# AMERICAN REVENUER



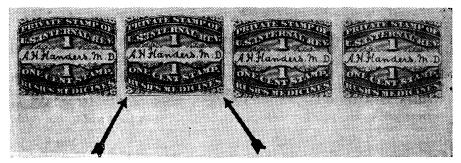
## Journal of the American Revenue Association

Vol. 27, No. 3, Whole No. 253

March 1973

# A Major Variety of the A. H. Flanders Private Proprietary Stamp

By Richard F. Riley



One would suppose that after 100 years all major varieties of our revenue stamps would have been noted and recorded in the literature. If the variety illustrated with this note has been described, its description is well buried in ancient accounts. At least it is not mentioned in lists of Adenaw, Sterling or Nast. Neither is it noted in past issues of the Revenuer or in Holcombe's article on the firm (Weekly Philatelic Gossip, May 8, 1937, p. 271-2).

The variety, on RS87d, is the second stamp in the illustrated part perforated strip of 4 on watermarked paper. The variety shows a bold frame line about 0.3 mm from the design at the bottom of the stamp, which is as easily apparent, for example, as a major double transfer. The length of the "frame line" is exactly the width of the stamp and is far stronger than remnants of layout lines which can be discerned occasionally on other copies of the stamp.

The relief was rocked in in a very sloppy fashion. From a glance at the central panel bearing Flanders' name on stamps 2 and 3 it is evident that stamp 2 is rocked in much higher. Measurement on the original suggests that the relief is also rotated slightly counterclockwise with respect to stamps 3 and 4, and that the "frame line" is also rotated, suggesting that the "frame line" was a part of the die which was not entered in normal transfers during rocking in on the plate, but was in this case because of poor alignment. One other feature of the spacing of the stamps deserves mentioning. The horizontal spacing between stamps 1 and 2 is about 2 mm while that between 3 and 4 is closer to 5 mm.

According to Holcombe three plates of the Flanders stamp were prepared:

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Vol. 27, No. 3, Whole No. 253

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by Joseph Carpenter; by The National Bank Note Co.; and by The American Bank Note Co. The Bureau of Printing and Engraving used the plate prepared by The National Bank Note Co. Only The American Bank Note Co. and the Bureau of Printing and Engraving used watermarked paper. Since the example is on watermarked paper, the variety was on a plate prepared either by The National Bank Note Co. or The American Bank Note Co. The National Bank Note Co. also printed this stamp on silk paper. My copies on silk paper and a number in my collection on watermarked paper appear as if printed from plates more worn than that used to print the strip in question. This suggests then that the variety occurred on the plate prepared and used briefly by The American Bank Note Co. If these conjectures are correct the variety will occur only on watermarked paper as that is the only type of paper used by The American Bank Note Co. in printing private die stamps.

Conjectures, being what they are, it may still be worth examining all of the Flanders stamps regardless of paper for examples of the variety. Confirmation of the variety by others is to be hoped for.

#### WANTED

II. S. federal Special Tax Stamps, used, from 1873 to date; U. S. Receipts, Permits, Certificates, Licenses issued by district Collectors of Inland Duties and later by district Collectors of Internal

Revenue from first tax laws, 1790's to 1873. Please write and describe, or submit with your price. If not for sale, would appreciate loan for photographing, as material for article. WENCK 104 Coachlight Sq., Bridgeport, Ct. 06606

247-9-1-3-5

# Second Report on RN-FAC Checks—Many Additions

By Joseph Einstein



Fig. 1

Publication of the preliminary Report in the October 72 Revenuer led to many additional items for listing and description.

First returns brought what is called the "Sellersville" design: examples of these are in the collections of Geo. W. Aschenbrenner, Fallbrook, CA; Robert K. Richards, Baltimore, MD, the writer PLUS a beautiful unused item from the collection of Henry Tolman II, Orange, Conn. Both Aschenbrenner and Richards have the "Sellersville" on dark blue and light ecru paper; mine is on the dark blue. While Tolman has these, too, his unused example is from Erie, PA and is shown as Fig. 2, while the first reported is shown on Fig. 1.

The "Sellersville" checks were printed by Wm. Mann, 529 Market St., Philadelphia. His trade style in 1871 was Wm Mann, STEAM-POWER Printer. Philada.—all in caps but Steam-Power in bolder, heavier letters. The same trade style is known thru 1872 and my earliest check showing the street address is dated April 14, 1874; this shows the legend Wm Mann, 529 Market St., Phila with dots under the m of Wm (as in the first) and also under the a of Phila. Sometime in the subsequent 10 years, he changed to spelling out Philadelphia but retained into 1884 the Wm (with the m raised and dots underneath) abbreviation for William. The Tolman item shows a new printers name to this reporter. On this one is Walker & Gallagher, Printers, 20 N. Park. The city is assumed to be Erie, Penna. This beauty is shown as Fig. 2.

The RN-FAC itself is about 2 7/32" long x about 1¾" high. It is a complex heraldic crest consisting of a shield, surmounted by an eagle, with rearing draft horses at each side (the horse's heads being almost on line with the eagle). In the shield are 3 sheaves of grain, a plow and a ship. Below is a triply folded ribband, reading "Virtue", "Liberty and", "Independence". Color, on the dark blue paper, is most difficult to determine. It appears to be a richer shade of "Revenue Orange' than usual. On the ecru and off-white



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

paper (Erie) the color is lighter but still seems to have more red than the more common G style oranges.

NOTE: There may be additional "Sellersville" checks in the holdings of Richard T. Hoober of Newfoundland, Pa. who sold me my copy of this RN-FAC. At this time, there are known at least 4 copies on dark blue paper; 3 copies on ecru paper and the Tolman Erie on off-white paper.

The next Figure (#3) shows an unused Hanover National Bank copyright RN-FAC. This, the discovery copy, is in the collection of Bob Richards who graciously loaned it for photographing and describing. As shown in Fig. 3, this is an almost perfect stripped G type, even to the Liberty head in the center and has two added circles, one at each end. The four circles contain crosses and dots—dots at 45, 135, 225 and 315 degrees (about). Upper border has a Grecian key design; lower border legend is THE HANOVER NATIONAL BANK. Below the "stamp" there is, in the color of the FAC—"copyright 1884 Hanover National Bank". Length of the FAC is about 3 13/64", height about 1%". Color: Revenue Orange. The printer was Korff Bros and Co., N. Y. This was the first example seen by me of work by this firm.

Then along came Steve Leavitt's sale of 11/25/72. Here was offered a Hanover FAC but with a major difference. Whether this will be regarded as an "a" version of Richards' or a separate item will be deferred for now. This check has been re-printed for use in the 1899-1902 period; it bears to left and slightly below the Hanover FAC, an RN-X6 to show payment of the re-instated 2c tax. See Fig. 4. Also, the Korff Bros imprint now shows the address—161 Washington St—in N. Y. The check was printed for use in the 1890's. The date line 189— is crossed out by pen stroke and date of use—Mch 16, 1901—inserted before the printed 189—. Among others, Robert Flaig has one of these. There are known, besides mine and Flaig's, about a half-dozen of these checks but no others have been reported by owner's name.

It is curious that, considering the size of the Hanover National, and the sure knowledge that this FAC was printed more than once and over a period of more than 15 years, there are so few of them in the hands of collectors.



Fig. 4

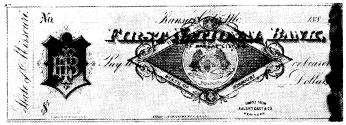


Fig. 5

Up to this point, all was fine—a lot of information had come to hand, all was welcome additional knowledge. But, it was a crusher to find out just how many of these FAC's Henry Tolman II has in his collection!

First: Tolman has Gast samples similar to Held's Texas (see Fiig. 3 in the Oct. '72 Revenuer) from all of these places—Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri (illustrated as Fig. 5) as well as North Carolina, Texas and Virginia. All have the same basic stripped G-type frame; central vignette and legend differs on each check to match geographics. Apparently, Gast tried to depict the state or territorial seal as the central vignette. Some reproduce better than others—the printing was single color and always in pale Revenue Orange (almost yellow, in fact) and some detail was sacrificed.

Tolman has, also, a book "Samples of Litihographed Checks, Drafts, Etc" issued by Corlies, Macy & Co, 39 Nassau and 54-56 Liberty St., N. Y. (Fig. 6). This book contains 24 sample checks, drafts and receipts with each identified by "order #47" and so on up to #70. There are 20 FAC samples, 10 of the type shown as the E. C. Long check (Apr. 71 Revenuer) and 10 have a FAC design 2 13/16" long x 1 49/64" high which is a decorated G-type diamond but filled with ornate geometric and Grecian key designs. The center part is curved and equally ornate. See Fig. 7 for details. This one is a beauty! Have never seen one used.

The samples were printed in a shade of Salmon; really too much red to be considered even a shade of Revenue Orange; yet the E. C. Long check was a reddish Revenue Orange. Can not explain this.

To continue with Mr. Tolman—he has the Mann "Sellersville" referred to above and a Milton C. Johnson shown as Fig. 5 in the Preliminary Report. BUT, he has another Johnson type which is new to us. Shown as Fig. 8, it is clear that the lower legend has MILTON C. JOHNSON rather than the "entered according to, etc" and a whole line below the actual body of the check carries the "entered to" statement. This line is about 4%" long. Which raises the question—should this be an "a" version of the first reported or should it be a FAC by itself? Would appreciate comments.

At this time we do not claim to know all of the Gast story. The Gast



Fig. 6

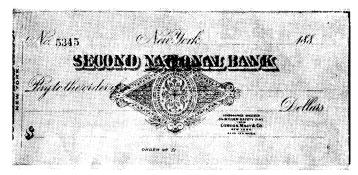


Fig. 7



Fig. 7a

Bank Note Co. is still in St. Louis and was written to about these items. The response was disheartening—all this material had been donated to the Missouri Historical Society in 1965 (to save space!) and the plates were destroyed. Oh, boy! in this period of nostalgia and decorated checks wouldn't those plates have been something? BUT, the Mo. Hist. Society didn't want the Gast items. The Society passed them on to The Archivist, Washington University, St. Louis Maybe the story will come from Washington University and then we can learn the rest of what Gast did produce. Right now, no news.

A belated acknowledgement is due for the photographs in the Preliminary Report as well as in this Report. All the photographs were made by EPS Studios, Inc. of Evanston, Illinois, and are truly of excellent quality. We've been told they reproduce very well. It is believed that no other acknowledgements have been neglected but if any one was accidently slighted, please forgive!

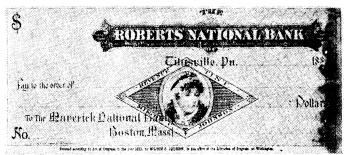


Fig. 8

#### CIRCUIT NOTES

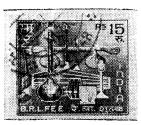
The circuit statistics as of Feb. 1st:
Salesbooks sold 555
Descined for simulation
Received for circuits 344
Not seen 211
Circuits initiated 229
Circuits completed 202
Still out 27
Books returned to owners 234
(Their sales value, \$12,292.79)
Books remaining in circuits 110
Members signed up 165
Recapitulation of auction 6 results:
Corrections:
Delete lot 90 at \$20 as unsold.
Delete lot 290 at \$13.25 as unsold.
The Calif. docs, lots 154-244, remain
unsold for various reasons.
Add lots 509 thru 513, sold at \$9.50
each (\$47.50)
Total sales corrected to \$2424.95
ARA commission therefore 242.49

Auction expenses \_\_\_\_\_ 32.28

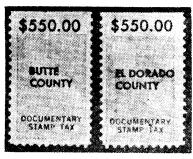
Net income for ARA \_\_\_\_\_ 210.21

Auction 7 is scheduled to appear in next month's (April's) issue. It is hoped that all bidders in previous sales have arrived at some conclusions regarding their bids, and they will take appropriate steps in auction 7.

—G. M. Abrams, Sales Mgr.



Illustrated is the Radio stamp from India mentioned in last months Revenuer. If interested in acquiring the set write to Gerald M. Abrams, 3840 Lealma Ave., Claremont, CA 91711.



The CALIFORNIA COUNTY DOC-UMENT STAMPS were only in use for the first six months of 1968, so they are destined to become among the rarest of AMERICANA and CAL-IFORNIA PHILATELIC ITEMS. Remainders were mostly destroyed or cancelled by punching, printing or handstamping.

We were fortunate to obtain the ONLY notable supply of these stamps by industriously seeking them and extensive buying and swapping for them.

While our supply is still of a reasonable size, we are offering them as follows

MINT

\$5 each (or 5 for \$20): \$.55, 1.10, 1.65, 2.25, 2.75.

\$10 each (or 4 for \$30): \$3.85, 4.40, 4.95, 5.50.

FACE plus 50%: \$11, 22, 33, 44, 55, 110, 550. Only 30% plussage on purchases over \$500. Straightedged stamps—reduce the plussage in all cases, by one-half. Used stamps—up to the \$5.50 value, one-half price; \$11 thru \$55, one-half face; \$110 and up, \$25 each. Prices subject to change.

At present, there are limited quantities of most values available from the following counties:

Butte, Calaveras, Del Norte, El Dorado, Imperial, Kings, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Monterrey, Sacramento, San Bernardino, Shasta, Sutter, Tehema, Trinity, Tulare, and Ventura.

Satisfaction guaranteed, or immediate refund in full (10 days).

Will allow same prices for county stamps
I lack. Exchange allowed on other
stamps I can use.

Easy payments arranged with good references.

SPECIAL OFFER: An all-different collection with face value (mint and mostly perforated on four sides): \$7,500+for \$10,000 on easy terms. Delivery in increments as payments are made.

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HUBBARD'S 17 W. San Fernando, San Jose, CA 95113

# An Important Inventory

Through the adventurous spirit and philatelic dedication of Robson Lowe, there shall be some one-country revenue stamp catalogues published on a trial basis during the next two years. Initially, these are being written by members of our association.

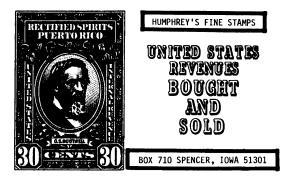
Some of the work is well advanced, some is in a rudimentary state. But some remains stalled for lack of philatelic material. Many cataloguing problems could have been solved by a mere glance at Al Thill's collection, but it is no longer intact!

For that reason, as well as to compile the questionnaire on the opposite page. It will only take a minute, and it will save hours in our cataloguing efforts. In fact, it could save the whole project!

Results of this questionnaire will be kept strictly confidential. To further assure anonymity, the top portion of the form (name, etc.) will be separated from the bottom, each part coded, and filed separately, to help prevent any unscrupulous person from making contact with owners of valuable collections.

Please help us with this. In the end we will all benefit.

John C. Ruback, President



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# NEW

# An Auction Service Devoted Exclusively to REVENUES, U. S. and Worldwide

We are now soliciting lots for our auctions. If you are interested in receiving our auction catalogues, please send us your name and address.

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2850 Texas Avenue South St. Louis Park, MN 55426

Page 24 March 1973

# American Revenue Association

#### 1973 REVENUE STAMP COLLECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Name			Age	
Address				
		Zip (	Code	<b>-</b>
Telephone: Area	No			
Collecting revenues for _	years.			
LIST COUNTRIES YOU	COLLECT AND SCOPE	OF COLLE	ECTION:	
Country	Approximate No. Diff. Revenues	Pl Advanced A	ease che verage B	-
DID YOU OBTAIN ANY If so, which ones?	LOTS FROM ROBSON	LOWE THII	LL SALE	??
Lot No	Country			
Lot No	Country			
Lot No	Country			<b>-</b>
OTHER "BIG-NAME" CO	OLLECTIONS ACQUIRED	BY YOU	IN THE	PAST
	Country	D	ate	
	Country	D	ate	
	Country	D	ate	
(Please use other side	e for additional data and	or commen	ts. Tha	nks!)
RETURN TO:				

William Ittel, 136 Dickson Avenue, Ben Avon, Pittsburgh, PA 15202

The American Revenuer

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For additional questionnaire comments

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## A PRICED CHECKLIST OF THE

# Fiscal Stamps of Basutoland

By Adolph Koeppel

#### CAPE OVERPRINTS

#### 1892

Queen's Head fiscals of Cape of Good Hope of 1885 ith Foul Anchor Watermark.

(a) Handstamp diagonal overprint measures 24 mm long, capital sans serif letters, 4 mm high in violet-Reading upward.



#### "BASUTOLAND"

1.	1d. green on yellow $_{}$ \$2.50
2.	6d. brown on yellow 3.50
3.	2/6 bistre 4.00
(b)	Violet handstamp, 20 mm x 21/2

mm horizontal overprint. 4. 1d. green on yellow \_\_\_\_ \$2.50 5. 3d. red on yellow \_\_\_\_\_ 4.00

(c) Black typographed overprintupper and lower case. "Basutoland" measuring 19 mm long.



6.	1d	greer	ı on	yellow	/	<b>\$3.2</b> 5
7.	3 <b>d</b> .	$\mathbf{red}$	on	yellow		5.00

#### 1901

Overprinted on Queen's Head Fiscal Stamps of Cape of Good Hope of 1885-with Foul Anchor Watermark.



(a) Typographed black horizontal overprint, measures 18 x 3 mm in thick block capitals-"BASUTOLAND"

		in or	
8.	3d.	red on yellow	\$2.50
9.	2/6	bistre	.75
10.	10/	green	4.00
11.	£1	violet on chamois	4.00
12.	£2	green on chamois	4.00
13.	£5	red on green	7.50

Same overprint as on (a) above on Fiscal stamps of Cape of (b) Good Hope of 1898-(figure of Hope standing).



14.	3d. lilac and orange \$ .15
15.	6d. lilac and violet 2.50
16.	1/ lilac and ultra50
17	2/ lilac and brown75
18	3/ lilac and green 1.00
10.	5/ lilac and black 1.50
90	7/6 lilac and olive 3.00
	£1 green and brown 6.00

New overprint on Cape stamps (c) of 1898. Black typographed overprint measures 20 x 2 mm.

\$ .15

"BASUTOLAND" in thin sans serif capitals.



22. 1d. lilac and carmine\$ 23. 3d. lilac and orange 24. 6d. lilac and violet 25. 1/ lilac and ultra 26. 2/ lilac and browning	.40 .50 .75
26. 2/ lilac and brown 27. 2/6 lilac and carmine 28. 3/ lilac and green	.75

1905



New overprints on Edward 7 Cape of Good Hope fiscals of 1904.

(a)	Black typographed — thin sans
	serif capitals—measures 21½ x
	2 mm. "BASUTOLAND."
29.	1d. lilac and carmine \$ .10
(b)	Black typographed — thin sans
	serif capitals—measures 17 x 2

	mmi birotomini.	
30.	1d. lilac and carmine \$	.10
31.	6d. lilac and violet	.25
32.	1/ lilac and ultra	.50

mm "RASIITOLAND"

UNION OVERPRINTS

1910



Overprint on postage stamps of South Africa—Black typographed overprint in upper and lower case sans serif letters in three lines.

"Basutoland

Revenue Only"

on Stanley Gibbons #8. 33. 1d. scarlet \_\_\_\_\_ \$ .15

1925



on Stanley Gibbons #31. (H)1d. carmine and black \_\_\_ \$ .15 1930 on Stanley Gibbons #43. **35. 1d.** carmine and black \_\_\_\_ \$ .15 1950 (?)



Native Tap Stamp of Union of South Africa.

2/6-green and chocolate with Black typographed overprints:

(a) "Basutoland Revenue

2/" \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.00 (b) "Basutoland

Revenue 6/" **.\_\_\_\_ 5.0**0

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March 1973

(c) "BASUTOLAND 10'- REVENUE" 3.00	August 1961  Above stamps overprinted with decimal currency.
1913	decimal currency.
On fiscal stamps of the Union of South Africa Series 1—(DODD) overprinted in Black "BASUTOLAND"  6d. scarlet and purple\$ .50	STVATUE CO.
£1 purple slate and blue 2.00 £5 lilac and green 5.00	RI SU
1931	
On fiscal stamps of the Union of South Africa Series 2—(DODD) overprinted in Black— "Basutoland Revenue Only"	R1 on £5 green and black \$5.00 R2 on £1 red and black 10.00 R10 on £5 green and black* 20.00 *(Only 573 copies so overprinted)
6d. red and black50	July 1961
1/- slate-purple and black50 2/- green and maroon75	E 2000000000000000000000000000000000000
£1 red and green 2.00	
New Overprint:	
"Basutoland	
Revenue Only"	
Omy	Ravents /
A COLUMN TO SERVICE OF THE PARTY OF THE PART	<b>QEASTROLAND</b>
500	Stanley Gibbons #53—overprinted
	in two lines in black:
Frank I	"R1
La Company	Revenue" (on 10/ black and maroon)
	(on 10) shada and marcon,
***************************************	1965
1/. slate-purple and black (only values seen)75	Same as 1954 but values in Rand
1946-1952	R1 green and brown \$3.00 R10 dark green and light green 5.00
On fiscal stamps of the Union of	(date cancellation 16/12/1965)
South Africa Series 5 (DODD) overprinted in black—	_
"Basutoland"	Source of Material:
2/- yellow, orange and blue75	(1) Catalogue of British Colonial Fis-
BASUTOLAND	cal Stamps (1908) by A. B. Kay. (2) Fiscal catalogue by A. Forbin (1915)
1954	(3) Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps
Design Coat of Arms and Head of Elizabeth at right, inscribed	of the British Colonies by Walter
REVENUE at top.	Morley (1910) (4) Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps
£1 red and black £5 green and black	of the Union of South Africa, by
~ o green and brack	Leonard J. Dodd (1958)

Leonard J. Dodd (1958)

SECRETARY'S REPORT	1071 Edward A. Dubinsky
Bruce Miller. Secretary-Treasurer	964 Peter L. Erck
1010 S. Fifth Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006	293 Harry Furniss, Jr.
1010 S. 1 Hon Hve., Headia, OH 01000	233 Dick Green
New Member	1158 Theodore Gulino
1492 SEDGWICK, Edward J., Jr., 12	952 Warren F. Haley
1492 SEDGWICK, Edward J., Jr., 12 Park Lane, Madison, CT 06443,	1127 Herbert G. Harnish
by Secretary. US 1st issue; Lith-	1212 Charles A. Horton
uania, Memel and occupations.	904 Miller H. Hurt
1493 HAERTEL, George, P. O. Box	1376 John W. Koontz
H, Stevens Point, WI 54481.	1390 Mitchell K. Krevor
by Howard B. Beaumont. US	1347 James H. Markin
Scott-listed; "bulls-eye" cancels	1349 Mexico-Elmhurst Phila. Society
on US 1st issue.	804 Minkus Stamp & Pub. Co., Inc.
1494 BENFIELD, William R., 5286	1273 Max T. Petroff
Santa Monica, Memphis, TN	1178 Barry Platsky
38116, by David C. Strock. US	1111 Richard's
narcotics and M&M Scandinav.	501 Nereus H. Roy
CM1495 WHEELER, Harold G., 30	1132 Arthur J. Soderling
Glen Ave., Troy, NY 12180, by	204 Eidsel C. Stanford
Brian M. Bleckwenn. US; Can-	1244 Michael Stanifer
ada and provinces.	1338 James W. Stigall
1496 POLLOCK, Charlotte, 14218	1420 Mary B. Tanfield
Braile Ave., Detroit, MI 48223,	1396 Martin M. Tannenbaum
by Secretary. Beginner.	500 Trevelyn B. Taylor
CM1497 MILNE, Robert, PO Box 142,	1342 Darlene M. Wadleigh 1431 Raymond L. Wentz, Jr.
Penticton, B. C., Canada, by	1431 Raymond L. Wentz, Jr. 1401 Nelson F. Wood
Gerald M. Abrams. Canada, pro-	1334 Carl Woodring
vincial and general.	962 C. Sterling Wyckoff
1498 ROSAMOND, G. M., 35 Church	502 C. Sterring Wyckorr
Hill, Winchmore Hill N.21, Lon-	Address Changes
don ILN, England, by Robson	
Lowe. East Asia, esp. Indian	Jerry M. Brown, P. O. Box 617, Edge-
states.	wood, MD 21040

317, Edge-James H. Gerhardt, 208 S. W. Her-

man Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33950 David G. Nussmann, Shell Oil Co.,

P. O. 60124, New Orleans, LA 70160

Previ	ious membership total	584
	members	
Resig	rned	2
	ped NPD	
Curr	ent membership total	557

# Resigned

1499

1500

1501

115 B. H. Matthies 1295Clifford D. Stokes

ern area.

#### Dropped for Non-Payment of Dues

WIEDEMANN, Peter J., Box 303 Stratford, Ontario, Canada, by Gerald M. Abrams. Canada fed-

eral and Ontario used, singles

SCHUCHAT, Stanley R., 6345

Alexander Drive, Clayton, MO 63105, by Steve Leavitt. US.

SARGEANT, Barbara, 1911 Hyannis Ct., Apt. T-3, McLean, VA 22101, by Secretary, Far East-

and on documents.

Larry D. Adams 1144

1350 Marion F. Barnes

Leonard N. Baskin 1303

1235 Michel Bernard

1233 Krishen K. Chopra

#### U. S. REVENUE WANT LISTS FILLED

Sideline Material,

Tax Paids and Foreign Revenues 260tf

> JOHN S. BOBO 1668 Sycamore St. Des Plaines, Ill. 60018

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What started out to be a monthly column has instead become almost a semi-annual one! Perhaps we can do better in the future—if family health doesn't get in the way again.

Our organization continues to grow—although I'm sure we will shrink a bit because some of you will not bother to send in your dues payment. Do it you-all.

How did you enjoy Howard Beaumont's booklet on Railroad Cancellations? It was a good job well done and we thank Beau for it.

Our editor called it our 25th Anniversary publication. It was—but our editor didn't know then (nor did anyone else!) that a member would volunteer to edit another booklet: a reprint of Henry Holcombe's articles on Private Die Medicine stamps. We've still to check on some matters (including costs) but expect a formal announcement soon.

Our editor also asked for any long

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manuscripts that members may have. While we are not in the publishing business and do not have unlimited funds, we are interested. Everything we can publish will attract more people to revenue collecting—and that is what we are all interested in, isn't it?

-John C. Ruback, President



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