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Christmas Seal and Charity Stamps

Edited by A. W. C. Brumfield, 99 W. Pratt St. Indianapolis, Ind.

John W. Evans of Brooklyn, is the designer of the 1931 T. B. Christmas Seal. He also designed 1927, 1928 and 1930.

Dick Green (who by the way has moved and is now at 152 South 4th East Street, Salt Lake City) has been doing some research on Charity stamps issued during the Spanish American War, by Spanish groups in Spain, Argentina, Mexico, and in the U. S. for aid of Spain in that war. He has promised us an article for this column on these, in the near future.

The Christmas Seals and Charity Stamps Society is starting along nicely. W. T. Kinkead is president, Dick Green is vice president, and the editor of this department is Secretary. Linn's have been selected as official organ. Dues are 50c per year and includes a subscription to Linn's. All memberships begin with October 1. Membership cards are being mailed out now.

In our report last month on the 1931 seals we said that the Strobidge had broken gum. We find that the sheet we examined was Eureka printed and we understand that the Strobidge has smooth gum.

The Appeal of The Christmas Seal

By W. L. Kinkead, Treas. N. J. TB. League, No. 56 Park Ave., Glen Rock, N. J.

This heading is a little misleading until one reads a little further, and gets an understanding of my meaning. This short article tells of the appeal to the stamp collector or Philatelist.

The appeal is not one involving money, or rather, value, but is to the student of the seals, who is traveling into unknown fields, unexplored except by a very few collectors, who have not exhausted the field of research.

We have three fields to follow, namely: Our National Seals, "Locals" and The Thirty odd Foreign Countries.

Our National Seals are sponsored by the American Red Cross and The National Tuberculosis Ass'n. These cover a period of twenty-five years with, from one to (including Canada) five printers each year, difference in types, perforations, paper, secret marks; collected in singles, strips (coil), blocks, sheets with the proofs,

scale prints, booklets, and oddities.

Then we have the "Locals" that have been issued by others interested in fighting Tuberculosis, but are not affiliated with our American Red Cross or the National Tuberculosis Ass'n. Some of these, in earlier days, were friendly with the National Tuberculosis Ass'n, and as the N. T. A. expanded and the seal sale grew, they ceased to issue seals, and worked with the N. T. A. Others, of which we know, have and still are issuing seals, year after year. Here is a fascinating practically unexplored field. We can not say that all are known, nor where new ones will appear. Here one gets quite a "kick" out of it, when what is evidently a new T. B. seal turns up for listing through his efforts. These seals have been issued by Sanatoriums, States, County and City Ass'ns or National Ass'ns, such as the Women's Clubs in 1908-1913.

Who will tell us of the printers, perforations, type differences, and all the little details, dear to the collector's heart, that are unknown to any of us, among these "Local" seals?

Thirdly, we still have the largest field of all; the Thirty-odd Foreign Countries, who have issued seals since 1897 and 1904 to the present. Although many collectors have been gathering these seals and postage stamps, as many of them are, no one has made a comprehensive list of them, such as has been compiled of our N. T. A. seals and that is now being revised. Here is a wonderfully interesting opportunity for some stu-

dent to compile each of these thirty odd countries with their Governmental stamps and the official seals of the foreign lands in the North and South, Iceland to New Zealand.

Many of these seals have quaint designs, telling their story of suffering, others are joyous with their "Julen" and other greetings, some show interesting homes, beautiful castles, mountain scenes, rivers, cities, cathedrals, portraits of men and women, children, birds and animals, etc. The study of the printers, perforations, type differences, of the foreign seals is still an unknown quantity to the writer, although he has many of them.

"Local" foreign seals also are to be found and collected.

So, I have outlined briefly the appeal of the Christmas Seal to the student, to the one who wants a new field not so well trodden as many in the older and better explored fields of Philately; here is an opportunity for reaching out and gathering these precious wee bits of paper that have carried for more than a quarter of a century their message of cheer and helpfulness to a stricken class of humanity.

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* Abyssinia, 175-177	\$2.25	\$.44
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