



# The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

October 2020  
Volume 50, Issue 492

## UP and COMING

**Regularly planned activities have been cancelled, as have many philatelic shows in the near future as a result of the pandemic. We will update as we learn more.**

NS Stamp Club Meetings  
October 3rd Saturday - see Club News pg 4

Moncton Stamp Fair - Cancelled

Friends of Philately - Cancelled

Check out the status of other shows at

[www.rpsc.org/shows.html](http://www.rpsc.org/shows.html) or  
[www.csdaonline.com/shows](http://www.csdaonline.com/shows)

**Stay Home! Stay Safe!**

## DUES! DUES! DUES!

This is your last chance to promptly pay your dues before being called. This takes effort to call so many do please pay soon. You can pay for multiple years. Remittance address is on the bottom of page 2. Remember it is your responsibility as a member to keep your membership in good standing.



Recent issue (May) based on an NS scene.

## LETTERS TO AN ARICHAT BARRISTER

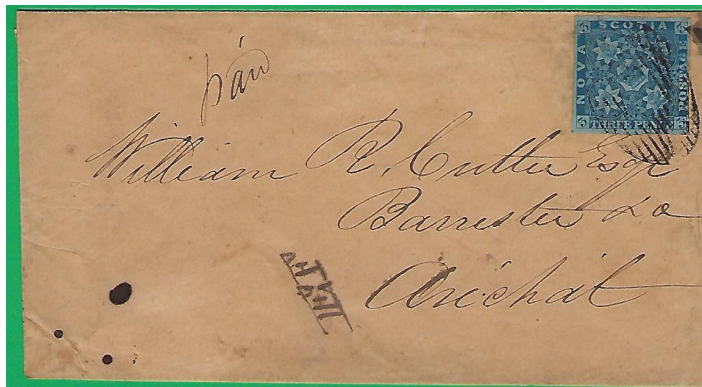
by Tom Reyman

During the mid-1800's, the town of Arichat, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia was a thriving shipbuilding and shipping port benefitting from its location on a deep-water harbor by the Atlantic Ocean. Arichat merchants and the local industries were involved with high levels of shipments to and from other Nova Scotia ports, New Brunswick, England, the West Indies in the Caribbean, the United States, and many other locations. These transactions required contracts and legal correspondence related to the shipments and needed the services of a barrister (lawyer). In the early 1850's, William R. Cutler had established a practice in Arichat to provide those services.

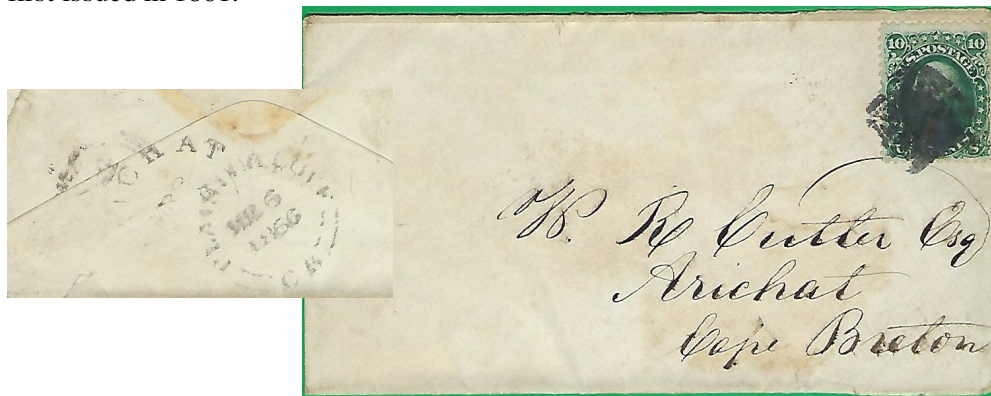
These are two covers addressed to Mr. Cutler. On August 25 of 1852 this correspondence was received in Arichat and was possibly posted in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The stamp is Nova Scotia number 2, first issued in 1851 at a time before confederation when Nova Scotia was a separate colony of England and issued its own stamps.



The backstamp shows the Arichat receiving date of August 25, 1852



This cover was sent to Mr. Cutler in 1866 from the United States, perhaps from Boston. The postage stamp is U.S. number 68, a 10-cent stamp first issued in 1861.



The backstamp of this cover shows receipt at Plaster Cove, Cape Breton on March 6, 1866. Plaster Cove is located on the North shore of the Strait of Canso and is near Port Hawkesbury. The cover was forwarded to Arichat for receipt on March 8, 1866.

## DEAD LETTER OFFICE HANDSTAMPS #54

by Gary Steele

Inspection Division

Dead Letter Office

AUG 10 1929

No. 5

OTTAWA, ONT.

47mm x 32mm

No proof known

Eleven Months of FUN

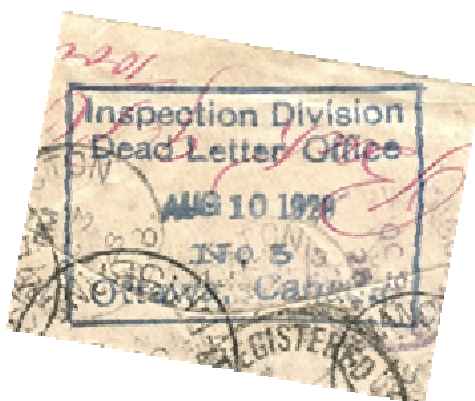
A Walkabout of a Different Nature

Thank goodness for registered covers, where PO regulations required additional handstamps to be applied. In addition, handstamps from various DLO offices would normally be applied regardless.

This story starts in October 1928 at Fredericton, N.B. with a letter mailed to the GPO, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia. By train, RPO h/s, it heads to Montreal and onward to Vancouver, B.C., by ship to Australia to Toowoomba.

For months this cover bounced around from Brisbane, then Toowoomba, Cairns, Queensland, Launceston, Tasmania, then Hobart, Tasmania. Not enough they tried Timaru and Napier New Zealand ending up back in Queensland on the 5th June 1929.

to Australia &amp; New Zealand, returned to Ottawa DLO



A boxed handstamp D.L.O. RECORD #R2218/29 h/s is shown on the front, with a Brisbane DEAD LETTER OFFICE h/s on the back dated 9 JY 29.

From there it was returned to Canada via Vancouver, to the Ottawa DLO on AUG 10 1929.

This particular Inspection Division Dead Letter Office No. 5 handstamp is very rare with only a couple reported. Many times, special covers result in the use of handstamps seldom seen.



### The Nova Scotia Post

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Marty Zelenietz - Editor  
Jeff Parks - Layout

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>  
[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) which is released on the first week of the month.

Membership is C\$15 per person (C\$20 US, C\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple.

Send **new membership applications**  
and **renewal payments** to...

NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks  
102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

### CLUB NEWS

We are trying an in-person meeting! New place, new time. Annual General Meeting, swap session, and more!

Saturday October 3, 2 PM Christ Church Hall, Dundas St., Dartmouth

All provincial health guidelines apply.

Member J.J. Tillard has a new website on SPM philately up and running. Check it out at <http://www.tillard-spm-philatelie.fr/>

Dues are due, in case you haven't noticed. To date, 52 of 87 members have paid, and one has resigned. Get you dues into Jeff at the address posted in the notice.

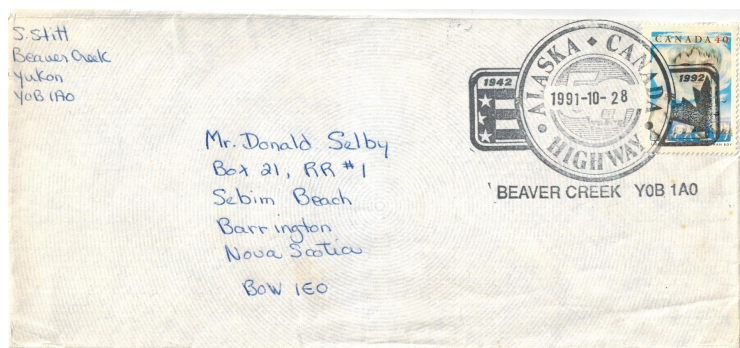
*Postal Stationery Update:* For students of Canadian postal stationery, Gary Steele recommends Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue. For the UK, Michael Peach suggests Collect British Postal Stationery, a Simplified Listing of British Postal Stationery 1840 to 2007 by Alan Huggins and Colin Baker.



## ALASKA-CANADA HIGHWAY

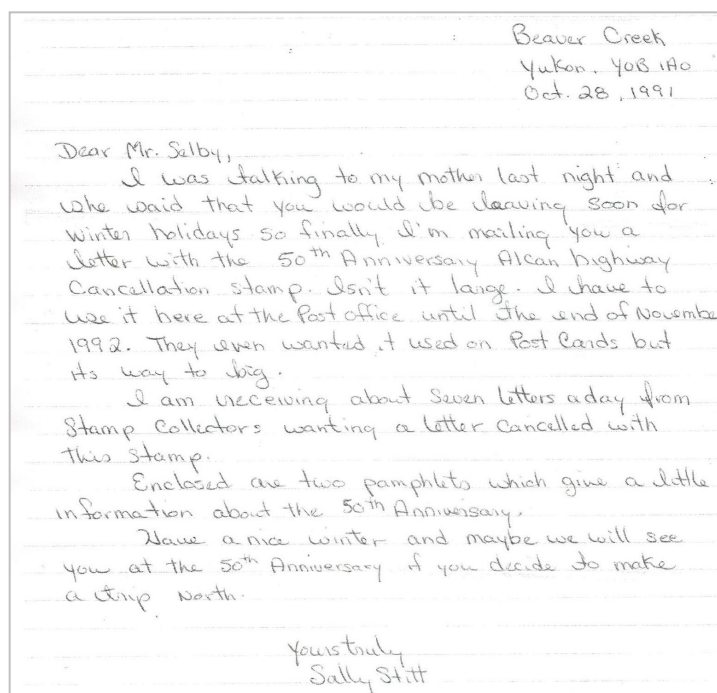
by Dennis Bedley

The Alaska-Canada Highway was constructed in 1942 and 1943 from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Fairbanks, Alaska. The Canadian Government initially resisted a highway and the influx of Americans to build it but relented after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbour. Also, the Soviet Union was an ally and needed delivery of military hardware. The Highway was the result of the labour of 11,000 soldiers and some 16,000 Canadian and American civilians. There were seven engineer regiments of the US Army: three of the regiments were all black with white officers. The Army made an effort to keep the black regiments away from populated areas in Canada and Alaska to minimize public knowledge about them. These regiments were only recently recognized for their service. The highway was constructed in eight months and twelve days. Canada provided the right of way and the US invested \$147.8 Million. Canada also paid the US \$108 Million to cover airfields, flight strips, buildings, telephone systems and other assets, but not the highway itself.



The envelope has Canadian stamp (Sc.# 1335) which is one of the 2nd set in a series and represents Canadian Folk Tales. Issued in 1991, the stamp is titled Orphan Boy. The Orphan

Boy is a tale of violence and intrigue told by the Inuit of Labrador. Young Kaujjakjuk is separated from his parents while hunting and the ice flow takes him to a strange land. The residents took him in but abused him, treated him like a slave and made him sleep over with the dogs. The cancellation commemorates the 50 year Anniversary of the Alaska-Canada Highway. It was mailed from Beaver Creek in the Yukon, which is Canada's western most community. In the 2011 census there was a population of 103 persons. It is the home of the White River First Nation. The cover's hand-written enclosure provides some background and commentary on the cancel.



## HANG ON TO IT!

I've occasionally admonished club members to hang on to any material that might, somehow, stir their interest in the future. Don't let go of stuff that might one day be of some use to your collection. Here is a recent case of the benefits of hoarding.

On a birding trip to Puerto Rico in February 2020, I added 36 species to my life list, by seeing birds for the first time. Thirty-six new birds to add to my stamp collection of birds I've seen in the wild. After settling back into "normal" life in Nova Scotia (coinciding with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic), I sat down with my bird stamp catalogue, my laptop (to access online lists), and my box of full of stamps of birds I haven't seen yet, but one day hope to encounter. A few hours into the project produced over 60 stamps, representing 18 species, to add to my collection. A little more poking around, double-checking a stockbook of souvenir sheets, and re-examining some items already in the collection brought the total up to 21 species and over 70 items. Lots of stuff to add to the collection at no immediate cost to me: most of the new items had been acquired on the cheap, or for free, over the years. So I repeat my message: if it catches your interest, hang on to it!



Puerto Rican Tody, seen on the trip.

by Marty Zelenietz

## Stamp Oddities



Chile Sc2 1853

Up until 1910 all Chilean stamps depicted a portrait of Christopher Columbus. Chile, a land which the explorer never saw, even celebrates Columbus Day that is used to honour the indigenous community and protest against further exploitation of native peoples.



Chile Sc66 1901



Chile Sc67 1905



## COVID-19 MAIL DELAYS

by Jack Forbes

(Editor's note: I had a purchase from Hong Kong take three months to arrive, being sent on 9 July and appearing in my mail box on 10 September, but this Transatlantic trip surpasses that!)

Back on April 5, 2020, I purchased a cover on eBay. After waiting approximately a month, I complained to eBay, and the seller refunded my money the next day! When I picked up my mail on August 6, I was pleasantly surprised to receive the envelope in the attached scan, and to note that it contained the cover I had purchased back in April.

The enlarged portion of the postmark shown in the second scan verifies that the item was dispatched on April 6, 2020. If you examine both scans, you will see the manuscript notation "0748/Aug 5" indicating the date it was received at the local Post Office. Four months does seem like a disproportionately long time for the transmission of an Air Mail item from Britain even in these COVID times.

I was pleased to pay for the item again.



Canada Post New Issue Sept 10.

*Medical Ground Breakers* who have changed the practice of medicine worldwide and their contributions have changed, or saved, the lives of millions of people.



## MARGARET BIGNELL (1927-2020)

It is with sadness that we report the passing of long-time former club member Margaret "Peggy" Bignell. Peggy and her late husband Hugh supported the Club in a many ways over the years (including storing the old 8 page frames at their home in Glen Margaret) and they are missed. Peggy was an artist in various media, including rug hooking. She created a 52" x 34 1/2" Map Stamp rug. Her family writes "While we may have wished to keep it we simply do not have the space. Heather indicated to you that someone offered \$100.00 for the piece but we felt that did not acknowledge the amount of work that went into the piece. We really hope there is someone in the stamp world that will appreciate the time and effort that went into it." If you are interested in the rug, contact Peggy's daughter Heather Sam at [justforkicks@eastlink.ca](mailto:justforkicks@eastlink.ca)

