Prostitute Revenues of Rosario de Santa Fe

After the national government of Argentina made prostitution legal in the 1870s, various municipalities attempted to control the practice by restricting the activities of prostitutes and mandating public health measures.

In 1890, as part of a program to reduce the spread of venereal disease, the City of Rosario in the Province of Santa Fe, Argentina, required prostitutes to register and undergo physical examinations twice weekly. Ladies with venereal diseases were not allowed to work, and could be confined in a venereal disease hospital until they were no longer infectious.

Each prostitute was given a booklet in which the examination results were recorded. The prostitute (or the madam) had to purchase revenue stamps (Sanitarios) to pay for the examinations. The stamp was placed in the booklet and various markings were added at the time of examination. There were five possible results: SANA (healthy), CON REGLA (menstruating), ENFERMA (sick), OBSERVACION (under observation), and REPUESTA (recovered). There were about 200 licensed prostitutes in Rosario at any given time (an estimate based on the number of stamps used), although the number undoubtedly fluctuated.

Sanitarios were issued yearly from 1893 to 1932. They were lithographed on low quality unwatermarked pre-gummed paper. Most are perforated 11½ and many were printed by the firm of Jacobo Pueser, who printed many other Argentine revenue stamps.

Each stamp has a unique control number. Since they were printed in sheets of 25, a plate flaw or printer’s mark on a stamp with a control number ending (for example) in 06 would also occur on stamps with control numbers ending in 31, 56, and 81. The stamps were generally used sequentially so a stamp with a low control number would have been used early in the year of issue while a higher number indicates later usage.

Some Sanitarios are common, especially the low values issued from 1900 to 1913. Stamps from before 1900 are scarce and most issued after 1913 are rare. For some later years no stamps have survived although municipal records show that they were issued. In some years, higher values were printed, in small quantities, possibly to pay fines or to pay for other services provided by the prostitute.
registry. They are scarce and do not exist in used condition. A few pages and portions of pages from examination booklets have survived, but no complete booklets are known.

Examination result markings also affect rarity. Stamps marked SANA or CON REGLA are common. Those marked ENFERMA or OBSERVACION, as well as stamps with manuscript markings, are scarce.

This study is based on data from over 30,000 Sanitarios, including original research on die types, plate flaws and other areas. Although most of these stamps were issued a century ago, they still represent an interesting and exciting field of study - even today there are new discoveries to be made.

OUTLINE

This exhibit covers the entire period during which Sanitarios were issued, from 1893 to 1932, when prostitution was outlawed in Rosario. The structure is chronological, telling the story of how the Asistencia Publica (Health Department) issued revenue stamps and utilized different systems of markings to accomplish its goal of optimizing public health. Plate flaws, plating data, and unusual stamps are shown in the year of issue. **Rare items are indicated by red borders and also in the text.**

The stamps are divided into five types, based on variations in stamp design: **FIRST SERIES** (1893-95), **SECOND SERIES** (1896-99), **THIRD SERIES** (1900-11), **FOURTH SERIES** (1912-26) and the **FIFTH SERIES** (1927-32). Stamps of the fourth series are scarce and only three stamps are known from the fifth series - all from 1927. Running page headings give the series, the year and a brief description of the material on that page.

"Palacio de Higiene" - Rosario Public Health Service (1917)
Classification of stamps by type:

Arms of the City of Rosario in the center with the value in each corner and on side panels. M/N = “Moneda Nacional” (national currency). Catalogs traditionally classify these stamps by the type of control number used. The classification shown here was devised by the exhibitor. It is based on the characteristics of the stamps themselves and recognizes that there were at least three distinct printings, probably in the sequence presented.

**TYPE A**: Dark gray on thick paper. Perf 11 or 12½. Horizontal background lines cut through boxes at sides and bottom. Control numbers inserted by hand using red or green ink. Small dot to left of “SERVICIO.” Rarely seen with syncopated perforations - every third perforation missing, probably due to defective equipment. **This variety has not been previously documented.**

**TYPE B**: Black color on thinner white paper. Perf 10¾ or 11½. Absence of horizontal lines in boxes at sides and bottom. Control numbers inserted by hand using red or green ink. Many have faded.

Green Ink - Perf 10 3/4    Red Ink - Perf 11 1/2
First Series: Varieties and Markings:

Type C: Light gray on thin grayish-white paper. Perf 11. Dot on right side of semicircular ornament above numeral in right lower corner. Control numbers initially inserted by hand using red ink. Later usages have printed control numbers which were applied using a hand-held numbering device. This would explain why they are slanted and in differing positions.

Micrometer Measurement of Paper Thickness (thousandths of an inch):
Type A = 5-6
Type B = 3
Type C = 2-3

Printer's Proofs: probably retained by printer as a production record:

Type B stamps (p 11½) with printed control numbers in small font. Possibly created to demonstrate printer's ability to add control numbers to already-printed stamps. May also be remainders.

Type C stamp with red dash in place of control number and diagonal ruled cancellation.
FIRST SERIES: Varieties and markings:

**Manuscript marks** ("S" = Sana, "R" or "Regla" = Menstruating, "E" or "Enferm" = Infected) were applied at the time of the examination in pencil or black ink. Sometimes the pencil markings were omitted or replaced by a series of crossed lines. Donald Duston (in Akerman catalog) considers the manuscript "M" to indicate "menstruado" (menstruating), however it is more likely a doctor’s or inspector’s initial. More research is needed.

[Hairmark images]

**Hand stamped markings** (in red, violet, blue or black ink) include semicircular "ASISTENCIA PUBLICA // SANA" hand stamp, small oval "REVISADO EL INSPECTOR" (checked by inspector) hand stamp, and a large double-lined oval "MUNICIPALIDAD DEL ROSARIO // RECEPTORIA DE HACIENDA" (Receiving Office of the Treasury) marking which was applied to some Type C stamps prior to usage, probably as a control measure.

[Hand stamp images]

Linear hand stamp "SANA" with small letters and oval "REVISADO EL INSPECTOR" hand stamp were applied to some Type A stamps in red ink.
DOUBLE PAGES FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET with manuscript control numbers in GREEN INK. Examination fee was two pesos so the stamps were used in pairs. All stamps shown here are cancelled with the "ASISTENCIA PUBLICA // SANA" hand stamp, covering pairs of stamps, and indicating that the prostitute was healthy. Each pair has also been marked once with the circular "REVISADO EL INSPECTOR" hand stamp.

Booklets were designed so that two pages would suffice for a series of eight examinations (visits) covering a period of one month, with the month and year written along the left margin of each page. However the first stamps were denominated one peso and the fee was two pesos, so it actually required four pages to document a month of examinations. This situation was corrected in 1896 when two peso stamps were issued. Double pages from examination booklets are scarce.
COMPLETE BOOKLET PAGE (and scan of reverse) showing results of examinations performed between November 25th and December 5th. Stamps are joined pairs with manuscript control numbers in RED INK. Pairs of stamps show the “ASISTENCIA PUBLICA // SANA” hand stamp and are initialed in black ink on the right-hand stamp of each pair.

The sequence of examinations shown on these two pages (November 25 and 28, December 2 and 5) document that the examinations were performed twice weekly and not monthly as claimed in many published articles and catalogs.

No complete booklets are known; booklet pages and portions of pages are scarce and the booklets themselves were printed (over 100 years ago) on poor quality paper which has not survived well. Most booklet pages are found with margins trimmed – probably to remove personal information when the material was sold to dealers. This page is unusual in having all four margins intact.
FIRST SERIES: Examples of usage in booklets (continued):

FRONT (LEFT) AND BACK (RIGHT) OF BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from 1895 One Peso stamps to 1896 Two Peso stamps. Note the large "MUNICIPALIDAD DEL ROSARIO // RECEPTORIA DE HACIENDA" hand stamp which was clearly applied to stamps prior to their being affixed to the page. The purpose of this hand stamp is not clear; it may have been a control measure.

The slant of the large typographed control numbers on the right hand page suggests that they were applied with a hand-held numbering device.
SECOND SERIES (1896-99)

1896 Two Peso Bright Blue:

New design with similar elements. New stamp (in different colors) issued each year. Stamps measure 29 x 38.5 mm and are perforated 11½. Typeset control numbers with № in front of numerals. Lithographed in sheets of 25 by the firm of Jacobo Peuser. Examination fee remained 2 pesos. Results were indicated as follows: 1. A preliminary mark result was written on the stamp, usually in pencil, at the time of the examination. 2. A final result mark was applied (usually by hand in black ink) at the time the result was recorded in the records of the prostitute registry. A line was also drawn through the control number using black ink.

Control numbers for this year had four or five digits. Stamps with four digit control numbers are in the approximate range of 3700 to 9999. Numbers above and below that all have five digits. About 18,400 printed.

Varieties: Manuscript “Sana” (left), purple ink, light blue shade, and imperforate (right). This is the only Sanitario known imperforate and all imperforate stamps have the same control number (3757).
PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET (and reverse), showing a variety of examination results. Upper right corner of first page is an ENFERMA marking, with the letter “E” in black ink. Lower left corner of second page is “R” indicating that the prostitute was menstruating on that date. The upper left corner stamp on the second page shows an “R” which has been over-written with an “S” in black ink. Stamps used for other examination dates are marked as SANA.

The sequence of the control numbers indicates that there was a long interval between the ENFERMA marking (control number 02725) and the next examination (13181). Possibly the prostitute was confined in the sifilicomio (venereal disease hospital) between examinations. Such gaps may have occurred for other reasons as well, and are not unusual.

The denomination of the stamp is now two pesos, so only one stamp is needed to pay the fee for each examination; however the height of the stamps has increased so they are now larger than the booklet spaces.
SECOND SERIES: 1897 Two Peso Rose Pink:

**SPECIMEN COPY** with portion of Jacobo Peuser’s perfin (MUESTRA // JACOBO PEUSER). (Muestra = Specimen). Perforated specimen copies are only known for early issues.

Re-engraved design, especially noticeable in numerals. New smaller font used for control numbers, all with five digits. 16,000 printed. Note that the tail appears thicker on the right-sided numeral 2. This curious anomaly appears on ALL of the two peso stamps issued in subsequent years (14 different stamps), suggesting that the master die may have been re-used many times.

Complete **PEUSER PERFIN** on block of Documentary Revenues from Rosario
PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET: The first stamp marked “regla” has the word written out vertically in pencil underneath the black ink marking. The adjacent stamp shows a penciled “R” with a superimposed “R” in black ink. Other stamps on this page show the word “Sana” in black ink.
SECOND SERIES: 1897 Two Peso Rose Pink: Partial booklet pages:

**TRIMMED LOWER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE** with late (high number) stamp from 1896 and early (low number) stamp from 1897. Note difference in size of control number font. The 1896 stamp (blue) was used on January 4, indicating that there was some overlap in usage at the beginning of the year.

**TRIMMED UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE** showing two stamps marked “R” in black ink with appropriate pencil markings. During this time many stamps were cancelled with multiple straight pencil lines rather than indicating the examination result with penciled letters.
SECOND SERIES: 1898 Two Peso Brown:

All five possible examination results with indication of relative scarcity (left to right):

SANA in manuscript - examination negative, OK to work (common).
R (Con Regla) - menstrual period - not allowed to work (common).
E (Enferma) - prostitute was ill and not allowed to work (very scarce).
REPUESTA (with date of August 15) - recovered, able to work as of that date (scarce).
OBSERVACION – under observation. No work allowed (scarce).

14,200 were printed.

Considerable size variation is seen with the 1898 stamps.

SPECIMEN COPY
with portion of Jacobo Peuser's perfin

Violet Ink
LOWER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE with stamps used on January 7 and 10, 1899. Note overlap with the previous year’s stamp. Both are SANA.

UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE (and reverse) showing both 1898 and 1899 stamps. The 1899 stamp (Greenish Gray) is cancelled with the oval SANA hand stamp.
SECOND SERIES: 1899 Two Peso Greenish-Gray:

For the first part of 1899 examination results continued to be indicated by manuscript markings.
SECOND SERIES: 1899 Two Peso Greenish-Gray:

In March the prostitute registry began to use two oval hand stamps superimposed on the pencil markings. The hand stamps read “DISPENSARIO DE SALUBRIDAD” with either “SANA” or “ENFERMA” in the center. Normally struck in purple, a few stamps from late in the year are stamped in blue. The practice of drawing a line through the control number was discontinued.

Although there were five possible examination results, there were only two hand stamps. Examination results were now indicated as follows:

**SANA** (healthy) = penciled “S” and one strike of SANA stamp.

**CON REGLA** (menstruating) = penciled “R” with a double strike of the ENFERMA hand stamp.

**ENFERMA** (sick) = penciled “E” with double strike of the ENFERMA hand stamp and a manuscript “E” in black ink.

**OBSERVACIÓN** = Manuscript “O” or “Obs” or “Observación” with a double strike of the SANA hand stamp.

**REPUESTA** (recovered) = penciled “S” with single strike of the SANA hand stamp and the word “repuesta” written in ink with the date.
SECOND SERIES: 1899 Two Peso Greenish-Gray (continued):

The new system was confusing and many errors were made. The stamp at left shows a penciled “E” and a manuscript “E” in black ink, but the SANA hand stamp was used instead of ENFERMA.

Hand stamps were often inverted or smudged to the point of being unreadable.

BOOKLET PAGE showing 1899 stamps
UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE (and reverse) showing transition from 1899 to 1900. (Enero is Spanish for January.) There would have been two additional examinations on the bottom half of the front page, making a total of five in the first half of the month, between January 2 and 15th.
THIRD SERIES: (1900-11)

Similar design to previous stamps but the Ne prefix before the control number has been dropped. New stamps continued to be issued each year in different colors and higher value stamps were printed in limited quantities during some years. The higher value stamps were probably used to pay fines for various infractions such as failing to undergo scheduled examinations or to pay for additional services provided by the health department. They are scarce and not known in used condition.

The types of markings vary and will be discussed as they were used. The examination fee continued to be two pesos until June 1902, when it was reduced to one peso, resulting in a series of surcharges. Many lower value stamps in this series are common while most of the higher values and surcharges are scarce.

1900-1901 ONE STAMP OR TWO?

Both the Forbin and the Akerman catalogs list a single two peso vermilion stamp for these two years. Credit goes to Steven Olson for figuring out that there were actually separate issues for 1900 and 1901. He made this discovery over 100 years after the stamps were issued. Steven noted that in his collection he had several pairs of almost-identically colored stamps with identical control numbers. Close inspection revealed that they were actually different shades, that the fonts used for the control numbers were different, and the stamp margins fell into two distinct categories.

At first glance, the stamps in the pairs with identical control numbers shown above look identical. However, the left stamps are from the 1900 issue and the right stamps are from 1901.

1. The 1900 stamps have a wide bottom margin and a small top margin. Margins on the 1901 stamps are about equal.
2. The control number font used on the 1900 issue is straight-barred while that used in 1901 is curly-barred. Look at the tops of the 5s and 7s and the tails of the 2s.
3. The 1900 stamps are a reddish vermilion color while the 1901 stamps are orange vermilion. This difference can be difficult to see in dim light.
THIRD SERIES: 1900 Two Peso Reddish Vermilion:

By 1900, the system of indicating examination results with the two oval hand stamps was breaking down. Since the penciled marks were put on the stamps at the time of the examination, they are the most accurate indicators. Now we find many more hand stamp markings which are inconsistent with the penciled results such as a single strike of the ENFERMA hand stamp on stamps with a penciled “S”.

The two hand stamps were now used interchangeably as follows:

Single strike of either hand stamp on top of penciled “S” = SANA.
Single strike of either hand stamp with “Repuesta” in black ink = RECOVERED.
Double strike of either hand stamp on penciled “R” = CON REGLA (menstruating).
Double strike of either hand stamp with “E” in black ink = ENFERMA.
Double strike of either hand stamp with “Obs” or “Obser” = OBSERVACIÓN.

This made it simple; if there was one strike of EITHER hand stamp the prostitute could work, but a double strike meant she could not.

**SANA:** Penciled “S” with single strike of EITHER hand stamp. In a survey of about 80 stamps issued in 1900 with penciled S, about half were stamped SANA and about half ENFERMA, indicating that the clerks did not pay attention to which hand stamp they were using.

**CON REGLA:** Penciled “R” with double strike of EITHER hand stamp. The usage of SANA and ENFERMA hand stamps is about evenly divided on stamps with a penciled “R”.
THIRD SERIES: 1900 Two Peso Reddish Vermilion (continued):

**ENFERMA:** “E” in black ink with double strike of either hand stamp.

**OBSERVACION:** “Obs” or “Obser” written in black ink on top of penciled “O” with double strike of either hand stamp.

**RECOVERED:** “Repuesta” written in black ink with date and single strike of either hand stamp.

Repuesta
August 14

Repuesta
September 22
THIRD SERIES: 1900 Two Peso Reddish Vermilion (continued):

By the end of 1900 the registry clerks often reverted to the previous system of writing all examination results in ink on top of the oval hand stamp.

CONSTANT PLATE MARK: Small colored dot in lower left corner. This appears in position 05 (stamps with control numbers ending in 05, 30, 55 and 80). But it is only seen on stamps with higher numbers suggesting that it may have been placed by the printers to indicate a new press run.
THIRD SERIES: 1901 Two Peso Orange Vermilion:

New curly-barred font; slightly different shade from 1900 stamps, image now centered. Examination markings essentially unchanged.

- **SANA**
- **CON REGLA**
- **CON REGLA; Regla written out in pencil.**
- **ENFERMA**
- **OBSERVACION**
- **REPUESTA; April 4th**
- **PERFORATION ERRORS**

**PLATE FLAWS:** Left: Small white dot before “S” of “SERVICIO” (position 17 - control numbers ending in 17, 42, 67 and 92); Right: Small white dot after “S” of “PESOS” (position 23 - control numbers ending in 23, 48, 73 and 98).

The following page shows a **reconstructed sheet of 25** with control numbers ending in 01 to 25. However, for each plate position there are **four** possible two-digit ending numbers. For example, stamps with controls ending in 21, 46, 71 and 96 would all occupy the left lower corner.
UPPER HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE, showing a stamp used on December 23, 1900 with straight-barred font and a stamp used on January 4, 1901 with a curly-barred font. (Look at tops of 7 and 5). Both stamps are marked CON REGLA with the penciled letter "R" and two strikes of the ENFERMA hand stamp. It is a common belief that all stamps marked with the "ENFERMA" hand stamp indicate illness, when in fact this usage (in this time period) could also indicate SANA (single strike with penciled "S") or CON REGLA (double strike with pencil "R").

LOWER HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing a high-numbered 1901 stamp with curly-barred font (left) next to a low-numbered 1902 stamp (right), demonstrating that the curly-barred font stamps were used in 1901.
THIRD SERIES: 1902 Two Peso Green and One Peso Blue:

The first stamp issued for 1902 was green, valued at two pesos. In May the examination fee was lowered to one peso, so the two peso green stamp was withdrawn and a one peso blue stamp issued, but only 1000 were printed. When these were exhausted, the authorities surcharged the remaining stock of two peso green stamps.

Two Peso Light Green:
Same as 1901 stamp except for color. 15,000 were printed but only about 5,000 had been used when they were withdrawn.

In May, new hand stamps were introduced, in an attempt to clarify the examination result markings. These consisted of large single block letters (S, R, O and possibly E). The single letter “E” hand stamp has not been seen.

One Peso Blue: This stamp is scarce as only 1000 were printed. All cancellations were done using block letter hand stamps and many were dated at the top in red ink.
THIRD SERIES: 1902 Two Peso Green and One Peso Blue:

UPPER HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from two peso green stamp (May 5) to one peso blue (May 10). This also documents the transition from the use of oval hand stamps to block letter hand stamps to indicate examination results.

UPPER HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from one peso blue stamp (June 3) to an overprinted two peso green stamp dated June 8 (second surcharge).

Mystery Stamp? One Peso Yellow:

This stamp is a puzzle. It is not listed in any catalog, although it was exhibited by Clive Akerman who called it a “colour trial or error of colour” of the 1903 stamp which is normally rose red. Based on a close study, the exhibitor believes it to be similar to the 1902 one peso blue. Note R and O touching in “Rosario.” Possibly one sheet of the yellow stamp was produced as a trial printing and rejected in favor of the blue one peso stamp, or it may have been printed before the authorities decided to overprint the remaining two peso green stamps of 1902. More study is needed.

RECONSTRUCTED PAIR
Only three known copies

1902 1 PESO BLUE

1 PESO YELLOW
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

After the supply of the one peso blue stamp was exhausted, the authorities decided not to print more. Instead they surcharged the remaining copies of the two peso green stamp. This is a confusing area since there are many different overprints and the catalogs are often incorrect. The exhibitor believes there are seven basic surcharge types. Most are scarce. In most cases printing quantities were fewer than 1000 and the overprints were applied by hand. All seven surcharges are shown here with all of the varieties and errors.

Why so many different overprints? Possibly the authorities thought the examination fee would go back up to two pesos and did not want to use up all of the two peso stamps.

FIRST SURCHARGE: June 1902

"UN PESO" in small red letters hand stamped at the bottom of the stamp. These were hard to see and additional overprints were subsequently applied. This is the only known copy of this surcharge variety (without additional overprints).

SECOND SURCHARGE: June - July, 1902: "Un Peso" added at the top in blue. About 800 produced using a hand stamp. Note small "reversed comma" between and below the two words. The first three stamps show block letter cancellations while the fourth stamp is marked with the new linear hand stamp (see next page). Stamps with block letter cancels were often dated in red or black ink.
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

UPPER HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing second surcharge stamps dated June 11 and June 14.

NEW MARKINGS: June 1902: First usage of rectangular date stamp: “DISPENSARIO de SANIDAD // current date // Rosario de Santa Fe” Also new linear examination result markings: SANA, CON REGLA, and ENFERMA. Other results continued to be written in black ink. Pencil exam results were eliminated. From this time on, most stamps have both a dated dispensary cancellation and a large hand stamped examination result mark.

THIRD SURCHARGE: June - July, 1902: “UN PESO” in capital letters placed by hand on stamps previously overprinted in red. 1225 produced.
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

THIRD SURCHARGE AT BOTTOM OF STAMP - RARE - Only 25 copies (one sheet); all were used on July 18, 1902.

FOURTH SURCHARGE: August 1902 "1. PESO" in blue added by hand to stamps with red overprint at bottom. Only 250 printed. Note dot between "1" and P.

UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE showing usage of stamps with fourth surcharge (August 4th and August 7th 1902.)
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

**INSPECCIÓN MÉDICA**

**UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE** showing transition from fourth surcharge (August 25) to fifth surcharge (August 27).

**FIFTH SURCHARGE:** August - December, 1902: “1 PESO” in violet printed on stamps without red overprint at bottom. This is the only overprint which is not scarce – 4790 were printed, probably in multiple press runs. Distinguished from fourth surcharge by color of overprint, absence of small red overprint at bottom, and absence of dot between “1” and “P.” For side-by-side comparison see above.

**SANA**

**CON REGLA**

**REPUESTA** - with and without examination result marking
**OVERPRINT VARIATIONS:** Space between “1” and “P” is either 6.0 mm or 7.5 mm and the width of the entire overprint either 29.5 or 31.0 mm. Possible explanations include multiple printings, different settings at various plate positions or both.

“Short” setting: 6.0 mm between “1” and “P”

“Long” setting: 7.5 mm between “1” and “P”

**FIFTH SURCHARGE with OVERPRINT AT BOTTOM:** 190 printed. Used between September 29 and October 4, 1902.

**LOWER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE** showing stamps used on August 16 (long setting) and August 20 (short setting).
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

SIXTH SURCHARGE: “UN PESO” in blue, **without small red overprint at bottom**. During the printing of the fifth surcharge, several sheets were not completely fed into the press, leaving one or more bottom rows with no surcharge. The non-overprinted stamps were subsequently surcharged with the third surcharge hand stamp. Only 20 produced (control numbers 9661-75 and 9696-9700). Used between September 30th and October 4th, 1902.

![Image of stamps with surcharges](image_url)

SEVENTH SURCHARGE: December 1902 “Un Peso” in violet or blue on two peso green stamp. Applied with a hand stamp. (725 in violet, 50 in blue).

![Image of stamps with surcharges](image_url)

VIOLET OVERPRINT SANA

VIOLET OVERPRINT CON REGLA

BLUE OVERPRINT SANA - note partial double surcharge.

VARIETY: “e” in “Peso” reversed and inverted.
THIRD SERIES: Surcharges on Two Peso Green Stamp:

PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET showing transition from fifth surcharge (1 PESO) to seventh surcharge (Un Peso). Note double overprint on the LL corner stamp and both lower stamps show the “reversed and inverted e in Peso” variety - see previous page.

PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET showing transition from seventh surcharge on 1902 stamp to the new stamp issued for 1903.
THIRD SERIES: 1903: One Peso Rose Red: Same design, 15,000 printed.

"REPOSICIÓN" Unusual manuscript marking found on stamps from 1903, 1904 and 1908. Probably an administrative marking indicating payment of a fee for re-registration and resumption of examinations after a pause. Seen with and without examination result markings.

PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET showing stamps used on November 28 (Wednesday), December 2 (Saturday), December 5 (Wednesday), and December 9 (Saturday). The sequence of dates confirms that the examinations were performed twice weekly.
THIRD SERIES: 1903 (continued):

Block letter hand stamps were used again for a short time in July 1903.

PLATE FLAW - Flag on letter “N” of “UN” occurs at plate position 02 - seen on stamps with control numbers ending in 02, 27, 52 and 77.

Problems with dispensary stamp: Date was often missing and had to be added by hand. Starting in September, a new hand stamp was used.

Date inserted by hand | No date
--- | ---
Old version | New version
Note difference in height of letters of bottom line and shorter distance between “R” and left border.
THIRD SERIES: 1903 (continued):

This is the first year in which higher-value stamps were issued - possibly to pay fines for infractions of the rules such as failing to undergo scheduled examinations or to pay the increased fee for examinations performed in the brothel or in a private medical office rather than at the health department facility. They may have been used on receipts or other documents which have not survived - no used copies are known.

The higher value stamps are scarce since they were printed in small numbers, typically around 1000 copies of each stamp. For some years higher value stamps are known or suspected to have been issued but none have survived.

Shown here are copies of all three stamps issued in 1903 with control numbers in the center. Duston (in the Akerman catalog) considers these to be remainders. It is also possible that they may be specimens given to city officials for reference or special printings produced for collectors. More research is needed.

One Peso Rose Red  Two Peso Pale Violet  Four Peso Dark Yellow

Philatelic Pathos: Manuscript text reads: "she says she is sick with influenza at home." Many prostitutes were from foreign countries. This girl may not have spoken Spanish but wanted to provide information to the doctor performing the examination.

The following page shows a reconstructed sheet of 25 with control numbers ending in 01 to 25. However, for each plate position there are four possible two-digit ending numbers. For example, stamps with controls ending in 21, 46, 71 and 96 would all occupy the left lower corner.
THIRD SERIES: 1903 Emergency Issue:

Despite printing 15,000 one peso stamps, the supply ran out in mid-December, and an additional printing was necessary. The new stamp was dull rose, with a five digit control number at top. Only 525 were printed and all were used after December 15th, so this is one of the more elusive Sanitarios. Number sequence was continued from previous issue.

Constant Plate Mark: Small colored dot in lower right corner, appears in position 16 (on stamps with control numbers ending in 16, 41, 66 and 91).

EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from 1903 regular stamp (December 15) to emergency issue stamp (December 18, 22 and 26th).
THIRD SERIES:  1904: One Peso Light Blue:

20,000 printed, of which about 14,000 were used. Most with higher control numbers were invalidated.

High values for 1904 with control numbers in center - possibly remainders, copies given to city officials for reference or special printings for collectors.
THIRD SERIES: 1904 (continued):

**Remainder Cancels:** Unused stamps were invalidated with a "CONTRADURIA MUNICIPAL" (Department of Municipal Accounts) hand stamp in violet.

**Constant Plate Mark:** Small white dot in left lower corner; Appears in position 01, (seen on stamps with numbers ending in 01, 26, 51 and 76).

**Constant Plate Mark:** Small white dot between "U" and "A" of CUATRO." Seen on stamps with control numbers ending in 09, 34, 59, and 84.
THIRD SERIES: 1904 (continued):

Printing quality for this year was very poor.

UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from 1903 emergency issue (Dec 30) to 1904 stamp.
THIRD SERIES: 1905: One Peso Reddish Brown:

20,000 printed. Quality of printing improved with this issue and height of stamps increased. Unused stamps were invalidated, possibly for sale to collectors.

Both SANA and CON REGLA hand stamps

Stamps issued in 1905 with control numbers in center – possibly remainders, copies given to city officials for reference, or special printings for collectors.

One Peso Reddish Brown  Two Peso Violet  Four Peso Turquoise

Remainder cancels were done in both blue and violet ink, usually across four stamps as shown in this reconstructed block.
THIRD SERIES: 1905 (continued):
Remainder cancels on single stamps:

One Peso Reddish Brown (Blue Ink)
One Peso Reddish Brown (Violet Ink)
Two Peso Violet
Four Peso Turquoise

TWO TYPES OF ONE PESO STAMP:
Type I: Weak or missing line between “S” and “A” of "ROSARIO."
Type II: Strong line between “S” and “A.”
Both are common.

Because each stamp has a unique control number, plating the two types is a fairly simple matter if you have a large number of stamps. The distribution of Type I and Type II stamps on a sheet of 25 is shown below (numbers indicate plate positions):
THIRD SERIES: 1905 varieties:

**Constant Plate Mark on Two Peso Violet Stamp:** Several small colored dots above scroll in left upper corner. On stamps with control numbers ending in 18, 43, 68 and 93.

Unusual:
Stamp from LL corner of sheet with selvage still attached

* MINT

UPPER HALF OF BOOKLET PAGE showing transition from 1904 (Dec 29) to 1905 (Jan 2).
THIRD SERIES: 1905: Booklet pages:

PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET (and reverse) showing transition from 1905 (December 29; Control Number 015024) to 1906 (January 2; Control Number 000127).
THIRD SERIES: 1906: One Peso Dull Blue:

Examination mark is now placed at bottom of stamp in blue, black or violet ink. Markings other than SANA or CON REGLA are rare. 25,000 printed.

Blue Ink  Black Ink  Violet Ink  ENFERMA

Unfinished stamp no control number (left)

Control number printed in center (right)

Small size (45 mm high; normal is 55 mm). Probably not a distinct variety - due to sloppy perforating.

Constant Plate Mark:
Colored dot to the right of lower ornament. Seen with control numbers ending in 20, 45, 70 and 95.
THIRD SERIES: 1906: Two Peso Dark Blue:

Only Two Copies Known

Unfinished stamp - no control number

Five digit control number

Four Peso Dull Orange: Only Three Copies Known.

Six digit control number – probably normal as issued.

Five digit control number

Unfinished stamp - no control number
THIRD SERIES: 1907: One Peso Rose Red:

Minor redesign – numerals of value now tilt to either side. Small colored dot now seen to the left of “S” in Servicio in all plate positions.

MINT

SANA - various ink colors

CON REGLA

ENFERMA

OBSERVACION - with and without pencil marking

Two fonts were used for this stamp. Control numbers below 001000 are slightly taller.

SMALLER SIZE
49 mm vs 55 mm
THIRD SERIES: 1907: High Values:

Two Peso Brown: Only a few known copies

Five digits in Control Number

Control Number at top - Probably printer's waste

Four Peso Bright Green: Only a few known copies

Five digit control number

Six digit control number
THIRD SERIES: 1908: One Peso Carmine:
A relatively common stamp – 25,000 printed.

MINT STAMP

SANA - violet, black and blue ink

OBSERVACIÓN - letters in lower right corners are probably physicians' initials.

CON REGLA

ENFERMA

REPOSICIÓN

SMALL SIZE
46 mm vs 55 mm
PAGE FROM EXAMINATION BOOKLET showing four different examination results. The date of the ENFERMA marking is January 24 and the OBSERVACIÓN stamp is dated February 5, suggesting that the prostitute may have been ill (with possible hospitalization), and was now improved but still not able to work.

Considerable variation is seen with this stamp, due to sloppy numbering and perforating.
Red coloration on back is said by several authors to be due to the use of aniline ink with bleed-through. This is NOT true. The stamp on the right has a horizontal crease and the colored area on the back is larger than the image on the front suggesting that the back color is simply a set off caused by placing one wet sheet on top of another when they were printed.

Constant Plate Mark:
Small white blotch at lower right corner. Seen on stamps with control numbers ending in 16, 41, 66 and 91.
THIRD SERIES: 1908: Higher Values:

Two Peso Dark Yellow
Reconstructed strip of three - only a few known copies

Four Peso Blue
Only a few known copies

Right upper corner strip of three imperf vertically
From a unique sheet of 25 printed without vertical perforations
THIRD SERIES: 1909: One Peso Pale Green:
30,000 printed. New control number font - curly bars on 2, 5, and 7.

MINT 5 digit CN  MINT 6 digit CN  CON REGLA  ENFERMA

SANA - GREEN  SANA - PURPLE  SANA - BLACK  REMAINDER
New hand stamp

OBSERVACION: Stamps now marked at top and bottom.
Note initials (E.F. / A.F.) in lower right corner of center and right stamps which may refer to examining physician.
THIRD SERIES: 1909: One Peso Pale Green (continued):

Constant Plate Mark: Small white dot in left lower corner. Appears on stamps with control numbers ending in 11, 36, 61 and 86.

Higher Values:

Two Peso Dull Magenta
Only a few copies known.

Four Peso Reddish Brown
Only a few copies known.
Artículo 1. — El ejercicio de la prostitución en el municipio del Rosario se sujetará estrictamente a lo dispuesto en esta ordenanza.

Art. 2. — Se entiende por casa de tolerancia la que esté habitada por prostitutas, y, autorizada por la Intendencia Municipal, no pudiendo establecerse ni regentarse sin por mujeres, y siempre que éstas, por su edad y condición, no sean portadoras de documentos legales

Art. 3. — La casa de tolerancia de 2ª categoría podrá establecerse fuera del radio siguiente: por el Norte, la Avenida Wheelwright; por el Sud, la calle Montevideo; 1 de Mayo al Este y General Baigorri al Oeste — y no podrán ser habitadas por más de cinco mujeres. Las de 1ª categoría no podrán ser de domicilio a más de dos mujeres y solo se establecerán fuera de las calles Tucumán al Norte, 3 de Julio al Sud, 25 de Diciembre al Este e Independencia al Oeste.

Art. 4. — La prostitución se ejercerá tan sólo en las casas consensuadas para ese objeto y únicamente por las mujeres inscritas en la Asistencia Pública.

Art. 5. — Las mujeres que ejercieran la prostitución fuera de las condiciones señaladas en el artículo anterior, se considerarán como prostitutas clandestinas.

Art. 6. — Las casas de tolerancia no podrán ser habitadas sin por las prostitutas y personas de servicio.

Art. 7. — A los efectos del artículo anterior, se considerará una misma casa las diversas que forman un solo cuerpo de edificio, aún cuando las entradas sean distintas.

Art. 8. — Para cumplimiento de las Ordenanzas sobre higiene, las casas de tolerancia serán consideradas como de inquilinato, y tendrán una cantidad de piezas dormitorios igual número de mujeres que allí habitan y cuyas piezas no podrán tener comunicación interior de una a otra.

Art. 9. — La Intendencia podrá exigir a los dueños de casas de tolerancia todas aquellas medidas de moralidad, seguridad e higiene no previstas en el presente Reglamento, como ser la elevación de los muros linderos, la adopción de puertas, cancel, etc., etc.

Art. 10. — Para el establecimiento de una casa de tolerancia de cualquiera de las categorías expresadas, es indispensable la presentación de una solicitud a la Intendencia Municipal, indicando la categoría y la ubicación. La Intendencia, previo el informe respectivo resolverá como corresponda

Art. 11. — El permiso es personal e intransferible; pudiendo ser retirado por cualquier infracción a las disposiciones vigentes o cuando la Intendencia lo crea conveniente. La Municipalidad no reconoce otra persona sin a aquella a cuyo nombre ha sido expedido.

Art. 12. — Las casas de tolerancia no podrán instalarse a menos de una cuadra de los establecimientos de educación.

Art. 13. — Otorgado el permiso por la Intendencia para la apertura de una casa de tolerancia, ésta no podrá habilitarse hasta tanto no se haya extendido por la Oficina de Rentas el permiso respectivo, previo pago de los derechos.

Art. 14. — Para ser inscrita una mujer deberá ser mayor de diez y ocho años. Si antes de esa edad se hubiere entregado a la prostitución, la dirección de la Asistencia Pública dispondrá la inscripción si a su juicio lo creyere conveniente. En caso contrario será puesta bajo el amparo del Defensor de Menores. No se efectuará la inscripción de menores de edad cuando mediente reclamación de parte de sus padres ó tutores legítimos ó del Defensor de Menores.
THIRD SERIES: 1910: One Peso Pale Bistre:
Straight-barred font. 30,000 printed.

MINT

SANA - violet and greenish-blue ink

CON REGLA

NO CONTROL

BLIND CONTROL

HALF OF EXAMINATION BOOKLET PAGE showing high-numbered 1909 stamp used on December 30, and low-numbered 1910 stamp used on January 3.
THIRD SERIES: 1910: Two Types of One Peso Pale Bistre Stamp:

**TYPE I**
Thick-walled
"O" in "PESO"

**TYPE II**
Thin-walled
"O" in "PESO"

**Plating data:** Based on printed sheet of 25 (5 x 5). Stamps with thin-walled "O" are seen at positions 02, 04, 12, 14, 15 and 24. There is some overlap, with stamps of the opposite type sometimes seen at particular plate positions, suggesting that the plate may have been damaged and repaired.

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THIRD SERIES: 1910: One Peso Pale Bistre: Varieties:

New Hand Stamp:
“EN OBSERVACIÓN”
with letter “N” reversed.

Examination result marking omitted

Dispensary cancelation omitted

Many plate flaws or printer’s marks are seen on this stamp:

White dot between 1 and R of Rosario
Small brown dot at upper left margin
Brown blotch in upper left corner
Dot between M and N in lower value tablet
THIRD SERIES: 1910 High Values:

Two Peso Vermilion: Rare with control numbers, common without.

Two types of this stamp based on the shape of the letter “S” in “PESOS”

Four Peso Blue: Rare with control numbers, scarce without.

Enigma? Two stamps with the same control number, but printed with different fonts. (Look at top of numeral 5.)

Mint without control number

Mint with blind control number – difficult to see unless light is angulated.

Mint stamps with inverted and double control numbers are probably printer’s waste.
THIRD SERIES: 1910: Two Types of Four Peso Blue Stamp:

There are many small differences but major one is the small branch to the left of the left sided numeral. Approximately half of the stamps are of each type. This is a previously undocumented finding.

One Peso Emergency Surcharge:

At the end of December in 1910 the supply of one peso stamps ran out and some of the two peso vermilion stamps were surcharged in purple. Only a few were overprinted and not many have survived. This is one of the rarities of Sanitario collecting. The copies shown here were used on December 30 and 31.
THIRD SERIES: 1911 One Peso Emerald:

New larger curly-barred font. 30-35,000 printed. Forbin catalog states that two and four peso stamps were issued in 1911 but more recent catalogs list them as not seen.

**SANA**

**ENFERMA**

**CON REGLA**

**EN OBSERVACIÓN** - both “Ns” are reversed.

**SIZE VARIATIONS**: short (48 mm vs 55 mm) and thin (30 mm vs 35 mm)

Remainder or special printing for collectors:
Font differs from that of regular stamps. Note five and six digit control numbers.
THIRD SERIES: 1911 One Peso Emerald (continued):

Multiple exam markings

Dropped digit

Gray green shade

HALF PAGE FROM BOOKLET showing a 1910 stamp dated October 1, and a 1911 stamp dated April 18th. Why such a long interval between examinations? Possibly the prostitute had to stop working because of illness or pregnancy.

Constant Plate Mark: Minute white dot in left upper corner. Seen with control numbers ending in 01, 26, 51 and 76.
THIRD SERIES: 1911 One Peso Emerald – Analysis of Plating Data:

The following page shows a reconstructed sheet of the 1911 one peso stamp. Analysis of this data reveals that there are actually **two types** of this stamp:

**Type I:** Space between “T” and crossbar of “T” in “SANITARIO”
**Type II:** The two letters are in contact with a small green line separating them.

There are numerous other minor differences in lettering in “SERVICIO SANITARIO” and in “ONE PESO.” The types of stamp at each plate position are shown below:

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FOURTH SERIES (1912-26)

1912 One Peso Dark Blue:

Stamp design modified to include side panels with year of issue. Stamps issued after 1913 are scarce, possibly because World War I closed normal distribution channels from Argentina.

MINT
NO CONTROL
SANA
CON REGLA
ENFERMA
Both ENFERMA and SANA markings
OBSERVACIÓN
REMAINDER

Manuscript Numbers
From 1912 on, these are often seen in red or black ink. Possibly prostitute identification numbers.
FOURTH SERIES: 1912 One Peso Dark Blue (continued):

TWO TYPES:

Type I: Center ornament below left-hand date panel does not touch frame. Type II: Ornament touches frame. There are other minor differences. Both types are common. These are the discovery copies.

Plating data: Based on printed sheet of 25 stamps (5 x 5). Stamps in position 25 can be either Type I or Type II. Possibly the printing stone was damaged during production and the die was replaced with one of the other type.
FOURTH SERIES: 1912 One Peso Dark Blue (continued):

MYSTERY: These two stamps have the same control number. The stamp on the left is Type I and that on the right is Type II. One (speculative) hypothesis is that the printing plate was damaged at position 25 and repaired using a different die. When the numbering was resumed, there may have been an overlap.

Green ink was used for dispensary cancellation from October to the end of 1912.

Attempted Fraud?
The original dispensary date cancel was in October, but a manuscript date of 27 December has been inserted by hand. Also the number in the lower left corner (which may have identified the original user of the stamp) has been obliterated.

Plate flaw: Small white dot in right lower corner; Position 02; Appears on stamps with controls ending in 02, 27, 52, and 77.
FOURTH SERIES: 1913 One Peso Carmine:

Dispensary cancellation now always in green ink. Common in mint condition with and without control numbers. 40,000 printed. No high value stamps known for this year.

MINT - 5 digit control
MINT - 6 digit control
MINT - no control
MINT - blind control

SANA
CON REGLA
Both ENFERMA and SANA

Manuscript numbers
(Probably prostitute identification numbers).
FOURTH SERIES: 1913 One Peso Carmine (continued):

**Two types** of this stamp: (discovered by the exhibitor):

Type I: Bottom of “9” in left date panel is even with the other numbers and there is a “blob” to the left of the upper serif on the left numeral of value.

Type II: Bottom of “9” is lower than other numerals and there is no “blob” before left numeral of value.

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Plating Data: Based on printed sheet of 25 stamps (5 x 5).

Type I stamps are considerably more common than the Type II variety.

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Retouch - Position 5 (Stamps with serial numbers ending in 05, 30, 55 and 80): Width of ‘9’ in right side date panel is reduced.
FOURTH SERIES: 1914: One Peso Blue:

At least 44,000 printed. Mint stamps with high control numbers are remainders. Based on many minor differences, there are at least two varieties of this stamp; however the amount of material available is not sufficient for a thorough analysis. More research is needed. All stamps issued in 1914 and subsequent years are scarce or rare.

At least two types: Left: “T” and “A” of SANITARIO merge at top. Right: Letters are separate.

Four Peso Purple Brown: 1000 printed.

At least two types: Type 1: Top of branch near left sided numeral 4 is flat and contains a small brown dot. Type 2: Top of branch is rounded and there is no dot. Many other minute differences. This is a previously undocumented finding.
FOURTH SERIES: 1914 Surcharges:

In November 1914, the examination fee was raised to one peso fifty centavos. One peso stamps were overprinted “VALOR $1.50” originally in VIOLET ink.

Date of exam and probable prostitute registration number written in black ink.

Within a few weeks the overprint color was changed to RED to make the surcharge more visible.
FOURTH SERIES: 1915 Surcharges:

At the beginning of 1915, stamps from 1914 with red surcharge were used. When these were used up there were still some of the 1914 stamps left, so they were surcharged diagonally with a hand stamp: "VALOR $1.50 / 1915"

Surcharges were initially applied in violet ink, but red, blue, and black ink were later used (all are shown here.) The stamp on the lower right includes a physician signature (vertical in red ink). This was standard on subsequent issues.

These two stamps show many subtle differences indicating that the basic stamps were printed from several different dies.

Surcharge at top - '1915' is hard to see but it's there.

Red Surcharge  Blue Surcharge  Black Surcharge
FOURTH SERIES: 1915 Issues:

Later in 1915, new 1.5 peso and 4.5 peso stamps with 1915 dates in the side panels were introduced. These were printed on thin translucent paper and have the word “SANITARIO” misspelled as “SANIARIO.” Some stamps show part of a large sheet watermark which is visible from the front (see bottom of 1.5 P stamp at right). On these and subsequent issues, M/N (moneda nacional) is dropped from the bottom value tablet. Only a few copies of these stamps are known.

One Peso Fifty Centavos Deep Blue

There are at least two types of the $1.5 stamp. Look at right-hand ornament below date.

Four Peso Fifty Centavos Carmine Lake

At least two types of the $4.5 stamp exist. Note right-hand ornament below date. There are many other minute differences as well.
FOURTH SERIES: 1916 One Peso Fifty Centavos Orange:

Printed on the same thin translucent paper. A new circular date stamp is now used in place of the rectangular dispensary cancel. It reads "DISPENSARIO DE SALUBRIDAD Y SIFILICOMIO // ROSARIO // ASISTENCIA PUBLICA" and includes the date. Note doctor's signature, vertical in red ink. Although 30,000 were printed, only a few survive.

Markings Decoded: At first glance, the stamp at right appears confusing. There are actually five separate marks:

1. Blue "SANA" across the bottom, indicating that the prostitute was healthy.
2. Circular dispensary marking (inverted) with printed date of December 15th 1916.
3. Manuscript "Sana / Dbre 15 / 1916 / Palacio." "Palacio" may have referred to the place where the examination was performed.
4. Vertical red marking which was probably the signature stamp of the doctor.
5. Number "1838" at the bottom – prostitute's registry identification number.

Color separation performed with a computer program enhances many details which would otherwise be difficult to see.
FOURTH SERIES: 1917 and 1920 Issues:

1917 One Peso Fifty Centavos Brown: The circular hand stamp is dated April 7, 1917. The date is repeated in manuscript with the word “Palacio” which may have been the examination location. The non-venereal disease hospital in Rosario was called the “Palacio de Higiene.”

This is the only known copy of this stamp.

No stamps are known from 1918 and 1919, although they were almost certainly issued.

1920 One Peso Fifty Centavos Carmine: This stamp was unknown until an image was found on the internet by the exhibitor. Steven Olson tracked the image to an erotic website in Buenos Aires. Only a few known copies.

There are at least two types of this stamp, differing in the height of the letter “N” in “UN.” The two types are also slightly different shades.

Doctor’s Signature was hand-stamped vertically. Several different signatures are known but they are hard to read (of course). This may have been Dr. Perez-Baldinoti.
FOURTH SERIES: 1921 and 1926 issues:

1921 One Peso Fifty Centavos Green: The manuscript markings in black ink include the word “SANA,” the date and what is probably the name of the person performing the examination (possibly a nurse). One stamp (000631) is cancelled using the old rectangular date stamp. The stamp has been redrawn (Look at the rays around the sun in the center and compare with previous issues) and is printed on thicker, softer paper. The doctor’s signature appears to have been placed with a hand stamp. Not listed in any catalogs. Only a few copies known.

1926 One Peso Fifty Centavos Vermilion: Once again the design has been redrawn. Note circular date stamp and inverted doctor’s signature diagonally. There is also a blue SANA mark on the left which is hard to see, and an indistinct red-ink mark positioned vertically. The color separation image on the right enhances some of the less distinct markings. The stamp shown here is one of only three known copies of the 1926 stamp.
FIFTH SERIES (1927-32)

1927 One Peso Fifty Centavos Light Green:

In 1927, the Sanitarios were completely redesigned. Stamps are smaller than previous issues (20 x 33.5 mm) and perforated 11. The same circular dispensary cancellation device was used, with the examination result stamped at bottom. Physician signatures not seen. An enlargement is shown at right.

This was an omnibus design, used for other types of revenue stamps as well as the Servicio Sanitario stamps, suggesting that control of printing may have shifted from the health department to the city authorities. It is probable that stamps were issued every year until prostitution was made illegal in 1932, however these are the only Servicio Sanitario stamps known to have survived from this time period.

BROTHEL TOKENS: The Petit Trianon, located at 87 Pichincha street, was one of the fanciest bordellos in Rosario. These tokens, costing three pesos, paid for "standard" service. There was also a more "sumptuous" level of service, costing as much as five pesos, and an "economy" level which was available for only one peso. More research is needed.