

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY ORGANIZATION

INDEXED

Washington, D. C.
May 23-30, 1949

TOPIC X. COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP

I. BACKGROUND

1. On December 2, 1902, the First International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics met in Washington and, in a resolution approved on December 4, provided for the organization of the International Sanitary Bureau, known today as the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

2. December 1952 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of that resolution, which created the first international health organization, not only in America, but in the entire world.

3. In order to emphasize the significance which the work of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has had in the Western Hemisphere during the past five decades, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau deems that it is desirable to recommend to the American States the issuance of a commemorative stamp in 1952.

4. The commemorative stamp would have two purposes, namely, an educational and promotional one, in bringing the name of the Bureau before the general public, and a financial one, in endeavoring to get the Governments to dedicate the proceeds of the sale of the stamp to the construction of a building for the Bureau.

5. In an exchange of views with Mr. Albert F. Kunze, Chief of the Philatelic Division of the Pan American Union, it was learned that:

(a) In order to make the issuance of a special commemorative stamp successful, a great amount of work and diligence is required, maintaining a constant promotional effort.

(b) That there are financial difficulties, because in some countries the laws do not permit the issuance of stamps, the proceeds of which are to be used for other than postal purposes.

II. PLAN FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A STAMP
COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU IN 1952

6. In view of the foregoing, the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau proposes the following plan:

(a) That the Pan American Sanitary Bureau prepare a design for a stamp bearing an appropriate phrase concerning the fiftieth anniversary of the Bureau's establishment.

(b) That the design for the commemorative stamp be sent to the national health authorities of each of the American States, with the recommendation that the necessary steps be taken for the issuance of the stamp in every State.

(c) That the sale of the commemorative stamp be limited to the month of June 1952, thereby increasing the stamp's philatelic value.

(d) That the net proceeds from the sale of the commemorative stamp in each country be placed in a special fund for the construction of a building for the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. Those countries whose laws do not permit this transaction could dedicate an equivalent amount for the purpose intended, as a supplementary quota for the Bureau.

(e) That the promotion of this project in each country be entrusted to the respective member of the Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, and that the publicity and general promotion be entrusted to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

III. RECOMMENDATION

7. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau recommends to the Executive Committee that the foregoing plan for the issuance of a stamp commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau be approved and submitted for consideration to the Directing Council of the Pan American Sanitary Organization, which will meet next October.

Fred L. Soper

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