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# NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

of the

ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

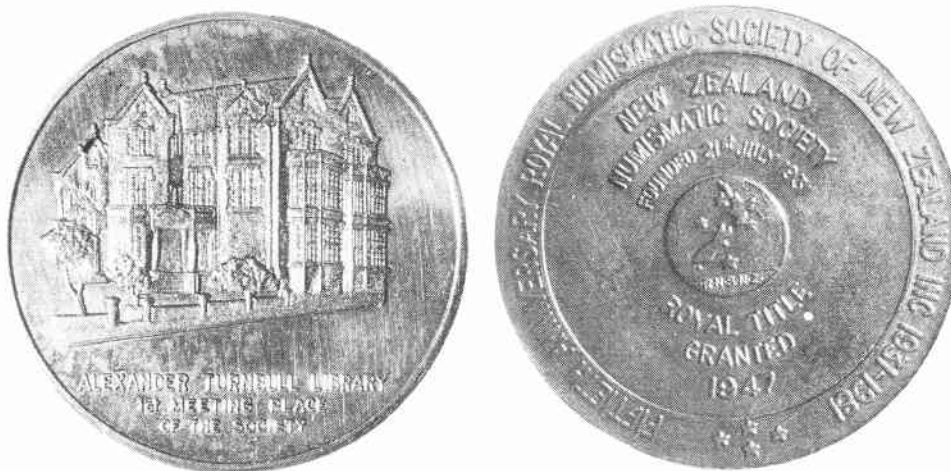
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## OUR PATRON

Advice has been received from Government House that His Excellency the Hon. Sir David Beattie, G.C.M.G., Q.C., has kindly accepted the office of Patron of the Society for the term of his office. The Society takes pleasure in this association, stemming from the first very active interest of Lord Bledisloe in our early years.



## A 50th. JUBILEE COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION.

The obverse shows the Society's emblem with the wording, "Fiftieth anniversary Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Inc. 1931 - 1981. New Zealand Numismatic Society. Founded 21 July 1931. Royal title granted 1947."

The Reverse shows the Alexander Turnbull Library, first meeting place of The Society. The drawing based on an original by James Berry shows Turnbull House as it originally appeared. The building is now "an historic place" and will be maintained in its present state. The medallions have been struck in bronze and sterling silver. Nearly all have been sold. The dies are to be destroyed.

## WERE TOKENS DEMONETISED IN 1897?

R.P. Hargreaves M.A. Ph. D.

One of the functions of the New Zealand Numismatic Journal is to promote research by the Society's members, and to encourage discussion of points about which there may be some disagreement. One such topic is whether tokens were demonetised in 1897 or not.

Allan Sutherland (1941:108) in his *Numismatic History of New Zealand* stated that "the penny and halfpenny copper currency tokens of New Zealand were not demonetised in New Zealand until the 25th March 1897". In this he has been supported by Dion Skinner (1965:4), Alistair Robb (1976) and most recently by William Lampard (1981:31). Robb wrote "Privately issued currency tokens were demonetized by Proclamation in 1897, after which only coin of the realm were legal tender." (Robb 1976:14)

On the other hand, I claimed in my book *From Beads to Banknotes* (Hargreaves 1972:89-90) that this was not so, and that the 1897 Proclamation made no difference whatsoever to the existing status of tokens. Which viewpoint is correct?

Perhaps first we should be clear what is meant by demonetised. I take it to mean that any coin or token which is demonetised will henceforth have no legal value. This of course implies that previously the item had a legal value, rather than one which was accepted by custom.

Of the four writers mentioned as supporting demonetisation, only Sutherland provided any information as to why he made his claim. Basically his argument is that an 1897 New Zealand Proclamation (of an 1896 British Proclamation made by Order-in-Council) brought into force in the Australasian Colonies, parts of the British Coinage Act 1870 (as amended by the Coinage Act 1891). But Sutherland did not make clear which part of the 1897 Proclamation he was referring to as having demonetised tokens. Perhaps Sutherland based his statement on Section 5 which gave the Royal Mint the sole right to issue coins. But this was nothing new, as an examination of the second schedule included in the Proclamation, which listed previous Acts repealed, shows that a similar prohibition had been law in Britain since the reign of George III. (*N.Z. Gazette* 1897:733)

In England the legal end of tokens had occurred in July 1817 when a Bill was passed by Parliament forbidding further manufacture of copper tokens. (Mathias 1962:28) A six-months period was allowed during which all tokens were to be presented to their issuers for redemption, but such a law could not be effective until the Crown issued sufficient legal coins to take their place. This did not occur until 1821, after which tokens lost all value.

In 1841 a New Zealand Ordinance was passed which meant that all British common law became New Zealand law, and thus the issue of tokens, illegal in Britain, was now theoretically illegal in New Zealand.

However, tokens were issued in New Zealand from 1857 because of a shortage of Imperial copper coinage, but they were never legal tender with a set value. Tokens had some value only because some people in some areas were willing to accept them as a substitute for the English pennies and halfpennies. The public did not have to take them, and the citizens of Dunedin were reported as early as September 1863 as declining to accept them (*Otago Witness* 12 September 1863:6) E de Carle, also of Dunedin, finding consumer resistance, issued his penny-sized tokens as halfpennies (*Daily Telegraph*, 18 February 1863). Thus it is obvious that tokens had no set value, but only what people would confer on them.

After all, if a person accepted a token he was taking a risk that it would end up worthless. Businessmen other than the issuer did not have to accept them (though some did as a convenience to their customers), and if the issuing business ceased, or the issuer died, the tokens could not be redeemed for regal coinage.

J. Crispe, writing in 1868 in the Auckland newspaper **Daily Southern Cross** (27 March 1868), likened the tokens to the banknotes of the day which were also not legal tender, in that notes became valueless, or at least lost much of their value if the bank folded. It should also be noted that government departments like the Post Office refused to accept tokens, so at least in official eyes tokens had no value (**N.Z. Herald** 2 February 1877:2) In 1882 in Parliament Vincent Pyke described them as "spurious coins" whose "issue was forbidden by the law of the land". (**Parliamentary Debates**, Vol. 42, 1882:435)

The evidence given above seems to me to support my original statement that tokens were not demonetized in New Zealand in 1897, as such a step was unnecessary, as tokens had no legal value or standing. But at least four well-known writers on New Zealand numismatics have taken the opposite viewpoint. It is now necessary to have their evidence published so readers can decide the merits of both viewpoints

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#### THE B.M. COOK MEDAL AGAIN

The last bulletin recorded the "James Cook Pendant" a facsimile unites two medals thus described:—

"Portrait by Lewis Pings taken from the Copley Medal in gold "awarded to Captain James Cook by the Royal Society"

This is not so. It is a replica of the Royal medal of 1784.

Reverse:— "The Resolution and the Adventure, the ships which "made the voyage, from a medal engraved by William Barnett.

"The note from British Museum Publications Ltd.

" — struck to commemorate the successful conclusion of Cooks second great voyage of exploration in 1775". A medal cannot be struck to commemorate "the successful conclusion" of something which had not then happened. I understood that the "R & A" was to be given to natives as additional evidence of Cook's presence.

H.R. Sampson

### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON – NO COUNTERFEITER?

In Journal no. 57 (1978) appeared an article by Mr H.R. Sampson which described the circumstances during the Peninsular War in Southern France and Spain in 1814, which it was said, led Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, to organize the coining of 5-franc Napoleonic pieces to pay for supplies. The writer had not the advantage of consulting a penetrating study on this subject by J.C. Risk in Seaby's Coin and Medal Bulletin for June 1977. This piece of research found that the sole source of the story was Sir William Napier's "History of the war in the Peninsula", (vols. 1828–1840), and that it is entirely without basis in fact. There is no official record of such a procedure, nor have any examples of the alleged coins ever been found or recorded.

The story was perpetuated by Sir Charles Oman in his classic "History of the war in the Peninsula", as well as by other writers, drawing upon the same source. This is manifest from the list of works consulted by Mr Sampson in his article.

Risk's article makes it clear that the monetary provision for Wellington's army was effected by the astute operations of the Rothchild brothers banking facilities.

NOTE: The above summary was submitted to Mr Sampson, who has sent the following comment. If any readers have relevant knowledge on this grey area of history, a letter would be welcome.

"I cannot find answers to the following:—

What happened to the very large amounts of gold and silver taken at Vittoria?

Wellington's policy of paying for all goods and services rendered by the French population was apparently followed, but where did the money come from? Can find no record of such payments from the UK Treasury. In fact payments for troop payments for pay and allowances were often in arrears.

Wellington has been said to have admitted that additional moneys had come to him from somewhere but he is alleged to have said this when he was a very old man and that he was getting mixed up with the difficulty in getting immediate funds after Waterloo.

It was possible that W. used a local mint in France but as more than one person would have been privy to such an action the truth would have "leaked". If a French mint was used the confused state of the country politically and administratively may have meant that no records were kept.

There remains a mystery which cannot be cleared up here, only painstaking research in England can answer the above question."

### CLEANING CORRODED COPPER COINS

This British Museum recipe should be used only for badly corroded coins.

1. Dissolve 1 oz. caustic soda in 1 pint cold water and add 3 oz. Rochelle salt (sodium potassium tartrate) to the solution.
2. Dilute sulphuric acid H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 10%

Immerse coins in solution 1. for 20 mins. or more. It turns blue and leaves a brownish red residue of cuprous oxide. Then put into solution 2 for 10 minutes. Wash in baking soda and clear water.

## LYTTELTON WATERFRONT CREDIT UNION

### 10th Anniversary Medals

In November 1980, the possibility of the Lyttelton Waterfront Credit Union minting its own medal was raised by a Director, B. Brendon Ayers, at a monthly Board Meeting. The Board initially rejected the idea because of the potentially high costs involved.

The matter of a medal was raised again by B. Ayers in February 1981, with the suggestion that the Credit Union mint a medal to commemorate the 10th anniversary of its formation. The Board at this stage agreed that an estimate should be obtained for the cost of producing approximately 100 - 125 medals. Investigations revealed that there was only one organisation in Christchurch capable of minting such a medal, Moller and Young, and therefore, after discussions with them a quote was obtained for the minting of two types of medal, pure silver and bronze. The quote obtained was presented to the Directors at a Board meeting in March 1981, where it was decided the availability of such a medal should be advertised through the "Credit Union News" and various noticeboards on the waterfront with interested members requested to lodge orders for the medals via the credit union office. The aim was to mint only the number of medals ordered, although, at least 100 were required to keep costs at a reasonable level.

The designs were initially considered for the faces of the medal: a scene for the Port of Lyttelton, the Credit Union Symbol, a representation of the Lyttelton Timeball Station, and eventually the latter two were decided upon. In May 1981, permission was obtained from the Historic Places Trust and the New Zealand Credit Union League respectively, to use the Timeball Station and the Credit Union Symbol on the medal. These two bodies are each to be sent a complimentary bronze medal. At this stage orders for 60 medals had been received by the credit union office.

During June 1981, an up to date quote on the cost of minting was obtained from Moller and Young and, since 75 positive orders had been confirmed, the Board gave permission for 100 medals to be minted. (60 silver, 40 bronze). The order was accordingly placed with Moller and Young and a deposit lodged to secure the minting. Due to demand the order was subsequently increased to 120 medals (70 silver, 50 bronze) and, because of a drop in the price of silver, the silver content of the



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medals was increased by 7½%. At this stage it was decided to present the medal in leather wallets embossed with the medal design. On September 9, the content of the descriptive cards and size were decided upon and on September 14, the New Century Press were given the job of printing 120 of these.

On October 19, minting of the medals commenced, but the seventh bronze medal broke one of the dies. (Timeball Station). A new die was made, differing slightly in the design of trees, and on November 3, the Credit Union received 50 bronze medals and 70 silver medals the following day. All medals produced with the first die of the Timeball Station, with the exception of one, have been destroyed and it is the intention of the Credit Union that this medal will not be sold but held in the office with the broken die.

### **POLYSTYRENE HOLDERS FOR BANK NOTES**

A writer in "Coin World" March 1981, Dr J. Blum, points out the several advantages of Polystyrene holders as compared with PVC (polyvinyl chloride). They are lighter, more flexible, easier to handle, less bulky; they don't crack or discolour and are much cheaper.

The author of "The Coins and bank-notes of Burma" draws our attention to the publication of this 160-page work, with illustrations, compiled (and published) by himself and L.A. Shaw. It is obtainable from Dr M. Robinson, Lancashire & Cheshire Numismatic Society, 6 Mount Street, Manchester 2, England, at the price of £10.50.

### **A FREAK 20 CENT COIN**

A correspondent has sent photographs of both sides of a 20 cent coin which has the effigy of the Queen mirror-reversed, on the reverse side, but correct on the obverse. The owner enquires as to whether any collectors in New Zealand would be interested. His address is: Ng Yan Chee, 7 Jalan Rhu, Taman Makmur, Batu Pahat, Johov. He does not state (or perhaps knows) the country of the coin.

### **MONETA CURIOSA**

One cannot help feeling sympathy for the wife who wishes she could sink beneath the pew in church, while her husband riffles through the collection plate hoping for a find.

"The Coin World" a few years ago illustrated a model of a miniature church constructed from 16,979 one-cent coins. It is 21 inches high, 14 wide and 24¾ long. The feat of construction was the result of a challenge by the builder's little daughter upon seeing a log cabin made of the same material.

### **COIN CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**

"Unique, as all of them are".

"Although unique, no collection should be without one."

"Almost unique".

"Very unique".

One is reminded of Kipling's poem on "UBIQUE";

"There's nothin' this side 'Eaven or 'Ell

Ubique doesn't mean".



**SERPENTS ON ANCIENT COINS & SERPENT WORSHIP**

O Thou, who man of baser earth didst make,  
And ev'n with Paradise devise the snake:

– Omar Khayyam.

If I could hear as well as see,  
No man in life could master me.

– Old Rhyme

When I saw the several episodes of the film “I, Claudius” my attention was arrested by the strikingly vivid opening scene - a large and rather magnificent serpent gliding smoothly across a colourful mosaic floor. It was obviously intended to be peculiarly symbolic of the mystic significance of serpents in human affairs as conceived by the Roman mind, and as this concept affected the Roman pattern of life.

But the serpent has always been held in particular regard by many peoples of the ancient world and its mana is far from lost today. Here I'd like to quote from a writer in one of the books I've used. “It invariably arrests attention through its uncanny distinctiveness from bird or beast. Its patient watchfulness, the fascination it exerts over its victims, the easy domestication of some species and the deadliness of others, have always impressed humans. No wonder that the world has always held the serpent in awe, that nations should have worshipped this emblem of destruction and death. It is fate itself, swift as disaster, deliberate as retribution, inscrutable as destiny.” Naturalists today have reservations about the serpent's powers of fascination.

Apart from the scripture record of the serpent in the garden of Eden, one of the earliest stories is of Tylon or Tylus of Lydia who, walking one day on the banks of the Hermus, was killed by a serpent. His sister Moire sought help from the giant Damasen who killed the serpent. Its mate brought some healing herb and put it in the dead reptile's mouth, whereupon it recovered. Moire used the same remedy to restore her brother to life. Tylon figures on coins of Sardes, the capital of Lydia, with Damasen and the serpent. Lydia of course was probably the earliest country to use coinage made from the natural alloy Electrum.

There are many similar examples of the serpent's knowledge of life-giving or healing plants. The blind emperor Theodosius is said to have recovered his sight when a grateful serpent laid a precious stone upon his eyes.

Reverting to the scriptures: one of the best known narratives occurs in the book of Numbers and 2nd book of Kings. The Israelites, having conquered the Canaanites, were obliged to spend some time in the desert, where understandably they encountered some hardship, notably from the attack of serpents, from which many died. This was attributed to the Lord's displeasure, but on the latter's advice, Moses set up a Brazen serpent, intimating that all who looked upon it would be cured. In due course people came to worship it for the next couple of centuries or so, until King Hezekiah had it destroyed, calling it Nehushtan, a piece of brass. Moses' brother Aaron had a notable experience, when upon a visit to Pharaoh, he cast his rod upon the ground, whereupon it turned into a serpent.

On Roman coins, as on Greek, a common appearance of the serpent is on the magic wand of Mercury (the Greek Hermes), who was the messenger of the gods. He was the son of Zeus and brother of Apollo, from whom he received the wand of fortune and many powers, as reward for his invention of the lyre and producing its music. At first the



*Laocöon (second century BC). Rome, Vatican Museums*

wand was adorned with twisted vines, but after Hermes separated two fighting serpents, he adopted them for his wand, often with the wings that otherwise attached to his heels. He was thus the god of settling quarrels, whence the caduceus, as it is called, often accompanies Pax and other personifications of peace and welfare. The caduceus today appears on the arms of the pharmaceutical society, and our local chemist uses it on his stationery. Quite as frequent are the reverses of Roman coins showing Salus, the goddess of health and welfare, feeding a serpent in her arms or rising from an altar.

Here perhaps I should explain that I find the term "serpent" probably rather archaic, but perhaps more suitable for the subject. "Snake" is of English origin, serpent from Latin, but other names are more specifically applicable - adder, asp, python, cobra, boa, viper, anaconda, rattler. The general subject, named from the Greek word Ophis, is Ophiolatry.

Mention of the python takes us, not to Monty, but to Greece. Delphi in northern Greece was a most sacred place where the Oracle gave its prophecies. Here Apollo killed a monstrous serpent. The original name of the place was Pytho, a word obviously related to Python. On Greek coins of the Anti-Spartan league the infant Heracles (Hercules) appears strangling serpents, symbolic of their attempts to throw off the spartan yoke and regain their freedom. The same theme is used on coins of Thebes, Ephesus, Rhodes, Samos, Cnidus and Byzantium.

Of a similar kind, though I do not know that this has appeared on coins, is the incident of Laocoon. He was the priest of Troy who urged the Trojans not to accept the gift of the wooden horse from the Greeks. His famous expression has gone into the language - "Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes", "I fear the Greeks even when they bring presents". Danaus, of Egyptian origin, was the mythical ancestor of Agamemnon and Menelaus the kings who attacked Troy. Almost immediately after he had given this warning, two large serpents appeared and strangled him and his two sons. The Trojans therefore regarded his advice as bad, accepted the wooden horse to their complete undoing. The very famous statuary group in the Vatican Museum is most dramatic. There is a replica in the Canterbury Museum.

In the second century AD, there flourished a religious sect called Ophites, taking their name from the Greek word, who made the serpent an object of reverence and apparently worship. As a symbol it represented the enlightenment and benefit of mankind. It seems to have originated in Egypt, where serpents were worshipped and mummified, as were other animals. The cobra named Wazt received by custom the first fruits of the field from the peasants, for she watched over the growth of plants. In Egyptian hieroglyphics the symbol for goddess was the picture of a cobra. Wazt was also the protector of the Pharaoh. Fate was a serpent to the people of the Nile, just as Nemesis was to the Romans. The Egyptian Fellahin kept food ready on the hearth for their good familiar serpent.

Here is the stage, perhaps, to refer to the asp that is associated with the death of Cleopatra. The asp is closely related to the common adder of England and Europe. It is venomous. However, it has been asserted that Cleopatra's reptile was not an asp but a horned viper, the cerastes cornutus, about 15 inches long and extremely venomous. The term asp in Egypt applies to the spitting serpent, a Haje, which is similar to the Indian cobra.

In Egypt again it was the custom for royal personages to wear on their

foreheads a symbol representing the African hooded cobra, *Naja haje*, as an emblem of power. Among some African people it was the custom to sacrifice a cobra each year and hang its skin in a public place where all children born in the past year might touch it.

Probably the greatest name in matters of health and welfare was Aesculapius, Greek Asklepius. He was a son of Apollo by Coronis, daughter of a Thessalian prince. Coronis was killed by Artemis (Roman Diana) for unfaithfulness, and her child was delivered from her body on her funeral pyre and rescued by Apollo. He was universally worshipped as the god of healing with temples all over Greece. The famous Greek and Roman cistophorus coin of Asia Minor bore the two serpents associated with Aesculapius.

His principal temple and clinic was at Epidaurus in Southern Greece. It became so popular that a huge open air theatre was built nearby to entertain the crowds of patients and others. This remarkable theatre survives and is still in use for plays today. It can seat over 14,000 and its acoustics are so perfect that ordinary voices can be clearly heard at the furthest row of seats.

The adoption of the caduceus of Mercury by Aesculapius was obviously by reason of his interest in matters of health. It was the common practice of Rome to adopt other deities, and so, when the city was ravaged by plague in 293 B.C. the Sibylline Books were consulted, and their advice was that the god Aesculapius should be bought to Rome from Epidaurus. This was done, and the god *IN THE FORM OF A SERPENT* was brought and installed in a temple on an island in the Tiber. Thus the caduceus was a natural association, and with it Aesculapius appears on many Roman coins, such as those of Caracalla.

The venerated name in the lore of medicine is that of Hippocrates who was born on the island of Cos, an ancient temple city of Aesculapius, 460 B.C. He was the famous Greek physician who was said to have delivered Athens from plague at the beginning of the Peloponnesian war. He was often represented with the staff of healing and coiled serpents. In the temple of Athena in Athens, a serpent was kept in a cage as the guardian spirit of the temple.

The implications of these kinds of beliefs are far-reaching. It is hard for us today to appreciate how greatly the people of two thousand years ago related every aspect and event of their daily lives to some guidance or intervention of their many gods. But the serpent had a status quite peculiar to himself, for it was very common for tame serpents to be kept in households, much as we might keep a cat, but with a very real belief in its beneficial influence in the domestic life.

But the Serpent had just as great a repute beyond the classical countries. India has a long history of serpent worship, and the cult still persists with many thousands of adherents. Snake charmers and entertainers still abound, but I do not know of the appearance of the reptile on their coins, though other animals do appear.

Ancient Babylon venerated serpents and as far away as the land of the Mayas and Incas are records of serpents being worshipped as spirits of wisdom. The Mayas worshipped a great feathered serpent god, and the vast temple at Chchen-Itza had huge serpent columns at its entrance.

It is surprising, then, to come nearer to our own background: In Britain, where most of us know something of Stonehenge, there is rather less to be seen and less known about Avebury. For the stones of Avebury are, or were, far more extensive than Stonehenge, far older, and stretch

over nearly three miles, *in the shape of a huge serpent*. In Wiltshire, it is curiously the hub of England, from which rivers and ranges of hills radiate. Of its significance this is only speculation

Still in the same island, at Glen Feechan in Argylshire is a serpent mound 300 feet long. The spine is formed by a careful adjustment of stones with perfect articulation.

The extensive symbolism implicit in much of the representation of the serpent makes it not unexpected to find it in heraldic bearings. The famous (should one say infamous?) Visconti dukes of Milan had the viper in their arms: indeed the name has something of the connotation. In England the Duke of Devonshire, the Fruiterers Company of London and Caius College have adopted it in their armorial devices.

In a near-modern coinage depicting the serpent, I can find no ostensible reason for its use. This is the so-called "Serpent Coinage" of Haiti, produced from 1813 during the presidency of Alexander Petion. The serpent appears in a circle, claspng its tail in its mouth - at a guess, wishful of suzerainty enduring, if not, perhaps, to eternity?



Aes of Antoninus Pius



Sestertius of Tiberius



Cistophorus of Marcus Antonius  
and Octavia 39 B.C

One could multiply these facets of the saga of the serpent, but for a final note, I find the following most curious. The Cherokee indians of America regard the rattlesnake as a superior being. They never say a man has been bitten by a snake: he has been scratched by a briar. In India, it is with some people unlucky to name a snake; one must call it a tiger or a string.

The list of references below is by no means representative of the extensive: literature merely what my own shelves have yielded.

C R H Taylor

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Among the rich numismatic holdings of the British Museum is a large group of superlative coins, mainly Roman, bequeathed to the Museum in 1799 by Clayton Cracherode. He was a wealthy bachelor who gathered a magnificent library of some 4,500 volumes as well as the coin collection, valued at the time at £6,000. The book collection, including splendid fifteenth century books, was included in the bequest. He graduated M.A. from Christ Church, Oxford, in 1753, and retained his association with the college all his life. He was both F.R.S. and F.S.A., and a trustee of the British Museum. He held the Manor of Great Tymondley from the Crown, subject to the curious service of presenting to the king the first cup from which he drinks at his coronation.

The charm of the coins is in their almost faultless condition. The large sestertii are noted for their patina, the brilliant green of which has a gem-like colour. His gold coins were bequeathed to Christ Church, but were later transferred to the Ashmolean Museum.

### REVISE OUR COINAGE ?

Notes from a talk by Ray Harwood to the May meeting of the Society at Wellington.

In recent months I have noticed in the numismatic press that various countries, e.g. U.K., Australia, and U.S.A. have announced that they are considering the introduction of new coins of higher denominations to meet to-day's needs.

There is a continuing discussion in the correspondence columns of *The Numismatist*, the American Numismatic Association's journal. All this shows that there is a need to up-date coinage to cope with inflation and the effect it has had on our pricing structure. In the last 15 years we have seen money values depreciate more than in the previous 50 years.

In our pre-decimal L.S.D. system the halfpenny and penny were replaced by one cent as the lowest coin required for price shading. The purchasing power of to-day's cent is less than the half-penny or penny of 1960 and I think there is a good argument in favour of dropping the one cent and eventually the two cent.

At the other end of the coin-system there is undoubtedly a need for a dollar coin, if only for the reason that a dollar note lasts for only a few months and a coin will last for 30 or 40 years. Then there is the need for coin-operated machines, selling drinks, cigarettes, food and rail tickets, not to mention the ever increasing cost of parking meters and toll calls. Because of the wide-spread use of coin-operated machines the new coins would need to be of a size suitable to machines. There are many factors covering the size, shape, metal and so on which would need to be considered in any contemplated change. I suggest that in the next month or two you consider whether there is a need for an updated coinage and we could discuss this further at a future meeting. If we come up with any firm ideas we could forward our recommendations to Government for consideration.



"The Numismatist", consistent in the high quality of its contents as to both news and information, carried in the December 1981, issue, an attractive article on "Coins, mirrors of art and history", by Cory Gillielland. It relates the art styles of coins, statues, bas-reliefs, mosaics, wall paintings etc. down the centuries from early Greek to modern times. The many examples illustrate coins and the wide range of art items, quite a number of which are landmarks in its history.

The July issue of the same journal presents an excellent article by Pat Black on "Gold as an enduring standard of value". In nineteen well-illustrated pages the history of the use and economic and social significance of gold is well covered. From ancient Egypt, Persia, Greece and Rome down to the California gold discovery. The numismatic aspect emerges in the chronicle, when it deals with great or typical gold coins of the nations down the ages.

C.R.H.T.

**FRIGATE BIRD ON 1981 TOKELAU DOLLAR**

By Jerry Remick

For the fourth consecutive year, Tokelau issued 38.7 mm silver and cupronickel coins of \$1.00 denomination (\$0.81 U.S.) This is the country's only native coinage. Coins and banknotes of New Zealand and Western Samoa are legal tender in Tokelau.

The Machin portrait of Queen Elizabeth appears on the obverse with the inscription "Tokelau 1981". A series of 3 dots around the periphery represents the three Tokelau stolls of Atafu, Nukunono and Fakaofu.

The well-known native Tokelau artist Faraimo Paulo, who has studied art in New Zealand, drew the reverse design which shows the frigate bird in flight with the sea in the background and the inscription "\$1" and "Tahi Tala". The frigate bird is well known in the waters around Tokelau. With a wing span of up to 7 feet and a body weight of only 3 or 4 pounds, it is able to soar almost motionlessly, high above the sea, always keeping a sharp look out for surface swimming fish or flying fish on which it swoops down at great speed and snatches without landing in the sea. It can outfly all other sea birds and frequently dives upon birds such as gulls, cormorants and pelicans.

The coin was minted at the British Royal Mint at Liantrisant, England. 5,500 cased proof specimens in .925 fine silver were struck and are available at \$29.75 New Zealand plus postal and handling costs. 7,000 unc. specimens were struck cupronickel and are available in a hard plastic souvenir case at \$4.00 New Zealand plus postal and handling costs. A descriptive brochure giving particulars is available from Mr. Ray Harwood, Modern Coins Ltd., P.O. Box 50-193, Porirua, New Zealand.

**PREVIOUS ISSUES**

Mintages for previous issues are: 1978 5,000 .925 fine silver proof unc 10,000 unc cupronickel; 1979 5,500 .925 fine silver proof and 11,000 are cupronickel; and 1980 6,000 .925 fine silver proof and 10,000 unc cupronickel. The 1978-1980 issues were struck by the Royal Australian Mint at Canberra, Australia. The 1978 issue is sold out as are the 1979 silver proofs.

The reverse side of the 1978 coin shows the fruit of the Pandanus tree, an important food source to the Tokelauan people. A traditional fish hook and the fisherman's waterproof Tulama box in which they keep their clothes, food and small gear is depicted on the reverse of the 1979 tala. The ugauga, a long-dwelling crab, the largest native land animal in Tokelau approaching at times 1/2 meter in length, is depicted on the reverse of the 1980 coin. Faraimo Paulo executed the drawings for the reverse sides of each of these coins.



"Money has no smell". This the Emperor Vespasian told his son Titus, who demurred at the imposition of taxes on public urinals. If it was any humanitarian sentiment that prompted his remonstrance, no such scruple modified his ruthless suppression of the revolt in Judea in A.D. 70, an achievement commemorated with pride on the as and denarius of Titus and the denarius and sestertius of Vespasian.



## SOME COLLECTIONS OF GREEK AND ROMAN COINS IN NEW ZEALAND, III,

### ANCIENT COINS IN THE WANGANUI REGIONAL MUSEUM

by Christopher Ehrhardt,  
Honorary Curator, Greek and Roman Coins, Otago Museum

In January 1982 I had the opportunity to spend nearly three hours inspecting the ancient coins in the Regional Museum at Wanganui, through the kindness of the Director, Mr. D.W. Cimino, who gave me every facility. I was also lucky enough to have the help of Mr M. Purdy, of Horowhenua College, Levin, which made my task easier and pleasanter.

The Museum possesses approximately 185 ancient coins. There is, unfortunately, no record of how or when they were acquired, but at least the great majority of them have been in the collection for several decades - perhaps, indeed, for over a century. They seem to have been accumulated, not collected: the great majority are in rather poor condition. Unless otherwise noted in the following description, it may be taken that they range in numismatic grading from "just Fine" downwards.

The usual, this is only a preliminary survey, done without the aid of calipers, scales and books, and under severe time pressure on the spot.

#### GREEK COINS

Campania, Neapolis: 1 AE, obv. Apollo, head l., and inscription; rev., Flying Nike crowning man-faced bull walking r. (BMC Italy, Neapolis, 114, no 210 ff.)

Egypt: 1 Ptolemaic tetradrachm, VF+ Usual types; on rev., in l. field, L K (= year 20), r. field, ΠΑ above wing. (Ptolemy VI, 162/1 B.C., struck in Cyprus; BMC Ptolemies 83, no 34).

Alexandria: 10 billion tetradrachms, of the third century A.D., which could be identified as follows: 1 Valerian; 1 of Carus, with eagle on rev, on either side L A (= year 1 = 282/3; Milne 112, nos. 4670-72); 3 of Diocletian, of which one has rev., Eirene standing l. holding olive-branch and sceptre, with on either side L B (= year 2 = 285 / 6; Milne 114, nos. 4774-76); 1 with unidentifiable obverse, but clear reverse of Nike striding r., in r. field B (i.e. year 2 of the emperor's reign); 1 possibly Valerian; 1 probably Aurelian, rev. eagle standing l., head r., wings open, between standards, LΔ (= year 4 = 272/3, if Aurelian; Milne 105, nos. 4391 - 97); 1 probably tetrarchic; 1 unidentified of mid to late third century.

2 large bronze of Antoninus Pius: 1 with rev. of seated female figure in distyle temple, on either side L I (= year 10 = 146/7); 1 dated L K (or H?) on rev. (i.e. year 20 = 156/7, or year 8 = 144/5). 1 unattributed bronze, the size of a Roman semis, perhaps a "Greek imperial"; obv. perhaps Domitian, rev. quadriga.

#### ROMAN COINS

Augustus and Julio-Claudians: 8 coins

Augustus: 1 dupondius: obv. S C surrounded by moneyer's name, ..... GALLI .....; rev. AVGVSTVS TRIBVNIC POTEST in wreath (RIC I 67, no. 83).

1 posthumous as: obv. Portrait, DIVVS AVGVSTVS PATER.

Tiberius: 1 as: rev. SC surrounded by titles (RIC I 105, no. 18)

Claudius: 1 as: rev LIBERTAS AVGVSTA (RIC I 130, no. 69)

Antonia: 2 dupondii (RIC I 132, no. 82)

Nero: 1 denarius: rev. SALVS (RIC I 148, no. 52)

1 unidentified as, with illegible countermark on obverse; rev.,  
PROVIDENT.

There are also 4 other unidentified asses from the early empire.

**FLAVIANS:** 5 coins

Vespasian: 1 denarius: obv. IMP CAES ..... ASIANVS AVG; rev.  
IOVIS CVSTOS, nude male standing facing, head l. (RIC II 28, no. 124);  
1 as.

Domitian: 1 denarius (F); 1 sestertius; 1 dupondius.

Also 1 quadrans, probably Flavian

**NERVA to HADRIAN:** 14 coins

Nerva: 2 denarii (both F)

Trajan: 1 denarius (burnt, but F); 5 sestertii; 1 dupondius.

Hadrian: 2 sestertii; 2 asses.

Aelius Caesar: 1 sestertius

**THE ANTONINES:** 50 coins

Antoninus Pius: 2 denarii: (i) obv. IMP T AEL CAES HADR ANTONINVS  
round portrait; rev. AVG PIVS PM TRP COS II round clasped hands  
holding caduceus (RIC III 29, no. 26 or 27); (ii) obv. DIVVS ANTON-  
INVS round portrait; rev. CONSECRATIO (RIC III 247; commemora-  
tive coin, struck by Marcus Aurelius).

16 sesterces; 1 dupondius; 3 asses, of which one has rev.

SPQR OPTIMO PRINCIPI S C in oakwreath (RIC III 130, no. 827).

Faustina (Senior and Junior; we had no time, or books, to distinguish  
them on the spot): 1 denarius, obv. DIVA FAVSTINA; rev. AED DIV  
FAVSTINAE around hexastyle temple (posthumous, of Faustina Senior,  
RIC III 69, 343); 3 sesterces; 5 asses, including one with rev.,  
CONCORDIA S C, Concordia seated l. (Faustina Junior, RIC III 192  
no. 1393, or 344, nos. 1626-7).

Marcus Aurelius: 1 denarius, as Caesar, Rev. TR POT VII COS II,  
standing male figure at altar with patera (RIC III 85, no. 458); 8  
sestertii, including one with rev. CONSECRATIO SC (posthumous; RIC  
III 441, nos. 654-60).

Also one apparent forgery, of Marcus Aurelius or Commodus: obv.  
..... NTP FELIX AV. round laur. bust r.; rev. .... ICI, winged female  
figure l. over two shields, beneath which is tablet inscribed COS II PP.

2 dupondii of M. Aurelius

L. Verus: 1 sestertius.

Lucilla: 1 sestertius; 1 as.

Commodus: 1 sestertius.

Crispina: 1 sestertius, obv. CRISPINA AVGVSTA round portrait r.; rev.

CONCORDIA S C, Concordia seated l, holding cornucopiae (RIC III  
442, no. 665); 2 asses, one with rev., standing figure l., apparently  
resting l. elbow on column.

There is also a sestertius of L. Verus which is almost certainly a  
forgery: obv. IMP CAES L AVREL VERVS AVG, bust r. draped; rev. PROV  
DEOR TA ..... S II S C, draped female figure standing l., globe in r.  
hand, cornucopiae in l. The higher portions of the design, and some  
parts of the rim, have been filed to simulate wear.

**CLODIUS ALBINUS AND THE SEVERI:** 10 coins

Clodius Albinus: 1 denarius, rev. COS II.

Septimius Severus: 2 denarii.

Geta: 1 denarius: obv. P SEPTIMIVS GETA CAES round draped bust

r.; rev. PROVID DEORVM, Providentia standing 1. (RIC IV 1, 321, no 51)  
 Plautilla, wife of Caracalla; 1 denarius (VF); obv. PLAVTILLA AVGVSTA;  
 rev. CONCORDIA AVGG, Concordia standing 1. (RIC IV 1, 269-70 no. 363).

Julia Maesa, grandmother of Elagabalus and Severus Alexander:  
 1 denarius, obv. IVLIA MAESA AVG, bust r. draped; rev. SAECVLI  
 FELICITAS, Felicitas standing 1. (RIC IV 2,50, nos 271-2).  
 Julia Mamaea, mother of Severus Alexander: 1 antoninianus.  
 Severus Alexander: 1 denarius; rev. IOVI VLTORI (RIC IV 2, 82, nos.  
 143-4); 2 sestertii.

#### THE "MILITARY EMPERORS": 10 coins

Maximinus Thrax: 1 denarius; 1 sestertius, obv. IMP MAXIMINVS  
 PIVS AVG, bust r. laur., draped and cuirassed; rev. VICTORIA GERM-  
 ANICA, Victoria crowning emperor (RIC IV 2, 146, no 70).  
 Gordian III: 3 antoniniani.  
 Philip Arabs: 2 antoniniani; 2 sestertii.  
 Otacilia Severa, wife of Philip: 1 antoninianus.  
 Salonina, wife of Gallienus: 1 sestertius.  
 There are also 5 unidentified sestertii, of various periods.

#### BASE ANTONINIANI: 13 coins

Gallienus: 1; Victorinus: 1, Unidentified: 10; barbarous imitation: 1.

#### DIOCLETIAN TO CONSTANTIUS II: 29 coins

Maximian: 1 follis.  
 Constantine I: 2 folles. both with rev. SOLI INVICTO COMITI.  
 1 unidentified follis.  
 Crispus: 4 folles.  
 Urbs Roma: 1; Constantinopolis: 2.  
 Unidentified Constantinian: AE 2: 3; AE3 and AE4 (probably including  
 some from later reigns): 14

#### LATE FOURTH AND FIFTH CENTURIES: 4 coins

Valentinian I: 1 siliqua; 1 AE2.  
 Valens: 1 siliqua; Honorius: 1 AE2.

Thus there are 169 ancient coins (or forgeries of coins) of which something can be said, and of which most can be indentified with considerable precision; in addition, we saw a score of bronze coins so severely worn and corroded that they are probably unidentifiable, and a dozen or more Byzantine and Islamic coins. I hope the local numismatic society will take up the challenge to provide a fuller listing.

The Wanganui Museum also has on display a varied collection of British coins, from mediaeval times on, some of considerable interest, and a wide range of military and commemorative medals. There is much fascinating work still to be done by numismatists in Wanganui. In conclusion, I must repeat my thanks to Mr. Cimino and his staff for giving me such great encouragement and assistance, and to Mr Purdy for his willing and valuable help.

ABBREVIATIONS; BMC = Catalogue of the Greek Coins in the British Museum.

RIC = The Roman Imperial Coinage.

Milne = J.G. Milne, Catalogue of Alexandrian Coins 2nd Ed. Oxford 1971

**REVIEW ARTICLE**

R.A.G. Carson, **Principal Coins of the Romans. Vol. III, The Dominate, Ad 294-498**. British Museum Publications, London 1981. 112 pages, including 1032 illustrations. £20.00

This beautifully produced book completes the series of **Principal Coins of the Romans**; unfortunately the two earlier volumes were not sent for review. Apparently Carson's aim has been to provide a companion to the much older **Guide to the Principal Coins of the Greeks** which G.F. Hill extracted from Barclay Head's **Coins of the Ancients** in 1932, and which was reprinted, with additions and corrections, in 1959. Comparison with Hill's work shows vividly how much techniques of printing and photographing have improved - instead of an unbroken flow of text, with references to brownish pictures collected at the end of the book, Carson can place his illustrations immediately above his description of each coin.

It would be gratifying if the pleasure aroused by the book's appearance and the confidence inspired by its author and publisher were confirmed by closer inspection of its contents. Unfortunately, the more detailed the examination, the greater the disappointment. The basic reason seems to be that neither author nor publisher had any clear idea of the audience for which the book is intended. In addition, there are numerous omissions, careless errors, and technical faults.

In the first place, there is no explanation of the criteria for choosing "principal coins": are the specimens included because they are the commonest, or the rarest? What weight attaches to their historical significance, their importance to art history, the information they give about ideology, or economics? On all this, not a word - either in this volume, or in volume I, where a general introduction to the whole series might have been expected. Nowhere is it even stated that the illustrations are confined to specimens in the British Museum; rare or unique coins in other collections are not "principal". So if, for example you want details of the silver medallion in Munich, showing Constantine with the Chi-Rho symbol of its helmet - a document of outstanding importance for political, religious and art history - you will seek here in vain; not even a footnote hints at its existence.

The "intelligent layment", and even the numismatist who is not exceptionally well informed about the late Roman Empire, is almost completely neglected: there is no explanation of the monetary system or systems, or of the mints and their workshops; there is no historical sketch of the political background to the coinage's development and decline; no indication of what information is included in the coin descriptions, or of how the coins of each period are arranged - not chronologically, but by mint, in a roughly N.W. to S.E. order, from London to Alexandria, so that, for example, on one page (38) of six coins, the first is of Martinian, A.D. 324, the fourth of Constantine, but featuring Rome personified, A.D. 330, and the last of Licinius, A.D. 313! Readers

who are as hazy as your reviewer of the exact whereabouts of mint cities such as Cyzicus, Heraclea (there were at least ten places of that name in the Mediterranean area), or the Balkan trio of Serdica, Sirmium and Siscia would welcome a map; there is none.

The coin legends are all left untranslated, so a knowledge of Latin is essential; but no normal school or even university Latin includes non-literary formulae such as "SIC XX SIC XXX" or "VOT V MVLT X" Common abbreviations, such as "P F AVG" (i.e. "Pius felix Augustus") perhaps need no expansion, but who can interpret CMH without help? Yet there is no comment at its first appearance (on no. 1267); a little later (to 1269) there is the comment "The significance of the formula CMH still remains to be determined", but there is no cross-reference to the earlier occurrence - in fact cross-references are notably scarce throughout the work - and no reference to any discussion (which can be found in Roman Imperial Coinage VI, London 1967, p.104) Nor is any help to be got via the indices: there is no index of inscriptions. It is therefore a pleasant surprise to have B R P NAT on no. 1237 expanded to "Bono Rei Publicae Natus" (i.e. "born to be a blessing to the state") with the further explanation that this "suggests that this coinage was produced for Constantine's birthday on 27 February", but such notes are as rare as they are welcome. Keenly felt, too, is the lack of a bibliography: there is no indication where explanations may be found. So the inquiring reader cannot tell whether debatable statements proceed from ignorance or disregard of modern work (e.g. p.30, the first war between Constantine and Licinius is still dated to 314, though the correct date - 316 - 317 - was established by Chr. Habicht in 1958, *Hermes* Vol. 86, pp.360-78), or from knowledge of it (Romulus Augustulus is no longer the last emperor in the west, and the western empire does not fall in 476; instead Carson p.88 rightly gives Julius Nepos, and the date as 480 - see J.C. Kent, in *Corolla Memoriae Erich Swoboda Dedicata* (Graz 1966) pp. 146-150, if you can find a copy of this uncommon work), or from carelessness (p.84, Valentinian II's vicennalia dated to 425, his first year).

Anyone who reads right through this book would be well advised to fill in his own cross-references, and to expand the indices, which are quite inadequate: for example, the index of types gives no references to "Christogram" or "Chi-Rho" where it is only part of a design, or to "Victory" where a personified Victory appears between two emperors, or is on a globe in an emperor's hand; there is no reference to "Vota" at all, and who would look for "Romulus and Remus" under "she-wolf"? In the general index, the earliest reference (no. 1339) to "Hand of God" is omitted, as are at least ten others; there are no references at all to "consular dress", "dating", "deification", "misspellings" (interesting and important for literacy in the late empire, and for knowledge of Latin in Greek-speaking areas), "nimbus" (the halo round the emperor's head, on some portraits), or the various imperial anniversaries ("quinquennalia", "decennalia" etc.) Since a book like this will rarely be read

from cover to cover, the indices are particularly important, and particularly disappointing.

The main things however, in such a book are the illustrations and the descriptions. The great majority of the illustrations are of very high quality: even typically miserable bronzes of the late fourth century are clearly depicted (e.g. nos. 1471, 1484, 1489, 1493). This makes the exceptions all the more disappointing; in the first section alone (A.D. 294-305) the following are unsatisfactory: nos. 1155, 1163, 1171, 1180, 1192, 1194, 1211, 1220 are too dark, and nos. 1164, 1179 are blurred. This would be less serious if the descriptions were always accurate, but in the same section I have noticed the following misprints and mistakes: p.7 "coinage"; no. 1164, the date "310-11" is impossible, and presumably "301" is meant; no. 1165, "standling"; no. 1169, on obv. read "IMP C DIOCLETIANVS" etc.; on rev., the mint mark is "ST"; no 1176, at least two, perhaps three, letters are omitted at the start of the obverse legend - according to Roman Imperial Coinage they are "IMP"; it may be worth noting that the mint-mark on no. 1211 is not in the exergue; no. 1220, two letters are omitted from the obverse legend - according to Roman Imperial Coinage, read "IMP C.M.A. MAXIMIANVS" etc. I may have missed some other errors in these pages; I have found many more in the remaining 86.

Who would find this book useful? For specialised collectors, dealers and others who often handle coins of this period it is very useful to have a handy and well illustrated book which helps considerably with identification of often difficult coins; university libraries may find it a useful supplement to Roman Imperial Coinage and Late Roman Bronze Coinage, and particularly valuable as a partial filler of the gap between volumes VII and IX of Roman Imperial Coinage. But the interested amateur should not be tempted by the beautiful appearance of this volume and its companions: anyone who want copious, accurate, and well documented information on Roman coinage, illustrated by excellent plates, should spend his money on Roman Coins by J.P.C. Kent, illustrated by M. and A. Hirmer (Thames & Hudson, London 1978), which is - or was till recently - available in New Zealand, on booksellers' "remainder" tables, for under thirty dollars - about half the price of the single volume reviewed here.

C.T.H.R. Ehrhardt  
University of Otago

Mr Andrew P. Oberbillig of Chicago, Illinois, has long been a member of the Society, but even longer an ardent collector of New Zealand Coins and banknotes. But that mere statement does not tell us his astonishing achievement. He has placed his exhibits of his New Zealand collection in conventions, fairs and other occasions around the United States, and has received 45 best-of-the-show awards and 265 first placings.

As a good publicist for New Zealand, his repute has come to the attention of the Prime Minister, who has written complimenting him on his help in maintaining interest in New Zealand in his country.

## REVIEWS

Greek coins in the Otago Museum (a catalogue) compiled by Dr C.T.H.R. Ehrhardt, Department of Classics, University of Otago, Dunedin, 1974-1981. 318 fcp. pages, duplicated.

When the first part (42 pages) of this large catalogue was issued in 1974, Dr Ehrhardt had already been at work upon it for more than a year. He then estimated that a further three years would see the task completed. In his foreword to the final part (VI), which included the indexes, he tells us that eight years had elapsed since he began. He had found that other avocations had intervened, and the scope of the plan had widened to include material in the Southland Museum and in some private hands.

The Otago Museum collections are almost certainly the largest in New Zealand Museums not only numerically, but also in the range of regions and types represented. Most of the 1,100 coins were collected and presented by the late Willi Fels (1858-1945) who did much of the work of arranging, labelling and listing them in the years after his gift.

To seek a comparable New Zealand piece of numismatic study, one would probably have to name Allan Sutherland's classic "Numismatic history of New Zealand" (1941) and W F W Meek's "Currency tokens of New Zealand" (1951).

The entry for each coin gives the weight and size, the date as near as possible, the usual citation for obverse and reverse, and references to standard catalogues. A Greek letter typewriter has been used for legends and occasional notes are appended where the compiler had additional information. The whole work falls into six parts, each with its own foreword and bibliography. The forewords make an interesting commentary on the specific group, his methods and problems. It becomes clear that such a work could scarcely have been compassed without the splendid range of reference works available in the Otago Museum or the University. It is likely that the numismatic resources of Dunedin surpass those to be found elsewhere in New Zealand.

The entire body of information is given ready access by means of a series of sixteen indexes which obviously reveal the remarkable richness of the collections and of Hellenic numismatics, no less than the thoughtful industry of the compiler. It is worth noting that our Journal has in earlier years carried other studies on these Otago Museum Greeks. They are as follows:—

Greek coins in the Fels Collection by Miss M.I. Turnbull, Journal No. 13, 1951.

Greek Coins from the Black Sea area, by J G F Hind, no. 49 1971

Silver and Bronze coins of the Siculo-Punic and Carthaginian series, by J.G.F. Hind, no. 45, 1968.

The Royal Australian Mint's 1979-80 Report makes interesting reading. Its production continues to increase, from 311 million pieces the previous year to 470 million to mid-1980. The demand for Australia proof sets almost doubled, to a total of 68,000.

The mint commenced the production of gold coins, the first since 1931. The reverse, a Koala, was designed by Mt Stuart Devlin, and the Queen's effigy on the obverse by Arnold Machin.

During this year coins were produced for Nepal, 30 million; Fiji, 13 million; Israel, 8 million; Tonga, 406,000 and Western Samoa, 165,000. The total metal required was 2794 tonnes.

FIRST FALKLAND ISLAND COINAGE



All the coins bear the portrait of Her Majesty The Queen on the obverse, designed by Arnold Machin OBE.

The reverses depict animals, birds and fishes of the Islands and have been designed by William Gardner ARCA, FRSA.

The coins are joint legal tender in the Falkland Islands with the coinage of the United Kingdom. To mark this issue, the Royal Mint was commissioned to strike proof sets of the coins.

**BUNGTOWN COINS**

A discussion about the slang term “bung” led to noticing a reference to “Bungtown coins”, those counterfeit English half-pennies that with their facetious inscriptions and irresponsible portraits, circulated in the American mid-Atlantic states and especially Pennsylvania in the 1780’s and ‘90’s. They first appeared in Birmingham in 1752 and they were accepted as readily as regular coinage., for they filled a definite need.

In 1971 a Toronto judge made a ruling that coins that are not legal tender or lawfully current, are not money, and therefore counterfeiting something that is not money is no crime. On the occasion in question he freed two Canadian coin dealers from charges of possession of counterfeit U.S. coins. Apparently the question of fraud did not arise.

Reported in “The Numismatist” Nov. 1971.

“The Faces of Captain Cook”, being a record of coins and medals of James Cook, by Allan Klenman, 944 Woodside Place, Victoria, B.C. Canada, V8Y 2P3. Pre-publication price till 20 October, from the author, \$32 (Canadian).



CIRCULATING COIN

	MINTAGE FIGURES				DECIMAL CURRENCY	
	50c Cupro-nickel	20c Cupro-nickel	10c Cupro-nickel	5c Cupro-nickel	2c Bronze	1c Bronze
1967	10,000,000	13,000,000	17,000,000	26,000,000	75,000,000	120,000,000
1968	Nil					
1969	—	2,500,000	3,000,000	10,260,000	20,510,000	—
1970	—	—	2,046,000	11,152,000	—	10,060,000
1971	1,123,200	1,600,000	2,808,000	11,520,000	15,050,000	10,000,000
1972	1,408,000	1,516,000	2,024,000	20,000,000	17,510,000	10,040,000
1973	2,508,000	3,028,000	3,510,000	4,024,000	38,550,000	15,040,000
1974	1,200,000	4,512,000	4,604,000	18,000,000	50,000,000	35,020,000
1975	3,800,000	5,000,000	7,000,000	32,000,000	20,000,000	60,000,000
1976	2,000,000	7,500,000	5,000,000	Nil	15,000,000	20,000,000
1977	2,000,000	7,500,000	5,000,000	Nil	20,000,000	Nil
1978	2,000,000	2,500,000	16,000,000	20,000,000	—	15,000,000
1979	2,400,000	8,000,000	6,000,000	—	—	35,000,000
1980	8,000,000	9,000,000	28,000,000	12,000,000	10,000,000	40,000,000
1981	4,000,000	7,500,000	5,000,000	20,000,000	25,000,000	10,000,000

### ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC) ANNUAL REPORT 1981

As your President I have pleasure in presenting this report on the Society's activities for the past year. Attendances at meetings improved. Journal number 59 was printed in June 1980; considerable work was put into the updating of the rules and planning for the Jubilee celebrations is well advanced.

On the New Zealand numismatic scene there was an upsurge in interest in choice condition of New Zealand coins, proof sets, proof dollars, tradesmens . . . . and bank notes. Treasury again issued a sterling silver proof dollar the reverse depicting the fantail. The coins were minted by the Royal Mint and numbers struck were: Proof 7 coin sets 17,000; Proof Dollars 20,000; Uncirculated Sets 27,000; Uncirculated Dollars 85,000; Both obverse and reverse designs were the work of the late James Berry O.B.E.

#### PUBLICATIONS:

The next issue of the Journal, The Jubilee Year Book, will be posted to members prior to the October Jubilee Convention. Very little material has come forward during the year and I again appeal for quality articles for future publications. The Capt., G.T. Stagg Memorial Journal (No. 53) has still not been issued. Membership of the Society stands at 311. No fellowships were conferred during the year and the roll now stands at 15 Ordinary and 2 Honorary. Sutherland memorial lecture 1980: I have again to report that this lecture was not given during the year and I appeal to members to consider presenting this lecture in future.

#### MEETINGS

Meetings were held in the meeting room of the National Council of Adult Education, 192 Tinakori Road, Wellington, and I wish to thank them for their continuing generosity in allowing the Society to use these premises. The July meeting was devoted to Gold Coins and several members supplied gold from their collections and spoke about them. The September and February Meetings were devoted to the revision of the rules the latter being attended by sixteen members. Through the courtesy of BP NZ Ltd a film evening was the main attraction for the October meeting. The films being one on Franklin Mint the other on Alaska and I wish to thank Mr George Ranger for helping to arrange this function. A special meeting was arranged in February to coincide with the visit of Seaby representatives Mr Purves and Mr Mitchell, but due to business arrangements they were unable to attend. The end of year Xmas party was well attended at the President's home.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Owing to lengthy discussion regarding appointment of officers, the annual general meeting could not be concluded in one evening, so was continued the following Monday at the home of the President. Council meetings: Only one meeting was called during the year, on the 11th August, and this was well attended.

#### ADMINISTRATION

I end this report with an expression of gratitude to my colleagues on the council and especially to the executive officers on whom has fallen the burden of the major part of the administration of the Society.

I Ranger,  
President.

**ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC)**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31 May 1981**  
 (1980 comparative figures shown in brackets)

	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>(1980)</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>(1980)</b>
Subscriptions		1651	(1301)	Journals		803	(1109)
Advertising		90	(90)	Honoraria		150	(149)
Journals and Badges		14	(14)	Secretarial Services		301	(215)
Interest:				Postage		120	(120)
Bank of New Zealand Account		20	(19)	Sundry		100	(42)
Composite Subscription Account		47	(45)	Branch Subsidies 1981		220	(180)
Medal Trust Account		34	(18)				
Government 11% Stock		220	(220)	Surplus		625	—
Donations		243	—				
Deficit		—	(28)				
		<u>\$2319</u>	<u>(\$1815)</u>			<u>\$2319</u>	<u>(\$1815)</u>
		<u>\$2319</u>	<u>(\$1815)</u>			<u>\$2319</u>	<u>(\$1815)</u>

**ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC)**  
**BALANCE SHEET as at 31 May 1981**  
**(1980 Comparative figures shown in brackets)**

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>(1980)</b>	<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>(1980)</b>
Accumulated Funds 1.6.80	4965	(5013)	Petty Cash Float	20	(20)
Plus Surplus 1981	625	(28) -	Bank of New Zealand	1488	(696)
			Government 11% Stock	2000	(2000)
Creditors	220	(180)	Composite Subscription Account	1601	(1554)
Creditors Jubilee	299	—	Medal Trust Account	573	(538)
			Medals retained (Cook)	120	(120)
			Debtors	327	(237)
	<b>\$6129</b>	<b>(\$5165)</b>		<b>\$6129</b>	<b>\$(5165)</b>

**Auditors Report**

I have examined the books and accounts of the Royal Numismatic Society (Inc) and I am satisfied that the above Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet correctly set out the financial affairs of the Society;

.....  
Auditor

.....  
President

.....  
Treasurer

## ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

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