WHY COLLECT POSTAGE DUES?

A. L. Davis, Niles, Ohio Taken from the May 1954 issue of *The Keystoner* The Official Organ of the Western Pennsylvania Precancel Society Submitted by Bill Lehn, PSS 6902

A question that may pop into the mind of the average precancel collector is, "Why collect Postage Dues?" My collection consists of 8,000, and I have never lost interest since I began. In looking through my general collection, I found there were about 100 varieties. I began with those and have been at it for 13 years.

One may notice the effect of a strong imprint on the red or pink background and this makes for brightness of the stamp. Also, they are uniform in the de-nomination $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ on through the 50¢ of 1911, 1914, 1917, 1930 and 1931 issue. (The exception is the \$1.00 and \$5.00 denoms of the 1930 issue.) Dues are the only types which have seen only local use.

Postage Dues may be grouped into states, types, or towns as you choose. Also, the double line electros are very popular since they are known as the beauties of precanceldom.

The average collector should find it possible to build up a 1,000 variety collection in a short while, as there are many Dues in the hands of those who are willing to swap or sell.

Editor: Subsequent to the writing of this article, the Postal Service released another Postage Due issue in 1956.)