

Development, Organization and Operation of Argentina's Railroads: 1857-1947

Purpose and Scope: To show through railroad-related and collateral materials the development, organization and operation of Argentina's railroads from their inception in 1857 until 1947, when foreign-owned railroads were nationalized.

Traveling and station post offices, railroad-specific markings, parcel post forms, railroad telegraph, postal stationery, post cards and ancillary material, such as freight manifests, union dues books, menus and tickets with a railroad theme, all demonstrate not only the importance and centrality of the railroads, but also the ways in which they intersected with society. Many of the pieces are elusive and seldom seen. Important items are matted in red.

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- I. Formative years, 1857-ca. 1870.
- II. Rapid Expansion, 1870-1890.
- III. A Mature Railroad System, ca. 1885-1946.
- IV. Running a Railroad.
- V. Moving the Mail.
- Epilogue: Nationalization, 1947.



Before the advent of railroads slow-moving ox-carts carried crops and goods. *Real photo*