

ECUADOR STUDY GROUP



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President
L. J. Harris

Secretary/Treasurer
D. E. Freeman

A serious note about ESG and the Newsletter

This is the 4th issue of the ESG Newsletter. Hopefully the Newsletters have been worthwhile and useful. If the ESG is to continue to be viable then obviously the Newsletter must continue to be published. After all, it is our only communications vehicle. The facts are, however, that only about four or five members have been responsible for the content, preparation, and distribution of the Newsletter. These same people are now starting to grow weary of supporting the entire membership. ESG is at the point now where three options must be seriously considered:

1. Discontinue the activities of ESG and proceed no further.
2. Seek to combine with one or more other Latin America study groups.
3. Continue, not as it is, but in a more equitably balanced support from the entire ESG membership.

In short, help is badly needed from each member, not just a few, to continue. Help in the form of written material for future Newsletters; a volunteer to put a future Newsletter together - at least in draft form; or even some good, thoughtful suggestions on how we could improve. It's up to you.

NEWS ITEMS

o Ecuador Exhibits

- a) 1902 Guayaquil Fire Control Marks of Ecuador - Mr. F. E. La Wall has prepared and shown these stamps and supporting material at two shows. The first was at HAVEX in suburban Philadelphia (earned Grand Award) and the other at the National SEPAD show in Philadelphia (earned a silver medal and "Champion of Champions" Member Club Award).

- b) The Ecuador Seebecks - Mr. John Harris exhibited his work on the Seebeck issues at the Chicago Philatelic Society show in Chicago last month.
 - c) Planned Exhibit - Mr. John Harris plans to exhibit at CAPEX in Toronto June 9-18, 1978.
- o The following appeared in Linn's Stamp News of August 15, 1977 under "Trends of Stamp Values".

"Making their debut in the Trends columns this week are the South American nations of Ecuador and Bolivia. The number of dealers who carry comprehensive stocks of Ecuador and/or Bolivia - and advertise their prices - is fairly small, but we have been able to gather the data presented here by the cooperation of a few dealers and interested readers."

"Listings are given only in the unused and used categories, and it is hoped that coverage can be expanded in the future, with the aid of interested dealers and readers."

"The stamps of Ecuador and Bolivia do not enjoy widespread collector appeal in the United States, although there are small groups of avid philatelists who seek them. Possibly the greater demand for these issues comes from collectors who generally collect Latin or South America, rather than single country specialists."

"Since this is the first Trends listing for Ecuador and Bolivia, no comment will be made relative to market tendencies."

- o A new publication called "The Latin Post" arrived this year. It is published for Latin American collectors by Piet Steen, Box 820, Hinton, Alberta, Canada, TOE IBO
- o Minkus publications has now made available a catalogue dealing exclusively with Latin America.
- o 1907 "Escolares" control, marks - Mr. F. E. La Wall is currently working on the 1907 "Escolares" control marks. Any questions or comments on this subject may be addressed directly to Mr. La Wall. (address under new members).
- o D. E. Freeman reports the following information.

The Division of Postal History, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., has a number of significant philatelic collections in its archives. One of these collections is of Ecuador, part of which was exhibited at Interphil 1976, and included the plating of the 4 reales. This Ecuador collection was started about 1937, transferred to another owner and finally donated in 1955.

It is comprised of ten albums (estimated 352 pages) containing mostly pre-1900 material and includes some pre-postal and British franking exhibits. The collection is available for study at the Smithsonian by contacting the Director, Division of Postal History, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C. Phone (202) 381 5024.

A collection thus donated is for all practical purposes no longer available to circulate among collectors. One way to make it "available" would be to write it up and make the describing document available. This would make an excellent project for someone; preferably one who lives relatively close to the source, - and would be a worthwhile contribution to Ecuadorean philatelic study. (I am advised that the Smithsonian would provide some help in a project of this sort.)

o Needed for New Issues

A volunteer is needed to "Keep Book" and report on new Ecuador issues. For starters a complete compilation of all new issues of 1976 and 1977 would be of interest and could be included in the next newsletter.

o An Open Letter to the APS Research Library
D. Sher

For a number of countries the APS Research Library holdings are a great disappointment while good specialised publications are lost to the philatelic community after their initial distribution if they are missed by a library acquisition programme.

Many specialist groups are too small to maintain and circulate their own library. I would like to suggest that the APS Research Library consider the possibility of serving as a central depository for such groups in exchange for library privileges, accepting their publications and expecting them to serve (in effect) as library acquisition agents encouraging their own members to donate material from their own holdings. This would have the advantage of bringing in material at no cost and would extend contact with a number of specialists who, from personal inclination have no connection with the larger national groups. Since many specialists have overseas contacts there is the possibility that a programme of the type suggested here could increase APS holdings of foreign material where it is particularly weak at present.

(D. Sher has submitted the above letter this year to the Philatelic Literature Review).

o Some questions about the postal tax stamps.
(By D Sher)

All stamp catalogues list a number of items as "postal" or "obligatory" tax stamps, supplementary taxes applied at various times to items passing through the posts. In the Scott catalogue these are given "RA" numbers.

Briefly a large number of the RA items were also used fiscally. as extra taxes on official documents. For example the defensa nacional issue of 1942-6 (Scott type PT20) was also printed (litho.) directly on the contemporary stamped paper, as was the timbre escolar of 1952 (Scott type PT23). Others, such as SC RA60-61 and SG1213a (not in my 1971 Scott), were attached to similar documents. This leads to my first question: were any of the postal tax stamps listed in the catalogues used exclusively postally?

SC RA38 exists in several higher denominations than the 10c listed. Were the postal taxes simply flat rate or were they structured to have higher rates for special usage? It is realised that the higher denominations were used fiscally.

How did this dual usage (postal and fiscal) come about? Was the legal term used so general as to cover both or was it explicitly required?

- o D. Sher (Submits these want lists)
(2837 Minto Drive Apt. 2, Cincinnati OH 45208)

"I have virtually no duplicate material of any sort and must therefore purchase (rather than exchange) any of the following."

Stamps.

1. Ecuador - municipal tax stamps.
2. Ecuador - consular tax stamps (post 1904- I have the first issue).
3. Ecuador - post 1945 telegraph stamps

Literature

1. Ivert catalogue for 1913-1915. I need this for cross-reference from the Forbin revenue catalogue. Yvert changed their listing immediately afterwards rendering Forbins in part useless.
2. Journal: Ecuador Filatelico, issues 1 and 2 only.
3. Journal: El Coleccionista Ecuatoriano, any or all.
4. Catalogo precios corrientes de los sellos de, correo aereo, timbres fiscales y de telegrafos del Ecuador, Ass. Fil Ecuatoriana 1937.

- o Revenues 1976-1977 - Information needed

I have a few revenue types from 1976-1977 which are described below. Information on any additional denominations and types, especially municipals and consulars, would be much appreciated. All 1976 issues are typographed (letterpress), 1977 issues are lithographed and all stamps have the usual fluorescent type security overlay. (D. Sher)

MOVILES: country's arms proper within a simulated machined type background with the year overprinted vertically on either side in black.

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
s/. 0.50	chestnut	-
s/. 1	orange-vermilion	bright mauve
s/. 2	pale blue	yellow green
s/. 5	bright orange	light olive
s/. .10	brown olive	rose carmine

TIMBRE JUDICIAL: horizontal stamp with inscribed date showing a modern building.

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
s/.2	grey	red orange

TIMBRE DE SALUD: horizontal stamp with inscribed date showing a modern hospital building.

	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>
s/.2	green	lemon

NOTE: Mr. Gerry Abrams of the ARA is in the process of preparing a catalogue of Ecuadorean Revenues.

NEW ESG MEMBERS

- 1) Mr. William C. Tatham
P. O. Box 968
Whittier California 90608
- 2) Mr. Frederick E. La Wall
5 East Golf View Road
Ardmore, Pennsylvania 19003

o DUES

Dues (\$5.00) are now payable for the 1978-79 period. Checks should be mailed to the ESG Secretary Mr. D. E. Freeman, 54 Rapids Road, Stamford, Ct 06905.

No other notice of dues will be mailed; this will be the only notice.

Please include your literary contribution, long or short on any subject dealing with Ecuadorian Philately for the next ESG Newsletter.

ECUADOR IN 1977

Because they might be of interest to the members of E.S.G. we present in this issue some data indicating the extraordinary material progress made by Ecuador during the last 20 years. These figures were originally published in the June 1977 issue of Vistazo on its 20th anniversary; thus the comparison between 1957 and 1977.

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1977</u>
Population:	3,983,000	7,556,000
Working population	1,234,600	2,133,700
Motor vehicles	21,669	142,070
<u>Exports (in millions of US \$)</u>		
Bananas	69.0	136.7
Coffee	29.9	205.4
Cocoa	18.6	32.5
Petroleum	0	565.1
Others	6.6	66.4
<u>Imports</u>	105.9	993.4
<u>Price Index (1965=100%)</u>		
Food	78.9%	260%
Shelter	81.2%	198%
Clothing	82.6%	230%
<u>Budgets (in millions Sucres):</u>		
National Government	1,212.6	15,108.9
Municipal Government of Quito	95.6	754.8
Municipal Government of Guayaquil	143.2	1,120.0
Municipal Government of Cuenca	7.2	120.3
<u>Education:</u>		
<u>Elementary:</u>		
Students	501,622	1,318,474
Schools	4,661	9,871
<u>Secondary:</u>		
Students	53,840	431,315
High Schools	252	1,151
<u>College and University:</u>		
Students	6,646	188,071
Colleges and Universities	7	17

Translated by F. Herz