

6-3-1963

## LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS



The Anti-Tuberculosis Assn. of China paid tribute to Dr. W. W. Yen who had been a great health, education and charity worker in that nation by centering his portrait in its 1951 sheet of 25 Anti-TB seals. The red, blue, yellow, and brown design was printed by the Sincere Press, Shanghai, China.

## CHARITY SEAL COLLECTING

Amy Ellen Davis  
5801 N. Major Ave.  
Chicago 46, Ill.

In 1949 the tuberculosis society in China had again changed its name to the National Anti-Tuberculosis Assn. of China, with Dr. W.W. Yen as chairman of its board of directors. The name remained so until 1951 when the word "National" was struck from its title, this being due to the Communist infiltration.

Letterheads with the word "National" still in use were being used through 1950, but the seals bearing the 1950 date and the word "National" in the name had the entire English text blocked out, but not until some of the original seals had already left the country.

Dr. W. W. Yen was a very great statesman and patriot in China, devoting many years to health education and charity work.

Although not listed as a doctor of medicine, he was responsible for many health measures, and after his death in 1950, was so honored

by the tuberculosis association. It used his portrait as the center seal in its sheet of 25 seals, issued in 1951.

As Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs he drew up regulations placing "Plague Prevention Service" under the Foreign Office, the Manchurian Plague Prevention Service having been established in October 1912.

Through his efforts large sums were appropriated for hospitals at Harbin, Manchouli, Tsitsikar, and Lahasusu.

Dr. Yen was at one time president of the Red Cross and led a brilliant diplomatic career. Again I am greatly indebted to my helpmate, Dr. Carlton F. Potter, for the following biographical sketch of Dr. Yen:

W. W. Yen (Yen Hui-Ching), Chinese diplomat and public official, was born at Shanghai, China in 1877. He studied at St. John's University and at the Anglo-Chinese College, both in Shanghai, and at the Tung Wen College in Peiking.

He came to the U.S. in 1895 and studied at the University of Virginia, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1900. Returning to China, he became professor of English at St. John's University, Shanghai.

In 1906 he was named chief English editor of the "Commercial

Press" in Shanghai and later that year was appointed to the imperial ministry of education. He also served as editor of the "Anglo-Chinese Dictionary".

Later he became Second Secretary of the Chinese Legation in Washington, D.C. but returned to China to establish a government Press Bureau. He became Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Chinese Government and later Minister of Foreign Affairs (1920) after serving terms as Minister to Germany, Sweden and Denmark.

He was Prime Minister from 1924 to 1926, and served as envoy to London, Washington and Moscow. In 1933, he was the chief Chinese delegate at the League of Nations in Geneva.

Returning home, he spent later years in educational, health and charitable activities in China. In 1949, headed an unofficial delegation that sought without success to form a coalition Chinese government which would incorporate the Communists. He died at Shanghai May 23, 1950.