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# NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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## WHAT COIN IS THIS?

By

J. T. MATTHEWS, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.

I have entitled my paper "What Coin is This?" because of my interest in the identification and classification of coins. This branch of the subject has proved to be most interesting and also most frustrating at times, and I therefore felt that a few of the aspects and problems may be of interest.

To the man in the street, the identification of a coin goes little further than deciding the country of issue and the denomination, but to the numismatist, the identification of a coin may be rather a laborious task. Admittedly, in many instances we may be able to pick up a coin, and without hesitation, not only identify that coin fully, but also give some of its historical background. However, this usually occurs only with coins with which we are familiar; i.e. coins of our own or a neighbouring country, or coins in which we are interested or specialize. Once outside these fields, even the most specialised collector must take into consideration many factors before a final decision can be made as to a coin's true identification and classification. Sometimes such a task may be very difficult or even impossible without specialised knowledge.

To the collector of modern coins the identification of a coin is a relatively simple matter. With mediæval and ancient coins, however, it is not so simple.

Identification depends on many factors, any of which may be used as a starting point. I feel that the first and most important step is to handle the coin and to gain a general impression. By doing this we may see some word, legend, design, etc. which we have seen before, or which may give us a clue as to the coin's origin. Other points gained from this initial handling are the state of preservation, the composition and the method of minting. We may also be able to decide whether it is an official issue, token etc.

Once we have gained our general impression, we must concentrate on the finer points of identification. The following factors are not necessarily in order of importance

but have been arranged where possible in order from the general to the particular.

### SIZE:

The size of coins varies considerably, but on the whole, size is regulated by metal and value, and applied more particularly to coins minted prior to this century. Within recent decades, the majority of the world's countries have turned to token coinages in which the intrinsic value of the coin is not equal to its face value. However, prior to this century, a coin usually contained a quantity of metal equal to its face value. This is shown well in the plate coinage issued during the 17th and 18th centuries by Sweden. Because of the scarcity of silver available for coinage, it was decided to strike even the highest denomination in copper. The largest of these plates, which is also the largest and heaviest coin of any time and place, measures  $27\frac{1}{2}$  by 12 inches and weighs 48 pounds.

Other examples of large coins are the silver 10,000 dinar struck by Sultan Husain I of Persia in A.H.\* 1121 (A.D. 1743) which is 3 inches in diameter and weighs a little over 10oz. troy, and the gold 200 mohur, struck by the Mogul Emperor Shah-Jahan in A.H. 1064 (A.D. 1686). This coin, which is  $5\frac{3}{8}$  inches in diameter, has an estimated weight of 70 oz. troy, is the largest gold coin ever struck and of which any record is known. Its present whereabouts is unknown, but a cast of the original is now preserved in the British Museum.

At the other end of the scale we find many gold and silver coins. For instance the gold  $\frac{1}{64}$  Mohur of Nepal which has been issued since 1750 weighs only 0.0901 gram.

Among the Greek coins are the  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{8}$  obols of Athens. These tiny pieces and other subdivisions were always being lost, and it was decided to discontinue the issue and substitute copper coins. Because these coins would be larger, it is said that the fish-wives who had been in the habit of keeping their change in their mouths, went on strike because they found that with a few of these new coins in their mouths, it was impossible for them to speak.

### SHAPE:

The shape of coins may be classified broadly into geometrical and non-geometrical shapes.

#### (a) Geometrical shapes:

The most common shape encountered in this group is the circular and flat disc and its variations, a shape which has persisted throughout numismatic history from the earliest Grecian coins. Probably the next most common shape is the square and its variations as in the Malayan 1 cent piece, and the various values of Swedish plate money already referred to.

Other shapes in the group as the octagon as seen

\* A.H. = Anno Hegirae = A.D. 622.

in the 50 dollar gold piece issued by the U.S.A. to commemorate the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915; the 12-sided threepence now current in Great Britain; and various lozenge shaped coins.

**(b) Non-Geometrical shapes :**

Although a large number of shapes exist in this group only two shapes have been chosen as examples. These are the knife money of ancient China and the fish shaped bronze coins issued in the 5th century by the city-state of Olbia in Asia Minor.

**COMPOSITION :**

Usually this presents little difficulty but may at times be rather misleading at first glance. Where more specific details are required about the composition of a coin, recourse must be made to mint records or other information available. The composition of coins may be classified as follows :

**(a) Metal :**

**(i) Pure Metals**

Throughout numismatic history, many pure metals have been used in coinages. Naturally the best known of these are gold, silver and copper. In more modern times other metals such as aluminium, iron, tin etc. have been used at times.

**(ii) Alloys**

An alloy is a mixture of two or more metals. Because of the softness of the pure noble metals such as gold and silver, they are usually alloyed with harder metals, and the amount of pure metal used is expressed as so much fine. Fineness is expressed in thousandths, the pure metal being 1,000. A metal or coin with a fineness of 916.6 fine therefore contains 916.6/1,000 parts of pure metal, the remaining 83.4/1,000 is therefore the amount of alloying metal or metals present.

Electrum is a natural alloy of gold and silver which was employed by the Ionian Greeks at an early period.

The silver content of the electrum of Asia Minor was approximately 27% but was higher in the coins of Africa and the Sicilian coins of Agathocles. The pale gold coins of the Merovingians and the Postulatsgulden of Liege issued about A.D. 1500 contain about 50% silver and are not natural electrum.

Cupro-nickel is a good example of a modern alloy.

**(iii) Combination**

Here we have combinations of metals in such a way that each metal retains its own identity. Plating is a perfect example of this type of composition. It is usually seen in forged coins but many examples of it being used officially are to be found. The plated coins of the ancient Greeks, and some of the Roman coins issued between 91-15 B.C. are good examples.

Later in Sweden in 1573 and 1591, the copper ore coins of John III were, when minted, given a very thin coat of silver plating and issued as silver coins.

A good example of this type of composition being used in modern coins is the zinc coated steel cent issued by the U.S.A. in 1943. Many of these coins have been copper plated to appear like copper cents. These coins are fakes, as no copper cents were issued in that year. They may be identified by checking with a magnet.

Another type of combination is seen in the farthings struck by Charles II, James II, and William III. Here, in order to try and defeat forgers, tin with a copper core was used.

**(b) Non Metal:**

Under this heading we may consider the more unusual substances used in coins.

**(i) Wood**

This substance was quite common in some of the tokens and unofficial issues of early United States of America, where the term "not worth a wooden nickel" originated.

**(ii) Porcelain**

Most of the coins issued with this composition were tokens although porcelain coins are known to have been issued as pieces of necessity in Ptolemaic Egypt.

Porcelain tokens were issued in Siam from the middle of the 18th century until 1871. The majority were issued by various companies and traders at Bangkok, and occur in a great variety of shapes, colours and values.

**(iii) Glass**

Many glass tesserae of the first to fourth centuries A.D. have been found in Egypt.

**WEIGHT:**

This is one of the physical properties of a coin which has always been, and still is, of paramount importance, and of course is regulated by the size, shape and composition of the coin. If we consider the origin of coinage, we find that it is based on the idea of stamping a piece of metal with an official mark guaranteeing its just weight, fineness and value. This is borne out by the fact that the names of many coins were originally the names of actual weights; e.g. talent (originally a Babylonian weight), shekel (first used as a weight in Babylonia and later adopted by the Phoenicians, Hebrews and other semitic races), peso (primarily a silver ingot based on the standard weight of 1 oz., and first struck in Spain as a silver coin in the 16th century).

The early Greeks attached great importance to the accuracy of weight of their coins, and apart from wear, Greek coins vary from the standard weight by only fractions of a grain. This is one of the best immediate tests

as to whether a Greek coin is genuine or not, for if it is too heavy or more than a few grains light, owing to wear, it is likely to be a forgery.

During medieval times, the clipping of gold and silver coins brought about the habit of weighing a coin to check that it could still be accepted at face value. This was such a problem, that even as far back as 1205, in King John's time, the records of the assize state:—

“for discovering lack of weight there was issued from the mint a penny poise wanting one eighth of a penny, to be delivered to anyone who would have it.”

Weights such as this were issued singly or in sets by subsequent rulers, not only to discover clipped coins, but also to arrive at the exact value of many foreign coins, which at that time, circulated freely in England.

In the identification of many of the medieval English series, it is sometimes necessary to weigh the coin to determine to which issue it belongs.

Frequently the actual weight of the coin is marked on the coin. Thus, on many of the Chinese coins of this and last century, we find such weights given as 7 mace and 2 candareens on the 1 dollar, and 3 mace and 6 candareens on the  $\frac{1}{2}$  dollar.

Now that we have dealt with the physical factors in the identification of a coin, we must consider the finer details encountered in the design and minting of that coin. Before going into details, I would like to emphasise that from the point of view of identification, a coin has three “sides”—obverse, reverse and edge. Of these three, the obverse and reverse show the greatest variation in design and are the sides on which most of our attention will be concentrated. Let us now see in what way these finer details help us in our identification.

#### EDGE:

Prior to modern methods of minting, when the shape of the coin was never perfect, the practice of clipping was often difficult to detect. However, with more modern methods of minting, a design or some other method of marking the edges of the more valuable coins was devised.

According to Smith in his article in *The Numismatist*, ornamental edges may be classified as follows:—

1. Milled edges.
2. Chain milling.
3. Geometrical devices.
4. Wreaths or floral devices.
5. “Security edges”.
6. Inscribed edges.

When varieties of a coin are being looked for, particular care must be given to the edge, as it is here that many errors and differences exist.

**OBVERSE AND REVERSE :**

The interpretation and identification of the information contained on the obverse and reverse of coins, provides us with some of the most difficult and yet most interesting problems encountered in the classification of a coin. Broadly speaking, this information may be grouped under three headings :

- (a) Design.
- (b) Legends and inscriptions.
- (c) Symbols and marks.

**(a) Design :**

The earliest designs encountered on coins were usually the crest or badge of the issuing authority. Thus we find such designs as the owl of Athens, the turtle of Aegina, and the lion destroying a bull for the Greek city of Acanthus. From these earliest coins up until the present, the variation in the range of subject matter encountered in the designs on coins is so immense that volumes could be written on the subject. In this paper therefore it is possible to give only an indication of the subject available.

Portraits are one of the most common types of design found, and have been placed on coins from earliest times. They are found mainly on coins of the Western civilisations, for in most Oriental lands there was a religious objection to making an image of any living thing. This is most marked in Mohammedan countries where the appearance on a coin of the likeness of a man, is evidence of heresy. This still applies to a large extent today. Among the types of personages portrayed are monarchs, rulers and other issuing authorities ; relatives or friends of issuing authorities ; gods and deities ; and famous or legendary personalities.

Heraldic designs are common on coins throughout history. The earliest heraldic designs, like those mentioned above, were usually simple. As we progress through history however, we find that because of marriage, conquest became quite complicated. At other times in order to commemorate certain occasions, many coats of arms may be shown side by side. Thus on the 5 francs Swiss Schutzenfest coin of 1879, we find 22 heraldic crests featured on the obverse.

Periodically designs were placed on coins for purely functional purposes. Such a design is to be found on the long cross pennies of England, where the arms of the cross extended to the edges of the coins. This was supposed to deter the practice of clipping, and any penny on which the four ends of the cross were not visible, was to be declared illegal.

Symbolic designs such as the liberty cap on French and many Latin American countries' coins, and the hammer and sickle of communist countries, provide us with another large group.

Many other types of design could be mentioned but



as can be seen from the few examples cited, the design on a coin can be of immense value in the identification of the coin. Thus we may be able to identify such factors as place of origin, issuing authority, and occasion for which coin was issued, where several dies have been used for the same issue, or where the same basic design has been used for several issues, differences in the execution of design provide us with varieties.

### **(b) Legends and Inscriptions**

These terms which refer to the various written or printed information found on coins, are frequently used synonymously, but in this paper, definitions as given in Frey's *Dictionary of Numismatic Names*, will be used. Legend therefore is defined as "from the Latin *legere*, the words running around the coin inside the border", and inscription as "the letters or words written across the field of a coin, or upon any figure or device".

One of the first steps in deciphering these legends and inscriptions is of course to identify the language and the type of alphabet used. Thus we find the Roman alphabet used in the majority of European languages, such as English, French, German and Spanish, and Cyrillic alphabet in Russian and Eastern Slavic languages. The translation and deciphering of these inscriptions requires some of the most specialised knowledge found in numismatics, and probably accounts for the fact that coins of the Western countries are more popular than those of the Orient. Furthermore, the type of lettering used i.e. curved or straight, can be of importance in identifying different issues.

From the legend we gain such information as country, place of origin, issuing authority, weight, fineness, denomination, date of issue, and occasion or event which that coin commemorates. As you will realise, not all this information is found on all coins. If it were, the task of identification would be much simpler.

Most of the information which can be found in the legend, may also be found in the inscription, and frequently, information not placed in one is placed in the other. As already mentioned, many oriental coinages do not carry portraits, and their place is frequently taken by an inscription which is often of a religious nature, such as a passage from the Koran.

### **(c) SYMBOLS AND MARKS:**

Throughout numismatic history, a great number of symbols and marks have been placed on coins to indicate differing types of information. These marks usually fall conveniently into several classifications but occasionally because of the nature of the symbol or mark, it may be placed quite truthfully under more than one heading. This is shown in some of the examples below.

#### **(i) Initial Mark.**

On medieval coins, the cross or other symbol which always begins the legend is known as the initial mark.

At first this had no special significance but later came to have a certain meaning.

**(ii) Privy Mark.**

This is a secret mark on a coin which served to differentiate the various issues or to indicate the moneyer responsible for the issue. At first these marks assumed a variety of cryptic forms such as a break in one of the letters of the legend, a deliberate mis-shape of one of the letters, or even deliberate mis-spellings of words and names. At a later date, the initial mark became an heraldic symbol such as an annulet, a sun, a rose etc. This therefore makes it a privy mark.

**(iii) Provenance Mark.**

A symbol, letter or word placed on a coin to denote the source whence the metal was obtained, is called a provenance mark. On the earlier English coins we find such provenance marks as roses (West of England Silver), elephant and castle (Guinea Coast), or the words "Lima" or "Vigo".

**(iv) Mint Mark.**

This is probably the most widely known mark on coins. As the name suggests it is a symbol, letter or group of letters, signifying the place where that coin was struck. Unless the mint mark is very distinctive, it is usually essential that the country or origin and period is known, as many mints throughout the world use the same initials as their mint mark. The letter B for example may denote the following mints—Hanover (closed in 1878), Vienna (1938-45), Brussels, Rouen or Barcelona.

When symbols are used instead of lettering, the same mint may use different symbols under different conditions. An example of this is to be seen in the mint mark of the Utrecht mint. On coins of the Netherlands, the mint mark is a caduceus but on French coins a fish has been used.

**(v) Moneyer's Mark.**

As the name suggests, this is some symbol or lettering indicating the moneyer responsible for that coin or issue. In the identification and classification of the coins of Nicholas I of Russia, the various issues can be identified by the moneyer's mark. For instance, accompanying the mint mark for Ekaterinburg, there appear in cyrillic letters, A.H. (moneyer unknown), F-Ch (Fedor Chozhinski), I-K (Ivan Kolobov) and P-A (Paul Alexeiev). Some of these coins were also issued without any moneyer's mark.

**(vi) Signatures.**

Even in ancient Grecian times many of the artists responsible for the design and execution of a coin placed their initials on the coin. This has frequently happened throughout history and today it is quite common to find the designer's or engraver's initials placed somewhere on the coin.

Moneyers' marks, wherein the form of initials may be said to be signatures. Sometimes the initials of the direc-

tor of the mint appear on the coin, as in many of the Spanish issues.

**(vii) Countermark.**

This is a sign or device stamped on a coin, subsequent to its issue, whereby a fresh or further guarantee is given to the coin. A well known example of this is the counter-marking of the Spanish dollar, by George III.

**(viii) Chopmark.**

The word "chop" in China, India etc. means an official impression of a seal or stamp, and up till recent times, the native merchants of Hong Kong and other southern Chinese ports impressed their private marks on all the dollars passing through their hands as a guarantee of genuineness. We therefore get the term "chopped dollars". A chop mark is really a special form of countermark.

**DATING OF COINS:**

Although various references have already been made in relation to the subject of dating of coins, I feel that further reference should be made on this subject. Ancient and medieval coins carry no system of dating and only approximate dates can be obtained by studying the various privy marks and other symbols.

The habit of placing a date on the coin did not really begin till the middle ages. For instance the first English coin to bear a date is the shilling of Edward VI, which has the date 1548 inscribed in Roman numerals. This did not become a permanent feature till 1662.

Besides our own Gregorian calendar, many other methods of dating have been and still are used throughout the world. This subject is too wide to go into here but a few examples should be mentioned. A special calendar and system of dating was brought into existence in France following the Revolution, and coins issued during this time bear such dates as Anno VII. This calendar used the date 22nd September 1792 as its starting point so that Anno VII may apply either to the latter portion of 1798 or the early portion of 1799.

The majority of coins carry only one date but many examples can be found where more than one date appears. On many Oriental coins, the date appears twice, once according to the hegira era and once according to the Gregorian calendar.

Another form of double dating appeared on Spanish coins which contain an auxiliary date. This practice was started in 1869 and carried on until well into the 20th century. On these coins the normal date appears either in the exergue or legend, and stars which are situated to the right and left of the date or the word ESPANA. On the smaller coins, only the last two figures of the date appear, e.g. 6 on the left star and 9 on the right star, but on the larger coins the fuller date is shown, e.g. 18 on the left and 69 on the right. The coins of the first Spanish

Republic (1873-1874) are identical with those of Amadeo I except in two ways. Firstly the initials of the Director of the Mint are D.E. instead of S.N. or S.D., and secondly although the regular date is shown as 1870 or 1871, the auxiliary date is either 1873 or 1874.

Although normally the subject of classification is either taken for granted or given very little thought, it is in fact a very complex and interesting subject, and as can be seen from the preceding pages, only lightly dealt with in this paper. Usually most of this information has to be gathered from papers dealing with individual or groups of coins and I hope that the few examples quoted here may encourage further study on this or rather these subjects.

## WHY THE CANOE ON THE CANADIAN DOLLAR?

By G. STUTTER.

The first Canadian dollar was struck in 1935 to commemorate the 25th year of the reign of King George V.

The coin was designed by Emanuel Hahn in accordance with the Royal Proclamation which called for: A canoe, manned by an Indian and a voyager, with an islet in the background; Canada dollar, and date included.

All the Canadian silver dollars have this design except for the commemoratives of 1939, 1949 and 1958. No silver dollars were minted between 1939-1945.

Behind the canoe design there is romance and history that will endear it to the heart of every Canadian and numismatist.

The canoes opened up a new era and a new way of life. Without these canoes Canada might still have been in the shadows of great forests, undiscovered, for the canoe was the only means of crossing its hazardous waterways.

It could be said that the canoe is the earliest type of vessel for navigating water. In fact, we could call it the ancestor of the ships that sail the seas today. The word canoe is derived from the French word "canot," meaning "hollow log." The earliest type of canoe was the "dugout" which could be made wherever suitable trees grew.

The birch-bark canoe was used mainly in Ontario and Quebec. With the aid of this craft the French explorers were able to penetrate swiftly from the St. Lawrence Valley through the rivers and lakes of Ontario to the edge of the plains.

The English found it difficult to travel through the

interior to Ohio because of their heavy dugouts which could not be carried from one body of water to another.

The birch-bark canoe on the Canadian silver dollar carries bales marked H.B. indicating that it is a freight canoe of the Hudson Bay company which was chartered by King Charles II of England in 1670. Because of these bales and the presence of only two men—an Indian and a voyager—it is believed that the canoe is a "North Canoe." The Grand River canoe and the Montreal canoe (names for heavy canoes) was a 500 lb. freighter of the fur traders and was impossible to be carried over land by two men.

The north canoe, being the standard freighter for the fur traders was about half the size of the others, making it lighter, narrower and more manageable in swift water. It was about 25 to 30 feet long, less than three feet wide, its high prow often decorated with paintings, a popular design being three fish within a circle. When properly loaded it could carry a load of more than a ton and was capable of incredible speed when empty.

A fur trader would make a canoe out of almost anything—raw buffalo hides, deer hides, poplar-bark or cedar wood. The best was made of the white wood of the birch tree. The bigger the tree, the larger the strips, and so the better the canoe.

The bark was spread out on the ground and a skeleton laid over it. The sheets of bark were carefully drawn up over the frame and the edges were turned down over the gunwhale strip, to which they were securely bound. To protect the canoe from bumps and scrapes, a second strip was placed along the outer edge. Then thin strips were affixed along the bottom and across the ribs and a small piece of wood was inserted at either end to strengthen the frame.

Wherever the bark was joined the seams were sewn up with "wettup" (split pine roots) and gummed with pine resin so that it was almost impossible to detect the seams. Nowhere were the sides or bottom more than a quarter of an inch thick.

Because of their extreme lightness they made for ideal transport along rivers and lakes and for carrying across country, but were very fragile. The slightest scrape on a hidden rock or bounce on the gravel would possibly loosen the seams or puncture the bark.

They were so light that they often capsized, soaking passengers and merchandise and often resulting in tragedy or loss. A canoe was always fixed before the voyager set up camp for the night.

Merchandise was made in bundles of exactly 90 lb., so that the weight could be distributed evenly. It is little wonder then that the story comes down to us that the canoeemen had to be careful how they parted their hair lest they capsize the canoe.

The canoemen handled their craft in many different positions, sitting while they paddled in quiet water, but often stood while stemming a current, using long poles made of pine, or knelt while running down rapids. A voyager could paddle at the rate of 50 strokes a minute, 12-15 hours a day.

As you look at your silver Canadian dollar, listen intently for the dip of the paddle or the singing in the breeze. A voyager who could sing was paid higher wages.

Your silver dollar is a page out of history and recalls a tale of romance which can excite your very depths.

#### ADVICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

If you've got a thought that's happy—  
Boil it down.

Make it short and crisp and snappy—  
Boil it down.

When your brain its coin has minted,  
Down the page your pen has sprinted,  
If you want your effort printed—  
Boil it down.

Take out every surplus letter—  
Boil it down.

Fewer syllables the better—  
Boil it down.

Make your meaning plain. Express it  
So we'll know—not merely guess it;  
Then, my friend, ere you address it—  
Boil it down.

Cut out all the extra trimmings—  
Boil it down.

Skim it well—then skim the skimmings—  
Boil it down.

When you're sure 'twould be a sin to  
Cut another sentence into,  
Send it on, and we'll begin to  
Boil it down.

—Anon.



17th century  
symbol for  
silver.

# SILVER

## THE QUEEN OF METALS

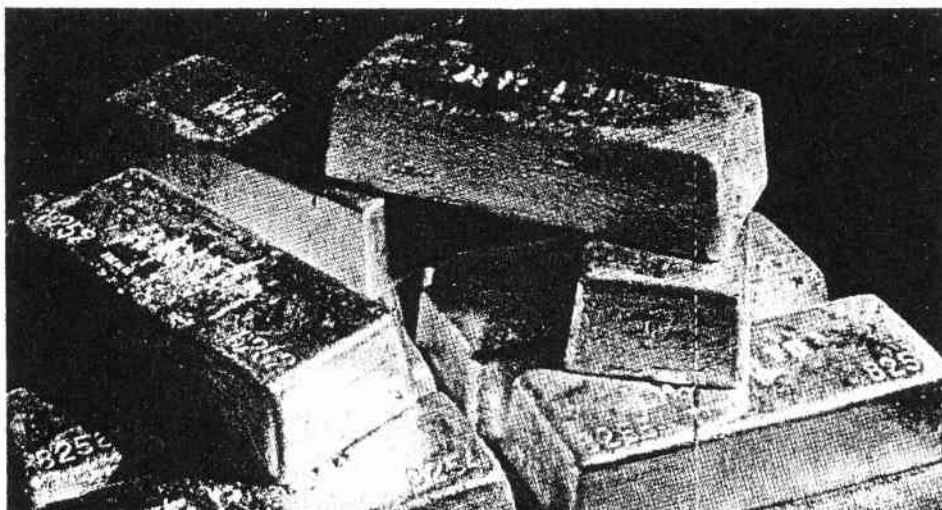
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Although silver has never been sought after as gold—we have for example, never heard of silver rushes—the metal has always been highly regarded wherever it has been found or used. Indeed, if gold can be regarded as the king of metals, silver is surely the queen of them.

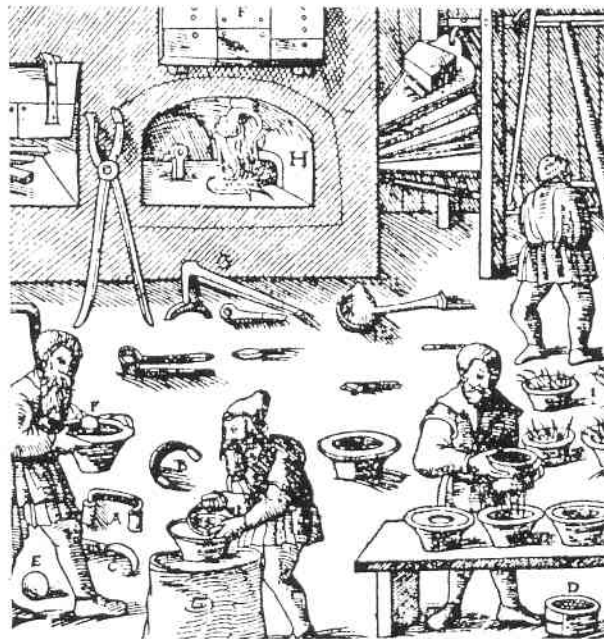
Silver, the least precious of all the present-day precious metals, has been known to man since very early times. Since it is very rarely found uncombined with other metals, however, it has not been known as a metal for quite as long as gold and copper. At one time it was more costly than gold, and rarer. As recently as the 17th century, for example silver and gold had the same value in



Bars of silver, 99.89% pure, weighing about 1,000 troy ounces each. In 1960, 207,000,000 troy ounces of silver were produced in the whole world.

Japan. Right from the beginning silver was used as a medium of exchange, in coins, jewellery and ornaments because of its brilliant white colour, comparative rarity and its property of resisting atmospheric oxidation.

In Biblical times Abraham, when procuring a burial place for Sarah, weighed out silver for the ground, and Jeremiah, too, weighed out seventeen shekels of silver when buying the field of Hanameel, according to the Old Testament. The early Romans called silver "argentum", while the Greeks called the metal "argyros". From these words the present-day chemical symbol for silver Ag is derived. Both the Greek and Latin names for silver are believed by philologists to originate from the same root "arg" meaning white, or bright or shining. Prior to the



Silver refining  
in the Middle  
Ages.

use of the word argentum, the Romans knew silver as "luna" and represented the metal by means of a crescent moon symbol. This symbol survived for many centuries and was in use by alchemists, the forerunners of modern chemists, as late as the 17th century.

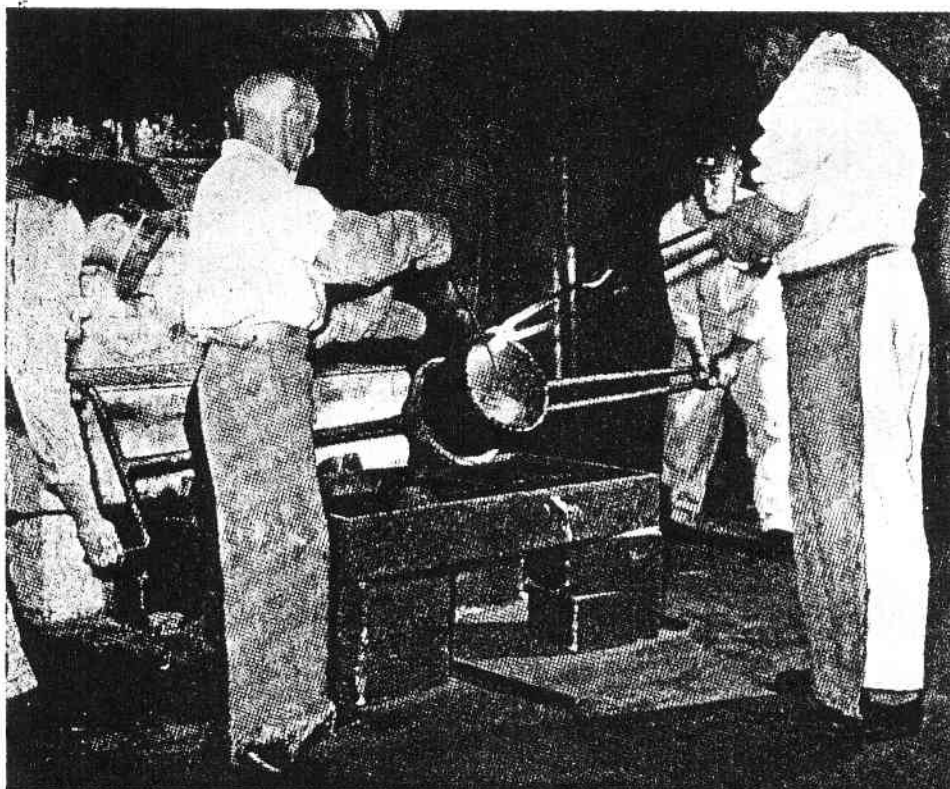
One hundred years later, silver solutions were reduced in various ways to form the "tree of Diana", or Arbor Dianae. According to Caspar Neumann (1683-1737), apothecary and professor of chemistry at Berlin "if a solution of silver be diluted with pure water, a considerable quantity of pure mercury added, and the whole set in a cold place, there will form by degrees a precipitation and crystallization resembling a little tree with its root, trunk and branches, called Arbor Dianae, or the philosophic silver tree". Today, this ability of certain silver solutions to form a tree, is nothing more than a chemical curiosity, but our forefathers seem to have attached considerable importance to it. Erasmus Darwin, in fact,



the grandfather of Charles Darwin, wrote about Diana's tree in his work "The Botanic Garden" in the 18th century:

"So the learn'd Alchemist exulting sees,  
Rise in his bright matrass Diana's trees;  
Drop after drop, with just delay, he pours  
The red-fumed acid on Potosi's ores;  
With sudden flash the fierce bullitions rise,  
And wide in air the gas Phlogistic flies,  
Slow shoot, at length, in many a brilliant mass  
Metallic roots across the netted glass;  
Branch after branch extend their silver stems,  
Bud into gold, and blossoms into gems."

"Potosi's ores" in Darwin's poem refer to the silver ores of Potosi discovered in Peru in 1545. Today this area is governed by Bolivia, and both Peru and Bolivia are still producers of silver today. Other South American silver-producing countries are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, and last but not least Mexico which is presently the world's most important silver source. In 1960 more than 44½ million fine troy ounces were produced in that country in which silver was first discovered by Europeans in the 16th century. In that year the mines of Zacatecas were discovered, while those of Guanajuato were discovered two years later. The first coins to be struck on the American continent were produced in Mexico under the viceroyship of Antonio de Mendoza, the coins consisting of an alloy of silver and copper.



Silver being poured into ingots at a refinery.



Silver refining in the Middle Ages. This wood block appeared in "De Re Metallica," the world's first metallurgical and mining handbook, written by Georgius Agricola in the 16th century.

At Arazuma in Mexico the Spaniards found large nuggets of the metal, some of them more than one ton in weight. The Aztecs made ornaments of silver and other metals before the Spaniards came to the New World, and manufactured exquisite articles in silver, such as elaborate necklaces, pendants and bracelets.

Today, no district in Mexico is richer in silver than that of Hidalgo where silver was discovered in the 16th century. Between 1530 and 1939 more than 1,000 million ounces were produced here. After Mexico, the United States is the world's second largest producer of silver, followed by Canada which in 1960 produced more than 32 million troy ounces. In the United Kingdom only 7,000 were produced in 1960. During World War II American silver from Montana, Utah, Nevada, Colorado and other States was lent to war plants for temporary consumption in the manufacture of electric conductors. Now the United

States stockpiles its bars of silver at West Point, New York.

Silver, which in 800 B.C. served as money in all countries between the Indus and the Nile, is still used in coinage now, some twenty-eight centuries later. In fact forty per cent. of the world silver production is used in the minting of coins in countries all over the world, but as the metal is too soft for coinage it is alloyed with other metals such as copper. After 1930 British coins contained fifty per cent. silver, forty per cent. copper, five per cent. zinc and five per cent. nickel until the Coinage Bill of 1946 which provided that coins formerly struck in silver were thenceforth to be made of cupro-nickel.

Well over fifty silver-bearing minerals have been recognised by mineralogists the world over, the most important of which is the sulphide argentite or silver glance. This is found in all stages of richness, from almost pure silver sulphide down to the sulphide ores of other metals which although they may contain only small quantities of silver, have formed an increasingly important source of the metal with the rapid progress in methods of extraction. At the present time, in fact, well over half the world production of silver is a by-product in the extraction of other metals, such as gold, nickel, tin, copper, lead and zinc. There are, however, still a number of mines where a high-grade ore is obtained and the silver extracted by leaching with cyanide. The greater proportion of base metal sulphide ores is worked by smelting in furnaces to produce copper matte or lead bullion, which is then further treated for the removal of silver.

Pure silver is the whitest of metals in colour and has the highest optical reflectivity. It is second only to gold in ductility and malleability and one gram of the pure metal can be drawn out into a fine wire more than a mile in length. It is possible to beat silver into a leaf less than 0.00025 millimetres thin! In the annealed condition it is the most perfect conductor of heat and electricity and alloys well with many metals. The best known alloy of silver is probably sterling silver which contains 7.5 per cent. copper, and is the alloy hall-marked in the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth as well as the United States of America. With lead and tin, silver is alloyed into solders, with copper and zinc it is used widely as a brazing alloy. In such brazing alloys silver is used in place of base metal when a lower melting point is required to produce a joint of high strength and high corrosion resistance. It is today much used in brazing associated with refrigeration, air-conditioning and electronic equipment.

Other uses of silver are indeed manifold and there is hardly an industry in which it has not yet found an application. In chemical engineering processes and in the food-stuffs industry silver is used as a corrosion-resistant lining for vessels and pipes. It is used in bactericides and in ceramics, in dental amalgams, disinfectants, germicides, medicines, in water purification, in silvering mirrors and

in electroplating. It is used in silver-zinc rechargeable batteries of light weight and long life. These batteries are used for guided missiles, jet aircraft, and a variety of portable television, photographic and communications equipment. In photography, silver salts, actinically and chemically affected, become the photographic image.

For jewellery and ornamentation, silver has been used since man first recognised silver. Ornaments of silver have been found in the royal tombs of Chaldea, fashioned by the expert craftsmen of long ago. In Great Britain, too, ancient silver ornaments have been discovered now and then, and only recently have five 2,000 year-old silver cups been found buried in a Norfolk wood by a farm-worker. Another important discovery of a silver hoard was made in 1958 by Professor A. C. O'Dell of Aberdeen University in St. Ninian's Island, off the west coast of Mainland, Shetland. The hoard was actually first seen by a school-boy and was at first believed to be of bronze because of the brilliant green incrustations which covered them. It was only in the Research laboratory of the British Museum that the metal objects consisting of spoons, belt ends, brooches, bowls with Celtic ornaments and thimbles, revealed themselves as being made of silver.

There are many allusions to silver in our proverbs, handed down by word of mouth from generation to generation. "To be born with a silver spoon in the mouth" is a direct reference to the high cost of silverware. "He that hath no silver in his purse, should have a silken tongue" is an old Scottish saying, and Shakespeare mentions the "sweet sound of silver" in his *Romeo and Juliet*. "A silver key can open an iron lock" is a 17th century reference to bribery which was itself once known as "silver dropsy".

#### THE DOLLAR AND THE CENT

A big silver dollar and a little brown cent,  
Rolling along, together they went;  
Rolling along the smooth sidewalk,  
When the dollar remarked, for the dollar could talk,

"You poor little cent, you cheap little mite.  
I'm bigger and more than twice as bright.  
I'm worth more than you a hundred fold,  
And written on me in letters bold,  
Is the motto drawn from the pious creed,  
In GOD We Trust, which all can read."

"Yes I know," said the cent,  
'I'm a cheap little mite,  
And I know I'm not big nor good nor bright,  
And yet," said the cent with a meek little sigh,  
"You don't go to church as often as I."

—Anonymous per Trevor Squires.

## NUMISMATIC PHOTOGRAPHY

For collectors interested in taking a photographic record of their coins, I commend a concise illustrated article on the subject (by Ferenc Gyulai of Budapest) which appears in "The Numismatic Circular" for October 1962 issued by Spink & Sons Ltd., 5, 6 & 7 King Street, St. James's, London. The author describes a suitable type camera for this work, various types of background, correct lighting, recommended aids and advises including a scale in photograph so that actual size of coin or medal can be determined easily.

Sample Photographs and diagrams give the reader a clear indication of how to go about it and the quality of results he can expect. Soft or strong contrast effects from one negative by using different printing papers are explained and enlargements are also touched on. Altogether a most interesting article which could save the collector a great deal of experimenting if he is interested in photographing his coins.

—J. Berry.

## GODLESS AND GRACELESS

(The Story of the Florin)

Because of the recent interest in decimal coinage I have looked into the derivation of the term "florin". In the late 1840s there was considerable public interest in the subject of decimal coinage and still today Britain has not changed to a decimal coinage. Yet over a period of 111 years there has existed in her coinage a decimal coin. Other countries were quick to change. France had changed after the revolution, America in 1792 and finally in 1849 Britain issued a coin on which to base a future decimal coinage. The name chosen was "florin" and it is of European derivation. The European gold coinage bearing the name "Florino" had become widespread throughout the known world in the 13th Century. Florin is French in origin but the original derivation is from Italy where in 1252 Florence issued a gold coin of 54 grains. This coin portrayed a Florentine flower on the reverse called a "florino" it became known as florino d'oro (gold florin) and you can see how the English name is derived.

In England in 1344 Edward II struck a gold florin valued at 6/- but this coin is not to be confused with the present silver coin although the authorities in actually choosing the name may have had recourse to it. The purpose of the florin was to replace the half-crown but all that has happened is that another coin has been added to the realm. To assess whether the florin has outnumbered

the half-crown we can consider the N.Z. minting figures. There we find that the figures are comparable, the same number of half-crowns being minted as florins but of the total minting there were at 1960 4,547,200 more florins than half-crowns. One might say quite safely that the florin has outstripped the half-crown.

In Britain to assist the acceptance of the florin the half-crown was not minted during 1850 to 1874 when it was reintroduced. A double florin worth 4/- was introduced in 1887 but proving a most unpopular coin, was withdrawn in 1890.

The 1849 florin became known as the "Godless and Graceless" florin as the first issues omitted the titles "Dei Gratia" and "Fidei Defensor" and a popular controversy developed. This was rectified in 1852 and the Gothic florin resulted.

The 1849 florin however had inscribed on the reverse —"one florin, one tenth of a pound" to accord with the other coins of the realm. The inscription was in Roman letters and read "Victoria Regina 1849" on the obverse side. The 1851 amended design was known as the Gothic florin because the lettering had reverted to the medieval gothic.

Next time an English florin comes your way examine it carefully and see how it differs from that first issue of 1849.

## JUNIORS' EVENING

OCTOBER, 1964

Arrangements were made for the October meeting of the society to be put into the hands of the Juniors in the Society. At this meeting the juniors acquitted themselves with assurance and familiarity with their subject matter. Altogether eight Juniors spoke and their talks ranged from English Silver Coinage to a Maori War Medal. Presented here are six of the talks given as a record as requested by the meeting.

- (1) Debasement of the English Coinage. Peter Watson.
- (2) The Story Behind the Medal Ribbon. Hamish Hancock.
- (3) The East India Company. David Harcourt.
- (4) The New Zealand Medal. Peter Avery.
- (5) Dives and Pauper. James Harper.
- (6) Stone Age Coins on The Island of Yap. Trevor Squires.

Tony Instone and Ronald Rutherford also gave

interesting talks, the former on a display of Japanese coins and the latter on the Bank of England.

## THE DEBASING OF ENGLISH SILVER COINAGE

The English silver coinage up to the time of Henry VIII had never been debased. The first official debasing was in 1526, under Henry VIII. Coins were reduced to an alloy of which only two thirds was silver. In 1544, they were further debased, and by 1545 they were struck from an alloy which was only one third silver. Edward VI also struck debased silver coins, but with the title and portrait of his father, Henry VIII.

In 1920, after the Great War, the value of silver, for a few months, rose to above 5/6 an ounce. It would then be possible, though illegal, to melt down coins and make a profit. A decision was made to debase the coinage—for the first time since Edward VI, who died in 1553. This was an unfortunate decision, as the value of silver soon dropped below the danger level. The second issue of coins in George V's reign was struck in an alloy consisting of 50% silver. At first, difficulty was encountered in finding a suitable alloy. The earlier coins of this issue in a worn condition became a dull, almost brownish colour. The authorities quickly improved the mixture, and later coins did not become discoloured.

A revolutionary move was in 1947, when "silver" coins ceased to be issued. The new coins were struck in cupronickel, but the design was not changed.

The Maundy money continued to be struck in silver.

—P. Watson.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE MEDAL RIBBON

The colours of a medal ribbon are not chosen just to please the eye (although they usually do), for each colour is there for a purpose. The ribbon colouration together with the design of the medal can usually give an observer enough evidence to form an accurate idea of what the medal has been awarded for. A recent example of this is the British Korea Medal. The ribbon is yellow and blue in five equal stripes, the blue being that of the United Nations flag. The reverse of the medal shows Hercules fighting the Hydra, a mythical monster which, with its many heads, serves as a symbolic representation of the Communist menace. However in this article only the significance of the ribbons is dealt with.

The colours of a ribbon usually represent one or more of the following:

I. The services i.e. army, navy and air force, taking part in the campaign.

II. The surroundings and conditions under which the campaign was fought.

III. The colours associated with the countries involved and the enemy. A good example of this is the American "European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal." The ribbon is green with brown edges, the green representing the forests and pastures of Europe and the brown arid hills of Africa. In the centre of the green is a narrow stripe of blue, white and red; the colours of the United States; to the left separating the green from the brown, is a stripe of green, white and red, for Italy; to the right is a stripe of white, black and white for Germany.

IV. Some colours go with particular medals. Most long service and good conduct medals have either green or purple in their ribbons.

The following is a list of the common medal ribbons seen on numerous occasions throughout the year even by one who does not collect medals or ribbons.

**1939-45 STAR.** The dark blue represents the Royal and Merchant Navies; the red the army and light blue is for the Royal Air Forces.

**AIR CREW EUROPE STAR.** The ribbon is pale blue with black edges and a narrow yellow stripe on either side, symbolic of the continuous day and night service of the R.A.F.

**AFRICA STAR.** The ribbon is pale bluff, a symbol of the desert sand; has a wide red stripe in the centre with a light blue stripe on the right and a dark blue left, standing for the armed services and the Merchant Navy.

**PACIFIC STAR.** The ribbon is dark green with red edges, a central yellow stripe and stripes of dark and light blue. The green and yellow represent the forests and beaches of the Pacific. The other colours have already been explained.

**BURMA STAR.** The ribbon is dark blue with a wide central stripe of red flanked on either side by stripes of orange in the centre of the blue. The red stripe represents the Commonwealth Forces, the blue the Royal and Merchant Navies and the orange the sun, one of the climatic conditions under which the campaign was fought.

**ITALY STAR.** The ribbon is of five equal stripes of red, white, green, white and red representing the Italian colours.

**FRANCE AND GERMANY STAR.** Similar to the Italy Star the stripes being blue, white, red, white, and blue the colours of the Union flag and also of the flags of France and Holland.



**DEFENCE MEDAL.** The ribbon is an orange/red colour with green edges, each of which contains a narrow black stipe. The colours symbolize the enemy attacks upon England's green land and the black represents the black-out all over the country.

**WAR MEDAL.** The red, white and blue of the ribbon represent the Union flag.

**NEW ZEALAND WAR SERVICE MEDAL 1939-45.** This ribbon is black moiré with white edges. The colours are as typically New Zealand as our All Blacks who wear them.

—H. Hancock.

## THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

By 1590 three European countries, Portugal, the Netherlands and England, had clearly defined claims to large tracts of India. England financed an expedition to India in 1600 under a Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth. To facilitate trade in India chests of silver coin were placed aboard the outgoing ships but this money was unpopular and it is now very rare. Trade with India suffered a relapse after the first half-century of commerce, but, after the Commonwealth and the Restoration, trade underwent a rapid improvement. Charles the Second issued many coins for Indian use but the most interesting point about these and the coins of subsequent reigns is the wide variety of denomination. Some are well-known; the rupee, cash, and pice; but others, such as the mohur, the fanam, and the faluce, are peculiar to eighteenth century India.

By the reign of William IV the coinage was a lengthy series, with copper, silver and gold denominations. In 1830, however, the Company's days were numbered. Far-seeing directors had already started to sell the Company's ships because they knew that the old Company would have little chance when they had to compete with newer companies. Thus, in 1834, the Company was wound up, and the glorious days of the East India Company were at an end.

—David Harcourt.

## THE NEW ZEALAND MEDAL

The New Zealand Medal was introduced in 1869 after the last of the Maori Wars. The original applications for the Medal still are in existence in the National Archives here in Wellington. It was ordered by Sir George Bowen, the Prime Minister at the time, on behalf of Queen Victoria that this medal be struck. In the papers relative to the issue of the New Zealand War Medal presented to the House of Representatives in 1869 it is stated:

"That in accordance with the Report of the Joint Committee, the New Zealand War Medal should be granted to such of the Colonial Forces and friendly natives in all cases where the claimants have been actually under fire or otherwise conspicuous for distinguished service in the field. The medal also to be given to the nearest relatives of any who have died of wounds or have been killed in action." It was also presented to all those who were involved in naval combat with the Maoris.

Dates of service of the recipients of the medal with name, rank, and ship or regiment were engraved in the edge of the medal. Many were issued without dates, these being of less value. The medals of the earlier wars are more valuable than those of the later. Final dates for recipients of the medal to claim the right to it was set at 1869 but was put forward many times until the last issue was eventually made in the early part of this century.

#### **Description:**

Face: a considerably raised bust of Queen Victoria and the legend—Victoria D:G:Britt:Reg:F:D:.

Reverse: a laurel wreath and the inscription: New Zealand Virtutis Honor.

The medal is attached to a swivel to which is attached the ribbon which has two outer stripes of royal blue and an inner stripe of bright red.

It is a beautiful medal and has been well struck.

—Peter Avery.

## DIVES AND PAUPER

Since we never much mind viewing gold I bring to your attention my small collection of gold coins. The most recently acquired is the Victorian sovereign (1880) which is in fair condition. A great point of interest for me is that when it was lost for some 20 years, its recent finding by an aunt I was visiting caused it to become mine. Three of my gold coins were minted in Sydney in the early 1900's. These coins display good craftsmanship and are generally considered to be more of a collector's item than those minted in the U.K.

Another item of interest is an 1880 double florin which was struck to commemorate 50 years of reign by Queen Victoria.

And finally—a defaced farthing dated 1868. Two holes have been drilled through the centre and the whole thing painted black to function as a button. One wonders why all this trouble was taken to reproduce a button, no doubt of less value than the coin in those days. Perhaps this was done to match a button no longer obtainable, or maybe some resourceful pioneer far from town and shops

resorted to this form of initiative in the interests of tidiness or respectability.

—James Harper.

## STONE AGE COINS

North of New Guinea and east of the Philippines is a group of islands known as the Caroline Islands. To the rest of the world this small group is of no importance. Yet here in one of the principal islands called Yap there exists a stone age coinage alongside two other currency systems. Yap translated means the land in the centre of the world and it is to this unique island that I draw your attention.

There exist in Yap three bartering systems. The first is the modern coinage of Japan and U.S.A. The second which is very typical of the Pacific, is a system of bartering large scallop shaped shells for any desired goods. But the most interesting system of bartering exists in the form of large circular stones containing a centre hole by which they are carried. These stones vary in diameter from 6 in. to 12 ft. and the islanders refer to them as Fei.

These unique stone coins are displayed outside the homes of the islanders as a visible sign of their affluence. The owners of these coins are so proud of their possessions that they memorise every conceivable detail so that in the event of theft they can reclaim their property. The origin of these coins is interesting in that they are not characteristic of Yap. The mint is 200 miles away on an isolated island to the south named Palau. Here the islanders would mine the coins and transport them back to Yap. They would set out in fleets of up to 20 canoes and it was not unusual for only one canoe to return from the expedition. The stones were of considerable value but in the 19th century inflation was caused by an Irish buccaneer trader by the name of O'Keefe who obtained for a song the right to exploit the Palau Islands. He did so by importing at considerable profit to himself many of the larger Fei coins.

However the demand for these coins soon became extinct in fact for the past 50 years no new coins have been made. Counterfeiting also is non-existent and there are no worries as to the safety of their coins as they may be deposited at the bottom of the lagoon to accumulate interest like our modern day savings banks. One very large Fei is sufficient to buy a whole village but nowadays they are purely signs of wealth and affluence.

—T. A. Squires.

## Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition Medal 1888

**MINTED:** By the Melbourne Mint; Stokes & Martin S.C.

**THE MEDAL:** enclosed in a square wooden case containing blue velvet lining. Obverse: Large Head of Queen Victoria older portrait. Surrounding head: "Centennial International Exhibition Melbourne."

**REVERSE:** Laurel of oak tree branch and a fern branch with berries. This encloses the Latin words "Artibus Dignis, Honor Insignis." (The labourer is worthy of his hire). In the centre of the Latin words are four stars representing the Southern Cross. Under the laurel are the Roman numerals MDCCCLXXXVIII. Around the edge of the medal are the words "The Coal Creek Coal Co."

**HISTORY:** The medal was presented to Sir Arthur Guinness on the occasion of the Centennial International Exhibition held at Melbourne in 1888. The Coal Creek Coal Co., as engraved on the medal, held a display at the Exhibition and accordingly Sir Arthur Guinness the Director received this medal on the Company's behalf. On his death the widow passed the medal on to my Grandmother, Mrs Ruth Mabin at present living in Nelson who kindly passed the medal on to me. There are records of other such medals being presented at other exhibitions such as in 1880 Sydney Exhibition, a bronze medal to the Brunner Coal Co. received by Mr Kennedy the manager. The Coal Pit Heath Co. also received a similar award.

Also in 1958 in the Nelson Historical Exhibition the Coal Creek Coal Co. is mentioned as one of Nelson's former coal mines and this medal featured in a display as a reminder of the time when Nelson was directing mining pursuits. At this exhibition another Melbourne Exhibition medal was displayed. A replica of this one was also presented to James Blick for cloth manufacture with the name "Nelson Cloth" around the edge.

### **SIR ARTHUR ROBERT GUINNESS—1846—1913.**

Sir Arthur's life story is one of a distinguished colonial gentleman. He was born in Calcutta, India, and sailed to New Zealand with his parents in 1852 in the *Tory*. He was educated at Christ's College and on leaving school he became apprenticed to a lawyer. He commenced practice in Greymouth in 1867 as a barrister and solicitor and in 1884 the firm of Guinness and Kitchingham was constituted. He distinguished himself in a case concerning Irish Fenians charged with being trouble- and riot-makers. In another case where he lost the appeal he paid back to his client part of the fee. This created quite a panic amongst local practitioners in case this became a precedent. He became a Notary Public in 1888.

Mr. Guinness became interested in politics becoming the first County Chairman of the Grey County in 1877. He had been a member of the Westland Provincial Council until its abolition in 1876. He was also a member of the Greymouth Borough Council and Greymouth Harbour Board. In 1884 he was elected to the House of Representatives as member for Grey, becoming the Speaker of the House in 1903. He was a supporter of the Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon's Liberal Party.

In 1911 he was knighted remaining the Speaker of the House until he died in 1913. He married in 1875 the daughter of James Westbrook. A keen cricketer he was captain of the Westland XI from 1876 to 1888, when his other interests began to demand too much of his time.

There appears to be no actual account of the Coal Creek Coal Co., but the name appears (the locality) frequently and is only three miles out of Greymouth. It seems likely that this Coal mine either became unworkable or was merged into a larger company or taken over by the State under a different name.

—Trevor Squires.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Counterfeit, Mis-struck and Unofficial U.S. Coins, a guide for the detection of cast and struck counterfeits, electrotypes and altered coins, by Don Taxay. Arco Publishing Co., N.Y., 1963. \$4.50.

The author of this most valuable work is a Numismatist of high standing in the United States, and he obviously has a flair for the kind of research implicit in a compilation of this kind. First one is impressed that the story of these wayward coins necessitates a large volume of 221 pages. It is to be inferred that the American numismatist has to be a wary fellow to escape the many pitfalls in his path. This book places within reach of the collector (at a moderate price) the means to check his holdings or prospective purchases.

The stories unfolded by this work are astonishing, for while we can understand the characteristic (I had almost said legitimate) work of the forger, it is disconcerting to read that the United States Mint itself has produced a number of mintings that are curious and yet within the purview of this present volume.

This prompts the remark that a particularly interesting chapter is that treating of Mint techniques and terminology, and an entertaining one is that entitled "A comedy of Mint errors."

The volume has a good index, and a short guide to reading. It is generously and excellently illustrated.

The Women of the Roman Empire, by Harold Mattingly, 31 pp. University of Canterbury, Christchurch, 1961. Wilding Memorial Lecture VI.

The deliverer of the Wilding Memorial Lecture is restricted to a topic relating to women in education and society, or to the physical aspect of education and social life. The subject chosen here by the late Dr Mattingly for the 1949 address is also understandably determined by his close study and almost life work in the field of Roman Imperial coins. The 42 coins here excellently reproduced, support his theme.

After a few general remarks on the place of woman in the home and in society, and as a force in public affairs, he notices briefly the character and influence of a few of the famous—and mostly notorious—women from the death of Caius Julius Caesar, beginning with Fulvia, first wife of Mark Antony. Her character and career are summed up as "passionate, unscrupulous, perverse, but always devoted to her husband: repudiated by him, she died broken hearted." This with variations, as often as not including more violence, is typical of the majority.

Octavia, the sister of Augustus, and Livia, his wife, both noble and virtuous ladies, had considerable influence on public affairs, and set the tone of the court. With few exceptions, however, the story of the wives, mothers and sisters of the Emperors is one of ambition, conspiracy, immorality, murder. Dr Mattingly suggests that the Roman nobility probably shows the licence and immorality of the age at its worst.

Although the emancipation of which these are aspects, carried on down to the lower levels of society and there led to laxity and incontinence, yet it did lead to a real advance in the status of women. By the third century eastern influences began to permeate Roman life, especially in religion, and the cults of Isis, Judaism and Christianity seem to have appealed especially to women. Dr Mattingly surmises that women are quicker to see the truth than men, just as they are the first to run after novelities.

This whole paper is rich with the profound knowledge the author had of Roman life and culture, ever related to its coinage, which not only illustrates, but often provides the sole evidence of historical events or circumstances.

—Inez W. Taylor.

A Catalogue of Modern World Coins, by R. S. Yeoman. Whitman Publishing Company, Racine, Wisconsin, 1962. 32/6.

This fifth edition of what has become accepted as a reliable and comprehensive guide to modern coinage is a particularly satisfactory work for quick reference. Its wealth of clear illustrations together with identification and valuation answer the immediate queries. It does not

aim to be exhaustive by noticing anomalies, but there are frequent annotations to alert the investigation. This is a useful gift to the Society's library from the President, Mr. L. J. Dale.

English Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum, 1558-1958, by C. Wilson Peck. The British Museum, 1960.

This large volume, despite its compilers modest disclaimer ("I shall be well satisfied if it serves merely to stimulate . . .") is likely to be regarded as a definitive work on its subject. It is 70 years since anything comparable has been published, for Montagu's "Copper, Tin and Bronze Coinage of England" of 1885 (second edition 1893) has hitherto held pride of place. Although in some measure the present work is based on Montagu, later publications and research have been drawn upon.

In addition to the detailed introduction which discusses problems such as die-varieties, weights, proofs and patterns, there is a valuable bibliography and a wealth of historical documentation by way of appendices. The detail of the catalogue itself is precise and full, and the 50 pages of plates are up to the highest standard of reproduction.

This is a magnificent addition to the Society's library, presented by Mr. Harry Hughan of Carterton.

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Mr. E. J. Arlow; Mr. Asher Robinson\*; Mr. Alan  
Sutherland\*; Mr. James Berry.\*

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

## COLLECTING NEW ZEALAND

### COINS IN THE UNITED STATES

American numismatists in increasing numbers are responding to the challenge of collecting coins of the world, especially those of Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries. Coins and tokens of Canada, our northern neighbour, have been popular for a number of years. It has been only recently that British and Commonwealth coins have begun to gain a more prominent position in our collections.

The New Zealand series is an attractive one to the serious collector, with its variety and interesting rarities; and also to the beginner, being not too difficult to obtain due to the relatively late beginning of coinage in 1933. The key coin in the New Zealand series is one of the world's rarest and most beautifully designed coins, the 1935 Waitangi Treaty crown. I know of only one such coin being offered for sale in the last year, at least in the eastern part of the United States. The low mintage 1940 commemorative half-crown is available now and then and the 1953 Coronation proof set is readily found.

Americans collect U.S. coins in a series of consecutive dates and mint marks; however, coins of other countries are collected by type, viz.—Victoria, ½d through crown, Edward VII ½d through crown and continuing to the present ruler, the date not especially mattering, but concentrating more on the condition of the coin. Of course commemoratives and proof sets are very popular. When mintage figures for the Commonwealth countries are more widely available, the low mintage coins will be more eagerly sought.

A great deal of the enjoyment in collecting, whatever it may be, is the hunting in this shop and that for the specimens that are not readily available. This applies to the George V series, threepence through half-crown, 1933–36. They are usually found when a large private collection is offered for sale, or in the smaller, out-of-the-way shops. The larger, more commercial dealers do not as a rule carry the series, and I had to search through quite a number of shops before I had assembled a set of George V coins in nice condition. The attractiveness and superb execution of the earlier designs makes them highly desirable in any collection of British Commonwealth coins. It is safe to say that in the near future more coins of this type will become part of American collections.

James W. Clark, A.N.A.,  
C.N.A., N.S.S.A., R.N.S.N.Z.,  
916 Manor Road 101, Alex-  
andria 5, Virginia, U.S.A.



## PO-TAKOTO

A form of religion founded on the rupee.

By D. M. Stafford, Rotorua.

The following item was reported in the **Bay of Plenty Times** of January 16th, 1882. It is interesting, in that it records the existence of a religion based on an alleged vision of a rupee. There have, from time to time been many pseudo-religions founded, the aim of which has been to extract or collect money for the founder or leaders, but so far as is known (in New Zealand at least) this is the only case of a form of currency being the prime feature of a religious movement.

The place of origin of the report, Maketu, is a small harbour on the east coast of the North Island and famous locally as being the point of arrival in New Zealand of the Arawa canoe, after which the people of this and the Rotorua Lakes District take their name — Te Arawa.

Of Himiona (Simeon), the founder, little is known apart from this report. Te Pokiha, however (who is also mentioned), was a very important man among the Arawa people. He led the Arawa Constabulary on many occasions during the Maori-Pakeha wars and was presented with a magnificent sword by Queen Victoria for his bravery.

Although many enquiries have been made among the Maori people no one remembers this religion being practised, or any avowed adherents so it can only be presumed that it died out at an early period.

### The Report

"On new year's eve was held here a ceremony connected with the "Tariao" religion, called "po takoto"—literally a "lying down night." It consisted of prayers and devotional exercises during the night in a large whare, whence no person having entered was allowed to retire until after the conclusion. It lasted all night. The high priest on the occasion was one Himiona, of Whakatane, and it was to celebrate the influx of a large body of converts.

"Himiona is a native said to be remarkably well versed in the letter of parts of the scriptures, much more so than many Europeans. He was asked by Te Pokiha, then an unbeliever in his doctrine, whence he derived his knowledge, whether from the Europeans or from a "kiko-kiko Maori," a "Maori spirit or god." Himiona replied "na te rupi"—from the rupee. Being asked to explain his meaning, he stated that being in a kind of trance, he saw a rupee floating in the air, passing backwards and forwards before his eyes, that he noticed certain letters on the coin, that on awakening he remembered them and committed them to writing, and that these cabalistic letters alluded to the headings of certain chapters in the

Bible. This certainly was not a very lucid explanation, but Fox (Te Pokiha) not being a native of a literary turn, was satisfied with it, so much so that he renegaded from the Church of England and joined the "Tariao". Formerly in their prayers and supplications to the Deity they only quoted from the Psalms of David, but latterly they have taken to use the New Testament also. Nearly the whole of the native inhabitants of Maketu now belong to this sect. Himiona states that some short time since he had a revelation commanding him to offer up his only daughter as a sacrifice, but she, hearing of his intention, left her home and sought the protection of friends, or otherwise there is no doubt he would have carried out his contemplated act. It is reported that a revelation was expected on the night of the "Po takoto," but if it took place, and Himiona asserts it did, he alone must have witnessed it. He is a religious monomaniac, and if his revelations have a homicidal tendency, it behoves the police to keep a sharp eye on him."

## THE "LUSITANIA" (GERMAN) MEDAL

The R.M.S. LUSITANIA (Cunard line, 32,000 tons) was sunk on her return journey from the U.S.A. by a German submarine on May 7th, 1915.

An exact replica of the medal which was struck in Germany to commemorate the sinking of the Lusitania, was issued in England. This indicates the true feeling the War Lords endeavour to stimulate, and is proof positive that such crimes were not merely regarded favourably, but were given every encouragement in the land of Kultur.

The "Lusitania" had on board at the time 1,951 passengers and crew, of whom 1,198 perished. The Kolnische Volkszeitung (People's newspaper) printed the following on May 10th, 1915:— "A German Naval Victory. With joyful pride we contemplate this latest deed of our Navy."

On the obverse, under the legend "Keine Bannware" (No contraband) there is a representation of the Lusitania sinking. The designer has put in guns and aeroplanes, which (as was certified by the U.S.A. Govt. Officials after inspection) the Lusitania did **not** carry, but has conveniently omitted to put in the women and children, which the world knows she did carry.

On the reverse, under the legend "Geschäft über alles" (business above all) the figure of death sits at the booking office of the Cunard Line and gives out tickets to passengers, who refuse to attend to the warning against submarines given by a German. This picture seeks apparently to propound the theory that if a murderer warns his victim of his intention, the guilt of the crime will rest

with the victim, not with the murderer. The replicas are all dated May 5th, not the true date of sinking, which is the 7th.

Replicas of the medal are issued by the Lusitania Souvenir Medal Committee, 32 Duke St., Manchester Square, London, W.1. All profits accruing to this Committee were to be handed to St. Dunstan's Blinded Soldiers and Sailors Hostel.

—Peg Ranger.

## SCARCE BOOK TO BE REPRINTED

A reprint of NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND is in prospect. This profusely illustrated definitive work is in six parts:

- Gift Exchange
- Barter Coinages of Early New Zealand
- Tokens of New Zealand
- Paper Currency of New Zealand
- New Zealand Coinage

The author, Allan Sutherland, who recently retired from the position of Editor, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard) Wellington, will now have time to devote to a revision of the work, and he would welcome information on any specimens not recorded in the original work. Such new information will be fully acknowledged to the source. For coins and medals, the diameter, metal and full descriptions of the obverse and reverse designs should be recorded. Mr. Sutherland's address is 2 Sylvan Avenue, Milford, Auckland, N.Z.

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. Murray Weston, now of Calgary and formerly of Wellington and a member of our Society who recently won first award in the foreign class of exhibits at a coin convention held at Medicine Hat. New Zealand material was used.

## NEW ZEALAND COIN DIES

(Note on Mr. Sutherland's paper)

The following notes might be an interesting addition to the New Zealand Die Changes, as listed in Mr. Sutherland's article in the last issue of the Journal.

1950 Half-crown Die varieties: (Reverse)

Die I: Similar to the half-crowns of 1947-1949 but die has been strengthened. Line of rigging from mast of ship past steering oar is quite bold and is complete to the gunwhales (two lower ships). This is the only issue of half-crowns to exhibit this, as previous and later issues have this line either terminating at the cross-bar of the steering oar, or very weak below it. Other identifying points are: rim and beading as 1949. Outside line of scroll at bottom right of arms points to the left of the "5" in the date.

Die II: Similar to half-crowns of 1953-1963. Design much more compact, and all lettering is smaller and farther from edge of coin. Line of rigging terminates at cross-bar of steering oar. Outside line of scroll points to upper left corner of "5" in date. This has a wide flat rim similar to those of 1953-1963.

On the half-crowns of 1951 it appears that a die similar to the 1947-1949 was used. All half-crowns after 1953 appear to be of the type of Die II.

Other varieties noted: 1963 sixpence occurs with the "3" of date in line, and also with a high "3", which appears to be smaller. I also have seen a shilling of 1934 with the "N" of shilling completely missing—perhaps a filled die.

—R. J. Switz.

## MEETINGS

### WELLINGTON

**September 1963.** Three new members, Messrs. Gerard W. Kendall, of Houston, Texas; Russell H. Godard, of Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon; and Mat. D. C. Skegg, of Remuera, Auckland, were elected. The Treasurer reported on the investing of £500 of the Society's Composite Fund. Captain Stagg reported on advice from the Reserve Bank, that it would supply individuals with un-circulated sets of coins.

**November 4, 1963.** Four new members were elected: they were Messrs. S. Fuller, Rotorua; W. A. Mitchell, Wellington; E. Bauer, Ontario, Canada; Miss Janet V. Hobbs of Wellington. A Charter of Fellowship was presented to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. P. Ranger, and that for Dr. L. K. Gluckman was announced and despatch arranged. Mr. McDougall agreed to act as Assistant Secretary in the absence of Mr. T. Squires. Exchanges of publications were approved with the Coin World and Mintmark. Mr. M. Wood gave a talk on the history of the English Shilling, with good examples. Mrs. Ranger exhibited a replica of the Lusitania Medal, and gave an account of the original and the circumstances of issue.

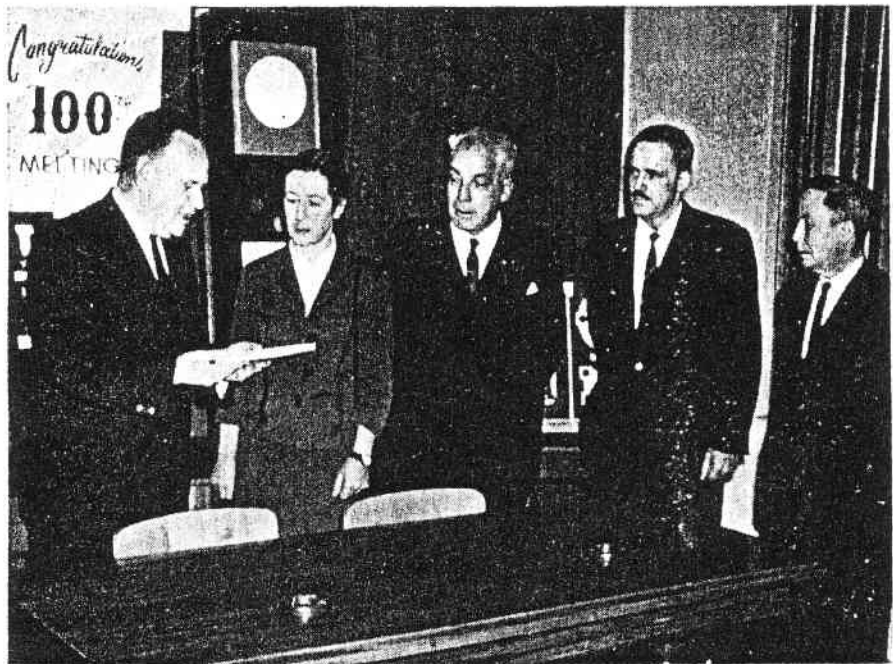
November 25, 1963. Four new members were elected. They were Messrs. J. McK. Brown, of New Hartford, U.S.A.; Peter V. Tomlin, of Wellington; Lt. Col. A. R. Hughes, of Swanson, Auckland; and Dr. V. Tilaitis, of Indiana, U.S.A. Mr. Arlow read a paper on the Waitangi Crown, and a programme of films was screened by Mr. Clark of B.P. Ltd. A decorated Christmas cake, donated by a member, was a feature of supper at this last meeting of the year.

**February 24, 1964.** Ten new members were approved. They were the following: Messrs. J. Mallard, Houston, Texas; Robt. W. Houer, Portland, Oregon; J. D. McKinney, Milwaukee, Oregon; D. J. Kezeor, Portland, Oregon; R. K. Bushe, Ottawa, Canada; R. S. Moore, Santiago Creek, British Columbia; Avery Smith, Saratoga, California; W. R. Cross, Wagga-Wagga, Australia; M. M. Lammas, Blenheim; Dr. Ross Dreardon, Auckland. Mr. James Berry contributed a particularly interesting, amusing and varied paper on Gold, dealing particularly with early goldmining in New Zealand.

**April 6, 1964.** The following new members were elected: Messrs. R. A. Brown, New Plymouth; B. McCabe, Trentham; P. P. O'Shea, Wellington; John L. Ridley, Christchurch; James E. Watson, Denver, Colorado; Maurice B. Kesin, Payneham, South Australia. It was resolved that the Secretary write to the Treasury suggesting that the Society be consulted in the design of the proposed new coinage. Brief papers were given by the following members:



Photographs taken upon the occasion of the 100th meeting of the Canterbury Branch. Above, the members, and, below, the President, Mr. L. J. Dale presenting a framed group of New Zealand coins to mark the occasion.



Mrs. P. Ranger, the Kennedy half-dollar.  
 Capt. Stagg, Various names for the coins to be used  
 in decimal currency.  
 Mr. Hamlin, South African modern currency.

**April 27, 1964.** New membership was accorded to the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, and Mr. J. E. Parry, Christchurch. A report on the Society's library was submitted, indicating slight use of its resources. Mr. Sherwood gave an interesting talk on the naming of British coins, illustrating with specimens from his collection.

**May 25, 1964.** Mr. Arlow reported on discussions with the chairman of the Decimal Coinage Advisory Committee, as regards the issue of proof sets of the new coinage. It was resolved that Mr. Alan Sutherland, the Society's representative on the Advisory Committee, be asked to urge the inclusion of a crown sized coin. Mr. Harwood gave an informative talk on Coins from the time of Charles I.

### CANTERBURY

**March 1963.** It was resolved that meetings should thenceforth be held on the third Monday of each month. Mr. L. Morel presented a paper entitled "Chronogrammatic coins of Europe." These are among the little-known curiosities of the numismatic world—coins containing "chronograms". Inscriptions in the time or date of an event are given by certain letters printed larger than the rest. The speaker illustrated his talk with large wall charts showing clearly how the chronogram was built up and how it gained its effect.

**April 1963.** It was resolved that a voluntary levy be made by members, of 10/- for senior members, and 5/- for juniors. Mr. Price spoke about the British Museum and its services, and Mr. Simpson on the connection between Florentine and English coinage of the 14th century, when the gold coins of Florence were imitated by Edward III.

**June 1963.** Plans were put in hand for observing the 100th meeting of the branch, to fall in August. A numismatic quiz, one with a difference, was prepared and presented by Miss Steven. The winner was Mr. Morel.

**September 1963.** This, the 100th meeting, has already been reported in the Journal for February, 1964.

\* \* \*

The following were the N.Z. mintings for 1963 (numerically):

2/6	400,000
2/-	100,000
1/-	600,000
6d	800,000
3d	4,000,000
1d	2,400,000
½d	1,680,000

## A VISIT TO THE ROYAL MINT

While visiting London some time ago I had the real pleasure of taking my wife and two secondary schoolboy sons for a visit to the Royal Mint which is located in a particularly interesting part of London. It faces the Tower of London and is not far from the famous Tower Bridge and also only a very short walk from the well-known "Petticoat Lane" market in Middlesex Street.

We had previously applied to the Deputy Master for a permit to visit the Mint and arrived at the stipulated time after lunch and were conducted with others in a small party of six around the various departments.

I had never visualised coins commencing from bars of metal and was interested to see how the constituent metals in correct proportions were placed in "pots" and heated to well above melting point before being poured into vertical moulds from which the bars of metal were removed and marked for identification. These bars of metal were then rolled into sheets of the exact thickness required. Our guide informed us that the thickness is accurate to 1/2000th of an inch. From these "fillets" as they are called were punched the coin blanks which were then softened in rotary furnaces, washed and then dried before going through a process which made them of a uniform diameter and raised a small rim around the circumference to protect the design against wear. Finally the blanks had the obverse and reverse designs stamped on them and were passed along a moving belt for examination and counted by machinery into bags. The Royal Mint has a full-time job making coins not only for the United Kingdom and many countries of the Commonwealth but also

Apparently all official and many unofficial medals are made in the Royal Mint and seals are engraved for Governments and Public Offices.  
for many foreign countries.

A visit to the Mint is certainly instructive and interesting and should be made by all who visit London, whether interested in numismatics or not. It is necessary to apply for a visiting permit a few weeks ahead as the number of visitors is limited to about 60 a day.

—E. R. Dennis.



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.

## SCHEDULE OF MEMBERS' SPECIALTIES AND WANTS

**ALLEN, H. DON, 7534 Wiseman Ave., Montreal 15, Canada.**

Specialty—Bank note issues especially Commonwealth countries.

**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.**

Specialty—World Coinage all dates. Exchanges available.

**ATKINSON, D. O., F.R.N.S.N.Z., Takanini, Auckland.**

Medals and Badges, especially Australasian and Colonial.

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

Specialty—world gold coins.

**BELL, R. G., 50 Murray Place, Christchurch.**

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

**BETTON, Jnr., J. L., 650 Copeland Tce., Santa Monica, Calif., U.S.A.**

Specialty—All British Commonwealth coins and tokens. Buy and trade. 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.

**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.

**FERGUSON, J. Douglas, F.R.N.S., P.O. Box 180 Rock Is., Quebec, Canada.**

Specialty—Canadian Coins, Tokens, Medals and Paper money

**FOWLER, F. J., P.O. Box 24, Tawa, Wellington.**

Specialty—Coins of Pacific Countries.

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

Specialty—Coins generally.

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

Wants—William IV half sov. small head 1834, also Crown piece proof or pattern 1831.

- 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.
- HEYWOOD, H., Central Fire Station, Esk St., Invercargill.**  
Specialty—Miniature British Orders, War Service Medals and Decorations.
- HORNBLOW, M. H., F.R.N.S.N.Z., P.O. Box 23, Wellington.**  
Specialty—General.
- 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.
- JARVIS, P. W., 16 Jefferson St., Wellington, N.Z.**  
Specialty—Coinage of France and French Possessions. Any N.Z. dates supplied in exchange.
- JEFFERY, F. J., Coins of the World, Milksham, Wilts, England.**  
£45 paid Waitangi Crown, BV. For Sale: All types English coins. Send for list in dollars or sterling. Send dollar for Elizabeth II set farthings BV.
- KIRKWOOD, James, 4484 Douse Av., Cleveland 27, Ohio, U.S.A.**  
Wants—Notes of British Commonwealth.
- KOONCE, WILLIAM D, 669 Barrenjoey Rd., Avalon Beach, N.S.W., Australia.**  
Specialty—Australian, N.Z. and U.S.A. coins, tokens, paper money, orders and medals. Correspondence invited.
- LOWNDES, R. D., 4a Sultan Street, Ellerslie, Auckland.**  
Specialty—modern foreign coins (no notes). Wants—Korean and Ethiopian coins.
- LYNCH, M. A. C., 10 Atherton Rd., Epsom, Auckland.**  
Specialty—N.Z. Tokens and Coins, also interesting Foreign.
- 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.
- MADDEN, I .B., M.A., F.R.N.S., F.S.A. (Scot.), Rosslea, 15 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland.**  
Specialty: English-Irish silver coins.  
Member American Numismatic Assn., Numismatic Society of South Australia, Historical Assn. (London); Vice-Pres. (and Publications Chairman) of Auckland Historical Society, and a foundation Councillor Heraldry Society (N.Z. Branch) Inc. Extensive historical, heraldic and genealogical interests.

**MITCHELL, MRS. R., Lawson Park, Dunedoo, N.S.W.,  
Australia.**

Full set of Florins E.F. Will exchange for Australian or buy.  
Waitangi Crown: willing to pay well.

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

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

**NETHERCLIFT, N. R. A., 8 Douglas St., Hawera.**

Tudor and English Hanoverian Silver—Maundys.  
Wants—Gold and silver coinage of George III.

**OCHSNER, John G., P.O. Box 566, Levittown, N.J., United  
States of North America.**

Purchase and trade—World silver and minor coins, 19th and  
20th Century.

Wants—Mintage records and Director of the Mint reports from  
countries throughout the world. Kindly write, what you have.

**PEERS, W., 86 Halton Street, Christchurch 5, N.Z.**

Wants crown sized coins of the world.

**POLASCHEK, SERGEANT A. J., 21 Tui St., Burnham Camp,  
Canterbury, 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.

**RAUDNIC, John, 10 Kensington Av., Petone, Wellington.**

Wants—Early British pennies from 1841 to 1859.

**REMICK, J. H., C.P. 742 Haute Ville, Quebec P.Q., Canada.**

Wants—Gold, silver and copper coins of British Commonwealth.

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**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, 84a Nelson St., Petone, Wellington.**

Specialty—Medals and Gold Coins.

**RUTHERFORD, Master R., 11 Princess Street, Newtown, Wellington.**

Wants Overseas Coin pen friends.

**SADD, A. A., 15 Marne St., Palmerston North.**

Specialty—Roman Coins.

**SCHLATHER, Chris C., LL.B., 3,500 Halliday Ave., St. Louis 18, Missouri, U.S.A.**

Wanted—Pre-1900 East Asian, Oceania and African coins, American and Australian Territorial gold.

**SCOTT, J. F., Dentist, Dannevirke.**

Specialty—Gold coins and crowns—exchange or buy.

**SIMPSON, A. J., 252 Graham's Road, Bryndwr, Christchurch.**

Specialty—British regal copper coins.

Wants—Queen Anne farthing and copper issues of William III and William and Mary.

**SINCLAIR, Master John, 94 Happy Valley Rd., Wellington.**

Wants Overseas pen friends for exchanging coins.

**SQUIRES, Trevor, c/o Antrim House, 63 Boulcott Street, Wellington.**

Early farthings. Correspondence welcomed.

**STAGG, Capt. G. T., F.R.N.S.N.Z., R.N.Z.A. Army Hq., Box 99, Wellington.**

Medals of all kinds—Specialty: Long Service Awards, also information on same.

**STUTTER, GARY, 18 Princess St., Newtown, Wellington.**

Mainly coins of Canada and Australia.

**TANDY, J. G., 83 Beauchamp St., Karori, Wellington.**

Specialty—British Coins.

**TAYLOR, M. M., 46 Selkirk St., Hamilton, N.Z.**

Specialty—Crown sized coins of the world.

**WILLIAMS, Jim, 1350-0 Street, Anchorage, Alaska, U.S.A.**

Specialty—U.S. and Canadian coins.

**WITTMAN, Major E. E., 481 Iola St., Aurora 8, Colo., U.S.A.**

Wants—Crowns of the world, American coins. Will buy or have some Australian and N.Z. tokens to trade.

**WOOLWAY, Hal, 1025 Palms Blvd., Venice, Calif., U.S.A.**

Specialty—Paper money of the world, Military Script, also World Coinage type sets and date series (major).

Wanted—Correspondence, exchange want lists, buy duplicates of yours that I need—numismatic booklets. Please write first.

**WYNESS-MITCHELL, K. J., F.R.N.S., 1 Canning St., Gore, N.Z.**

Specialty—War Medals, Decorations, and Awards.

Wants—Above in good condition, also Service Ribbons.

# SEABY'S

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