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# NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

PROCEEDINGS OF  
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## INDEX TO No. 27

INTRODUCTION TO NUMISMATICS (Roy Sellars) .....	87
DEVELOPMENT OF UNITED STATES COINAGE (Douglas Rubb) .....	90
NUMISMATIC QUIZ (Harry Hughan) .....	92
ROMAN REPUBLICAN FAMILY—CAELII (Dr. T. Carney) .....	94
NUMISMATIC INTEREST IN REIGN OF EDWARD VIII (Julian Brook) .....	105
CHANGES IN ROLL OF MEMBERS .....	108
VIRGIL AND THE COINS (Dr. H. Mattingly) .....	109
COINS OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS (Douglas Rubb) .....	125
NUMISMATIC INTERESTS OF CHRISTCHURCH MEMBERS .....	127
NOTES OF MEETINGS .....	128

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## NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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### LIST OF ISSUES

Volume	Date	Part	Consecutive Number (from 17 shown on cover)
1	1931-36	Cyclostyled reports bound in three volumes, foolscap size, and indexed.	
2	1936-41		
3	1941-47		
		Part	Consecutive Number
4	1947	1	4*
4	1947	2	5
4	1948	3	6
4	1948	4	7
5	1948	1	8
5	1949	2	9
5	1949	3	10
5	1949-50	4	11
6	1950	1	12
6	1950-51	2	13
6	1951-52	3	14
6	1952	4	15
6	1952	5	16
7	1953	1	17
7	1953	2	18
7	1953	3	19
7	1954	4	20
8	1954	1	21
8	1955	2	22
8	1955	3	23
8	1955	4	24
9	1956	1	25
9	1956-57	2	26
9	1957	3	27

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# NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

of

ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY  
OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED  
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VOL. 9

APRIL—DECEMBER, 1957

## Introduction to Numismatics—Coins

PART II

*By* ROY SELLARS, Auckland.

### Materials Used in Making Coins

In olden times the Greeks found silver a very convenient commodity for this purpose, as their country was rich in silver deposits. The Italians had no silver, but copper was plentiful, and their coinage was, therefore, based on this metal. Asia Minor and places in that vicinity were fortunate in the possession of gold mines, and were thus able to produce a coinage in that precious metal. Until recently, silver and copper remained the staple metals for the making of coins. The relative scarcity and the constantly fluctuating price of gold, however, tended to affect its utility for this purpose, and it dropped out of general use early in the present century.

The ancient Greeks minted some of their coins in electrum, which is an admixture of gold and silver. During the late "twenties" and early "thirties" of the nineteenth century the Russians resorted to the use of platinum for the same purpose. At that time their mines were yielding generous supplies of this metal, for which they could not then find a market. Tests proved it to be hard and durable—ideal for the minting of coins—and so the famous three, six and twelve-rouble platinum coins resulted. These are rarities today, and are much sought after by numismatists.

Other countries followed Russia's lead, and, as platinum was at that time much cheaper than gold, imitations of gold coins were made from platinum and gilded over, to aid deception. Today, owing to the greatly increased value of the latter metal, these forgeries are worth much more than the genuine gold pieces.

Nickel has been used to a considerable extent, first as an alloy of silver, then in place of it. Within the past decade many countries, including England and New Zealand, have abandoned silver for the minting of their regular coinage, using instead a composition known as cupro-nickel. This consists mainly of copper and nickel, the former metal definitely predominating. Similarly, the old-time pure copper coins have been succeeded by bronze and brass pieces, of reduced size.

At times, particularly during war periods and trade depressions, the usual metals employed in the production of coins have been either unobtainable or in very short supply, and the adoption of other materials has become necessary. Probably iron and tin have been used as much as most other substitutes, but, owing to their strong tendency to corrode, they have been found most unsuitable. During the two world wars zinc was largely used in Europe for the minting of "Occupation Issues", but its rapid oxidization marked it, too, as a most unsatisfactory metal. In 1940/41, the Italians experimented with acmonital (stainless) steel for the coinage of the Vatican City and of the Motherland. This proved to be a very happy choice, as this metal not only possesses the attributes of hardness and durability but does not appear to tarnish.

Covering the period 1920-1923, a number of German States issued porcelain coins. These are very fragile, and, on being dropped or brought into collision with other objects almost invariably broke, sometimes shattering.

Aluminium money has been minted to some extent in recent years, and, though not particularly well received, is likely to remain. Other materials from which coins or tokens have been fashioned are lead, wood, cardboard and leather, while, in the U.S.A., encased stamps were used as coinage in 1862.

When a strange coin comes your way you probably turn it over in your hand, wondering the while what it is and how much it is worth. As with stamps, so with coins—the state or condition of the piece, together with its degree of rarity (if any) are the chief considerations. "Condition" may be conveniently graded as follows:

**PROOF.**—The usual "proof" coin is one which has been run off from dies with a specially prepared gloss, or finish. The resulting coin has a beautiful mirror-like surface. Some "proofs", however, are sandblasted instead, this method producing a piece with a particular kind of dull finish. "Proofs" are never plentiful, and are consequently worth much more than normal specimens.

**F.D.C. (Fleur de Coin).**—This term is applied to a coin in perfect mint condition. It has not been in circulation, and ranks next to the "Proof" in collectable value.

**E.F. (Extremely Fine).**—Such a piece will reveal just the slightest signs of wear. The highest parts of the coin, including the rim, will have lost a little of the original sharpness of delineation, and the coin may be a trifle scratched or nicked through having come in contact with other hard objects.

**V.F. (Very Fine).**—Signs of wear are now more discernible. Should the coin under examination happen to be a "portrait" type, it will be noticed that the hair has lost some of its clarity of outline, while the lettering of the

legend, etc., has possibly begun to spread. A coin in this condition is still considered to be quite desirable and worthy of a place in most collections.

**FINE.**—The coin is now definitely worn and some of the lettering probably faint. The date, however, must still be legible, otherwise the piece does not measure up to this condition. If the piece is scarce it is worth keeping; but if, on the other hand, it is very common, it should perhaps be discarded as shabby coins tend to detract from the appearance of a collection.

**FAIR.**—Parts of the design are badly worn, probably some of the lettering is conspicuous by its absence, and the date is likely to be partly obliterated. In such a case, unless the coin is a rarity, it should be rejected.

**POOR.**—Such a coin is non-collectable unless it possesses some unique characteristic or association to redeem it.

The terms “scarce”, “very scarce”, “rare”, “very rare”, “extremely rare”, “of greatest rarity”, etc., will be self-evident to all species of collectors, and therefore need not be enlarged upon here.

Non-collectors are apt to gather the erroneous impression that coins of great antiquity must be very valuable. In most cases, however, this factor is of minor importance. Roman coins, for instance, are all very, very old—ranging from 1500 to 2000 years—but most of them can be purchased for a few shillings apiece, while many can be obtained for as little as a shilling. The reason for this is that one of the initial activities of a newly-invested monarch was the immediate issuing of great quantities of coins. Of course, scarce items—even rarities—are to be found among the Roman series, but most of their coins are very common indeed. A story comes to mind about a lady who took a battered old Roman coin to a dealer, expecting to receive in return for it a large sum of money. It was, however, an extremely common piece—in the “dime-a-dozen” class—and had obviously seen better days. The dealer tried, tactfully, to enlighten the lady regarding its true worth, but she waxed impatient, exclaiming sharply: “But look how old it is! If you know your business you must surely realise that it is thousands of years old.” “Yes, I agree that it is old,” replied the dealer soothingly, “but you can see for yourself that it has been badly knocked about.” Picking up her rejected treasure, the now thoroughly exasperated lady tartly rejoined: “And so would you be if you’d been kicked around for two thousand years.”

Remember, therefore, that in most cases the age of a coin is not a major consideration. Condition and rarity are the governing factors.

(To be continued.)

## Development of United States Coinage

*By* DOUGLAS RUBB, Auckland.

The story of American money begins with the exchange of wampum or bead currency for furs between the first New England settlers and the Indians. In Virginia, tobacco became the medium of exchange. Wooden bowls, codfish and onions all passed for money in old New Amsterdam, now New York City. The early settlers had virtually no coins to carry on their everyday business transactions. Commodity money consisting of corn, beaver skins, bullets and nails was used. The tenpenny nails were hand-wrought. Many a house was burned to save the nails when a settler moved on.

The standard unit of currency in the Colonies during the latter part of the eighteenth century was the Spanish Milled Dollar. These silver coins were also called pieces of eight. The value of this dollar varied by as much as  $34\frac{1}{2}\%$  in different colonies, which was quite a variance. The average rate of exchange was seven shillings and sixpence.

The Massachusetts cents and half cents, struck in 1787 and 1788, became the first official coins to bear a stated value in terms of decimal parts of the Spanish dollar. The cent represented a  $1/100$ th part of this dollar. Strangely enough, the Spanish dollar and its fractional units continued to circulate with official sanction until as late as 1857.

During the colonial period the Pine Tree shilling of the New England colonies was the most widely known coin outside of the English pieces. Other colonies attempted to produce large quantities of their own coins, but none succeeded. Small denomination tokens, most of which originated in England, were readily accepted as legal tender because of the acute scarcity of fractional coins. A few interesting series of tokens bearing the likeness of George Washington were made in England following the War of Independence.

The newly-established Federal Government issued its first coin—the “Fugio Cent”—in 1787. This coin was also called the “Franklin Cent” because its obverse had the inscription “Mind Your Business”—a motto attributed to Benjamin Franklin. A closed chain of 13 links on the reverse symbolized the unity of the 13 colonies. The public protested that the closed chain did not symbolize liberty, so the Treasury changed the chain to a wreath.

The Government experimented with the triple standard for gold, silver and copper coins. In 1792, Congress voted for free coinage of gold and silver coins at the fixed ratio of 15 to 1, and for the token coinage of copper cents and half cents. During the same year a mint was built at Philadelphia.

Speculators greatly hindered the circulation of gold and silver coins. They exchanged the silver U.S. dollars for worn Spanish dollars of reduced weight and value. This meant that these new dollars were exported as fast as they were minted, and thereby lost to American trade channels. By

1799 the ratio of gold to silver had reached  $15\frac{1}{4}$  to 1 in European commercial centres. At this rate the undervalued U.S. gold coins left the United States or were melted down for bullion. After 1800, American gold coins were rarely seen in circulation. As no adequate remedy could then be found, President Jefferson suspended the minting of gold coins and silver dollars. With the virtual disappearance of these gold and silver coins, the half dollar became the desirable coin for bank reserves, foreign payments and large transactions.

Meanwhile, by 1799, \$50,000 worth of cents and half cents were in circulation. This amount was too small to satisfy the requirements of commerce, so foreign coins continued in use during the next several years.

A new law passed in 1834 reduced the weight of gold coins, thereby placing the monetary system on a gold standard. Trade and finance greatly benefited by this step. Three years later Congress completely revised and standardized the mint and coinage laws. It standardized gold and silver coins to 900 thousands fine. The mintage of gold coins and silver dollars was resumed.

The flow of gold from California's goldfields, starting in 1848, greatly influenced the world gold market, making the export of silver profitable. For example, the silver in two half dollars became worth  $\$1.03\frac{1}{2}$  in gold. Gold hastened the disappearance of silver coins from trade channels.

The half cents and large cents, which had become unpopular with the public, cost the Treasury Department too much to mint. The Monetary Reform Law of 1857 abolished the half cent and reduced the size of the cent. This law also retired the Spanish silver coins as legal tender from circulation.

Following the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, an abundance of coins turned to scarcity. The hoarding of coins was caused by the anticipation of a scarcity and the depreciation of large quantities of paper money in circulation. Postal currency in the form of stamps was widely used, and by 1863 tradesmen's tokens and imitation cents were helping to fill the gap. The latter bore political or patriotic slogans that were typical of the times.

The Bland-Allison Act of 1878 authorized the Treasury Department to purchase from two to four million dollars' worth of silver each month for silver dollars to the American monetary stock. These dollars were never popular coins, especially in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

The Gold Standard Act of 1900 established a single standard, but reaffirmed the fiction that the silver dollar is a standard coin. Actually, its value in terms of standard gold was far below its face value.

In March, 1933, a Presidential order prohibited banks from paying out gold and gold certificates without permission, and gold currency was thus kept for reserve purposes. Gold imports and newly-mined domestic gold were ordered sold to the Government.

The mintage of all coins above the fifty-cent piece was

suspended after 1935. During 1943 a critical shortage of copper caused the Treasury Department to use zinc-coated steel for cents. However, the Department reverted to copper in the following year when it became apparent that the close resemblance of the cents and the dimes was resulting in too much confusion when making change. Salvaged copper shell cases were used in 1944. The colour was somewhat paler than the pre-war coins, but the metal was otherwise quite satisfactory.

Except for these minor deviations, there have been no important developments in the coinage system since 1879.

## Numismatic Quiz

(Conducted by H. Hughan, at Christchurch meeting, Nov., 1954.)

When was the copper penny replaced by the bronze penny?

1860.

What is the most famous coin in the world?

Probably the Denarius of Tiberius or Roman Penny to which our Lord referred.

In what year was the British Dollar issued?

1895. For Hong Kong and Straits Settlements.

What is a Moneyer?

The person who struck the coin, as distinguished from the engraver or artist.

What is Money of Necessity?

Coins struck in an abnormal manner or metal in emergencies.

What is the meaning of Recoin?

To melt down coin and produce new coin in the usual way.

What is Siege-money?

The pieces struck either by the inhabitants of the place besieged or the besiegers, or both. It is usually money of necessity, and of irregular shape—e.g., diamond shape.

What is meant by a Brass Farthing?

Nothing—"I don't care a brass farthing for him."

What is a Cartwheel?

English twopence of 1797.

What coin do they refer to as a Devil's Bit?

Threepence of England. So called because proud persons would not put copper in church collections, and provided themselves with the smallest silver coin.

What gold coin is referred to as "a Horse and Jockey"?

Sovereign. From the design of St. George and the Dragon.

What was known as Hibernia or Wood's coinage?

William Wood, an Englishman, obtained a patent from George I to make copper tokens for Ireland and the American Colonies. The type intended for Ireland had a seated figure with a harp on the reverse side and the word Hibernia. Denominations struck were halfpenny and farthing, dates 1722, 1723, 1724. Hibernia coins were unpopular in Ireland, so most of them were sent to the American Colonies.

How many different pieces were minted in 1936 with Edward VIII's name on, and for what countries were they minted?

Seven, and for the following countries: Fiji (1), New Guinea (1), East Africa (2), British West Africa (3).

Name five out of the eight animals, etc., found on Irish coinage.

2/6 horse, 2/- fish, 1/- bull, 6d dog, 3d hare, 1d fowl and chicks, ½d pig and piglets, ¼d bird.

What is commemorated by the Australian 1951 Jubilee florin?

The federation of the separate states.

Still standing in Sydney today is a building, the old Sydney hospital, built in 1816. Why is it called the "rum hospital"?



Currency was short and barter was common. Spirits and rum were popular articles of trade, and the hospital was paid for by the monopoly on these granted by the Governor.

What is the "holey" dollar? When and why were they made?

Spanish pieces of eight (so-called dollars) were so popular that they dominated Sydney's money system early in the 1800's. To try to regain control, the Governor collected all he could and cut a central circular sixpenny-size piece out, which was counterstamped to be current at 1/3. The "holey dollar" was counterstamped and given a value of 5/-. The measure was unpopular and unsuccessful.

On Australian coins issued in 1951 and struck in the United Kingdom is a mintmark which is the same as that on British coins struck during the Roman occupation. It is P L. What do these letters mean?

Made at London. From the ancient usage Prima—the first (workshop).

If the New Zealand pound is equivalent at the present rate of exchange to 25/- Australian, what is the value in New Zealand of an Australian half-crown?

Australia has never used halfcrowns.

What is the origin of the word "numismatic"?

From the Greek word nomisma, a coin—which is from a Greek word meaning "custom"—a coin being something which is used customarily or currently.

What was the English Petition crown of 1663?

A beautifully executed crown by Thomas Simon, the engraver, with a wonderfully minute edge inscription asking the king to recognise his work and employ him.

What is the difference between currency and legal tender?

Currency applies to all money. Legal tender is the amount of certain denominations which can be legally given in change—e.g., bronze coins up to one shilling's value.

How much silver is there in Australian silver coins?

50% silver, 50% copper-nickel alloy.

How can one tell an electrotype from a coin (say, the electrotypes of Greek silver coins in the Canterbury Museum)?

Usually a join is left showing that it is a facsimile only. Sometimes they are one-sided only.

During the reign of James II copper was scarce and "plug money" was issued. What is plug money?

A small square plug of copper was inserted in the coin, which was made only of pewter.

Many Celtic coins struck in Britain have types consisting of a mass of dots and lines; these types are really a degenerated version of a king's head and a horseman on Greek gold coins issued by a certain Greek ruler. Who was he?

Philip of Macedon.

What is the coin on the cover of the N.Z. Numismatic Journal?

A Ptolemaic Tetradrachm.

Which denominations of King George VI (United Kingdom) coinage have been issued posthumously (i.e., dated 1952)?

Only the 3d,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and  $\frac{1}{4}$ d were issued in any quantity in the United Kingdom. About 1,000,000 sixpences were struck and most were sent overseas. They are very scarce in the U.K.

Can a woman put "V.C." after her name?

Yes, though none has.

Are these possible or not? Sarah Brown, D.S.O., D.S.C.

Yes, officers of the W.R.N.S. are eligible for both.

Elizabeth Graham, G.C., O.B.E.

Yes, Mrs. Odette Churchill has both these.

Amelia Parsons, M.M., G.M.?

Yes, it is possible.

Mary Jones, D.F.C., D.C.M.?

Impossible.

## Roman Republican Family — Caelii

### PART II

By DR. T. CARNEY, Wellington.

The early history of the Caecilii Metelli can only be cursorily dealt with. The oligarchy of this period presents in its literature a united front which only the most important families, among whom the Metelli are not to be numbered, succeeded in breaking. Moreover, the early coinage of Rome has all the anonymity which any group of peers must maintain to preserve its mutual equality. Fixed types and legends, each associated with obverse or reverse of its denomination of silver or bronze coinage, repeatedly recur. Moneyers cannot be identified; mint marks are recognizable but variously interpreted (12).

Of the family history in this early period the following can be said. Up to the beginning of the Hannibalic War (219—202 B.C.), in the third century (300—200 B.C.), the dominant families of the inner ring were the Claudii, the Fabii and the Aemilii. Subordinates and adherents to the latter family were the Cornelii Scipiones, to whom the Caecilii Metelli were linked (13).

There are, it is true, coins of the date 182—172 B.C. bearing the legends M or MT (M/M), but such letters at this point in the development of coinage seem rather to be intended as mint marks and to indicate the town in which the coins were struck. As their place of origin is felt to be S.E. Italy, Grueber explains MT as the monogram of Mateola (14). A town of more importance is Matinus. It might well have served in Duronius' activities when Praetor over the province of Apulia in 181 B.C. (Sydenham suggests that the mint is in this region), and is not far distant from Potentia, where a Roman building project was carried out in 174 B.C. Also it could have been a suitable port of call for supply coasters from Brundisium or even the opposite Greek mainland under Sicinius' commission to alleviate the distress caused by the plague of grasshoppers in Apulia in 173 B.C. Moreover, the following year saw the mustering of a levy which eventually proceeded through this region to Beneventum in Apollonia (15).

To date the achievements of the Metelli had been few but meritorious. They had three consulships to their credit (in 284, 251 and 247 B.C. respectively), and were therefore within the inner ring; also the victory of the consul of 451 at Panormus, resulting in the capture of 100 Carthaginian elephants and a subsequent triumph in Rome, had given the family a badge—an elephant—that was destined to distinguish their moneyers in subsequent coinage, appearing on 9 of the family's 24 issues (16).\*

In the course of the second Punic War the Cornelii Scipiones, to whom the Metelli were attached, secured the ascend-

\* Discussed and illustrated are Sydenham Nos. 480, 485, 496, 539, 611 and 719. The other coins discussed are not illustrated.

ancy within the inner ring and the consequent increase in the power of this faction as a whole is reflected in the list of its consuls—amongst whom a Metellus figures in 205 B.C. Many other magistracies, including a dictatorship, also fell to the lot of the Metelli at this point. The supremacy of the Cornelii Scipiones, with their liberal policy, was, however, soon lost in the intrigues of post-war domestic politics (by 191 B.C.), and dominance passed among the various family groups to the reactionaries under Cato (by 187), then to a middle bloc composed of a coalition of Claudii, Fulvii and ex-Fabian adherents (by 175), then to various intriguing upstart combinations of lesser families of the inner ring (by 165). Jockeying tenaciously to maintain their position, and wandering on the fringes of the political wilderness with the Scipiones, the Metelli, by infrequent successes with minor magistracies, stayed in political existence.

It was war which brought their faction again into prominence. The Scipionic group managed to reassert some degree of dominance in the period 166—150, and, amid the general military incompetence of the other nobles, its capable if uninspired military expert restored his faction to ascendancy in the Carthaginian and Spanish Wars (termination 133 B.C.). To the Metelli, as supporters of the Scipiones, came two coss. as their share of the political spoils (143 and 142 B.C.).

By this time the legends of the Roman coinage were showing a greater degree of individuality and recognizable moneyer's names begin to appear. Types also are becoming freer and allusions to contemporary events are in evidence. So S.317—319 may very well be struck by a Metellus (so Babelon and Grueber); dated 155—150 B.C., the coins bear the monogram ME, and, with a victoriatus with a reverse type of victory and a trophy, the coin might well be struck for the victory and triumph of P. Cornelius Scipio Nasica in 155 by his subordinate nobilis cadet Q. Caecilius Metellus (later Macedonicus), who gained a Tribune of the Plebs in the following year and passed a law dealing with peculation, facts which show Scipionic backing and interest in finance at this period (17).

S. 317 is probably to be dated to 143—2 B.C., according to Mattingly's demonstration in *The Proceedings of the British Academy*, Vol. 39, 1953, "Patre Cos", p. 277 ff., that members of a family in high office tend to secure the minor post of moneyer for their own cadets to start them on their career, keep the family's name in the public eye, and assist the family's coffers. (18)

But already the prospect of another fall from political grace lay before their faction, for the Claudii had bedevilled the situation in domestic politics by starting up an aristocrat demagogue in the person of Ti. Gracchus with a programme of re-establishing those dispossessed by the squatters. The arbitrary and illegal measures employed by the inner ring for his eventual suppression brought them into considerable odium with the urban populace. The military expert of the Scipiones was speedily involved in the debacle by shrewd intriguers of other factions, outmanœuvred and discredited—dying, possibly

by foul play, in 129. By 123 Gracchus' younger brother had appeared upon the political scene. Now can be seen the faction feud at its bitterest. Thirsting for vengeance on the murderers of his brother and dishonourers of his family, and burning to restore the supremacy which Tiberius had given it for one brief year, Caius Gracchus was backed by another of the less important inner-ring families—the Fulvii Flacci. Where Tiberius had been basically a military man with an oversimplified view of the problem he was facing, Caius was a skilful party politician, with a thorough grasp of the problems of the day. The comparative unimportance of his family meant that he lacked the factional resources of the big families with whom he had to contend. This he remedied by building himself a faction on unorthodox methods. He united the rich bourgeoisie and bound them to him by giving them contracting monopolies and control of the judicature (which destroyed the political supremacy of his own inner ring). The mob was already with him, for to it he was a champion against oppression as well as a material benefactor through his support of his brother's re-establishment programme. He made conciliatory overtures to the municipalities, who stood to lose some land in the process of re-establishment, and who were consequently offered Roman citizenship (19).

For a time he was all-powerful. But the adept politicians of the inner ring enmeshed him deeper and deeper in constitutional illegalities while simultaneously splintering his coalition of backers by scandalmongering, counter-proposals and appeals to individual groups of vested interests. Eventually he and a cell of diehard supporters were done to death in a bloodbath of questionable legality. The inner ring had triumphed, but at crippling cost to itself. It had only managed to strip away Caius' clientela among the bourgeoisie by conceding to it all the powers he had bestowed upon it. The mob and the municipalities were left, partially appeased by minor concessions and various promises, in a state of scarcely-concealed resentment.

The Corneli Scipiones had completely lost their supremacy in this welter of intrigue and pressure groups. Not so the Metelli. Their long eclipse (205—143) had taught them many a lesson in political expediency. When their faction leaders had been forced into the background they had stayed loyal because a misplaced chance of factional affiliation would have meant annihilation through loss of fides at a time when their cliental was thus inextensive. A Scipionic revival would bring them again to the fore in its train and for this they waited. As we have seen, it eventually came—and went. This time the Metelli did not commit the political indiscretion of not leaving the sinking ship; instead, prestige high and factional powers at their zenith, they nimbly changed their factional alignment without, however, alienating the Corneli. 133—123 were not years for leisurely inspection of a would-be ally's fides. Clientela and factional backing were at a premium. These the Metelli had—not to an overwhelming degree, it is true, but enough to weigh the scales one way or the other. A

faction such as this could virtually name its price for the support it gave in the novel regroupings and faction-coalitions of this troubled decade. At all events their support, most probably given to an inner-ring group of moderate policy, enabled them to stay in the political forefront, and resulted, whether by good luck or good management, in a *cos.* in 123 B.C.

The second suppression of the Gracchan faction, as we have seen, left its opponents, and more especially the extremists among them, politically discredited. The Metelli saw their chance and snapped it up. The consul of 123 went pirate-hunting in the West Mediterranean. This obvious feeler was quickly taken up by the banking and commercial interest, which Gaius had organised into a coherent class and which was now recovering from the political bewilderment adduced by the intriguers of the inner ring. A coalition of the Metelli and the Equites sprang up, dominating political life by its all-embracing joint patronage (20). The years 123—108 are the political high-water mark of the power of the Metelli. Each time the office came up they held one of the two Censorships (an office through which the taxes and imposts were let out to contractors) and one which was the culmination of a career in politics; they monopolised the consulship, securing it eight times in all and in one year holding both magistracies simultaneously.

As one would expect, this is the period in which the Metellan moneyers are most evident. On Sydenham's dating, they strike nine issues within ten years. S.480-2 are most probably the issues of a cadet—quite possibly the Consul of 115—on the event of Balearicus' subjugation of his pirate-ridden islands. The haughty use of the family blazon five times shows the predominance of the Metellan faction (21). There may well be a reference to the conquest of Numidia in the belled (i.e., tamed) elephant as Sydenham's dating is demonstrably faulty here and at this time the practice of double reference was in vogue by which reference was simultaneously made to past and contemporary exploits of the family. Moreover, the insistence of the Metelli on Numidicus' authorship of the African victory cannot have gone unsubstantiated in a form suitable for popular dissemination. (22)

The transition from the set, stereotyped types of the second century to the free types of its final decade and the subsequent first century, is to be explained on these grounds. While a number of inner-ring families dominated the government, they maintained the similarity and anonymity of issues in the interests of their mutual equality. Once a single family became supreme, as the Metelli did in the years 121—108 B.C., their unprecedented supremacy was reflected in the novel step of striking with a series of free reverse types, which all magnified their family achievements. Another group of novel reverse types was issued by the Narbo mint, S.nos.520-4—an equestrian venture (23). It only remained for a *novus homo* to dominate political life, as Marius did from 107—100 B.C., for an even more complete break to be made, and for free

obverse as well as reverse types to appear: see Nos. 572 onwards, for example. The changing political background is thus manifest in changes in the coins.

A reaction was inevitable. The interests of the inner ring were being consistently sacrificed. Consulships were not circulating freely enough for the other important families all to secure their share and overseas commitments were being entered into in Gaul (Narbo), which strained the already fully exerted administrative capacities of the State and introduced the note of dollar imperialism for the first time into Rome's foreign policy. Moreover, with the Gracchi the political situation had become complicated by the political establishment and arming of a hitherto politically inarticulate vested interest. Ambition, bottled up by this arbitrary restriction of what the nobles had by now come to regard as their hereditary right to office, turned with the greater assiduity to intrigue and counterplot. The intriguers set to work on the coalition and weakened it with the already-described techniques.

The factional machine was by this time running so falteringly and the political situation was so fluid that a Novus Homo was able to avail himself of the consequent splintering of power groups to build himself a following, however short lived, and thrust his way to the fore and a consulship. Aristocratic diplomacy in Africa had been misrepresented, in the interests of faction, as treason, when a certain Marius, a staff officer on the battlefield, by slandering his superior, the Consul Metellus, won over the Equites and city mob to support his own candidature for the Consulship. Once Consul, his success in the African war brought him further consulships in a war against the Germans, whose preliminaries he was not slow to point out, had been mismanaged with singular incapacity by the nobilis generals of the inner ring. Between 107 and 100 B.C. this one man, a newcomer to the political scene, amassed a total of six consulships. (24) The Metellan supremacy was trodden underfoot.

The change can be seen in various ways. The Marians introduce free and unorthodox types and the old pattern of family names changes to admit new ones. But, apart from this, the Metelli have only one moneyer in the ten years 109—100 (even on Sydenham's dating), and he is in a very subordinate position, being the only member of a college of three to have his name in abbreviated form in the exergues of the two issues struck (25). Needless to say, the blazon of the Metelli is not in evidence, and a return to the anonymity of orthodox nobilis types seems to have been enforced.

This was another case of success too complete to last. Again, too many aristocratic careers were being restricted for the political situation to remain stable. The dire need of the State for a competent military man kept Marius to the fore until the wars were successfully concluded. But in the seething frustrations caused by this monopoly of office, intrigue became fiercer as the inner ring manipulated the forms of the constitution against its opponents of the Marian faction,

who turned to violence partly in despair of effecting a solution of some very real problems (such as the settlement upon demobilization of some 100,000 veteran troops) and partly out of a hatred which had built up, snowball fashion, to a climax (26). Skilful manipulation of the latent possibilities for friction within the situation brought discredit and disruption upon Marius and his faction amid a by now familiar series of political murders in 100 B.C. This event was a masterpiece of the political intriguer's craft in timing and execution. It came at the successful conclusion of the various wars when commercial interests everywhere had been fully safeguarded. Equestrian support was therefore slackening, and the suggestion that Saturninus (Marius' creature murdered by the inner ring "to save the constitution" in 100) was bent on endangering property in general alienated the Equites from Marius. His other backing was also now less vocal in that his veterans, whom he had recruited from volunteers from the pauper population by an innovation that tied them to his clientela, were largely settled in distant colonies (27) and could use neither their votes nor powers of intimidation in Rome for him. Moreover, his clique of nobiles, composed of various once-distinguished inner-ring families who had attached themselves to him in order to be taken from long oblivion to the forefront of political life, now upon attaining this end were ready to dispense with the hampering tie of a chief who monopolized office (28).

A confused dogfight for office ensued in the years 99—91 B.C., in which an old-established family, the Licinii, succeeded in establishing a dominance which refurbished their somewhat unused and tarnished escutcheon. But the Metelli were assiduously working to reassert their supremacy, and, taking a leaf from the political handbook of Marius' ex-supporters, they attached a rising careerist to their group and bound him to them by helping in the election that was essential to his ascendancy and theirs.

As in the previous period, amid many newcomers and parading of individual exploits or family achievements in the coin types, only one Metellan moneyer appears in ten years, and again in the subordinate position in his college (30).

This man, Lucius Cornelius Sulla (31), was descended from a family which had suffered two generations to pass without securing consular honours to add to those which it already possessed. Sulla was in this way a nobilis, but without the hereditary clientela necessary for political survival. He had built his own by specialising in negotiations with hinterland monarchs when serving on the staff in the African and Gallic Wars and in Asia on a special commission. Their funds and his own adept manœuvres had brought him to a prætorship at a late age. He was as yet unfettered by allegiance to any faction of the inner ring. By the same token he had no organisation of clients among the electorate to support him at elections, and bribery and intimidation were, he found, insufficient to wrest a consulship from the more

influential cadets of the inner ring. With shrewd opportunism he contracted a dynastic alliance into the Metelli. There was general consternation among nobiles and commons: as an ancient writer sarcastically observes, "They did not think worthy of a wife from among the Metelli a man to whom the consulship was to be given without objection." (32) The consulship was duly organised by the joint suasions of the clientelae of the Metelli and the coffers of Sulla's tame potentates. This gave him an army which was soon, by the licence allowed it, to loot and plunder in the current war with the Italians, inspired with an affection for its general which was developed into devotion by the prospect of an enriching campaign against an oriental potentate.

Faced with the prospect of political oblivion, the Marian party closed ranks and set to work upon their political machine. Bribery, coercion and a vote-catching programme secured them victory after victory in legislation. Then Sulla—by this time stripped of his army and Eastern command—played his trump: he called on the army to march on Rome. The officers, with one exception, quit his camp at this revolutionary command, but the troops, a new political factor brought into political life in 107 B.C. by Marius himself, stayed loyal. Sulla had found the answer to the most skilful parliamentary tactics and the best-planned misuse of the forms of the constitution.

The Marians were, of course, expelled and even had their leaders outlawed on Sulla's entry into Rome. They did the same to him when he left for the East. But, returning in 83, he had the support of the Metelli and an army under Metellus Pius joined his returning and invading forces to assist in his reinstatement.

Another young careerist, Pompey, had taken advantage of the conflicts with which Italy was racked in the course of this series of wars (91—86 and 83—81) to maintain a private army, which he now also put at Sulla's service. Such assistance fell little short of becoming embarrassing to a man who, as Sulla said, aimed at establishing an autocracy. The Marian resistance was soon crushed and Sulla had control of the political machine once more. By this time it was sadly altered from the already corrupt and intrigue-ridden arrangement we met at the outset of this study. Always a thorough man, Sulla added some variations of procedure of his own which made its workings the more dependable.

The period 83—74 shows a recrudescence of Metellan power in the coins. There are three issues—two after Sulla's removal from the scene—and, in all, the fortunes of the Metellan house are strikingly portrayed. S. 714, struck in 82-81 B.C., probably is a defiantly aristocratic coin, struck by one of a college of three most blood-blooded nobiles—that is, a restoration coinage referring back to the suppression of the Gracchi (as the popular Marian party had just been suppressed) and to the dominant era of the Metelli. The other coins (33) defiantly declare independence of Sulla and the self-based power of the Metellan clan; for the badge stresses



their claim to the Numidian victory (which Sulla also claimed) and showed their justification for striking in the legend emperor.

A methodical blood-letting removed many of the dynasts of the inner ring by execution, and their clientelae went with them. Sulla freed their slaves, to the number of 10,000, and scattered them judiciously through the electorate. Their property he used to establish his veterans, who thus had perforce to stand by him in his political career—as had the Italians whose registration in all 35 tribes (a disputed point) Sulla had contracted to leave valid. The numbers of the inner ring had been tremendously depleted; the charmed circle had suffered no less heavily—200 Senators in all had perished in the various wars since 90 B.C. Sulla doubled the number of the Senate, filling the 500 vacancies with his own creatures. There were increases in the numbers of magistracies—the Prætors to 8, the Quæstors to 20—and encroachments on their powers. The old regime was reduced piecemeal to ruins. It was the most gigantic and thoroughgoing establishment of a faction to date. Sulla concluded, logically enough, by having an autocracy “legally” voted to him.

Unfortunately there were snags. The Metelli, as his supporters, had kept their power—or, rather, increased it. His own career had shown that the best bargaining weapon in contemporary politics was a devoted army, and both Metellus Pius and Pompey proved singularly difficult to detach from theirs. Initially, constant deference to the Metelli and the enforcement upon Pompey of a dynastic marriage into their family lulled their suspicions. When they saw that Sulla was aiming at something other than a consolidation of their joint faction they were still at first prevented from reprisal by skilful manœuvring which sent both Metellus Pius’s and Pompey’s armies to Spain and involved them in a quarrel over seniority of command in their campaign against a diehard Marian general. But there could be no compromise between an intending autocrat and the supporters of the old-established system of a free state dominated by Senatorial coteries. Old hands at the political rough-and-tumble, the Metelli set to and engineered Sulla’s downfall. Various of his political assassins were tried in the courts, and general moral condemnation was thereby brought upon his dictatorship. Pompey was reconciled and contracted another dynastic marriage with the Metelli; his soldiers, present at the elections, outnumbered and overawed Sulla’s freedmen, as his colonists were absent, tied to their holdings. Lepidus, a Sullan creature, faced with the prospect of trial with sure condemnation with the younger Metelli prosecuting, or their support for a consulship to be used in their interest, naturally chose the latter. Sulla was gracefully eased from the political scene in 79 B.C., and the Metelli remained the dominant house of a politically supreme inner ring.

Their palmy days were, however, gone, and the hour of the opportunist careerist was struck. The military dynasts of

the concluding years of the Republic have become agents too great to be the pawns of the diplomacy of coterie. The great command and the private army, now the goals of political life, removed much of the finesse from intrigue. Once a politician gained the first, the second speedily followed and was always maintained subsequently, though commands might change: the tremendous clientele thus acquired gave its wielder irresistible influence. For 15 years after Sulla's departure from it the Metelli dominated the political scene, but Pompey (34), their creature, moved from strength to strength—in 70 B.C. abolishing the Sullan constitution, in alliance with Equestrian interests. Widespread *clientelae* throughout the empire Pompey held; but the remaining *nobiles* worked against him in Rome, necessitating occasional dynastic realliances into the Metelli, who were rewarded for their factional pull by the aid of Pompey's resources to maintain their supremacy. On his return from his great command in the East in 62 B.C. Pompey was maladroit enough to disband his army on landing in Italy; his primacy was proving too onerous for the Metelli and their alliance was broken. Joining with the right wing of the inner circle, the Metelli harried Pompey, but were not impolitic enough to bring matters to an impasse. Three years later he was supporting the candidature of a Metellus for his Consulship. Against the ominous rising of a new star on the political horizon, Cæsar, of Marian connections and a careerist of autocratic bent, the Metelli effected a dynastic marriage into the family of Crassus—who had the Equites in his pocket—and adopted a Scipio, thus uniting the *clientelae* of their two families, of ancient lineage but few contemporary survivors. Sulla's backers could expect little from Marius's relative, Cæsar, and the last years of the Republic see them working the sadly altered machine to bring about his destruction. This meant the entrusting of even greater powers to their military dynast, Pompey, so that, however the conflict was resolved, progress to autocracy was virtually effected.

Striking for Pompey at his base in Africa, Metellus Scipio, his father-in-law, reveals the family's position clearly by his issues. His relationship to Pompey is that of a subordinate—alas for the old high position of the Metelli!—for only one issue refers to the Metellan blazon, all the others referring to Pompey. Moreover, Metellus Scipio is merely a member of a college of three moneyers. But he is the dominant member, being the only one to strike alone and having both other moneyers striking coins conjointly with him, though neither strikes as many. (35)

Such was the political life of the Roman republic; saturated with various close relations of loyalty and political friendships involving or involved by pecuniary obligations. In it the most powerful politician was the man who could, through friends and clients, mobilise the most electors. The old noble houses handed down an inheritance of power, and the old Roman morality was overpassed by Hellenistic ways of thought in a

situation where the unfettered drive for power set ever higher aims for the political leader. The needs of empire created administrative machinery and executive tools with power greater than the restraining influence of the home government, and these were adapted to their ambitions by political careerists in a race for supremacy where the stakes grew so vast that eventually the only conclusion possible was autocracy.

## NOTES

- (12) Sydenham, *The Roman Republican Coinage*, 1952.
- (13) The analysis of early factional intrigue is based upon Scullard, *Roman Politics 220—150 B.C.*, 1951.
- (14) Sydenham, *op. cit.* [coins Nos. 171-2 (monogram M), 183-4 (M, M)], p. 20, footnote to No. 183.
- (15) Broughton, *The Magistrates of the Roman Republic*, 1951, Vol. 1, pp. 404. Fulvius Flaccus and Postumius Albinus, p. 409. Sicinius and the Grasshoppers; the levy p. 411.
- (16) For the consulships see Broughton, cited above, under the years concerned. For the identification of the elephant type as the blazon of the Metelli see Sydenham, *op. cit.*, p. 61, note to coin No. 496, and Syme, *R. R.*, p. 20. All elephants on Roman coins and medals are African, incidentally—see Jennison, *Animals for Show and Pleasure in Ancient Rome*, 1937, app. v, p. 197. The coins concerned are, in Sydenham's series, Nos. 480, 485, 486, 496, 497, 719, 750, 1046, 1051. Other issues of this family are Nos. 317-9, 374, 481-2, 509-510, 539, 611, 751, 1047-1050 in Sydenham.
- (17) For the innovations see Syd. introd. p. xxviii; for the coins see p. 35. For the historical details see Broughton, *op. cit.* under the relevant years.
- (18) I have ventured to question Sydenham's datings for various coins because of the objections to his system suggested by Mattingly in Sydenham, appendix H, p. 222, and also by Broughton, *op. cit.*, vol. 1, p. 578, note 5. Milne, *The Problem of the Early Roman Coinage JRS 36*, 1946, p. 100, dates the XVI denarii to c. 120, a fact which also suggests some changes of Sydenham's dating. Also various historical allusions seem better identified as here suggested.
- (19) I am aware that this is a very unequivocal interpretation of a much-researched and variously interpreted historical personality. Yet it is a legitimate and not unprecedented analysis—Last, *CAH*, ix, p. 22, hints at a faction, as does Syme, *R. R.*, p. 12; see also Last, *JRS 37*, 1947, p. 154—and for its controversial statement I can only refer the reader to Syme's preface. Anyway, it has never seemed to me that the granting of a monopoly in tax-farming to a group which was simultaneously given retrospective judicial control of governors, coupled with judicial irresponsibility, was the mark of a disinterested politician, let alone a patriotic statesman. Moreover, the period 133—122 B.C. shows the Sempronii holding more offices than at any other time in the second century—c.f. Broughton, vol. 1, for the list of their magistracies in these years and this century.
- (20) For the interpretation of the factional history of this period the reconstructions of Bloc and Carcopino (*La République Romaine*, parts, 1929, ch. 10 Esp. p. 268) and Bloc (*op. cit.* pp. 1 ff.) are followed.
- (21) For the coins in question see note 15. Sydenham, p. 57, in a note to coin No. 481, finds difficulty in explaining the unusual denomination (a dodrans). Head (*Historia Numorum*, 1911, p. 5) mentions divisions of the As struck in bronze for Spain; the ban on striking in Hispania Citerior after 133 B.C. must have

caused shortages, and Metellus may very well have coined for local use in his settlement of the Balearic Islands, which are otherwise very badly catered for.

- (22) For the elephant as the royal Numidian type of Jugurtha see Head (*op. cit.* pp. 884-5); for the claim of Metellus to the victory, see Plutarch (*Life of Marius* ch. 10, fin.) where Sulla also can be discovered as another claimant. References by Sulla's partisans to the victory as his can be seen in Syd. No. 879 rev. For the dating, see note 16a.
- In his paper to the British Academy, quoted above, Dr. Mattingly cites S. No. 509 as a "slow parade movement", and says that it is "comparatively rare" and that it suggests the *pompa circensis*. May it not represent the stately movement of a triumphal chariot—e.g., Metellus' in 106 B.C. for his African victory?
- (23) For the significance of the Narbo venture, see Bloc and Carcopino *op. cit.* p. 278-280; Bloc *op. cit.* p. 45-6. For the intervention in the Balearic Islands see Last in C.A.H. ix, pp. 152-153.
- (24) On Marius' political career see Passerini, Gaio Mario come uomo politico, *Athenæum*, 12, 1934, 10 f.
- (25) Sydenham No. 539, p. 69, where there is a discussion.
- (26) For this view of Von Fritz, Sallust and the attitude of the Roman nobility at the time of the wars against Jugurtha TAPA, 74, 1943, 135 ff.
- (27) See Broughton, *op. cit.*, vols. I and II, for the years 105—99 B.C.
- (28) P. Rutilius Lupus, Marius' kinsman, consul in 90, displayed considerable hostility towards Marius, who was serving him in an advisory capacity. Two of the Iulii Cæsares, Gaius and Lucius, were victims of the Marian massacre of 87 B.C., presumably for disciplinary purposes. (*App.*, B.C., 1, 72.)
- (29) See Broughton's lists of magistrates for these years.
- (30) Sydenham No. 611; as with No. 539, Metellus is the junior member of a group of three monetales, striking no coins independently, though his colleagues do.
- (31) This analysis is based largely on Syme, R. R., and, more particularly, on Carcopino, *Sulla ou la Monarchie Manquee*, 1931.
- (32) Plutarch, *Life of Sulla*, ch. 6, par. 10.
- (33) Sydenham, Nos. 719, 750 and 751. Mommsen's dating of No. 719 to Sulla's return and his interpretation of it as a restoration issue is clearly correct on this analysis of the factional background of the situation. It is quite impossible that Metellus Pius should have allied with Cinn, as Sydenham suggests, and a group of aristocrats such as Fabius Maximus, Caecilius Metellus and Servilius goes very ill with a "democratic outburst". Anyway, the coin to which Sydenham refers as connected with Gaius Gracchus (No. 480) is a defiantly aristocratic issue, parading the claims to fame of a nobilis family and quite possibly several years after Gracchus's demise.
- (34) For the interpretations of Pompey's and Cæsar's careers given here see Syme, R. R., chaps. 3 and 4 respectively. Also see Carcopino, *Sulla ou la Monarchie Manquee*, cited above, for Pompey's early years.
- (35) Sydenham, Nos. 1046-1051. For an analysis of the life and character of Metellus Scipio of Collins, Cæsar, and the corruption of power, *Historia*, Band iv, 1955, Heft, W., p. 475, note 64.

## Numismatic Interest in Reign of Edward VIII

*By* JULIAN BROOK, Auckland.

The reign of Edward the Eighth was short and eventful. He ruled for only 325 days, and his abdication, in order to marry Mrs. Simpson, came as a disappointment to British people. On June 23rd, 1910—his 16th birthday—he was created Prince of Wales at Carnarvon. During his father's reign he made many tours to various parts of the Empire. Everywhere he was acclaimed by his admiring future subjects, and it was obvious that he would be a very well-loved ruler when he ascended the throne.

His father died on January 20th, 1936. People throughout the Empire looked forward to a long, happy period with Edward VIII as King, but this was not to be. Edward had for some time been a good friend of Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson, a twice-divorced American. Late in 1936 he announced that it was his intention to marry. Many Britons welcomed such a romantic match, but many others objected, and, indeed, such a marriage would have been against all Royal and Church of England "rules". For a divorcee is not accepted, save in unusual cases, by the Church for a second—or, in Mrs. Simpson's case, third—marriage. The fact that she was a commoner did not help. Edward promptly announced his desire to relinquish the throne, and his abdication speech rang around the world by radio. Edward and his wife retired to America as the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

Into this gaping breach stepped George, Edward's brother, almost completely unprepared. However, he carried out his arduous tasks, and his lovely daughter, our present gracious Queen Elizabeth, followed in his able footsteps.

Only seven common coins exist to remind us of Edward's short reign. No coins bearing his portrait and name were generally circulated in Britain, for it is the custom for a monarch's first issue of coins to be released shortly before his or her Coronation.

However, although all denominations officially circulated with the date 1936 bore the name and portrait of George V, they can fairly be said to belong to Edward's reign, and he did in fact personally issue the Maundy money, although these, too, bore his father's portrait. Peter Seaby's informative book, "The History of the English Coinage", relates that there are a few 12-sided nickel-brass 3d pieces in existence, but they are extremely rare. Edward requested that his profile face to the left, breaking the accepted tradition that a new sovereign's head shall face in the opposite direction to that of his or her predecessor. The reverse bears a clump of thrift, somewhat like that on a 12-sided 3d of George VI. Seaby does not say

in what way it differs, and this leaves room for interesting speculation.

The tradition that each ruler's head faces opposite that of his predecessor began, it is said, when Charles II refused to face in the same way as had Cromwell, the man who had executed his father, Charles I. Edward VIII insisted that his head should be shown facing the left, in the same direction that his father's had. Allan Sutherland states, in Volume VI of his "New Zealand Coinage", that Edward's preference was due to the fact that he parted his hair on the left side, and the left profile presented a more characteristic portrait.

Reports state that when Sir Robert Johnson informed Edward that he would break a tradition, His Majesty replied: "Why shouldn't I?" The breaking of the tradition was a long process. Ultimately, however, dies showing the left profile were prepared and sent to parts of the Empire where mints existed, to be used for striking the new coins. After the abdication, cables were sent to branches of the Royal Mint overseas instructing that the dies showing the portrait to left should be destroyed by pressing them oval (thus preventing coins being struck from them. It is a great pity that no coins with Edward's portrait were issued, for this discrepancy in the head's direction would have created great interest for numismatists.

Howard Linecar says, in his book entitled "Coins", that very few proofs were struck, and one set is included in the Royal Collection at Windsor. He does not say which denominations were included in these sets, but I assume all were represented. He also suggests that the few extant 12-sided 3d's were issued in advance and loaned to the makers of automatic ticket machines to test the coin's usefulness for this purpose and to allow the machines to be adjusted to take the coin. He confirms that their reverse design is similar to that eventually adopted in 1937, but says it was a more pleasing design than the accepted one.

In addition to these very rare 3d pieces, several medals were found which relate to Edward VIII, and prominent among these was that prepared by Mr. T. H. Paget for the Honourable Company of Master Mariners' medal, the design of the obverse being similar to that adopted for the proofs and 3d's, and, indeed, I consider it a fine portrait. It, too, has the head facing left. There was also a large number of commemorative medals struck to celebrate the proposed Coronation on May 12th, 1937. Unfortunately this did not take place, and George VI was crowned on that day. Nevertheless, the medals make an interesting relic in much the same way that the N.Z. 1949 crown commemorates the "cancelled Royal Visit". Plastic plaques were also made with Edward's abdication speech on them. There seems also to have been a very limited issue of a crown-sized medal, dated 1936, bearing Edward's profile on the obverse and a grotesquely stunted Kiwi on the reverse. The medal, to quote from the catalogue which offered one for sale, was issued "by friends of the Duke".

The Empire currency for the reign provides a very interesting group, and consisted of: 1d for Fiji, 1d for New Guinea, 10c and 5c for East Africa, and 1d,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and  $\frac{1}{10}$ d for British West Africa. The Fiji coin is Cu/Ni, holed, and with Fiji, value and date on the reverse. The New Guinea coin is Cu and holed. Obverse bears a crown above and ornaments around the hole, with motto E.RI. Reverse has native ornaments and motto "Territory of New Guinea—One Penny—1936". The East Africa coins both have on the obverse a crown and ornaments, with motto "Edwardus VIII, Rex et Ind. Imp." and the value. The reverse features elephant tusks, and the letters 10 and 5 respectively. Both are Cu and both are holed. The British West Africa denominations are all in Nickel, and all are holed. Each has on the obverse a crown, ornaments, value and some Arabic script. The reverse shows two interlocking triangles with British West Africa and date.

All of these coins are relatively cheap if you purchase the commonest varieties of each, but some mint varieties of the East and West Africa coins are quite scarce. They were minted as follows:—London: E.A. 10c; W.A. 1d (scarce),  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and  $\frac{1}{10}$ . Birmingham (H): 10c, 5c, 1d,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d (scarce), and  $\frac{1}{10}$  (very scarce). King's Norton Metal Co.: (KN) 10c, 5c, 1d,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d,  $\frac{1}{10}$  (very scarce).

These colonial coins afford a rare collecting chance, for there have surely seldom been three British monarchs on the throne in any one year. Well worth mentioning is a minting mistake: a penny-sized coin bearing the obverse design for East Africa, with date and value, but with the reverse of a West African coin. It was dated 1936, and is rare, for surely this must be almost unprecedented in modern coinage! A very interesting sidelight on Edward's West African coinage is that at that time washers for roofing nails cost one penny for 8, so the natives used the  $\frac{1}{10}$  coins as washers, thus spending and saving at the same time.

Unfortunately for N.Z. numismatists, we missed having coins for Edward, for the dies had been prepared for N.Z., and all was ready. The R.N.Z.N.S. did not know of the orders to destroy the dies, and requested the then Prime Minister to issue the coins, even if only for specimen sets, but the request was refused. It seems a great pity to have a gap in the portrait series. The N.Z. Government could have issued the coins on its own initiative, and no doubt would have made a substantial profit on the sale of them. So, as a result of this and similar action throughout the empire, no coins with portraits of Edward VIII were generally issued, and the only evidence of a gap in the portrait series is that George VI's head also faces left, according to custom.

Far from there being no numismatic interest in the reign of Edward VIII, it provides us with many interesting facts about coins and medals, and no doubt there are many more that I failed to discover.

## ROLL OF MEMBERS

The following amendments and additions to September 3, 1957, are notified to the roll published on page 125, *Journal* No. 24:

## COMPOSITE LIFE SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS

- Add* Bell, R. G., 50 Murray Place, Christchurch.  
 Hickey, Mrs. J., 41 Tom Parker Ave., Napier.  
 O'Day, Major Russell M. H., H.Q. Alaskan Air Command,  
 A.P.O. 948, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.
- Amend* Hornblow, M. H., 63 Donald St., Karori, Wellington.  
 Wilson, A. R., 66B Pembroke St., Hamilton.

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS

- Add* Keen, W.O. II J. H., R.N.Z.A., 389 King Edward St.,  
 Dunedin.  
 Manderson, Mrs. J., Hamua, R.D., Pahiatua.  
 Riddick, P. J., 55 Totara St., Georgetown, Invercargill.  
 Wallace, Lt.-Col. T. C., Craigie Varr, Bruntwood, Cambridge.  
 Anschutz, Miss J., c/o "Scotlands", Mangorei Road, New  
 Plymouth.  
 Allen, Mr. S. T., 232 Kopa Road, Mission Bay, Auckland.  
 Everson, Mr. D., 481 Richmond Avenue, Grey Lynn, Auck-  
 land.  
 Impelen, Mr. F. F. van, 18 Walters Road, Mt. Wellington,  
 Auckland.  
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## Virgil and the Coins

By DR. H. MATTINGLY

The task of illustrating the poems of Virgil with the full resources of art and archæology would be a fascinating but a long and difficult one. We should have to invoke the aid, not of coins only, but of gems, vases, sculpture, paintings, mosaics, pictures in ancient manuscripts, and the rest. What is offered here is a very modest sample of what can be done with the help of coins. As an attempt to build up a general picture out of evidence of several kinds it may encourage some readers to continue the practice for themselves.

### The Fourth Eclogue

Virgil sings of the return of the Golden Age in the consulship of Pollio (40 B.C.). It will be born with a wonder child and grow to maturity with him.

The child of prophecy is a real child, as the references to his father and mother prove:

The jarring nations he in peace shall bind,  
And with paternal virtues rule mankind.  
Begin, auspicious boy, to cast about  
Thy infant eyes, and with a smile, thy mother single  
out;  
Thy mother well deserves that short delight,  
The nauseous qualms of ten long months and travel to  
requite.

There is no real doubt who it was originally intended to be. It was to be the son, born to Antony and Octavia, sister of Octavian, whose marriage sealed the peace of Brundisium and the new hopes of peace. Later, when this son turned out to be a daughter, when the exact circumstances of the poem were forgotten, the prophecy was free to be applied elsewhere—to a son of Pollio (Saloninus or Asinius Gallus), or to a son of Octavian and Scribonia (again it turned out to be a girl). Friends of Antony might apply the poem to his son by Cleopatra, Alexander Helios. When Augustus actually had sons by adoption, Gaius and Lucius Cæsar, born to Agrippa and Julia, this poem must have been applied to them, particularly as Augustus celebrated his new Golden Age while they were

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(1) This paper is based on a lecture given in early September, 1954, at Christchurch to the Classical and Numismatic Societies and repeated in October before the Classical Society in Dunedin. On the second occasion Professor Manton powerfully contributed with readings from Virgil. The translations of Virgil are from Dryden's work published in 1697 and supplied by Professor H. A. Murray, Wellington.

(2) Under each heading the comment will be given first, the coins will be quoted at the end. The necessary coin detail will be appended to the plates.

babies—17 B.C. (Pl. I, 1). The Christian Church saw the wonder child in the Messiah.

The theme of the Golden Age haunted the Empire along its whole course. Its forms are many—Iustitia Sæculi (Astræa) seated on a chair with horns of plenty as arms (Pl. I, 2), the Genius of the Golden Age stepping through the Circle of the years (Pl. I, 3), Julia Domna and her little sons, Caracalla and Geta, as symbols of "Felicitas Sæculi" (Pl. I, 4). When Constantius and Constans celebrated the 1100th year of Rome in A.D. 348 they struck a series of bronze coins with the recurrent legend *Fel Temp Reparatio* ("Happy Return of the Times") (Pl. I, 5). That at once suggests Virgil's

. . . And mighty years, begun  
From their first orb, in radiant circles run.

Three of the reverse types seem to be inspired by Virgil. For the warrior spearing fallen horseman (Pl. I, 6) we may quote:

Another Helen other wars create  
And great Achilles urge the Trojan fate.

For the Emperor steered in a boat by Victory (Pl. I, 7):

Another Tiphys shall new seas explore,  
Another Argo land the chiefs upon th' Iberian shore.

A third reverse, a small figure being led away from a cabin hung with flowers, by a larger figure helmeted, is less clear (Pl. I, 5). Does it show the boy being led from his cradle to the harder tasks of riper years?

His cradle shall with rising flowers be crown'd.  
But when heroic verse his youth shall raise,  
And form it to hereditary praise. . . .

The distinctive reverse of the bronze of Gratian, A.D. 368, Gratian standing left as *Gloria Novi Saeculi*, is almost an exact rendering of Virgil's "Decus hoc æui". The glory of the age (v. 11) (Pl. I, 8).

### The Georgics

An almost perfect picture of the Italy beloved by Virgil is given on the band of the "Ara Pacis", which shows Mother Earth with her children, her sheep and kine between the healthful waters and the breezes of Jupiter (cf. Horace, *Carmen Sæculare*, vv. 29 ff.). The other famous panel that shows the procession of the great ones of Rome points forward from the *Georgics* to the *Aeneid*. The coins show us the features of Parthenope, the nymph of Naples, when Virgil was writing (Pl. I, 10):

While I at Naples pass my peaceful days,  
Affecting studies of less noisy praise;  
And, bold thro' youth, beneath the beechen shade,  
The lays of shepherds, and their loves, have play'd.

The first Georgic opens with an invocation of divine promise—Apollo and Diana, Liber and Ceres, Neptune, Pan, Minerva, Silvanus, and, finally, of “Cæsar” (here certainly not Julius, but his son), not yet in heaven but destined one day to be. Virgil guesses what his place in heaven may be and then goes on, most surprisingly, to express the hope that he will not choose rather to reign in hell:

Whatever part of heav'n thou shall obtain  
 For let not hell presume of such a reign;  
 Nor let so dire a thirst of empire move  
 Thy mind to leave thy kindred gods above—  
 Tho' Greece admires Elysium's blest retreat;  
 Tho' Proserpine affects her silent seat,  
 And, importun'd by Ceres to remove,  
 Prefers the fields below to those above.

A coin of Divus Augustus Pater, struck by Tiberius, gives the answer (Pl. I, 9). Augustus wears the radiate crown of Apollo-Sol, has a star above his head and a thunderbolt in front of it. The combination of attributes of Apollo and Jupiter at once suggests the mysterious god Veiovis, of whom there was a special cult of the “gens Iulia” at Bovillae. His worship suggested a model for the cult of Divus Augustus. Lucan, in his *Pharsalia* VII, vv. 457 ff., is thinking of the same cult:

But civil broils will make their deities  
 Match'd with the gods above, and will adorn  
 Men's ghosts with thunderbolts and crowns of fire  
 And stars; and in the temples of the gods  
 Rome will swear solemn oaths by mere men's shades

To begin with, the coins will furnish us with types of the chief divine actors in this drama: Jupiter: Father of gods and men; the impartial mouthpiece of fate. Saturnian Juno, relentless enemy of Æneas, pursuing her revenge for some *numen laesum*. Venus, divine mother of Æneas, eternally answering Juno's guile with guile and, by her, the mischievous lad Cupid, who plants the dart of love in Dido's heart. Mercury, the messenger of Jupiter, who bids Æneas leave Carthage. Neptune, who stills the storm in Book I. Minerva, whose estranged affections doomed Troy. Apollo, ever kindly to Æneas and to Troy, directing him by prophecy. Diana, goddess of hunt and goddess of war, sovereign lady of Volscian Camilla. The description of Camilla in Book VII, vv. 803 ff., would well befit the goddess herself:

*Hos super aduenit Volsca de gente Camilla,  
 agmen agens equitum et florentis aere cateruas,  
 bellatrix, non illa colo calathisue Mineruae  
 femineas adsueta manus, sed proelia uirgo  
 dura pati, cursuque pedum praeuertere uentos.*

Last from the Volscians' fair Camilla came,  
 And led her warlike troops, a warrior dame;  
 Unbred to spinning, in the loom unskill'd,  
 She chose the nobler Pallas of the field.

Mix'd with the first, the fierce virago fought,  
Sustain'd the toils of arms, the danger sought,  
Outstripp'd the winds in speed upon the plain.

The Roman Diana is also "Lady of War" (Bellona). It is a warning to us not to make the identification of Greek and Roman deities too complete.

Of the human characters, the coins give us a moving likeness of "forma pulcherrima Dido", and, perhaps, a portrait of Æneas; the head on the Roman didrachm with ROMA, usually called "Young Mars", is more probably that of a hero, and, if so, of Æneas himself.

(a) ÆNEID I, II, III. Carthaginian coins certainly show us the foundation of Carthage:

*Quo primum iactati undis et turbine Poeni  
effodere loco sigmum, quod regia Iuno  
monstrarat, caput acris equi: sic nam fore bello  
egregiam et facilem uictu per saecula gentem.*  
(I. Vv. 442 ff.)

The Tyrians, landing near this holy ground,  
And digging here, a prosp'rous omen found:  
From under earth a courser's head they drew,  
Their growth and future fortune to foreshew,  
This fated sign their foundress Iuno gave.

The same type of the horse's head, copied by the Roman Mintmaster, represents the October horse sacrificed yearly to Mars. But Timaeus, the Greek historian of the fourth to third century, thought that that sacrifice was made by the Romans in resentment of the trick of the wooden horse that captured Troy:

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1. Denarius of Augustus, C. 13 B.C. Julia, Caius and Lucius Cæsar.
  2. Denarius of Trajan, 98 A.D. Justitia (Astræa).
  3. Aureus of Hadrian, 121 A.D. "Saeculum Aureum."
  4. Aureus of Septimius Severus, C. 162 A.D. Julia, Domna, Caracalla and Geta as "Felicitas Saeculi".
  5. Bronze of Constans, C. 348 A.D. "Fel. Temp. Reparatio": Mars and child.
  6. Bronze of Constantius II, C. 348 A.D. "Fel. Temp. Reparatio": "Achilles".
  7. Bronze of Constans, C. 348 A.D. "Fel. Temp. Reparatio": "Emperor and Galley" ("Argo").
  8. Bronze of Gratian, C. 368 A.D. "Gloria Noui Saeculi" ("Decus hoc aevi").
  9. Bronze of Tiberius, 14—15 A.D. Diuus Augustus as Veivovis.
  10. Didrachm of Naples, C. 300 B.C. Porthenope.
  11. Semis, C. 160 B.C. Saturn.
  12. Triens, C. 160 B.C. Minerva.
  13. Didrachm, 269 B.C. Apollo.
  14. Didrachm, 269 B.C. Diana.
  15. Aureus of Sulla, C. 87 B.C. Venus and Cupid.
  16. Aureus of Augustus, 17 B.C. Iulus with the "apex" of flame.



PLATE I

*Fracti bello fatisque repulsi  
ductores Danaum, tot iam labentibus annis,  
instar montis equum diuina Palladis arte  
aedificant, sectaque intexunt abiete costas.*  
(II. vv. 13 ff.)

By destiny compell'd, and in despair,  
The Greeks grew weary of the tedious war,  
And by Minerva's aid a fabric rear'd  
Which like a steed of monstrous height appear'd:  
The sides were planked with pine.

When old Anchises was refusing to accompany Æneas in flight from burning Troy, a sudden portent—the peak of flame above the head of little Iulus—overcame his reluctance:

*Talia uociferans gemitu tactum omne replebat,  
cum subitum dictuque oritur mirabile monstrum.  
namque manus inter maestorumque ora parentum  
ecce leuis summa de uertice uisus Iuli  
fundere lumen apex, tactuque innoxia mollis  
lambere flamma comas, et circum tempora pasci.*  
(II, vv. 679 ff.)

While thus she fills the house with clam'rous cries,  
Our hearing is diverted by our eyes:  
For, while I held my son, in the short space  
Betwixt our kisses and our last embrace;  
Strange to relate, from young Iulus' head  
A lambent flame arose which gently spread  
Around his brows and on his temples fed.

This "apex" of fire is showing above the head of Iulus on a coin of Augustus of 17 B.C., the year of the secular Games. It would naturally tend to be confused with the

- 
1. Denarius of Julius Cæsar, C. 48 B.C. Venus, Æneas and Anchises.
  2. Aureus of Antoninus Pius, C. 143 A.D. Æneas, Anchises and Ascanius.
  3. Denarius, C. 102 B.C. "Dei Publici Penates".
  4. Silver of Carthage, C. 210 B.C. Tanit (Juno): Horse's head.
  5. Tetradrachm of Carthage, C. 300 B.C. Dido.
  6. Didrachm, C. 235 B.C. Hero: Horse's head.
  7. Denarius, C. 64 B.C. Sibylla: Tripod of Apollo.
  8. Aureus of Hadrian, C. 135 A.D. Romulus "Conditor".
  9. Aureus of M. Brutus, 42 B.C. Brutus the First Consul.
  10. Denarius of M. Brutus, C. 55 B.C. The Sons of Brutus, the First Consul, led to execution.
  11. The same as No. 10, restored by Trajan, 107 A.D.
  12. Denarius of Julius Cæsar, 44 B.C. Julius Cæsar: Venus Victrix.
  13. Aureus of Sextus Pompey, C. 38 B.C. Sextus Pompey: Cn. Pompey, Senior and Junior.
  14. Denarius of Marcellinus, C. 40 B.C. The "spolia opima".
  15. Aureus of Nero, C. 65 A.D. Temple of Janus closed.
  16. Denarius of Mark Antony, C. 40 B.C. Octavia.
  17. Denarius of Mark Antony, C. 33 B.C. Cleopatra.



PLATE II.

“sidus Iulium”, the comet taken by popular belief to be the soul of the deified Julius Cæsar.

Then follows the departure from Troy:  
 Thus, ord'ring all that prudence could provide,  
 I clothe my shoulders with a lion's hide  
 And yellow spoils; then, on my bending back  
 The welcome load of my dear father take;  
 While on my better hand Ascanius hung,  
 And with unequal paces tripp'd along.

This popular theme, a symbol of “Pietas” in action, may be illustrated by coins of Julius Cæsar and Antoninus Pius, the former with the latter without Iulus.

In Book III vv. 147 ff. the Penates appear in a dream to Æneas to warn him not to linger in Crete:

'Twas night, when ev'ry creature, void of cares,  
 The common gift of slumber shares: quiet  
 The statues of my gods (for such they seem'd),  
 These gods, whom I from flaming Troy redeem'd,  
 Before me stood, majestically bright  
 Full in the beams of Phœbe's entr'ing light.

Sometimes, it would seem, the Penates were something that Anchises carried with him in a casket. Here they are clearly personal, as in the denarius of C. Sulpicius.

#### (b) AENEID VI.

The denarius of L. Torquatus depicts for us the Sibyl, the chief character, one may almost say, of the Sixth Book. But the Sibyl is still young and beautiful, as when she won Apollo's love, not the “longæua sacerdos” v. 628 of Virgil, burdened with the length of years, but not of youth, that Apollo had given her.

Æneas safely arrived at last in the Elysian fields, receives from Anchises the story of Roman greatness to come:

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1. Sestertius of Domitian, 84 A.D. Emperor granting mercy.
  2. Denarius of Trajan, C. 104 A.D. Pax merciful to Dacian.
  3. Denarius of Trajan, C. 104 A.D. Pax trampling on Dacian.
  4. Sestertius of Domitian, 84 A.D. Emperor trampling on Dacian.
  5. Didrachm of Pyrrhus, C. 275 B.C. Achilles: Thetis bearing the shield.
  6. Didrachm, 269 B.C. She-wolf and twins.
  7. Denarius, C. 125 B.C. Faustulus, She-wolf and twins.
  8. Denarius, C. 88 B.C. Rape of the Sabines.
  9. Gold, C. 217 B.C. “Coniuratio” scene.
  10. Denarius of Augustus, C. 17 B.C. The “Sidus Iulium”.
  11. Aureus of Augustus, 27 B.C. Conquest of Egypt.
  12. Aureus of Augustus, 13 B.C. Agrippa wearing naval and mural crowns.
  13. Denarius, C. 100 B.C. Diana: the Dictator Aulus and the Dioscuri.
  14. Denarius, C. 100 B.C. The Dioscuri at the fount of Juturna.
  15. Denarius, C. 58 B.C. Honos and Virtus: Rome and Italy.





PLATE III

“Survey,” pursued the sire, “this airy throng,  
As, offer’d to thy view they pass along,  
These are th’ Italian names, which fate will join  
With ours, and graft upon the Trojan line.

The passage awakens many memories. We think at once of Virgil’s own Eighth Book and the scenes on the shield of Æneas. We think of the great men of early Rome as they appear on the stage of Livy’s history. There is one long series of very rare coins that echoes to the same note. It is the series of Republican denarii, “restored” by Trajan in A.D. 107, on the occasion of the melting-down of old coinage still in existence. Out of this wide range of Republican denarii types are chosen to illustrate from various angles the glories of the Roman story.

Out of Anchises’ pageant of history we may select a figure here and there for illustration. Thus, Romulus:

*Quin et auo comitem sese Mauortius addet  
Romulus, Assaraci quem sanguinis Ilia mater  
educet. uiden’ us geminae stant uertice cristae  
et pater ipse suo superum iam signat honore?  
en huius, nate, auspiciis illa incluta Roma  
imperium terris animos aequabit Olympo,  
septemque una sibi muro circumdabit arces,  
felix prole uirum.*

See Romulus the great, born to restore  
The crown that once his injured grandsire wore.  
This prince a priestess of your blood shall bear,  
And, like his sire, in arms he shall appear.  
Two rising crests his royal head adorn:  
Born from a god, himself to godhead born:  
His sire already signs him for the skies,  
And marks the seat amid the deities.  
Auspicious chief! Thy race, in times to come,  
Shall spread the conquests of imperial Rome—  
Rome, whose ascending tow’rs shall heav’n invade  
Involving earth and ocean in her shade;  
High as the Mother of the Gods in place,  
And proud, like her, of an immortal race.

Or Augustus:

*Hic uir, hic est, tibi quem promitti saepius audis,  
Augustus Caesar, Diui genus, aurea condet  
saeculo qui rursus Latio, regnata per arua  
Saturno quondam; super et Garamantes et Indos  
proferet imperium; iacet extra sidera tellus,  
extra anni solisque uias, ubi caelifer Atlas  
axem umero torquet stellis ardentibus aptum.*

(Vv. 791 ff.)

But next behold the youth of form divine,  
Caesar himself, exalted in his line;  
Augustus, promis’d oft, and long foretold,  
Sent to the realm that Saturn rul’d of old:

Born to restore a better age of gold.  
 Afric and India shall his pow'r obey;  
 He shall extend his propagated sway  
 Beyond the solar year, without the starry way,  
 Where Atlas turns the rolling heav'ns around,  
 And his broad shoulders with their lights are crown'd.

Or Julius Cæsar and Pompey:

*Illae autem, paribus quas fulgere cernis in annis,  
 concordēs animae nunc, et dum nocte premuntur,  
 heu quantum inter se bellum, si lumina uitae  
 attigerint, quantas acies stragemque ciebunt,  
 aggeribus socer Alpinis atque arce Monoeci  
 descendens, gener aduersis instructus Eois!  
 ne, pueri, ne tanta animis adsuescite bella,  
 neu patriae ualidas in uiscera uertite uires  
 tuque prior, tu parce, genus qui ducis Olympo;  
 proice tela manu, sanguis meus!"*

(Vv. 826 ff.)

The pair you see in equal armour shine,  
 Now, friends below, in close embraces join;  
 But, when they leave the shady realms of night,  
 And, cloth'd in bodies, breathe your upper light,  
 With mortal hate each other shall pursue;  
 What wars, what wounds, what slaughter shall ensue!  
 From Alpine heights the rather first descends;  
 His daughter's husband in the plain attends:  
 His daughter's husband arms his eastern friends.  
 Embrace again, my sons, be foes no more;  
 Nor stain your country with her children's gore!  
 And thou, the first lay down thy lawless claim,  
 Thou of my blood, who bear'st the Iulian name!

Or Brutus, the first consul:

*Vis et Tarquinius reges animamque superbam  
 ultoris Bruti fascesque uidere receptos?  
 consulis imperium hic primus saeuasque secures  
 accipiet natosque pater, noua bella mouentes  
 ad poenam pulchra pro libertate uocabit,  
 infelix! utcumque ferent ea facta minores,  
 uincet amor patriae laudumque immensa cupido.*

(Vv. 817 ff.)

Next view the Tarquin kings, th' avenging sword  
 Of Brutus, justly drawn, and Rome restor'd.  
 He first renews the rods and ax severe,  
 And gives the consuls royal robes to wear.  
 His sons, who seek the tyrant to sustain,  
 And long for arbitrary lords again,  
 With ignominy scourg'd, in open sight,  
 He dooms to death deserv'd, asserting public right.  
 Unhappy man, to break the pious laws  
 Of nature, pleading in his children's cause!  
 Howe'er the doubtful fact is understood,  
 'Tis love of honour, and his country's good.

Or the great Marcellus of the Hannibalic War, type of the young Marcellus, so gallant, so ill-starred:

*Aspic, ut insignis spoliis Marcellus opimis  
ingreditur, uictorque uiros supereminet omnes!  
His rem Romanam, magno turbante tumultu,  
sistet, eques sternet Poenos Gallumque rebellem,  
tertiaque arma patri suspendet capta Quirino.*  
(Vv. 855 ff.)

See great Marcellus! How, untir'd in toils,  
He moves with manly grace, how rich with regal spoils!  
Then to the Capitol in triumph move,  
And the third spoils shall grace Feretrian Jove.  
He, when his country, threaten'd with alarms,  
Requires his courage and his conqu'ring arms,  
Shall more than once the Punic bands affright;  
Shall kill the Gaulish king in single fight;

(c) AENEID VII, VIII.

The Trojans land on the banks of the Tiber and, "eating their tables", the rounds of spelt, fulfil the prophecy. New Troy may now be built:

*Ipse (Aeneas) humili designat moenia fossa,  
moliturque locum, primasque in litore sedes,  
castrorum in morem, pinnis atque aggere cingit.*  
(VII. Vv. 157 ff.)

The prince designs  
His new-elected seat, and draws the lines.  
The Trojans round the place a rampire cast,  
And pallisades about the trenches plac'd.

Two bronze medallions of Antoninus Pius depict new Troy and relate to it the finding of the Great Sow under the oak, which follows in Virgil's Eighth Book.

*Ecce autem subitum atque oculis mirabile monstrum,  
candida per siluam cum fetu concolor albo  
procubuit uiridique in litore conspicitur sus:  
quam pius Aeneas tibi enim, tibi, maxima Iuno  
mactat sacra ferens et cum grege sistit ad aram.*  
(Vv. 81 ff)

Now on the shore the fatal swine is found.  
Wondrous to tell! She lay along the ground:  
Her well-fed offspring at her udders hung;  
She white herself, and white her thirty young.  
Aeneas takes the mother and her brood,  
And all on Juno's altar are bestow'd.

When Juno has at last had her will and provoked war the Gates of War have to be opened:

*Sunt geminae Belli portae (sic nomine dicunt)  
religione sacrae et saeui formidine Martis;  
centum aerei claudunt uectis aeternaque ferri  
robora, nec custos absistit limine Ianus.*  
(VII. Vv. 607 ff.)

Two gates of steel (the name of Mars they bear  
 And still are worship'd with religious fear)  
 Before his temple stand: the dire abode,  
 And the fear'd issues of the furious god,  
 Are fenc'd with brazen bolts; without the gates  
 The wary guardian Janus doubly waits.

King Latinus recoiled in horror from his proper task, and so

*Tum regina deum caelo delapsa morantis  
 impulsis ipso manu portas, et cardine uerso  
 belli ferratos rumpit Saturnia postes.*

(Vv. 620 ff)

The heav'n's imperious queen shot down from high:  
 At her approach the brazen hinges fly;  
 The gates are forc'd, and ev'ry falling bar;  
 And like a tempest issues out the war.

A Sestertius of Nero shows the temple of Janus closed after his Parthian victory.

In the mustering of the Italian clans we read (vv. 681 ff):

*Hunc legio late comitatur agrestis;  
 quique altum Praeneste uiri, quique arua Gabinæ  
 lunonis gelidumque Anienem et roscida riuis  
 Hernica saxa colunt; quos diues Anagnia pascit.*

And leads to Turnus' aid his country swains.  
 His own Praeneste sends a chosen band,  
 Besides the succour which cold Anien yields,  
 The rocks of Hernicus, and dewy fields,  
 Anagnia fat . . .

The famous commentator, Servius, notes here that Anagnia is called "dives", because Mark Antony had a mint there and struck coins first for his Roman wife, Octavia, then, scorning her, for Cleopatra. We have already seen the coins of Antony in question (Pl. II, 16, 17), and they are indeed, as he tells us, of the same mint. For a long time Servius's note was dismissed as a mere baseless fancy, but it may well be sober truth. The "triumviri reipublicæ constituendæ" had all, in theory, equal rights in Italy, and that should imply that each had a base there and a mint, if need be. Servius has chanced to preserve a detail which has dropped out of our historical record.

The Eighth Book, with its touch of romance, lends itself particularly well to illustration. A medallion of Antoninus Pius shows Hercules, victorious over Cacus, extending his right hand to the kiss of the admiring people.

*Panditæ extemplo foribus domus atra reuulsis,  
 abstractæque boues, abiurataeque rapinæ  
 caelo ostenduntur, pedibusque informe cadauer  
 protrahitur, nequeunt expleri corda tuendo  
 terribilis oculos, uoltum uillosaque saetis  
 pectora semiferi atque extinctos faucibus ignes.*

(Vv. 262 ff)

The doors, unbarr'd, receive the rushing day  
 And thoro' lights disclose the ravish'd prey.  
 The bulls, redeem'd, breathe open air again.  
 Next, by the feet, they drag him from his den.  
 The wond'ring neighbourhood, with glad surprise,  
 Behold his shagged breast, his giant size,  
 His mouth that flames no more, and his extinguish'd eyes.

Again, Evander, showing Æneas round Pallanteum, points out to him two ruined cities:

*Haec duo praeterea diriectis oppida muris,  
 reliquias ueterumque uides monimenta uirorum.  
 hanc Ianus pater, hanc Saturnus condidit arcem;  
 Ianiculum huic illi fuerat Saturnia nomen.*

(Vv. 355 ff.)

They saw two heaps of ruins (once they stood  
 Two stately towns on either side the flood)  
 Saturnia's and Janicula's remains;  
 And either place the founder's name retains.

For illustration here we turn to the obverses of As and Semis from the libral down to the semuncial standard, Janus on the one, Saturn on the other. The types of the other denominations—Mars, Hercules, Mercury, Virtus—are probably to be related to the early mythical history of Rome. The prow of the reverses (Pl. I, 11, 12), while telling its obvious tale of Rome's new-won might at sea, likewise looks back to immigrants who came by sea in the remote past.

When Venus coaxes Vulcan to make arms for her son she refers back to others for whom he has done the same. Thetis, mother of Achilles, among them.

A mother kneels a suppliant for her son.  
 By Thetis and Aurora thou wert won.

A rare gold coin of Pyrrhus, struck perhaps at Locri, shows Achilles on the obverse and on the reverse Thetis, drawn by seahorses, bearing the shield.

The shield, once made and presented to Æneas, reveals a pageant of Roman history, comparable to that of Anchises' vision in Elysium.

. . . And Roman triumphs rising on the gold:  
 For these, emboss'd, the heav'nly smith had wrought  
 (Not in the rolls of future fate untaught)  
 The wars in order, and the race divine  
 Of warriors issuing from the Julian line.  
 The cave of Mars was dress'd with mossy greens:  
 There, by the wolf, were laid the martial twins.  
 Intrepid on her swelling dugs they hung;  
 The foster dam loll'd out her fawning tongue:  
 They suck'd secure, while, bending back her head,  
 She lick'd their tender limbs, and form'd them as they fed.

This scene, so dear to poets and artists, is illustrated by the Roman didrachm of 269 B.C. and a denarius of c. 125 B.C.

Not far from thence new Rome appears, with games  
Projected for the rape of Sabine dames.  
The pit resounds with shrieks; a war succeeds,  
For breach of public faith and unexampled deeds.  
Here for revenge the Sabine troops contend;  
The Romans there with arms the prey defend.  
Wearied with tedious war, at length they cease;  
And both the kings and kingdoms plight the peace.  
The friendly chiefs before Jove's altar stand,  
Both arm'd, with each a charger in his hand:  
A fatted sow for sacrifice is led.

The rape of the Sabines is shown on a denarius of L. Titurius Sabinus, the "coniuratio" on a gold nummus of 2. 217 B.C.

The battle of Actium is rendered with full splendour:  
*Hinc Augustus agens Italos in proelia Caesar  
cum patribus populoque Penatibus et magnis dis,  
stans celsa in puppi; geminas cui tempora flammæ  
laeta uomunt, patriumque aperitur uertice sidus.  
parte alia uentis et dis Agrippa secundis  
arduus agmen agens; cui belli inaigne superbum,  
tempora nauali fulgent rostrata corona.*

(Vv. 678 ff)

Young Cæsar, on the stern, in armour bright,  
Here leads the Romans and their gods to fight:  
His beamy temples shoot their flames afar,  
And o'er his head is hung the Iulian star.  
Agrippa seconds him, with prosp'rous gales,  
And, with propitious gods, his foe assails:  
A naval crown, that binds his manly brows,  
The happy fortune of the fight foreshows.

Coins of Augustus show the "sidus Iulium" and Agrippa in rostral and mural crown.

(d) AENEID XII.

Iuturna, divine sister of Turnus, is the heroine of Book XII, and Virgil allows her a magnificent lament when at last she sees that all her efforts are vain:

*Quid nunc te tua, Turne, potest germana iuuare?  
ant quid iam duræ superat mihi? qua tibi lucem  
arte morer? talin' possum me opponere monstro?  
iam iam linquo acies. no me terrete timentem,  
obscenæ uolucres; alarum uerba nosco  
letalemque sonum, nec fallunt iussa superba  
magnanimi Iouis. haec pro uirginitate reponit?  
quo uitam dedit aeternam? cur mortis adempta est  
condicio? possem tantos finire dolores  
nunc certe, et misero fratri comes ire per umbras.*

(Vv. 872 ff)

Ah me! she cries, "in this unequal strife  
 What can thy sister more to save thy life?  
 Weak as I am, can I, alas! contend  
 In arms with that inexorable fiend?  
 Now, now, I quit the field! forbear to fright  
 My tender soul, ye baleful birds of night!  
 The lashing of your wings I know too well,  
 The sounding flight, and fun'ral screams of hell!  
 These are the gifts you bring from haughty Jove,  
 The worthy recompense of ravished love!  
 Did he for this exempt my life from fate?  
 Oh hard conditions of immortal state,  
 Tho' born to death, not privileg'd to die,  
 But forc'd to bear impos'd eternity!  
 Take back your envious bribes, and let me go  
 Companion to my brother's ghost below!"

Denarii of A. Postumius Albinus show the fountain of Iuturna at Rome, at which the Dioscuri water their steeds after battle, and, perhaps, the goddess Iuturna herself, an archeress like Diana (Pl. III, 13, 14); the epithet ADIVTRIX, which accompanies a similar type on an aureus of Victorinus, is almost equivalent to Iuturna ("quae iuuat").

Finally, two dominant themes of the *Æneid* may be aptly developed with the aid of coins. The first is the charge given by Anchises to the Romans:

But, Rome, 't is thine alone with awful sway,  
 To rule mankind and make the world obey,  
 Disposing peace and war thy own majestic way;  
 To tame the proud, the fetter'd slave to free:  
 These are imperial arts, and worthy thee.

The balance of severity and mercy is perfectly shown in the sestertii commemorating the Chattan war of Domitian and the denarii commemorating the Dacian War of Trojan (Pl. III, 1-4).

The second is the climax of the final debate of Jupiter and Juno in Book XII, when Juno at last submits to fate but makes one last petition, which Jupiter grants:

But let the Latins still retain their name,  
 Speak the same language which they spoke before,  
 Wear the same habits which their grandsires wore,  
 Call them not Trojans; perish the renown  
 And name of Troy, with that detested town.  
 Latium be Latium still; let Alba reign  
 And Rome's immortal majesty remain.

The denarius of Kalenus Cordus, struck, perhaps, when Julius Cæsar was governor of Cisalpine Gaul, perfectly expresses that union of Rome and Italy that was to be one of the main bulwarks of the Roman Empire.



## Coins of the Hawaiian Islands

By DOUGLAS RUBB (Auckland)

After centuries of fierce inter-island warfare, the unification of the Hawaiian Islands was finally established at the beginning of the 19th century. But from that time on the relatively peaceful atmosphere of the islands was disturbed by: (1) brawling crews of overseas vessels, (2) domineering missionaries, and (3) strong demands by various foreign countries for indemnity and for trade concessions.

Trade with visiting ships posed many problems. There was no standard of values—no official currency. Coins from England, the United States, France, Mexico and various South and Central American countries were used. Merchants in Hawaii introduced a system of paper money with denominations of  $\frac{1}{2}$  dala,  $\frac{1}{4}$  dala,  $\frac{1}{8}$  dala,  $\frac{1}{16}$  dala and 3 cents. Finally, in 1847, Hawaii issued its first coin—a copper one-cent piece, which is about the size of the United States large cent. The obverse shows the bust of King Kamehameha III and the date—1847. The reverse has the words “Hapa Haneri”, which is surrounded by a wreath. Outside the wreath are the words “Aupuni Hawaii”, which means Kingdom of Hawaii. Four varieties were minted, but the differences between these varieties were slight. Both the design and workmanship of the cent were somewhat rough. No further coins appeared until 1881.

King Lunahilo, who died in 1874, failed to name a successor. A bitter rivalry arose between David Kalakaua and Queen Emma, widow of King Kamehameha IV. When the Legislature elected David by a 39-to-6 vote, supporters of Queen Emma assaulted the legislators. The police were outnumbered and the volunteer troops were divided in their sympathies, so the Legislature appealed to foreign representatives for assistance. Marines from British and U.S. ships dispersed the rioters, restored order, and guarded the palace grounds and public buildings. So started the reign of King Kalakaua, during which most of Hawaii's few coins were minted.

Shortly after becoming King, Kalakaua decided to establish a currency system which would be honoured by other countries. The United States Congress passed a law in 1874 authorising the Secretary of the Treasury to make regulations for coining Hawaiian coins at one of the United States Mints.

But neither the King nor his Legislature did anything about coins until 1881, when a five-cent piece was designed. The obverse has a bust of Kalakaua and the words “King of the Sandwich Islands”. The reverse has a spelling error in the motto which made the coin unpopular with the natives. Only a few hundred coins were minted.

Two years later the Hawaiian Government applied to the United States for \$1,000,000 worth of silver coins. Work started on November 17, 1883. Charles Barber, an employee

of Philadelphia Mint, designed the coins, which were as attractive and well balanced as any of the American coins. The work was completed at the San Francisco Mint. The Hawaiian Government furnished the dies. The unit of currency was the "dala", which corresponded to the American dollar. The denominations minted were the one dala, one-half dala, one-quarter dala and the ten cent piece. These silver coins are of the same denomination, weight and fineness as those made in the United States.

The obverse of the dala, one-half dala and one-quarter dala has the bust of the king in the centre. Above it are the words "Kalakaua I, King of Hawaii". The date—1883—is below the bust. The reverse has the national emblem of Hawaii, which a talented native artist had designed back in 1847. Around the emblem is a Hawaiian motto, "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pone", which means "The life of the land is righteousness".

Some Hawaiians favoured a coin valued at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents—or one-eighth of a dollar—which would be called a hapawelu.



Left to right: 1847 one cent, 1883 ten cents, 1883 one-quarter dala and 1883 one-half dala.

After designs were prepared and pattern pieces were submitted, however, the authorities decided on a 10-cent piece instead of the hapawelu. The obverse has a bust of the ruler with the words "Kalakaua, King of Hawaii" on the top and the date "1883" on the bottom. The reverse shows the words "One Dime" and the words "Umi Keneta", which mean ten cents.

The Hawaiian Legislature also authorised Treasury notes in denominations of 100, 50, 20 and 10 dalas against deposits of silver currency.

Here are the denominations minted:

500,000 dalas to the value of	500,000 dalas
700,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ dalas to the value of	350,000 dalas
500,000 $\frac{1}{4}$ dalas to the value of	125,000 dalas
250,000 10 cents to the value of	25,000 dalas

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1,000,000 dalas

In 1884 the Hawaiian Legislature passed a law, approved by the King, making United States silver and gold coins legal tender for the payment of all private and public debts in the islands. Hawaiian and United States coins became virtually

interchangeable as far as international exchange rates were concerned.

Queen Liliuokalani succeeded her brother, Kalakaua, on the throne. Messrs. Pinches and Co., London medallists, struck one-dala silver pieces of the Queen in 1891, but Hawaii never adopted the coin. Two years later a private English collector ordered the same firm to prepare three 20-dala gold pieces. The obverse shows a bust to left of the Queen with the words "Liliuocalania Dei Gratia". The reverse bears the coat of arms and crossed sceptres with crown above, with the inscription "Hawaiiarum Regina", and under the sceptres: "20 Dala, 1893".

The existence of these 20-dala pieces suggests that the regular issue of these coins was planned for 1893. At any rate, the Queen was forced to abdicate on January 17 of that year.

After the Queen left the throne another silver dollar was designed with the bust of Prince Kaiulani. The reverse shows the geographical relationship of the Hawaiian Islands. The pieces were used as souvenirs rather than as coins.

The United States passed a law in the early 1890's agreeing to the admission of the Hawaiian Islands, but it was not until 1900 that the islands were given the status of a Territory—a status enjoyed by various western states before they became states. From that time on, only United States coins were recognised as legal tender.

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### SPECIAL NUMISMATIC INTERESTS OF CHRISTCHURCH MEMBERS

- Salter, W.: Foreign and Colonial.  
 Dale, L. J.: N.Z., Australian and Edward VIII.  
 Wyness-Mitchell, K. J.: Orders, Decorations, Medals and Awards.  
 Middleton, B.: Commonwealth and British Empire.  
 Morel, L.: Proof Sets and Crown Sizes.  
 Barker, A.: N.Z. and General.  
 Skinner, R.: English and General.  
 Pate, J.: Foreign.  
 Steven, M. K. (Miss): Ancient and General.  
 Mottram, W. D.: N.Z. Tokens. Crowns. Anv Special N.Z. or British Issues.  
 Dacre, S. R.: General.  
 Thomas, N.: King George VI, Queen Elizabeth II, Modern Foreign, N.Z. Medals.  
 Dennis, E. A.: Early British and Tokens.  
 Norris, P.: British Commonwealth, Commemoratives and Medals.  
 Straw, F.: India and Tokens.  
 Bell, R. G.: Greek, Roman and Tokens.  
 Price, E. C.: N.Z. Notes (1840—1934).

*The opinions expressed by the authors of the various articles and by those answering questions are their own and not necessarily the official opinions of the society.*

### ANNUAL MEETING

The 26th annual general meeting of the Society was held in the Dominion Museum on 24th June, 1957. The following officers were elected for the year 1957-58:

President: Captain G. T. Stagg.

Vice-presidents: Messrs. H. Martin, H. G. Hughan, A. Sutherland, F. Straw.

Hon. secretary: Mr. P. D. Tether.

Hon. treasurer: Mr. C. J. Freeman.

Hon. editor: Mr. M. L. G. Leask.

Hon. auditor: Mr. W. Chetwynd.

Council: Mrs. E. Ranger, Messrs. W. Salter, H. G. Hughan, E. Horwood, G. Balmer, E. J. Arlow, B. S. Berry.

### ANNUAL REPORT

The Council of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand has the honour to present its 26th annual report and balance sheet, for the year ended 31st May, 1957.

The year has seen increased activity in all phases of numismatics, in which the branches have taken a full and vigorous part. Perhaps the most outstanding advance was the progress made in the Society's efforts towards the adoption of Decimal Coinage in New Zealand.

In accordance with the desires of members, the number of meetings held during the year has been increased to eleven, and these meetings, as well as branch meetings, continue to show increased attendances. During the year the Council met on five occasions to consider various aspects of the Society's activities and to formulate policy.

Accommodation for meetings has been a problem this year, as the rehabilitation of the Alexander Turnbull Library has taken far in excess of the estimated time to complete, and it will be some months yet before we are able to return to what we have come to consider our rightful home. The alternative accommodation made available by the Women's Division of Federated Farmers in 1956 was required by that organisation for expanded activities in 1957. By the good offices of Dr. Falla, director of the Dominion Museum, the board room at the Museum has been made available until we are able to return to the Turnbull Library. This setting has been enhanced by the full-length painting of our beloved honorary life patron, which hangs on the wall behind the president's chair. This excellent likeness of Viscount Bledisloe, looking down benevolently upon the assembled members, has brought back very vividly the days gone by when he was in our midst and honoured the Society with his presence.

During the year Mr. James Berry and Mr. H. G. Hughan were elected Fellows of the Society, in recognition of their valuable contributions to numismatics, particularly in the New Zealand field. Recently the Council became aware that the constitution includes an inherent weakness in the system of granting Fellowships, and earnestly enjoins the incoming Council to investigate fully this matter and bring down the necessary legislation to amend the constitution and eradicate the weakness.

The journal continues to be our chief media for disseminating numismatic information, as, while approximately one-third of our members are within travelling distance of the meetings of the Society in Wellington, or the branches in Christchurch and Auckland, in fact only half of these avail themselves of the opportunity to attend meetings. The journal is therefore the only link we have with 85% of our members who do not or cannot attend meetings held in the three centres where the Society is represented. In an effort to speed up the production of the journals, and under a friendly arrangement with the Avery Press, which has printed all the Journals since the first so treated in 1947, until 1955, the Council has tried elsewhere to have the Journals printed more expeditiously.

Our efforts have not been very successful to date, but efforts are continuing in an endeavour to find a printer of a sufficiently high standard who can handle the printing with a minimum of delay. To partially offset these disheartening delays the size of the Journal has been increased by 50% to 48 pages. So far only one Journal has been distributed this year, and it was hoped that another would have made its appearance before now, but once again delays have crept in and distribution should be made within a few days. During the year a more distinctive wrapper was adopted for the Journal.

The Society was admitted to the International Numismatic Commission during the year under review, and our Journal continues to interest overseas numismatic institutions as well as individual numismatics. New publication exchanges were arranged with the Numismatic Institute "Antonio Augustine", of Madrid, and the Czechoslovakian Academy of Sciences.

Membership of the Society has increased during the year by 14, new members totalling 22, resignations 5, with one member struck off the roll. Two members passed away during the year. The Council has been concerned by the volume of subscriptions in arrears and has taken action to reduce this amount. Generally speaking, the result of the action has been to bring forward the arrears due, but in some cases, while the back subscriptions have been paid up to date, those concerned have resigned from the Society, and those resignations are reflected in the figures quoted above.

The papers read at meetings of the Society and the branches have maintained their high standard and wide coverage, while the specimens exhibited have proved interesting and instructive over an equally wide field. In this connection, during meetings held at the Museum, opportunity was taken to draw upon material held by the Museum to illustrate two of the papers read.

A visit was paid to Victoria University College, where Professor Murray gave an address on the numismatic literature and Greek coins held by the Classical Society, and his able assistant at the university, Mr. T. F. Carney, gave a short address on the Roman coins. Since then Mr. Carney has left this country to take up the appointment of head of the department of Classics at Salisbury University, Rhodesia, and is to be congratulated on obtaining his doctorate at such an early age. While we shall miss him at our meetings, there is no doubt that our loss will be Salisbury's gain.

The Society's petition to Parliament on decimal coinage was heard by the Public Petitions M—Z Committee on 19th August, 1956, and accorded a very sympathetic hearing. Our prayer was very ably put by Mr. Allan Sutherland and Mr. James Berry, and that same evening the committee reported to Parliament in most favourable terms and recommended immediate investigation of all the factors involved in the introduction of decimal coinage in New Zealand. The Minister of Finance has recently set up a representative committee to examine and report on decimal coinage, and the Society has been included in this committee, being represented by Mr. Allan Sutherland. In response to a request from this committee the Society has forwarded a submission, prepared by Mr. James Berry, setting out the Society's views on the need for decimal coinage and the advantages that would accrue from its adoption in New Zealand. Following the hearing of the petition, the Society was addressed by Mr. Wills, an investigating officer of the Treasury, on the subject of decimal coinage, and the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, M.P., veteran exponent of decimal coinage, and other interested parties were present.

Representations were made to the Government for the issue of a commemorative coin to mark the silver jubilee of New Zealand coinage in 1958, but the Minister of Finance declined to act on our request, on the grounds that the occasion was not of sufficient public interest to warrant such a venture.

A very informative brochure on New Zealand coinage was produced and published by Mr. H. G. Hughan, at his own expense, and he very generously gave sufficient copies to enable one to be supplied gratis to

all members with their issue of the Journal—a worthy gesture, for which our thanks are due.

This year the Society adopted its own distinctive badge for the Journal, and letterheads and blocks have been made available to the branches. The supply of lapel badges, a miniature modification of the Society's badge, has just come to hand. We are indebted to Mr. James Berry for the excellent designs, and to the anonymous member who paid for the cost of producing printing blocks.

During the year the death occurred of Dr. W. R. B. Olliver, a member of the Society for many years. With advancing years Dr. Olliver was forced to curtail his many activities, but retained his interest in numismatics right until the end, although the state of his health precluded his attendance at meetings for some years past. In his death the Society has lost a valued friend.

The Society continues in a sound financial position, but, while every expenditure has been watched closely, the increased publication costs would have reduced our balance considerably had we been able to publish the Journal as frequently as in the past. Our grateful thanks are again due to the New Zealand Government for the continuance of the subsidy, without which we would be in severe financial straits and have no alternative but to increase annual subscriptions and risk a resultant fall in membership.

The Council desires to express its thanks to the many people who have helped in making this year a successful one; to Dr. Falla, for his valued assistance, so readily given, in the matter of accommodation and material made available for meetings, and also to Mr. Carey and other members of the staff of the Dominion Museum, for their assistance in this connection; to the ladies who have so ably attended to the suppers with which meetings are terminated, and in particular to Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Ranger, for the provision of the refreshments; to Mr. Allan Sutherland, for his sterling work as editor of the Journal; and finally to the secretaries and treasurers of the Society and its branches, without whose help the Society could not have continued to expand and function as it has done.

For and on behalf of the Council of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand,

Wellington, June, 1957.

G. T. STAGG,  
President.

## WELLINGTON

One hundred and ninety-ninth meeting, held on April 29, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. The nominations of H. Hughan and J. Berry as Fellows were carried forward for election at the next general meeting. Paper: "Long-service Medals Awarded in the New Zealand Army over the Past Seventy Years", by Capt. Stagg. Exhibit: Medals and miniatures by Capt. Stagg.

Two hundredth meeting, held on May 27, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. H. Hughan and J. Berry were elected Fellows of the Society. A Government subsidy of £100 was received. It was decided to refer the matter of Fellows to the incoming Council. J. Berry was appointed to prepare a written submission by the Society for the Committee on Decimal Coinage. Mr. Leask was appointed as the Society's Publicity Officer. Exhibits: A collection of Swiss coins and some rare modern coins by E. Arlow; a medallion by Capt. Stagg; a collection of French commemorative medallions by J. Berry.

Two hundred and first meeting, held on July 29, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. H. Hughan was appointed keeper of the roll. Gold lapel badges are to be issued to all Fellows and to Lord Bledisloe. Decimal coinage was discussed. Exhibit: 30 medals depicting English Kings and Queens, by E. Arlow.

Two hundred and second meeting, held on August 25, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. Paper: A Numismatic Travelogue by E. Arlow.

Exhibits: Proof Godless florin and uncirculated Gothic florin of Queen Victoria, by H. Hughan; coins of Spanish-American countries and a Spanish dollar divided into 4, 2 and 1 pieces, by E. Arlow.

Two hundred and third meeting held on September 30, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. Five-minute papers were read by Mrs. Ranger, Mr. Hughan, Mr. Arlow, Mr. J. Berry, Mr. Leask and Capt. Stagg.

Two hundred and fourth meeting, held on October 24, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. Rule 9 of the Rules of the Society was amended. Paper: "Orders, Decorations, Medals and Sword of Honour of the late General Sir Alexander Godley", by Capt. Stagg, who exhibited the items.

Two hundred and fifth meeting, held November 18, 1957. Capt. Stagg presided. Mr. Ranger, Jr., showed travel films.

## AUCKLAND

Eighty-third meeting, held on April 3, 1957. E. Morris presided. Certain store windows were considered for a future coin display by the Branch. Paper: "Coins of Lundy Island", by J. Brook. Exhibits: Lundy Island coins, by J. Brook; medals concerning the French Revolution and Marie Antoinette, by H. Robinson.

Eighty-fifth meeting, held on June 5, 1957. E. Morris, who presided, presented his report for 1956-57. All of last year's officers were re-elected. The members moved that a committee be set up to revise the constitution to give all branches equal voting representation in all Society matters. A. Sutherland was elected as Auckland's nominee for Council membership. Paper, "Decimal Coinage Systems", by J. McClew. Exhibit: U.S. cents, by J. Brook.

Eighty-sixth meeting held on July 3, 1957. E. Morris presided. The members moved that a commemorative medal be struck to celebrate the centenary of N.Z.'s first token. Paper: "Numismatic Interests in an English Country District", by J. Baxter.

Eighty-seventh meeting, held on August 7, 1957. E. Morris presided. Arrangements were made for the forthcoming coin display by the branch. Paper: "A Medallic History of Napoleon", by H. Robinson. Exhibits: Complete set of U.S. cents (1909-1957), by J. Brook; Isle of Man penny (1798) and British halfpenny (1799), by J. Roberts; gold Laurel (20/-) of James I, by A. Robinson; 140 Napoleonic medals, by H. Robinson.

Eighty-eighth meeting, held on September 4, 1957. E. Morris presided. Paper: "Why I Collect Modern Foreign Coins", by J. Brook.

Eighty-ninth meeting, held on October 2, 1957. E. Morris presided. Paper: "Currency in Old New Zealand", written by J. Anderson and presented by P. Southern.

Ninetieth meeting, held on November 6, 1957. E. Morris presided. The Branch acquired a typewriter. Paper: "Serengapatem Medals", by J. Roberts, who exhibited specimens in different metals. Plans were made for a Ladies' Night in December.

Ninety-first meeting, held on December 4, 1957. E. Morris presided. J. Cresswell succeeded J. Brook as secretary. High costs caused cancellation of the proposed centennial (1857-1957) token. The branch's coin display at the Auckland Public Library was a big success; more than 600 coins from 36 Commonwealth countries were shown. Ladies' Night social activities included colour slides of various caves, by A. Coyle, of the Speleological Society, a coin quiz, a raffle and supper.

Ninety-second meeting, held on February 5, 1958. E. Morris presided. Paper: "William III, Empire Founder." Exhibit: English half-crowns from Charles II to George II, by Brook.

## CANTERBURY

Fifty-first meeting, held on April 8, 1957. W. Salter presided. W. Salter and Miss M. K. Steven were nominated by the branch as Fellows of the Society. Paper: "Tokens of the Trader and the Story They Tell", by F. Straw. Exhibit: Tokens, by F. Straw.

Fifty-second meeting, held on June 17, 1957. W. Salter presided. Paper: "What's in a Coin", by B. Middleton.

Fifty-third meeting, held on June 19, 1957. W. Salter presided. Mr. Straw was appointed vice-president to council. Paper: "Masonic Tokens of the Eighteenth Century", by R. Bell.

Fifty-fourth meeting, held October 7, 1957. W. Salter presided. Papers: "Numismatics and Man's Daily Tasks", by N. Thomas; "Tokens and Traders", by F. Straw.

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### BOOK REVIEW

"The Coinage of Tiberius in Cyprus", by Prof. Michael Grant, O.B.E., M.A., Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh, president of the Royal Numismatic Society.

The University of Melbourne Cyprus Exhibition, under the direction of Mr. J. R. Stewart, issued this quarto-size publication, which is bound in a stiff paper cover. It consists of six pages of full discussion, notes, and one fine plate illustrating 16 copper coins issued on Cyprus under the authority of the early Roman Empire. This is the first publication in Australia of an item of classical numismatics, and should be in the library of every numismatic scholar. Copies are obtainable for six shillings (Aust.), plus postage, from Prof. H. Hunt, Dept. of Classics, University of Melbourne, Carlton, N.3, Victoria, Australia.

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### THE SOCIETY'S LAPEL BADGE

Are you wearing the Society's distinctive lapel badge? These are available from the honorary treasurer at a cost of 3/- each.

It is now the usual practice for a monarch to place his portrait on his coinage facing in the opposite direction to that of his predecessor. When did this start?

There is a legend that this started in the reign of Charles II, with the first milled coinage: on his hammered pieces Charles looks to the left, the same direction as Cromwell, and it was said that he objected to this and had it changed when milled coinage was adopted. This may or may not be true, but Elizabeth I, James I and Charles I face left, right, left respectively. There is one exception in the reign of James I; his third coinage gold has bust which faces left.

Mr. H. Hughan, F.R.N.S., N.Z., advises that the following coins were struck for New Zealand in 1957: Shilling, £40,000; sixpence, £60,000; threepence, £100,000; penny, £10,000; halfpenny, £3,000.

Page 110 of *Journal* No. 19 shows catalogue numbers for all New Zealand coins from 1933 to 1953. The following is a continuation of the list, from 1954 to 1957 inclusive:

Sutherland Numbers	Year	Crown	Half-crown	Florin	Shilling	Six-pence	Three-pence	Penny	Half-penny
698—701	1954	—	—	—	—	698	699	700	701
702—706	1955	—	—	—	702	703	704	705	706
707—711	1956	—	—	—	707	708	709	710	711
712—716	1957	—	—	—	712	713	714	715	716



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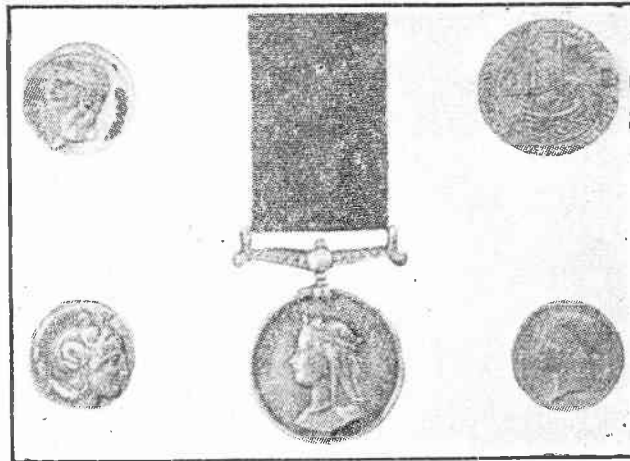


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