

the brain. He is credited with publication of over 500 scientific papers and the discovery of chromium. He investigated many drugs, such as ergotamine, atropine, nicotine and others. He died on November 14, 1829.



It has been said that professor von Rokitansky, the famous Austrian pathologist, performed in excess of 100,000 autopsies. A surgical resident (long time ago!) I asked our aging in-house pathologist what would be his estimated number of postmortem examinations he had performed. He proudly replied, "over 5,000".

KARL FREIHERR von ROKITANSKY was born on 19th February 1804 in Königsgrätz, studied in Prague and Vienna and even before graduating (in 1828) dedicated himself to the study of pathological anatomy. In 1844 he received the chair of this specialty in Vienna. His most important work is the "Handbook of Pathological Anatomy" which appeared from 1841-1846. Because of this, Virchow called him the "Linné of pathological anatomy". When, later, Rokitansky gave his attention to histology, he discovered the ependymal cells of the brain. This scholar received numerous public honors and offices. Like Virchow he was active as a liberal politician. He died on 23rd July 1878.

THE CROSS OF LORRAINE AND TB STAMPS

Marcos A. Iglesias. Mississauga, Canada.

(This paper was presented at the MSU session held in conjunction with the 70th annual meeting of the American Association for the

History of Medicine in Williamsburg, Va. On April 3, 1997.)

Many years ago I was discussing with two close friends the true identity of the proper symbol used on postage stamps to advertise the fight against tuberculosis. They asked me to investigate the subject matter. I did, but we never reached a conclusion.

As part of my research I have a letter from the American Lung Association dated in New York on September 22, 1977. In the letter they provided information related to the symbol used by the association in its campaigns to raise funds to fight tuberculosis. Almost twenty years later I have started to write about my findings.

Why the delay in solving this enigma? There is no agreement pertinent to the extant universal symbol which identifies the stamps used to warn population about the necessity to fight this terrible disease that is again affecting millions. I have read many times that the symbol used to promote the campaign against tuberculosis is the so called Cross of Lorraine. Many will agree with this understanding; postage stamp catalogues and most philatelists will concur with this assumption. Is it really the Cross of Lorraine the symbol used universally to promote the fight against TB? I have not been able to confirm this unequivocally.

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What is a cross? The dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy of the Language defines a cross as follows: "A figure formed by two lines that go across or intersect perpendicularly." It also says that it is "... a scaffold (*patibulum*) formed by a log stuck vertically and crossed on its upper part by a shorter one."

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Tradition says that Saint Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine, visited the Holy Places in 326 AD. At Golgotha, she found fragments of the cross on which Jesus was crucified, the so called *Lignum crucis* or *Vera Cruz* (True Cross). She ordered that a reliquary, in the form of a cross, be made, and she Zave it to the Patriarch of Jerusalem. It became the Patriarchal Cross.

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(b) Cross of Lorraine: This double-barred cross was the emblem of the Dukes of Lorraine, France. It was the cross carried by Godofred de Bouillon, leader of the First

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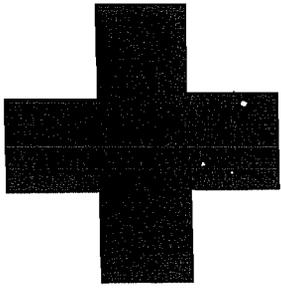
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GREEK CROSS

Fig. 1



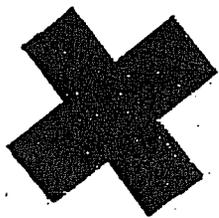
LATIN CROSS

Fig. 2



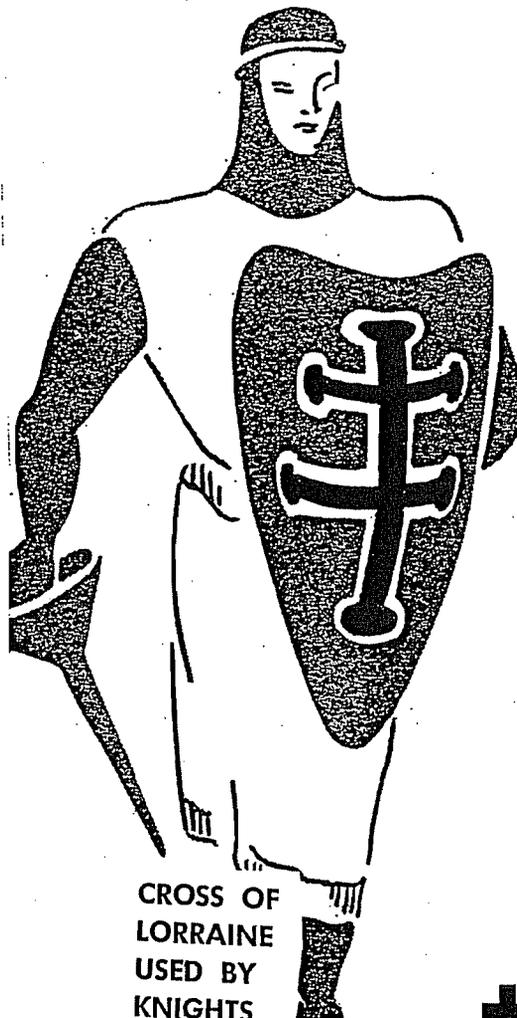
TAU CROSS

Fig. 3

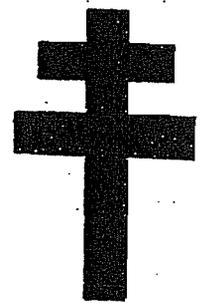


ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

Fig. 4



CROSS OF LORRAINE
USED BY
KNIGHTS
OF THE
FIRST
CRUSADE



PATRIARCHAL
CROSS

Fig. 5



Lorraine



Patriarchal

Einar Holboell, a post office worker in Denmark, first thought of this symbol as a means of raising money to care for children sick with tuberculosis. Denmark used the first seals during the 1904 Christmas season. The seal reached the United States in 1907. It was Emily P. Bissell (S-1823) who started campaigns using the seal to raise funds for the fight against tuberculosis. (Fig. 8.) The American Lung Association of the United States adopted a double-barred cross as a symbol. It is a registered trademark of this association. (Fig. 9.)

If we look at the Cross of Lorraine we observe that the upper bar is shorter than the lower. By looking at the cross adopted by the American we notice that both cross-bars are of the same length. Obviously the American Lung Association has complicated this issue. From now on, I will refer to this cross as "the American cross."

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Fig. 8

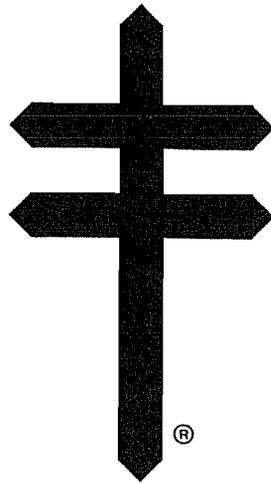


Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



RA 7



RA 9



RA 10



Fig. 14



RA 17/20



RA 22/25



RA 30/33

Fig. 15



Fig. 16



DICIEMBRE 1º DE 1939



Lorraine Crosses printed in envelopes used in First Day Cancellations.



Another Cross of Lorraine



"American Cross"



Cross with the upper bar larger than the lower bar.



Another "sui-generis" cross. It is neither the Lorraine, the American nor the Patriarchal.

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By: Marcos A. Iglesias
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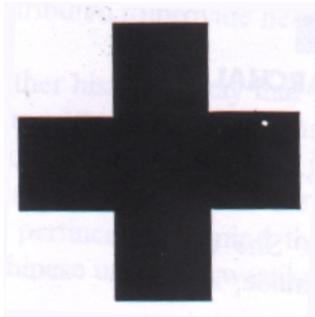


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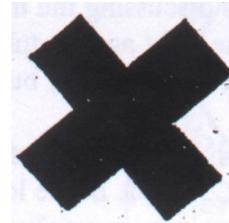


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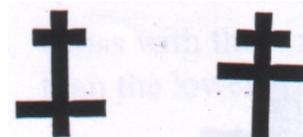


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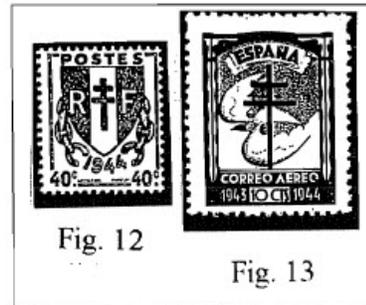
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Perhaps now the kind reader will understand why I started this paper referring to the

long delay in trying to solve this enigma. When there is no "rule" there is no consensus,



Fig. 16

and where there is no consensus, there is anarchy. This is the case concerning the design of these stamps. What is more important is that these stamps, and the corresponding labels, have served to call the attention of the general public to support the fight against a deadly disease which has spread all over the world: tuberculosis.

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1921	Danzig
1924	Holland and Hungary
1925	Belgium and Luxembourg
1930	Austria, Lithuania and New Zealand
1932	Romania
1934	Greece, Netherlands Indies
1937	Spain
1938	Cuba (first country in the Americas) and Yugoslavia
1943	Albania and Germany
1945	France and French Morocco
1946	Finland, Spanish Morocco, Monaco and Dominican Republic
1948	China, Poland and Tunisia
1949	Soviet Union
1953	Formosa (Republic of China) and Somalia
1954	Fiji

The Cross of Lorraine and TB Stamps

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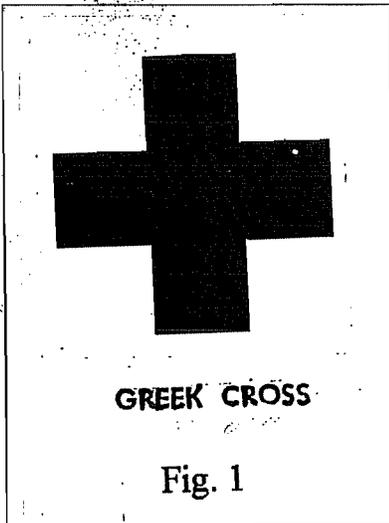
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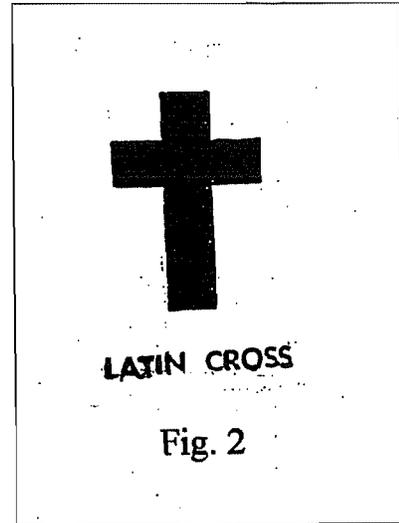
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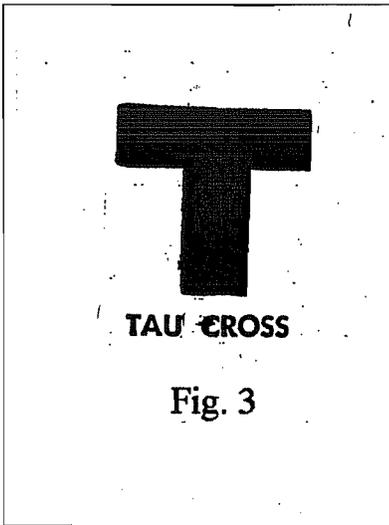
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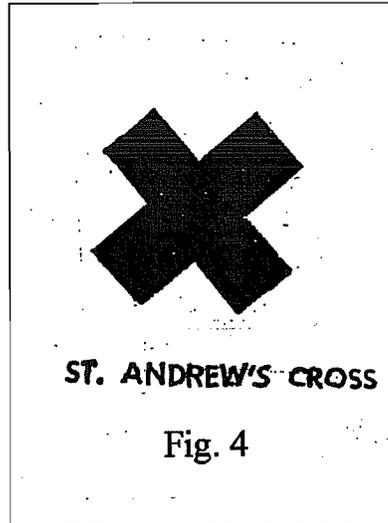
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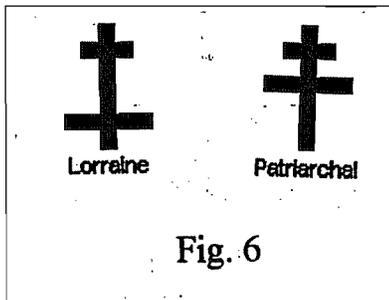


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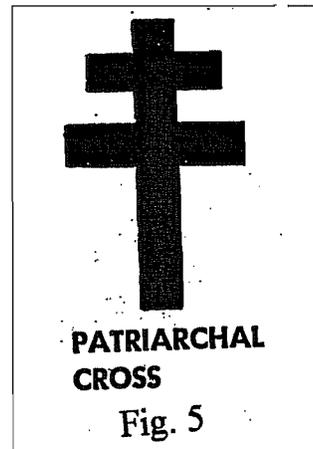
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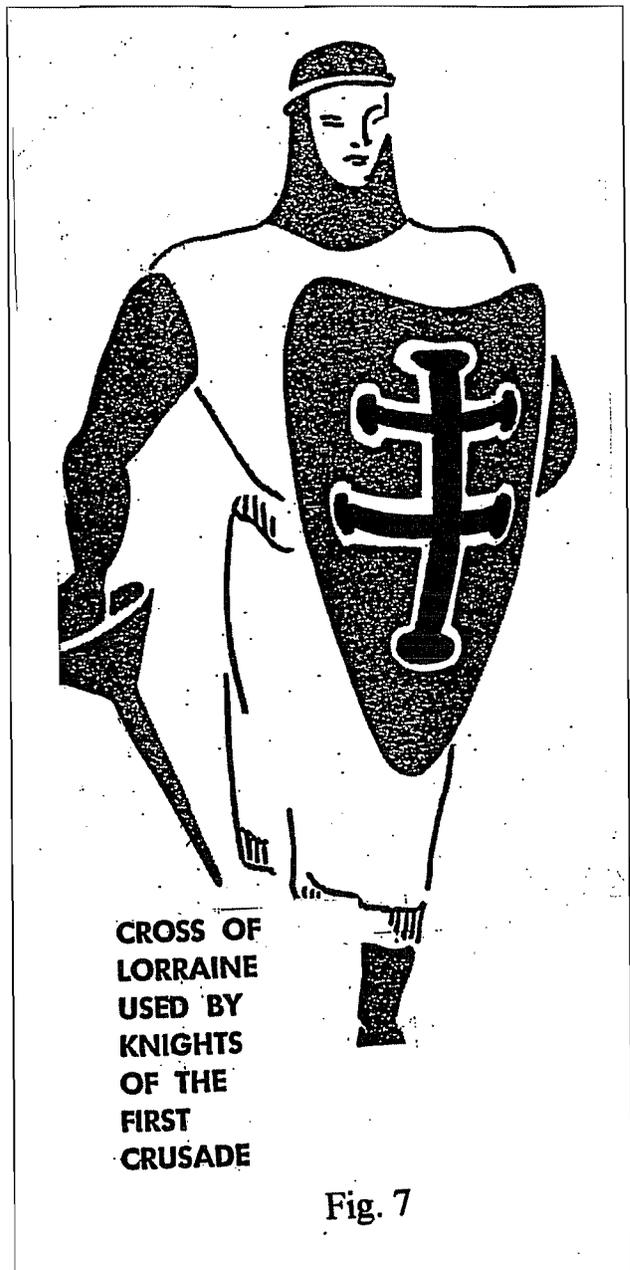
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The double-bar cross returned from the Crusades. The Cistercian Order was charged with its custody. This order provided medical care to orphans who had contracted tuberculosis. Little by little, the double-barred cross became a universal symbol for the fight against tuberculosis.

This cross gradually became an object of worship, attributed to provide health and protection.

Other historians say that when France collapsed in June 1940, Admiral Muselier chose the Cross of Lorraine as a symbol of the Free France. It was a reaction to the use of the swastika by the Nazis. It is pertinent to remind that more than two thousand years ago the East Indians and the Chinese used the swastika as a symbol.

The most notable case of confusion relates to the Cross of Lorraine often thought to be the same as the Free French cross (Patriarchal cross) but that it is somewhat different.



Modern use of the double-barred cross.

During the First International Conference on Tuberculosis held in 1902, Dr. Gilbert Sersiron, of Paris, suggested the adoption of the double-barred cross as the symbol of a new movement promoting good health. It became the device of peace rather than war.

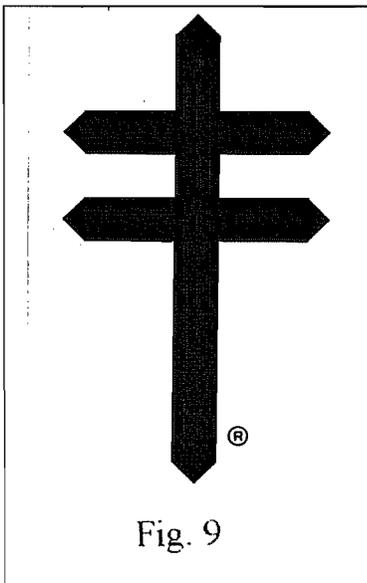
Einar Holboell, a post office worker in Denmark, first thought of this symbol as a means of raising money to care for children sick with tuberculosis. Denmark used the first seals during the 1904 Christmas season.

The seal reached the United States in 1907. It was Emily P. Bissell (S-1823) who started campaigns, using the seal, to raise funds for the fight against tuberculosis. (Fig. 8)

The American Lung Association of the United States adopted a double-barred cross as a symbol. It is a registered trademark of this association. (Fig. 9)



If we look at the Cross of Lorraine we can observe that the upper bar is shorter than the lower. By looking at the cross adopted by the American Lung Association we notice that both cross-bars are of the same length. Obviously, the American Lung Association has complicated this issue. From now on, I will refer to this cross as "the American cross."



It would be tedious to refer to every stamp and label privately issued to promote the campaigns against tuberculosis. At first glance we can observe a large diversity of crosses of all shapes and colors. Therefore, I will use only a few stamps and labels to illustrate this topic.

A. Cross of Lorraine:

France:

Let us agree that De Gaulle's France adopted the Cross of Lorraine as a symbol. Since both sides of France, De Gaulle's and Petain's, issued postage stamps, the main area where we can find the Cross of Lorraine is in the stamps issued by French colonies that followed De Gaulle's leadership.

Spain:

From 1937 to 1953 Spain issued several stamps to highlight the prophylactic campaigns against tuberculosis. Generally, the Spanish Edifil catalogue identifies these stamps with the Cross of Lorraine, although there are several types and designs.

Cuba:

Only a few Cuban stamps carry the Cross of Lorraine. I have found only two: RA1 (1938) (Fig.10) and a label issued by the Cuban National Council of Tuberculosis in 1954. (Fig.11)

B. Patriarchal Cross.

France:

In 1945-47 France issued a set (S-524/27) showing a Patriarchal Cross in the French shield, claiming it to be the Lorraine Cross. (Fig. 12)

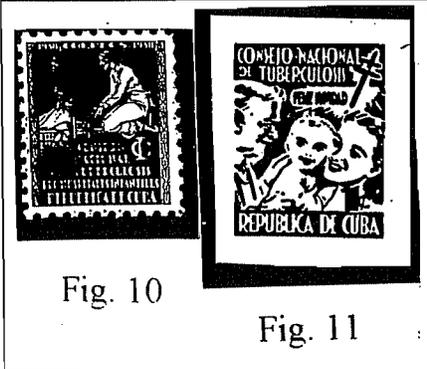


Fig. 10

Fig. 11

Spain:

There is a Patriarchal Cross in set Edifil 970/73. (Fig.13)

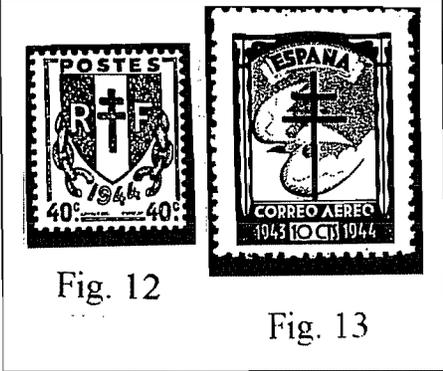


Fig. 12

Fig. 13

Cuba:

The following stamps show this cross: Scott's RA4, RA7, RA9, RA10, as well as the label issued by the National Council of Tuberculosis in 1950.

Set S-RA12/15 shows an irregular Patriarchal Cross (the upper bar is very short in comparison to the lower bar). (Fig. 14)



RA 7

RA 9

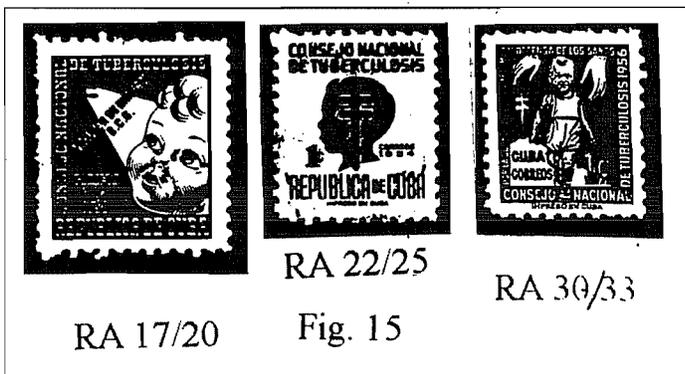
RA 10

Fig. 14

C. The American Cross:

Cuba:

Many stamps issued by Cuba to sponsor the fight against tuberculosis used the cross adopted by the American Lung Association, including the following: Scott's RA8, RA17/20, RA 22/25, RA26/29, RA30/33, RA35/38 and RA39/42. (Fig. 15)



The labels issued by Cuba's National Council of Tuberculosis primarily used the "American Cross" in 1953.

However, a label issued in 1953 (Fig. 16) used the American Cross as well as the Lorraine Cross. They were repeated in (Tubex) 1956 and (Tubex) 1957.

Additionally, we find that the cachets used by several dealers to obtain First Day



Fig. 16

cancellations, as well as the official cancellations used by the Cuban Ministry of Communications, selected any one of the three crosses mentioned in this paper (Fig. 17). Another interesting cancellation is the one used in 1939 in which the upper bar is longer than the lower one. (Fig. 17)

One may be tempted to think that this carelessness in using these crosses only relates to the three countries mentioned in this paper. Nothing is farther from the truth. My collection of "anti-tuberculosis" stamps is limited to the those issued by Cuba. It forms part of my collection "History of Medicine in Cuba through Postage Stamps." I have a brochure illustrating several stamps issued by many other countries in which these anomalies constitute, not the exception, but the pattern.

Perhaps now the kind reader will understand why I started this paper referring to the long delay in trying

to solve this enigma. When there is no "rule" there is no consensus, and where there is no

consensus, there is anarchy. This is the case concerning the design of these stamps. What is more important is that these stamps, and the corresponding labels, have served to call the attention of the general public to support the fight against a deadly disease which has spread all over the world: tuberculosis.

"Porteo," the philatelic magazine of the "Círculo Filatélico de Ferrol" (Spain), in issue No. 13 (1996) lists the first issues of the pro-tuberculosis stamps until 1954, as follows:

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1905 | Portugal |
| 1921 | Danzig |
| 1924 | Holland and Hungary |
| 1925 | Belgium and Luxembourg |
| 1930 | Austria, Lithuania and New Zealand |
| 1932 | Romania |
| 1934 | Greece, Netherlands Indies |
| 1937 | Spain |
| 1938 | Cuba (first country in the Americas) and Yugoslavia |
| 1943 | Albania and Germany |
| 1945 | France and French Morocco |
| 1946 | Finland, Spanish Morocco, Monaco and Dominican Republic |
| 1948 | China, Poland and Tunisia |
| 1949 | Soviet Union |
| 1953 | Formosa (Republic of China) and Somalia |
| 1954 | Fiji |



DICIEMBRE 1º DE 1939



Lorraine Crosses printed in envelopes used in First Day Cancellations.



Another Cross of Lorraine



"American Cross"



Cross with the upper bar larger than the lower bar.



Another "sui-generis" cross. It is neither the Lorraine, the American nor the Patriarchal.

Fig. 17