

Author: Academia Panamena de la Historia  
Title: Boletin de la Academia Panamena de la Historia  
Imprint: 1934 - 1937  
Dimensions (binding): 25 x 20.7 x 8.8 cm  
Dimensions (text block): 24.5 x 21 x 8.5 cm  
Collection: Benson Latin American Collection  
Examination Date: 10/14/07  
Treatment Date:  
Conservator: Sarah Norris

### **Treatment Objective**

The goal of this treatment is to stabilize these non-circulating historical serials so that they may be safely used without suffering further damage or page losses.

### **Condition**

The volume comprises 10 editions of a serial publication from the years 1934 – 1937. The serials are printed on thin, brown paper, which has weakened with time. The original binding technique for the serials is unknown, since the spines of all ten volumes were cut off for library binding, probably the early 1940s.

The serials display the multi-angled sewing holes and residual thread characteristic of machine oversewing. Red and white textile endbands were stuck on at the head and tail; these have broken at the edge of each volume, become partially detached, and frayed at the head. The spine shows much residual broken sewing, a thick layer of animal glue, partial remnants of a textile lining, and partial remnants of a hollow tube. The tube's paper is soft and reddish-brown in color. It, too, has split along the edges of each volume, and much of it has broken away from the spine completely. The text block was dramatically rounded and backed. Over time, the back half of the text block round has mostly flattened, while the front half of the text block has jutted forward, creating up to a 90 degree shoulder in the volumes near the front of the text block. The front foreedge now exceeds the back foreedge by 3.5 cm, and it exceeds even the front board by 2 cm.

The case is covered with a black, starch-filled bookcloth, with gold foil stamping on the spine. The covering appears slightly faded, but is in good condition overall. A small, white library sticker appears on the spine. A larger library sticker is adhered to the front pastedown and covered with a piece of pressure-sensitive tape. A library stamp, along with cataloguing annotations in both black ink and graphite, also appear on the pastedown. Graphite cataloguing annotations appear on the front endsheet.

The text block was cased into its binding, but the overhanging textile spine lining and both single folio endsheets have split down the gutter. The endsheets and the volumes are detached from the case. Residual sewing, glue, textile spine lining, and endbands tenuously hold each volume together; however, some pages are already loose, and none of the volumes remain attached to one another.

### **Treatment Proposal**

1. Poultice the remaining adhesive and linings off with methyl cellulose.
2. Line each separate volume with wheat starch paste and Japanese tissue. Use enough tissue layers to hold each volume together.
3. Box volumes by year (four boxes in all), building in support for the sharp shoulder, especially in the earlier volumes.

### **Materials Used**

- Machine-made lightweight Kozo (Hiromi)
- Precipitated wheat starch paste mixed 1:4 with distilled water, cooked 20 minutes (Colophon)
- Elvace PVAc 45675 (Poly vinyl acetate adhesive)
- 40 pt. board
- Rivets
- Nylon string
- Linen tape
- Corrugated cardboard
- 180-grain sandpaper

### **Treatment Steps**

1. Removed most of the very thick coating of animal glue from the spines of the journal volumes with multiple methyl cellulose poultices (11/1 and 11/4/07, 8 hours).
2. Applied two Kozo linings to all spines with wheat starch paste. Hinged the back cover of volume 1 to its spine. (11/8/07, 3 hours.)
3. Hinged front covers of volumes 2 and 3 to their spines with Kozo tissue. Adhered one additional Kozo lining to volume 1. (11/11/07, 1 hour.)
4. Created five phase boxes to house two volumes per box. Each box houses one year of publications, except the last two boxes, which each house half of the four publications from 1937. (11/11/07, 3 hours.)
5. Built shoulder supports for first three volumes with layers of corrugated board and PVAc. Sanded support edges and adhered supports to boxes with PVA. (11/15/07, 3 hours.)

Total: 18 hours