



# NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL



PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND  
INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 23, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

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## EDITORIAL

It is hoped that the delays in the publication of the Journal are over. The aim of the Associate Editors to maintain a regular issue.

A problem facing the editors is that of suitable material for publication. Members have responded to this continual cry but the manuscripts to hand deal with general subjects, the majority of which can be found in most numismatic reference books. The type of article desired most is the original one and of a scholarly nature. It would be a help to the editors if contributors could type their articles, double spaced, and leave a reasonable margin.

Members are invited to submit any small items of numismatic interest for a correspondence column which will be made available in the Journal. The editors retain the right to withhold publication of any letter that they think unsuitable.

Comments expressed by any of the Associate Editors will be in a private capacity and followed by their initials.

“Our Journal has held a place of high esteem in World numismatic circles for many years. There is a challenge to keep it there in a time of rapidly expanding scholarship.”

P. P. O'Shea,  
E. J. Arlow,  
A. Sutherland,  
Associate Editors.

## A TRIOBOL OF SYBARIS

By Peter James Bicknell,  
Lecturer in Classical Studies,  
Monash University, Victoria, Australia.

There is a puzzling triobol from Southern Italy which survives in a single specimen now in the McLean collection (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge) no. 1187. S. W. Grose<sup>1</sup> described the piece as follows:

OBV. Bull standing L., head turned back; plain exergual line; border of dots between lines.

REV. Tripod lebes; plain exergual line; incuse border of radiating lines.

12mm. 1.23 grams.

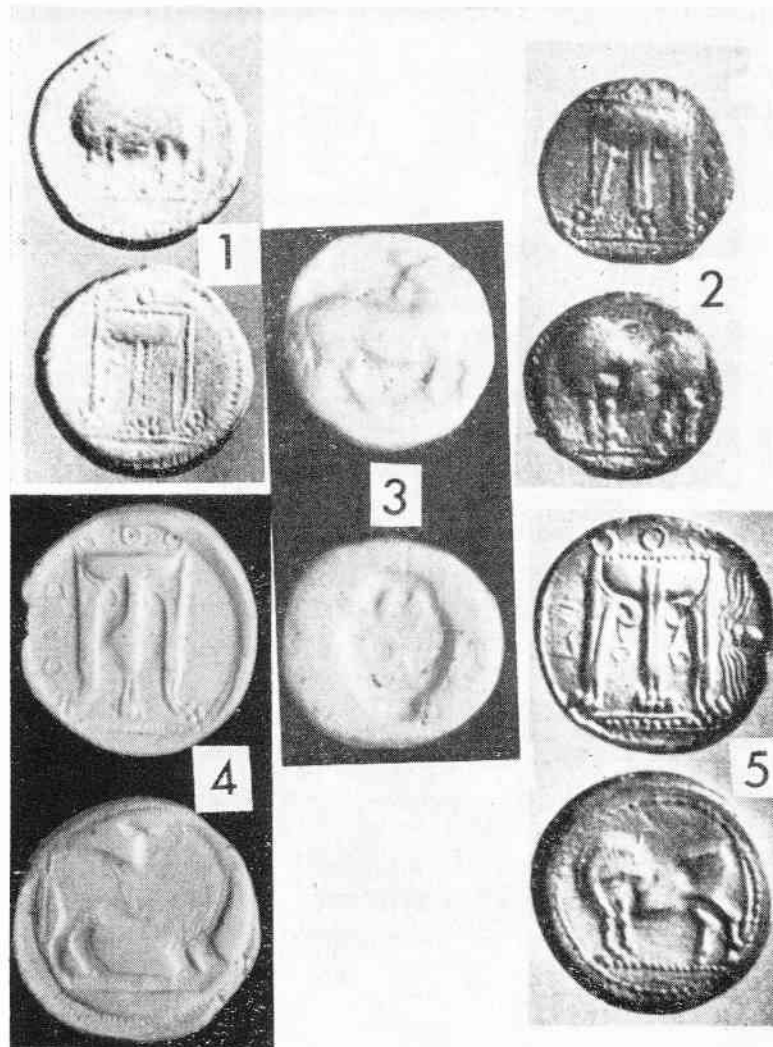
(see plate no. 1)

The bull is identical to that which appears on the coinage of Sybaris while the tripod is the emblem on the money of Croton. Our coin, then, combines the types of two states, and it raises two problems. First, is the piece an issue of Croton or Sybaris? Second, in what circumstances was it issued?

Grose<sup>2</sup> connected the triobol with the events of 453/2–448/7. In the former year the homeless Sybarites successfully re-established Sybaris on its old site. A few years later they were expelled again by the men of Croton<sup>3</sup>. In Grose's opinion the coin may have been struck 'as a cynical reference to the second foundation of Sybaris, or, indeed, to the second destruction.'

For reasons adduced by C. M. Kraay<sup>4</sup>, Grose's dating at least has to be rejected. The bull of the triobol is archaic in character, unlike either the animal on issues which certainly belong to the 453/2 Sybaris (Kraay's Sybaris III)<sup>5</sup>, or the bull on much earlier staters, obols, and triobols (with amphora incuse reverse, see plate no. 3) which Kraay convincingly attributes to the latter years of a Sybaris (Sybaris II)<sup>6</sup> whose existence was tolerated by Croton from 511/10, the date of the great Crotoniate victory against Sybaris I<sup>r</sup>, until about 470<sup>8</sup>. The McLean triobol then should be assigned to the late sixth or very early fifth century. The fact that the reverse is in relief and not intaglio does not affect this conclusion. As Kraay<sup>9</sup> points out, a reverse in relief was sometimes used for fractions below a third quite early in the period of the incuse coinages, and, further, the double-relief fabric was used for at least one stater near the turn of the sixth century, the stater for Laos probably struck at Croton's direction by the subordinate Sybaris II (see plate no. 5)<sup>10</sup>.

As to Grose's other contention, that the coin was issued by Croton, this too is doubtful. The obvious difficulty is that the emblem of Croton which was never under Sybarite domination before 511/10, and which dominated the Sybarites after that date, occupies the inferior reverse position. Realising the awkwardness of this Grose argued<sup>11</sup> that 'the explanation may be found in purely technical reasons—the high relief of the bull type which



PLATE

1. Sybaris—triobol. (enlarged) McLean 1187.
2. Croton—Sybaris II—triobol. (enlarged) H. Weber 1010.
3. Sybaris II—triobol. (enlarged) Hermitage, Leningrad, 1566.
4. Croton-Sybaris II—stater. (enlarged) Hermitage. 1569.
5. Croton-Sybaris II—Jaos-stater. (enlarged) plaster cast in the British Museum. (original lost).

needed more careful guarding.' This resource is unacceptable, for in the (now dispersed) H. Weber collection there was a single extant specimen (cat. 1010) of another triobol on the **obverse** of which appears a tripod and on whose **reverse** is the backward looking bull of Sybaris (see plate no. 2).

It would appear then that our issue belongs to Sybaris

and not to Croton and it must be attributed to either Sybaris I or Sybaris II. The latter at first sight seems the more tempting ascription, but there are formidable difficulties. Either the triobol would have to be dated to the first, Croton dominated, phase of Sybaris II, or to the second phase when the Sybarites were beginning to reassert their independence. The latter possibility must surely be ruled out, since the Sybarites are unlikely, at any stage, to have dared to affront Croton by placing her emblem in an inferior position on their coinage. In any case, as has already been noted, the bull on the later pieces of Sybaris II is stylistically more developed than that of the McLean triobol. Against an ascription to early Sybaris II, there are again two objections. First, the double-type stater issued there for local use (see plate no. 4), the Laos-stater, and the H. Weber triobol which on stylistic grounds (the legs of the bull) must be regarded as contemporary with the Laos-stater, all have the emblem of Croton on the obverse and that of Sybaris on the reverse, thus emphasising the latter's subordinate position. Secondly, there are stylistic differences between the McLean triobol and the other double-type pieces. The framework of the tripod is dissimilar to that on both the staters and the H. Weber triobol, and the knees of the bull on our triobol are much less bulky and thick than those of the bull of the H. Weber triobol.

It will be clear by now that Kraay had good reason for concluding that the triobol was an emission of Sybaris I<sup>12</sup> and it is all but certain that he is correct. However, there is still the problem of finding a context for the piece which will explain the double type. In the absence of any domination of Croton by Sybaris in the period before 511/10, Kraay evidently felt that there was no satisfactory reason for the appearance of Croton's emblem on a coin of Sybaris, and he suggests<sup>13</sup> that, after all, the tripod has no special significance; it 'need not always imply alliance with Croton any more than the roughly contemporary sepia on the obols of Poseidonia need imply alliance with Syracuse'.

The parallel does not seem a very convincing one, for Poseidonia and Syracuse were far from each other and, as far as we know, no sort of relationship existed between them. Croton and Sybaris, on the other hand, were neighbours and rivals and the adoption by one of the emblem of the other could hardly have been accidental. I believe that we can find a context for the coin in the engagement of the daughter of Telys, tyrant of Sybaris, to Philippus of Croton<sup>14</sup>. The triobol was issued to celebrate a match by which Telys hoped to gain eventual control of Croton and which so alarmed the Crotoniates that they sent the bridegroom into exile. It will no doubt be asked why this event was marked by the issue of a mere triobol, and not of a stater. An issue of triobols can be accounted for by Telys' wish to stress the importance of the engagement to the ordinary citizen of Sybaris who was none too likely to come by staters. As to the absence of the larger denomina-

tion, it could be that a few staters were issued but that none, as yet, has been recovered.

#### NOTES

1. S. W. Grose, 'Croton', NC (1915), p 190.
2. Grose, 'Croton', p 191.
3. Diodorus Siculus, 11 90 3-4; 12 10 2-3.
4. C. M. Kraay, 'The Coinage of Sybaris after 510 B.C. (CS),' NC (1958), p 13.
5. The Coinage of Sybaris III; Kraay, CS pp 21-24.
6. The Coinage of Sybaris II; Kraay, CS pp 14-16 and pp 32-36. On the survival of Sybaris II see also T. Dunbabin, *The Western Greeks*, p.
7. Diodorus, 11 90 2; 12 10 1.
8. The existence of Sybaris II until at least 476/5 is strongly suggested by Diodorus, 11 48 4.
9. Kraay, CS p 13.
10. See Kraay, CS pp 32-36; the authenticity of the Sybaris II-Laos piece he discusses has been confirmed by the appearance of another specimen in a horde (Kraay, private communication).
11. Grose, Croton, p 191.
12. Kraay, CS p 13.
13. Kraay, CS p 13.
14. Herodotus, 5.47.

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## OBITUARIES

It is always with deep regret that the Society records the deaths of some members. But this time more so, as several of the Society's best-known and also prominent numismatists have died during the year.

### **The Venerable Archdeacon Gordon Hay Gavin, E.D., D.D.S., F.R.N.S., F.R.N.S.N.Z.**

Archdeacon Gavin was one of the old-time New Zealand Numismatists, joining the Society in its infancy and remaining a member until his death at New Plymouth on 10 May 1966 at the age of 82.

Born in Wellington, he was the son of a Secretary to the Treasury, and educated in New Zealand and at Toronto university from which he graduated Doctor of Dental Surgery, but never practised. He was ordained a deacon in 1910 and held a number of appointments before becoming Chaplain, 4th Class, in the 1st N.Z.E.F. in 1914, serving in Egypt, France and Belgium and being Mentioned in despatches. Later he received the Efficiency Decoration.

After the War he was stationed at various parishes in the North Island until 1930, when he became Archdeacon of Taranaki, a post he held until 1960. He was also Vicar-General of the Diocese of the Waikato and at the time of his death Archdeacon Emeritus of the Waikato.

His interests seem unlimited, being a member of the New Plymouth Historical Society, Literary Society and a member of the council of the New Plymouth Astronomical Society. He was also an avid stamp collector. But it was in the field of numismatics that he became distinguished, specialising in Roman and Greek coinage and on which subject he wrote some very authoritative papers. Between

1932-38 and 1939-48 Archdeacon Gavin was a Vice-President of the Society, a record held by few. In 1928 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of London and for his services to the Society and numismatics he was elected a F.R.N.S., N.Z. in 1948.

Several years ago he presented his large and very important collection of Roman and Greek coins and books to the Otago Museum.

**Mr. Maxwell H. Hornblow, F.R.N.S., N.Z.**

One member that will be missed by the Society is Mr. Max. Hornblow, who died on July 14, 1966, after serving the Society, with distinction, for 28 years.

He joined the Society in 1936, becoming Assistant Secretary in 1938, an office which he held until 1950. Between 1950 and 1952 he was President and was a Vice-President for three years. (1952-55). In fact since he joined the Society he had continually been a member of Council, and it was to the latter that he had been elected a month prior to his death.



In 1952 he was the Society's representative on the Design Committee which selected the 1953 Royal Visit Crown. For his outstanding service to the Society and for his contributions to numismatics, he was awarded a Fellowship in 1951.

His knowledge of the administration and the history of the Society was remarkable and he was continually coming to the aid of members.

To his wife and four sons the Society offers its deepest sympathy.

**Mr. S. P. Ward**

Early this year the death occurred of Mr. S. P. Ward of Wellington. He was a foundation member of the Society and served on the Council for many years. In 1935 he was Hon. acting Treasurer and between 1936 and 1938 he filled the office of Hon. Auditor with distinction, being a senior official in the Reserve Bank. His interests were in tokens and British coins and at the time of his death had a very fine collection.



### Reverend Canon W. F. Stent

Canon Stent, a member of long standing, died at Carterton on 17th October 1965, at the age of 86. He was a general collector and always interested in the administration of the Society. One of his exhibits at a meeting of the Society in Wellington was a perfectly fashioned double-headed penny which he found in the Church plate, presumably taken innocently by a mother from a father's pockets while he "slept in". The Canon bought the penny to keep it out of circulation, and added it to his bowling equipment. The only time he used it was when he had to toss with the local Police sergeant. With a smile of satisfaction, the Canon added, "I always won!"

For his services to the Society he became an Honorary member. A Soldier also, his awards included the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers Decoration, N.Z. Territorial Service Medal and the N.Z. Long and Efficient Service Medal.

He is survived by two sons and three daughters.

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## STRAPLESS N.Z. COINS

Practically every collector of New Zealand coins is aware of the several denominations without the so-called 'shoulder-strap' which were minted in years, the general minting of which bore the 'strapped' effigy of Queen Elizabeth. Numerous 'strapless' coins have appeared on the market, some have been tampered with to deceive the buyer. This is a serious offence.

In answer to several questions, concerning this topic, the Royal Mint, London, states:

"It is possible to confirm that in the autumn of 1955 we made new obverse master tools for all the denominations from halfpenny to halfcrown. The new master tools bear the strengthened effigy to which you refer. It is not clear if we destroyed the old dies bearing the Type I effigy when the new master tools were ready, though what little evidence there is in our records tends to indicate that this did not happen. Moreover, the person in charge of the Die Office at that time believes that the old dies were not destroyed but were used up in the striking of further orders in the months that followed. If he is right, the existence of 1956 coins bearing the Type I obverse is not surprising. That 1957 and 1959 coins should also be found with the Type I effigy strikes us as most unlikely. In these cases the explanation is probably that either the coin did not receive a perfect impression from the dies or that the wear it has suffered since issue has obliterated the strap."

Ed.

**Report on the contributions of the Royal Numismatic Society of N.Z. to the proposing, designing and choosing of distinctive N.Z. coins and the advocacy of Decimal Coinage for N.Z.**

**L.S.D. to D.C.**

Prepared for Mr R. D. Muldoon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Finance, on his visit to the 289th Annual Meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society of N.Z. Inc.

By Phillip P. O'Shea,  
Hon. Secretary.

Sir,

The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Incorporated, was founded in 1931, and since then has been one of the most influential organisations, concerned, not only in proposing the issue, but also in the designing and selecting of distinctive New Zealand coins and advocating decimal coinage for New Zealand. In fact one of the Society's objects is:—

“ . . . by co-operating with the Government of New Zealand in the selection of suitable designs for coins and medals.”

Briefly, the Society is a cultural one, concerned mainly with the historical and scientific aspect of coins, medals, tokens, seals, paper-money, native currencies, and kindred objects. The name applied to this study is 'Numismatics'—a unique type of science.

This report is only a general survey of the Society's contributions, detailed reports of which can be found in the bibliography attached to this report.

**1933: NEW ZEALAND COINS INTRODUCED.**

Prior to the Government's announcement that N.Z. would issue its own coins in 1933, this had been advocated very strongly by the New Zealand Numismatic Society. Thus the Government's announcement pleased not only the Society as a body, but also numismatists and a large portion of the general public.

The coinage 'campaign' for the Society had begun.

In March 1933 the President of the N.Z. Numismatic Society, Colonel, the Rev. D. C. Bates, expressed the Society's delight at the Government's proposal, and a meeting suggested to the N.Z. Government that competitive designs be called for and that these be referred to a competent committee. Also the Society advocated decimal coinage for N.Z.

In May 1933 the Government appointed a Coinage Committee which was to report on (a) the advisability

of adopting a decimal system of coinage, and money of account; (b) whether the coins should be minted in New Zealand, and (c) what characteristic designs should be adopted. The Committee consisted of ten persons, the Society being represented by Mr. Allan Sutherland. The Committee did its best to report on the three points, the idea of decimal coinage was dropped because of the financial position of the country. In regard to the designs, the Committee stated that it was not qualified to report on these, and advised that a Coinage Design Committee be set up, on which the N.Z. Numismatic Society should have representation as the Society was a body whose knowledge of the subject was valuable.

Accordingly the Committee was set up under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, with Professor John Rankine Brown, M.A., LL.D., and Mr. Allan Sutherland representing the Society. The choosing of the designs was not without its humorous side. The designs have stood the test of time.

### **1935 WAITANGI CROWN and FIRST PROOF SETS.**

This crown and the proof sets were the direct results of the N.Z. Numismatic Society's representations to the Government. Because this was to be the first crown piece a New Zealand artist, Mr. James Berry of Wellington, was asked in 1933 to submit designs, but for various reasons the crown was not issued until 1935 singly and in proof sets (from crown to 3d.).

Mr. Berry's designs were slightly amended by Mr. P. Metcalfe and later by Mr. Kruger Gray. The latter receiving all the credit for the final design. The alterations to the design were very slight and all credit for the basic design lies with Mr. Berry, a member of the Society.

### **1940 CENTENNIAL HALF-CROWN, PENNY and HALF-PENNY.**

In 1937 a National Historical Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to report on the following:—

1. Commemorative Centennial Coin.
2. Completion of N.Z. coin issue.
3. Commemorative Medal (similar to the Waitangi-Bledisloe Medal issued by the N.Z.N.S.);
4. Issue of Commemorative medal to school children;
5. Designs for proposed coin and medals and;
6. Decimal Coinage.

The Chairman of the committee was Mr. J. W. Heenan, CBE, LLB, Under-Secretary, Dept. of Internal Affairs, and also a member of the Society. The Committee recom-

mended 'that a Centennial Coin, preferably a half-crown, to be issued in 1940, that a bronze penny and half-penny be issued in 1940 and that the Numismatic Society be invited to issue a commemorative Centennial Medal with the assistance of the Government.

The Government approved all the recommendations and in 1938 the Minister of Finance, the Hon. W. Nash, appointed a committee to consider designs. The committee was chaired by Dr. A. R. MacKay, M.Com., from the Treasury, Mr. J. W. Heenan representing the National Historical Committee, and Sir James Elliott, M.D. and Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., President and Secretary of the N.Z.N.S. respectively. Mr. Johannes Andersen, F.R.S., N.Z., replaced the latter member during his absence in Australia.

We are well aware of the fine coins and the medal issued by the Society.

### **A SIDELIGHT ON THE 1940 COINS.**

As mentioned the Society worked in close collaboration with the Government. In 1939, at the suggestion of the Society, Sir James Elliott, a foundation member and past president, was given authority by the Treasury to discuss the designs with the Mint officials during a visit to England. He was able to explain to the Deputy Master that the changes made by the Mint not only changed the character of the designs, but that the new versions were not the designs which the New Zealand public wanted. In spite of protests that the original designs "could not be done", the forceful and persuasive Sir James talked the Mint into trying. The results are well-known, and the Mint acknowledged that they had done what they had believed impossible. (Trial pieces, presented to Sir James, are now the property of the R.N.S.N.Z.).

Professor J. Rankine Brown, M.A., LL.D. and Johannes Andersen both agreed that the designing of coins was obviously a matter for specialists. This had been borne out with earlier issues.

### **1949 CROWN.**

The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand suggested that the Government should issue a crown piece to commemorate the proposed visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1949. The visit was cancelled because of the king's ill-health, but the special crown, designed by Mr. James Berry, had been struck. The Government hinted that these would be melted down and the Society appealed to the Treasury to have the crown saved. Both Mr. A. Sutherland and Mr. Harold Mattingly, C.B.E.—(one of the greatest numismatists of our time) paid several calls on the Minister of Finance, Rt. Hon. W. Nash, who 'saved the day' for numismatists when he announced that the coins would be circulated in New Zealand.

### 1953 ROYAL VISIT CROWN.

Early in 1952 Mr. M. A. Jamieson, a member of the Society, suggested that the Government should issue a crown piece to commemorate the coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. The Society passed this suggestion on to the Government with a request that proof specimen sets in a suitable case be issued. A Design Committee was then set-up, and Mr. M. Hornblow, F.R.N.S.N.Z. represented the Society. The Treasury adopted the Society's suggestions.

The crown is often referred to as the 'Coronation Crown', this is incorrect. The Maori doorway carving symbolises a 'Welcome'—this being the royal visit welcome. (Mr. Hornblow confirmed this).

### 1965 COMMEMORATIVE SETS.

When it was decided that N.Z. would changeover to decimal coinage in 1967, it was also decided to issue a final complete set of L.S.D. coins in 1965. At first it was agreed that proof sets would be issued but later it was decided to issue three grades, the first grade being less than the recognised proof standard. The Society made representations to the Government to make a proof issue, but for the first time in the Society's history the plea was unheard.

Thus the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand has played an important role in the choosing of suitable designs for New Zealand and making representations to have coins struck. On all committees set up to deal with some aspect of coinage, the Society has had one or more representatives as the Government felt that as numismatists are concerned with these problems, the Society was an authoritative body whose services should be enlisted. The Society has always been pleased to assist the Government.

### DECIMAL COINAGE.

The N.Z. Numismatic Society, and in later years as the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, has always maintained that decimal coinage for New Zealand would have many advantages. The Society revived this question in 1931.

The following extract from a letter to the Society in 1946 from a former member, later the Society's first patron, and at that time Hon. Life Patron—Rt. Hon. Viscount Bledisloe, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.Sc., F.RNSNZ (Hon) is worth quoting.

"I was so pleased to note in the minutes of the 14th Annual Meeting of the N.Z. Numismatic Society on the 31st July last that the Society is taking energetic steps to promote the adoption of decimal coinage by the Dominion.

I always like to regard N.Z. as the pioneer of all constructive progress, economic as well as ethical and social, in the British Commonwealth and Empire, and I have confident hopes in this connection that what N.Z. does today, Great Britain will do tomorrow. The present illogical system is a definite and serious handicap to industrial development and facility of international exchange."

#### **DECIMAL COINAGE COMMITTEE, 1957-59.**

In 1957 a 12-man committee was set up to report on whether N.Z. should adopt decimal coinage, and later on the sizes and composition of the future decimal coins. The Society was represented by Mr. Allan Sutherland, F.R.N.S., F.R.N.S.N.Z., and Captain G. T. Stagg, F.R.N.S.N.Z., R.NZA(Rtd.). It should also be noted that the Society requested that a commemorative silver dollar be included in the Bill. This denomination was included but not of silver. At last one of the Society's dreams was becoming reality.

When the Decimal Coinage Design Advisory Committee was set up by the Government, the Society was disappointed at not having a representative on the committee, specifically representing the Society as it had been the main advocate of the decimal coinage system for New Zealand. At least there was a numismatist on the committee—a world authority on N.Z. numismatics, Mr. Allan Sutherland, and he kept the interests of the Society in mind at this historic period in the history of our country.

The Society would only be too pleased to advise the Government on all matters if requested to do so. The designs chosen give us a set that New Zealanders will be proud to handle. As a Fellow of the Society Mr. Berry has brought honour to it and his work will find a lasting place in the history of N.Z. numismatics.

#### **CONCLUSION.**

It is self-evident that the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand has played a major role in the numismatic history of the country. The prefix "Royal", granted to the Society in 1946 by King George VI, was partly a recognition of the useful and important role it had played in the community.

PHILLIP P. O'SHEA.

## THE CASE FOR PROOF COINS

Numismatists were disappointed that no proofs were issued last year to mark the passing of fractional currency. It had been announced that such commemorative coins would be issued in addition to proof coins of the forthcoming decimal currency. For reasons which numismatists consider insufficient, the Government decided that polished specimen sets would be adequate to meet the wishes of collectors and the public and could be produced much more cheaply and in greater quantity than the full proof specimens requested.

The request for proof coins was not made idly or with the desire to own valuable numismatic items. Contrary to what seems to be a popular opinion, numismatists are not wealthy people; their hobby frequently keeps them in a financial state which is not to be envied.

Proof coins are perfect examples of the minter's art. The dies and metal used to produce them can be the same as those used for the ordinary coinage, but the specimens are much more than ordinary coins. They are not struck for circulation as coins and nobody with any respect or knowledge would use them as such. They are samples of coins, produced with all the care and attention possible, to show to the greatest possible advantage the details of the designs.

The special polishing of the dies and blanks, the care taken in striking, and the precautions used to ensure that the coins do not become blemished by contact with harsh material ensure that the products are perfect. The polishing of both dies and blanks produces a surface which is resistant to defacement, and the packaging helps to preserve the specimens for the future.

Proof coins have never been produced for other than important occasions, although in recent years a tendency has been evident in some parts of the world for them to be struck for purely financial gain by the issuing authority. For such financial gain to be worthwhile, the numbers struck must be sufficient to render the specimens of little value on a market where rarity is the important factor.

Such motives for issuing proof coins are to be deplored. They detract from the significance of the pieces and lower the traditional standard. Proof coins should be confined to commemorative issues, marking important occasions or milestones. It is significant that the Royal Maundy coins are always struck in proof condition. The religious and social significance of the Maundy ceremony is regarded by the British authorities as sufficient to require that only the best coins are used. The best in this instance is proof. Similarly, the first issue of a new reign is customarily marked by the issue of proofs, in addition to the normal currency.



Apart from the inauguration of a new reign, it is difficult to imagine a more important occasion in New Zealand numismatic history than the introduction of decimal currency. In July, 1967 New Zealand will adopt not only decimal currency, but also a new series of coin values and new designs. This threefold change is surely one of the major advances in the history of New Zealand currency. It far outweighs in importance the introduction of a New Zealand coinage in 1933. What better occasion, then, than this to issue proof coins?

It is true that the event will be marked by the issue of a commemorative dollar coin, but such an issue of an entirely new denomination only heightens the importance. A proof set, including the metal dollar, would be preserved for future generations, not merely as a normal striking, subject to all the vagaries which are the lot of most coins, but as perfect examples of the designer's and striker's art, to be cherished and cared for as one might cherish a Durer etching.

The request for proofs is made by numismatists for the benefit of numismatists. It is impractical to issue proof coins in sufficient quantity to satisfy a public demand. Experience has shown that most people have no appreciation of the significance of proof coins or of the damage which they can sustain through careless preservation. It would be wasteful and foolish to issue expensive items which were not to be preserved properly.

Here, a distinction must be made between a collector or investor who is interested in the intrinsic value of his collection and a numismatist whose primary interest is not intrinsic value, but those historical, social or other aspects of coinage which are the basic purpose of numismatics. Coin collecting is an investment, often reaching the proportions of a fad as at present, but indulged in for the profits which are envisaged. Numismatics is a serious study by which the financial, historical, ethical and social story of mankind can be traced.

For a numismatist to indulge his interest he must have the best specimens available. An investor does not need coins; he is equally happy with stamps, paintings or furniture, provided they can be expected to yield a profit. Once that profit can be realised, the coins are sold to the highest bidder. Not so with the numismatist, who must retain his collection for the furtherance of his studies.

It follows then, that the coins coming into the possession of a numismatist will be preserved and cared for. The care and attention expended on the production of proofs will be appreciated by the numismatist. The expense involved in the production of such items will not be wasted in lack of proper treatment. It is not claimed that proof coins should be issued to numismatists as of right, but it **is** claimed, as a matter of common sense, that if such coins are to be produced, then they should be placed where they will be properly treated.



The preservation of proof coins is not merely for the first owners but is for future generations as well. We owe much of our knowledge of the coinage of the last century to the preservation of proofs by people who knew the value of the items and treated them accordingly. Most of these items are in the same state now as when they were first issued. The same cannot be said of the currency pieces, nor will it be said 100 years hence of our decimal coins unless some are preserved in pristine condition. The surest way for this to be achieved is to issue proof coins.

If the objection to such an issue is in terms of cost, this objection can be met by the sale of proofs at a price to more than compensate for the expense of production. This does not mean that an exorbitant price need be charged, for such a price would defeat its purpose by taking the coins out of the reach of numismatists and into the hands of investors. The difficulty of minting large numbers of proofs is no bar to such an issue, as only a relative few need be issued. An issue of 5000 or 7000 sets would meet the needs of New Zealand numismatists and still leave a considerable number for disposal to other sources.

The needs of New Zealand numismatists should, however, be paramount. It is the interest and foresight of these people, particularly the members of this Society, have helped to sustained the quality of our coins and to bring about the introduction of decimal currency. It is not too selfish to claim then, that they have a greater interest and entitlement to special treatment. The reservation of two or three sets to each member of a New Zealand numismatic society would involve no more than 1600 or 2500 sets, leaving ample quantities for disposal elsewhere.

It should not be underestimated what prestige can accrue from the issue of a proof set. New Zealand has only issued two such sets previously, so it is scarcely saturating the market as has been done by some other countries of recent years. Those two sets, however, are important items and at least one is among the most sought in the numismatic market. The 1935 New Zealand proof set is responsible, almost on its own, for placing this country before the numismatic public. A further issue of proof coins will attract attention the world over and will be the most fitting commemoration possible of the important step which New Zealand will take next year.

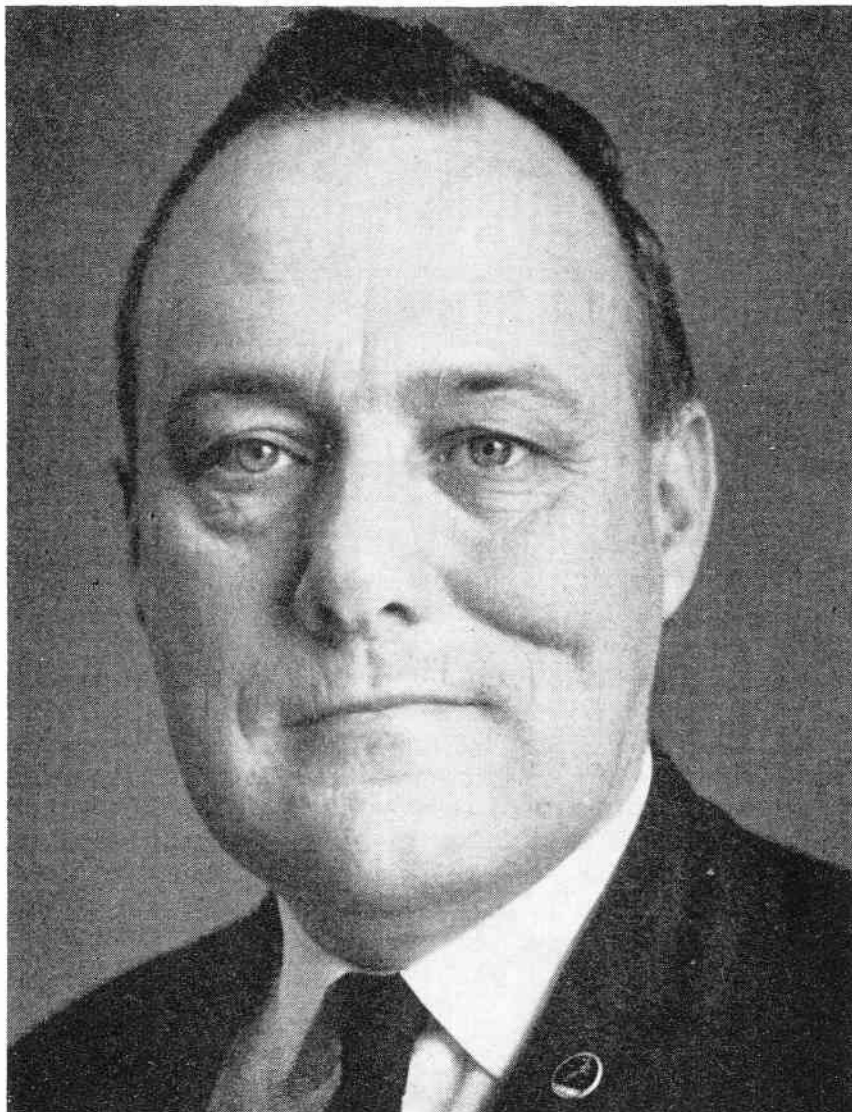
B. G. HAMLIN,  
President.

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## HONORARY MEMBERS

**MR. M. C. BARNETT, Wellington.**

At the Council Meeting of 4 April Mr. M. C. Barnett of Wellington was elected an Honorary Member of the Society. Mr. Barnett has been of great value for a number of years in preparing the Fellowship Charters.



**MR. R. D. MULDOON, M.P., Parliamentary Under-secretary to the Minister of Finance.**

Honorary membership was conferred upon Mr. R. D. Muldoon, after he had spoken to the General meeting of the Society on 25th July.

Announcing this, the President said that the burden of the changeover to Decimal currency had fallen on Mr. Muldoon, together with heavy public criticism. But in under three years Mr. Muldoon has acquired a thorough knowledge of Decimal coinage and numismatics in general. Since its foundation the Society has advocated D.C. for New Zealand and Mr. Muldoon is playing a major role in helping to bring this about. Therefore he is deserving of the honour conferred on him

## THE HINDMARSH NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL

A joint article by L. D. Matthews of Adelaide, South Australia and P. P. O'Shea, of Wellington, New Zealand.

The purpose of this article is to place on record details of the Naval General Service Medal (1793-1840) with seven clasps awarded to Rear Admiral Sir John Hindmarsh, Kt., K.H., and the facts surrounding its re-discovery in New Zealand.

Part 1.

By L. D. Matthews.

It is a common dream with collectors that they will stumble across a prize piece in an unexpected place. I have read of Victoria Crosses in pawn shops (not these days) and hard-earned campaign medals gleaned from rubbish tips, but the discovery of a genuine seven clasp Naval General Service medal overwhelms me.

In September 1965, I wrote an article "A Sidelight on the Naval General Service Medal 1793-1840" for the October-December 1965 issue of the Australian Numismatic Journal, the official organ of the Numismatic Society of South Australia. I had read the obituary in "The Illustrated London News" of 1860 of Sir John Hindmarsh, K.H., the first Governor of South Australia. His obituary outlined his career, and stated that he was a holder of the "naval medal with seven bars."

This set me thinking, and a check with Major L. L. Gordon's "British Battles and Medals" showed that a Lieutenant John Hindmarsh was one of two men who had received seven clasps to his Naval General Service Medal. There was no doubt in my mind that Lieutenant Hindmarsh and Governor Hindmarsh was the same man, so I wrote the article outlining his service career.

He entered the Royal Navy in 1793 as his father's servant aboard the *Bellerophon*, in which he was employed for seven years. He was present at Lord Howe's action of 1st June, 1794, and the Battle of the Nile, besides sharing as midshipman in most of Nelson's boat operations off Cadiz in 1797, and contributing in 1799 to the capture of the Naples and Gaeta forts. Later, he was present at the victory at the Gut of Gibraltar, at Trafalgar, and assisted at the reduction of Flushing and the fall of Java.

On April 21, 1836, Hindmarsh, then a Post Captain,

was appointed to H.M.S. Buffalo with instructions to found the Colony of South Australia. He remained Governor of the colony for four years until he was appointed Governor of Heligoland on September 28, 1840. He retained this post until 1857, when he retired. Hindmarsh became a Rear Admiral on January 31, 1856, and died in London, aged 76, on July 29, 1860, survived by a son and three daughters.

Naturally, as a keen collector I wondered what had happened to the medal. Surely he would have left it in his



will to a member of his family, and who more deserving than his son, who had won a gold medal at the Royal Naval College before joining his father in South Australia. Further research showed that John Hindmarsh, Jr., had returned to England and had entered the Middle Temple to become a barrister. Later he had returned to South Australia and had practised law at Goolwa, about 70 miles from Adelaide.

There was some small hope then that the medal could be in South Australia. But now the story belongs to Phillip O'Shea.

## Part 2.

By P. P. O'Shea.

I read Mr. Matthew's article in the Australian Numismatic Journal with interest and likewise began to wonder where this unique medal would be. As I know a great-grandson of Sir John Hindmarsh, no time was wasted in asking about the medal which was located with another member of the family who kindly sent it to me for the purpose of photographing. For one month I was the proud possessor of a seven clasp Naval General Service medal.



The reason for the presence of numerous Hindmarsh heirlooms in New Zealand is a story in itself, but briefly, it began in 1878 when John Hindmarsh, Jr., because of ill-health, moved to Napier, New Zealand, bringing with him the heirlooms inherited by him on his father's death in 1860.

They included his father's swords, medals, books and documents such as the Letters Patent constituting the Colony of South Australia; a letter from King William IV's private Secretary, Sir Herbert Taylor, approving the

name of the colony's capital Adelaide, and several letters written by Lord Nelson. Other items included a gold and jewelled cup, presented by King Frederick VII of Denmark after Captain Hindmarsh had been involved in the Schleswig-Holstein question, and a gold cup, the gift of the wealthy Prince Esterhazy at the time of Queen Victoria's coronation.

In old age John Hindmarsh, Jr., gave the documents of South Australian interest to that state and the many other items to his three sons and their families who still treasure their illustrious ancestors possessions, including the Naval General Service Medal, 1793-1840, with seven clasps and the insignia of Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order.

One can look forward to reading the biography of Sir John, which is due for publication soon. It is written by a descendant who has made a life-long study of his family, which as a matter of interest can be traced back to the 12th century.

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## HONOURS

At the time Hindmarsh was serving in the Navy it seemed an honour to be 'one-eyed'. Hindmarsh was no exception, having a blind left eye, a souvenir of some famous battle.

Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order.  
4 May 1836.

Knight Bachelor. Received the accolade from Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace on 7th August, 1851.

Naval General Service Medal, 1793-1840, with 7 clasps.  
named: "John Hindmarsh, Lieut."

1 JUNE 1794  
17 JUNE 1795  
NILE  
GUT OF GIBRALTAR, 12 JULY 1801  
TRAFALGAR  
BASQUE ROADS, 1809  
JAVA

There were only two claimants for seven clasps, the other being Captain James Alexander Gordon (later Sir, Admiral of the Fleet), who received the following:

"23 June 1795", "St. Vincent", "Nile", "Off Rota 4th April 1808", "Lissa", "Pelagossa 29 Nov. 1811". "The Patomac 7 August 1814".

### **Eighth clasp to N.G.S. Medal?**

In 1809 Hindmarsh under Captain Beaver, on the 'Nisus,' took part in the capture of the Isle de France



(Mauritius). If Capt. Beaver had earned a Naval Gold medal the action would most likely have been recorded by a clasp to the N.G.S. Medal. Unfortunately neither eventuated. But considering Hindmarsh's career it was quite possible that he was actually entitled to a further clasp.

### RANKS AND POSITIONS HELD

Lieutenant. 1st August 1803  
 Commander. 15th June 1814  
 Post-Captain. 3rd September, 1831  
 Rear Admiral. 31st January 1856  
 Founder and First Governor of South Australia.  
 appointed, London Gazette 2nd February 1836.  
 Arrived in South Australia 28th December 1836  
 and left on 14th July 1838.  
 Governor of Heligoland, September 1840 to 1857.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my appreciation to the descendants of Sir John Hindmarsh for their co-operation while preparing my part of the story.

P.P.O'S.

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## THE FRENCH FRANC

Before and after the Revolution

By G. C. Sherwood.

As the subject of decimal currency is very much in the public eye at the moment it might be an idea to take a brief look at the "Franc" and some other units of French currency which were in use before, during, and after the Revolution.

France is recognised as the first country in Europe to adopt the metric system to her coinage. The first coin that I can trace bearing the name of "Franc" was struck in gold during the reign of John the Good (1350-64) and its value in English money at that time would be about 10/6d. A very considerable number of these "francs d'or" were required to pay the ransom of King John after he was captured by the English at Poitiers in 1356. The obverse of this coin showed the King in armour on horseback, and was most probably struck at Dauphine. The original legend on this coin, "Francorum Rex", most likely led to it being called a "Franc". In the 16th century it was struck in silver with a value of about 3/6d. Although it ceased to be struck after the year 1641, it was still used as money of account. It was this franc which was the

forerunner of the silver franc adopted as the major unit with the changeover to the metric system in 1794.

An interesting coin introduced in 1513 during the reign of Louis XII (1498-1515), was a new silver piece, the Teston. A similar coin had been struck in Milan in 1468, and also in England in 1504. A Testoon was struck by Henry VII (1485-1509). This Testoon, also known as a shilling, was only short lived but made a reappearance during the last three years of the reign of Henry VIII (1509-47) and in the reign of Edward VI (1547-53) it became permanently established in the English coinage as the shilling. The word "Teston" comes from "teste", a head, and these French, English and Milanese coins were the first ones to be struck bearing a realistic portrait of the monarch in place of the stereotyped, symbolical bust of royalty, that had previously figured on medieval coins. The French and English Testoons were of an equivalent value. The French testoons were issued with a variety of portraits including a simple laureate head or a laureate and armoured bust in the Roman imperial manner, and from the year 1549 onwards, the ordinal number of the King was included in his title. In England before the time of Henry III (1216-72) there was nothing to distinguish, by the titles, one monarch from preceding monarchs of the same name. William II gives himself the same title as his father, "William Rex", Henry I and Henry II both appear as "Heuricus Rex", in fact, the title Heuricus Rex appeared on the short-cross penny from the latter part of the reign of Henry II, that is, from 1180 to 1189, throughout the reigns of Richard I (1189-99), John (1199-1216) and finally, part of the reign of Henry III. However, in 1247 Henry added "Terci", or the Roman numeral III after his name, but none of the Edwards, Henries, or Richards used the numerals, and it was not until the end of the reign of Henry VII that this became a general custom.

Now, back to France.

Several coins of different names and values made their appearance on the scene during successive reigns; the ecu, livre, sol, denier, to mention a few. The first écu was of gold, minted in the early part of the 14th century, assuming a bewildering variety of types and titles. It was known as the écu d'or, followed by the écu couronne (crown) then the écu au soliel (sun). The silver écu was first struck during the 17th century and was valued at three livres. One livre equalled 20 sols and 1 sol equalled 12 deniers. As time went on and depreciation set in, these coins lost value until the dernier eventually became a minute copper coin, and during the reign of Louis XVI (1777-93) it ceased to be struck. The livre, once a gold coin, then a silver one and sometimes copper, became merged in the franc at the time of the Revolution and the sol degenerated into the sou, 1/20 part of a franc or five centimes (one halfpenny).

As an example of the deplorable state of the French



finances early in the 18th century, it may be mentioned that in March 1724 there had been five livres to a écu and 20 to a louis d'or. These ratios were changed to 4 and 16 in September 1724, and again to 3 and 14 in December 1725, which was a great handicap to trade and finance. The ratio was then fixed at 6 livres to the écu (crown) as a temporary measure. This was made final in 1728 and remained fixed (apart from a slight variation in 1785) until the Revolution. The result was a great increase in trade, since the certainty about the value of the coinage led to greater confidence. The Louis d'Or, an interesting coin, was first struck by Louis XIII in 1640, and was worth about 17/6 in English money at that time. Its issued ceased at the Revolution, but it was revived from 1805 till 1815 with the head of Napoleon I. It was then called a "Napoleon", and valued at 20 francs. The coinage of Louis XVI (1774-93) the last of the Bourbons before the Revolution, falls into two series, a regal issue which continued, with variations, the designs and denominations of preceding reigns, and from 1791 to 1793, the Constitutional issues. The new Constitution was passed by the National Assembly in 1791. On this coinage the King bears the title, "King of France". From the reign of Henri IV in 1598, all the Bourbon monarchs had placed their titles "King of France and Navarre" on the coins, but on the constitutional issues of Louis XVI the words "and Navarre" are omitted. On both gold and silver the reverse, inscribed Reign of the Law, shows a Genius inscribing the constitution, and on the more common sub-divisions of the silver écu, the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the value 30 and 15 sols respectively was added in the field. The date, given in the normal fashion on the obverse was repeated in the new formula e.g. "Year 1 of the Liberty" on the reverse. The French Revolutionary calendar commenced in September 1792 with the year 1 of the Liberty, and was carried through to the year 15 of the Liberty which commenced in September 1806. Although the Revolution is generally recognised as having commenced in September 1788 the portrait of Louis XVI was continued on the coins until after his execution in January 1793. He was not deposed until August 10, 1792.

The initial issues of the 1st Republic continued the monetary system of the constitutional issues. The silver écu, inscribed on the obverse with the new title, République Française and the value, 6 livres, retained the Genius as the reverse. The copper sol had an inscribed tablet as obverse, and the scales of justice, cap of Liberty, and mark of value on the reverse. However, in 1794 under the Directory, the decimal system of coinage was adopted with a new unit, the Silver Franc. In silver, only the 5 franc piece was issued, with the value in wreath as obverse, and a group of Hercules, Liberty and Equality, as the reverse, and in copper, which had as types the head of the Republic (symbolical) in cap of Liberty and the value in wreath, denominations from 5 decimes to 5 centimes were struck.

In the coinage of the Consulate similar reverses were used, but the portrait of Napoleon, bareheaded, with the words "Bonaparte", "Premier Consul:", appeared on the obverse; on the reverse of the 1 franc piece the words "Republique Francaise", value in wreath, also date, appeared in the new era and gold pieces of 40 and 20 francs were added to the range. The coinage of Napoleon as Emperor from 1806 onwards varied initially only in his new title, for even the inscription "Republique Francaise" was continued until 1808, and the expression of the date in the new era dating until 1807. From 1809 Napoleon appeared with laureate portrait and the reverse bore the inscription "Empire Francaise".

With the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy in the person of Louis XVIII in 1814 the decimal coinage based on the franc was adapted to a regal form. On the issues of the 1st Restoration in 1814-15 Louis was represented by a uniformed bust, and on the reverse with its type, the royal shield of France, crowned between two laurel branches, was inscribed, e.g. Piece de 5 Francs. The portrait of the 2nd Restoration was simply a bare head, and on the reverse the value was indicated in figures. The denominations in gold were 40 and 20 francs, and in silver 5, 2, and 1 franc pieces, as well as a half and a quarter.

The issues of Charles X (1824-30) followed an identical pattern, but the royal arms disappeared from the reverse of the coins of Louis Philippe (1830-48) leaving the values in wreath of laurel as the sole type. From 1845 the half and quarter franc pieces were replaced by 50 and 20 centimes coins.

Almost the sole change effected by the expulsion of Louis Philippe in 1848 and the establishment of the 2nd Republic, was the substitution for the royal portrait of a head of beres, wearing a corn wreath. With the election of Louis Napoleon as President of the 2nd Republic in 1851, his bareheaded portrait with simply his name as inscription, was adapted for the obverse of the coinage. On the creation of the new French Empire in 1852, Louis Napoleon placed his title, Napoleon III, Empereur, on the obverse of the coinage, and Empire Francaise on the reverse. The 40 franc piece now disappeared from the gold denominations and pieces of 100 francs and 50 francs were added at the top of the scale, and 10 and 5 in the lower range. In copper, 10, 5, 2 and 1 centime pieces were issued with an imperial eagle as reverse type. From 1862 the imperial portrait, previously bareheaded, became laureate.

After the crash of the 2nd Empire in 1870 the coinage of the 3rd Republic reverted to the type used by the 2nd Republic in 1848, with the addition very soon of the motto Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite, to the reverse type. These types remained stable till the close of the century, when new designs were adopted for all denominations. The head of the republic and the Gallic cock provided the

types for the gold 20 and 10 franc pieces, while the familiar figure of a sower was placed on the silver coinage, of which the 2 franc piece was now the highest denomination. The various centime denominations in copper had the head of the Republic (symbolical) and an allegorical group.

After the first World War gold coinage ceased for all practical purposes, and the smaller franc values were replaced by a coinage of aluminium bronze. The new coinages of the 1920's and 1930's consisted of various stylized heads of the republic on the obverse, and reverses filled with decoration and stating the value and the date.

The Vichy State in France between 1942 and 1944 with its type of a double headed axe on the franc denominations in aluminium replaced the traditional title with the phrase E'tat Francaise and the traditional motto with Travail, Famille, Patrio. The obverse of the 5 franc piece bore the portrait of Marshal Petain and his title, "Chef l'Etat". Only in 1950 was a post war coinage introduced. On denominations of 50, 20 and 10 francs in aluminium bronze the types were identical, a head of the Republic on obverse and the Gallic cock, value and date on the reverse, while a cupro nickel 100 franc denomination, first struck in 1954, had another version of the head of the republic on obverse, with wheat ears and value on reverse. The coinage reform of early 1960 introduced a new franc tariffed at a hundred of the existing francs, and revived both the obverse and reverse types of the franc of the first two decades of the century.

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## FIRST AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIC CONVENTION

### Million Dollar Exhibition

At Lower Town Hall, Sydney in April, the Australian Numismatic Society's million dollar exhibition of coins, medals, bank notes and native currencies was opened by Rt. Hon. R. Askin, Premier of New South Wales. A lively appreciation of the value of coins and medals in reflecting art, economics and human progress down the ages was shown by the Premier in his opening address. The first national Australian Numismatic exhibition and convention was arranged to mark the introduction of decimal currency in Australia, and the Society issued a special medal of commemoration. An Honorary Life Membership was conferred on Mr. Askin.

The exhibition was the largest and best ever seen in Australia, and private exhibitors showed facets of outstanding collections that surpassed many museums for quality, rarity and condition. Some of the collections will eventually find a place in a museum, and posterity will benefit from the long periods of research and expenditure by dedicated numismatists.

### **Outstanding Catalogue**

An informative catalogue of exhibits illustrating the evolution of coinage was made available to visitors, and sixteen numismatic films and slides were shown, free, in a theatre curtained-off inside the exhibit hall to give full value to all who came to see the treasures of Australian numismatists.

The committee consisted of Mr. Charles Stitz, President, Gilbert Heyde, Tom Hanley, Roy Sanson, Dion H. Skinner, Producer of Exhibition, Colin Pitchfork, Director of Exhibition and Dr. Gordon Shortland, producer and editor of catalogue and arranger of screenings. Dr. Shortland is a descendant of Acting Lieutenant Governor Shortland who succeeded Governor Hobson of New Zealand, and who gave his name to an important Auckland street. A dealers' bourse was arranged by Dr. Gordon Shortland.

Helpers at the exhibition also included Mrs. Joyce Hanley, Mr. R. V. Clark, Capt. Millyn, Mr. Bell, Mrs. Sanson, Mr. Lehman and son. Others prominent at the exhibition were John Doyle, James Noble, Errol Mair, Miss F. Hooker, Stan Dick, Ed Allen, Mrs. Stitz, Ian Pryor and others who gave honorary service for a week to make the exhibition a success. The Controller of the Canberra Mint, Mr. J. Henderson and his officials attended and were cordially welcomed.

### **One Day Convention**

At the one day convention held at St. James Hall, Phillip Street, papers were given by Mr. H. P. Boland, Numismatist, Museum of Applied Arts, Sydney; Mr. R. Stewart, President, Numismatic Association of Victoria; Mr. Allan Sutherland, Auckland; Mr. E. Philpott, Victoria; and Mr. G. C. Heyde, Sydney. Discussions and films were interspersed from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and the day was voted a great success all round, for the quality of the papers and the friendly contacts which helped to weld more closely kindred societies and members in Australia and New Zealand.

Amalgamation of all principal numismatic societies in Australia was discussed.

### **Possible New Zealand Exhibition and Convention**

The Australian example is a pointer to all numismatic societies in New Zealand to combine for local exhibitions after the introduction of decimal currency in New Zealand in July, 1967, and perhaps a convention could be held to which our friends in Australia might be invited to share in the celebrations.

Australian numismatists are to be congratulated for their initiative in marking the change to decimal currency in a fitting manner. Their names, their catalogue and medal, and the printed report of papers that is expected to be issued, will do honour to all those who worked so hard to make the exhibition and convention a success.

## COIN AND MEDAL SAFE CUSTODY

Coin values rise steeply in times of inflation. Indeed in New Zealand coin values change with the calendar. The safe custody of collections is always a problem. Insurance taken out for coin collections today may be unrealistic in a few months, and therefore the alternative of safe custody must be considered, particularly for some of the coins that have reached high values, such as the Waitangi crown, the N.Z. penny 1879, and even the humble 3d. 1935. Gold coins, too, are no longer safe in many houses. High values are magnets for robbers.

Numismatists are primarily concerned with the historic and educational value of their coins, but they do not shut their eyes to market values. Insurance companies usually ask for detailed lists of coins proposed to be insured, and even then full insurance cover is not easily obtained.

Prudent numismatists now use a bank safe-deposit box to store their more valuable specimens, and this often means removing some pieces from complete collections, i.e. picking the eyes out, so that if the main collection is lost, by fire or other causes, the loss will be tempered by the saving of the key coins. The listing of all coins for insurance is a big task and numismatists often do not have the time to do this and therefore do not insure their specimens.

A bank safe-deposit box will house most of the valuable coins of a collector, for a small fee. This is a small price to pay for peace of mind. Insurance is hedged with limit and restrictions. The bulk of a collection can be listed and insured *in situ*. In the event of a loss, lists already accepted by an Insurance company, should be sufficient evidence to support claims. Some insurances are taken up to only 75% of current value, which may be unrealistic in a rapidly rising market. Incidentally, numismatists should not advertise their home address, box numbers are preferred.

Over the last year the N.Z. Police have reported a number of large collections stolen, the bulk of which would be impossible to identify.

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## THE COINAGE OF THE KINGDOM OF ETHIOPIA

It would seem at first glance that Ethiopia was following the pattern of African countries by changing its name, but Ethiopia is a very old name for a large, but ill defined area somewhere south of Egypt. The name Ethiopia comes from two Greek words meaning burnt face. Abyssinia is the name for the northern part of the present

Empire and most European travellers referred to the whole country as Abyssinia.

Coinage as we know it, was in Africa, confined before the 19th century almost entirely to the northern portion of Africa and was of mainly Greek and Roman origin.

The exception is Ethiopia which has been an independent and Christian country from early times. The kings of Ethiopia very proudly claim descent from Solomon and Sheba. Christianity was first taught there in 330 A.D. A series of coins of the Axumite kings of Ethiopia has been identified ranging from the second half of the third century to the 10th century. The coinage then was in the form of small gold pieces with the bust of the king on either side, after the conversion in 330 A.D. the coins had crosses between the syllables and on the crown and sceptres of the reigning king. A picture of these old coins is in Carsons book. They look rather primitive, but so do most other coins of that time.

A number of changes took place in the 6th and 7th centuries; Greek inscriptions are replaced by Armharic, one of the two most important languages—there being some 60 languages spoken in the country; the coinage degenerates into a bronze series only. In the 6th century the reverse, which had previously been the same as the obverse showing a bust of the king, now had a cross on the reverse and for the latter part of the coinage from the 7th century onwards, the obverse showed the figure of the king enthroned in profile, holding a long sceptre surmounted by a cross—Carson plate 841.

There was a long lapse from the 7th century until the 19th, when Ethiopia was cut off from Western civilization by the rise of the Moslem religion. The Islamic caliphates held the country but did not succeed in converting them to Islam. During these centuries Ethiopia did not mint any of her own coins, but used that of other countries. The most popular and famous of these was, and still is, the Maria Theresa thaler. It gained wide popularity in East Africa generally and in Ethiopia in particular, this denomination has been consistently restruck for use there.

In 1894 Emperor Menelik II started issuing coins from Addis Ababa and though the dies were cut in Paris, coins struck in Addis Ababa are often of inferior workmanship.

The system consisted of the Talari and subdivisions in silver with the crowned bust of Menelik II and the Lion of Judah on the reverse. There are pictures of these in Yeomans book. Gold coins of the 5-10- and 20 wark with the head of Menelik on the obverse, and the lion on the reverse, were issued with dates of his reign after his death; why, I haven't been able to discover.

The gold wark was also struck, though rarely for his successor, the Empress Zauditu, who reigned from 1916 to 1930. There is a picture of her also in Yeomans Book—page 164.

The gold wark and half wark minted in 1931 at the beginning of Haile Selassie's reign are rare, and are worth

125 Dollars and 75 respectively. Those minted for the Empress Zauditu are equally rare and expensive, they are for some reason not dated. As well as rare gold coins the present Emperor Haile Selassie issued several values of the montana in nickel and bronze before the country was conquered by Italy in 1936.

Since the Emperor's restoration in 1941, he seems to have modernised the coinage, now in the value of 50 cents and down, and although he kept the portrait and the lion of Judah, they have been brought more into line with the times.

MRS. R. MORRISON,  
Taihape.

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## FRENCH ASSIGNATS

Assignats was a term given to an issue of Bank notes which were really promises to pay. The French nation's finances were in a terrible state, and at a meeting of the States General late 1789 or early 1790, it was disclosed that the national debt amounted to 4000 million livres (a large sum in those days) and it had become impossible to get anyone to lend money to the Government.

In order to get some ready money to pay the most urgent debts it was decided to take over the property of the Church. But it was realised that if all this property were thrown on to the market at once the price it would fetch would be considerably lower than its real value. It was therefore decided to sell only 400 million livres worth at first and to allow payment to be made on a hire purchase system over a period of 12 years. This however did not give the Government the hard cash it needed at once, so, to get ready money the Assembly decided to make an issue of Bank notes which were promises to pay, backed by a claim on the Crown or Church lands.

But, in its democratic enthusiasm the Assembly kept on abolishing the old taxes and in the prevailing state of administrative chaos in the countryside most of the taxes which were not abolished were simply not paid. As the financial crisis grew steadily worse the decision was taken to sell all Church and Crown lands and to issue a further 800 million livres worth of "assignats". The Assembly kept on issuing more assignats thereby continually depreciating the currency. In January 1795 the gold louis was worth 130 livres in assignats, in March it was worth 227, in June 750, and in November 1200.

I have not been able to trace what eventually happened to these assignats, but I suspect that quite a lot of people lost a considerable amount of money.

The States General comprised representatives from the Nobles, Clergy and Commons. May 5th, 1789, was the first time they had met since the year 1614.

G. C. SHERWOOD.

## JAPANESE M.S.D.F. VISIT COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL 1966

To commemorate their goodwill visit to Pacific Countries the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force training squadron issued a special medal in two sizes.

The obverse bears the Japanese Naval flag, Mount Fujiyama, cherry blossom and the fleet, together with the appropriate Japanese inscription and the year, "1966".

On the reverse is a map of the Pacific basin, with the voyage outlined; From Toyko to Marianas Islands, Noumea (New Caledonia), Wellington, Auckland, Sydney, Melbourne, Fiji, Marianas, Manila, Taipeh, Okinawa and Tokyo. It also bears the names of the four ships, "Aki-zuki", "Oonami", "Takanami", "Makinami".



The 1½ inch medal is silver with a small ring for suspension and was issued in a small wooden case. This size medal was given to those who offered hospitality to the officers and men of the four ships.

The second medal, 3⅛ inches in diameter was the gift of the Commander of the Squadron, Rear-Admiral Hidesumi Mizutani. It is silver with the higher relief in gilt. The medal was issued in a leather case, bearing the inscription "Presented by R.Adm. Mizutani".

The photograph is off the medal presented to H. E. Mr. Kondo, Japanese Ambassador to New Zealand.

It is really a beautiful medal and fitting to record this historic visit.

P. P. O'SHEA.



## THE 289th GENERAL MEETING

An edited report of the talk given by Mr. R. D. Muldoon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Finance.

Coins and their relationship to the change-over to Decimal currency and the things that interest numismatists was the topic of Mr. R. D. Muldoon's speech to members. He pointed out that he had only a laymans knowledge of coins and mainly through his position in the Government.

Commenting on bank notes he pointed out that closer examination of the Australian \$1 revealed that the 'snifty look' of the Queen was caused by the accidental inclusion of a shadow near the Queens lip.

Hoarding of coins is a problem, not only in N.Z. but also overseas, and this is placing increased demands on mints who find it difficult to produce the better quality, proof, coins that collectors demand. An example of this is the Kennedy half-dollar of the U.S.A. At first it was thought 26 million would get the coin into circulation, but this rose to 90 million, and to-date some 260 million have been struck and still the coin is not in circulation, being snapped up by collectors throughout the world.

As a result of New Zealanders hoarding half-crowns the Government is to make a handsome profit of some \$NZ1,200,000. (£600,000).

Mr. Muldoon told members that his interest was in the public, not numismatists and it was the Governments decision to give the public first opportunity of obtaining the 1965 sets. He emphasised that the Polished standard Specimen sets are not proof. Every-one had the opportunity to obtain sets.

Continuing Mr. Muldoon passed around numerous unusual numismatic specimens and some literature.

In regard to the minting of coins Mr. Muldoon said that because of the necessity to change the dies production becomes slow and complex, which is not helped by a complex design. That is why N.Z. wanted a simple but pictorial design and in the set chosen this is achieved.

The number of Decimal coins to be struck for the changeover is as follows;

|     |              |     |                 |
|-----|--------------|-----|-----------------|
| 1c  | 120 million. | 20c | 6,500,000.      |
| 2c  | 75 million.  | 50c | 9 million.      |
| 5c  | 13 million.  | \$1 | half a million. |
| 10c | 8,500,000.   |     |                 |

The final designs for the coins were then released to the meeting and Public. The changes include alterations to the numerals on the 1c and 2c coins. On the 10c coin the numerals have been raised and the eyes on the mask had been elongated. The 20c coin has had the numerals changed and the neck of the kiwi has been made more

realistic. The sea, on the 50 c coin, has been simplified and flattened, the ship has also been moved forward and the birds have been omitted. There is no change to the 5c coin.

A series of coin blanks, trials for size and weight and some with various edge treatment together with some Decimal currency publicity material was passed round for members to inspect.

Mr. Muldoon then answered questions put to him by members which brought up the matter of a silver dollar. To this he said that it would prove to costly and a draw on external funds. Some members thought that if sufficient were struck the loss of funds would be balanced out by overseas demand for the coin. The possibility of a gold coin for N.Z. was also brought up, to which Mr. Muldoon said that it would be too expensive, impracticable and not in the interest of the public.

### **Vote of thanks**

Capt. Stagg in moving a vote of thanks expressed his gratefulness to Mr. Muldoon for giving up his one free week-day evening to address members. Capt. Stagg said that N.Z. was fortunate in having such a capable Parliamentary Under-Secretary who has brought unbounded enthusiasm energy and drive to a mammoth task of piloting through the introduction of Decimal coinage in N.Z. With no previous experience Mr. Muldoon has had to "come up the hard way," with its frustrations and public criticism. He pointed out that the Society represented some thousands of years of concentrated study of every facet of numismatics and it has been for this reason that the Society has always offered its advice to governments on matters concerning coinage.

The vote was then carried by acclamation.

The President, Mr. Hamlin then announced that the Council had granted Mr. Muldoon Honorary Membership of the Society for his services to Decimal currency in New Zealand.

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## **BOOK REVIEWS**

"Rennicks Australian Coin and Banknote Guide" by Dion H. Skinner, 246 Unley Road, Unley, South Australia, fourth edition) 1966.

is an outstanding publication of 84 pages which profusely illustrates, and values, all issues of coins and banknotes of Australia. In his third edition in 1965 he included Australian copper currency tokens and their values, and in the 1966 edition he has replaced that section by another dealing with banknotes of Australia, from 1910 to 1966. This is part of an extended work by Sydney V. Hagley, of Renmark, South Australia, one of the leading numismatists in this part of the world.

This attractive book contains a mine of information on coins and notes, age, scarcity, condition, demand and values. Gold issues are also included with numbers minted and values. Australian proofs, patterns, official and unofficial, are recorded, also brockage, and mis-struck coins, internment camp tokens, and unusual issues.

The section dealing with bank notes by S. V. Hagley, is also well illustrated, and the details of the bank notes are meticulously recorded. This book is of interest not only to numismatists but also to historians, bankers and all those interested in Australian affairs. The bank-note designs give a pictorial record of the development of Australia. As one turns the pages one sees cameos which record the march of progress of Australia. This is one of the most attractive numismatic works produced in Australasia in recent years, and it is modestly priced at 1 dollar 50 cents Australia.

A.S.

"Rennicks New Zealand Coinage Guide 1966 edition, by Dion H. Skinner, 246 Unley Road, Unley, South Australia, is a well illustrated guide to coins and tokens of New Zealand. The size is similar to his earlier work on Australian Commonwealth Coinage, about 7½ inches by 9½ inches.

In 56 pages Dion Skinner has compressed all the information needed by collectors and students of New Zealand tokens and coins. The names of those who assisted him and to whom he gives acknowledgment in the compilation of the work sets a hallmark of quality and accuracy.

For the first time the New Zealand 1935 pattern Waitangi crown piece is illustrated.

The upsurge in coin and token values in New Zealand is reflected in the values given, and the illustrations of New Zealand tokens will provide an invaluable guide to beginners in this field.

This production reflects great credit on the author, Dion H. Skinner, who has set a high standard in all the works he has issued on numismatics in this part of the world.

Price 12s. 6d.

A.S.

"Collecting Australian Coins" by Tom Hanley and Bill James. Published by Murray, 1966. 223 pages with plates. \$4.25 Australia.

This book could be classed as the Australian numismatists bible. For it contains a wealth of information on every aspect of Australasian numismatics: Treasure, medals, medallets, forgeries, Australian Mints, paper money, coin clubs, housing coins, and coin grading, to mention a few. There has been much criticism of the coin grading in this work, but taking the book as a whole this is only a minor matter.

Both Mr. Hanley and Mr. James are to be congratulated on this fine publication.

The title, "Collecting Australian Coins" does not do justice to the book.

P.O'S.

"Greek Coins and Their Values" by H. A. Seaby. 2nd Edition, London 1966. 220 pages, 18 maps, 8 full plates, 400 text figures. Price 30/- U.K.

This book will be welcomed by both the numismatist and student of classical studies. It is a companion to "Roman Coins and Their Values" and like the latter it is more than a catalogue. Topics covered included notes on the origin of Greek coinage, the deities and personifications portrayed, weights, dating. In 220 pages it covers a vast field of ancient numismatics which is a never-ending study.

Mr. H. A. Seaby and his firm are to be congratulated for its presentation, worthy of a place in classical studies.

P.O'S.

### MORE 1965 COINS ISSUED

Since the issue of Journal No. 42 the Reserve Bank of New Zealand has ordered a further 1,000,000 shillings. Alter your mintage chart accordingly.

1965 shillings. 4,500,000.

Total of shillings issued since 1933. 30,847,364. Grand Total: 469,046,568.

### INDEX TO THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Compiled by P. P. O'SHEA.

Copies of this publication are now available.

It covers all the printed Journals of the Society from Vol. 4, No. 1 (4) 1947 to Vol. II, No. 6 (42) 1966, and contains over 2,500 references.

The number printed compared with the Society's total membership is small, therefore if you wish to obtain a copy do not delay.

The price (including postage) :

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| N.Z.      | 12/6   |
| U.K.      | 12/6   |
| U.S.A.    | \$2.00 |
| Canada    | \$2.00 |
| Australia | \$1.75 |

N.B.—When placing your order please Print your full name and address, clearly.

Address orders to:

The Secretary, R.N.S.N.Z.,  
G.P.O. Box 23,  
Wellington, New Zealand.

## NEW ZEALAND PROOF (???) COINS 1965

When our 1965 mintings were being finalised it was definitely the intention of N.Z. Government officials that there would be a proof issue. These were to be encased in the attractive Josset holder, but this was cancelled at the last moment and the instructions went out that there would be no 'Proofs', the substitution being designated "Polished Standard Specimens" and these were to be packed by the Royal Mint in the thin pliofilm holders. We are now faced with an interesting development, on one hand we have the definite pronouncement of our N.Z. Government that NO Proofs whatsoever were minted for 1965, against which we have the Editorial Board of the American publication, "World Coins", definitely classifying our "Polished Standard Specimen" sets as 'Proofs', as understood by North American collectors. What is meant by this?, are there several types of Proof coins?

Numismatists will recollect that it was not so long ago that we witnessed a scandal over a Mexican issue of coins which were being sold in the U.S.A. as Proofs when the Mexican authorities claimed that they had not minted them as Proofs. Severe action was taken by them to remedy the position, they were not enamoured by the misrepresentation.

The Royal Mint and N.Z. Government do not class them as Proofs and we in New Zealand cannot and will not classify, as proofs, coins which apparently U.S.A. dealers have the right to designate such.

E.J.A.

BACK ISSUES OF THE N.Z. NUMISMATIC  
JOURNAL

A limited number of back issues of the Journal are still available, except the following consecutive numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 25, 31, 33, 35, 39 and 41.

Journals 1, 2 and 3 are actually the Reports of the N.Z. Numismatic Society and are separately indexed. The recently published index covers Journals 4 to 42.

Price 3/6 per copy, plus postage.

Address all enquiries and orders to:

The Secretary,  
Royal Numismatic Society of N.Z. Inc.,  
G.P.O. Box 23,  
Wellington, N.Z.

## EXHIBITION

The Society, in conjunction with the Dominion Museum, proposes to stage an exhibition in July 1966 to mark the introduction of D.C. to New Zealand.

It will cover all aspects of numismatics, including paper-money and native currencies, with a special D.C. display.

If any member has any outstanding numismatic items that he would be prepared to offer for display, would he please inform the Secretary. Do not send items at present.

Full details of the exhibition will be announced at a later date.

Ed.

## 1967 D.C. SETS

Many members have inquired about the 1967 Decimal Currency commemorative sets and whether the Society will be obtaining sets on members behalf.

Unfortunately the Society will not be obtaining sets for members who must apply personally to the New Zealand Treasury when orders are called for. Until such time no orders should be placed.

## 1966-67 SUBSCRIPTION NOTICES IN DOLLARS NOT L.S.D.

This year the Treasurer sent all subscription notices out in New Zealand Dollars and cents. The result was surprising, especially when as numismatists we should be taking an interest in the D.C. The majority of members paid a double subscription.

Note: \$NZ 2 = £1. NOT £2.

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## 35th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 27, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman.  
The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were read  
and confirmed.

### ANNUAL REPORT

For Year ended 31st May, 1966.

The past year has been one of tremendous activity in the numismatic field. The last issues of fractional coinage have appeared, Australia has changed to decimal coinage, new coin designs have been under intense scrutiny and the campaign of education in decimal coinage has been stepped up. The Society has been especially prominent as news media have sought its opinions on the various issues.

**Membership** now stands at 550; 85 new members were admitted, two were readmitted and one, Mr M. C. Barnett, was elected an hon. member. During the same period, the members who left the Society for one reason or another numbered 30. Gross increase, 58. The deaths are recorded of Mr S. P. Ward and Ven. Archdeacon Gavin, the latter a foundation member. Both of these people were past office-holders and their passing is regretted.

Mr R. G. Bell of Christchurch was elected a Fellow in recognition of his long and valuable service to the Society. This brings to 23 the total of Fellows of whom three are Honorary.

**Meetings** have been well-attended and the following speakers contributed: Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Prowse, Stutter, O'Shea, Berry, Robb, Armstrong, Arlow, and McNaught.

During the year, Mr P. O'Shea has catalogued the Society's collection, noting missing items and making the collection more readily available. Members wishing to refer to the collection may now do so by reference to the Secretary. Additions to the collections have been made of Australian and New Zealand commemorative sets, and specimens have been donated by Mrs Wylie, Mr Mitchell, the Israeli Government Coins and Medals Coop. and others.

The library, still housed in the Alexander Turnbull Library, may be consulted by referring to the Secretary. Members should not approach the Turnbull Library authorities. As the Society is no longer able to meet at its former venue, new and more satisfactory arrangements will have to be made.

**Journal 42** is now in page proof, and can be expected very shortly. Journal 43 is also in preparation and will be submitted for printing as the first one is distributed. The index, prepared by Mr O'Shea, is also being printed with Journal 42 and will be available at about the same time. Members are reminded that the index is for sale and those wishing to place orders should do so immediately. The announcement of the Index has increased the interest in back numbers of the Journal and stocks have rapidly decreased. Most numbers are, however, still available.

The acquisition of **Churchill crowns** on behalf of members was a most successful venture. All the distributed coins have been paid for and some small surplus is on hand. This venture would not have been possible without the generous co-operation of the authorities of the Bank of New Zealand. In acknowledgement of past assistance and of the worthiness of the cause, the Bank curtailed the orders of its customers so that our request could be met. The Society stands deeply indebted for this favour.

The disappointment of members was considerable when the Government decided not to issue proof coins in 1965. The Society was involved in embarrassing explanations for its inability to supply the coins as it had understood would be the case. The polished specimens sets were quickly bought out without the Society having the opportunity to obtain sets for its members.

Judging from a recent announcement by Mr Muldoon, Parliamentary Under-secretary to the Minister of Finance, the same types of sets will be issued next year with the new decimal currency. This represents a further retraction of the earlier announcement of proofs for both 1965 and 1967. If this is to be the case, and efforts are being made to clarify the situation, I suggest to the incoming Council that strong representations be made to the Government for the original intention of proof coins to be retained.

The controversy on coin designs has stimulated enormous interest and not a little heat. It has, however, brought to the attention of the public the problems involved in minting coins. It has also demonstrated that the public has an active interest in the quality of the New Zealand coinage. There seems to be a general acceptance by the public of the designs as finally announced recently. The Society is proud to acknowledge the winning designer, Mr James Berry, as an honoured member and tenders its very warmest congratulations to him on his success.

Mr Berry has submitted interim designs for the Society's medal to be struck next year to commemorate the introduction of decimal currency. The combination of coins and medal by his hand will make 1967 a memorable year for him and for the Society.

Throughout the year, Mr O'Shea and Mr McDougall have worked quietly and unceasingly behind the scenes. Mr O'Shea reports that over 650 letters have been dealt with, a volume which is staggering and speaks highly of the efficiency of the Society's officers. I should like, on your behalf, to express the warmest and most sincere thanks for this work and for the support which has been accorded me.

This has been a year of great and varied interest. The coming year promises to be one of immense importance and considerable activity. I hope the incoming Council will take cognizance of the importance of its term and prepare accordingly. I thank you, officers and Council, Branches and members, for the honour I have had of serving you during the last twelve months. I wish you all a prosperous and interesting year.

B. G. HAMLIN,

President.



**ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF N.Z. INC.****Receipts and Payments for the Year ended  
31st May, 1966.**

|   |       |             |
|---|-------|-------------|
| <b>Receipts for the Year were:</b>                  | £     | £           |
| Subscriptions—Annual .....                          | 326   |             |
| Government grant .....                              | 100   |             |
| Sale of journals and badges .....                   | 64    |             |
| Surplus from coin exchanges .....                   | 16    |             |
| Donations .....                                     | 6     |             |
| Advertising .....                                   | 16    |             |
| Sundry .....  | 8     |             |
| Interest .....                                      | 48    |             |
|   | <hr/> | 584         |
| <b>Payments for Year were:</b>                      |       |             |
| Journal expenses .....                              | 136   |             |
| Travelling expenses .....                           | 20    |             |
| Stationery .....                                    | 47    |             |
| Postages .....                                      | 33    |             |
| Badges .....  | 44    |             |
| Income Tax .....                                    | 10    |             |
| Sundry .....  | 12    |             |
| 1965 N.Z. sets .....                                | 4     |             |
|   | <hr/> | 306         |
| Excess of income over expenditure .....             |       | 278         |
| Plus balance at Bank 1.6.65 .....                   |       | 757         |
|   |       | <hr/>       |
| Balance at Bank .....                               |       | £1035       |
|   |       | <hr/> <hr/> |
| <b>Accumulated Funds as at 31st May, 1966.</b>      |       |             |
|   | £     | £           |
| Accumulated Funds as at 1.6.65 .....                |       | 1535        |
| Excess of income over expenditure .....             |       | 278         |
|   |       | <hr/>       |
|   |       | 1813        |
| Composite subscription account—                     |       |             |
| Life subscriptions for year .....                   | 56    |             |
| Interest to 31.3.66 .....                           | 4     |             |
|   | <hr/> | 60          |
| Medal Trust account—                                |       |             |
| Interest to 30.6.65 .....                           |       | 5           |
|   |       | <hr/>       |
| Accumulated Funds as at 31.5.66 .....               |       | £1878       |
|   |       | <hr/> <hr/> |
| Represented by:                                     |       |             |
| Bank of New Zealand .....                           |       | 1035        |
| Composite Life subscription account .....           |       | 177         |
| Medal Trust account .....                           |       | 166         |
| £500 N.Z. Government Stock 15.6.66<br>at cost ..... |       | 500         |
|   |       | <hr/>       |
|   |       | £1878       |
|   |       | <hr/> <hr/> |

D. A. McDOUGALL, Treasurer.  
W. CHETWYND, Auditor.

B. G. HAMLIN, President.

## OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1966-67

**Patron:** His Excellency the Governor-General, Brigadier Sir Bernard Fergusson, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., O.B.E.

**Hon. Life Patron:** Viscount Bledisloe, Q.C., England.

**President:** B. G. Hamlin, Dominion Museum, Wellington.

**Vice-Presidents:** E. J. Arlow, J. Berry\*, Capt. G. T. Stagg\*, (Wellington), Dr. L. K. Gluckman, M.D.\*, A. Sutherland\*, F.R.N.S. (Auckland).

**Hon. Secretary:** P. P. O'Shea, G.P.O. Box 23, Wellington.

**Hon. Treasurer:** D. A. McDougall, B.Com., Box 23, Wellington.

**Hon. Auditor:** E. J. Arlow.

**Associate Editors:** E. J. Arlow, P. P. O'Shea, A. Sutherland\*.

**Keeper of the Collection:** G. N. Balmer, Wellington.

**Council Members:** A. J. Freed, M. Hornblow\*, A. E. Prowse, Mrs. P. Ranger\* (Wellington), W. A. Mitchell (Palmerston North).

The Office of Keeper of the Roll was abolished. A vote of appreciation was accorded Mr. W. Chetwynd\*, Hon. Auditor for the past 27 years, who declined re-election. Mr. Hamlin suggested that an exhibition be held to mark the introduction of Decimal Coinage into New Zealand next year. This was referred to the Council.

\* F.R.N.S.N.Z.

## MEETINGS

### WELLINGTON

May 2, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. Seven new members were elected. The death of Mr. D. H. Hay of Woodville was reported. Mr. Berry displayed plaster designs of his 1 and 2 cent coins and also tabled some trial designs for the Society's proposed D.C. Medal. Mr. A. Robb spoke on his recent visit to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, mentioning in particular the layout. A Russian medallion commemorating the completion of the Cathedral of St. Isaac of Dalmatia in 1858 was the topic of Mr. M. Armstrong's paper. Finally Mr. Arlow spoke on the Bolivian silver mines linking his story with the Bolivian war and the exploits of a member of the Society, who later fought in the Spanish Civil War and the second world war as a pilot, being decorated with the D.F.M. and the Virtuti Militari and Cross of Valour with two bars of Poland. The meeting proved to be interesting to all those present.

May 30, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. A special welcome was extended to Mr. Sherwood, on a brief visit from Christchurch. Six new members were elected and the death of a distinguished numismatist, the Venerable Archdeacon G. H. Gavin, E.D., F.R.N.S.N.Z., F.R.N.S., was observed by one minute's silence. It was reported that the old records of the Society, including the original designs for the Bledisloe medal, had been found. Mr. G. Stutter delivered an interesting paper entitled "N.Z. Coinage, From Barter to the present".

Mr. P. P. O'Shea spoke on the life of Major-General Sir Alfred William Robin, K.C.M.G., C.B., T.D., K.St.J., who led the New Zealanders in the South African War. A medal, awarded to the general in 1903 was displayed, together with some of the Museum's decorations. There followed a discussion on the 1956 strapless halfpenny.

June 27, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. Eight new members were elected and one resignation was received. It was reported that the Hon. J. R. Marshall, M.P., an Hon. member of the Society, has been appointed a Privy Counsellor. Mr. O'Shea informed members that the new Arts and Library building at Victoria University is to be named after one of the Society's distinguished members, Prof. Sir John Rankine Brown, K.B.E., M.A., Ll.D. Mr. Hamlin congratulated Mr. Berry on his success with the coin designs and wished him all the best for his forthcoming visit to England. Mr. Bowker presented a paper on the 1956 N.Z. Varieties. The technical data and photographs proved that a considerable amount of research had been put into its preparation. Mr. O'Shea, tabled and spoke on one of world's rarest medals. The Naval General Service Medal with seven clasps, of which only two were issued.

July 25, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. The sudden death of Mr. M. Hornblow, F.R.N.S.N.Z., was reported and members stood in one minute's silence. Seven new members were elected. Mr. O'Shea presented the first copy of the Index to the President. At 8 p.m. Mr. R. D. Muldoon, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Finance was welcomed to the Meeting by the President. Mr. Hamlin then delivered a paper entitled "A Case for Proof Coins". Mr. Muldoon then followed with a very interesting talk on D.C. and some other matters of numismatic interest. At the conclusion Mr. Muldoon was made an Hon. Member.

August 29, 1966. Mr. E. J. Arlow, Chairman. Five new members were elected and four resignations were accepted. The death of Mr. E. A. Dennis of Hororata, North Canterbury, was recorded. News was received that the Treasury had approved the Society's design for its D.C. Medal. Capt. Stagg and Mr. P. O'Shea both spoke on the Japanese M.S.D.F. Visit medal, displaying specimens. Mr. E. J. Arlow began the first in a series of talks entitled "Numismatic Meanderings".

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

July 18, 1966. Mr. B. G. Hamlin, Chairman. Dr. Matthews represented the Taihape Branch. There was some discussion on the process of application for membership which resulted in the following motion: "That applications for membership be in writing, and in the hands of the Society prior to the meeting." The design for the Society's D.C. Medal was chosen with suggested minor alterations. It was agreed that the Society hold an exhibition in conjunction with the Dominion Museum to mark the introduction of Decimal Coinage into New Zealand. An interim sub-committee, was set-up to examine and report on the possibilities of holding such. Mr. Hamlin (President), Capt. G. T. Stagg (Vice-President), and Mr. P. P. O'Shea (Hon. Secretary).

### TAIHAPE BRANCH MEETINGS

March 8, 1966. Dr. Matthews presented a paper on "The Influence of Christianity on Numismatics" and showed how this was evident not only on coins but also on other aspects of numismatics such as tokens and medals. The M.B.E. together with the official telegram and Royal Warrant, awarded to Mr. V. Smith were tabled by Dr. Matthews.

May 10, 1966. First Annual General Meeting. Dr. Matthews presented his Annual Report in which he noted that there had been a drop in membership due to the number of members that had left the district. Mr. Farrer, Secretary-Treasurer presented his statement of Receipts and Payments, which was accepted.

#### Officers elected 1966-67

**Chairman:** Dr. J. T. Matthews.

**Secretary-Treasurer:** R. N. Farrer.

**Committee Member:** I. Gregory.

**Council Representative:** Dr. Matthews.

A Branch subscription of 10/- per senior member and 5/- per Junior was agreed too.

Mrs. R. Morrison presented a paper on Ethiopian Coins and Mr. Farrer one on the Manawatu Farmers Assoc. discount tokens.

July 12, 1966. Dr. Matthews reported on the Council Meeting. Mr. I. F. Gregory presented a paper on the Marie Theresa Thaler, followed by another paper on Nursing Medals by Mrs. Matthews. Numerous coins and medals were displayed.

September 13, 1966. The death of Mr. V. Smith, M.B.E., was reported. Mr. R. N. Farrer presented a paper on diebreaks on the obverse of the 1953 threepence. Dr. Matthews then read a paper from the Polish Numismatic Journal on the Jewish coinage at the Ghetto of Lotz in Poland.

**Meetings:** The Branch meets in the home of a member every second month. Enquiries should be addressed to Mr. R. N. Farrer, Secretary, c/- P.O. Box 228, Taihape.

## MEMBERS' SPECIALTIES AND WANTS

The following schedule has been compiled for the benefit of Members of our Society and it will be repeated in every issue of the Journal unless cancelled or alterations authorised by the member concerned. All members have the right to have their names included and a small charge is made for each line for each issue. Use registered post or insure parcels when sending specimens by post.

**ADAMS, D. Phillip, El Dorado Coin and Stamp Shop,  
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii.**

Carry Dansco value books for Coins of British Oceania and coin folders for N.Z., Australian and Hong Kong. Buying, selling and trading coins of the U.S., Canada, British Oceania and Great Britain. Carrying catalogue books on the values and mintage figures of British and Canadian coins. Write for "The Garden Isle Trading Post" which lists the buying, selling and trading rates offered by El Dorado Coin and Stamp Shop.

**ALLEN, Theodore Jr., Arizona State University, Tempe,  
Arizona, U.S.A.**

Specialty—Silver dollars and taes of China and Tibetan coins. Sellers please write.

**ARLOW, E. J., 68 Dixon St., Wellington.**

Supplies of all N.Z. coins available. Also 1965 full sets uncirculated.

**ATKINSON, D. O., F.R.N.S.N.Z., 23 Claude Rd., Manurewa,  
Auckland, N.Z.**

Specialty—Medals and Badges, especially Australasian and colonial.

**BALMER, G. N., 4 Carrington St., Wellington.**

Specialty—World gold coins.

**BELL, R. G., F.R.N.S.N.Z., 50 Murray Place, Christchurch.**

Wanted to buy or exchange: New Zealand and Australian tokens, commemorative medals, medalets, coins. Correspondence welcomed.

**BERRY, JAMES, F.R.N.S.N.Z., G.P.O. Box 23, Wellington.**

Commemorative Medals of all types with particular emphasis on artistic angle, also Illustrated Books of same.

**BETTON, James L. Jr., P.O. Box 533, Santa Monica, Cali-  
fornia, U.S.A. Zip 90406.**

Specialty: Trade tokens of England and Australasia. Write.

**BURDETT, L. J., 19 Whenua View, Titahi Bay, N.Z.**

Specialty—Coins generally, and Church Tokens.

**F. C. J. COOK, 344 River Road, Hamilton.**

Specialty—Gold and Crown size coins of the world. Exchanges available.

**CRAIGMYLE, J., P.O. Box 99, Wanganui.**

Specialty—Gold Coins.

Wants—N.Z. Waitangi Crown 1935.

**CROSS, W. F. W., P.O. Box 210, Tauranga.**

Specialty—N.Z. Coinage. Exchanges available.

**DENNIS, E. R., 172 Nelson St., Invercargill.**

Specialty—Old English, Roman, and general.

**DOYLE, John H., 1/46 Waiwera Street, North Sydney,  
Australia.**

Wishes to buy early N.Z. and Australian currency tokens, medallions and check pieces, etc.

Correspondence from fellow collectors welcome.

**DOWNER, R. L., 45 Exeter Crescent, Palmerston North, N.Z.**

Wants—3 English pennies, dates 1868, 1869, 1871.

**FERGUSON, J. DOUGLAS, Rock Island, Quebec, Canada.**

I am interested in all types of transportation tokens in metal, celluloid, or plastic, from all parts of the world, and will buy or exchange uncirculated Canadian coins of many years for them.

**FOWLER, F. J., 4 Cambridge Street, Tawa, Wellington.**

Specialty—Coins of Pacific Countries.

**FREED, A. J., 28 Abbott St., Ngaio, Wellington.**

Specialty—Coins generally.

**GASCOIGNE, A. W., 16 Brecon Road, Stratford, N.Z.**

Wants—Newark Beseiged coin 1645 or 1646.

**GEARY, Bill, Post Office, Hastings.**

Wanted to buy, or exchange Indian Head cents and Lincoln Head cents. All correspondence answered. Also old English coins.

**GIBSON, J. L., R.R.1 Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada.**

Specialty—Commemorative coins, British Maundy sets, foreign proof sets.

**GOURLAY, E. S., F.R.S.N.Z., 124 Nile Street, Nelson.**

Specialty—Hammered English silver and gold coins, from Ancient British to Charles II—also wants to buy same.

**GRAYDON, J. R. C., 7 Plymouth St., Karori, Wellington.**

Medals—British Campaign Medals and Decorations.

**HORWOOD, W. E., F.R.N.S.N.Z., 6 Highbury Rd., Wellington.**

Specialty—English and Roman Coins.

**HUGHAN, H. G., F.R.N.S.N.Z., P.O. Box 48, Carterton, N.Z.**

Specialty—World Gold Coinage, and Coins of the Realm.

**HUNT, C. G., King's Bldg., Victoria St., Hamilton, N.Z.**

Specialty—Historic N.Z. Coins and Medallions.

**HYNES, MERVYN, 54 Calgary Street, Mt Eden, Auckland, N.Z.**

Wants—Presbyterian Communion Tokens.

**JEFFERY, F. J., Coins, Melksham, Wilts, England.**

Supplier of yearly sets, in deluxe holders. 1963 28/-, 1964-65-66 21/- each. Four sets £4.4s. post free. Send for free list. Est. 1932.

**KENT, William E., 256 N. Greenwood Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois (60901) U.S.A.**

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**KOONCE, William D., 4269 Fair Ave., North Hollywood, California, 91602, U.S.A.**

Specialty—Orders of Chivalry, War and Service medals; Australian and New Zealand numismatics of all kinds including paper money and tokens.  
Maori artifacts in stone and wood wanted.

**MADDEN, I. B., M.A., F.R.N.S., F.S.A. (Scot), Rosslea, 15 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland.**

Specialty: English and Irish silver coins all periods. Member American Numismatic Assn., and numerous other historical, heraldic, antiquarian and genealogical societies throughout the world.

President Auckland Historical Society from Oct. 1965 and a co-opt'd member of the H.M.S. Endeavour Trust (N.Z. Committee, Auck.).

**McCLEW, J. M., P.O. Box 9363, Newmarket, S.E.**

Specialty—English and British coinage.

**McNAUGHT, C. M., P.O. Box 166, Wellington.**

Stamps and Coins including U.S.A. and Canadian Dollars. N.Z. and Australian commemorative coins and early English silver coins, especially crowns.

**MENSINGER, R. M., 8948 Stewart Lane, Stockton, California, U.S.A.**

Specialty: Commonwealth Proof sets and BU coins before 1959. Wanted especially New Zealand, Australian and South African Proof sets. Will buy or trade for English or U.S. Coins.

**MOORÉ, RICHARD GEORGES, P.O. Box 459, Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada.**

Specialty—Canadian Pre-Confederation Bank Tokens and British Commonwealth Commemoratives in B.U. Will purchase or trade Canadian Silver Dollars for same. Correspondence welcomed.

**MURTAGH, J. R., 509 Windsor Ave., Hastings, N.Z.**

Coins offered in exchange for Old Boys' weekly papers, "Magnet", "Gem", "Popular", "Nelson Lee", "Union Jack", Schoolboys' "Own", etc.

**POLASCHEK, SERGEANT A. J., P.O. Box 424, Wanganui, N.Z.**

Specialty—Medals—British and Foreign.

**PROWSE, A. E., 17 Charles St., Upper Hutt, N.Z.**

Wants: British and Nazi war medals, also ribbons of all countries.

**REMICK, J. H., Box 183, 2900 Quatre Bourgeois, Quebec, 10, P.Q., Canada.**

Specialty—Paper currency of world and coins of British Commonwealth.

**ROBERTS, J. P., 9 Nottingham Street, Westmere, Auckland.**

Specialty: Mutiny medals—1857. With or without bars.

**ROBINSON, H., P.O. Box 5189, Auckland.**

Wanted N.Z. Tradesmen's Tokens, Church Tokens, and all or any material listed or not listed in the N.Z. Numismatic History of Allan Sutherland. Have exchange material or will buy.

**ROUFFIGNAC, J. K. de, 94 Kauri St., Miramar.**

Specialty—Medals and Gold Coins.





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