

## **HACIENDA DE ESTIPAC**

by

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The haciendas were settlements complete in themselves. Indeed, few of these estates had less than a hundred inhabitants, while many of them had as many as a thousand.

Some of the haciendas included all of the customary accessories of an independent community such as a church, a store (Tienda de Raya), a post office, a burying ground, and sometimes a schoolhouse and a hospital. Workshops were maintained not only for the repair but even for the manufacture of machinery for the numerous implements required on the estate. Over this complex the Hacendados, or Patronos (owners), presided in a more or less patriarchal manner, the degree of paternal care or of tyranny varying with the character of the individual and with that of his supervisory employees.

The haciendas were located far away from towns and did not permit strangers on their premises. The merchandise for the peones (employees) could be obtained only at the Tienda de Raya.

The degree of literacy, to around the year of nineteen hundred, amounted to about sixteen percent of the entire population. Thus it would have been difficult, or next to impossible, for the agricultural laborers to determine the value of tokens (fichas, vales, etc.) except by the form or size. Besides, of what earthly use would such tokens be if they were not acceptable outside a specific hacienda?

The System of Peonage that existed until the 1910-1917 Revolution kept whole families for generations in the servitude of the hacendado, or patron. The employment of the Indians and the growth of the peonage system played a considerable part in the development of the haciendas.

By Presidential Decree of November 30, 1889,(Art. 13) it was specified that after July 1, 1890, the use of promissory notes (vales), debt sheets (papeles), tokens (fichas), or the use of any means to supplant the coin of the realm, was strictly forbidden. Violators would be subjected to fines ranging \$50.00 to \$500.00 for each offense.

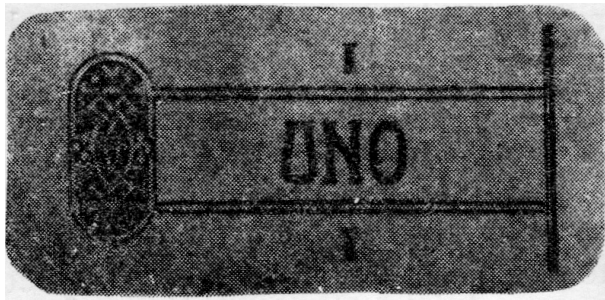
After the 1910-1917 Revolution, the constitution (Art. 123, Sec. X) stipulated that all wages had to be paid in legal tender, not in merchandise, orders, counters or tokens,

Sec. XXVII did away with the Tiendas de Raya, while Article 123, Sec. XXIV ended servitude by making debts payable by the individual who contracted the, and not payable by his family.

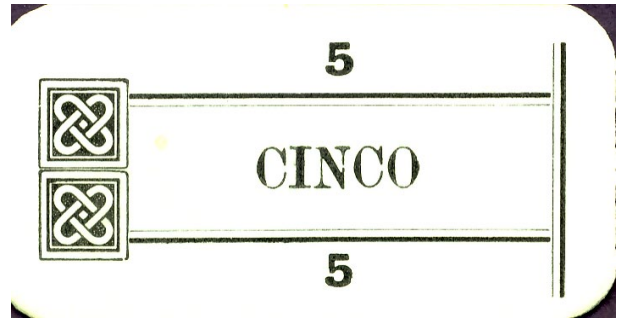
Following is an example of one of the haciendas in the State of Jalisco. The Hacienda de Estipac, owned by the brothers Francisco Corcuera and Enrique Corcuera, was a sugar cane plantation (ingenio azucarero) located in the Municipality of Villa Corona, Jalisco. A "Fatal Hacienda" for those who lived there during "El Porfiriato" (Don Porfirio Diaz epoch) according to the words from persons who lived there. The hacienda was large in extent, and surrounded by high adobe and rock walls. It was divided into two patios (yards): one where the peones lived in their straw huts, and from where no one could go outside after 8:00 p.m. It was forbidden to trespass into the patio where the main buildings were. There was a Torreón (watch tower) where the guards were stationed in order to watch the peones. Any peon caught trying to escape was shot to death. Only the servants were allowed to go to the main buildings through a porton (door) located by the church. The hacendados did not permit strangers on their premises and the Capataces (foremen) took care that the peones did the labor.

The owners of this hacienda ordered issues of cartones (fractional currency) in different denominations from two Casas Litograficas (lithographic houses) in the city of Guadalajara. The first issues of cartones were ordered February 13, 1914, from Casa Litografica Kaiser, owned by Sr. Juan Kaiser. These pieces were made of pressboard Royal Index Bristol (the best quality then), in a total of four hundred pieces: two hundred pieces of 5c and two hundred pieces of 10c, both types uniface,

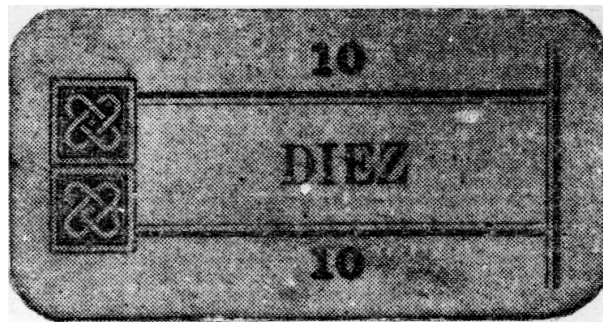
On May 7, 1914, this Casa Litografica issued eleven hundred pieces of cartones, in denominations of 1c, 5c, and 10c, made of pressboard and with black ink. All were uniface, had rounded corners, and all the size of 30 x 30 mm. In the center, the value on top reads CORCUERA HERMANOS. Under the value reads HDA. DE ESTIPAC and the initials of the Lithographic House "J. K.G." Mod 4737.



*500 pieces of 1c*

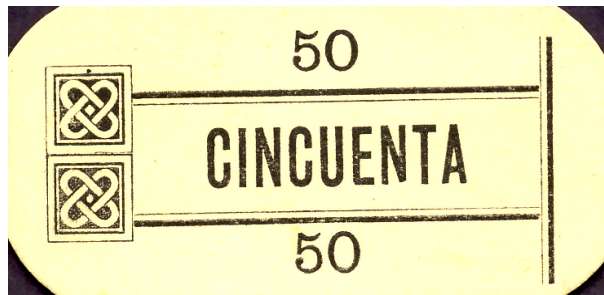


*300 pieces of 5c*



*300 pieces of 10c*

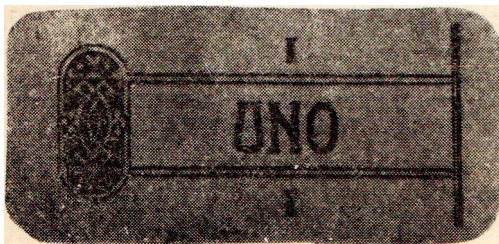
Twenty-five centavos, size 63 x 32 mm., made of white pressboard, with black ink, uniface, and with rounded corners. Quantity unknown.



Fifty centavos, size 63 x 30 mm., made of yellow pressboard with black ink, uniface, with rounded corners. Quantity printed unknown.



This is another issue of cartones made in the same Lithographic House: fifty centavos, size 61 x 35mm., made of pressboard "couche" blue color. In the center, the value 50 CINCUENTA CENTAVOS. Above reads CORCUERA HNOS., beneath, the hacienda's mark and the name HACIENDA DE ESTIPAC.



Another issue was ordered from Casa Litografica by Corcuera Hermanos: 1c, size 62 x 31 mm. made of orange pressboard and with black ink, uniface, and with rounded corners. Quantity unknown.

Also a 3c, size 61 x 33 mm. made of blue pressboard and with black ink, uniface, with rounded corners. Quantity printed is unknown.

Also, the Corcuera Hermanos ordered some issues from Casa Litografica Iguiniz, but the owner kept no records of the issues made there. Here are some pieces made .by this place, in different denominations:



Five centavos, size 62 x 32 mm., made of green pressboard, with black ink, uniface, and with rounded corners. Quantity unknown.



Ten centavos, size 62 x 32 mm., made of blue pressboard, with black ink, uniface, and with rounded corners. Quantity unknown.

#### REFERENCES

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