HISTORY OF SPANISH PHILATELIC LITERATURE

I. INTRODUCTION

On the morning of the 6th May 1840, there was issued in Great Britain the world’s first postage stamp, the one penny black\(^1\) with the image of Queen Victoria, the equivalent to postage for a simple letter. Thus came to fruition a series of proposals, studies, and projects the purpose of which was to reform the organisation of the British postal system, to amplify it, and to be able to pay easily the postage on letters by means of postage stamps.

What no one could imagine in Great Britain that morning was that this small piece of paper printed with the image of the sovereign and gummed on the back\(^2\) to facilitate placing it on the address side of the envelope, would give rise to a revolution, and not just in postal administration but in the world of inclinations and hobbies, producing at the same time related activities and a business estimated at some 250,000,000,000 pesetas a year.

\(^1\) The two penny stamp was issued in London on the 8th but in London only. See Robson Lowe: *The British Postage Stamp of the Nineteenth Century*, London, 1979, p.71.

\(^2\) By Royal Decree of the 1st December 1849, giving instruction for postage in Spain, saying that the stamps “have gum on the back so that, for the purpose of sticking [them on], it is sufficient to moisten them.”
What seems to us so natural today and no longer creates a sensation began quite possibly with the idea of some persons who decided to keep the stamps that came into their possession and even to buy some of these at the post office. Some of these original collectors get to know each other by chance and exchange stamps. Several of these collectors decide to come together periodically in a coffee house or at a club, creating at a later time an association of stamp collectors.

The hobby has its principal development in Europe, and a clever young man of nineteen - let us remember that we are speaking about the middle of the 19th Century, to appreciate the matter fully – establishes himself as the first philatelic dealer in the world. It is the Belgian Jean-Baptiste Moens who began to sell stamps for collectors in the year 1852(3) at a time when in the whole world only 239 different stamps had been issued

Collectors are spreading all over the world. Constantly, there are more countries that have adopted the franking of postal folded paper by means of postage stamps, and collectors wish to know which ones have adopted this system and how many stamps each country has issued.

Thus there appears on the 17th September 1861, the first list of stamps, by the Frenchman François Berger-Levrault, though limited to those of which he had knowledge. The concept appeared to be of interest, and months later J.-B. Moens published in 1862 the first stamp catalogue in the world, of which he would publish a second edition, corrected and augmented, the same year. At the same time, the Frenchman Alfred Potiquet published two editions of his world catalogue of stamps.

In June 1862, another Frenchman, Justin Lallier, published the first stamp album in the world, by countries, showing on the sheets of every one of these the corresponding square with a reproduction of the stamp, mention of its face value, and the colour in which it had been printed. His success was such that soon new editions had to be made, and verifying the interest in his album on the part of Spaniards, the 3rd edition of his French [album] was translated into Spanish, which he sold for ten pesetas and which held some 1,400 stamps.

But the collectors desire more and are not satisfied to know the stamps that have been issued throughout the world but wish to learn which stamps are appearing, because in that far-away period postal administrations did not announce as they do now their next issues. Furthermore, they wish to establish contact with other collectors.

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(3) The (Italian) Encyclopaedia of Stamps, edited by Fulvio Apollonio (Florence, 1968) considers Stanley Gibbons a Pioneer of worldwide philatelic commerce (page 699) - which is an error. He began to deal in stamps in 1856 and developed his business, which exists at the present time, in 1863 with the purchase of a bagful of triangular stamps from South Africa, from some sailors.
Thus there appears the world’s first philatelic journal, even though the Frenchman Herpin(4) had not yet coined the word philately. We speak of The Monthly Advertiser(5) the first number of which appears in London [Actually, it was published in Liverpool.] on the 15th December 1862, with eight pages, soon to be followed by Le Timbre-Poste by the above mentioned Jean-Baptiste Moens.

On the 29th day of December 1865 the first philatelic auction in the world of which we have authentic knowledge takes place. It convenes in Paris, in the classical Hotel Drouot, realizing 800 francs for the auctioned stamps. In 1870 a new auction is convened, this time in New York, and in 1872 there is one in London, organized by the famous firm of Sotheby’s, which is active to this day and is one of the most famous in the world.

Foreign collectors, we note, have albums, catalogues, and journals. What is happening meanwhile in Spain? The inclination for stamp collecting has captured Spaniards as well, evidence of which we saw above, speaking of Lallier’s album. In Catalonia, the Spanish region always most open to European restlessness coming by way of France, there appears the first dealer, none other than José María Vergés de Cardona, established in Barcelona in 1854. This dealer is the author of the first stamp catalogue published in Spain, with the title Manual del Coleccionista de Sellos [Handbook for the Stamp Collector], in which he claims that there are more than two thousand types or varieties of postage stamps, envelopes, and newspaper stamps issued by almost all the countries of the globe, mentioning in it the prices at which they are sold at the Barcelona Numismatic Centre though we doubt that all these stamps would be available for sale there. The author appeared with the initials J. M. V. de-C., the reason why for many years his identity was erroneously attributed to another Catalan whose family name was Cerdá(6).

The first journal appearing in our country is El Indicador de los Sellos, on the 15th July 1870. It is published in Madrid, and there was but one number. In the year 1879, Plácido Ramón Torres(7) who had published in Italy their first philatelic journal(8) and their first stamp catalogue, settles in Barcelona and publishes the first Spanish universal album of stamps with space for 3,982 stamps including postage and telegraph stamps, indicating the mint and cancelled prices for each item mentioned.

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(4) He mentions it in the 4th number of the journal Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste by Maury, dated the 15th November 1864.
(5) In September 1862 there had appeared in Birmingham a journal, The Monthly Intelligencer, devoted in part only to philately.
(6) See J. Majó: Origen de los Sellos y de sus Coleccionistas. (Barcelona 1950, pp.309ff.)
(7) Inhabitant of Malaga who had emigrated to Italy and later returned to Spain.
(8) La Posta Mondiale. In the previously mentioned Enciclopedia dei Francobolli, we read that it was founded at Leghorn in July of 1873 by a dynamic Spanish philatelist, a certain Placido Ramon de Torres (page 757).
Two years later, **Antonio Fernández Duro** publishes his *Reseña Histórico-Descriptiva de los Sellos de Correo de España*\(^9\) which, despite its title, concerns itself also with our former overseas possessions, gathering as well legislation and statistics of interest about the several postal issues, including postal cards, also.

In the year 1888 the Barcelona Philatelic Society is created under the presidency of **Alejandro Pons** who will be replaced years later by **Francisco Carreras y Candi**, an eminent collector and student of our stamps, Doctor of Laws, director of the Geografía General de España, and consul of the Dominican Republic in Barcelona, in addition to being a historian.

Coming to the 20\(^{th}\) century we note as an interesting philatelic fact, the issue of our first commemorative postage stamps. We refer to the set issued in 1905 which commemorates the 3\(^{rd}\) centennial of the first edition of *Don Quijote de la Mancha*, with the stamps showing different scenes from the work mentioned.

In the year 1908 there is celebrated in Zaragoza, on the occasion of the Centennial of the Sieges, the first Spanish Philatelic Congress, and the following year there is held in Valencia the first Philatelic Exhibition which also has, just as the Congress mentioned, a special cancelation, one of the first allowed in Spain.

Philately in Spain, along with the rest of the world, is in the process of augmenting its movement. One of its aspects is philatelic literature which we examine in what follows. Anyone desiring to know the fullness of the same in Spain must repair to the magnificent opus by **Natalio S. Nathan** and **Norman Gahl**\(^{10}\), *Bibliografía Filatélica y Postal: España y sus Ex-Colonias, 1500-1980*, published in Madrid in 1982 by the Postal and Telegraphic Museum, and which contains references to all the publications related to those topics, including postal maps and philatelic and postal journals. Whenever from here on we refer to the work of **Nathan and Gahl**, it is this title we speak of.

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\(^9\) Printed at Madrid in 1881 by the Central Madrid Press under **Victor Saiz**.

\(^{10}\) **Natalio S. Nathan** and **Norman Gahl** were British real estate owners in Barcelona, both much devoted to bibliography, and the former to postal and philatelic topics, additionally.
II. SPANISH PHILATELIC JOURNALS

A) In the 19th Century

The first systematic study in reference to our philatelic journals is due to Mariano Pardo de Figueroa, eminent polygraph, scholar of Cervantes and judge of good eating, better known as Dr. Thebussem\(^{(11)}\) who gathers it in his *Cuarta Ración de Artículos* (Madrid, 1902) under the heading of *Periódicos Filatélicos de España* which he dedicates to the Count of Cerrageríña, and which begins as follows: *I suspect that there is not a single catalogue of Spanish journals devoted exclusively to postage stamps. It is not my intention to form one but I do mean to rescue from oblivion the slips of paper which by coincidence I have gathered, in case some lovers of this field of stamp collecting should judge them worthy of expansion and of study. Thus, I begin in this matter by saying that the publications that have come to my attention are the ones that follow, chronologically arranged.*

With the same intention as that of Dr. Thebussem we have undertaken to study the journals, discovering the existence of several that he does not mention, and also without the doubt that others may exist that we do not know about.

As an object of curiosity we must stress that several of these were published in very small numbers only (four published one only, two got to print two, three reached a third number). Some of these were published in small communities, such as in Manzanares (despite which fact 14 numbers were published), in Val de Santo Domingo, and in Villanueva y Geltrú. In contrast, there are important capital cities* such as Bilbao, Oviedo, and Granada where not a single philatelic journal is produced. A curious fact that will be repeated in the 20th Century with the journal *El Defensor Filatélico* published in Caminreal (Teruel). We must also point out that between the years 1871 and 1890 not a single philatelic magazine is published in Spain.

A characteristic of 19th Century Spanish magazines is that their publishers are usually, physicians, judges, lawyers, and professors.

*EL INDICADOR DE LOS SELLOS*

The first Spanish magazine, published in Madrid, and its first and only number is dated the 15th July 1870, consisting of four pages only. Its editor and owner was Eduardo Gilabert. Dr. Thebussem pointed out at the beginning of the (20th) Century that it was very difficult to find a copy of this publication. Today the difficulty is enormous.

* Translator’s note: Capital city in Spain does not refer to the Capital of the country but, rather, to the capitals of Spanish provinces.\)

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\(^{(11)}\) Thebussem is a play on syllables intended to convey a foreign (last) name which, read from back to front, comes out as *em-buss-the*, i.e. as *embuste* (Spanish for imposter).
A fortnightly publication schedule was announced, and the annual subscription would cost 24 reales for Spain, 36 abroad, and 48 for our overseas colonies, clearly representing a discrimination. With facts such as these it is not surprising that a few years later we would lose the few we had. Its publication was justified by the publisher by the frequently mentioned excuse that he was filling a void, and one must acknowledge that on this occasion it was certain indeed.

Today when in almost all families there is someone who has the good taste of following the fashion, collecting stamps, today when almost everywhere they are gathered so that some day they may be shown in an album (sic) in which those of all nations may be found, the need for a magazine that can solve successfully any doubts the collector may have is noted more than ever.

If, leaving aside all this, we observe that all written works are found in French, English, German, Belgian [sic], Anglo-American, etc., one will understand the great advantage which this magazine offers, which is not only cheap but has the advantage of avoiding expenses which are involved in the acquisition of those published works, the difficulty with the language in which they are written, and in most cases the lack of knowledge of the existence of these writings in order to be able to obtain them.” He ends by offering to present a detailed description of all stamps, as well as the newest methods on how to place [mount?] them. He publishes an article about English stamps with a very curious terminology. According to the author, there existed in 1840 in Great Britain two different stamps of one penny and five different ones of two pennies. The first stamp was not punctured, that is surrounded by small drill-holes to facilitate its separation from the sheet of paper. He points out that at each side of the indication of value, there is found a letter that varies considerably. Every collector knows that the letters in question indicate the position of the stamp in the sheet\(^{(12)}\).

He mentions how to calculate the puncture, dividing a line of two centimetres in so many circles as shown by the number, which fact shows that he was familiar with the system created in 1866 by the Frenchman Auguste [sic] Legrand\(^{(13)}\). He concludes by studying the stamps of Spain, briefly describing the issue of the year 1850 and that of the six cuartos of 1851, with a (to be continued) but no continuation ever followed.

**EL COLECCIONISTA DE SELLOS**

A fortnightly magazine, its first number appears in Madrid with the date 15\(^{th}\) February 1871, its editor being Balbino Cotter Cortes, the grandfather of the present-day Madrid dealer Antonio Cotter. In all, four numbers of four pages each were published.

\(^{(12)}\) The first row showed the letters A-A, A-B, A-C, ..., to A-L; the second row began with B-A, ... until it reached the end of the last row with T-L. This yielded a total of 20 rows of 12 stamps, equivalent of 240 pennies, i.e. one pound sterling for the complete sheet of one penny stamps.

\(^{(13)}\) The famous French collector who used the pseudonym Dr. Magnus. [Actually Dr. Jacques Amable Legrand.]
In an article entitled *General observations* he proposes to aid the collector giving an idea as completely as we possibly can about the words or terms used the most and abbreviations of the most usual kind adopted by intelligent persons, including those in all the foreign publications up to today. This allowed him to analyse the different kinds of paper, watermarks, etc.

In his study mentioned above, Dr. Thebussem points out that *El Averiguador* published in its number of the 15th April 1871, a critical review so mordant and spiteful of *El Coleccionista*, showing that it was a very poor translation of foreign gazettes, bringing about the demise of that paper which today is very rare.

Concerning these comments by Dr. Thebussem we want to note that the last number published by *El Coleccionista* has the date of 31st March, so that being fortnightly, the following issue would be dated 15th April. Thus, a comment published in *El Averiguador* on the 15th April could not provoke the death of the publication, which was dead already for whatever the reasons may have been.

The critical comments of *El Averiguador* are merciless. It affirms that the article *Observaciones generales* appears to be, on the whole, a translation of an introductory notice from the French catalogue by Maury, but is full of balderdash.

He compares the text of the magazine with the original French, pointing out a number of errors such as the translation of watermarks in letters [of the alphabet] for watermarks in letters [sent by post]; the French *patte as pasta* instead of *nema* [seal], and other errors in translation of less significance which do not terrify a single reader who in the modern Spanish papers finds the worst barbarisms in vocabulary and syntax.

The article in *El Averiguador* concludes with the following protestation: A dozen philatelists declare that they feel that *El Coleccionista* (...) fails to carry out its mission as required of a paper of its class; that they do not recognise that paper as an organ for stamp lovers in Spain; and that they find more pleasure, more instruction, more importance, and more friendliness in any one of the publications concerning stamps that see the light in Belgium, England, Holland, France, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, and in the U.S.A.

Let us finish by pointing out that this bitter and violent censure of which Dr. Thebussem speaks and which was published by *El Averiguador* is signed by himself. Perhaps, when he alludes to the same in his *Cuarta Ración de Artículos* he regretted it and therefore, no longer mentions this detail.

(We must mention that with the very same title *El Coleccionista de Sellos*, there appeared in Madrid, in the year 1900, a new journal which we shall analyse in time, edited by José G. Ceballos.)

Following the disappearance of Cotter’s magazine in 1871 we find that in Spain there is not a single philatelic publication till the year 1890. For a period of some twenty years the Spanish collector has to depend on foreign magazines in which, according to Thebussem, we assume that he finds greater delight.

*EL COLECCIONISTA*
This is a monthly journal published in Malaga by Juan A. de Aguirre, the editor of the same (14). Dr. Thebussem refers to its existence in his previously mentioned study but we have been unable to locate it in any library specialising in this matter, nor in public libraries of newspapers and periodicals.

According to Thebussem it consisted of four pages. The first number was published in September 1890; its last, in June 1891. It calls itself An organ in Spain of collecting fondness, criticised by Thebussem as it fails to clarify whether of coins, arms, books, etc., although one can judge by reading it that it speaks of stamp collectors, according to him.

LA ALIANZA FILATELICA

It is published in Barcelona under the direction of Juan de Solo (15). Its first number has the date of November 10, 1891, and the last one published, which is number 7, comes out in May 1892. The current number sold for 15 centimos and back numbers for 25. It was able to count on outstanding agents abroad: in Belgium (one who, to be sure, lived in Geneva), in England, and France, and in Switzerland (Adrien Champion, of Geneva).

On the title page of its first number there is a note To the Press which reads: To the entire press in general we send the most kind greetings, notably to that of Barcelona and especially to the philatelic press of all countries ... . It is surprising that in a country such as ours which is at the head of philately due to its many issues, and there are so many newspapers that are being published, no one would take charge, exclusively, to announce to dealers and collectors alike the changes which stamps undergo in all countries. England, Germany, Rumania, Italy, and France, above all, can count on a great number of these publications. Today we undertake the task of publishing one, trusting that the friends of philately will not be deaf to our voice, and will aid us to become equals of other nations.

Thebussem only knows number 4, corresponding to February 1892, for which reason he infers mistakenly and without a basis, that the appearance of the first number occurred in 1892.

This issue has eight pages already, a fact that shows that both enthusiasm and contents are growing. Here we see a considerable amount of announcements for exchange and sale of stamps, also a chronicle of new issues with illustrations of some of the stamps referred to.

(14) Aguirre was professor of Sciences at the high school (Institute of Secondary Education) at Malaga. (Discursos Académicos, 1992, Volume III, page 39.)

(15) Nathan and Gahl make the mistake of calling him Soto. Majó also, in the work quoted in note number 6.
EL ANUNCIADOR FILATÉLICO

The first number, with Francisco Carpintero as publisher, appears in Cadiz on the 5th April 1892, and the last in December 1892, and is the first magazine published in Spain without charge, to be distributed among dealers and collectors who request it, with an edition, so it says, of 6,000 copies - a fact to be stressed, as La Poste Mondiale, published in Vienna, printed 5,000 only. Nevertheless, in its 5th number it gives the price of a subscription, proof that it ceased to be free.

Though its title states monthly, the second number appears a month and a half later, changing its format from 21cm by 30cm to 16cm by 21cm.

In its first number it tries to justify its appearance, saying: For some time now we were conceiving the idea of publishing a periodical of the kind of this one, and today, having overcome the obstacles in our way, we have the pleasure of offering to our readers the first number of El Anunciador Filatélico whose mission in the press can be summed up, as its title indicates, to reveal to the collectors the stamps they may have contemplated acquiring from firms devoted to the sale of these, just as to facilitate the transactions of exchange so useful for all collectors, continuing with a panegyric of the journal, considering the economic price for advertisements and the fact that it is distributed free of charge among all collectors.

Its second number publishes a Historia de la Filatelia with some curious and mistaken etymological and historical interpretations. It alludes to Filatelia but prefers to call it Filotelia, as they do in America [?], because in Spain there exist other words with an o such as filosofía and filología. The author of such a history is Enr. Conr. Eberhardt\(^{(16)}\) who points out that between 1860 and 1865 people collected with real frenzy, virtually with a mania, notably among young collectors and students, who seemed to live for stamps only, to the point where, according to this author, there appeared in important publications articles attacking this tendency.

In the advertising section an entire page stands out, that of Faustino A. Martins of Lisbon who offers the new stamps of Portugal of 5, 25, and 50 reis for the year 1853 at ten pesetas\(^{(17)}\). And then there is an advert, in the words of a German, who offers 5,000 stamps and 500 cards for ten pesetas. Also on a full page, a Frenchman announces that he sells magnificent imitations of rare stamps, without a doubt a forerunner of Fournier, Seguí, and de Sperati.

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\(^{(16)}\) This person is a collector of German origin living in Valparaiso, where he published in 1890 a Historia de la Filatelia [sic], that is to say the History of Collecting Postage Stamps, which he sold for ten pesetas.

**Translator’s note:** The abbreviations Enr. Conr. represent Heinrich Konrad in German.

\(^{(17)}\) Today they are valued at some 500,000 pesetas, depending on their quality.
**LA REVISTA FILATÉLICA**

The only reference we have comes from the work of Nathan and Gahl, mentioning that it was published at Cadiz with Eduardo Castulla as editor, with the first number having appeared in May, 1892. Thebussem does not mention this publication.

**LA UNION FILATÉLICA**

Published in Barcelona, with its first number dated January 1893 and its first editor Hermenegildo Prats\(^{(18)}\). It had eight pages, and the following year modified its format, which was entirely usual in those days. It published 21 numbers, the last one corresponding to November/December 1894\(^{(19)}\).

Following the norm of its forerunners, it tries to justify its appearance in the following manner:

> Since, from the arena of the press La Alianza Filatélica has disappeared, we determined to continue the work it had begun, that is that collectors in Barcelona have access to a publication allowing them to reach foreign collectors and dealers, adding that they are not motivated by the desire to get rich, and that their principal object is to correct errors committed by editors of albums in relation to the stamps of Spain.

It publishes a chronicle of new issues without accompanying it with illustrations. It tries to make its contents friendly, publishing a number of studies, among these one covering the war stamps of Spain, also several letters by Dr. Thebussem to Miss Alba Tery concerning postal and philatelic topics. it also deals with a Londonese [sic] exhibition.

(In 1903 there appears in Madrid a journal which will not last long, with the title *La Unión Filatélica Española.*)

**CÁDIZ FILATÉLICO**

The precedent of El Anunciador Filatélico moved to a new publication in the capital of the Cadiz Province.

Its first number was published in August 1893, its editor being José María Adam, the annual subscription price being two pesetas. The odd element is that the price of the single number being 15 centimos, it would be more expensive to subscribe, which is a paradox.

Its purpose followed the line of those who had published previous journals, and the fact is that those who edit philatelic publications - even non-philatelic publications - are not known for their originality.

\(^{(18)}\) He published one of the first stamp catalogues of Spanish stamps, as we shall note later.

\(^{(19)}\) According to Majó (op. cit.), 23 numbers. Nathan and Gahl state in error November 1895.
In the introduction he alludes to the great desire that animates us to attack the enterprise we are commencing, just as the obstacles in our way have been great, affirming that they were certain of at least one year’s existence of Cadiz Filatélico, a publication of extraordinary circulation in the five continents of the world. Notwithstanding such goals only three numbers were published, the majority of its four pages being devoted to advertisements, the only relatively interesting contribution being an article about the naming of Dr. Thebussem as Honorary Postman. It publishes an article about what is not seen on stamps, saying that examining the first Portuguese issues it seems they are identical, but if one explores further, one can see that some stamps are denticulated and others are not, and that this is very important because the last mentioned are worth more.

An announcement by Mlle. Marie Laplanne, Gignas 9, Barcelona informs that having found in the Archive many good stamps of 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, and 19 cuartos, and 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10 reales, valid for the nations of the Philippines, Spain, and Cuba, I give them for half [the price] of the catalogue in exchange for others she does not have in her collection.

**TÁRRACO FILATÉLICA**

Published in Tarragona, and the first number comes out on the 1st October 1894, managed by Ricardo Besses. Two numbers only are published, with the title saying dedicated to the interests of universal philately. It claims to be an instructive and interesting magazine, as in addition to exchange and buying and selling there is the recreational and literary aspect, too. It will therefore contain a scientific section devoted exclusively to the “history of philately, its origin, its progress, etc.” and other articles along these lines; and another, literary one in which will be found included stories, tales, poems, all of them in reference to timbrology; news, anecdotes, miscellanies, and notices of foreign firms as well as Spanish, in reference to the commerce in stamps.

**ILUSTRACIÓN FILATÉLICA HISPANO-COLONIAL**

Published in Barcelona, with the numbers we know consisting of sixteen pages, its editor being Ricardo San Antonio. It is dedicated to collectors of stamps, coins, photographs, lithographs, insects and antiques and considers itself the philatelic newspaper both the oldest and of the greatest circulation on the entire globe among all those published in Spanish. Thebussem does not mention the date of the first number, saying that the oldest he knows of are numbers 35 and 36 which correspond to August and September 1895.

The first number was published on the 15th April 1895, and, strange to say, is given the number 31, coinciding with what Thebussem had pointed out before. Nathan and Gahl attempt to explain this by saying that this came about due to the fusion of the Barcelona magazines La Alianza Filatélica (which only published seven numbers, Heraldo Filatélico (which began to publish toward 1895), and Filatelia Antillana (of which we do not know when it was first published nor how many issues it published). Majó adds La Unión Postal.

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In that first number 31 there is an interesting article about *aerial navigation*, alluding to tentative efforts to construct a flying machine, informing how the North American House of Representatives expect: to concede a reward to one who may construct it, with these conditions: it must be safe, speed not less than 30 English (sic) miles per hour, and have a capacity for transporting five tons, minimum.

Its editor, San Antonio, was a Catalan philatelic dealer who created the Sociedad Filatélico Hispano-Colonia(21), advising in his number 49 that it had 217 members, and that *stamp collectors and dealers, also of coins, photographs, chromo-lithographs, banknotes, and antiques could join the same.*

The title, pages varied from one number to another, and with the changes even the title changed, becoming the *Ilustración Filatélico Hispano*. He sold every copy at the price of 50 centimos, very considerable at the time.

The paper contained a good record of new issues and illustrated many of the new foreign stamps, sent in by correspondents.

His agent and friend in Italy was de Sperati, a philatelic dealer living in Pistoia, an older brother of Jean de Sperati, the famous counterfeiter of stamps. The latter relates in his autobiography: *I was born at Pistoia (Italy) on 14th October 1889 (...) I had three brothers (...) and the oldest became a stamp dealer(22).*

San Antonio announced the sale of 100 different stamps of Spain at 7.50 pesetas, at a time when barely 259 stamps had been issued, including Carlist stamps, telegraph and official service stamps.

He announced, for 25 centimos, the so-called *Libro Verde* with a perforation gauge, guidelines on how to place stamps into an album, and a list of philatelic freebooters who kept money sent in payment or else stamps sent to them in exchange.

Its director, Ricardo San Antonio, purchased Spanish stamps, advertising that he would pay twice their value if still on the envelope, a fact that shows great commercial vision, not at all frequent at the time.

In the advertisements we could find not just those related to philately but automatic incubators and books, as well. He sold several of the latter at fifty centimos, with titles such as *Secrets of the conjugal bed, Onanism, Sexual phenomena, Lesbian love, and Abortion*, all that as part of a series of knowledge for the practical life.

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(21) In one of his numbers he announces as follows: *Bear in mind that it is the first philatelic society in the world*, which was not true, as it was established in 1895.

(22) *The work of Jean de Sperati*, 2nd edition, London, 1956, p.3. Subsequently matters did not go so well with his agent and friend Sperati, as we can prove, because in number 105 he publishes among the so-called *electric announcements* a note advising that Mr. de Sperati of Bologna, prior to that Pistoia, *is a swindler.*
This magazine has great philatelic interest because it printed on the occasion of the war of 1898 with the United States, some poster stamps for voluntary use, with different designs and the wording *Ilustración Filatélica* (a title used in its inner pages) which sold at five centimos per copy and whose total value was intended to help Spanish soldiers. It informed that during one month of sales 360 pesetas had been produced, and that the same were deposited in the Bank of Spain for the support of our war machine and fortifications of Barcelona.

According to Nathan and Gahl it ceased to publish in 1898, which is not the case at all. In that year it published member 107 with the title of *Ilustración Filatélica Hispano-Americana*, a title not mentioned by Nathan and Gahl and which it says corresponds to the tenth year of publication, which is not true. It announces that beginning with the next number it will be twice the size and decennial [published ten times a year], being the only Spanish journal with such a periodical arrangement, if in fact that would be the case.

**EL HERALDO TIMBROLÓGICO HISPANO-AMERICANO**

The first number appeared with the date of the 15th April 1895, and the last, which is number 6, in June of 1896. In that month it merged with *Filatelia* of Malaga, crossing this title in large letters on the front page and calling it now *Filatelia*, adding the initials EHTHA(23). Its director was A. Pulin.

It was published in Seville on Sierpes Street and distributed free of charge in the hope that it might reach ten thousand copies per edition. On its front page it combined stamps with the Giralda. On page 3 of the second number there is a view of the famous cathedral with a title below indicating it. As Thebussem writes, *without clarifying it, it would have been difficult to identify such a famous monument*. He was right, of course.

One of its numbers tells of a crime committed in Paris to steal the stamps of a French collector by the name of Emilio Delahelt, *rather well know by our readers*. It publishes an announcement by the Count of Albar-Fañez of Cordoba who desires to exchange stamps, making it clear that he never sends first.

**EL HISPALENSE**

The strange thing of this publication is that in number 1 there is no mention of where it is published, nor the exact date, because all it shows is first fortnight of June. Nevertheless, we can clarify that it corresponds to the year 1895, as proven by a cancelation on a copy sent by mail, and is published, one can deduce from the title, in Seville.

It is a journal that Dr. Thebussem did not know.

(23) Corresponding with *El Heraldo Timbrológico Hispano-Americano*.

It Proclaimed itself a magazine of collectors and of dealers of postage stamps and said it would be circulated *gratis and free*. Dr. Thebussem is not aware of it in his previously quoted work.
The second number, also *gratis and free*, is dated the *first fortnight of July* without mentioning the year, and is the last one published, becoming for reasons we do not know, *La Hispalense*, the title referred to by Nathan and Gahl. Both one number and the other consisted of eight pages, and its articles were utterly exaggerated.

In one of these about dangerous stamps it was pointed out that soaking these in water, microbes from the mouth of the person moistening the stamps to put them on the envelope remained in the water and, as is logical, these microbes would float in the water, being transferred onto the hands of the collector with grave risks for the latter; which makes us think that in the past century one did not wash hands frequently.

Another danger arises from the gum of the stamps, pointing out in that connection that the stamps of Colombia - it does not indicate which ones, which leads one to believe that all of them circulating at that time - carry in their gum a virus which, when being moistened by the tongue, gets into the human body producing a disease in the scalp called *the stone*.

**FILATELIA ANTILLANA**

It is published in Barcelona. Nathan and Gahl mention it in their study saying that they do not know the date of its first number, and that its last is published *toward 1895*. We have not been able to locate it in any library or in any library specialising in newspapers and periodicals.

**HERALDO FILATÉLICO**

Also published in Barcelona, and its first number, according to Nathan and Gahl who are the ones referring to it, was published towards 1895. According to our knowledge, not confirmed, it published three numbers.

Apparently, this magazine absorbed the *Filatelia Antillana* and *La Alianza Filatélica* which had disappeared in 1892, to transform itself into the *Ilustración Filatélica Hispano-Colonial*.

**EL ANUNCIADOR TIMBRÓLOGICO**

Number 1 appears in December 1895 and is published at El Ferrol under the direction of Manuel Riva. Its last number carries the date of July 1896. It has four pages, and is devoted entirely to announcements. On the title page of number 3 it says that *the editorship of this paper will reject all the advertisements of those who are listed in the black list of the newspapers that have an established exchange with El Anunciador*.

It published advertisements in Italian, French, and English but full of errors of the worst kind. As a sample, note *Le prochain numéro parattrai au mois Favier, Advertisins grates, and les timbres neuf des tous les pays sont admis en paessment*.

In one of its numbers it informed that Juan Cardillas, a collector in Montevideo, had bought 10,900 5-centesimos stamps with the image of General Santos, and that he had burned these
in the presence of the members of the Philatelic Society, declaring at the time that in this manner he had made sure that the stamp would be rare.

Dr. Thebussem does not mention this journal.

**CRÓNICA FILATÉLICA**

On the 1st December 1895, there appears in Madrid under the editorial direction of a well-known philatelist - Manuel Asenjo - yet another journal, short-lived like the previously listed. It calls itself an International Organ for Stamp Collectors and Dealers but further on is more modest, considering itself a Journal d'annonces pour collectionneurs et marchands de timbres-poste. And, as a matter of fact, three quarters of its content are advertisements. It ceased publication in May 1896 with number 6.

Its program was to fill a great void, creating in the capital of Spain a magazine (...) in order to narrow more and more relations among collectors and dealers of stamps in the entire world, bringing to them all the news that may be of interest to them. It promises that Crónica Filatélica will be at the level of the best foreign journals and announces that with the next number it will give away, also with the numbers to follow, a fascicle of a catalogue of the stamps of Spain, with illustrations of all stamps and their market price.

In the numbers published, in addition to the abundant advertisements, there were interesting studies such as the one about the franchise stamps of Melilla, Carlist stamps, and Spanish postal cards.

It published a good number of studies and articles about the stamps of Portugal, pointing out in one of them that in the postal card of ten reis, of Don Carlos, twenty-two types of paper can be distinguished, some so plain and thin as that used to make rolls* - a statement that seems to us exaggerated, not so much in reference to the quality of paper as to all the varieties of the same.

(With this title, there appears in May 1984 another journal in Madrid which by now has published more than 100 numbers.)

**FILATELIA**

If until now the magazines had been published by individuals, this one is the Organ and property of the Philatelic Society of Malaga. Number 1 is dated the 31st January 1896, and it was sold at the high price of 25 centimos, two pesetas being the amount of the annual subscription. It ceased publication in the year 1898, with number 25.

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* Translator’s note: The thin paper to make rolls mentioned, probably refers to paper for coin rolls or to roll cigarettes.

The previously mentioned El Heraldo Timbrológico Hispano-Americano merged with it in June 1896.
In its introduction it stated among other things: *Without a doubt, taking into account what little inclination there is in Spain to collect stamps, we shall be obstructed by natural obstacles with which must fight always those who undertake matters slighted by the crowd because it regards them, in their ignorance, to be without any importance. However, the perspective of these difficulties do not terrify us, because having foreseen them, we have balanced them with our good will, and that is superior, according to our conscience, to the hardships which the fulfilment of our task will bring.* As one can see, this sounds more than the launching of a journal; it seems to refer to that of a political party.

It published a study about Spanish stamps as well as others concerning the Cuban insurgents and the stamps of the *Republic of Cuba* issued during Spanish domination, topics that were not well known then.

It also published a blacklist of collectors, but only of the foreign ones, in an effort perhaps to protect the national industry.

(In 1913, the Catalan dealer Francisco del Tarré, founder of a philatelic dynasty, published a magazine with the title *Philatelia.*)

**EL FILATELISTA PENINSULAR**

Published in San Sebastian, the first number appears with the date 10th April 1896(24), breaking with the tradition of carrying as the date, the 1st, the 15th, or the 31st as in some isolated case. It only published three numbers.

Both the fees for advertisements, as well as the annual subscription price are given in French francs, showing - oh, what times those - that a peseta was the equivalent of a franc, 70 [British] pence, and 80 [German] pfennig. It is published at San Sebastian, and its director is S. Echabarse.

On the title page it publishes a list of agents abroad (a total of 24) stationed in Mauritius, Reunion, possibly due to the influence of the rare stamps of these islands, and also in Switzerland, Scandinavia, Argentina and Mexico, for example.

In the three numbers published, there is a study of the so-called *franchise* stamps of Melilla, responding to a question asked by a reader, whether these have official character or not, having been produced by Miguel Rodríguez Sánchez.

It also gives an account of how a Frenchman had found in his house four stamps from Mauritius with a value of more than 30,000 francs, and to whom one may wish better luck than to his compatriot Delahelt, murdered to steal his collection, it adds.

(24) Majó gives the date as the 1st April 1896. Nathan and Gahl make the same mistake.

It announces for its next number a blacklist of collectors, indicating that the unscrupulous are growing in number everywhere.
This is a journal not cited by Dr. Thebussem.

**LA FILATELIA ESPAÑOLA**

Catalonia has always had a great philatelic tradition which was characterized by not being centred in the capital\(^{(25)}\). It is, therefore, not strange at all that this journal should be published in Villanueva y Geltrú. Its first number appears on the 25\(^{th}\) October 1896, its editor and owner being Joaquín Foradada Canalla\(^{(26)}\) who deservedly stands out as a member of the Société Timbrophile d’Echanges of Paris\(^{(27)}\).

The annual subscription costs two pesetas which can be paid, just as any advertisements, by means of cancelled stamps worth not less than one peseta, according to the Galvez catalogue.

Only six numbers were published, the last of these covering numbers 5/6, for February and March of 1897\(^{(28)}\). As declared in its number 2, it had a circulation of 4000 copies, a significant amount, notably when one takes into account that it is published in a small community. Its contents were mostly news and announcements.

It maintains a correspondence with several readers one of whom is called, strangely, Francisco Tarré, who resides in Guanabacoa, Cuba. One of its correspondents is the famous Sperati of Pistoia, Italy, who was correspondent of other Spanish philatelic journals, as well.

(In the year 1900, as we shall see later, there appears in Madrid another magazine under the same title.)

**EL ANUNCIADOR**

The only references we have of this journal are: the ones by Majó and Nathan and Gahl in the works referred to. Its sub-title was Periodico Filatelista and its first number appears on the 1\(^{st}\) November 1896, the last in April 1897. It is published in Santiago de Compostela, managed by Ernesto Carrera\(^{(29)}\). Thebussem does not mention it.

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\(^{(25)}\) As an example we have the work by Dr. Tort, published in Reus.

\(^{(26)}\) Majó (Postas y Filatelia..., page 226) calls him José, but shows a letter with a letter heading with the name of Joaquín.

\(^{(27)}\) Majó calls him an educated philatelist, a lawyer by profession and local judge (op. cit. page 388).

\(^{(28)}\) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly show March 1897.

\(^{(29)}\) Majó calls him Carrero.
**MADRID FILATÉLICO**

This journal appears in Madrid January 1st, 1897, the owner being Miguel Gálvez Jiménez who was later followed by the well-known dealer Manuel Gálvez, his son. It is the only journal from the past century still in existence, even though, regrettably, its interest has declined a good deal, and with it, its circulation. It was not published at all during the entire year 1903, nor from May to December 1914\(^{(30)}\). Later, it stopped publishing between September 1936 and January 1946.

The editor of the journal was Miguel Aleñá\(^{(31)}\), a brother-in-law of Miguel Gálvez. His domicile was at 1 Cruz Street.

His first number contained a greeting to the press in general to whom one owes a debt for intellectual progress: *During the previous century it was the encyclopaedia, in this one it is the periodical press that brings it to realization.* He adds that all human manifestations have their journal, thus those devoted to philately must not be missing, philately not being a collector’s mania: *“It is something more, it is much more. It is today, and will be in the future, a principal element for reconstructing the history of our times. Madrid Filatélico comes to ask for a place in this competition of intelligence, and in contributing with its colleagues to the popularization of this branch of human knowledge, it has believed that its first duty is to salute the press in general, as it is the press that carries out the mission of progress, and the professional press in a more restricted sense, because it shares its tasks with them.”*

In his number 16 which corresponds to the month of April 1898, and following the patriotic key-note of the country at war with the United States of America, he calls for a public subscription to contribute to the acquisition of the Cruiser España. Gálvez initiates it with fifty pesetas, and among other donors there is Pujalte with five pesetas more.

In one of the numbers there appears the announcement of a person who does not mention his name, who lives at 76 Serrano Street in Madrid, and buys stamps and collections at a high price. The hours for transacting business are somewhat odd: *from 7 to 11 at night.)*

He also publishes a contest, very much in the style of those of the period, which we share with the curious reader: *How many stamps must be used, placed vertically, to cover the distance of the meridian of Paris?* The exact result is 254,647,840 copies.

The magazine was one more along the lines of the ones published in Spain but improved toward the year 1931 and printed interesting studies, such as, for example, about the postage stamp printing systems - a topic quite unknown amongst collectors - and a study by Carlos Lenze regarding the number of stamps printed in Spain between the years 1901 and 1931, based on an investigation about numbering. As an example, we can state that according to these data 65,000 stamps of 10 pesetas (of the Cadet), 100,000 of 10 pesetas (of the medallion), and 500,000 of the same value (by Vaguer) had been printed.

\(^{(30)}\) Nathan and Gahl omit this last item of information.

\(^{(31)}\) Nathan and Gahl, as well as Majó, write Aleña.
It maintained disputes with other dealers and publishers of magazines, notably with Ceballos, the editor of *El Coleccionista de Sellos* who tried to beat down his prices. This gave rise to Galvez announcing a 75% discount on the prices in his Catalogue but only on current sets and not, as is natural, on rare sets and stamps.

The magazine continues to be published, and in the month of July 1993 has reached its number 1,020. It kept changing its title page and composition as the years went by, but the original must have impressed the public because of its beauty and simplicity. The design was the work of the Alcoy painter Matarredona.

**LA PROPAGANDA INDUSTRIAL FILATELICA"**

A magazine mentioned by Dr. Thebussem, with the title *La Propaganda industrial*, as having been published in 1897, he having learned about it by way of an announcement in number 4 of *Madrid Filatélico*, of April 1897. Majó (op. cit., page 386) gives it the same name as Thebussem, adding that the publisher was F. Vallecillo, and that he published its first number in Santiago de Compostela, on the 30th December 1895, ceasing the publication in June 1896. Information which is taken up by Nathan and Gahl, quoting the source.

We have not been able to locate the magazine, but in February and March of 1897 *La Filatelia Española* publishes an announcement with the title we have quoted, adding *A Review of Arts, Sciences, industries and Inventions, and special organ of collectors of postage stamps*, adding that it is published on the first day of each month in Santiago de Compostela, and that it is distributed free of charge. The fact that this advertisement was published in March 1897 makes us doubt that it stopped publishing eight months before.

**BOLETÍN DEL CÍRCULO FILATÉLICO MATRITENSE**

With José G. Zabala as editor, its first number appears in Madrid in the month of July 1897, with graphic boastfulness which must have been annoying to the reader, as the pages were printed each in different colours (green, orange, blue, and violet), and elsewhere every column in one colour, or a different colour in the upper half and the lower, and all that on glossy paper, too.

In its first number it points out that there are 23,700 collectors in the world who place ads, 48,300 establishments devoted to the sale of stamps for collectors, and 480 philatelic publications; numbers which we regard as exaggerated, notably in reference to dealers.

In one of its numbers, it proposes the creation of a stamp of 5 or 10 centimos, to be used voluntarily to create a fund to aid soldiers returning from our colonial wars.

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(32) As a curiosity, we mention that a son of Ceballos fell from a high balcony, and that the very same Gálvez took an interest, according to *El Coleccionista de Sellos*.

(33) Ceballos attacked Miguel Gálvez in his journal, calling him an *old orderly of the Overseas hall* of the Audit Department.

(34) Majó, in error, calls it a *fortnightly* journal.
The stamp in question, it suggests, would show in its upper part the value of postage (say, 15 centimos) and in the lower the sales price, 20 or 25 centimos.

In another of its numbers it attacks the many habilitado* [stamps] of Fernando Po: *If toward the end of the year 1896 it became necessary to qualify a 10 centavos fiscal stamp, it is because in Fernando Po a 10 centavos postal stamp was not available. One fails to understand why it was necessary to qualify a 5 centavo stamp if one was unavailable previously.* It ends, trusting that when the new governor arrives in the colony, that postal normalcy will return. The new governor did indeed arrive but the result was that in 1898, twenty additional excise stamps were authorized for use, without counting errors and varieties.

In its number of November 1897 it informs about an upcoming philatelic exhibition in Madrid which, if in fact it took place, would have been the first in Spain, several years prior to the one in Valencia.

It shows a great deal of concern about the stamps of Fernando Po, and as its stamps are used also in Elobey, Annobón, and Corisco, suggests *in order to avoid international problems* that these stamps should be inscribed *Spanish Possessions of the Gulf of Guinea.*

Number 5 corresponds to November 1897 and the following one to January 1899, without the slightest explanation about the time elapsed without a publication. To be sure, from number 6 on the journal is printed in black only, making the reading easier.

In its number 8, under the title *Muy bien [Very good]* it applauds the decision that the two complete sheets of the first Belgian issue found at Antwerp should have been cut up and that they are being offered in small blocks. This would be regarded today as a real crime.

Also, in the November 1899 number it announces that the Belgian dealer Jean-Baptiste Moens gives notice about the general liquidation of his business, offering 20% rebates generally for stamps except the locals of Russia with a 50% rebate. Envelopes with stamps are for sale at a 50% discount as well, proof of the philatelic atmosphere of the period.

In number 14, under the title *A detestable stamp,* it refers to that of the Catalan Union showing St. George, and which was sold at one centimo: *The concept of native land must stand above all inclinations. We therefore believe that Spanish collectors will not allow that stamp in their albums, not even as a curio. As for us, we intend to destroy all those that reach us free of charge and shall never spend a miserable centimo for so unpatriotic a propaganda which reddens our cheeks with its memory alone.* It ceased publication in June 1900.

*Translator’s note:* The word habilitado in a postal sense means that a fiscal (or excise) stamp is made available (i.e. authorized) to function as a postage stamp.

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(35) In 1909 Spanish authorities used the designation *Spanish Territories in the Gulf of Guinea* but not on the stamps of Guinea and of Fernando Po.
**EL MUNDO POSTAL**

It makes its appearance in Barcelona in August 1897 as a semi-monthly journal, the publisher being Martínez Parra, announcing that it will be devoted to Philately and to its two great causes, Navigation and Commerce, stating that every two weeks it will circulate 5000 copies in the principal cities of Europe, America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania.

He published a total of eight numbers(36), describing new issues with corresponding illustrations. among its advertisements, one by José Monge covering an entire page, stands out amongst the others: 100 six cuartos stamps of 1850 for ten pesetas.

One of its numbers deals with the oddity of the Bear and Madroño* stamp with its colour changed, giving the following explanation of something so uncommon: a young lady kept the letters that her fiancé had prepaid with a one cuarto stamp, carrying them in her waistcoat and taking them out from time to time to kiss them. Between the saliva of the kisses and sweat of the waistcoat, the colour had changed for the worse, and she refused to sell these pieces to a collector who had discovered them.

He published a blacklist containing almost a hundred collectors, sent by Count Ivanowitz de Tscherniadiett who clearly had not learned a lesson about exchanging with the unscrupulous(37). It is a journal which does not appear in Dr. Thebussem’s narrative.

**LA TIMBROLOGÍA ESPAÑOLA**

It sees the light of day at Val de Santo Domingo, a village in the province of Toledo, in December 1897, published by José Álvarez Janáriz(38), a physician of the locality. According to Thebussem it is very well edited and uses a paper of very good quality. Nathan and Gahl advise that the last number came out in 1899 without indicating the month nor the number involved.

On the first page of one of his numbers he publishes a print of Antonio Fernández Duro, the famous author of the past century whom he calls Hernandez. The editor announces that he sells stamps of Fernando Po, the Philippines, and Spain, but the rare ones. Moens advertises the sale of his publication about the stamps of Spain, reduced from 20 to 10 francs a copy.

(36) A layman in philately, according to Majó (op. cit. p.388).
(37) The correct name was A. Iwanowitz, Count of Tscherniachieff, according to announcements of the period. Majó calls him Count Ivanowitz de Tscherniadiett in Postas y Filatelia en la Barcelona del XIX where more details can be found about that person (pages 177-178). A foreign collector of Russian origin who lived in Barcelona at number 161 Paseo de San Juan, and who offered in his exchanges all the stamps of Spain and Colonies, including the rare ones of 2 reales, of 1851, 1852, and 1853.
(38) In the Anuario Filatélico for 1898 by Bourman, he appears as Janáriz. Majó writes Janariz (op. cit.). In several advertisements he appears as Tanariz.

*Translator’s note:* The Bear and Madroño is the heraldic device of the City of Madrid.
The numeration was somewhat unusual: in December 1897 he publishes number 1 of year I; on January 1898 number 1 of year II, and on January 31, 1899, number 1 of year III - the last one we know of.

**BOLETÍN FILATÉLICO**

Number 1 of this publication appears in January 1898, edited by Ruiz Cabrera in Manzanares (Ciudad Real province). His enthusiasm led him to publish several numbers of which we know up to number XIV, for February 1899.

The contents consisted almost exclusively of advertisements but these were very quaint. A dealer in Ghent offered for 3 pesetas 11,000 addresses of collectors and dealers of the entire world. For the same price one could acquire a book from a postal official in Burriana, with recipes for fabricating liquors, wines, varnishes, toilet soaps, sealing-wax, ink, etc. And the same author, but now for five pesetas, offered El Tesoro Industrial to make, without need for appliances, 25 kinds of beer, advice about medicine and hygiene, and many secrets and useful recipes that can bring about great economy for families.

A certain Carreras y Candi, vice-consul of the Dominican Republic and a member of the Royal Academy of History, advertised that he wished to purchase fiscal stamps of Spain (but not revenue nor excise stamps), seeking principally those from colleges for notaries and municipal lawyers, with low prices, as they lack value in the philatelic world.

In its number IV of April 1898 the journal adopts the idea of Madrid Filatélico to start a campaign so that Spanish philatelists contribute their grain of salt to the holy work of patronizing our navy at war, recalling the patriotic 5-centimos stamp from Alicante which was the first vignette of the war of 1898, first sold on the 23rd April by the Post Master there.

The journal engaged in polemics with Ilustración Filatélica about such patriotic vignettes or stamps, publishing a letter from the editor of the magazine in question who asserts that even though another thought of their creation, I was the first in making them, as had in fact happened.

It devotes itself to selling other person’s works with such unmatched titles as The Torment of a Priest; Pederasty; Studies on Diphtheria; The Pleasures of Venus; Law of Waters and Pornocracy.

(With a similar title, Boletín Filatélico Universal, another journal appeared in 1900, in Valencia.)

(39) This man owned a bookstore and a press, and was a philatelist (Majó, op. cit. page 391).
This magazine appears in Valencia in January 1899, the first in that region. Its editor-owner was José Sanchís. It was a paper that lasted a good time, till December 1901, publishing 33 numbers ending in September 1901. In January 1902 *El Filatélico de Valencia* took its place, reaching a total of twelve numbers.

In its introduction it states that it will avoid the common-place, that everyone declares that its appearance is a necessity, that it is not motivated by gain, that it counts on superb sources of information, and that it will be a publication for which there is no substitute: *The idea that animates us is not original, and thus brings no surprises. We follow the footsteps of those who with more talent and under better conditions have done what we endeavour to do from today on. The journal justifies itself because of the great number of Valencian collectors. The fondness for philately, somnolent for some time, has come to life, showing great enthusiasm.*

It publishes news about the new issues of all countries, and does not keep silent about the frequent appearance of Fernando Po excise stamps: *They know of no way to end the surcharges on the stamps of that island. Today we have to add to the many known, two new ones* and it emphasizes that the one with the error *HAELITADO*, is in fact a variety, not a new stamp.

The second number, as happened also in the case of other publications, changed the front page somewhat, with the coat of arms of Valencia being more prominent.

To show that it is not motivated by greed, in its number 2 it announces a raffle among the subscribers, to take place publicly, in which the second prize is a 2-real used of Spain, 1855. (The first prize is a stamp of ten centavos of Amadeo 1872, used, which we assume is the violet-coloured one.)

In its chronicle of new issues it speaks of, among others, the newly-authorized habilitado stamps of Port-au-Prince, with the numbers issued, though this information is taken from *L’Écho de la Timbrologie*. Amongst other news, it points out the appearance in Brazil of an imperforate pair of the first issue, in which there appear as one a stamp of 30 reis and another of 60, *absolutely authentic* (40).

Among its advertisements there is one by Louis Huot of Paris who published post cards and official envelopes for the visit of the Tsar and Tsarina to France, selling the official envelope of 15 centavos. cancelled and addressed to their Majesties at the Embassy of Russia at 2,50 francs.

(40) In reality it is a vertical strip of three used stamps, the upper two being of 30 reis and the remaining one of 60 reis. It was exhibited in London in 1965 and valued at ten thousand Pounds.
ANUARIO FILATÉLICO DE ESPAÑA Y COLONIAS

Its inclusion here is debatable, and if we do so it is because an annual publication expects to publish periodically, though in this case it did not happen.

Thebussem does not mention it, even though the Postal Museum in Madrid possesses one of the tomes amongst its papers. Nathan and Gahl refer to it amongst the books, not among the journals.

It was published in Malaga in 1898 by José R. Bourman, the librarian of the Philatelic Society of that city. It contains the addresses of collectors in Spain - grouped by Provinces, and within these, by location - in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. In some cases he mentions their profession, and so we can find a Registrar of property, a Notary, two Pharmacists, and a Priest. In Barcelona we find Carreras and Pedro Monge, and in Madrid, Ceballos and Gálvez.

He further gives an account of the publications and of philatelic societies. According to the Anuario, the Philatelic Society of Malaga was founded on the 25th September 1895, precisely one day before the Philatelic Society of Seville. The rest of the Anuario is devoted to philatelic advertisements.

ESPAÑA FILATÉLICA

With a modernistic title page, the work of Serra, its number one appears on the 15th May 1899, published in Barcelona, the editor-owner being Alexandre Contini, a well-known Barcelona dealer known as Alexandre, of Italian origin, who left Barcelona to devote himself to the antiquities of Italy and the United States, attaining to title Count Contini.

He does not speak of a program, limiting himself to stating his motto: to see and to judge, pointing out that no subscription will be accepted until after the regular publication of four numbers, as a minimum. According to our count he got to publish eleven numbers. The same as found by Nathan and Gahl, and Majó.

He reproduces articles from foreign journals on how to compare frauds among the stamps from the United States offered on approval on Bristol board; on re-gummed stamps that are recognizable by the bad taste of the gum that counterfeiters use in their deceit; about the mails in Manila during the war of 1898; and a reply to one who wants to sell his stamps, pointing out that we do not believe that Madrid is a good market for selling.

He published, as was habitual then, a blacklist of philatelic swindlers, almost all of them foreigners. Among these there was a pharmacist in Malaga, a fact which brought about an objection on the part of the College of Pharmacists of Malaga saying the person was not a member - the foolish spirit of corporation was in existence already in the past century - a dispute in which even Madrid Filatélico intervened.

Among the advertisements we find a very odd one on the part of a Frenchman who offers the stamps of the first issue of France in exchange for glazed jars of Spanish pottery for use in pharmacies.
There is an article, though exaggerated as all from the period, about the provisionals of Coamo (Puerto Rico). According to the article a Yankee soldier had one of these stamps for which he demanded a very high price, as he had been told that it was a jewel. A collector bought it, explaining that these came from Coamo, then went there to acquire the few copies that were left, and all the information he could get. There are four different types, printed in two rows of five stamps each. According to an official letter by the town hall secretary of Coamo which the enterprising collector obtained, such stamps were used only from the 13th August to the 4th September 1898.

There is a reproduction of a drawing for the fourth centennial of Philip II, and in a period when these were very popular the journal attacks it, calling it Stamps of Camama*.

**LA PROPAGANDA FILATÉLICA**

It is published in Madrid, and its first number appears in August 1899, published by Antonio Riesco. The annual subscription price is 14 pesetas, and the moderation of the prices we have established will surely make [sic] that we shall be honoured by collectors everywhere, as proclaimed in the words of the introduction.

In its first number it publishes a list of the rarest stamps of Spain, considering those with a value of above 200 pesetas, and listing the following: 1851, 2 reales; 1852, 2 reales; 1851, 3 cuartos, of the Madrid city mail; 1854, 1 real; 1855, 2 reales, blue error, mint; 1865, 12 cuartos, inverted centre, perforated and imperforate; 1854, 5 cuartos from the Philippines mint.

This publication continued until the year 1905 in which it published its last number, viz. 62.

Its contents are mostly of announcements and advertisements, among these one by a Swiss selling 127 letters, ribbons, and envelopes with stamps printed in Switzerland, San Marino, Gibraltar, Brazil, etc. for 6,50 francs. Another offers the stamps from Greece of the *Floral Games* (43), and there is another who sells 50 different stamps, guaranteed, from the Italian duchies, for 2,50 pesetas.

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(41) EDIFIL does not reproduce these stamps, nor any other catalogue except the one by Gálvez.
(42) Nathan and Gahl do not specify the number in question.
(43) Without a doubt, reference to the Olympic Games set.

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*Translator’s note:* Reference to Philip II who died in 1598. The word *camama* is colloquial Spanish, meaning *humbug.*
**EL FILATELICO ONUBENSE**

Its first number shows the date of the 15\textsuperscript{th} January 1900, and it is published in Huelva. We have seen the first two numbers (of the five published) which contain mostly advertisements. It was published by Carlos Mora, and the annual subscription price was a mere 75 centimos, the most economic of all those in existence.

In its first number, in addition to the classic greeting to all the colleagues of the philatelic press, both national and foreign, it publishes an open letter to the publisher, offering congratulations on the task he proposes with his publication, because the subscription price is reasonable, and because Huelva - the part of the Peninsula which first receives the images of America, Africa, and generally of all countries - needed a faithful and impartial paper to unite all philatelists.

The open letter in question, signed by Dr. Noir\(^{(44)}\), concludes by declaring that all the publishers of catalogues (Scott, Stanley [Gibbons], Senf, Maury, Belin, Champion, López, etc.) drive us mad with their catalogues and their whims. And what about the forgers and their accomplices? It is against these that one must fight.

**LA BOLA DE NIEVE**

A journal no one mentions among those who have devoted themselves to the study of our philatelic literature, and one we have never seen. It is included here for the reason that in *El Filatélico Onubense* there is an announcement of the same, mentioning that it is a philanthropic and philatelic magazine published in Barcelona which reproduces pretty photogravures in forty-eight pages, of all the stamps issued in the world since 1840, with an elegant text. So much detail seems to indicate that the journal was a reality, and not a project.

**EL COLECCIONISTA DE SELLOS**

The title that had been used by Cotter for the journal he published in 1871, reappears in Madrid with a first number dated the 31\textsuperscript{st} January 1900, guided now by García Ceballos with the subtitle *Bulletin of quotations and of philatelic novelties*. It begins by being monthly, later fortnightly, though in a way *sui generis*\(^{**}\), as every issue included two numbers: for instance, numbers 35/36 for 30\textsuperscript{th} March/15\textsuperscript{th} April 1903.

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\(^{(44)}\) An outstanding Catalan collector living at 63 Clarís [street].

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**Translator’s notes:**

* The Snowball in English.

\(^{**}\) A Latin expression, literally meaning *of its own kind or genus*, i.e. unique in its characteristics.
It was distributed free of charge, publishing its last number (numbers 52/53 dated 24th December 1903)(45). In the last issues it stated published on the 1st, 8th, 16th, and 24th day of each month, which was not true.

In its number 38 it announced a very original section entitled Opportunity of the Fortnight: the subscribers would send to the magazine the stamps they wished to sell, indicating their price. The magazine would announce these free of charge. The buyer could be certain that he purchased authentic stamps; the seller, that he would get his money by way of the journal. In several numbers it dwelled on what it called the greatest usurpation in the world, discussing the existence of thousands of used and washed stamps that are sold, to be used once again; a fraud which it calculated amounted to some 25-33% of the stamps used in the mails, and estimating the sum defalcated at between six and eight million pesetas annually.

Oddly enough - and this always happens in Spain - as, a result of this accusation the state Minister for tobacco, Martínez Tudela, orders a police search of the accuser’s house and also those of Gálvez and Pujalte, all of them persons interested in persecuting the fraud. This action gave rise to harsh criticism in the journal: Assuming, then, that this Mr. Tudela had shown understanding, discretion, and tact, a matter which evidently we regard as the height of a hypothesis...

In its number of the month of January 1901 it reports the decline in the price of stamps, which has given rise to Gálvez giving discounts up to 70% and Ceballos up to 75% and collections being sold at discounts of even 85%. Nevertheless, collectors deplore the fact that this discount does not affect rare stamps such as the 3 cuartos of the Bear and Madroño.

It proposes to create a Warrant of Recognition to honour the persons and entities that justly deserve it with complete and absolute certainty." A few numbers later, it concedes such a warrant to Francisco del Tarré and to Carreras y Candi of Barcelona and to Pujalte of Madrid.

In one of its numbers it denounces the Treasury Delegate of Madrid because of the Madrid Philatelic Society organizing auctions of stamps and retaining a 5 to 10% sales commission over sales price. The Baron de Hortega, President of the Society mentioned, had judicial proceedings against the magazine for that reason.

In its number 3, and with the title of A stamp for the future, it deals with a vignette printed at Jerez de la Frontera on the occasion of the war against the United States, in 1898. The stamp in question, a voluntary gift from its holder, exists today in the two most valuable collections in the world, viz., that of the Prince of Wales and the Tsar of Russia, and is found also in the International Register at Bern(46); it will figure also as a philatelic curiosity in the World Exhibition of 1900 in Paris where no doubt it will attain a considerable value. In the following number, the right atmosphere having been created, Diaz Casas in Jerez advertised the sale of this stamp at two francs each.

(45) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly give the date as December 1904.
(46) We assume it refers to the Universal Postal Union created in October 1875.

LA FILATELIA ESPAÑOLA
It published one number only, dated the 20th February 1900. It is Published in Madrid, the name of the editor being unknown, and is dedicated exclusively to stamp collectors. Dr. Thebussem does not mention it in his study.

As an oddity, that stands out is that the title page reproduces the 10 centimos of the Cadet set which was not available for sale until the following year, according to the catalogues we have consulted.

One of its numbers* published an article about the stamps of Cuba with the overprint $Y \frac{1}{4}$ of 1855, mentioning that a French collector, Mr. Audruin, has thought up an explanation to account for the surcharge the authenticity of which is questioned by many intelligent persons. According to him, the $Y$ means Interior, and the fraction shows that its value has been reduced to a fourth of a real. Oddly, this perspicacity on the part of the French collector had been common knowledge, published by Antonio Fernández Duro in 1881\(^{(47)}\), and the Order of the 15th November 1855, which established the interior mail and the tariff of a quarter of a real had been published by Friedrich, along with other resolutions, in the year 1894\(^{(48)}\). Yet, our editors of philatelic magazines did not know this nineteen years later.

(This journal must not be confused with another of the same title, first published in October 1896 at Villanueva y Geltrú, and whose last number is dated March 1897.)

**CÁDIZ POSTAL**

Its first number is dated March 1, 1900, and it appears, logically, in Cadiz. Its editor and owner is José Juliá y Fernández\(^{(49)}\). It accomplishes the publication of thirty numbers, the last dated the 30th August 1902\(^{(50)}\), and proclaims itself as the one with the widest circulation in Andalusia.

In its first number it calls attention to the fact that the philatelic press carries out a task of culture and of congeniality, and proposes to contribute to that work without being moved by greed; rather, to simply tighten more, every day, the bonds between the amateurs of philately.

\(^{(47)}\) *Reseña Histórico-Descriptiva de los Sellos de Correos de España.* (Madrid 1881, page 218) [Brief description of the Postage Stamps of Spain.]

\(^{(48)}\) *Die Postwertzeichen der Spanischen Kolonien.* (Berlin 1894, page 17). [The postage stamps of the Spanish colonies]

\(^{(49)}\) Nathan and Gahl call him José Julio y Fernández.

\(^{(50)}\) Nathan and Gahl indicate 23 numbers only, and until January 1902.

*Translator’s note:* It was said to have published one number in the first paragraph, later one of its numbers is mentioned.
It alludes to the issuing of the 15 centimos. of the Cadet in blue\(^{(51)}\), which stamp, according to some Madrid newspaper, looks very much like the stamps of the United States. In connection with that stamp, the journal mentions that the Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs met with journalists and. *had the kindness* of distributing amongst them, the new 15 centimos stamps. Almost a century later, this impresses us as being almost amusing.

In its second number it refers to a machine for paying postage on letters automatically, *so that stamps are in danger of disappearing, just as poetry itself and pork sausage*. It fears that Postmaster General *Dato* expects to establish it soon in Spain, *but there is a fact that consoles us*, viz. that in Spain, Ministers last little time, so that *Dato* will fall before stamps will disappear.

The problem with those who exchange stamps and who lack a conscience, keeping stamps, is very frequent, and the journal proposes to punish these by making them read all at once the poems by *Carulla*, and if they still have any strength left, one will make them travel on Andalusian railways.

The Philatelic Exhibition of 1900 in Paris, is the object of commentary in one of its numbers. Two Spaniards only attended: *Gálvez*, with a complete collection of Spain and its colonies, with many rare items, inverted centres, etc., which he sold to *Bernichon* for 20,000 francs; and *Monclús\(^{(52)}\)*, with a superb collection of Spain and its colonies, and many rarities and an entire sheet of the 10 pesetas stamp of 1875.

**LA CIRCULAR FILATÉLICA**

Sees the light of day in Huelva in the year 1900, and the only reference that we have of it is the one given by *Dr. Thebussem* who says he knows of it by way of a letter dated the 25\(^{th}\) April and signed by *Robert W. Adam* which we have been able to locate in the *Papeles varios* of *Dr. Thebussem*. It declares that it will be a monthly review *devoted to collectors and dealers of stamps*, the annual subscription price being a mere fifty centimos, entitling subscribers to one free advertisement of five lines, and announcing its first number for the 10\(^{th}\) May. We suppose that it was in print already, though not a single copy of the journal is known.

**BOLETÍN FILATÉLICO UNIVERSAL**

Appears in Valencia, its first and only number with the date June 1900, edited by *Eduardo Reig* and containing mostly advertisements.

In the circular it sent, advertising its appearance for the 15\(^{th}\) June, the journal assured that every issue will be accompanied by a stamp of Spain, old at times, and one of the other ex-colonies.

\(^{(51)}\) We repeat the previous remark to the effect that according to the catalogues this set was not issued before the 1\(^{st}\) January 1901.

\(^{(52)}\) *Tomás Monclús* was a philatelic dealer in Barcelona, an outstanding specialist in stamps, who established himself in Paris for a number of years.
**EL BOLETÍN TIMBROLÓGICO**

Its first number appears in Huelva in June 1900 according to Nathan and Gahl\(^{(53)}\), its publisher being Carlos Dominguez. The subscription price was only one peseta a year which entitled subscribers to an advertisement of six lines, free of charge.

It published announcements and listed new issues, and its second and last number shows the date of the 15\(^{th}\) August 1900. In it, there is an editorial about counterfeits and on cheating of collectors. In exchanges of stamps, despite good references, *not one has confidence in any other, nor takes chances on being the first to send, for fear of being cheated.*

**EL ECO DE MADRID**

Appears in Madrid in October 1900, published by Eugenio Laso\(^{(54)}\). It is the monthly publication of the Madrid Philatelic Circle which had already published between 1897 and 1900, the so-called *Boletín del Círculo Filatélico Matritense*, previously mentioned. Its last number as a philatelic journal is 20\(^{(55)}\), corresponding to May 1902, as the following numbers were merely sales offers. It states that the offices of *El Eco de Madrid* sells stamps at true and important discounts.

**EL FILATÉLICO ESPAÑOL**

Appears in Barcelona in October 1900 at the price of one peseta for the annual subscription, the publisher being Tomás Remoli who was soon followed by Rafael de Sorarrain, Alfonso Sabadell, and Monge, among others. It states that it will be *dedicated to collectors and stamps dealers.*

It stopped publishing\(^{(56)}\) from January 1912 to March 1913 inclusive, and from December 1929 to June 1932. Its last number is dated June 1936, at which time its continuity was cut short by the Civil War.

It was a journal with very interesting articles, having published studies by Carreras y Candi about Spanish postal cards, Carlist postal charges and Carlist stamps, the issues of Rio de Oro, also about the fiscal stamps of Spain and its Colonies, which were reproduced in their normal size.

\(^{(53)}\) In August 1900 according to Majó, who is mistaken.

\(^{(54)}\) Nathan and Gahl refer to him as Lasa.

\(^{(55)}\) According to Majó it is number 21.

\(^{(56)}\) Nathan and Gahl do not report this fact.
LA UNIÓN POSTAL

The 19th Century concludes with this monthly magazine which is published in Barcelona by Leoncio Hernando, Honorary Member of the Sicilian Philatelic Union, and whose first number comes out in December 1900.

Its publication continues until number 17 of year III, viz., June 1902, then continues once again in January 1906 with number 1 of year IV (second period), and comes to a definite end in July 1907 with the number 7 of the year in question, IV\(^{57}\).

In the first period its sub-title is *Revista mensual filatélica dedicada a todos los comerciantes y coleccionistas de sellos.* In the second, the title becomes *Revista mensual filatélica y filocartista dedicada a los comerciantes de sellos de correo y de tarjetas postales ilustradas.*

It publishes advertisements and information about illustrated postcards, a report on countries that admit them, and on how to send them to countries that do not.

René Frank, a special collaborator from Chalons-sur-Marne, writes about postage stamps *those small sketched papers which represent the most intimate sentiments of its respective peoples, have carried the affections of the human heart all the way to the remotest corners of the world in a prodigious manner.* As one can see, not too much profusion in the phrase.

In one of its last numbers it informs that of the 697 stamps issued in the entire world in the year 1905, 140 belong to England and its colonies, and 85 to Spain and its colonies. The English may win over us in the matter of a colonial empire but in the number of stamps, proportionally, we are much ahead of them.

EL INDICADOR FILATÉLICO

Published at Zaragoza, it calls itself *Revista mensual de propaganda filatélica: Órgano de la Unión Filatélica Aragonesa.* Published its first number without any indication of date, and there is doubt whether it belongs to the 19th Century. We do not know more. Thebussem does not mention it in his work.

(57) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly mention that it was published until August.

Translator’s notes:
* Monthly journal of philately devoted to all dealers and collectors of stamps.
** Monthly journal of philately and postcards dedicated to dealers in stamps and illustrated postcards.
*** Monthly philatelic review to propagate stamp collecting: Organ of the Aragonese Philatelic Union.

* * *
Independently of these philatelic journals there are other periodical publications which have concerned themselves with philatelic topics during the 19th Century. Among others, it is possible to recall the following, in chronological order:

**Revista de Correos**, Madrid, which in December 1867 published the first philatelic information appearing in the Spanish press.

**El País**, Madrid newspaper with the same head-line as the present-day publication, which on the 16th August and 23rd November 1870, dealt with themes related to philately.

**La Crónica Postal.** On the 23rd February 1871, it publishes a notice regarding stamps and postal cards.

**El Averiguador**, a very elegant weekly of Madrid which between 1871 and 1873 publishes several interesting philatelic articles, a number of these coming from Dr. Thebussem.

**El Gobiero**, Madrid daily which during the months of October, November, and December 1873 publishes far-reaching works by Dr. Thebussem about the Spanish postal card, and a reply by Pantaleón de la Peña, from Algeciras, which because of its style makes us believe that the writer is Mariano Pardo de Figueroa himself.* Some of these articles appear on the first page of the political daily in question which only has four pages.

**Gaceta de los Caminos de Hierro**, Madrid, which criticizes in its number of the 21st December 1873 the first Spanish postal card. (The subject of the Spanish postal card was the object of many references in the Spanish press of the period.)

**La España Postal**, fortnightly Madrid journal which publishes some advertisement and information about postage stamps, and which in its number of the 1st July 1890, publishes on the Title Page a likeness of Isaac Peral with a design of his submarine, asking whether some day we may have correspondence by way of the submarine. The reply – in the affirmative - came about in 1938 during our civil war, and in the Republican zone.

* Translator’s note: Mariano Pardo de Figueroa (1828-1918) was the real name of Dr. Thebussem. He is shown on a Spanish air mail stamp issued on the 12th October 1944.
B) In the 20th Century

As an interesting phenomenon, we note that there appear several publications from collectors’ societies, some of these being mere news sheets about social activities, others are of great philatelic interest due to the important works published.

COMMERCIAL MAGAZINES

The century begins with the appearance, in August 1901, of the magazine *El Progresista Filatélico*, published in San Sebastian under the direction of Joaquín Minondo, which in its first period reached number 6 in the month of February 1902. There is a second period comprising October 1907 to April 1908 at which time it ends definitely with number 3. Its front page, the work of Guevara, had modernistic pretensions, and in its second period it reduced its size. Minondo who was a philatelic dealer sold the 10-reales stamp of 1850 at 100 pesetas; the 1851 one, at 25; and the 1 cuarto with the Bear and Madroña tree, at 50 pesetas.

On the 1st November 1901, the first number of the magazine *El Agente Administrativo, Filatélico y Anunciador*, published in Malaga, sees the light of day. The reference we have is a notice sent by its editor and its administrator, which Dr. Thebussem preserved amongst his papers. This circular announces the appearance of the first number with a circulation of 6000 copies at the date indicated, and which will circulate through Europe, Asia, the Americas, and the Pacific, excluding Africa for unknown reasons.

In January 1902, *El Filatélico de Valencia* comes into existence, ceasing its publication with number 12 in December of the same year. Its publisher is José Sanchis García who had been the publisher of *El Filatélico Valenciano* which disappeared in December 1901 and who had been in charge of the magazine in question. It is a large-size magazine, showing a simple front page in modernistic style. Its motto, it states, will always be Forward.

It shows itself as an enemy of commemorative stamps, and this despite the fact that in Spain none had ever been issued, and very few abroad. There was talk at the time, following an idea in Cádiz Filatélico, of issuing a stamp or a special set to celebrate the coming coronation of Alfonso XIII. And some toyed with the idea of a thirteen-stamp set which would begin with a ¼ centimo all the way to ten pesetas. It would be a set that would also apply to Fernando Po, Possessions of Río Muni, and North Africa.

On the 1st December 1903, there appears in Madrid, published by Vicente Moreno, the journal *La Unión Filatélica Española* which publishes a total of thirteen numbers, disappearing in January 1905.

In February 1904 there appears *El Eco Postal*, initially published by Carlos Llorca, later by Vicente Pallardo, with a total of 230 numbers, the last being in April 1923.
In 1904 *La Verdad Filatélica* makes its appearance in Barcelona, issued every two weeks and published by Miguel Martí. We know up to number 6. Number 4 is dated the 20th October 1904. The publication declares that it is an *impartial echo of postage stamp collectors.*

From January to March 1907 we find a new publication in Malaga, with the title *Guía del Coleccionista,* which published three numbers only and campaigned on behalf of Esperanto.

In February 1908 the first number of *El Filatélico Aragonés* comes out, a quarterly published by R. Gasca Ibarra in the small town of Morés (Province of Zaragoza). It only published two numbers, the annual subscription of which cost one peseta. It was a short-lived magazine, as so many others, but with an interesting content. In its first number it deals with the much discussed stamps of the Exposition of Industries in Madrid, stating that they are *stamps that cannot be used as postage, but without them envelopes cannot be posted except in certain mail boxes.*

In 1908, at a date not specified by Nathan and Gahl, the periodical *Iberia* sees the light of day in Valencia, a monthly publication which disappears in the year 1910.

In Alicante there appears in November 1909 the quarterly publication *El Intercambio* which comes to an end in February 1911, having published ten numbers. It declared that it was *dedicated to favour and to facilitate collections of all kinds.* It accepted correspondence in Spanish, French, and Esperanto (and from number 3, in English, as well). It published a *List of Honour* of its subscribers in which one name only is represented, *His Royal Highness Prince Mayo,* of 18 Mildmay Grove, London, and repeats that name in several numbers. It pays a great deal of attention to the collecting of illustrated cards with a stamp on the representation.

In January 1913 the journal *Coleccionismo* is published for the first time in Madrid with a succession of addresses, publishers, and patrons. It appears and disappears more or less frequently. In one of its numbers it states that *those who believe that collecting is a mania are much mistaken... Far from it: the activity of collecting is a science, as numismatics or branches of other sciences that lend a hand, such as philately, or it is simply an inclination, always instructive.* The magazine has a section which it calls *Iconophily,* referring to the study and collection of commemorative stamps. In 1936, with number 197, it ceased publication, but resumed from January to September 1945, published by Antonio Martínez Bosch. In October 1952 it resumes once more with the same publisher but abandons publication in November 1961 with its number 233. In July 1960 Martínez Bosch transferred his rights to the Philatelic Society of Madrid of which it was the official organ with the title *España Coleccionista,* edited by Manuel Rodríguez Germes, and published its last number in November 1961 at which time it disappeared definitely. During that last period it published some interesting studies.

In the month of April 1913 there is published in Barcelona *Philatelia,* the organ of the Catalan Philatelic Society, published initially every two months but later becomes a monthly under Francisco del Tarré, later still twice monthly, its last number coming out in May/June 1936.

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58) Nathan and Gahl say of this review that they lack data.
59) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly give the year as 1908.
It published a record of new issues, varied philatelic notices, among these is one about the auction of the Hind collection. It served as publicity for the firm of Tarré which offered the set of the Exposition of Industries in Madrid at 3.25 pesetas (when its face value was 6 pesetas), the regular set of the Madrid Philatelic Exposition of 1936 at 7.50 pesetas, and the air mail set at 30 pesetas. Some of his advertisements consisted of reproductions of blocks of four of the classic stamps without an indication of price but pointing out that he had a great many of these in stock.

In the following years new philatelic journals come into existence. In 1916 it is El Filatelista, published in Ibiza, of which we know that it published its first number in November. It called itself a monthly philatelic newspaper, and the price of a subscription cost 2.50 pesetas annually. It published many notices and articles originating in other Spanish and foreign journals.

In the same year, Unión Carta-Filatélica Universal\(^{(60)}\) is published at Reus with very few numbers, carrying articles in Castilian and in French. In one of its numbers it publishes an article by J. M. T. (possibly José Majó Tocabens) about *What is the merit of a collection acquired by means of gold?* and replies that *those of us who lack the capital to invest in our hobby, and who can count only on good will to increase our collections, can in time succeed where others procure with significant sums.*

In September 1917 Ramón Pujalte publishes the Boletín de la Bolsa Filatélica de Madrid, a commercial organ that was published until 1936. It was at first of small size and full of advertisements. Later it modified its size on two occasions and published a supplement to the Yvert catalogue, and also a history of the stamps of Spain. In it, the first stamp auctions were executed in Madrid, amongst the very first in Spain.

In 1918 and in Barcelona España Coleccionista comes out, publishing two numbers only. The Philatelic Society of Madrid utilized that title for its own journal in 1960 but it did not last long, as we have noted.

In December 1922 Mundial Filatélico is published in Madrid by Manuel Medrano\(^{(61)}\), the organ of the Hispano-Lusitana Society, disappearing in April 1923, having issued five numbers only. It published a list of new issues, with illustrations. In one of its numbers it refers to mechanized franking, a danger for stamps, though *many years will pass until we see the total disappearance of postage stamps*, as mechanical franking lacks the beauty of stamps, mentioning as an example those of the Exposition of Industries in Madrid in 1907, *the most artistic among all those issued here.*

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\(^{(60)}\) Nathan and Gahl call it *Unión Carta Filatélica Universal.*

\(^{(61)}\) Nathan and Gahl call him Madrano.
On the 1st November 1924, there appears in Barcelona La Ilustración Filatélica with the subtitle Revista gráfica de información y técnica, published by the firm Llach which had begun in philatelic commerce a few years before. It is edited by Agustín Piracés, and states in its introduction, among other things, that we do not pretend to have come to fill a void in the philatelic press written in the Spanish language. The purpose is to stress for the wide public the beauty, which it does not suspect, of collecting stamps, exciting their interest and curiosity, and contributing thus to the formation of new adepts who may come to swell our growing ranks. Its last number is 69, dated May 1932.

In one of its numbers it publishes a full-page announcement by A. Gómez Cepeda who says that he has bought, among others, the collection of the 6 cuartos stamp of 1850 from Ramón Ruiz de Arcaute and others which they have asked me not to make public(62).

Number 64, which relates to the 1930 Barcelona Philatelic Exhibition is highly interesting, stressing the best collections on display; among these is one from Alfonso XIII who, showing an obvious love for philately, exhibited part of his valuable collection which included Austria until 1914, Sweden complete except for the tretio error(63), Yugoslavia mint complete and Japan mounted on specially fabricated sheets displaying postage stamps and postal cards(64).

On the 1st March 1925, there appears in Barcelona Cosmos, a quarterly, international journal devoted primarily to the collectors of postal cards, stamps, etc. It published some articles in English, and devoted much space to illustrated cards which it called postal cards. It ceased publication in July 1930, having been published by J. Prous.

On the 10th April 1926, Carlos Lenze, a dealer established in Madrid and a great student of stamps and postal history, publishes his review Boletín del Centro Filatélico of which only two numbers appear, the second in the month of June. In January 1950 he resumed its publication with the title El Centro Filatélico, until December 1951. In January 1952 the name became Boletín Mensual Ilustrado del Centro Filatélico, until January 1953 at which time the name changed to Boletín Centrofil. This publication, despite its commercial aspect, has been one of the most important published in Spain, as Lenze always wrote about cancellations, pre-stamp philately, postal history, aerogrammes, etc. Boletín Centrofil published its last number, 348, corresponding to the period July/August/September 1956, in which he takes leave of his readers for many imponderables, mostly his 75 years of age(65).

In May 1927 Puigferrat publishes España y América, with its last number, 46, in 1939, resuming its publication in 1952 to cease publishing definitely in September/December 1957. The fact that it is the only philatelic publication published in the Republican zone during the civil war makes it highly interesting for those who are interested in the issues of that period and that zone.

(62) Number 3 dated the 1st January 1925.
(63) Reference to number 21a of the Yvert catalogue. In the plate of the 20 ore a cliché of 30 ore was placed, changing the number in the centre but leaving without change the inscription Tretio (thirty).
(64) What happened to these collections subsequently, is unknown.
(65) Nathan and Gahl say mistakenly, that publication ceased in 1957.
Some of its articles were published in Spanish and in French. In one of its numbers it gives emphasis to designs, amongst which it places, along with others which are truly artistic, the set of the 1936 Madrid Philatelic Exhibition which it calls "vignettes to be remembered; the 1936 Barcelona Fair set that lacks absolutely any postal value; and the supposed stamps of the Constituent Assembly of 1931 which it had been pretended were to be accorded postal value, showing envelopes cancelled by favour, with the cancellation of the Congress.

**Sellos (Revista Filatélica)** appears in December 1929 in Saragossa with contents of supposed humour, announcements, several themes, etc. Its number 2 modified the title page as well as the format, reproducing - we do not know the reason - the image of Barre, the engraver of the first French issues. In one of its numbers it reproduced the plates of the 6 cuartos of 1850, following the study of Griebert. This title reappears in 1952, in Barcelona.

In May 1930 appears **El Defensor Filatélico**, a burden that, to be sure, might well be created. It is published in Caminreal, a small village in the province of Teruel, which at the time had 1,515 inhabitants. Its editor was Adelino Gómez (66), and it came out quarterly. It offered its first number at the 1930 Barcelona Philatelic Exhibition, and received a medal (67) which is mentioned in its second and last number.

It devotes itself to propagate exchange among all countries, defending at the same time the interests of the philatelist. Its second number refers to the Barcelona exhibition. Alfonso XIII, an exhibitor himself as we have noted, donated a cup for the best collection shown, which was won by Gonzalo de Segovia for his collection of Spain of the 1850 6 cuartos stamp and other rarities. In this last number it publishes a list of subscribers, a total of 122. Among these, 22 are from Caminreal, many of these the family of the editor, others from Calanda, yet others from Kenya, Fiji, and New Zealand (sic) (68).

José Majó, a Barcelona dealer, publishes in May 1930 the first number of **Publicidad Filatélica** which for its first numbers is pocket-sized. Number 2 is published in 1931 without specifying a month, it then becomes a periodical publication until March 1936 at which time it ceases publication.

In October 1945 (69) it resumes publishing, again with number 1, until it stops publishing with its number 77, corresponding to Year 65/66 (70). It was normally a quarterly review, and with the amenity typical of the works of Majó.

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(66) Nathan and Gahl call him Avelino Gómez.  
(67) There is no indication of the category of the same.  
(68) In 1948, in Iberia Cultural Filatélica, we find a letter from Adelino Gómez Latorre advocating the issuing of a set with a bullfighting theme. He could see his dream come true years later.  
(69) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly indicate 1946.  
(70) Nathan and Gahl erroneously state that it stopped publishing in 1968 with number 77.
The Boletín de la Unión Española de Coleccionistas is published in Madrid, and we only know number 1, with the date of September 1932. Its home office is at Miguel Moya 8(71) and it consists of four pages, reproducing the bylaws of the new Unión Española de Coleccionistas. Its article 2 stated that all its actions will be inspired by the encouragement of collecting which, far from being the mania of mentally unstable people, is a manifestation of culture, of the spirit of saving and love for a recreational activity. Article 3 established the expulsion of those who might speak of politics or religion.

In September 1932 there appears the Revista del Sello Español, published by Carlos Lenze who writes many of the articles that the magazine prints. Its front page reproduces a fragment of a cover with a pair of the 1851 2-reales and a block of four of the 5-reales, an exceptionally rare piece of great value. It published various studies and described varieties that Lenze had discovered, some of which he offered for sale in the pages of the journal.

On the 1st January 1936, there appears in Lerida Coleccionismo, a title that had been in use since 1913 by the periodical published by Martinez Bosch, and also by a magazine in Barcelona, as well. It was very well printed and got to publish three numbers only, though with an interesting study about numismatics, pre-stamp philately, and the stamps habitados por la nacion of Spain, ending publication in July 1936.

In June of 1937(72), though on the title page there is July by mistake, there appears in San Sebastian, while the civil war is raging, the Boletín Filatélico Español, published by Juan Mancheño. It is the organ of the Department of Philately of the Youth Organization of FET and of the JONS of Barcelona and of the A. F. H. A.(73) Its first number reproduces a photograph of General Franco and this text: The Boletín Filatélico Español honours its title page with the portrait of the Generalissimo who, at the head of the glorious army and heroic militia and aided by the good Spaniards, fights to create a unified Spain, Great and Free, that we dream of.

It varied its front covers, showing on one of these a perforation gauge. In November 1940 it ceased publication with number 40, resuming publication in January 1944(74) with its number 41, with the approval of the Section of Papers and Journals of the National Head Office for the Press, renewing the permit previously issued for the publication, without being any more part of the Falange or the A. F. H. A. The editor was M. Pozo, its seat Viteri 22, 1st floor, Renteria(75), disappearing in the year 1948 (August/September) with number 87/88.

(71) The Hortaleza 81 address shown by Nathan and Gahl was provisional. It is crossed out, and substituted for it in small print is the one we indicate for its number 1.
(72) Nathan and Gahl inexplicably give the date as the 6th October 1937.
(73) Hispano-American Philatelic Association. (Translator's note: The meaning of the other two acronyms is not explained in the text, nor in any footnote.)
(74) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly indicate January 1941.
(75) Nathan and Gahl do not name the publisher of this second period and state that the office was Renteria Pozo Viteri 22. Furthermore they continue to consider it an organ of the philatelic department of the Falange O. J.*

Translator's notes:
* Youth organization.
In August 1937 the first number of Cádiz y América is issued, published by Pelayo Quintero, with the subtitle philately and tourism. Boasting in its second part, rather than its first, that it presented tourist itineraries around Cadiz. In philatelic matters one notes an advertisement offering fifteen *expertised* national stamps for ten pesetas, as if it were worth-while to expertise stamps that were selling at less than one peseta. Some numbers showed in the background of the front cover the flag of the Falange while others displayed the flag of Spain. All in all, it published fourteen numbers.

With the date of January-February 1938, number 1 of the El Eco Filatélico Español is published in Coruña as a monthly review of great world-wide circulation. It is of interest on account of the news it can furnish regarding the issues of Franco’s Spain. In one of its numbers, it reproduces vignettes of the UGT* and International Red Cross Relief (Agency) amongst others, under the title red stamps it writes just look at those stamps with the Catalan inscriptions and all [sic], and why not in Russian when they are destined to render homage to the Soviet Union? Its last number is 11, of December 1938.

In 1938 there appears in Barcelona, Barcelona Filatélica which published two numbers only.

In December 1938(76), in Malaga, and under the editorship of Juan de Rensis Marra(77), appeared the magazine OFILMA, initially called OFILMA Boletín de Informaciones Filatélicas, which was published until the 20th April 1941. The magazine was noted because of its disputes with other dealers of the period which it attacked and by whom, in turn, it was attacked. In one of its numbers it announced that an official of the Madrid postal authorities had contacted the magazine saying he had seen the set XIX Centennial of the Virgin of the Pillar, verifying that it contained two different stamps of the 4 and 10 peseta values, asking where he might obtain these(78). Marra asks how they are going to know in OFILMA where to locate these stamps if an official of the Posts does not know and laments that the information received and published by the magazine about the set should be incomplete, adding that *it is deplorable that such matters can happen which only upset and confuse philatelists.*

In the year 1941 appeared the Boletín de la Biblioteca PERCO del Coleccionista, issued annually, and which only lasted for five numbers. It was published by Pérez-Cortina. Of pocket size, its character was instructive, dealing with pre-philately, with the origin of postage stamps, how to know to which country certain stamps belong, and the value of the same, etc. In its number one or *First fascicule,* following its terminology, it proclaims that *according to*

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(76) In September 1938 it had published another number 1, but without charge.
(77) An Italian dealer, established in Malaga before the Civil War, who entered the city on the 8th February 1937 with the conquerors and re-established his business, which had been plundered during the war. To compensate for his losses he created many patriotic surcharges. He was known as Juan Marra.
(78) He refers to the stamps of those values with changed colours.

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Translator’s notes:
* General Union of Workers (a Republican organization).
our information, it is the first time that there appears a publication devoted to philately with an instructive character: neither commentary nor publicity here. This indeed is the case with the first number but in the third there are advertisements by Filatelia Llach, Pous, Tarré, Filatelia Orbis, and Ricardo de Lama, aside from those of PERCO.

On the 15th February 1945, there appeared in Pamplona El Eco Filatélico which some years ago added the designation y Numismático, under the direction of M. de Luis Nagorra. It seemed that a magazine of few pages, published in a provincial seat beyond the great philatelic centres, could not prosper, yet it succeeded. The contributing factors were possibly the advertisements, rather than the articles it published, because the most varied dealers and traders announced themselves there. Twice a month at first, it later appeared monthly, reaching its number 1,000 in July of 1993, a figure reached by only one other Spanish publication. At the present time it is being published by Isabel Bengoechea, one of the few philatelic magazines in the world under the direction of a woman.

In October 1945, and at the low price of 50 centimos a copy, there appears in Madrid the first number of Hoja Informativa Filatélica the publication of which lasted until 1950. It was a kind of newspaper and held little interest. It usually did not date nor number the issues, which contributed to much confusion. In one of its numbers it published an article about the bullfighter Albaicín who was a stamp collector. In another it informed about the appointment of two judges, one for Madrid, the other for Barcelona, whose special task was to be philatelic crime. It attacked a great number the Spanish philatelic irregularities of the period, giving rise to a colleague suggesting that it avoid the topic to preserve the prestige of national philately, to which it replied that its articles by no means caused the greatest loss of reputation but rather, speculating with certain doubtful issues that had not had postal use.

In 1950 there appeared in Granada, under the editorship of Francisco del Darro, the journal Alhambra which, though the organ of the Club Alhambra, could be acquired freely. It published a great number of advertisements (among these one advertising the Hotel Sexi of Almuñecar), a review of news, and notices without any interest. In one of its numbers it reports a call from the Madrid Philatelic Group, asking that the condition of repaired stamps be shown on a small poster.

In January 1952, a dynamic and inexperienced Catalan dealer, José Maria Vidal Torrens, initiated the publication of Sellos in Barcelona, with its last number appearing in December 1958. It published interesting studies about a number of topics, primarily addressed to the collector.

(79) Pseudonym of Francisco J. Rico.
(80) With this title there had appeared in 1946 a journal of the Asturian Philatelic Group in Oviedo, of brief duration but of varied and interesting content.
In November 1957, with the Sputnik having been launched just recently, it published a prophetic article by Francisco Aracil about what, in his view, could become a new topic: astrophilately. Some articles by that author, pointing out the ignorance of those responsible for the Philatelic Service in certain exhibitions(81) forced the director of the journal to go to Madrid to offer excuses to the head of the Philatelic Service, José María Francés. (This title had been utilised already in Zaragoza, in the year 1929.)

In 1958, managed by Emilio Fonollosa, there appeared in Barcelona Boletín Filatélico (a title made use of by a magazine published in Manzanares, in 1898) which disappears in December 1964, having published some five numbers per year.

In February 1961 there appeared in Valencia Cuadernos de Filatelia, a quarterly journal published by José María Gomis, an indefatigable philatelist, the creator of the prize that carries his name, awarded to the best philatelic studies and those who have sacrificed their time and money for philately. This publication changed its name in December of the same year to Correo Filatélico but in April 1967 was renamed Valencia Filatélica, languishing in its later years until it ceased publication with number 160, corresponding to October/December 1985. It was able to count on outstanding writers, publishing highly interesting and original studies about pre-philately, forgeries, blocks, information concerning modern issues, etc.

In July 1964 there appeared the first number of Tharsis, published in Madrid by José Pérez de Azor. It is a magazine especially for collectors and thus deals with whisky bottles, medals, numismatics, Sargadelos porcelain, weapons, and, of course, philately. Only five numbers were published, coming to an end in November 1964. In one of its numbers it published an article by the newspaper woman Pilar Urbano about the collection of the Duchess of Almazán. It is a journal not mentioned by Nathan and Gahl in their work, perhaps because it is not devoted solely to philately.

Dated January/February 1965 and as a special number, without any introductory remarks or prefatory greeting, there appeared in Barcelona Coleccionismo Filatélico. In January-February of the year 1966 it published its number 1 of year two. It ceased publication in March 1972, with its number 71.

In May 1965 there appeared Mundo Filatélico(82), published in Madrid by Arróniz & Balairón who, in their introduction declare that Mundo Filatélico appears with the desire to be a publication that deals as much as possible with subjects related to philately. In this monthly journal, which was to publish just thirteen numbers - the last being the June 1966, one could count on contributors of great prestige, and it published interesting articles on varying topics, as stated in its introduction.

(81) As an example of such ignorance there is the case of an exhibition of anti-tuberculosis stamps in where one saw stamps dealing with the liberation of France showing the cross of Lorraine, a national symbol.

(82) A title utilized in 1952 by a magazine from Cadiz.
In one of its numbers, and under the title *More spurious stamps*, it wrote *Where do these stamps come from?* Well, at times from abroad but still more so from right here: from Spain, dear readers. Let’s not blame the foreign countries. It is in Spain where the majority of counterfeit sets that exist are made, alluding to those of the Universal Postal Union Congress, Defence Council, and Journey to the Canary Islands.

Even though it is not of particular interest, as a matter of curiosity we wish to point out the *Semana Filatélica*, published on the 10th October 1966, in Granada by Francisco J. Rico(83) who only issued number 0, normally distributed free of charge but which was sold at the price of two pesetas(84). It was printed like a newspaper.

In September 1967 there appeared in Madrid *Revista de Filatelia. RF*, under the editorial direction of Ángel Laiz and with Pedro Arróniz as editor-in-chief, published by EDIFIL, a magazine that continues to be published regularly. This magazine is printed on excellent paper, permitting a better reproduction of the illustrations, and publishes interesting studies about several topics: pre-philately, maritime mail, cancellations, postal forgeries, aerophilately, postal history, etc. In March 1982 it initiated the publication of some postal studies about the Spanish civil war by Manuel Vázquez Enciso - the most complete and best documented which exists to date. As off-prints that can be bound, it has published among others the investigations of Martínez-Pinna about the stamps of Spain from 1931 to 1939; the work of Leocicio Mayo about how a stamps is made; that of Fernández Duro about facsimile reproductions; and finally the translation of the work by Friederich.

On the 10th January 1968, there appears in Madrid the fortnightly publication entitled *Actualidad Filatélica*, managed by Manuel F. Gálvez. Its last number covers the period January to April 1977 (it ceased to be fortnightly) and is number 127. In its final period Francisco Peñalba, a Madrid dealer, appears as its assistant manager.

In its introductory editorial it declared *We want Actualidad Filatélica to be a dynamic, friendly, active, courageous, useful, open publication ... that is, journalistic, fundamentally independent, part of the present, and philatelic*. It reproduced interesting studies, among these one about the Spanish set for submarine mail, and also several of the articles by Mateo Fernández published in the 1930s in *ABC*.

In 1973 another great lover of philately, Juan de Linares, unfortunately deceased, initiated in Barcelona the publication of *Los Papeles Filatélicos de LA CORNETA*, an ambitious project of a person who devoted a good deal of his time and money to the dissemination of philately. The first number corresponds to the months of January and February 1973; its last number published is the sixth, corresponding to November/December 1973. It was a very important and engaging publication that was more a book than a magazine. It is enough to point out that the first number contained 128 pages.

(83) He is the former publisher of *Alhambra*. Nathan and Gahl show J. F. Rice.
(84) Nevertheless, Nathan and Gahl say that the distribution was free of charge.
In October 1983, though without showing either a date or place, there appeared Cambio Filatélico, published by Eugenio Quesade, a publication of the newspaper type. In its editorial it claims that the title of the magazine will go further. It had varied writers and dealt with the philatelic treasure of the Spanish state, among other topics. In one of its numbers it reproduced a project about a miniature sheet for EXFILNA 85 to which Tierno Galván, the Madrid mayor, had given his approval. Eight stamps with an allusive vignette on the side were involved, reproducing the statue of Velázquez with the Prado Museum in the background. Only ten numbers were published.

In the month of July 1983 there appears Philos, published by AFINSA, under the editorship of Juan José Delgado. It could count on an editorial board with varied personalities, amongst them José Luis Cela Trulock, the brother of the two authors. It continues to be published, and in June 1993 number 21 has come out. It has a section devoted to philately.

In February 1984 there appeared in Pamplona number 1 of the Boletín Informativo y Cultural de Filatelia published by José Javier Sanz Irigoyen. It is a monthly magazine that continues in publication, having reached number 106, with interesting and diversified articles, though nonetheless it is not distributed widely and is not well known at all amongst philatelists.

In May 1984 there appears in Madrid a new, well-printed journal which reproduces many illustrations in colour, entitled Crónica Filatélica(85). Its first editor was Joaquín Amado, followed by Leoncio Mayo. It publishes most interesting works and studies as well as separate publications on interesting subjects. In the month of May 1993, it reached its number 100, having published initially a number 0, distributed free of charge.

AFINSAs, always concerned with art in all of its aspects, and with investments as well, published in May 1993 Coleccionismo with a section devoted to philately, edited with the quality that characterizes all the publications of AFINSA.

(85) Another journal with this title had appeared in Madrid in 1895.
C) SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

A description would be extensive and of little interest, as many of them deal only with affairs related to a given Society or information about coming exhibitions or new philatelic issues. Several are found mimeographed. Anyone wishing to know them all can find an account in the previously mentioned work by Nathan and Gahl, pages 436 to 454.

It is to be noted that some of these are true magazines of philatelic societies and can be acquired only by those who are members, while others, even though an organ of a society, can nevertheless be acquired by persons who are not members. Following this introduction we shall point out the most important ones chronologically.

In the year 1917 there appeared in Barcelona, Coleccionismo, the organ of the Club Universo, with three numbers only published, and which in 1918 changed its title to España Coleccionista(86), publishing only two numbers more before disappearing completely.

In 1918 the Boletín Oficial de la Asociación Filatélica Internacional came into being in Madrid, publishing a total of 24 numbers which were distributed gratis among the membership.

In 1919 there was published in Barcelona the Revista de la Sociedad de Filatelistas, edited initially by Agustín Piracés(87) and later by Ricardo de Lama, publishing a total of 62 numbers and disappearing in 1927.

In Madrid, in the year 1919, with Manuel Medrano as editor, there appeared Mundial Filatélico, the organ of the Sociedad Hispano-Lusitana, publishing five numbers only.

In the year 1926, in February, the first number of the Boletín del Círculo Filatélico y Numismático de Barcelona is published but ceases publication in 1927. Between 1955 and 1958 it reappears with the name Circular Informativa, rising once more between 1960 and 1965 with its original, i.e. 1926 title; and again, between 1972 and 1973 it is published with the name of Circular Informativa. In 1973 this dynamic Catalan Circle, through its Study Circle, begins the publication of Información de Filatelia e Historia Postal, of which it published five numbers. It has been one of the best Spanish philatelic journals due to the variety of its articles, the depth with which they were studied, and the originality of many of these. In the year 1977 it changed its name once more, calling itself Información de Filatelia y Numismática, under the guidance of the prestigious Catalan philatelists Colobrâns, and later Campderrós, specialists in postal history.

In 1932 there was published in Madrid the Boletín de la Unión Española de Coleccionistas, its first number being issued in September, but no further details about it are known.

(86) A title which will be used in 1960 by a journal widely offered for sale, an organ of the Philatelic Society of Madrid.
(87) Nathan and Gahl give the name as Piraces.
Between March 1933 and April 1935 the Boletín de la Sociedad Filatélica Aragonesa was published in Zaragoza. The Society published the Cuadernos de Divulgación Filatélica in 1948 and 1949.

In January 1941 there appeared number 1 of AFHA, an organ of the Asociación Filatélica Hispano-Americana, which, following its number 31 of December 1943, ceased publication until April 1945 at which time it reappeared with number 32, after more than a year of interruption, in larger size. In one of its numbers it informs about the detention of Juan de Rensis Marra in Malaga due to philatelic matters.\(^{88}\)

In the year 1946 there appeared in Barcelona Iberia Cultural Filatélica, published until October 1957 and distributed free of charge among the members, and exclusively to them. In January 1958 it joined Cambio y Correspondencia Internacional which had appeared in Zaragoza for the members of ITYCE which had a number of editors and was published later in Lerida, disappearing in May 1967.

The Philatelic Society of Seville published the Boletín de la Sociedad Filatélica Sevillana which has a fourth period from 1948 to 1958, according to Nathan and Gahl\(^{89}\). In the year 1978, and under the editorship of Ramón Cortés de Haro, it appeared as the voice of this Society, now called Atalaya Filatélica [Philatelic Watch-Tower], one of the most important society journals owing to the interesting studies it publishes, among these Zeppelin stamps and labels, Spanish railway cancellations, latticed numerals, the handstamp Por Vapor [by steam ship] of the Carlist wars, accounting for the different dates when used, and even some indications regarding rarity.

The Philatelic Group of Reus, with a great tradition and as publishers of the Guía del Coleccionista de Sellos de Correos de España [Collector’s Guide to the Postage Stamps of Spain] under the editorship of Tort Nicolau, published in 1950 its Boletín Informativo which disappeared the following year, returning once again in the decade of the sixties, disappearing finally in 1963.

The Valencian Society of Philatelists published Filigrana in January 1952, with the sub-title Revista Filatélica Internacional, a periodical issued every two weeks and of which just six numbers appear. It was edited by Enrique Fermín de los Ángeles, brother-in-law of Renato Critikian, and published some studies by the esteemed philatelist Senabre, among others, about the Habilitados por la Nación de España stamps. It also dealt with numismatics and with bookplates.

In the same year Mundo Filatélico appeared in Cadiz, publishing a total of twelve numbers and disappearing in November 1953\(^{90}\). It was edited by Juan Pérez Rodríguez.

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\(^{88}\) Antonio Alcalá states that he (Marra) had forged the stamps of the Defence Council and sold them in connivance with some tobacco and newspaper stands as genuine. (Discursos Académicos, 1992, Vol. III, pages 44-45.)

\(^{89}\) Ramón Cortés de Haro, president of the Society, when consulted, stated that the Society lacked all information concerning the three previous periods.

\(^{90}\) A magazine appeared in Madrid with the same title in 1965.
Between the years 1956 and 1960, the Gerona chapter of the Philatelic and Numismatic Circle of Barcelona published in Gerona the review *El Postillón* at irregular intervals, as is usual with these publications.

In March 1962 the Club Internacional Colón published *Información Filatélica*, edited by Roberto Martín, which continues to be published, though irregularly, as an organ of the European Philatelic Society. (Nathan gave it the number RF 143 but places it later in Zaragoza, Madrid, San Sebastian, and once more in Madrid, which is in error.) There was a period of six years without publication between 1968 and 1974, at which time it reappears with number 48.

In the year 1972 there appears on the 1st October *FESOFI*, the organ of the Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies, still in existence though irregularly issued, and mostly with information about the Federation and exhibitions. In its initial period it was very interesting, publishing studies about tramway cancelations, the 30-centimos stamps of the Catholic queen Isabella I, even about the counterfeit Quijote set, though taken from *La Revue Postale* of Brussels.

The Galician Federation of Philatelic Societies initiates in April 1976 the publication of *Porteo* (91), edited by Juan Ramón Díaz, publishing interesting studies, notably of postal history in reference to Galicia, Canary Islands, the Indies, stage-coaches, etc.

Its first number declared that after many years of privation Galicia can count once more on a philatelic publication (92). *Porteo* published an interesting study about the postal history of Galicia, Canary Islands, America, stage-coaches, royal post-houses, etc. Its last number is 35 which came out in March 1986.

In June 1976 the Spanish Aerophilatelic Society (SAE), with its seat in Barcelona, published the *Gaceta Aerofilatélica*, edited by Antonio Ripoll, publishing interesting information about this area of philatelic collecting until its disappearance.

One must stress, finally, the publication, in Madrid, of the *Boletín Informativo del Club Filatélico Agromán*, one of the best printed society journals, and of a convenient size. It began publication in the year 1978, and reached number 142 in December 1990, thanks to the efforts of José Gascón y Marín and others. It has published interesting studies about the railways and philately, amongst many others. It is a publication not mentioned by Nathan and Gahl.

Also, within the publications of limited circulation we have the Group of Naval Investigation which has published *Poseidón* since 1979 under the guidance of the tireless José Pedro Gómez-Agüero (93), still appearing at regular intervals with news about naval postal subjects and interesting studies about the same.

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(91) Nathan & Gahl call it *El Porteo*.
(92) Galicia had *Anunciador Timbrológico* in 1895; *El Anunciador* in 1896; *La Propaganda industrial Filatélica* in 1897; and *El Eco Filatélico Español* in 1938.
(93) Nathan & Gahl indicate Gómez-Guero by mistake.
*Temática Española* sees the light of day in 1980, in Oviedo, with F. Montero as editor, being the organ of the Spanish Association of Thematic (topical) Philately, and dealing with matters of so varied a field.

In the year 1982 the Philatelic Circle of El Ferrol publishes *Posta*, edited by Calvo Otero.
III CATALOGUES

GENERAL CATALOGUES

As we pointed out in the introduction, the first catalogue of Spain is published in Barcelona in the year 1864 by José Mª Vergés from Cardona, and which, rather than a catalogue, is a list of prices of the stamps issued in Spain until that date. Although later the catalogues improve and reproduce drawings of the stamps, they are really only price lists or, in any case, criteria of value as given by the editors. The proof of this fact is that the lists are published by philatelic dealers with some very rare exceptions. An authentic catalogue demands that a number of technical details be given for every issue, of varieties and defects in the printing, counterfeits, and many other aspects that are not covered in dealers’ lists; or, if perchance these are mentioned partially, in a specialised catalogue.

Plácido Ramón de Torres publishes in 1873 his universal catalogue of postage stamps in which, logically, appear the stamps of Spain, and which has the characteristic of reproducing for the first time some stamps on the front page of the same.

Though we are going to refer to catalogues published in Spain, we must mention the publication of the Catalogue of Postage Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, and Post Cards (94), published in London without a date though actually in the year 1878, by the Philatelic Society, [London] (today the Royal Philatelic Society [London]), the first true catalogue of Spanish stamps that appears in the world. As a curiosity we point out that in the section on stamped envelopes it refers to the controversial Carlist stamp of Cantavieja printed on the envelope (94a), those of the siege of Bilbao with the impression POR VAPOR which is absurd as the envelopes had to pre-pay postage, and the stamps for franking by Diego Castell for sending his work Cartilla Postal de España [Postal Notebook of Spain]. Nevertheless, despite lacking illustrations, it is very well documented.

In the year 1890 Leopoldo López (predecessor of Gálvez) publishes his Catálogo de Sellos de España. According to Nathan and Gahl, this is a first edition which consists of 64 pages, to be followed by a second in 1891 with 169 pages, a third edition in 1892, and a fourth in 1894. Our investigation leads us to different conclusions. As a matter of fact, what López calls Segunda edicion del Catálogo Descriptivo de los Sellos de Correos de España y Colonias, Organizado según la Reseña Histórico Descriptiva de los mismos Publicada de Real Orden bajo la Dirección de D. Antonio Fernández Duro, Jefe de Administración del Ramo de Correos (Second edition of the Descriptive Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Spain and Colonies, Organised in accordance with the Historical-Descriptive Report of the same, Published by Royal Decree and under the Direction of D. Antonio Fernández Duro, Chief of Administration of the Postal Branch) is printed in the year 1890.

(94) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly name it Spain and Colonies: 1850-1878.
(94a) The references concerning this stamp are of a historical nature. This very controversial stamp appears to belong to the Royal Army of Catalonia.

Proof of this fact is the copy preserved in the Postal Museum of Madrid, dedicated to Dr. Thebussem, on which the author has placed his personal cancelation, showing the date 8
SETI 90 [8th September 1890] and which contains 69 pages. Nor can one believe that the edition is previous to that date, as it includes sets from Cuba and other former colonies issued and sold in 1890. There is a statement in the Catalogue that it was awarded a silver medal at the Philippines Exhibition of 1887, making us suppose that the first edition is that of a previous date, or else that the author may have published it as an offprint from some magazine and later, in 1890, as a catalogue.

This Catalogue is interesting, and it must be noted that it assigns values to new and used stamps but only gives prices of those offered for sale, which are usually the most frequently seen, and in cancelled condition only.

This catalogue appears in 1896, under the name Gálvez who publishes it regularly. In the year 1898 it develops into a universal catalogue, the first published in Castilian, with the simple title of Catálogo Gálvez. Sellos de Correos y Telégrafos, indicating within that it is a Descriptive Catalogue, first edition of the Universal, and sixth of the Catalogue of Spain and Colonies. The classification is arranged in alphabetic order but the stamps of the different colonies are placed after those of the metropolis. This publication, intended to show the presence of Spain in the philatelic world, is not described by Nathan and Gahl who simply state that it is an offprint of the world catalogue, i.e. that the Gálvez catalogue of Spain and Colonies is a section only. He continued to print editions of the Universal, with the eleventh edition corresponding to the year 1922. In the years 1917, 1950-51, and 1954 he published catalogues exclusively of colonies and ex-colonies, with the 1950-51 edition being the most complete in existence to date. The last edition of the Spanish Catalogue is the 1962/63 one which, had it been numbered, should have been the 31st.

The nineteenth century comes to an end with the appearance of numerous catalogues. In 1892 we have one with the title Descripción de los Sellos de Comunicaciones de España by an anonymous author and published in Saragossa.

In 1891 Hermenegildo Prats publishes in Barcelona his Catálogo Ilustrado de Sellos de Correo de España which in 39 pages claims to describe all the varieties, colours, reprints, and fiscal stamps used postally, as well as all the cancellations and other evidence of annulment and counter-marks.

He has explanatory notes such as one calls used stamps those which, when in circulation are invalidated by means of a cancellation. He mentions curious facts such as the set of 1876 watermark castle, was printed in London under the auspices of the Stamp Society. In the matter of prices we can see that the two-reales of 1851 is valued by him at 500 pesetas, new as well as used, and the one of 1853 at 150 pesetas, new or used.

(95) At that time, it belonged to Miguel Gálvez, the father of Manuel Gálvez.
(96) Nathan and Gahl show 40, including one for publicity.
(97) Today, the 1851 stamp has a value of some 2,000,000 pesetas mint and 1,000,000 if cancelled, whilst the 1853 stamp is valued at approximately 1,000,000 and 300,000 pesetas, respectively.

He does not give a description of Dr. Thebussem’s franchise stamps, perhaps because these are labels applied to envelopes. He does deal with cancellations, indicating that there are mute
and talking ones, classifying among the former those which, even when including a word such as Franco or Annalato, do not show the postal origin of the letter. He furnishes a detailed description of the different Spanish cancellations in order to remove any doubts amongst collectors.

In 1896 Manuel Asenjo publishes in Madrid his Catálogo Descriptivo de los Sellos de Correos de España which he sold at 50 centimos and which came with illustrations of all the stamps issued up to that year. It was of pocket-size and had 32 pages. Also in the same year, there appears in Manila the Catálogo Descriptivo de los Sellos y Tarjetas Postales de las Islas Filipinas by Juan Mencarini who points out the varieties of postal cards he knows\(^\text{(98)}\).

In 1896 there appears in Barcelona, though without a date, the so-called Catálogo de Todos los Sellos de Correos ... emitidos en el Mundo hasta el día. Its author is Ricardo San Antonio, who explains that he is publishing this first edition as an essay, so as to correct any possible errors in a new edition, planned for 1897. Despite its title, he refers to the stamps of Spain along with possessions only. As a historical curiosity, he observes that the prices are in pesetas, francs, liras, or their equivalent in gold at 20 centavos\(^\text{(99)}\).

In 1897 Balbino Cotter who had published in Madrid the magazine El Coleccionista de Sellos in 1871 publishes in Manila, in collaboration with Francisco de Quinto, a catalogue of postage and telegraph stamps, and of postal cards as well, of the Philippines.

And, in the same year, in Madrid, Antonio Vives publishes his Catálogo de los Sellos de Correos y Telégrafos de España y Colonias which he sells at one peseta or 1.50 pesetas if bound. He combines as the same issue, the stamps of Cantavieja and of Vistahermosa, and reproduces the five franchise stamps of Dr. Thebussem. An original feature, he reproduces enlargements of forged and authentic stamps of the known philatelic forgeries, but since the reproductions are blurred and do not show the characteristics clearly, the result is unsatisfactory.

In 1898 there is published in Madrid the so-called Catálogo General de los Sellos de España y sus Colonias usados en Correos y Telégrafos desde 1850 a 1898\(^\text{(100)}\). It is published, as is stated in the catalogue, by L. Harris & Compañía, and sold at his establishment in Carmen Street at 75 centimos. The Catalogue contains nothing of particular interest.

\(^\text{(98)}\) Juan Mencarini was a philatelist, of a Spanish family, who for many years lived in the Philippines and in China.

\(^\text{(99)}\) Nathan and Gahl do not mention this catalogue.

\(^\text{(100)}\) Nathan and Gahl mistakenly say … desde 1850/98.
In the year 1900 Francisco Laguna publishes in Madrid the Catálogo General de los Sellos de España y sus Colonias usados en Correos y Telégrafos, bringing up to date Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines, which had separated from Spain in 1898. It is a catalogue without illustrations which renders it relatively impractical. The 6-cuartos stamps of 1850 and 1851 are valued at 4 pesetas if mint and 15 centavos if the copy is used.

If the nineteenth century ends with three new editions, the 20th begins with four distinct catalogues, all four being published in the year 1902. The first among these is the Catálogo de Sellos de España y Colonias published in Guipuzcoa by an unknown author whose first edition contains 30 pages, in contrast with the fifth, published in 1914, which contains 566 pages, according to Nathan and Gahl\(^{(101)}\).

The second is the Catálogo de los Sellos de España 1850 a 1901 with an edition of 25,000 copies, as it points out, published in San Sebastian by Joaquín Minondo, a dealer and head of the magazine El Progresista Filatélico which published six numbers. Two additional editions were printed in 1903 and 1905. In the year 1906 he publishes a new edition, the first in French, under the title of Catalogue de Timbres-Poste et Télégraphe de Espagne et Colonies de la Société Philatélique Internationale de San Sebastian\(^{(102)}\) which he sold at the price of one franc. A new edition in French appears in the year 1911 but no longer mentions the Société Philatélique. Both these editions were compiled totally in French except for the preface which came in Spanish and the conditions of sale which were in both languages.

The last edition does not include the commemorative set for the third centennial of Don Quijote de la Mancha, issued in Madrid only and to be used for interior franking between May 1 and 15, 1905, adding that This issue is purely speculative, and its value is subject to fluctuation.

The third catalogue is the Catálogo de los Sellos de España, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Filipinas y Fernando Poo, the work of the Madrid Philatelic Circle, limited to one edition, with 64 pages and nine copper-plates.

The fourth, with 200 pages, is entitled Catálogo Regulador Ilustrado de Compra y Venta de los Sellos de Correos, Telégrafos y Fiscales de España y Colonias, the work of García Ceballos, the publisher of ElColeccionista de Sellos. In its introduction, To the Curious Reader, he stresses the great need of Spanish philately of a catalogue that must be more than a plain price list, which is what this kind of publications usually are in this country and abroad. As a matter of fact, we are dealing with a very complete work. He establishes the prices he considers fair for each stamp, and as a guarantee of his evaluation he commits himself to purchase the stamps in question at 75% of the prices quoted; a discount he regards as a logical gain of the object in the transaction involved. In 1903 he published a second edition with 208 pages.

\(^{(101)}\) We have not found this fifth edition but believe that the number of pages mentioned is in error, taking into account that the 1993 edition of the EDIFIL catalogue has only 293 pages.

\(^{(102)}\) Nathan and Gahl call it Catalogue de Timbres Poste et Télégraphes d'Espagne et Colonies.
A curious fact, for which he gives no explanation whatsoever, is the following: The Spanish issue of 1875 is characterised by having printed on the back, in large blue, framed numbers the position the stamp occupies in the sheet from 1 to 100. Evidently there must exist an equal number of stamps, so that their value must logically be identical. Now then, the 2 centavos he values normally at ten centimos, but if it is copy no. 17 its value is given at 55 centimos, and if the number is 27 he estimates its value at 70 centimos\(^{(103)}\). Why these differences? No one knows. But the oddity is that the study he makes of the 100 stamps he justifies by analogy with the study of England, with the plate positions, confusing the position of the stamp with the issues of different plates.

In Barcelona José Monge had been publishing his *Precio Corriente* since 1900, in which he showed the stamps he had for sale of both Spain and her Colonies, and pointing out in some cases the price of large quantities. Thus, in the case of the six cuartos of 1851, cancelled, we find these prices: 0.10 pesetas per stamp, 0.90 pesetas for ten, 7.50 pesetas for 100, and 70 pesetas for one thousand. In 1915 he publishes his *Catálogo de Sellos de Correos, Telégrafos y Fiscales*. He usually gives only the type of the stamp, without varieties nor errors except for the one he calls inverted centre\(^{(104)}\) 12 cuartos of 1865, both perforated and imperforate. He does not include in his catalogue the stamps of the Exposition of Industries in Madrid of 1907 nor the franchise ones of Dr. Thebussem, as these are not truly stamps but a visible impression of a canceller.

In the year 1916 Francisco del Tarré publishes in Barcelona his *Catálogo de los Sellos de España Colonias Ex-Colonias emitidos hasta la fecha*. In 1920 he publishes a second edition which includes postal cards, of which part he later made an offprint. In the year 1935 he publishes his *Catálogo Básico de los Sellos de España*, with new editions until the year 1942. In 1945, he changes the title to read *Catálogo Especializado de los Sellos de España* the last edition of which he published in 1956 and which appears simultaneously with the *Catálogo Básico de los sellos de Colonia y Oficinas Españolas en el Extranjero*, which he published in 1941, 1943, 1947, and 1953.

In the year 1920, on the occasion of the Congress of the Universal Postal Union celebrated in Madrid, the so-called *Catálogo de los Sellos de Correos y Telégrafos de España y sus Colonias* is published and is accorded official character. It is merely a special edition, under that name, of the Gálvez catalogue of Spain and its Colonies, printed furthermore at La Rafa\(^{(105)}\).

In the year 1921 Gálvez published what he termed *Catálogo Especial* which today we would call a Specialised Catalogue, of Spain and its Colonies. It was so well received that in 1923 he published a new edition in two parts, of which only the first, comprising Spain (with commemorative cancellations, proofs and essays, fiscal and university stamps, etc.) and Colonies then existing, was printed. A second part would be composed of the former Colonies, lost as a result of the war with the United States in 1898.

\(^{(103)}\) All this without the excessively valued stamps showing any variety or printing defect.
\(^{(104)}\) In reality it is the frame that is inverted.
\(^{(105)}\) A printing press in the name of Dña Rafaela Reol, the wife of Manuel Gálvez.
The Catálogo Especial of 1923 is the most complete made in Spain, and is also the most conclusive in the matter of our colonial stamp issues until then. It reproduces and identifies several types of the overprints used in Fernando Po, Guinea, Río de Oro, and Morocco, and points out many varieties and printing defects in stamps, which for inexplicable reasons no other catalogue in Spain has dealt with subsequently.

In the year 1950 he produced a special edition on the occasion of the centennial of our first postage stamp, and in 1960 he published his Catálogo Especializado which he regards as the 25th edition of those published, and which is the next-to-last of those published by the Firm of Gálvez. It includes many of the overprints classified as patriotics, also the local surcharged stamps, preceded by the letter R if these apply to Republican Spain. The catalogue was reprinted in the year 1970.

The Civil War results in the interruption of the catalogues that were being produced in Spain. Some of these disappear forever and others, new ones, come into existence. The latter incorporate at first only the stamps issued by the authorities in their zone, ignoring the stamps of other zones.

In 1938 Juan Marra initiates the publication or his catalogues of the stamps of Spain and its Colonies, or of Spain exclusively, known as the Catálogos OFILMA(106), with the first of these covering National-Syndicalist Spain. The fourth and last edition corresponds to 1941/42.

Between 1938 and 1939 the journal Boletín Filatélico Español publishes in San Sebastian the Catálogo General de Sellos de Correos de España, consisting of the sections 16, 17, and 18 of that journal, dated November and December 1938 and January 1939, respectively. In it, not a single one of the stamps issued under Republican control appears, whilst the surcharged patriotics of the zone under Franco stand out. As a curiosity we note that the controversial set of the 1907 Exposition of Industries in Madrid is listed, with all the stamps valued at five centimos, regardless of their face value(107).

With the civil war concluded, there appears in the year 1940(108) the Catálogo Mancheño de los Sellos de Correos de España, antiguas Colonias, Colonias y Protectorados, published in Renteria (Province of Guipuzcoa) in which for the first time, are listed the stamps of both zones, and also giving an account of the fiscal stamps that have been used postally. It gives very authoritative and interesting information.

(106) OFILMA was the abbreviation of the Oficina Filatélica de Málaga (Philatelic Office of Malaga.)
(107) These stamps were in circulation for approximately a month and had franking power for mail circulating only within the ambit of the Exposition, located in the Retiro Park, Madrid.
(108) The front page shows the year 1939 and San Sebastian; the inside specifies 1940 and Renteria.
In 1941, we find the first edition or catalogue published by Ricardo de Lama, later followed by annual editions, the last of pocket-size and with the stamps shown in full colour, based or the numbering of Yvert.

In that same year, the Hispano-American Philatelic Association (AFHA) publishes its Catálogo AFHA de los Sellos de España 1850-1940\(^{(109)}\), sponsored by the Youth Front of the Phalanx of Barcelona. When foreigners receive our stamps, as stated in the introduction, they will feel fondness toward this Nation which carried civilisation across the seas and gave a religion - the true one - and a language - Spanish - to half the world. Despite its small size and artless presentation, it was an interesting catalogue due to data regarding postal history, pre-philately, cancellations, etc.\(^{(110)}\).

In 1944 the Madrid dealer Renato Critikín publishes the first edition of his Catálogo de España y Colonias, an edition which he repeated for four years and which was becoming very popular among collectors because it has some really fair prices. Of the Spanish Colonies he published four editions. His success moves another Madrid dealer, Manuel Hevia, to publish in 1947 his Catálogo de España y Colonias, participating in the market that had acquired the previous publication, and also publishing several editions, the last being that of 1957. Of both size and press-work quite similar, their prices did not differ a great deal either from each other\(^{(111)}\). He also published catalogues of Colonies and Ex-Colonies, the last edition being that of 1957.

In the year 1964 appears the Catálogo EDIFIL de los Sellos de España y Colonias, with a new edition each year, reproducing the stamps in colour and issuing every few years a specialised edition. At the present time they are printing what may well be termed a super specialised work for the period 1850 to 1900.

The EDIFIL catalogue with its numeration and criteria for classification all of its own, had a great deal of success among Spanish collectors, and is a reference work utilised by foreign auctioneers.

Years later, two other very popular Madrid dealers, Francisco Peñalba in 1962\(^{(114)}\) and José Vicenti later, publish their own catalogues.

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\(^{(109)}\) Nathan and Gahl indicate in error 1850-Dic 31/1941 as stated on an inside page, but in reality the year is 1940.

\(^{(110)}\) For instance, in cataloguing the set or the Exposition of Industries of Madrid in the year 1907, it says that the plates of the issue were sold to the foreign dealer Adalberto Szekula.

\(^{(111)}\) In those days the prices were fairly generous and varied, rising from year to year, so collectors eagerly awaited the appearance of the catalogues in September.

**Translator’s note:** There are no footnotes (112) and (113) in the original text.

\(^{(114)}\) The first edition by Peñalba, of 1962, mistakenly shows it as the fourth edition.
his Catálogo NETO: Spain – Postage and Telegraph Stamps 1850-1968, which was very simple. Later, it published a new catalogue with the title Catálogo NETO: Spanish Pre-philately and Philately 1700-1970, which had the originality to relate by categories the pre-philatelic marks then known, to which 81 pages are dedicated, in front of the 91 pages dedicated to stamps. The pre-philatelic section unlike that of the stamps, didn’t appear with any values.

**SPECIALISED CATALOGUES**

They customarily limit themselves either to a period or to a certain type of Spanish philately. The Spanish Civil War began, to a certain extent, the publication of some specialised catalogues limited to the stamps issued by the authorities of its territory.

So in 1938, Ángel Jiménez published in Bilbao his Catalogue of the Stamps of Nationalist Spain with few pages, understandably, because there were few stamps in circulation. That same year, Juan Marra, published in Malaga the Catalogue of the Stamps of the Post Office of Spain Issued After the 17th July 1936, limited to the stamps from the Franco controlled region. A second edition of the catalogue exists from the year 1939.

The stamps with a surcharge for the City Council of Barcelona, in order to cover the expenses of the Universal Exhibition of 1929, and which stopped being used in December of 1945, are the subject of a catalogue by Francisco del Tarré in 1946. That same year Gálvez published one on the same subject.

The subject of special postmarks is the object of various catalogues. So we have the Catalogue of Special Postmarks and Postal Markings 1944-48 from Ediciones Ortín of Valencia, without a date, but including in its pages such markings up to the date of the 29th August 1948, and reproducing all of them in colour.

In August of 1948, and also in colour, Difusiones Panfilatélicas de Lérida published The Catalogue of Approximate Prices of Special Spanish Marks and Postmarks 1944-1948.

In Valencia, José Mª Gomis published in 1950 his Catalogue of Special Postmarks and Marks of Spain, with a second edition in 1953, a third edition in 1968, and new editions in 1970, 1972, and 1978, with the addition of the marks and postal marks relative to our colonies. Gomis is also the author of The Catalogue of Propaganda Postmarks, 1900-1982, in which are reproduced all that are known, and he gives the criteria for classifying and presenting them in albums.

In 1958, Alert y Pobla published in Barcelona, its Catalogue of Special First-Day Postmarks, Air Mail and First Flight Cancellations of Spain and Colonies 1940-1957, with annual supplements in order to bring them up to date. The postmarks are reproduced in black and white and as a side note, we should emphasise that itcatalogues some of the many private commemorative marks of old air flights which appeared in the Barcelona Sunday Queralt.

(Other works concerning Spanish postmarks, of great importance, are the more advanced studies treated under the works of Spanish authors.)

Even though the stamps of Andorra had hardly awakened the interest of collectors, Francisco
del Tarré published in Barcelona in 1953 his *Catalogue of the Stamps of Andorra: Spanish and French Offices*, which was only 16 pages long. In 1957, the Madrid dealer, José Delgado, published the *Specialized Catalogue of the Stamps of Andorra (Spanish and French Post Offices)*, in which he describes some of varieties of Spanish stamps, and the deluxe proofs of the French.

The interest in the stamps of Andorra was already increasing, so that in 1977 Abad in Andorra published his first edition of the *Catalogue of the Stamps of Andorra*, which he updates each year, indicating all of the varieties of both the Spanish and French Offices. It is written entirely in Catalan, which is the official language of Andorra.

The fanciful issues of the Canaries during our civil war were the subject of a small catalogue titled the *Catalogue of the Stamps of the Canaries*, a work by Emilio Aurioles, published in 1968 as a supplement to number 1 of the *Actualidad Filatélica*. Small in size, but large in content, it gave a lot of information about these issues, the composition of blocks, varieties, etc. On the same date, José Vicenti published his *Specialized Catalogue. The Canaries. Air mail issues 1936-38*, with a better presentation, but without bringing anything new to the subject.

The debated Military Franchise stamps of our war of Melilla at the end of the last century was the subject of a small catalogue in 1968, a work by Emilio Aurioles, entitled *Spain, Military Franchise*. It’s made up of a pocket-sized pamphlet of 20 pages. This was the subject of a new paperback edition in 1979, reproducing many stamps in sheets in colour and with interesting information about how to collect these franchise stamps.

Taking advantage of the interest which collectors had shown in collections called thematic, but are better defined by design, Vidal Torrens in Barcelona published in the 50s some catalogues of sports, flora and fauna stamps, which had great success. Although not properly part of Spanish philately, we don’t want to touch upon these further, because they helped to foment interest in these types of collections, in our country, as much as in philately.

**OTHER CATALOGUES**

Other catalogues exist, which are not usually considered as being commercial, are those that are of stamp auctions. While there is more interest in the stamps themselves, than in pictures of stamps, it is necessary to emphasize that some catalogues of auction sales can not only be considered worthy of representation in a philatelic library, but also ought to be present in the same. So we have in Spanish catalogues, magnificent illustrations, dedicated exclusively to the 6 cuartos of 1850, to the acreage of the Canaries, to the seals of General Franco, to the overloaded patriotic issues, as well as others of a general character but which reproduce from time to time really extraordinary philatelic pieces and postal history.

Other catalogues which we can’t forget about, are those which are published on the occasion of philatelic exhibitions. Although the majority lack interest, occasionally catalogues are published that include interesting postal studies or that contain a description of more-interesting exhibited pieces. In this sense, we want to emphasize that of the exhibition of the 25th anniversary of FEFOSI, which was held in Madrid in 1988, in which each exhibitor placed the most interesting pieces of their collection on view and provided a brief description of the same.
This system was followed by the EXPOFIL 89 in commemoration of the 4th Centenary of Maria Pita, celebrated in Coruna in September of 1989, and also by the Exhibition of the Centenary of the stamp of Pelon which was held in Madrid in October of 1989, it is to be desired that this example continues to spread among organizers of future exhibitions.
IV. Works by Spanish Authors

The first references to philatelic-postal studies can be found in two works of Mariano Pardo de Figueroa, better known as Dr. Thebussem, and sometimes referred to as E. D. Aleman (114). Entitled Kpankla (115), published in 1870, and Klentron, published the following year, they went on to become, in 1876, his Literatura Philatélica en España: Apuntes para la redacción de un Catálogo [Philatelic Literature in Spain: Notes on Compiling a Catalogue], in which he makes welcome comments on legal issues. At a time when the philatelic literature available in our country was rather scarce, only two philatelic journals came and went.

But before continuing it would be useful to examine, however briefly, the aforementioned author. He was regarded as one of the forerunners of Spanish philatelic literature, a Cervantes specialist, a highly regarded gourmet (116) and an expert on a wide variety of subjects, writing in a distinctive witty style. One of his obessions involved struggling for years to get the post card introduced in Spain, eventually publishing his own cards (117), some of which circulated through the postal system with an additional 5 centime stamp, subsequently becoming great rarities.

His work had great value, made more significant when one realizes that at the time there existed no methods of making photocopies. Therefore, all of his work had to be copied by hand. We should also keep in mind the difficulties in communication at the time, which could hold up the exchange of information for months.

Many of his works appear in compilations with others, such as Miss Alba Terry, Eduardo de Mariategui, Eduardo de Capelastegui and Navasquíes. It should come as no surprise that, in an age where the telephone did not exist, the practice of writing epistles was very common, and many articles were published in this form.

His most interesting philatelic topics can be found published in the form of letters in the El Averiguador, a periodical from the last century, and one of the most interesting and curious to have been printed.

Finally, one very important aspect to point out about him was his careful attention to language, always using the appropriate word and the correct syntax. And this was at a time when politicians, publishers and writers generally tried to use correct Spanish, with actual results to the contrary.

(115) The title is taken from an inscription on the wall of a village in Seville. Upon questioning what it meant, the answer given was Capánealá, or whitewashed limestone.
(116) According to him, he could tell the right thigh of a partridge from the left.
(117) It was said that The Government went out of their way to issue Doctor Thebussem permits for this run (May, 1873) for his own use and to give to his friends.
The previously mentioned works do not cover strictly philatelic topics, but rather the use of terminology (whether to call something a stamp, a franking, to attribute it to the post office, or other agency of communications, etc.), or they offer a study of the foreign philatelic journals of the day\(^{(118)}\), at a time when there had yet to be any published in Spain. In one of his chapters, he examines the reasons behind stamp collectors being scarce, attributing the cause to legal stipulations, citing the Royal Order of the 18\(^{th}\) November 1860 that prohibited the resale of stamps, classifying such an act as smuggling, and the 27\(^{th}\) May 1862 Circular\(^{(119)}\) that proclaimed that when a letter or document, even when sealed, appeared to contain used stamps, it would be opened, and if stamps were found, sent to the Director of the Post, with the sender being charged under the law.

Before we continue, and although the study of our stamps can be limited to a particular period of time, we should focus the study on those of a certain date or subject.

**GENERAL WORKS**

The first work exhibiting such characteristics that we come across is called *Apuntes para la Historia y Descripción de los Sellos de Correos, Telégrafos y Tarjetas Postales Emitidas en España y sus Posesiones de Ultramar* [Guide to the History and Description of Postage Stamps, Telegraphs and Postal Cards Issued by Spain and Her Overseas Possessions], published in Zaragoza in the year 1879 by Esteban Argilés. It was a short 58 page work, plus an additional 14 pages outside of the text.

Looking beyond this short reference book, we should point out that besides such general works, we find three influential texts pertaining to the study of Spanish stamps, one of which also covers former colonies. They are written, chronologically, by Fernández Duro, Tort Nicolau and Martínez-Pinna.

In 1881, *Antonio Fernández Duro* published his *Reseña Histórico-Descriptiva de los Sellos de Correo de España* [A Historic-Descriptive Summary of the Postage Stamps of Spain] which, in spite of the title, also reviews the issues of the Antilles, Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Fernando Po up to that point, and not just their stamps, but also postal cards, He writes in the prologue: *Although there are already many stamp collectors in Spain, we can join them simply by studying these tiny pieces of paper that detail the progression of international communication, advance the arts, the development of the postal system and a thousand other particulars ... until now, collections of Spanish stamps lacked the main component necessary to reasonably and systematically organize them.*

He points out that albums printed in foreign countries would be full of errors *easily incurred if one were simply looking at a stamp without knowing the official measures resulting in the issue of it.*

\[\text{(118) See the previously cited work *Periódicos Filatélicos de España* in his Cuarta Ración de Artículos.}\]

\[\text{(119) Thebussem called it an Order.}\]
He goes on to say that these various [official measures] are discussed, although some issues had circulation greater than intended and it was difficult to track down some of them, it is therefore not surprising that Mr. J. B. Moens\(^{120}\), a very competent specialist in this area, who has had the postal history of many European nations published, was not able to write the one about our country.

He published many writings considered to be essential to the study of postage stamps and their use. He describes each issue, reproduces a drawing of each stamp and points out the different values and colours of each of them. He indicates which have been forged, describing the denominations and characteristics of the forgeries.

He deals with overprints, or surcharges as he calls those of Habilitado por la Nación, resulting from the September 1868 Revolution which overthrew Isabel II, what denotes each type, the height and width of the letters, and the separation of each letter and line of type with respect to the others.

He mentions the Por Vapor [By Steamship] marking used during the siege of Bilbao in 1873, during the Second Carlist War, reproducing the notes of the Junta de Comercio de Vizcaya [The Commercial Assembly of Vizcaya] which established this maritime service, and making many comments concerning the event.

It is very interesting that the staff of the Cuenta General del Estado [General Accountant of State] from the first years of use of Spanish postage stamps recorded the different quantities of each value, of those sold, of those used, of those returned. Although several dates are mentioned in the Anales de las Ordenanzas de Correos de España [Annals of the Ordinances of Spanish Stamps], with the publication of his third book in 1880, Fernández Duro had established himself among collectors.

He devotes several pages to a description of the different frankings used by the Congress and Senate, providing reproductions and listing the period during which each one was used.

Everything is further enhanced with stories and anecdotes. In spite of dating from the 19\(^{th}\) Century, the Century of enlightenment, this was an dark period in Spanish history. Fernández Duro hints in his work, for example, of the dangers of moistening the gum on stamps, as doing so could cause small cuts on one’s tongue, and he advises first wetting the envelope and then affixing the gummed stamp to it.

He discussed the alleged Philippine first issue of stamps in the year 1847, giving as much information as possible, with quotations from Rondot, Moens and García Mauriño, amongst others, providing the reader with references to works on this subject, and their location.

\(^{120}\) The famous Belgian dealer who studied and published works on the stamps of the majority of European countries.
Fernández Duro, Jefe de Negociado de 2\textsuperscript{a} clase del Correo Central [Supervisor of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Class Department of the Central Post Office], goes on to say that considering the usefulness of the book ... His Majesty the King (q.D.g.)* has authorized the publication of the book mentioned ... and that he bestowed, for a period of six months the use of a special franking. He reproduces the franking in his book, and says that it is the only privately created stamp legally used in the Peninsula. (It is extremely rare today), he adds\textsuperscript{(121)}.

Given the great interest in this book by the Spanish philatelic world, EDIFIL published a reprint, a supplement to the Revista de Filatelia between November of 1981 and April of 1983.

The second great work by a Spanish author was published in Reus with the title Guía del Coleccionista de Sellos de Correos de España [The Stamp Collectors’ Guide to the Postage Stamps of Spain], published by the Grupo Filatelico de Reus, but whose author is Dr. Tort Nicolau, a medical doctor whose passion for philately started when he was young and who was the alma mater of this magnificent work. The aforementioned Dr. Tort appears at the end of the first volume as a contributor, signs the epilogue to the second volume, and as author of the third and final one.

The three volumes cover the periods 1850-1854, 1855-1869 and 1870-1900, respectively. He possibly intended to continue the work, but his death in 1950, when the third volume was in the process of being published, prohibited this from happening and established him as the architect of this influential work.

The first volume was published in instalments beginning in January of 1935, but was halted by the Civil War, and completed in the year 1942, for the suggested price of 75 pesetas, which was very expensive at the time. The second volume was published in 1945, and the third in 1950.

The first lacked organization and we see that after studying the issues from the years 1850, 1851, 1852, and 1853, and those from the mail from Madrid, he further examines the 1850 issue with an extended chapter of notes comprising 162 pages, when the original was only 50. The other two volumes are in the correct order chronologically.

All of the issues are studied in as much detail as was possibly known, including information on proofs, essays, quantities sold, printing defects, varieties or errors, forgeries, known cancellations, existing laws concerning particular issues, and any interesting dates having to do with an issue. Stamps and cancellations are reproduced in their actual colour, and each chapter ends with an appraisal of each example, which in the last volume is replaced by an index of rarity.

\* \textit{Translator’s note:} que Dios guarde (whom God protect).

(121) A stamp that never achieved the category of a rarity, and that can be purchased for about 3,000 pesetas, new, and for much less used.
It was an amazing work, full of interesting facts, and after its first print run, was republished by Filatelia Llach in order to make it available to new generations of collectors. The Royal Philatelic Society, London awarded it the Crawford Medal, which is given every two years to the best philatelic work in the world.

The third great work of Spanish philatelic literature carries the modest title of Manual de las Emisiones de los Sellos de España [Manual of the Issues of the Stamps of Spain] and its author is Álvaro Martínez-Pinna. It also comprises three volumes, quite impressive in spite of being printed in only black and white, and being published as inserts in the Revista de Filatelia which was published by EDIFIL.

The work encompasses the years 1931 to 1939. The first volume is limited to the stamps of the Republican era and was finished at the end of 1986. The second volume considers the war-time Republican issues, and the third covers the issues of the designated Nationalist zone of that same period of time. The second volume was finished at the end of 1988, and the third at the end of 1990.

Álvaro Martínez-Pinna, who knew the history of Spanish philately like no other, organizationally and methodically wrote a historical introduction to each one, transcribes a great deal of legislation, much of it generally unknown to collectors, such as that referring to the flights of the Zeppelin and its postal tariffs, the routes of Spanish air mails, the different Spanish postal tariffs, etc.

He details the legislation relating to each postal issue, describing the different characteristics of each issue, known varieties, perforation varieties, proofs, essays, known forgeries and errors, and a description of how to identify them from each other and a wealth of detail on the different types of postmarks used during the different eras.

In the first volume he does a thorough study of stamps with overprints of the Spanish Republic of Almeria, Barcelona, Madrid, Tolosa and Valencia, reproducing interesting documents that allow the reader to become familiar with the numbers of authentic Almerian stamps.

In order to cover the stamps of the designated Nationalist zone, he tells the history of the Año Julíbar Compostelano de 1937 peseta with the inverted centre, which was made especially for a well-known collector, and printed exclusively in Logrono, in order to create a monopoly, and that when the collector went to collect their orders, several stamps that had been sold to members of the Italian troops that fought with Franco were missing, among them those used to frank their letters.

The work of Martínez-Pinna was a PhiliteX '92 award-winner, in the most important exhibition of world philatelic literature, taking a gold medal and a second Grand Prize at the Exhibition.

(122) Including the philatelic underworld, which has always been very important in Spain.
(123) We refrain from using surcharge, although it has already appeared in the D.R.A.E. [Diccionario de la Real Academia Española.]
This leaves for last, two works that cover the diverse issues of Spanish stamps. The first of these is the *Historia de los Sellos de Correos y Telégrafos de España* [History of the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Spain], published in Madrid in the year 1901, and written by Miguel Aleñá, first editor of *Madrid Filatélico*, dedicating 160 pages to Spanish stamps put into circulation during the 19th century.

The second of the works is the *Historia del Sello Postal Español* [History of Spanish Postage Stamps] published in Bilbao during the years 1982 and 1984, written by Montalbán y Cuevas. It is made up of five volumes, which cover the following periods, respectively: 1850-1874, Alfonso XII and Alfonso XIII, the Spanish Republic, 1936-1949, and the Second Centenary. This last one covered 1950 to 1957. The work failed to generate interest, its biggest downfall being that the illustrations showed off-centre stamps and used stamps with heavy cancellations, mostly from modern, easily acquired sets. Choosing unused, well-centred, full colour stamps would have cost the same to print, and given a much better impression.

There remains, to the reader, an important period of time not otherwise represented by major works. From 1900, when the work of Dr. Tort Nicolau was completed, to 1930, when that of Martínez-Pinna had not yet been started, is a period of time of some interest. Thirty years that, like the famous characters of Pirandello, is searching for an author.

**SPECIALIZED WORKS**

Setting aside Dr. Thebussem’s writings, the first specialized work that we come across is that written by Francisco Carreras y Candi. Published in Barcelona in the year 1903, *Las Tarjetas Postales en España* [Postal Cards in Spain], consists of 110 pages, in which there are twelve pages of illustrations.

In studying the catalogues published in previous years, such as the one published by Francisco del Tarré in 1920, we see the common style of stamp catalogues. In 1973, he uses facsimiles for the section on postal cards.

In the same year, Antonio Cotter published a catalogue dedicated exclusively to Spanish postal cards, including private issues, post cards, and stamped envelopes, issued on the occasion of the Centenary of our first postal card.

In Barcelona, in 1981, Francisco Graus, José Mª Sempere, José Soler and Ricardo Viñas published the *Catálogo de Enteros Postales de España y sus Dependencias Postales* [Catalogue of the Postal Stationery of Spain and its Dependencies], which was the most important and thorough work published up to that point.

(124) *Revista de Filatelia* began publishing in October of 1993 the study of the 1901 to 1930 issues, written by Álvaro Martínez-Pinna.
It was only ever surpassed in the section relating to Spain (and excluding aerogrammes) by Javier Padín’s work entitled Enteros Postales de España (1873-1973) [Postal Stationery of Spain (1873-1973)], which was published in 1990 by the Dirección General de Correos [General Post Office]. In it, he describes countless varieties and errors of our postal cards.

There were a number of works published in Spain dedicated to individual issues. The first of these appeared in Madrid in 1924. It is Julián Zuazo’s El Sello Seis Cuartos 1850 [The 6 Cuarto Stamp of 1850], in which, under the title Ex-libris he published several pages of the history of stamps and of the mails. In it he says In Egypt, priests and pharaohs since 47,000 before Christ, (sic) had couriers delivering written and verbal messages on foot. He states that his work didn’t actually present any information that wasn’t already known, but because the English writings of Griebert were rather questionable, and the works of Ruiz de Arcaute weren’t actually published, they were only familiar amongst his colleagues, he decided to publish his. He continues by studying 35 varieties of the Type II, with 5 in great detail. He reproduces the commonly known postmarks of the 6 cuartos, and the great lot Gálvez sold in a Belgian auction consisting of 195 copies of Type I, made up of 13 rows of 15 specimens from the 17 rows which make up a sheet.

Upon seeing that Zuazo had reproduced part of his work, Ramón Ruiz de Arcaute published El Sello de 6 Cuartos Negro de España de la Emision de 1st de Enero de 1850, [The 6 Cuartos Black Stamp of Spain of the Issue of the 1st January1850], the same year, in which he summarizes the varieties that Griebert covers in detail, and includes his own drawings. It is a very short, although very important, work of only 45 pages.

We now arrive at the year 1940(125), in which Antonio de Guezala published under the imprint of the Grupo Filatélico de Bilbao, [a book] with the title 6 Cuartos 1850. The title was formed using the upper and lower parts of the stamp, and the subtitle Planchas, Defectos y Retoques, Matasellos [Plates, Flaws and Retouches, Postmarks]. The book was written in Spanish, French, English and German, and consisted of 355 very well explained pages, and more than 2,500 illustrations.

In his preface, the author, in order to emphasize the name of Hugo Griebert, states that, with a show of gratitude and admiration, we are obligated to lead off our book with the name of this distinguished British philatelist.

His master work THE STAMPS OF SPAIN 1850 TO 1854 (London, 1919) awakens our enthusiasm for the 6 CUARTOS 1850 and gives some indication of the extraordinary philatelic interest surrounding this stamp and the direction to take to study it. It seems daring to wish to build upon the great legacy Griebert left upon his death, and to, subsequently, amend some of his theories, but later investigations have supported this, and we, his humble disciples have thought it necessary to divulge these rare discoveries.

(125) The binding indicates 1940, and the inside, 1936. There are other bindings that don’t indicate 1940, which we can assume to be from 1936.

He continues with some words of thanks to Ruiz de Arcaute who, upon learning of the idea for the book, supported it with philatelic enthusiasm. Mr. Hugo Griebert showed us the way,
and Ruiz de Arcaute followed conscientiously and unwaveringly, thereby enriching the masters' work.”

Guezala’s book is extraordinary, possibly the most comprehensive that exists on the first Spanish postage stamp.

Other works dedicated solely to a single stamp or issue are Estudio de la Emisión de 1865 [Study of the 1865 Issue], by Luis de Blas, published in 1962, Estudio sobre el Sello de Homenaje al Ejército Emitiido de 1939 [Study of the Armed Forces Tribute Stamp Issue of 1939] in 1969 by Peyró and Martínez-Pinna; in 1970, Estudio de la serie de Correo Aéreo La Cierva, Emisión Fournier de Burgos (1939), [Study of the Cierva Airmail Series, Fournier de Burgos Issue (1939)] by José Mª Gomis and Martínez-Pinna, and in the same year, Estudio de los Sellos Urgentes de 1937 [Study of the Express Stamps of 1937] by Guillermo Peyró and Isidro Payá.

In 1987, Los Sellos del General Franco de Perfil [The General Franco Profile Stamps], by Francisco Aracil, was published. Examples of this work are rare and limited to non-commercial editions. It covered type varieties, errors, printing defects, etc. (126).

In 1921, Pedro Monge started publication of his writing on Spanish cancellations. He entitled the volume Matasellos Españoles [Spanish Cancellations], and presented a study of postmarks used to cancel stamps on Spanish mail between 1850 and 1869. It was enhanced by transcriptions of several circulars and decrees. Monge continued this work for a number of years, particularly after 1945, when he focused his study on the early philately of different Spanish regions and populations.

There was an extensive study of the cancellations of the 6 cuartos of 1850 by Jorge Guinovart in the year 1984 in his work El 6 Cuartos Negro de 1850. Matasellos sobre el Primer Sello de España [The 6 Cuartos Black of 1850. Postmarks on the First Stamp of Spain]. In addition to reproducing in true colour the known varieties, he details a number of rare examples, some of which are the only known specimens.

Matasellos y Marcas. Estudio sobre los Sellos de 4 Cuartos de las Emisiones de 1856-1860-1862-1864, [Postmarks and Frankings. A Study of the 4 Cuartos Issues of 1856-1860-1862-1864], by Ángel Laiz, 1976, is worth pointing out as one of the works dedicated to the study of postmarks of these stamps, known colours, values as singles and on cover. It is the most complete source for this material.

It is necessary to point out Sellos y Marcas de Puerto Rico [Stamps and Frankings of Puerto Rico] by José Antonio García Lomas, published in 1977, and Prontuario Filatélico de Puerto Rico [Philatelic Handbook of Puerto Rico] by Francisco Massísimo, published the same year.

(126) This work was distinguished at the time by the prestigious José María Gomis Prize.

Finally, Matasellos de las Carterías Españolas [Postmarks of the Spanish Mail] by José G. Sabariego, published in Madrid in 1980, studies the different official and private mail
systems by province and how they relate to the different values given to the Alfonso XII stamps, showing different stages of his life.

Nathan’s work Ambulantes y Marcas Ferroviarias de España y Colonias [Railway Markings of Spain and Colonies], published in Madrid in the year 1979, had to do with the railways, a subject not yet discussed in Spain in such great detail. It was written in Spanish and English.

Tomás Dasí studied the subject of railroad postmarks, although he limited himself to only one type, in his book entitled Los Fechadores Octagonales de los Ambulantes de Ferrocarril [The Octagonal Date-Stampsof the Railways], published in 1979 by the Sociedad Filatélica Sevillana [Seville Philatelic Society].

Guillermo Álvarez Rubio, author of Los Correos Ambulantes de la Comunidad Valenciana, 1855-1985 [Travelling Post Offices of the Valencian Region, 1855-1985] in June of 1993, with the idea of dedicating one book to each region, and having ready for immediate publication those for Aragon, Asturias and Madrid. The work reproduces many cancellations, maps, schedules, photos of stations, and is very interesting.

In 1987, Francisco Garay published his three volume work Correos Marítimos Españoles [Spanish Maritime Mail]. He dedicated the first of these to the mails of the West Indies and Spanish America (1514 to 1827), the second to Cuba, Puerto Rico and Santo Domingo from 1827 to 1861, and the third volume (published in 1991) to the Philippines, Mariana Islands and Indochina. The work is incredibly documented and is very interesting.

In 1983 the first volume of a work from the journalist and great Galician collector Armando Fernández-Xesta appeared. It explored the subject of Militaria, a topic rarely studied in philately (save in reference to our Civil War), that is, the topic of war. Militaria can be defined as a postal study of the armed forces and the wars of Spain. The first volume, entitled Militaria 83, covers our Carlist Wars, Militaria 84, dedicated to the Napoleonic Wars, followed, and Militaria 85 comprised two volumes. The first of the two dealt with the pre-philatelic era and makes reference to the War of Independence and the first Carlist War. The second covers the Second Carlist War, that of Melilla of the XIX Century, and those of Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. The work is magnificently printed, presents a multitude of interesting facts, not to mention reproducing interesting postal specimens in colour from the author’s collection.

In terms of works about pre-philately, besides those from Pedro Monge, we have Manuel Lagos’ Prefilatelia de Galicia [Pre-philately of Galicia] in 1967, which reproduces many documents and some, until that point, unknown markings. On a curious note, the books’ prologue is by Camilo José Cela. There is also the Introducción al Estudio del Primer Matasellos Oficial [Introduction to the Study of the First Official Postmarks] by Juan de Linares, published in 1978.

(127) This time without Gahl’s collaboration.

In 1976, Andrés García Pascual published Marcas Postales de Galicia (Hasta 1870), [Postal Markings of Galicia (to 1870)], as a special issue of the magazine Porteo, in which he
details the various markings, their years of usage, and various known colours corresponding to date-stamps and postal administrations. In his second work, Marcas Postales de la Coruña. S. XVIII-XIX Notas Históricas [Postal markings of Coruna. XVIII-XIX Centuries Historical Notes], published in 1992, he covers the subject indicated in his title, and has an interesting chapter on official postal frankings, a topic studied very little by other authors.

We have purposely left for last the great work of Spanish pre-philately published in 1971 by Jorge Guinovart and Manuel Tizón, with the name Prefilatelia Española [Spanish Pre-philately], that, although an extraordinary work, was surpassed in 1983 by its second edition, with two volumes dedicated to Spain, a total of 1,107 pages, and one volume of the pre-philately of our former overseas territories (which were not covered in the first edition), with 471 pages, adding a chart of rarity for all of the markings, describing their colours. All of this is accompanied by many postal and geographic pieces of information about each region and each territory.

Another topic which is the subject of study and publications is that of forgeries and how to recognize genuine stamps. The first known work is Manual del Experto en Sellos de Correo de España. Siglo XIX 1850-1900 [Expert’s Manual on the Postage Stamps of Spain. 19th Century 1850-1900], by Luis de Blas, edited by Aguilar(128) in the year 1961, in which the characteristics by which genuine stamps can be recognized are described. To this work, he adds Manual del Experto en Sellos Falsos de España Siglo XX (1905-1938), [Expert’s Manual on Forged Spanish Stamps 20th Century (1905-1938)], with excellent illustrations. Luis de Blas’ works conclude with Cómo Caracterizar los Falsos Sperati de España [How to Distinguish the Sperati Forgeries of Spain], with many clear examples of this particular subject.

But, the fundamental work on this topic is Introducción al Estudio y Relación de los Sellos Falsos Postales de España [Introduction to the Study and Relation of the Postal Forgeries of Spain](129) by Francisco Graus and Enrique Soro, which illustrates the different types of known forgeries along with the corresponding authentic stamp indicating the differentiating characteristics. Later, in 1986, Francisco Graus published the Guía-Catálogo de Falsos Postales. España-Cuba-Filipinas [Catalogue-Guide to the Postal Forgeries. Spain-Cuba-Philippines] on his own, using an original transparency system that allowed immediate identification of forged stamps. Unfortunately, the work is unfinished, and, in spite of its title, would have covered the stamps of our colonies, of which, until now, little has been published.

Each year FESOFI [Federacion de Sociedades de Filosofia = Federation of Philosophical Societies] publishes a study on philatelic topics. The first is Maximofilia by Manuel Monterrey. A study by Ramon Cortes de Haro, Marcas y Fechadores de Madrid hasta 1900 [Markings and Date-Stamps of Madrid to 1900] followed, in which he makes an exhaustive study of their use in Madrid, indicating their colours, dates of use, varieties, etc.

(128) It is the only work by an important non-philatelic publisher, with the exception of a few by Sopena.

(129) The name on the title page and the spine is Sellos Falsos Postales de España [Postal Forgeries of Spain].
The third volume is the *Catálogo Temático Colombino hasta 1982* [Thematic Columbus Catalog to 1982], although it didn’t actually appear until the year 1991, and therefore was somewhat outdated. It is the work of Francisco Piniella. Finally, the last work, by Antonio Perpiñá, is *El Correo Certificado* [Certified Mail], a magnificently documented study about a rarely studied topic in Spain, worthy of so great a collector, with facts and statistics and authentic colour plate reproductions from 1850 to 1901.

Since 1983, The Hispanic Philatelic Academy has published the speeches of their fellows at their initiation ceremonies. Four volumes have already been published, and as would be expected, the topics are wide-ranging. Some of them form interesting and original studies on their chosen subjects.

Although entitled *Catalogo de Sellos Perforados en España* [Catalogue of the Perfins of Spain], the work of Florentino Pérez Rodríguez, published in Madrid in 1986, and edited by Antonio Torres, is more than a catalogue. It is an authentic study, reproducing the known perfins, indicating to whom they pertain, giving facts about the dates of authorization, their postal use, and their relative scarcity. The second edition, from 1992, surpasses it, and attests to the indefatigable investigative spirit of its author.

There are other works of great interest to the collector that deal with topics that may be unfamiliar, such as graphic arts. The first of these is included in the collection *La Corneta*, published in 1969. Its author is José L. Sánchez-Toda, and it is called *El Arte de Grabar el Sello* [The Art of Stamp Engraving], a subject which he dominates more than any other, as one of the greatest stamp engravers of the Fábrica de Moneda [Spanish Mint]. Among other topics, he discusses the different methods of printing stamps (typography, lithography, tracing, photogravure etc.) It is an interesting work with many illustrations and a proof by the artist of the Venus de Velasquez.

The second work is called *Como se Hace un Sello?* [How is a Stamp Made?] and the author is a reporter and editor of Madrid’s *Cronica Filatelico*, Leoncio Mayo. He also studies the main methods of printing used in making stamps, dedicating a chapter to each one, and pointing out the different types of stamp perforations (comb, line and plate), and is a work that should find a place in the library of every collector who boasts of being a good philatelist.

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(130) Luis Mª Marín Royos’ *De la Historia Postal de Navarra. Estafetas, Tarifas y Porteos* [On the Postal History of Navarra. Postage Conveyances and Rates] is an interesting 169 page work that comprises the whole of Volume IV.

(131) He engraved, amongst others, the Maja de Goya stamp and the Franco profile stamp, which he said was the most time consuming.
General Works

Serious stamp collectors most often start out with their own approach to the hobby, and, if the occasion should arise, will take advice from a veteran collector. Philatelic education has been, for the most part, passed orally from generation to generation, from collector to collector, along with the experience that comes from making mistakes, and feeling disappointments, but also from making good choices.

Generally, such published works limit themselves to giving advice on methods of affixing stamps in an album, how to use tongs and which type are the best, measurements of different varieties of perforations, etc. Some works present stories of certain stamps or collectors to make a more readable text. Others touch on economic factors, or cover the great collections of the world, or point out the worlds’ rarest stamps. Some dedicate plenty of space to the origin of the word “philately,” which our Diccionario de la Real Academia (Royal Academy Dictionary) included with errors. All of this lead Rowland Hill to discuss stamps as a means of payment, accompanied by stories of fraud and mishaps caused by the sender.

There is no one book to prepare the collector for the confusion that they will encounter, one to teach them how to tell the true from the false, how to detect re-gummed stamps, re-perforated stamps, and about the many other forgeries that exist in philately. But, we would have to realize that such would be a very extensive work. Neither should we forget that many of the methods used to detect forgeries require means not at the disposal of the average collector.

The first general work found in Spain was published in Villafranca del Penedès in 1893 and was written entirely in Catalan. Its author goes by the initials A. C. y T. In a 1948 reprint by the Agrupación Filatélica del Panadés [Panades Philatelic Association] it is clear that the author was Dr. Antonio Comas y Torregrosa. It is a curious little pocket-sized book of 32 pages, entitled *Filatelia*.

It gives statistics on the total number of stamps used annually worldwide, some 21,000,000,000, and adds that a statistician has calculated that the saliva used to affix stamps equals 125,000 kilos. It lists the most important collections worldwide, and amongst those are Ferrari, Tapling and Rothschild (sic), and that of Dr. Legrand, he includes that of M. Lopez of Madrid, which he says was sold to a Marquís from Havana for 50,000 francs.

The first comprehensive Spanish work, *Yo Hago Coleccion. Guia Elemental del Coleccionista de Sellos de España. [I Start a Collection. A Basic Guide for the Collector of Spanish Stamps]*, was published in Barcelona in 1932, and is in reality a small 10-page flyer with a few philatelic maps.

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(132) Such as seeing an inscription [on a letter] written to a parent, who then knew all was well [without having to pay for the letter and read it].

(133) One who didn’t have money to pay to send the letter, which contained an important check.


(135) We are ignorant of who this very famous collector was.
Post-war Spain, with all of its inherent problems, is flooded with this type of publication. In 1940, José María Llerendi\(^{(136)}\) published his Manual de Filatelia [Philatelic Manual], the most extensive Spanish publication of any era, with more than 340 pages of text and illustrations. It covers the history of philately, the manufacture of stamps, points out errors and varieties like forgeries, and ends with a chapter on the present and future of philately, stating that to be a philatelist you don’t have to be rich, nor powerful, nor refined. But to be intelligent is essential.

In 1944, José Majó, the well-known Barcelona stamp dealer, published in that same city Cómo se Forma una Colección de Sellos [How to Start a Stamp Collection], a short 49-page pocket-sized work that is, in reality, a lecture by the author with stories about how various people got started on their collections.

Majó also published Por el Mundo do los Sellos. Vademecum del Filatelista. [The World as Seen Through Postage Stamps. Handbook for the Philatelist] in Barcelona that same year. It is a very comprehensive work, with the same friendly tone the author lends to all of his writings, with philatelic terms explained, correct definitions of terms\(^{(137)}\), and useful information about fakes and forgeries, and with many interesting facts throughout.

In 1949, a popular, but even narrower in scope, work by Majó appeared. Breviario del Coleccionista de Matusellos [A Postmark Collectors’ Compendium] was published in Barcelona. It covers the various types of postmarks, including marks found before the development of the postage stamp, their history, and guidelines on how to assemble a postmark collection.

In 1949, the Guía del Filatelistas Principiante [Guide for the Novice Philatelist] appeared. It was written by Emilio Escuaian, and published in Cartagena. Its 164 pages make a very useful guide for the collector.

In 1950, the work entitled Sellos de Correos [Postage Stamps], by Luis Jordá, was published in Barcelona, consisting of 96 pages, including both text and illustrations, and is a guide for beginners.

The work entitled Orientaciones Filatélicas. Los Sellos y las Misiones [Philatelic Courses. Stamps and the Missions], by the Jesuit author Ramón Gaviña\(^{(138)}\) appeared in Bilbao in 1959. In the first section, he discusses the Mission’s interest in stamps\(^{(139)}\), how to remove stamps from envelopes, how to soak them without them losing their value.

\(^{(136)}\) Pseudonym of Augustín Piracés.

\(^{(137)}\) As an example of a ridiculous definition we have that of Ernest Kehr in El Apasionante Mundo de la Filatelia [The Thrilling World of Philately], for whom to acquire a sheet of stamps for oneself is the ultimate goal.

\(^{(138)}\) The only religious order that has published a general work on philately.

\(^{(139)}\) In the 1940s and 50s, it was normal to ask for stamps for the Missions, with the belief that for a donation of a certain number of stamps, you could save the soul of a heathen. It would seem that these sinners, therefore, wouldn’t be able to save themselves, or wouldn’t find it worthwhile to save their own souls.
The remainder of the work covers the story of a stamp, from its initial idea until it goes to the printer. He discussed fakes and forgeries, tools of the stamp collector, mounting a collection, and methods of acquisition (exchanges, buying, and as gifts), in which he gives tips on the etiquette of exchanging stamps.

Enrique Puigferrat published Orientación Filatélica, [A Philatelic Course] in Barcelona in 1960, a short 56 page work. Also in Barcelona in this same year, José A. Lázaro published his book Como Iniciar Mi Coleccion de Sellos [How I Started My Stamp Collection], a more extensive work than the aforementioned one.

In 1965, Eduardo Cativiela, the enthusiastic Zaragozan philatelist, published his informative work Filatelia para Todos [Philately for Everyone] in the collection of La Corneta, in which he discusses the educational aspects of the hobby, and includes topics such as the condition of the reverse side of stamps, examples of rare specimens of the world, the Sperati forgeries, among other very useful topics for the novice collector.

The Sociedad Valenciana de Filatelistas, in collaboration with José Mª Gomis, publisher/editor of Valencia Filatélica, published the Curso Elemental de Filatelia [Basic Course of Philately], in 1968. Each author was in charge of one instalment aimed at young collectors. Although a very interesting work, it unfortunately remained unfinished.

José Repolles published La Filatelia [Philately] (from Editorial Bruguera) in 1972, containing similar chapters to those previously written, above all, those of Llerendi. Curiously, this work was not cited by Nathan.

In 1979, the most original and best-known instructive work of all those in Spain appeared. Curso de Filatelia [A Course in Philately], by Álvaro Martínez-Pinna, Juan de Linares and José Mª Gomis was published in Barcelona by the Centro Educativo del Ocio y Entretenimiento [Educational Centre for Leisure and Entertainment]. One volume is comprised of text, and another of (very impressive) illustrations. There is a workbook included to write notes and answers. The content of the work was very inclusive, pointing out different types of collections, paper and perforation varieties, different printing types, errors, varieties, reprints, etc.

Everest Editorial published Coleccionismo de Sellos [Stamp Collecting] by Serrano Pareja in 1979. The quality of the printing was very good, but it was written by a person lacking any philatelic background, and filled with pages of what one person or another had said. One chapter is dedicated to the stamps of Spain, and another to those of Monaco, but none on the other countries of the world. He uses the wrong term to refer to postal cards and stamped envelopes, and uses this sentence to refer to pre-philately: Stamp collecting begins and pre-philately ends under the scrutiny of expert instructors, perhaps because he had previously written that in order to expertise postmarks, one had to have access to a microscope.

The aforementioned José Mª Gomis, an enthusiastic philatelist like no other, and one who sacrificed time and money in support of the hobby, published Coleccionar Sellos es Fácil [Stamp Collecting is Easy] in Valencia in 1980. A 160-page work, it presented ideas to jump-start collecting, but it was written more for very young collectors as it uses fictional characters.
In 1988, Javier de Linares(140) published El Apasionante Mundo de la Filatelia [The Thrilling World of Philately], a very nice edition by AFINSA, containing inserts on postal or philatelic curiosities that add nicely to the text.

Francisco Aracil published La Filatelia, Qué y Cómo Coleccionar [Philately. What and How to Collect] in 1991, published by EDIFIL, it contains superb reproductions. In this work the author points out the many avenues a collection could take, giving practical advice to get one started collecting. In spite of its being so brief, it is interesting.

Finally, José Luis Montalbán Álvarez, one of the authors of the memorable Historia del Sello Postal Español [History of the Spanish Postage Stamp], published, in 1992, the first volume of El Sello, ¿Arte o Cultura? [The Postage Stamp. Art or Culture?], in which historical themes are very nicely combined with popular philately, and is a highly recommended work.

(140) Pseudonym of the philatelist and newspaperman Joaquín Amado.
V. FOREIGNERS & SPANISH PHILATELY

The first thing that catches one’s attention when studying Spanish philatelic literature is that foreigners have, in many cases, pioneered the study of our stamps. It is worth mentioning Moens’ work with revenue stamps and professional groups, and Griebert’s study of the varieties of the 6 cuartos stamp of 1850.

We find, within the last five years, Michel Colas’ study of the Spanish Civil War, Heller’s study of censor markings, Ian Hamilton’s (141) of Queen Isabella I (Isabella the Catholic), and Dr. Gordon Ward’s study of the Franco stamps (142).

All of this work is made that much more remarkable when we take into consideration the difficulty these writers encountered in locating any quantity of these specimens, in obtaining large enough sections of sheets to make studying the different varieties possible, and also in some cases, the lack of knowledge of the language that would prevent interpreting information correctly.

As previously mentioned, the Catalogue of Postage Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, and Post Cards 1850-1870, was published in London in 1878. This was the first true catalogue of Spanish stamps to appear.

Rudolph Friederich published the first edition of his work Die Postwertzeichen Spaniens und seiner Kolonien [The Postage Stamps of Spain and its Colonies] in 1890. It was intended to be made up of two parts, the first dedicated to Spain, and the second to the Colonies. Friederich’s book only covered the first part, and ended up as a small 72-page pamphlet with only brief information about Spanish issues, although it contains rare bibliographic details.

In 1894, Friederich published a new work in Berlin with the same title (written as Die Postwertzeichen Spaniens ... and leaving out the previously inserted “h”), divided into two parts. He dedicated the first 160 pages and 13 plates to the stamps of Spain, and the second 176 pages and 7 plates to our Colonies, in addition to the various illustrations appearing throughout the text of both sections.

Friederich studied the stamps, their design, proofs, varieties, colours, the postal cards of Spain and her Colonies, all of which would hold a great deal of interest for philatelists. His work is very valuable, in particular because he was the first to concern himself with our Colonies, and considering the difficulties in communication in the past century, he was able to obtain information on Cuba and the Philippines, amongst others.

This interesting work hadn’t been translated into Spanish until recently, when EDIFIL undertook this huge effort. They published the translation using a similar type as the original, with notes by Javier Padín on the section on Spanish stamps, and by Francisco Aracil on the Spanish Colonies section, and with revisions throughout by Álvaro Martínez-Pinna.

Between the two German publications, the Histoire des Timbres-Postes d’Espagne [History of the Postage Stamps of Spain], by the aforementioned famous dealer Jean-Baptiste Moens, came out in 1891 in Brussels. It covers the period between January 1850 and December 1890. This richly illustrated work of 564 pages is the most complete published outside Spain. Moens sets forth the most important work on Spanish postage stamps in French, reproducing the stamps themselves, their errors, proofs, and anything else relative to the issues. He covers the famous 2 reales blue error of 1851, although at that time, the only known example was owned by the famous collector Philippe Ferrari de la Renotiere. The author goes over forgeries and dedicates much space to the Carlist issues, including the controversial Cantavieja stamp. He studies the various postmarks of the Congreso de los Diputados (including the CONGRESSO error, which was used for only a few days) and the Senate, and dedicates 240 pages at the end to revenue stamps, including those of the notary, parliamentary and bar associations, money orders, receipts, advertisements, etc. All of this was available 18 years before Carreras and Candi published their catalogue in Spain. His work has been fundamental in the study of Spanish postage stamps. The French edition is very hard to come by, making it even more regrettable that it was never translated into Spanish.

The 20th century began with few studies of our stamps. A study of Philippine stamps appeared in 1904, entitled Postage Stamps of the Philippines including a list of the Telegraph and Revenue Stamps issued under Spanish Dominion, the 107-page work of Bartells, Foster and Palmer. This last author published The Postal Issues of the Philippines in 1912, an 84-page work covering their stamps, but excluding revenues.

In 1919, Hugo Griebert published in London a fundamental study on our classic issues. It is referred to as The Stamps of Spain 1850 to 1854. As indicated by the title, it is limited to the first five years of issue of Spanish postage stamps. For the first time, we have a detailed study of the 6 cuartos issue of 1850, describing the characteristics of the 24 stamps comprising the type I block(143), and their relation to their corresponding panes. Although it contained a small error, it was of great value, opening up avenues of study to Spanish philatelists, in particular those interested in postal history and other philatelic specialties.

The great number of Spanish stamps, such as the many local surcharge issues, the patriotic overprints, for which a profitable underground industry existed, the various censor markings, military markings, postal substation cancellations, foreign occupation markings of one sort or another, are, like the words of Antonio Machado, plentiful, and the basis of important and interesting works. Many foreigners have published in philatelic magazines, and others, which we will examine, wrote longer works.

In 1939, Hermann E. Sieger, the German specialist of the study of Zeppelin flights, published his Katalog der Marken National Spaniens 1936-1938 [Catalog of Spanish National Stamps 1936-1938]. This 80-page work detailed the known local stamps and surcharges appearing in Spain during the rebel occupation. In 1940, a study by Dutchman Karol J. Heymans appeared. Entitled, Speciaal Catalogus van de Postale uitgiften van Republikeins Spanje-Tijdens de Burgervoorkom uitgegeven 18 Juli 1936-31 Maart 1939, it covered the period 18th July 1936 to the 31st March 1939.

(143) Griebert considers 35 types to exist, with 5 more as a possibility.
With independence, there has been some study of the postal history of our Civil War. It is worth mentioning the work of the Frenchman Michel Colas Censures, Marques et Correspondances de la Guerre Civil d’Espagne et de ses Suites [Censors, Postal Markings, and Correspondance of the Spanish Civil War and its Aftermath] covering the period from July 1936 to December 1945, which in addition to discussing topics relative to our Civil War, also presents items of interest concerning Spanish refugee camps in France, and the Blue Division, amongst other topics, up to the year 1945.

Colas addresses each area separately, studying and appraising the various military markings, censor markings, those from refugee camps and those from military occupation in Spain, primarily the many cancellations of the International Brigades and the Italian Cuerpo de Tropas Voluntarias. He studies the Intervention Committees of the enterprises of Republican Spain, the International Red Cross, and the HISMA Society, created to direct German assistance to Franco, etc.

In 1985, following the Spanish Civil War, another Frenchman, Gerard Apollaro, published the most comprehensive study yet, as a prologue to Colas. Entitled Histoire Postale de la Guerre Civile d’Espagne [Postal History of the Spanish Civil War], it is the most extensive study in book form on the subject.

In 1980, Ronald G. Shelley, well-known British expert on all areas of our postal history, and whose greatest achievement was to become a member of the Academia Hispánica de Filatelia [Spanish Philatelic Academy], published The Postal History of the International Brigades in Spain, a very important and interesting historical and philatelic study.

The same author began publication of A Guide to the Postal History of the Spanish Civil War 1936 to 1939, in the 1990s. His plan was to publish chapters serially; it remains unfinished. The author studies the Republican and Nationalist sectors, foreign intervention, the repercussions of the Civil War on our Colonies, and ends with the Blue Division action during World War II. Within each topic, various sub-topics are discussed, such as the Republican Zone prison ships, currency stamps, concentration camps, the uses of revenue stamps, worker unions, telegraph cards, the Non-Intervention Committee, etc.

Shelley is also the editor of the Spanish Philatelic Society’s publications on Spanish topics, in particular one about the censor markings of E. Heller, entitled Town Censor Marks of Spain 1936-1945, a very important effort concerning military censor markings. Along with this one, he edited others of varying topics, such as The British Legion in Spain during the First Carlist War 1832-1839, written by Shelley, The Message Carriers of Cadiz 1830-1860, by Nathan, The Post Office Marking of Madrid 1757 to 1900, by Anthony Crew, which he continues in another book to cover the years 1901 to 1931, and The Spanish Separatist Stamps also by Nathan, which covers the Separatist issues from the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century. Also quite important is The Republican Local War Tax Stamps (1936-1939) by Félix Gómez-Guillamón, an extensive study of Republican Civil War Issues.

(144) This work is the most complete and concise work on the philatelic and historical aspects of the Spanish Civil War, based on the articles by Manuel Vázquez Encisco in the journal RF from March 1982, mentioned previously.
In 1962, the German, Hans von Rudolphi, published posthumously a short and interesting work on Carlist stamps entitled Carlistische Post brevee (Spanien 1873-1876) [Carlist Post in brief (Spain 1873-1876)]. It featured a historical introduction, a study of the various Carlist stamps, their printing, plate position, varieties, cancellations, proofs (one of which was previously unknown in Spain), and errors.

Another foreigner interested in Spanish stamps, the American Theo Van Dam, published in 1965 in the Billig’s Handbooks his study The Postal Markings of Spain. It is a small work in which many facts about Spanish cancellations are compiled. It covers the pre-philatelic to the modern, providing the evolution of many types of cancellations, such as air post, Carlist, maritime, etc.

The greatest works by foreign authors, although published in Spain, still remain to be discussed. The first of these, fundamental to whoever wishes to study Spanish philately and the Spanish post, is called Bibliografía Filatélica y Postal. España y sus Ex-Colonias. 1500-1980. [Philatelic and Postal Bibliography. Spain and her Former Colonies. 1500-1980]. By Natalio S. Nathan and Norman Gahl, it has often been cited and offers every possible detail on these topics, including maps, exhibition flyers and catalogues, etc. Their effort was extraordinary and garnered the recognition of our postal authorities by being published by the Museo Postal y de Telecomunicación, Madrid, in 1982. This is a bilingual edition in both Spanish and English, containing more than 2,380 bibliographic references.

The other work, published in 1981, by the Dirección General de Correos y Telégrafos is by Dr. Oswald Schier and is entitled Sellos y Hojitas Defensa de Madrid 1938-1939 [Stamps and miniature sheets: Defence of Madrid 1938-1939]. A voluminous 826-page book dedicated to the study of the aforementioned stamps, which actually includes all regular stamps, and the two types of commemorative overprints. These are airmail stamps and miniature sheets of regular and airmail stamps. All of the characteristics of each airmail sheet, along with its number, the likelihood of finding it mint or used, its incidence on cover, etc. are given, along with illustrations of the majority of items discussed. We believe that there has never been such an exhaustive study of such a few issues, if not in Spain, then certainly not in any other part of the world.

One also finds the post of Andorra to be intricately related to Spanish philately. This was the topic of an exhaustive study by W. A. Jacques in 1974, entitled Andorra-Andorre, The Story of its Stamps and Postal History, published in London by Robson Lowe.

A great number of works on our postal issues or history have, since the last century, appeared in foreign magazines. We want to point out two foreign magazines, published in Great Britain, which have been dedicated exclusively to our philately. The two publications, although no longer in business, were entitled, Cruzada, which had to do with our Civil War, and Spain, which covered Spanish philately in general.
EPILOGUE

The author ends this brief study of Spanish philatelic literature with two conflicting feelings. The first, which is negative - sadness in realizing that, in many cases, it has been foreigners who were the first to study our philately and postal history, and if not the first, then with the greatest depth.

The second sensation is one of satisfaction to see in the last few years the emergence of many authors of philatelic works in Spain, some truly interesting and extraordinary.

Another feeling emerges, somewhere between the other two, when I realize there are many areas of philatelic literature that have yet to realize their potential. We find that we are lacking a study of the first Spanish flights, including those departing from our country, those arriving from foreign countries, or those entirely within the country. This is all the more lamentable because there are many excellent collectors interested in this topic.

Among many other topics, there are also studies missing on our former African Colonies, the Moroccan Protectorate, or of our sovereign territory – but not a Colony – of the forgotten land of Ifni. Many varieties of these unknown stamps exist, such as surcharges, plate varieties, reprints, all very important facts in determining possible forgeries.

Madrid, July, 1993
CAPTIONS TO THE ILLUSTRATIONS

Page 42: 1849. Home Office. Royal Decree by means of which the stamp is created and instruction to regulate its use. With it the doors to Spanish philately are opened.

Page 44: 1862. First postage stamp catalogue published in the world. Jean-Baptiste Möens [sic], Brussels. (Actual size)


Page 50: One of the first, if not the oldest, offer to the purchase stamps published in Spain, by Miguel Gálvez, which although without a date, corresponds to the beginning of the 19th Century. It refers to stamps that are cancelled, individually or by the hundreds.

Page 52: 1876. Guidelines for the editing of a catalogue, by Dr. Thebussem. First bibliographic work published in Spain. Edition of one hundred and thirty copies of which four dozen are offered for sale.

Page 54: *El Colecionista de Sellos*. Published by Balbino Cotter in Madrid, it is the second magazine published in Spain. 1871.

Page 56: 1871. *El Averiguador*. First Spanish magazine of a general character which includes a philatelic section, then under the supervision of Dr. Thebussem.


Page 62: 1893. *Cádiz Filatélico*. It published three numbers only.


Page 73: 1897. *Madrid Filatélico*. The only 19th Century journal which is still being published by the firm Gálvez. Drawing by the painter from Alcoy, Matarredona.


Page 81: 1899. *El Filatélico Valenciano*. 33 numbers were published up to 1902.


Page 88: *Cádiz Postal*.


Page 94: Covers of *RF, Revista de Filatelia* [Journal of Philately], dedicated to the National Exhibition of Philatelic Literature. (Translator’s note: The portrait on the stamp shown is that of Dr. Thebussem.)

Page 97: *Coleccionismo*. Its different periods cover from 1913 to 1960.


Page 100: *Boletín de la Bolsa Filatélica de Madrid* in which the first [Spanish] postage stamp auctions that we know of are published.


Page 105: *Cádiz y América*, The last number published.
1938. *El Eco Filatélico Espanol*. Published at La Coruña.

1945. *El Eco Filatélico*. Published in Pamplona.


1945. *R.F., Revista de Filatelia*. Published in Madrid.

1945. *Crónica Filatélica*. Published in Madrid.

1945. *Informacion Filatélica*. Published in Madrid.


1878. First catalogue of the stamps of Spain published in the world. London.


Translator’s note: The front cover mentions dates of issue, value, colour, and particulars of stamps created between 1840 and 1874.

1890. Second edition of the *Catálogo Descriptivo de los Sellos de España y sus Colonias* by Leopoldo López, predecessor of Miguel Gálvez.


1896. *Catálogo Ilustrado de Sellos de Correo de España*. Published by Ricardo San Antonio, Barcelona. (Full size)


1992. Catalogue of Stamps of Cuba, from Edifil. It includes not only those from the old colony, but also issues up to the present day.

*Catálogo de Matasellos y Marcas Especiales* of José Mª Gomis.

*Catálogo de los Sellos de Canarias*, by Emilio Aurioles

First auction organised by the *Unión Española de Madrid* (1921) First public auction by the *Sociedad de Filatelistas* (1922). They held thirty-one sales up to 1929

First auction organised by the *Asociación Filatélica Internacional*, Madrid (1922) First public auction organised by the *Círculo Filatélico y Numismático de Barcelona* (1925)

1899. *Algo de Philatelia* [Something about Philately] by Dr. Thebussem. A collection of ten articles about philately which had been published in various magazines.


First volume of the *Guía del Coleccionista de Sellos de Correos de España* [*The Stamp Collectors’ Guide to the Postage Stamps of Spain*] by Dr. Tort Nicolau.

Page 153  *6 Cuartos 1850*. Antonio Guezala’s study of the first stamp of Spain.


Page 157  *Introduction to the study of the first official cancellations*, by Juan de Linares.


Page 166  *He began his collection by affixing a stamp next to his heart*. Illustration from *Coleccionar Sellos es Fácil* [Stamp Collecting is Easy], by José María Gomis.

Page 168  *Rudolf Friederich’s* work, of which a Spanish translation has just been completed.


Page 173  *Philatelic and Postal Bibliography*, by Nathan and Gahl.


END