

# Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



G. Lewis

BNAPSer K. M. Smith, #273, of 337 McDougal St., Fostoria, Ohio, writes in to advise that he has some interesting covers posted from St. John's, Newfoundland, on April 1, 1949 (Confederation Day). The covers in question bear a photograph of Mr. J. R. Smallwood, the Father of Newfoundland-Canada Confederation as well as Mr. Smallwood's autograph. They are interesting in that they fittingly commemorate the union of Newfoundland and Canada. Mr. Smith writes that he has a few extra that he would be willing to exchange with fellow BNAPSers for other Newfoundland covers that he can use. If interested, write him directly.

Mr. Marcel Belanger of Montreal, Canada, has written in to advise that he had no trouble getting the Newfoundland Postage Dues applied to letters in a perfectly normal way. His method is so simple that we are chagrined that we never thought of it ourselves, and of course it's too late now. Wish we had known of Mr. Belanger's system before confederation. By the simple expedient of sending letters to his friends in Newfoundland with insufficient postage he acquired a tidy collection of Newfoundland Postage Dues. A rather simple and obvious means, yet we never thought of it ourselves. Our cup of grief overflowed however when Mr. Belanger advised he had disposed of his accumulation some three years ago.

Bill Kemp, BNAPSer #85, has discovered what he considers new information concerning the Newfoundland Dead Letter Seal last discussed in the Feb. issue of BNA TOPICS in the "Letters to the Editor." In that issue Stan Calder guesses that the watermark on the Seal is "OLD LINEN." However, Bill is here to say that

a copy he has just acquired has the letters "BO" and part of an "N" and he is of the opinion that the watermark is probably "BOND LINEN." We can take no part in this discussion as our copy is completely unwatermarked. How about it John Siverts and Stan Calder, are you willing to accept this version as supplied by Bill? Let's hear from you or from any other member of BNAPS who may have something to say on the subject. Let's check our copies and try to find the missing "D" to prove Bill is right and settle this question once and for all.

Frank W. Campbell, BNAPS #143, writes to advise that in looking thru the list of Canada Revenues on sale at Ottawa, he notes that only the Newfoundland 1c Customs Duty is on sale—none of the others. Why?

In the December 1948 "Trail of the Caribou," we reported on the manner in which insufficiently prepaid mail was handled and at that time we illustrated the rubber stamp that was applied to the envelope so that it went by surface means. Evidently the cover we illustrated was of comparatively recent origin, as we are in receipt of a cover from Stan Wood, #221, that was mailed from Heart's Content on Jan. 7, 1946 and addressed to New Zealand. The cover is only franked with the 7c airmail stamp and the envelope bears a rubber stamp in the form of a rectangle with the words "CANCELLED/SHORT PAID." Mr. Wood advises that the letter was quite some time getting to him so that there is no doubt but that it went via surface means and not by airmail as the original sender probably intended.

The "Trail of the Caribou" leads to Buffalo. Hope to see lots of you there.