



This message is more an investigation of the period than singling out any one area to make into a specialty. Considering that a lot of collectors end their modern issues before the start of the Art and Architecture series, I feel this is a good point to address the stamps from the Universidad issue and the normal issue types of 1934 through their completion. I will also lightly cover the commemoratives of this period before we have a discussion in my next message about the Art and Architecture series and commemorative issues of the 50s.



Considered one of the most beautiful issues in the world, the Pro-Universidad series are not only a favorite of many collectors, they are indeed rare, therefore missing from many collectors albums. The first stamp of the series is a one centavo with an Indian Mother and child. This stamp was released as a Postage Tax stamp to collect revenue to be used for child welfare from this stamp's obligatory use on mail. The rest of the Pro-Universidad issues were all considered normal postage stamps. The stamp was to promote the National University. Each stamp, with exception of the 10 Centavos Issue, has Native Mexicans in different poses performing different task for daily living. As far as I am aware, no proofs or essays exist, but there are several revenue stamps that have very similar designs apparently done by the same artist. Many of the revenue issues have essays and proofs that have been saved by collectors. Although covers are known, most of the used stamps were removed from covers for additions to collections as singles.



The first real definitive for the period we are covering today is the type of 1934-40. Issues of stamps from the one Centavos to the Five Peso are in this large issue of 15 various stamps and denominations. These stamps have a wide range of different subjects from Indians to monuments to ancient ruins. Interestingly, many of these stamps have comparable issues of similar design giving the collector an opportunity to add un-watermarked, different watermarks, different perforations, imperforated, different stamp sizes, changes of imprints, overprints and printing types. These stamps that were first issued for 1934-40 changed a great deal and some of these stamps are the rarest of the 20th century. Covers are generally common and there is a great deal of material to collect in this period that will have great cancels, registered use and combinations with other stamps of the era.



What is really impressive with the period of 1934 to 1950 are the large number of interesting and beautiful commemoratives that were issued. Without going into each of these, I suggest that you study the different sets and realize that most of them have additional airmail stamps included. These, like the regular issues, have a great deal of postal history available, and should be included in collecting these stamps. Since many of these issues were used during the Second World War, Censor covers are found on most of the international mail. For the most part these stamps are found with hinges or past markings of hinges, since hinge-less mounts were not really very popular until the 1950s.



You may wonder if a specialized collection could be a subject that would give the collector enough material to work with. Would a collection like this be just a one each, fill in the blank type collection or would it be possible to actually make an exhibit of these stamps? I see there are a lot of stories to be told about what is on these stamps from historical themes to the fist stamps of outer space issued in 1942. Many people and towns and events are displayed with beautiful art work on these stamps. So, with a little imagination and a keen eye for beautiful stamps and great stories I feel some great collections can be made with these stamps.