

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

April 1, 2023

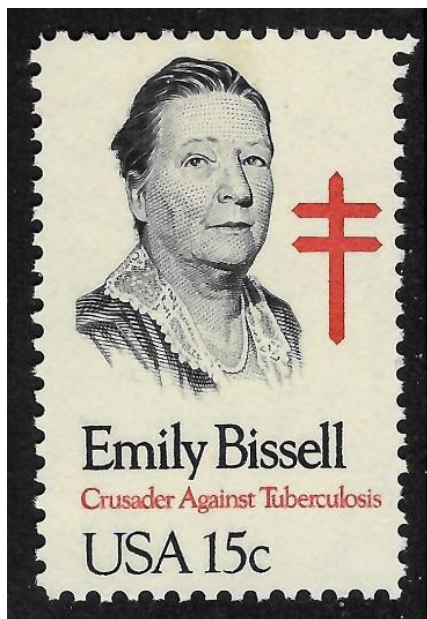
Tuberculosis

By the year 1801 tuberculosis (“TB”) had killed one seventh of all people that had ever lived. In the 19th century (1801 to 1900) tuberculosis killed about one quarter of all the adult population in Europe. TB was also commonly called “Consumption.” In the 2001 film *Moulin Rouge* starring Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor, the beautiful star dies of TB. Between 1851 and 1910 in England about **half of all young adults** aged from 20 to 24 died of TB.

Tuberculosis is a disease that today is rare in America, but worldwide killed 2.2 million people last year. Beginning in the late 1800’s places called Sanitariums (sometimes spelled “sanitoriums”) were built all over the United States where TB patients would go to live, and often to die. The one in Chicago was on a property of 158 acres. Today, TB is curable using antibiotics.

Emily Bissell (1861 – 1948)

Emily Bissell was an American social worker who founded the first kindergarten in Wilmington, Delaware. She was instrumental in getting child-labor laws passed, and was a well-known **anti-suffragist**. She lobbied heavily and spoke about how women should **not** be given the right to vote. She wrote “The vote is part of man’s work. Ballot-box, cartridge box, jury box, sentry box all go together in his part of life. Women cannot step in and take the responsibilities and duties of voting...”



So why was she commemorated on a 15¢ US stamp in 1980? The reason is that she is well known creating in 1907 the first Christmas Seal stamps in the United States, and using the funds that the seals raised to fight TB. Christmas seals are found in the Scott Catalogue under the prefix “WX.” They have never been valid for postage, but were, during their heyday, used by millions next to postage stamps on Christmas cards, or sometimes on the back of the envelope to seal the flap. They were used as a huge fundraiser by the National

Tuberculosis Association to help eliminate tuberculosis. In 1973 the National Tuberculosis Association was renamed the American Lung Association.

Catalogs, Part 11

In the May 2022 issue of *The Philatelist*, we began brief descriptions of various “Back of the Book” (“BOB”) listings in the Scott Catalogues. We looked at stamps which begin with the letter “B,” “C,” “CE,” “CL,” “CM,” “CB,” “CO,” “E,” “D,” “F,” “FA,” “J,” “K,” “O,” “PR,” “PN,” “PS,” “WS,” “BK,” “Q,” “JQ,” “QE,” and “CVP.” This month we will look at stamps in Scott with the prefix “WX.”

Stamps Beginning with

the prefix “WX.”



Scott Catalogue lists Christmas seals under the prefix “WX,” beginning with seals issued in 1907 to present day. In 1983 Christmas seals were issued with Spanish text. Spanish text seals are listed with a lower-case letter following the listing for the English text seal. In recent decades Christmas seals have been printed with many different designs on a single pane of seals, and are quite colorful. As mailing Christmas cards has greatly diminished since the creation of cell phones and the Internet, finding recent year Christmas seals on cover has now become much more difficult. A Christmas seal that is on the front of the envelope, and was placed close enough to the postage stamp that the cancellation of the stamp also cancels part of the seal, is called

“tied” to the cover. At left is a pane of the 1956 Christmas seals, featuring a single seal in the center of Emily Bissell.

In 1973 Christmas seals had 12 different designs, each featuring one of the “12 Days of Christmas.”



For more info, contact the Christmas Seals and Charity Stamp Society, Paul Clemmensen, 3879 Forester Ct, San Jose, CA 95121
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Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more you will be sent a written receipt. You also can donate via PayPal on our website www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org or www.yummystampcollecting.org which redirects you to the same website.

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