

National Stamp Shopper

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**THE NEW AND OLD
CHRISTMAS SEAL**

(Edwin Brooks)

A special design picturing the holiday festivity of "the good old days" was selected for the Christmas seal of 1931 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the sale of seals to fight tuberculosis. An old-time stage coach is shown drawn by four horses prancing through the snow. Aloft on the upper deck a passenger blows his horn to blazon Christmas greetings to the countryside.



This stamp is lithographed by Strobridge and is perforated 12. It is in black, red and green with the green running solid through the margins. Twenty-five seals, each with a different design, have been sold to the public at the holiday season since the organized tuberculosis movement got under way. This is how it started:

Twenty-seven years ago, a blond young Dane was looking over the Christmas mail at the post office in Copenhagen. It was a cold wintry twilight evening and this young man saw joyous, happy children following their parents to well-lit, well-provided homes to partake of delicious food. It was good to be alive at Christmas time!

But then, in his innermost mind and heart came the thought of those sick and convalescent children in the hospitals, for T. B. treatment And then as his eye glanced at some Christmas envelopes an idea struck—why not a CHRISTMAS SEAL to

be bought for a cent by the people to be put on all mails at and before Christmas time—and the proceeds to go for the betterment of those sick children!

The first Christmas seal sale in the United States was promoted 25 years ago by Emily P. Bissell (who saw an article in a magazine telling of the young Danish mail clerk and the seals) of Wilmington, Delaware, to raise money for a tuberculosis hospital on the banks of the Brandywine river.

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(Incidentally, there is a new society, called the "Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society." If you care to join, write to Mr. A. W. C. Brumfield, 99 W. Pratt St., Indianapolis, Indiana.)

IN MEMORIAM

of

HUGO SCHATZ of Cleveland, who passed away
November 4th, 1931.

The editorial staff of the NATIONAL STAMP SHOPPER wishes its many friends and readers

A MOST ENJOYABLE
CHRISTMAS
and

A HAPPY AND PROFITABLE
NEW YEAR

We present this Christmas Number with the feeling that each and every one of our readers will find enjoyment in it. We enjoy serving you and appreciate your comments and suggestions and hope that our columns will give you many moments of pleasure during the coming year.

THE EDITORIAL STAFF.