

# BRINGING NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE AND STAMPS

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN

Edward Healy, #302 BNAPS member, Norway House, Manitoba, Canada, sends an interesting cover for our inspection from the Vatican City, sent to him from the Secretariat of State, by direction of Pope Pius XII, and containing a message printed on Vatican stationery with the Papal Arms in red. One of the many side interests BNAPsters have.

## BNAPS

Many thanks for 1st day covers of the Canadian Citizen stamp sent by BNAPsters Dr. Alfred Whitehead (#192) and George S. Johnson (#218). Each one came through nicely cancelled.

## BNAPS

The status of Newfoundland draws nearer and nearer. A member of the Newfoundland National Convention after visiting London, England, expressed the view that the United Kingdom wanted Newfoundland to join the Dominion of Canada and become the tenth province. What philatelic fears!!

## BNAPS

Librarian R. J. Duncan writes that a Provincial Exhibition will be held this fall in Montreal under the combined auspices of the *Westmount Stamp Club* and *L'Union Philatelique de Montreal*.

Mr. Duncan also sends us an interesting item from the "History of the Northern Interior of B. C." by A. G. Morier. "To the spring of 1812 must be referred the very first long distance transmission of a letter in the territory of British Columbia and beyond it. On the 6th of April, 1812, six couriers arrived from Fraser Lake bringing a letter addressed to the Manager of the North-West Co. at Stuart Lake by David Thompson, the explorer of the River that bears his name. The letter was dated Ilk-Kayope Falls, Columbia River, August 28th, 1811. It had taken exactly eight months and eight days to reach its destination."

## BNAPS

BNAPster E. G. Lloyd (#352) Postmaster of Schomberg, Ontario, supplies information regarding the Special Delivery labels mentioned in my March column. He advises that the Post Office supplement for December 1945 mentions

for the first time their issuance and use. Up to the time of his writing only two labels S.D.-8 and S.D.-8-28-8-46 had been received. Prior to this, they had used S.D.-4.

## BNAPS

Some interesting first day covers of the new 4c Newfoundland Princess stamp were received by BNAPster K. M. Smith (#273). On the covers bearing blocks of four, the first day cover cancellation had been applied for April 21st, but inasmuch as this only voided the upper two stamps, a handstamp, dated April 24th, was applied to the lower two. In some instances several covers with pairs were cancelled just for April 24th with the handstamp, and missed out on the first day cover cancel altogether. BNAPster Smith promises more on this as he has written the Postmaster at St. John for an explanation.

## BNAPS

The story behind the 'Prisoner of War Mail' label appearing in *Popular Stamps* for June is that a philatelist who came across the labels contacted another philatelist in the army who had connections and was able to get the information about the labels. This information was known in certain circles for some time but could not be released for obvious reasons. Some of the labels are in collectors hands, used on piece, and are very rare thus. I understand that \$20 was offered one collector for such an item. The sixth printing of these labels are being offered at present for around \$1.00 per label.

## BNAPS

The Meyerson boys, Bill and Dan, report what to them is a previously unknown and unreported 'forgery' of a Newfoundland stamp. Asked to purchase and approve a copy of #127A for a member of BNAPS, the boys did so from a dealer who had a copy. Unknown to the dealer and later discovered by Bill and Dan, the overprint proved obviously and blatantly a forgery. So, the member will not get that copy. The Meyerson boys would welcome and appreciate the chance to examine and approve any other copies for members.