June 2, 1891 (fig. 4)." To my surprise I did not find any



Fig. 3. Ortega to Bogota, 17 June 1890.



Fig. 4. Cartagena to Bogota, 2 Jun 1891.

other cubiertas from Barranquilla or Cartagena. So I cannot say if these archive cancels are normal.

So put it all together this Cubierta is really an exceptional in at least four different aspects.

Tired of the winter blues?

Join us at the bi-annual meeting in Sarasota on Feb 2-4, 2018.

Post Cards of C. L. Chester

8 Union Block, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Bradley Wilde

Clarence Lyon Chester ("C. L.") was born in Washington, Iowa on 25 August 1877. He grew up in New York City but moved to Hollywood in the 1920s.

He was a lecturer who travelled throughout the United States speaking on various foreign lands. He served as Thomas Edison's chief travel cameraman and also worked for Paramount Pictures. He co-published a highly illustrated book on Panama and the canal with Alfred B. Hall in 1910.¹

He produced at least 167 films under C. L. Chester Pictures Corporation from 1918 to 1923 – most were documentary shorts, others were humorous and featured animals. Chester hired three cinematographers in 1916 for a high-class series of education travelogues. He collaborated with the sporting magazine *Outing* and produced weekly travel films, *Chester-Outing Scenics* or *screenics* until the magazine folded in 1923.

A notice in *The Canal Record* of 1907 reported on his lectures on the Isthmus:

Mr. C. L. Chester will deliver an illustrated travel talk with stereopticon and moving pictures, under the auspices of the Ancon Amusement Association, at the Metropole Theatre in Panama, on Wednesday, June 3, at 8:30 p.m., Panama Railway time. His subject will be "Ecuador – Peru – Bolivia." Mr. Chester, who is one of the most popular lecturers of his class in the United States, is spending several weeks on the Isthmus, gathering material for a new lecture on the Panama Canal. He has for several years been delivering a lecture on this subject with stereopticon pictures and has come to the Isthmus to obtain new material for a revised version of it.



Fig. 1. P. R. R. STATION, COLON.



Fig. 2. Reverse of A series card

Some **views** appeared on all three ~~distinct~~ sets of his postcards during the next several years. Many examples of their posting from the Canal Zone are known. All featured black and white photographs, often printed on heavy but poor quality card stock. Some of the same views appear on different series.

C. L. Chester: 51 cards reported.

Series A – The Panama Series: 26 cards reported

Series A cards are dated 1908 and the view is inside a gold frame, separated from the image by a smaller white frame. Many are not well centered on the card and a few views retain a large blank area. The captions are in hand-lettered white caps.

Captions vary in punctuation and letter quality . Some views are in sepia and many of the images are arranged vertically. The publisher data states: Panama Series. Copyright 1908 by C. L. Chester The reverse is divided with POST CARD, CORRESPONDENCE and ADDRESS ONLY headers. There is no stamp box. At least one card has the front and reverse sides opposed by 180 degrees. Based on photo quality, this appears to be the oldest Chester series.

- AFTER THE BATH
- BEACH MARKET, PANAMA.
- THE CATHEDRAL, PANAMA
- CITY OF PANAMA FROM ANCON HILL [vertical]
- COLON.
- CULEBRA CUT [vertical]
- FIVE YARD DIPPER. CANAL ZONE.
- GATUN LOCK SITE
- THE HOTEL TIVOLI, ANCON C.Z. [vertical, between palms]
- AN ISTHMIAN ALLIGATOR
- THE MARKET, PANAMA
- MOUNT HOPE.
- NATIVE ISTHMIANS.
- OLD SEA WALL PANAMA
- OLD SPANISH MAGAZINE, PORTO BELLO
- OVERLOOKING PANAMA, PACIFIC FLEET.
- PACIFIC TERMINAL OF CANAL LA BOCA
- PANAMA CITY.
- P. R. R. STATION, COLON.
- QUIANT SPANISH BALCONIES OF PANAMA. [vertical]
- ROOSEVELT AVENUE, CRISTOBAL
- "SPRINGING HOLES" CANAL ZONE
- STREET VIEW IN COLON
- TABOGA ISLAND, BAY OF PANAMA
- TOWER OF OLD PANAMA.
- WATER FRONT, PANAMA.

Reverse of A series card P. R. R. STATION, COLON

Series B – White lower border with caption: one card

This is dated 1909 and the black and white view is full frame except for a narrow white border at the lower edge containing the caption in printed black caps. The reverse publisher data states:

COPYRIGHT 1909, BY C. L. CHESTER.

The back is divided with the three headers in caps and a heavier font than that for series A. A stamp box reads: One Cent / Stamp / Here. (fig. 3).

HOTEL TIVOLI, ANCON C. Z. [close-up, looking slightly uphill] (fig. 4).

Series C – Full frame view with white caption box: 24 cards.

This series appears to be the latest of the three. Although no date is shown, it was probably published in 1910. The view format resembles that



Fig. 3. Reverse of Series B card.



Fig. 4. Hotel Tivoli, Ancon CZ, Series B.

used by Thomas Marine on his cards. The view side is a full frame black and white photo and the caption is set off in caps in a small rectangular box within the image. Like the previous series, the card stock is low quality, but the images are considerably crisper. The reverse publisher data reads:

PHOTOGRAPH BY C. L. CHESTER.

Two distinct variations of the reverse side are known, but all of the listed views are probably printed in both variations. Type C2 is likely a later printing due to the addition of the foreign postage information.

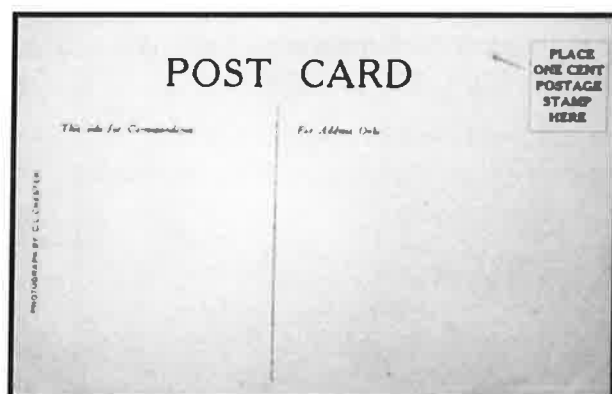


Fig. 5. Type C1 reverse

Type C1. The top header, POST CARD, is in large caps. The smaller headers (This side for Correspondence and For Address Only) are in small italics. The stamp box reads PLACE / ONE



Fig. 6. Type C2 reverse

CENT / POSTAGE / STAMP / HERE.

Type C2. The reverse POST CARD header is enclosed in a fancy scroll box and printed in gray. The sub headers are in non-italic caps. The stamp box reads: PLACE / STMP HERE / line / DOMESTIC / ONE CENT / FOREIGN / TWO CENTS.

- AVENUE OF PALMS, CRISTOBAL, C. Z.
- BALBOA THE PACIFIC TERMINAL OF THE PANAMA CANAL
- COLON, R.P.
- CONCRETE FLOOR, PEDRO MIGUEL LOCK
- CONCRETE MIXING PLANT, GATUN, C. Z. LARGEST IN THE WORLD
- CONCRETE WORK, GATUN LOCK SITE
- CULEBRA CUT
- DUMPING BUCKET (2 CUBIC YARDS OR ABOUT 4 TONS) OF CONCRETE. LOCK SITE, GATUN, C.Z.
- ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND CABLEWAYS, GATUN, C. Z.
- GATUN LOCK SITE SHOWING CURTAIN WALL AND CONCRETE WORK, GATUN, C. Z.
- GREETINGS FROM PANAMA [infant looking from wooden house doorway, vertical]
- HOTEL TIVOLI, ANCON, C. Z. [distance shot between palms]
- ISTHMIAN ALLIGATORS
- LAKE GATUN, THE DAM AND LOCK SITES, GATUN, C.Z. [triple section card, see individual cards of each section below]
- MACHINE SHOPS AND CUT AT EMPIRE
- MOUNT HOPE DRY DOCK AND WHARVES
- NATIVE HOUSES, ISTHMUS OF PANAMA
- NATIVE ISTHMIANS AT HOME
- NATIVE WASHERWOMEN
- PANAMA CITY [vertical]
- RUINS OF OLD SPANISH FORT, PORTO BELLO
- SECTION "A" OF THREE SECTION PANORAMIC VIEW OF GATUN LAKE, DAM AND LOCK SITES
- SECTION "B" OF THREE SECTION PANORAMIC VIEW OF GATUN LAKE, DAM AND LOCK SITES



Fig. 7. AVENUE OF PALMS, CRISTOBAL, C. Z.



Fig. 8. NATIVE ISTHMIANS AT HOME

- SECTION "C" OF THREE SECTION PANORAMIC VIEW OF GATUN LAKE, DAM AND LOCK SITES
- AVENUE OF PALMS, CRISTOBAL, C. Z.
- NATIVE ISTHMIANS AT HOME

References Cited

- Chester, C. L. 1908. Panama: A Pictorial Description of the Isthmian Canal of Today. New York: C. L. Chester. 61 pages.
- Hall, Alfred B. and Clarence L. Chester. 1910. Panama and the Canal. New York: Newson & Company. 236 pages.

Tired of the winter blues?

Join us at the bi-annual meeting in Sarasota on Feb 2-4, 2018.

(Continued from page 10)

I stayed overnight there, leaving for Bogota via railroad the next morning and arrived at my destination that evening. The air trip to Giradot costs 250 pesos, the return trip 50 pesos less. Including all stops I made the trip in 36 hours, the air flight taking 9 hours. Had I traveled by the usual route it would have taken from 10 to 13 days.

The present regular service enables the mail on the incoming United Fruit steamer to go immediately to Bogota and other interior points, and mail from there is carried to reach the outgoing steamers.

Recently a regular air mail service was established between Barranquilla and Cartagena (246).

- 1) Bieser, Wendell Phillips (1922) *Commercial Aviation in Latin America*, *Bulletin of the Pan American Union*, vol. 55, pp.241-246.
- 2) SCADTA put 30 Junkers F13 planes into service between 1920 and 1929. Thirteen crashed between 192 and 1938, and presumably were taken out of service (Civil Aircraft Register— Colombia .http://www.airhistory.org.uk/gy/reg_C-.html. Consulted 15 Dec 2017)

1977 - Latest Recorded Usage of Panama 2-Balboa *Papel Sellado*

David Zemer

While researching Panama postage stamps used for tax purposes and postage stamps overprinted *Ley 24 de 1915* for upcoming articles I became aware of Panama's *Papel Sellados*. Somehow, I had overlooked them and the publication of the excellent catalogue *Panama Revenues Papel Sellado 1821-1975* written by Joe Ross and Federico Brid. I just received my own copy in July and noticed that there was a beautiful example of the 2-Balboa *Papel Sellado* of 1966 printed by Thomas De La Rue & Co, Ltd., catalogue listing RSP-100, for sale on eBay, Fig 1. It is dated August 1977 which adds two years to the "Latest Recorded Usage" documented in the handbook.

Anyone interested in Panama philately or *Papel Sellado* might keep an eye out for these on Ebay. Having a copy of the catalogue at hand makes all the difference in the world for the collector. There are detailed descriptions, the relevant laws translated into English, and pictures of many of those known when the catalogue was published in 2008.*

**Panama Revenues Papel Sellado 1821-1975*. Available from Joe Ross, CalRevJoe@aol.com. \$40 + s&h.

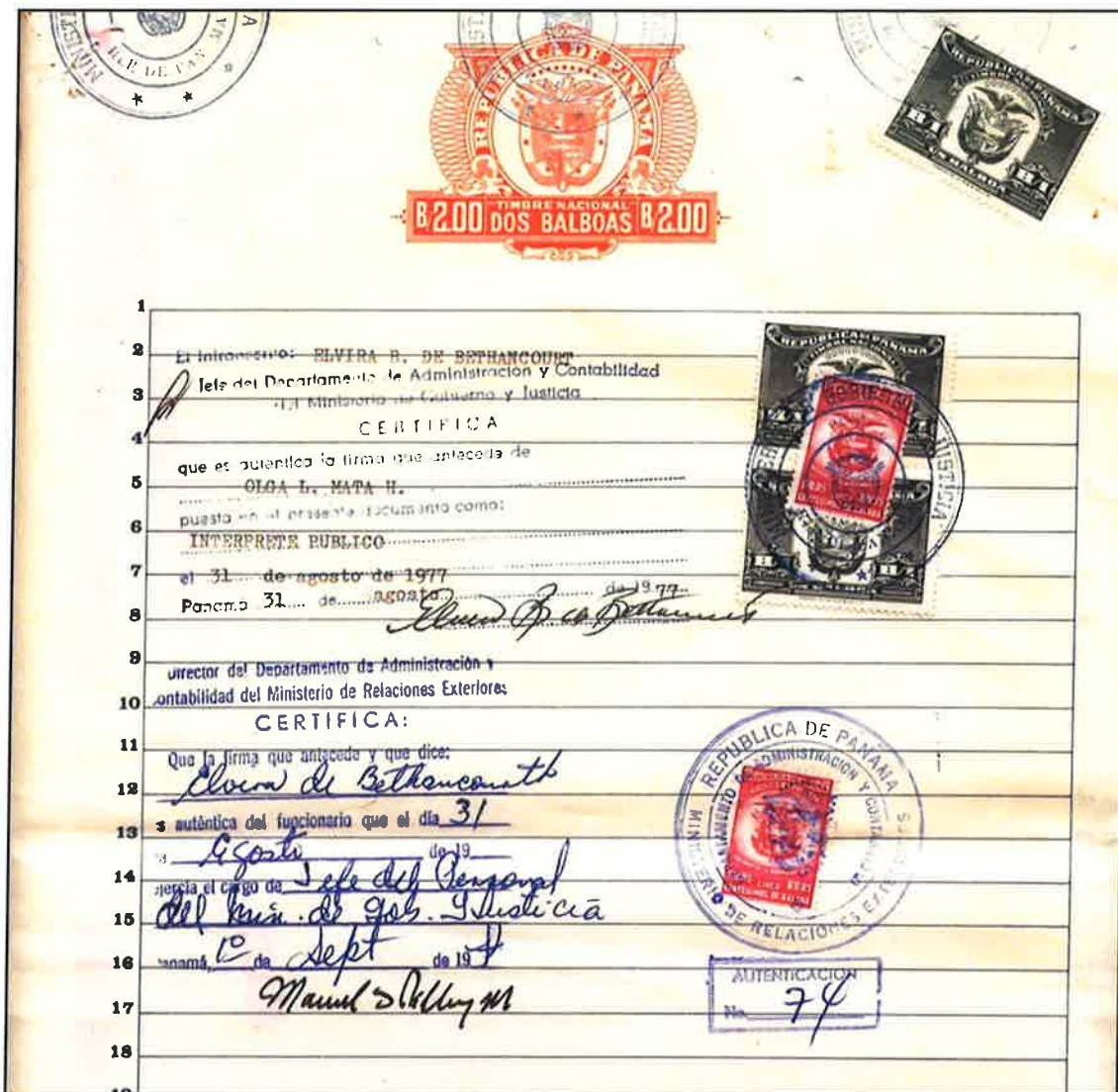


Fig. 1. Two-Balboa Panama *Papel Sellado* used in 1977, Latest Recorded Usage. Seen on ebay, asking price \$ 8, seller rg-abroad.

Late Use of 1906 Colon Transit Mark

Thomas P. Myers

Recently a 1933 cover from Santa Marta to Panama came to my attention (fig. 1a, 1b). The more I looked at it, the more interesting it became. First to draw my attention was the indigo Mancomun etiquette of the second series (Harris). It is only the second one from Santa Marta that I have recorded.

The letter was mailed by SCADTA from Santa Marta to Panama on 19 Jul 1933 and transited Barranquilla on the 20th. It was then transferred into the Panama mail system at Colon on the 20th with the latest known use of Cross' TRT-COL-008.¹ It was forwarded across the isthmus to Panama where it received Cross' TWN-PAN-077. It is the earliest reported use of this mark by some six months (fig. 3). Cross' illustration has the number "5" in the killer whereas this example appears to have the number "1."

Notes

1. Cross, Jim (2003) *Panama Postal Markings*, 1758—1950. Copaphil.



Fig. 2. LKU of Colon transit mark
TRT-COL-008



Fig. 1a,b. Mancomun letter from Santa Marta to Panama,
19 Jul 1933.

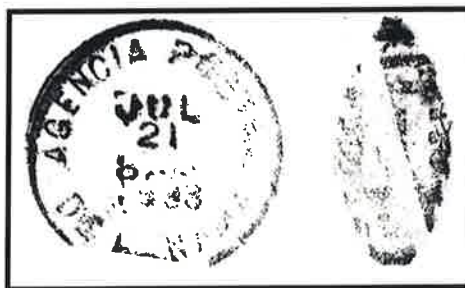


Fig. 3. ECU of Panama mark
TWN-PAN-077

An Invitation from Jim Mazepa

If you attend the Sarasota Stamp Show please join me on Friday evening of the show at my home. Plenty of food and drink so no one will have to go out for dinner.

Jim Mazepa

A Sleepy Post Office Clerk at Salento, Caldas

Robert Müller

Last year I wrote about new finds of *Valor Declarado* mailings, the successor of the well-known *Cubiertas*. The same auction company recently offered some more and I found an interesting cover about a sending 4.847 Pesos! The Post Office Clerk from Salento, Caldas, misunderstood the new postal rates for money letters. He charged 1,47 Peso for this letter. This would have been the postage for a mailing up to 49 pesos. The postage for this amount of 4847 Peso would have been the unbelievable postage of 147,- Peso! Not enough, the date in the cancel is wrong. The date is "NOV 20 1910", with the "20" upside down. The year 1910 is impossible, the stamps were issued in 1917/18. So the cover must be from 1918, 1919 or 1920. Anyway, an interesting cover, not only because of the rare origin.



Write for Copacarta

(Continued from page 6)

ing) our material is, without demand the value will go down. So please contact me with any ideas you have how we can use Copacarta to bring in new members to Colombian and Panamanian philately.

Finally, on a sad note, I received news that one of my early collecting mentors passed away New Year's Eve. Elizabeth "Betty" Brooks Stergion was born in Panama in 1918 and spent her childhood there where her father was an engineer for the Panama Canal Government and worked on the construction of Madden Dam. After she graduated

from Cristobal High School she moved to the United States, got married and had a family. However, Betty always had Panama in her heart and over the years had assembled probably the most complete collection of postcards of Panama ever assembled (which has gone to a good home, not mine) and a very fine stamp and postal history collection. She was a "flyspeck" collector and her attention to detail was superb. When I saw her last year she was in good mental and physical health and enjoyed talking about her collections. I wish all of you that, to be 99 and still enthralled with your collections. I will miss her friendship, her knowledge, and the best brownies I have ever tasted.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

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

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

Volume I includes pre philatelic marks and postal documents, showing a great diversity of postal marks between 1770-1859, many of them unknown until now to philatelists. This information was found in the various archives of Colombia and especially in the General Archive of the nation in Bogota (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 Revenues Papel Sellado 1821-1975. Available from Joe Ross, CalRevJoe@aol.com. \$40 + s&h.

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.*

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

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

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

COPACARTA

Volume 34

Number 4

June 2017



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



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Copaphil to meet at Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition on Feb 2-4, 2018

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Palmares

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Gold. SCADTA'S First Issues - A Traditional Approach to Airmail Stamps Santiago Cruz and also COLOMPHIL - Outstanding Study of South & Central American Philately

Large Vermeil. SCADTA Airmail Stamps for SCADTA Airmail Service in Ecuador ,Alfredo Frohlich

Exhibits for Sarasota 2018

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

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

tem, 5 frames

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

Exhibits on Line

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

Lanman & Kemp

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

(Continued on page 18)

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Perkins Bacon Issues of Colombia*

Ross A Towle

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

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

The first invoice, dated 14 February 1917, based



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

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

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

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

45,000 3c lilac brown envelopes (H&G B7A)

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

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

The third invoice, dated 11 April 1917, also based

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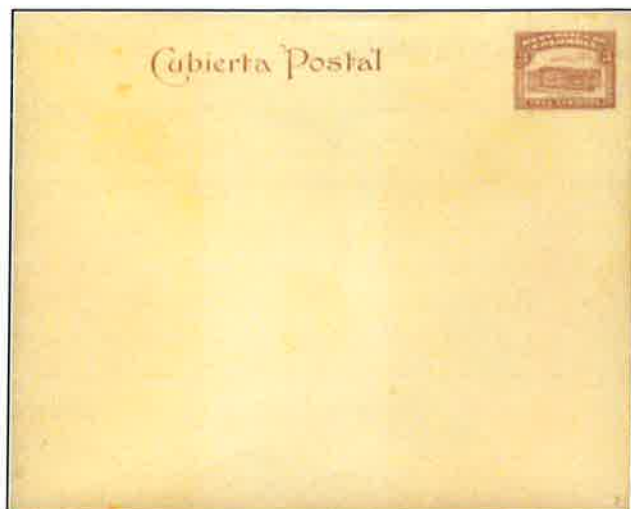
H&G 20 single card, international UPU rate of 2c.



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



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



H&G B7A envelope.



H&G E1 and E2 (upper portions).

on the contract of 8 July 1916, was for



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

Underneath: PERKINS, BACON & Co LD, LONDON.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and were sent via *Nortonian*.

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

End Notes

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

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

David Zemer

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

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

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

Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted *LEY 24 DE 1915*

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

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



Fig. 1. $\frac{1}{2}$ c Map stamp
ABNCo, Sc195.
The lilac *LEY 24 DE 1915*
reads across.
Courtesy Joe Ross

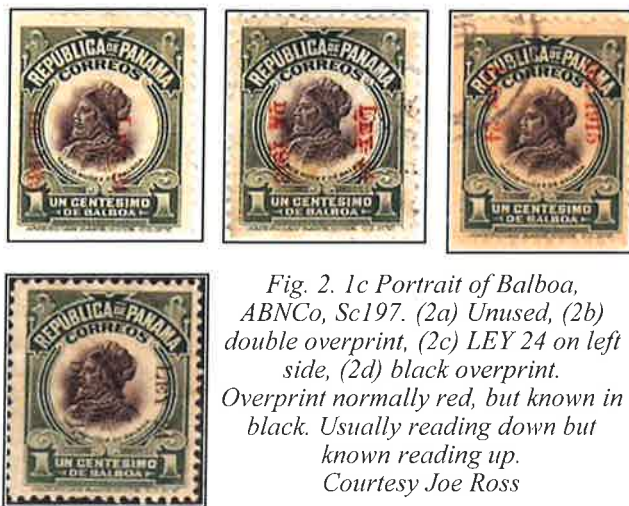


Fig. 2. 1c Portrait of Balboa,
ABNCo, Sc197. (2a) Unused, (2b)
double overprint, (2c) *LEY 24* on left
side, (2d) black overprint.
Overprint normally red, but known in
black. Usually reading down but
known reading up.
Courtesy Joe Ross

recorded.

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

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

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

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



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



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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr Ehrman wrote:

The Government having exhausted its stock of



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



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

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

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

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

Panama Postage Stamps Overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915 Used for Postage

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

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

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

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

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

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

Heydon was right in some respects but a present

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



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



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



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

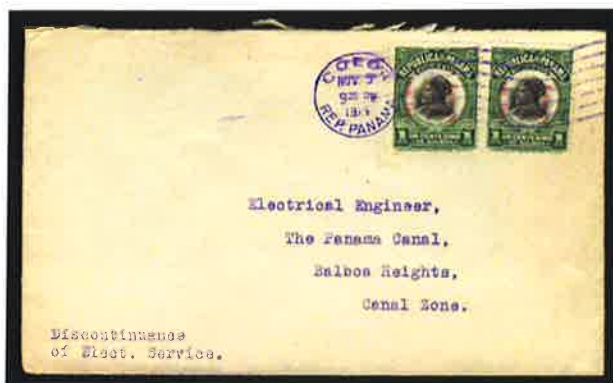


Fig. 10. November 9, 1915. Both stamps were recognized as valid for postage. No postage due. Return address on back: Arthur G. Gehrig, C/O American Bridge Company, Cristobal, Canal Zone. Ex-Brett



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

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

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



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

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

Usage on Cover of Postage Stamps Overprinted LEY 24 DE 1915

Covers with overprinted postage stamps are illustrated in date order.

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

Summary

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

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



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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Acknowledgements.

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

End notes

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

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

(Continued on page 19)

Colombia Official Cubiertas Catalog Project

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

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

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

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



Fig. 1. Official cubierta.



Fig. 2. Official cubierta

SECTION I - NATIONAL ISSUES - ESTADOS UNIDOS

1867 Estados Unidos - First Issue 125x79mm (frame size)

Figure OC-A (OC-1B-b3)

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

Variety Identification for all OC-1 types:

- a1: First line 41.2mm, break at 26.5mm; Second line 41.2mm, break at 23.2mm
Small 'O' in "OFICIAL"
- a2: First line 41.4mm, break at 18.8mm; Second line 41.4mm, break at 22mm
Lower right leaf same orientation as corner, No comma after "Administrador"
- a3: First line 41.4mm, break at 18.8mm; Second line 41.4mm, break at 22mm
Lower right leaf same orientation as corner
- a4: First line 40.6mm, breaks at 10mm & 27.2mm;
Second line 41.8mm, breaks at 10mm & 25.5mm
Small 'A' in "COLOMBIA", Normal/Large 'A' in "ESTADOS"
'E' of "SALE" is higher than rest of letters

Fig. 3. Sample page from Cubiertas catalog.

Notes from the Past, edited by Debby Friedman

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

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



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

cial (fig. 2).

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

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

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

(Continued on page 12)



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

(Continued from page 11)

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

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



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

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

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

End Notes

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

Imperforate

1 p orange brown [Scott 216]

10 P bright green [Scott 223]

SARASOTA NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

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

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

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

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

Pierre Weexsteen



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



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

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

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

Type 1:

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

Type 2:

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

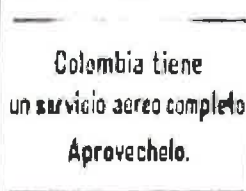
- Q of BARRANQUILLA ordinary.
- P de TRANSPORTES on the vertical bar

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

References:

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

Table I. Barranquilla Roller Cancel Marks, 1927—1934

Dates recorded	 French version	 Spanish version	 English version	 German version
Type 1 	11/7/1927 - 28/1/1932	11/7/1927 - 28/5/1934	27/12/1927 - 7/2/1928	30/1/1928
Type 2 	10/4/1929		5/7/1929	

Direct Air Service, Medellín—Turbo 1933

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

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

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

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

SCADTA-Airways System in Colombia (South America).

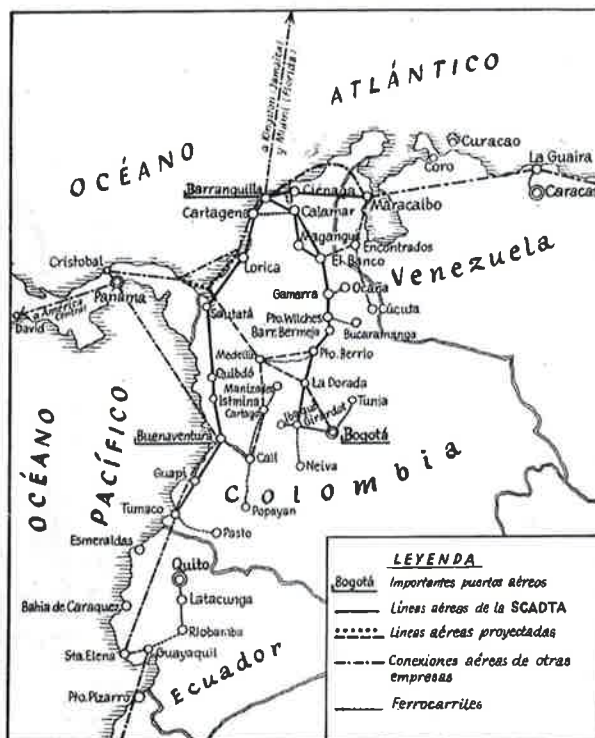


Fig. 1. Air service in Colombia in June 1933 (from brochure soliciting British packages to be carried by SCADTA air express).

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



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



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

SOCIEDAD COLOMBO-ALEMANA DE TRANSPORTES AEREOS

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

"SCADTA"

OFICINA DE BOGOTA
CARRERA 8A., No. 391
TELEFONOS: 22-50 - 31-50
DIRECCION TELEGRAFICA
AVIATICO

CERTIFICADO.

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

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

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

Medellín, Agosto 10 de 1933.
AGENCIA DE LA SCADTA
MEDELLIN

Manuel J. Tobon
MANUEL J. TOBON.

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

A SOUVENIR OF THE CCNA

Debby Friedman

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

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



Fig. 1

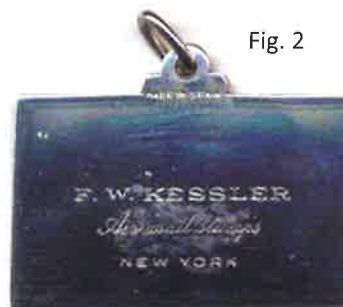


Fig. 2

WHAT'S SELLING AT AUCTION AND EBAY

Debby Friedman

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

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

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

price or appraisal for unique material.

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

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



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

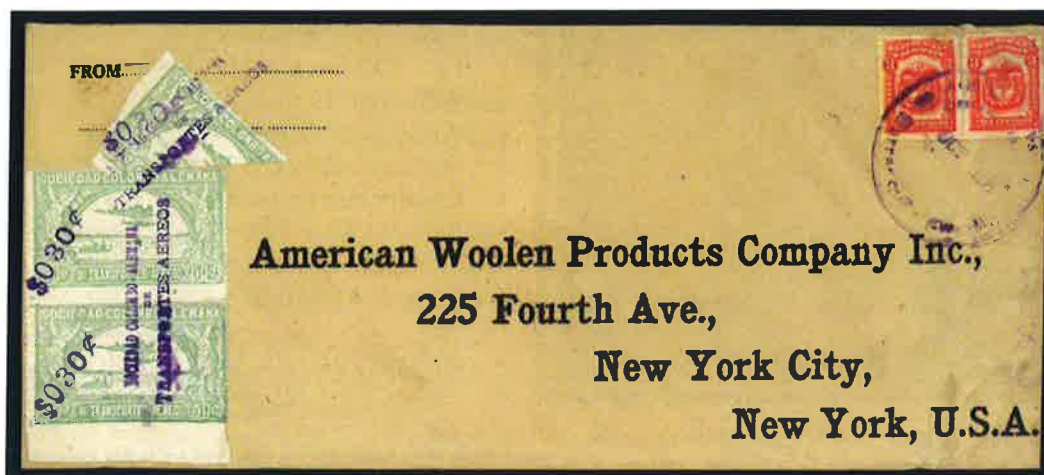


Fig. 2. *American Woolen Company* cover brought \$8855 plus 20% buyers commission

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

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

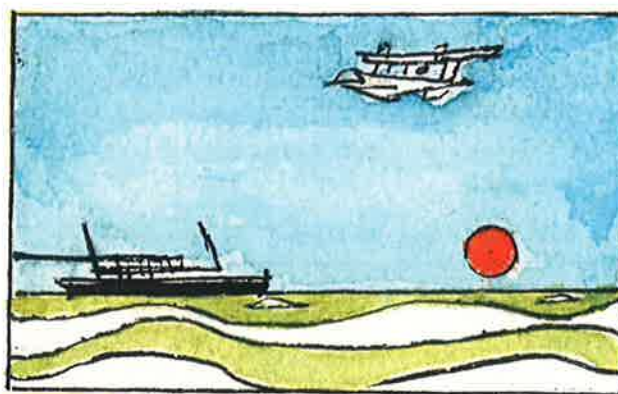


Fig. 3. Artist's watercolor sketch featuring the background design used for the 10c "Ocean Liner and Biplane" in the Curtis series brought \$3305 plus 20% buyers commission.

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



Fig. 3. Julio during maneuvers at Barranquilla.

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

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

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

INDICE:	
1 Vista aérea de la Plaza de Bolívar, Bogotá.	15 Ruinas del Convento de la Popa, Cartagena.
2 Vista panorámica de la Sabana de Bogotá. Al fondo se destacan los Nevados de la Cordillera Central.	16 Vapores fluviales del río Magdalena, en Barranquilla.
3 Nevado del Tolima (5.620 m.)	17 Escena en las orillas del río Magdalena.
4 Nevado del Ruiz (4.890 m.)	18 Aeropuerto de la Seadit en Barranquilla.
5 Hidroplano de la Seadit sobre las lagunas de las Sabanas de Bolívar.	19 Despacho de un avión internacional de la Panamerican Airways en el Aeropuerto de la Seadit en Barranquilla.
6 Camión de pasajeros en la Ciénaga Grande (Dpto. del Magdalena).	20 "Julio" actuando en las maniobras de ataque, Aeropuerto de Barranquilla.
7 Selva virgen sobre las playas del Parícuta entre Buenaventura y Tumaco.	21 Revisión general de un hidroavión en los talleres de la Seadit en Barranquilla.
8 Bahía indígena entre Buenaventura y Tumaco.	22 Aeródromo de Soledad, campo de aterrizaje de la Seadit en Barranquilla.
9 Tipo de indio de la región del Cauca.	23 Vista parcial del Aeródromo de Soledad.
10 Campesino indígena en el Río Atreto (Chiriquí).	24 Revisión general de un avión en los talleres de la Seadit en el Aeródromo de Soledad.
11 Bahía de Zarraga, en la región fronteriza con Panamá.	
12 Boque de pasajeros en el Golfo de Uralá.	
13 Pájaros del río Magdalena.	
14 Amanteo en la Bahía de Santa Marta, sobre el Mar Caribe.	

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

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



Fancy Bucaramanga Franca cancel



Simiti cancel



Fancy Charlala cancel



Expreso Medellin cancel

(Continued from page 2)

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

Mompos Cover is Everything it Ought to Be

Thomas P Myers

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

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

It is a nice addition to anyone’s collection.



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

(Continued from page 9)

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

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

ERRATA

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

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

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

Colombia: The 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.*

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.



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



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Write for Copacarta

Recent Palmares

FLOREX 2016

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

FILATELICX FIESTA 2016

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

Vermeil. Larry Crain Colombia National Post Rates 1904-1944

SARASOTA NATIONALSTAMP EXPOSITION, 2017

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

Gold. Alfredo Frolich, SCADTA Airmail Stamps

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

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

ARIPEX 2017

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

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

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

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

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

SOUTHEASTERN STAMP EXPO PALMARES, 2017

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

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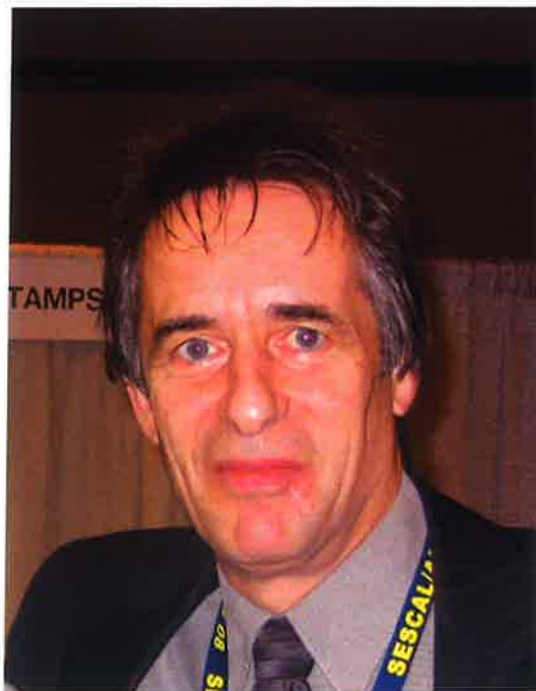
Brian Moorhouse - An Appreciation

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Postage Stamps Used to Pay Panama Stamp Taxes

David Zemer
Sosahill@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

Follow up Articles

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

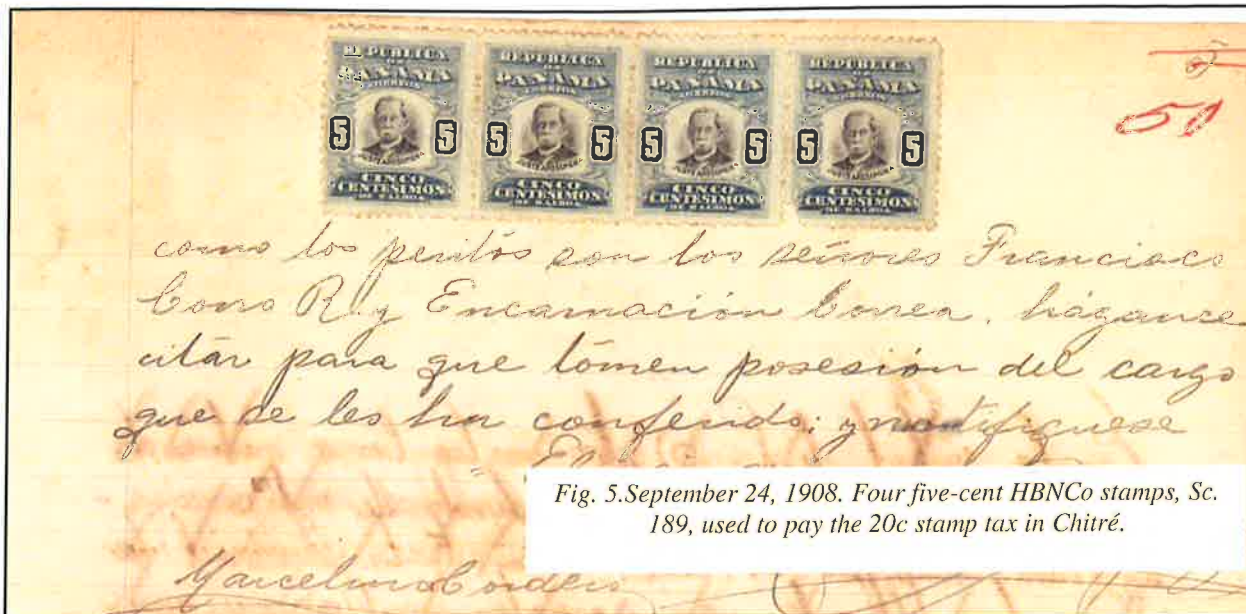


Fig. 5. September 24, 1908. Four five-cent HBNCo stamps, Sc. 189, used to pay the 20c stamp tax in Chitré.

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

Request for Information

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

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

AGENCIA JUDICIAL Y DE NEGOCIOS
(Establecida desde 1901)
JUAN N. TINKER
ABOGADO
POR CARLOS TINKER
Aprobado No. 68

OFICINA:
AVENIDA NORTE No. 314
TELÉFONO No. 314

RESIDENCIA:
AVENIDA H. No. 223 II
TELÉFONO No. 223 II

DOCUMENTO DE CREDITO

Conste que yo, MARTINA GARRIDO, adeudo a JUAN N. TINKER, cesionario de CONRAD D. LEVI, la cantidad de (\$ 90.00) NOVENTA PESOS (\$90.00) PANAMENOS, proveniente de muebles suministrados a crédito.

CONSTE que pagaré la expresada cantidad del modo siguiente:
(\$ 5.00) CINCO PESOS (\$5.00) PANAMENOS el día PRIMERO (1º) de cada MES hasta cancelar la cantidad que adeudo.

La falta de pago de cualquier abono hace exigible ejecutivamente la cantidad que adeudo.

Y para que conste firmo el presente documento en Panamá, el DIEZ (10) de DICIEMBRE de 1914.

A ruego de Martina Garrido que dice no sabe firmar, lo hace el suscrito, *Emilia Martínez*
(Firma del deudor)

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

16 21

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

Panamá, 8 de Julio de 1.915

Pablo Ruiz

V°. B°.

El Juez 1° del Circuito.

[Handwritten signature]



[Handwritten initials]

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



Imp. "Esto y Aquello"

Panamá, Octubre 31 de 1915

EL SEÑOR *Consejo Zabala*

A RICARDO CARROLL R.

DEBE:

Por el destapar las tuberías de los fregaderos a la casa Avenida Anco.

\$ 6.00

\$ 6.00



Cancelada.

[Handwritten signature]

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

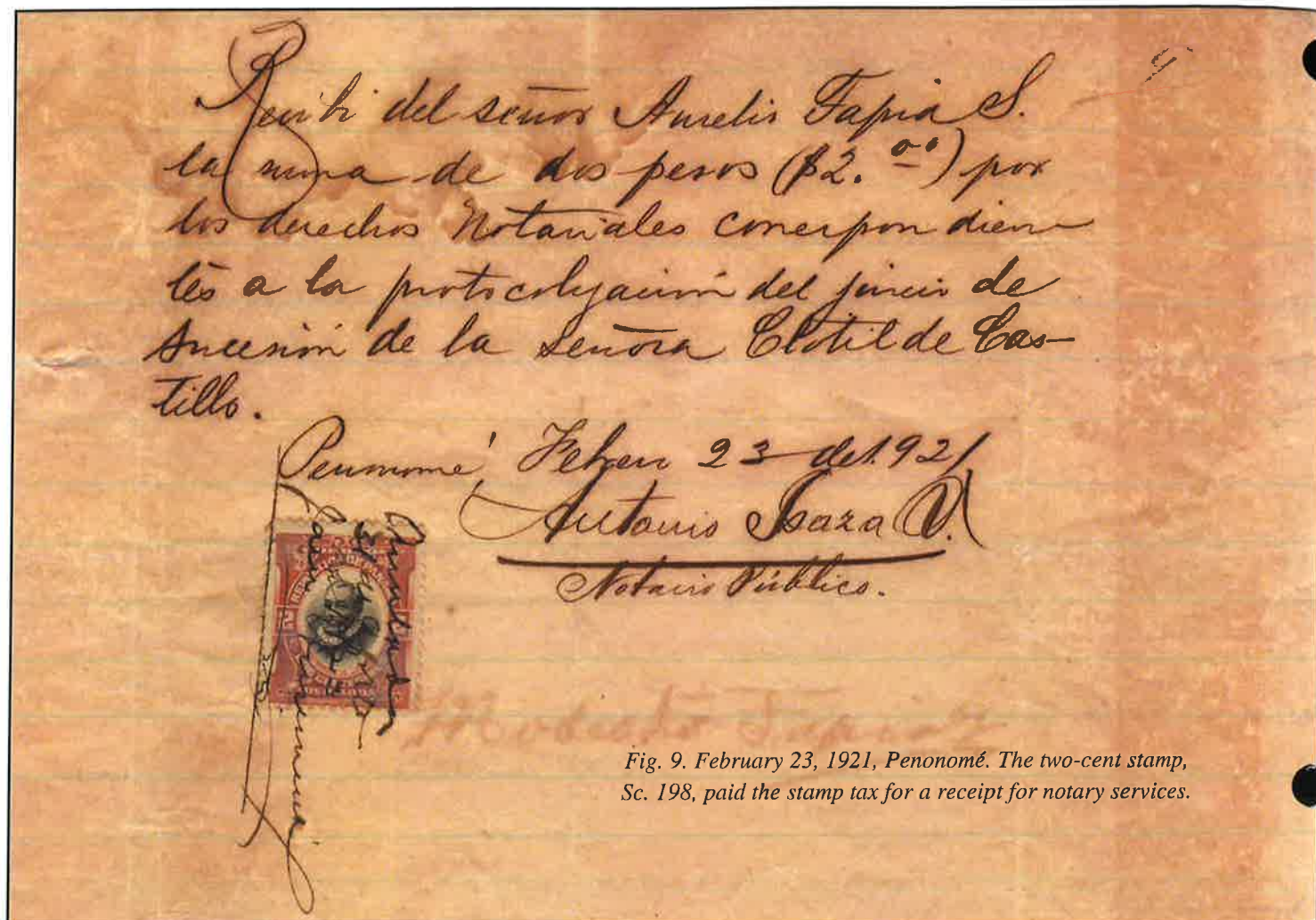


Fig. 9. February 23, 1921, Penonomé. The two-cent stamp, Sc. 198, paid the stamp tax for a receipt for notary services.



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

The Spanish American Philatelic Society

Debby Friedman

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

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

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



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

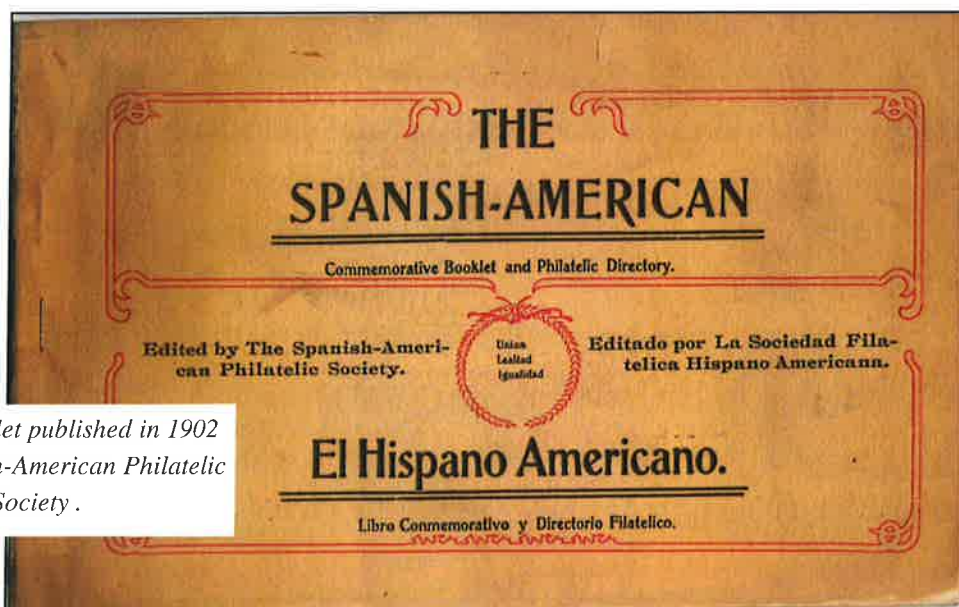


Fig. 1. Booklet published in 1902 by the Spanish-American Philatelic Society.

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

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

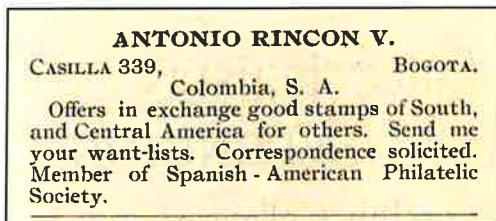


Fig. 2. Antonio Rincon's ad.

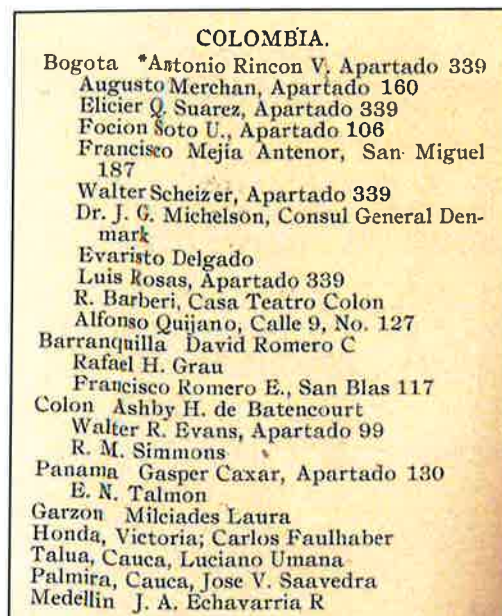


Fig. 4. Colombian members of the Spanish American Philatelic Society.

EL CORREO EN COLOMBIA

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

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

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

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

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

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

The 5c Yellow-Orange of Cartagena, 1903

Thomas P. Myers

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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



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



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

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



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

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

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



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



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



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

Conclusions

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



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

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



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

Colombia/Panama on-line Exhibits

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

Notes from the Past—edited by Debby Friedman

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

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

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

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



Fig. 1. Sc273 and 274.

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



Fig. 2. Cartagena issue Scott 214a.



Fig. 3. Scott H2.

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

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



Fig. 4.Scott # 65 & 67

U. S. Air Mail in Colombia, 1928

United States Postal Guide - 1928

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SERVICE

171

6. COLOMBIAN AIR MAIL SERVICE

Air mail service between Barranquilla and interior points of Colombia, South America.—There is air mail service between Barranquilla and interior points of Colombia, of which senders in the United States may avail themselves.

There is a subsidiary air mail route between Puerto Wilches on the main Colombian air-mail route and Bucaramanga.

It is understood that the air mail stamps cover the postage charges for transmission in the Colombian service, including delivery to addressee.

Articles intended for forwarding via the Colombian air mail service between Barranquilla and interior points of Colombia should have affixed thereto, in the upper right-hand corner of the envelope, the necessary United States postage stamps and the special Colombian air mail stamps; and the upper left-hand corner should bear the words "Via Colombian Air Mail" (Correo Aereo), clearly written in green ink, or green "stickers," which will be furnished to the purchasers of Colombian air mail stamps, should be used.

Postmasters at the offices of origin should cancel the Colombian air mail stamps, as well as the United States postage stamps.

In the case of registered letters for transmission by the air mail service in question, it is necessary to affix the special 20-cent Colombian air mail registry stamp in addition to the United States registration fee.

Parcel-post packages to which Colombian air mail stamps are attached must be inclosed under cover of another wrapper addressed to the Oficina del Correo Aereo, Apartado 203, Barranquilla, Colombia, S. A., and such outside cover must bear United States postage sufficient in amount to pay for the transmission of such wrapper with its inclosure from this country to Barranquilla. Upon receipt at Barranquilla, the inclosure will be forwarded by first opportunity by air mail service to the ultimate addressee as indicated on the inside wrapper.

Air mail fees, in addition to the regular postage, are as follows:

Letters: 30 cents for each 20 grams ($\frac{3}{4}$ ounce) or fraction thereof.

Unsealed circulars, printed matter, and samples: 15 cents for each 20 grams ($\frac{3}{4}$ ounce) or fraction thereof.

Parcel-post packages: \$3 for each kilogram, and 75 cents for each additional 250 grams ($\frac{1}{2}$ pound) or fraction thereof; maximum weight, 20 pounds.

Colombian air mail stamps, and information relative to the Colombian air mail service, may be obtained from the following agents:

American Trading Co., 96 Wall Street, New York, N. Y.

American Trading Co., 60 California Street, San Francisco, Calif.

Hibernia Bank & Trust Co., Carondelet and Gravier Streets, New Orleans, La.

Illinois Merchants Trust Co., 231 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

Enrique Naranjo, 10 High Street, Boston, Mass.



1928 Air mail cover from New York to Medellín.

British Air Mail in Colombia, 1928

From *British Air Mail Leaflets*, May 1928

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

COLOMBIA (South America) Letters and Postcards 1/- per 4 oz. Printed and Commercial papers, samples, 6d. per 4 oz. By ordinary route via New York and air route 18. Gain of up to 10 days for Bogotá, Buenaventura, Medellín, etc. Correspondence cannot be registered.

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

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



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

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

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

Bisects of the Numeral Issues, 1904 - 1924

Thomas P. Myers

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

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

Arango Issue

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

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



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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

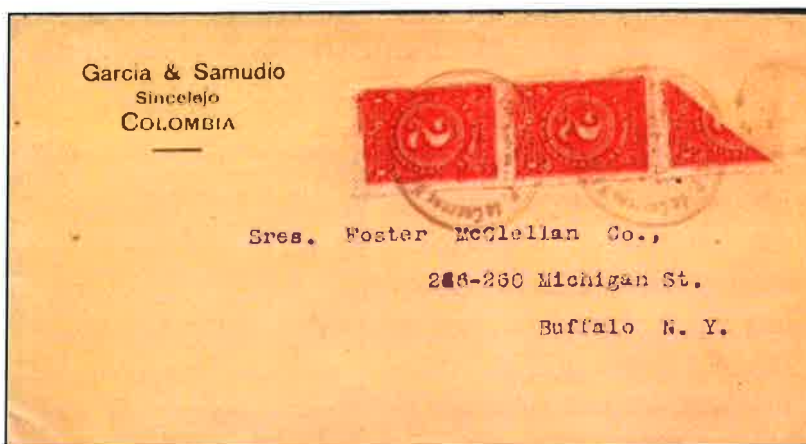


Fig. 4. Sincelejo to Buffalo NY, 1915.



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



Fig. 6. Plato to Binghamton NY 1920.

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

Numeral stamps remained in stock in Barran-

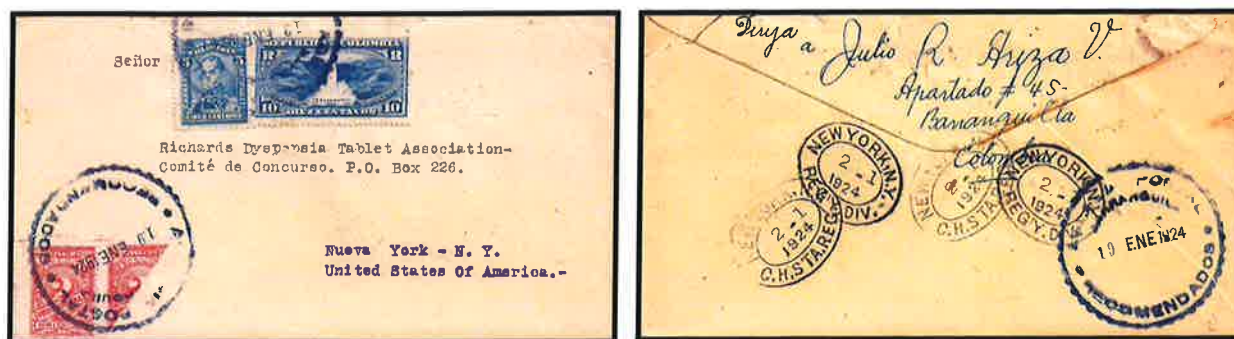


Fig. 7. Short paid registered letter from Barranquilla to New York, 1924

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

Observations

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

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

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

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

References Cited

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

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

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

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

Colombia: The 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.*

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*

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