

**August 19, 1963
1963 ANTI-TB SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS**

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(August 19 - September 30)**

A few decades ago, tuberculosis or "white plague" as it is commonly called, was regarded as the deadliest disease not only in the Philippines but in other countries of the world as well.

Whereas today other countries have considerably reduced TB mortality with extensive hospitalization programs and progressive scientific methods of combating the disease, the Philippines still faces the problem of reducing its own death rate.

The Philippine Tuberculosis Society, handicapped by limited funds, has been conducting yearly educational and fund drive to raise funds to carry on its fight to prevent and eradicate tuberculosis.

One of the public agencies authorized by law to help raise the additional fund needed by the PTS is the Bureau of Posts. Republic Act No. 1635, passed by Congress on June 2, 1957, requires the printing and issue of semi-postal stamps in order to raise funds for the Tuberculosis Society.

In accordance with said Act, Postmaster General Enrico Palomar this year again issues a set of 3-denomination semi-postal stamps to be affixed on all outgoing mail matters during the period from August 19 to September 30.

The stamps bear the map of the Philippines with the emblem of the TB at the center, the word "Pilipinas" on top and the denomination at the left-hand corner.

Printed by intaglio steel plate process, the 2-color stamps measure 27x42 mm, vertically composed and comes in sheets of 50. Six million has been printed of the 5+5 centavo denomination; or a total of ten million semi-postal stamps. The Bradbury, Wilkinson & Company, Ltd. of England printed the stamps.

The map of the Philippines appropriately depicts the wide extent of the work of the Philippine Tuberculosis Society in its mission to treat and control tuberculosis. It remains a public health problem and the need for public aid to enable the Society to provide more beds for TB hospitals and to expand its home-care services which is ever growing.

