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MONEY AND ITS FUNCTIONS

By A. J. DANKS.

Summary of a Lecture to the Canterbury Branch

The coin, in its function as a monetary token, has been steadily losing prestige and importance in the Western world for the past two and a half centuries or so. Not only has the sturdy coin been replaced with crinkled and dirty paper; the metal itself has dwindled down from the noble to the base. In sympathy with this, perhaps, the representation of the Sovereign on the British coins has, in recent times, demonstrated a sadly shrunken appendix of honours and titles. Perhaps for this utilitarian age we should sever connection with the past, and produce a thoroughly natural and utilitarian coinage.

But first consider the decline of coins themselves. This may be traced briefly in the development of trade and commerce, and in the functions which money has to perform in society, particularly in a rapidly expanding industrial environment. Money acts as a store of value, as a medium of exchange, and as a unit of account. This is evident enough; but, in order to fulfil these functions, money must possess certain attributes which we shall briefly outline.

The prime requirement of any money is that it should be readily and generally accepted. To have this quality a money should be easily identifiable and homogeneous. In societies where illiteracy was characteristic and where printing had yet to be discovered, where paper was scarce and of uneven quality, and where governments were frequently short-lived and corrupt, it is no wonder that gold, silver and copper coins should meet the necessary conditions to confer acceptability as no other forms of money could do.

The intrinsic worth of the metal in a coin, its content of gold, silver or copper, gave it a value independent of the virtues (or lack of them) of the issuing authority. Irregularities of size or design, while irritating and damaging to efficiency, could, in the last resort, be overcome by weighing. The valuable metals were their own assurance and guarantee; the acceptability of coinage struck from them was truly written in.

But the development of Western civilization since the Renaissance has changed all this. On the technical side the arts of printing, engraving and paper making, together with the greater use of paper instruments generally, have told against a money of coins only. The precious metals carried their worth too securely locked to them; loss or theft could be disastrous. Receipts for gold deposits—pieces of paper—were handier to transport and transfer, while the gold itself stayed securely behind safe doors, and so banknotes were born, and their intrinsic counterparts went underground.

Again, the growth of powerful central governments in Europe made the issues of official money stronger and more permanent; the ideas of the rule of law, the power of integrity and permanence of the State, and a money acceptable by instruction or fiat by that State all marched together. The modern view of acceptability of currency is purely one derived from law; the government issues paper or coins intrinsically nearly worthless, declares them legal tender, and we accept and obey. The precious metals move right back in the money system to the position of ultimate currency reserves; for the plain man they never see the light of day; nor, indeed, is there any need for them.

And the final step has been the reduction of banknotes and coins, in themselves worthless except for their legal status, to the mere small change of daily business. The cheque is the most important monetary instrument today. Bank deposits are money, and coins and notes the "liquidity end" of the money system. The evolution goes back hundreds of years to its origins; the surface changes date from 1914 when the sovereign slid out of English purses into the bank or bureau drawer never to reappear except as a curiosity.

In view of this break with tradition, should we not go the whole way and rationalize our present coinage on a purely utilitarian basis? The size of coins, for example, relates to their traditional metallic content; no such conditions now apply, and all coins could be the same size distinguished by colour and design. Furthermore, the decimal system could be introduced to simplify transactions. Perhaps, too, metal is not the most suitable material in this age of plastics. Here is a field of pure and delightful speculation: considering carefully the purposes of the coinage, the resources of modern technology and the aesthetics of the matter, design your own coinage. Bear in mind that the change-over to our new system must come slowly, or at least after a long warning period, so that capital equipment designed for present coins and denominations has time to wear out. At this point it is left to the reader to proceed with rationalization; stern traditionalists who may want the blood of the writer are assured that he has no strong feelings in the matter whatever.

COLLECTING HISTORICAL TOKENS

By EDWIN W. TOMLINSON,

Wisconsin State Historical Library.

(Abridged from *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Autumn, 1953.)

There is no plot in the collector's garden which has been more carefully and assiduously cultivated than that of numismatics. The collection of monies in all its forms has been the hobby of thousands in all walks of life and the vocation of many dedicated souls. Humanist scholars, housewives, nations, schoolboys, and venerable institutions of learning are among those who have made collections of coins. It has also long been recognized that numismatics is one of the major ancillary sciences of history. To the archaeologist the finding of a few coins upon the site of an excavation is of the greatest importance in the dating of other materials revealed by the shovel; to the epigrapher the inscriptions upon the coins may help to establish the date of a reign, or even (as has happened) to show that an ancient nation really existed which had previously been thought to be one of the myths of history. The profile upon an ancient coin may be the only remaining clue to the personal appearance of some minor Asiatic satrap, while the general design and execution of the coin may help to round out our knowledge of the artistic content of a particular culture. And, in addition, the weight and fineness of the coin may give broad hints as to the economic condition of the issuing authority and the general tenor of the times during which the coin was current.

Basically, the collector of either antiquities or recent material is a scientist interested in the orderly classification of examples, the cataloguing of specimens according to an existing scheme or one of his own devising and the sharing of his discoveries and knowledge with others. The numismatist is no exception, and it was during the Renaissance that scientific collecting began in this field as in most fields of knowledge. The first catalogues of coins were little more than lists for the use of market-place money-changers, but it was not long until collectors began to put into print the story of their own collections for the use of other collectors. From that point it is not a far cry to the monumental catalogues, of folio size and many volumes, treating of the official coinages of particular areas and nations. Really spectacular treatment has been accorded the coins of ancient times, as might be expected since they are so important as tools in the study of ancient history where other records and documents are frequently lacking. The coins of Greece have been described and photographically reproduced dozens of times from as many points of view. The coins of the successive governments of Rome have received equally careful treatment and within the last fifty years the coins of the ancient empires of the Near East have begun to come into their own. Information regarding the coins of medieval

Europe is somewhat more difficult to find. The fragmental nature of the European community during that period is reflected in the many sources which must be consulted and the research which must be done to describe the coins of the time. Given the collector's willingness to follow leads and to do research in the library it is, however, possible to ascertain with considerable exactness the facts about any particular medieval coin.

When coins were first invented, probably in the Greek city-state of Aegina just prior to 700 B.C., they replaced a primitive system of barter and exchange. Because of the new system's obvious mechanical advantages, the use of coins quickly spread throughout the ancient world. It was not long before official coinages backed by governmental authority became the accepted standard for all types of transactions. However, the more primitive systems did not completely die out, though their natures were changed. The invention of money did not satisfy all requirements. Particularly, it did not answer the question of "value." The governmentally sponsored "dollar" with less than a "dollar's worth" of silver in it is a good example of the tenuous connection money has with real worth. But the invention of easily-handled coins did change the system to that with which we are familiar, and it stimulated the use of unofficial systems of monies which we now call "tokens." Of course, any coin, official coins included, are "tokens" when they do not represent real worth. But the term "token" has come to mean any form of unofficial or non-governmentally sponsored money, or metallic exchange media.

Tokens have a long and honourable history, probably nearly as long and certainly as honourable as that of coins. Bread and circuses is said to have been the political scheme in ancient Rome, but other considerations must have entered in also since we know the emperors always scattered among the crowds of plebs great numbers of metallic tokens giving admittance to the local bordels. From the time of the emperors tokens have paralleled the uses of coins but, because of their non-official nature, they have reflected much more clearly the fluid and passing phases of social history.

The coins of recent times are more accurately known than those of any other period, and knowledge is so standardized that definite sale-value can be placed upon them. The coins of our own nation are so well known that hobbyist collectors have been driven to the counting of hairs in Liberty's locks, the insistence upon a few more dentelles in the border, the searching for a microscopic raising or lowering of a digit in a date, and other equally ludicrous devices in order to satisfy their craving for discovery. American numismatists might better turn the energy they expend in such efforts to a field which really needs attention. Since the foundation of the Republic, literally tens of thousands of tokens have been issued by municipalities, business firms, and private individuals, and the facts in connection with them ought to be ascertained and recorded. Here exists a whole branch of numismatics which collectors have completely neglected and which they

have failed to appreciate and properly evaluate. There is ample room for the interest of hundreds of collectors united in the purpose of reducing an unintelligible mass to a reasonable scheme.

American tokens are of many types and have served many different purposes. Of them all, the transportation token is best known to both layman and collector, since almost everyone who has taken a bus ride has used them. There is a group of collectors which has devoted much energy to the listing and cataloguing of transportation tokens by the thousands, but there are other types—the advertising token, the “bar-chip,” the semi-official fractional-value token, the work-token, the “good-for-five-cents-in-trade-at-our-store” token—each of them nearly an open field for collectors and for the serious students who wish to document and record them.

In the Jacksonian period there appeared a series of tokens which has perhaps been more widely collected and more thoroughly studied than any other group of similar American pieces. Economic necessity and uncertainty had forced the disappearance of “hard money” from circulation, even down to the copper cents, and merchants were hard pressed for the means to carry on business without the customary amount of small change. Consequently there were issued from many sources the tokens which, taken as a group, came to be known by the generic term “Hard Times Tokens.” These are of two principal types: One, in many varieties, is strongly political and carries satiric slogans and emblems in line with the times and with the controversy over the United States Bank, while the other type usually bears the name of the issuing merchant and a typically nineteenth century advertising slogan. Some of the tokens in this series are very common, others are rather scarce, and a few fall into the rarity class.

By 1863 the exigencies of the Civil War had again forced federal money into hiding and, as is well known, the multitudinous varieties of paper “shinplasters” began to appear, issued by all manner of agencies and in almost every possible denomination. Not so well known, however, is the extremely interesting series of tokens, approximating the Indian-head penny in size and struck mainly in copper but frequently in other metals, which began to appear in that year. During 1863 and part of 1864 about 20,000,000 of these copper pieces in about 10,500 known varieties were put into circulation across the nation, and new varieties of these tokens still are being discovered. One large classification bore nothing more than a symbolic head or patriotic emblem upon one side and a fervent slogan upon the other, “Our Army,” “*Erinnerung an 1863*,” “God Protect the Union,” and the like, as well as one lone token which plaintively complains “Millions for the Contractors, Not One Cent for the Widows.” Another type, far more numerous, bore the private symbols and advertising matter of local firms and business houses, and these tokens would

be, if better documented, a great source of local history for the social historian.

Every numismatist has an accumulation of token material which he has consigned to the oblivion of a cigar-box for lack of information. Such accumulations, if worked over by competent authority, listed and made known, could raise to new eminence an important source of material for the history of the United States.

IN THE TRACK OF COOK

A medal handed by Captain Cook to a native chief on a Pacific island, to leave behind enduring evidence of the visit, was found on the island of Raiatea about six years ago. This was reported in a special message to the N.Z.P.A. from Mr. Ian F. Baird of Papeete, Tahiti, French Oceania, following the recent discovery of a similar medal at Ryan's Beach, Otago.

The specimen found in French Oceania is somewhat corroded, but the outline of the ships *Resolution* and *Adventure* can be seen, and some of the lettering.

Mr. Baird reports that the medal was found by the late Mr. Scholtz on the site of the ancient Faaroto Marae, on his plantation in the Avera district. A *marae* was a built up area used for ceremonial purposes by the early Polynesians. It was regarded as sacred ground, and violation of any *tabus* there brought drastic results. With the advent of Christianity the *maraes* fell into disuse.

MORE MEDALS REPORTED

Drop a Cook medal into the Pacific Ocean and the ripples reach distant shores! From Rock Island, Quebec, Mr. J. D. Ferguson writes:—

“I have been intensely interested in the excellent article on Captain Cook medals which you wrote for the *New Zealand Numismatic Journal*, Vol. VII, No. 1. This medal is also of great interest to Canadians, since Captain Cook gave some to Indian chiefs whom he encountered on his trip up the coast of British Columbia. One, in the Archives of the Province of British Columbia, was dug up in an Indian grave in that province.

“I have in my collection three of these medals. The silver one has a proof-like surface. The bronze one is slightly worn. I also have a gilded one which is in very good condition, and which has a pendant-ring attached, similar to the type as used on Indian Chief medals of King George III. The writer has been able to assemble by far the most representative collection of Indian Chief medals that has been brought together, up to the present . . .”

From the National Gallery, Adelaide, South Australia, Mr. James Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., advises that the South Australian National Collection contains a specimen in silver, purchased probably before 1918. He states that the medal is illustrated under

Westwood in Forrer's *Biographical Dictionary of Medallists*, and that in the *B.N. Journal*, Vol. XXII, p. 274, it is attributed to either Boulton or Barnett. The list in the *B.N.J.* gives two *Resolution* and *Adventure* medals.

Mr. M. A. Jamieson, F.R.N.S., N.Z., of Auckland, has recently acquired two copper specimens, one with a link attached, also a bronze uniface Cook medal of the Durand series, struck in 1823.

Mr. Ian F. Baird writes further from Tahiti drawing attention to Vol. II of the Hakluyt Society series *The Quest and Occupation of Tahiti by Emissaries of Spain in 1772-76*. Pages 369 to 371 contain a lengthy note by the author on Cook medals in Tahiti, and a discussion on their authorship. There is a plate showing the gold specimen in the British Museum. This is supplementary to the reference to the Viceroy of Peru in our original article.

In the Southland Museum, Invercargill, is to be seen a very good silver specimen. Details by courtesy of Mrs. O. Sansom, Director, show that this medal has a fixed link suspended by a $\frac{5}{8}$ inch hook facing outwards, and attached to a silver bar $1\frac{7}{8}$ ins. wide, and affixed to a 3 in. long blue ribbon $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide, superimposed on a white ribbon $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide giving an effect of a blue ribbon with white edges. There are three bars, the top with a heavy silver pin $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long. The heavy pin and hook appear to be the originals. The representations of the two ships on the medal are probably the most accurate extant, despite overscale pennants and anchor. The only other silver specimen reported in New Zealand is in the W. D. Ferguson collection.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS OF COINS ANCIENT SERIES

By MR. R. SELLARS.

Read before Auckland Branch, 1st July, 1953.

Preface.—Of those who collect coins not all are actuated by the same motives. To some, the acquisition of these symbols is little more than a congenial hobby, whereas, to others, the science of numismatics is a lifelong study. However, most collectors have one sentiment in common; they are interested in the cultural and historical associations of coins, and it is with these that this paper is chiefly concerned.

The Most Beautiful Coin of Them All.—A general collection will best serve our purpose, and the ancient Greek series will provide an admirable starting-point.

Ranging through some beautiful specimens of the engravers' art our attention is at once arrested by a truly superlative piece—the silver dekadrachm of Syracuse, acclaimed by connoisseurs as the most beautiful coin ever made.

Apex of Hellenic Culture.—Struck during the period B.C. 406-B.C. 400, this dekadrachm represents the highest cultural level attained by the Greeks. Although made so very long ago—over 2,350 years—it is well-nigh the acme of perfection, and here is its description:—

Obverse: Head, to left, of Persephone, daughter of Zeus and Demeter. She is wearing a wreath of corn, an ear-ring of three drops and a single-string necklace. Four dolphins are spaced around, near the edge, and, in some cases, one of these bears the name of the renowned engraver, Euainetos. Above Persephone's head is the Greek version of what we call Syracuse.

Reverse: A quadriga (4-horse chariot) galloping to left, the driver holding a long goad in his right hand. Flying towards him is a Nike, with the evident intention of crowning him. In the exergue is a panoply of arms, consisting of a bronze helmet, a breast-plate, armour for the legs and a shield.

The artistry of the general design on each side of this gem among coins is enhanced by the exquisite balance which exists among the component parts.

Alexander The Great.—Although Greek coins excel mainly on account of the skill and craftsmanship that begot them, there is an issue which makes an intimate appeal to us by its association with the young Macedonian warrior-king, Alexander the Great. Drachms and tetradrachms of this illustrious figure abound, are relatively inexpensive, and should be represented in any comprehensive collection. Although his name is emblazoned so largely on the Scroll of Fame, Alexander did not live to a great age. The following particulars briefly cover his life-span: Born in B.C. 350, he had his early training under the philosopher Aristotle and, at the age of twenty became King of Macedonia, succeeding his father, Philip, who had been assassinated at Aegae in 336 B.C. Being martially-minded, it was not long before the young king set out on a career of conquest. First, he subdued Greece, then had himself proclaimed Generalissimo of the Greeks in the wars against the Persians. In due course he crossed the Hellespont at the head of 30,000 foot-soldiers and 5,000 horse, and succeeded in conquering the army of Darius at Granicus in 334 B.C.

In the following year he again defeated the Persians—this time at Issus—then went on to subdue the principal cities of Syria. He afterwards over-ran Egypt. Later, crossing the Euphrates and Tigris, he once more routed his old enemies, the Persians, at Arbela.

Hurrying on his victorious way he continued to sweep everything before him until at last, surfeited with triumphs and by now utterly war-weary, his Macedonians refused to go any farther. Taking a realistic view of the situation, Alexander thereupon returned to Babylon, after more than twelve years' successful campaigning. Here, he suddenly contracted a deadly fever, from which he succumbed after eleven days, aged thirty-two, still a very young man.

Hannibal.—Let us turn our attention for a moment to the extremely rare dekadrachm of Carthage, which was issued during the period B.C. 241 - B.C. 218. Although this piece cannot match the Syracusan dekadrachm for beauty, it is considerably rarer. Three years ago, the late Mr. Gilbert Askew, an acknowledged authority on ancient coinage, stated in a letter to me that he had never actually seen a Carthaginian dekadrachm nor had he ever heard of one being offered for auction at the sale-rooms. Forgeries and electrotypes of this coin are sometimes to be picked up in odd places.

The obverse, like that of its Syracusan counterpart, features the head of Persephone, facing left. Pegasus appears on the reverse, speeding to right. Apart from its rarity and handsome appearance, the Carthaginian dekadrachm attains a definite interest by the fact that

the period of its issue covers the infancy, adolescence and early manhood of the redoubtable Hannibal who, during the currency of this coin, inflicted several crushing defeats on the Roman armies in the earlier phases of the second Punic war.

From "the Glory that was Greece" we proceed to "the Grandeur that was Rome." Even at its zenith, the cultural level of ancient Rome fell far short of that of illustrious Greece, or Hellas as it was then known. However, Rome has enriched posterity by the history she made when the world, as we know it, was young. Of those who played so prominent a part in the stirring times of approximately 2,000 years ago, it may truly be said: "By their deeds ye shall know them."

During the first century, B.C., the Imperators, with their cohorts and legions, left imperishable records behind them. Their names were oft-times engraven on the coinage of those days and, as we examine these ancient denarii, etc., is it any wonder if we pause to meditate awhile on the lives and deeds of those in whose honour they were struck?

Pompey the Great.—We have here a denarius of one of these soldier-statesmen. He was Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, known to history as Pompey the Great. Born in 106 B.C., he made the army his career and became one of Rome's foremost generals. While still a young man he entered public life and, in 60 B.C., joined with Julius Caesar and Crassus to form the First Triumvirate. This governing body worked harmoniously for a time but, as Caesar progressed from strength to strength, Pompey became jealous and embittered.

Julius Caesar—Dictator!—Just as every philatelist loves to possess a "Penny Black" (Great Britain's first postage stamp) so most numismatists like to acquire a denarius of Julius Caesar. Every school-boy knows something of this demi-god, and most of us remember perspiring in our efforts to construe from Latin to English the account of his expeditions to, and ultimate conquest of, Britain. It was in building up his great personal reputation that Caesar incurred the enmity of Pompey. Pompey was vanquished, leaving Caesar supreme. It was not long before Caesar was elected to the office of Dictator for a period of five years. As a statesman he was no less competent than as a soldier, and he soon became the idol of the populace. However, certain seators conspired against him and he was assassinated on the Ides (15th) of March, in the year 44 B.C.

Curiously enough, each of these great soldier-statesmen, whose lives had been cast in such similar moulds, not only died in the same manner—at the hands of assassins—but also at the same age, 58! When fashioning their respective destinies their gods must have been in grimly jocular vein.

Mr. Sellars then discussed some other figures notable in ancient history including Antony and Cleopatra, Jesus Christ (and the widow's mite), Judas Iscariot (and the thirty pieces of silver), Pontius Pilate, Nero, and Constantine the Great.

Conclusion.—So, in musing over these coins of the ancient series, we have rubbed shoulders, metaphorically speaking, with some of the giants of the past, identities whose names, for good or ill, come echoing down the corridors of time. Though not all of them have succeeded in exciting our admiration, it is probably not too much to say that at least they have held our interest. Like ourselves, these personalities of another age once played their part on the stage of life but played it to such purpose that the records of their exploits shall remain, ever and always, imperishable and undimmed. "Their Name Liveth for Evermore."

COINS AT RANDOM

A Talk for Younger Members

An address on interesting facts about modern coins was given by Mr. T. Attwood, F.R.N.S., N.Z., to Auckland members, primarily for the benefit of new and younger members, but the address was enjoyed by all members present.

After referring to surprises awaiting some new members, even as to the coins of their own country, such as the rarity of the 1935 crown piece, he described a few of the attractive English coins that usually command the attention of new collectors. Notable among these were the Godless and Gothic florins of Queen Victoria, also her double florin and Gothic crown, all of exquisite design.

The three designs for the 1887 sixpences were described, the long used young head, then the Jubilee head with the same reverse and finally the same head with a new reverse, which embodied the central feature of the Royal Standard flown when the Monarch was in residence, a design dear to the hearts of all English people. In the films of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II this design was very much in evidence on uniforms and on decorations. The design and size of that last mentioned sixpence was somewhat similar to that of the half-sovereign, and unscrupulous persons gilded them and passed them for 10s. At that time paper money was not so much used and when you realize that for every 10s. note and £1 note you see today, a half-sovereign and a sovereign was used then, you will readily understand that these frauds were often successful. When the speaker was a mere lad the use of gold coins was so great that bank tellers in London used a small brass shovel with a fine edge into which the coins were swept by the fingers and poured into the scales, the latter being quicker and more accurate than the count.

If you care to compare the copper coins of Victoria from the first issues up to 1860 with the bronze ones from 1860 onwards, the time spent will be amply repaid. They vary appreciably in size and design. The old head appeared from 1893 to 1901.

We have all read how keen philatelists discover flaws or something unusual in new issues of stamps. Coins, too, come in for a share of criticism in this respect. Cracked dies have at times been used, or a coin may be struck off centre. A number of irregularities may occur, but rarely can they be called errors, as in almost every case there is a reason for them, and the Royal Mint has the answer. Nevertheless, the following variations are, I think, of real interest. A great many coins, particularly those of crown size, have an inscription around the edge. The year of the reign of that particular monarch is engraved in Latin numerals and it is thrilling to note an apparent irregularity in some of these. Just to show you what I mean I will mention only four, and you will see where the apparent discrepancy occurs. We take first the old head crown of 1893. On the edge of this is the inscription "Decus Et Tutamen, Anno Regni LVI (56)." The

crown of the following year shows the year of reign LVII (57). The crown of 1897 shows LXI (61) and that of 1900 shows LXIV (64). If the first two are correct (and they would appear to be), then the last two should be 60 and 63 respectively. This is not a mistake on the part of the Mint, as there is a reason for it.

Another fascinating coin is the English crown piece of George V dated 1935. The obverse shows the uncrowned head and the reverse a futuristic of St. George and the dragon, the original design of which is regarded by many numismatists as their favourite. Around the edge is "Decus Et Tutamen Anno Regni XXV." If you are fortunate enough to possess the two specimens, you will find that when reading the edge inscription on one, the obverse will be facing your body, and when reading the inscription on the other, the reverse will be towards you. I do not know the answer to that one either.

If you have a flair for the *unusual* then the following list of inexpensive coins may appeal to you: Fiji Penny, 1936, George V; Fiji Penny, 1936, Edward VIII; New Guinea Penny, 1936, Edward VIII; East Africa 10 Cents, 1936, Edward VIII; East Africa 5 Cents, 1936, Edward VIII; British West Africa Penny, 1936, Edward VIII; British West Africa Half Penny, 1936, Edward VIII; British West Africa One-tenth Penny, 1936, Edward VIII; New Zealand Threepence dated 1935. Go through your three-penny boxes and ask your friends if you may go through theirs. If you find one dated 1935 you will be lucky. I would suggest, too, that you try to get a set of New Zealand silver coins dated 1933 in good condition. This was the first year of issue of our own coinage. If you cannot get 1933 coins in good condition, try a set of 1946, which was the last year in which the coins had a silver content. A New Zealand penny and half-penny of 1940 are also worth having.

Going further afield to Trinidad, Jamaica, Hawaii, what visions they conjure up in our minds. Your coins can help you to capture some of the romance of these enchanting isles. In fancy you may spend a day on Lundy Island, that isolated speck of land off the West Coast of England, and you can enjoy watching those quaint birds called puffins which abound there. The coins of this island are named after these birds.

Day by day as we progress in knowledge, so will we find a growing fascination for our hobby. History and geography are approached from a new angle, and even if these subjects were once distasteful to you, you will find yourself irresistibly drawn toward them. You will learn more of our monarchs down the ages; how some of them were rascals, some the victims of cruel fate, some just puppets in the hands of the aristocracy, and some the very embodiment of all that is high and noble. Happily it is the latter traits that have permeated the hearts of the British people. You will find renewed interest in your atlas. When you come into the possession of a strange coin, and discover its place of origin, you will want to know where that place is; it may be a small British

Colony, or a country on the Carribean coast, or in the Pacific. If you take your hobby seriously you are in for a great deal of wholesome enjoyment, and a constantly growing interest in this fascinating pastime.

ENGLISH HALL AND MINT MARKS

By MR. A. ROBINSON.

Read before Auckland Branch, 3rd March, 1954.

From the dawn of civilization, mankind has had to guard against deception and deceit. There were always people who fraudulently attempted to pass on goods of an inferior quality, particularly articles made of gold and silver (and even coins), with intent to cause the receiver to believe them to be of certain accepted standards of value. The counterfeiter would issue coins with little or no value in the metal used, or in varying standards of fineness, but seldom equal in intrinsic value to the genuine piece. What protection, then, could be afforded?

Coins, especially modern issues, invariably have mint marks or other features affording reasonably good protection. How were people to judge the quality and fineness of gold and silver articles? Some mark was necessary to enable a buyer to discern the good from the bad, and to prevent fraud. I think England was to the forefront in directing attention to the safeguards of craftsmen and people alike. In England, goldsmiths and silversmiths invariably worked in both metals, and until recent times the term "goldsmith" meant a worker in gold and silver, which really constituted one craft.

Down the centuries, standards of ethics have gone hand in hand with the hall-marks of purity of precious metals used in the fashioning of gold and silver plate. Likewise the purity of precious metals used in coins was determined not only by the king's superscription, but also by the ancient custom of submitting samples of coins to a panel of assayers.

As early as the year 1238, King Henry III commanded the Mayor and Aldermen of London to choose six good men and true to supervise the craft. However, probably the first authentic attempt officially to fix standards for gold and silver to protect all from clever but misguided gold and silversmiths was made in the reign of Edward I when a Statute, in the year 1300, ordained "That no goldsmith of England, nor none otherwise within the King's Dominion, shall make or cause to be made, any Vessell, Jewell or other Thing of Gold or Silver, except it be of good and true Alloy, that is to say, Gold not worse than the Touch of Paris, and Silver of the Sterling Alloy or better; and that none work worse Silver than Money, and no Vessell of Silver depart out of the Hands of the Workers, until it be Assayed by the Wardens of the Craft, and the Wardens of the Craft shall go from Shop to Shop among the Goldsmiths to Assay if their Gold be of the same

Touch, and if they find any other, the Gold shall be forfeit to the King. And that all good Towns of England, where any Goldsmith dwell, shall be ordered according to this Statute, as they of London be; and that one (for the rest) shall come from every good Town to London to be ascertained of their Touch. And if any Goldsmith be attainted that he hath done otherwise, he shall be punished by Imprisonment and by Ransom at the King's Pleasure." Note the words "and none work worse Silver than Money" which clearly shows that silver coin of those days was of the same standard as that employed in Sterling silver plate. Here the standard was set for both gold and silver, with dire punishments imposed on those who departed from its ordinance. Later, in the reign of Edward III, a Charter was granted to the Goldsmiths Company in the City of London on March 30, 1327. It recites: "That the Goldsmiths of our City of London, in our Parliament holden at Westminster after the Feast of the Purification of our Lady last past, have shewn (*inter alia*). That the cutlers cover Tin with Silver so subtilly, and with such Sleight, that the same cannot be discerned and severed from the Tin, and by that means they sell the Tin so covered for fine Silver, to the great Damage and Deceit of Us, and our People. Whereupon the said Goldsmiths have petitioned us, that we would be pleased to apply convenient Remedy therein: And We being willing to prevent the said Evil, do by and with the Assent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons of our Realms, for the common profit of Us and our People, Will and Grant, for Us and our Heirs, that those of the said Trade may by virtue of these Presents elect honest, lawful and sufficient Men, best skilled in the said Trade, to enquire of the Matters aforesaid, and that they so chosen may, upon due Consideration of the said Craft, reform what Defects they shall find therein, and thereupon inflict dire Punishment upon the Offenders, and that by the Help and assistance of the Mayor and Sheriffs, if occasion be, And in all trading Cities and Towns in England where Goldsmiths reside, the same Ordinance be observed as in London, and that one or two of every such City or Town, for the rest of that Trade, shall come to London to be ascertained of their Touch of Gold, and there to have a Stamp, of a Puncheon of a Leopards Head, marked upon their work, as of Ancient Time it has been Ordained." The official title of these duly chartered Goldsmiths was "The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of London." Thus the people were to be protected, and the spirit that moved the Parliament of those six hundred odd years ago to frame such a finely balanced piece of legislation, comparable with the best of our modern enactments, was indeed commendable.

James II granted a charter to the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of Chester in 1685 empowering them to assay and mark plate. The exact year when the Chester Company was founded is uncertain, but an extract from the old minute book of the Company says "that it had rights and privileges beyond the Memory of Man." Whether this claim to antiquity can be sustained is

debatable, but assaying must have been practised at an early period as a mint was established in the city by King Aethelstan (925-939). It is known that they enjoyed certain minting and assaying rights during the reign of Charles II of which they were later deprived. These were reinstated by James II. The first entries in the minute book were recorded about 1572. Provincial goldsmiths had to journey to London in order to have their plate assayed but in the year 1700, a Statute of William III gave them much needed relief. It recites: "That the Goldsmiths, Silver-smiths and Plate Workers remote from London, are under great difficulties and hardships in the Exercise of their Trades, for want of Assayers in convenient places, to Assay and Touch their Wrought Plate, and therefore for Remedy thereof, and for preventing all Frauds and Corruptions Therein, Section I appoints the several Cities where the Mints were lately erected for re-coining the Silver money, viz.: York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester and Norwich, for the Assaying and Making of Wrought Plate, and for executing the powers, authorities and directions given by this Act." It would appear that these towns were formerly vested with authority to assay plate, a privilege which was taken away from them about 1697. When the assay offices were eventually re-appointed in 1700 there seems to be little doubt that assays were carried out at the Mints referred to in that Statute of William III in 1700.

Further extracts from the Chester Goldsmiths Company's minute book in the years 1705 and 1722 show to what extent the craft guarded their rights and the protections accorded craftsmen and workers within the trade. The extract dated February 19th, 1705, reads: "Whereas by Ancient Custom the Goldsmiths and Watchmakers of the City have been one Company and Whereas by Act of Parliament made 12th and 13th of King William entitled an Act for appointing Wardens and Assay Masters for Assaying Wrought Plate by the Goldsmiths of the Citys of York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester and Norwich. The Goldsmiths of this City are incorporated into a Company, it is mutually agreed between the said Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers be continued the same Company as formerly. But the Watchmakers shall not exercise any part of the trade belonging to the Goldsmiths, nor shall the Goldsmiths exercise any trade belonging to the Watchmakers. But that each Brother of the said Company shall only exercise that trade to which he was bound apprentice, upon penalty of Ten Pounds for every offence." The underlying principle which forbade both Goldsmith and Watchmaker to poach on each others preserves was noble in conception and, when compared to our present (and generally accepted) code of business ethics, suffered little by comparison. It is my belief that codes of ethics with regard to trading in those days were superior to those of ours, and the following extracts taken from the Company's minute book, March 22nd, 1722, rather bears out this contention. "It is this day agreed upon by the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers that if any Brother of the Company shall by means entice

another's Journey-Man from his employ in his house or shop, under any pretence whatever or give or send to him any work to be done without the consent of the Master of the said Journey-Man, the Brother so offending shall pay the sum of Five Pounds Sterling within one week to the Wardens of the said Company for the use of the said Company." A gentleman's agreement, very much in disuse nowadays! This discipline, together with various other strictures, ordinances and statutes issued from time to time served a threefold purpose; the establishment of specified standards, adequate safeguards for the honest craftsmen and protection for the public from fraud.

(To be continued)

A COIN ILLUSTRATION METHOD

Exemplified by a Copper Coin of Roger 1st of Sicily.

By D. ELLIOTT SMITH,
Mosman, N.S.W.

Preparation of articles is handicapped by the difficulty of providing illustrations, and I feel that papers dealing with numismatics, unaccompanied by illustrations, are of small value.

The normal method of photographing plaster casts is difficult and costly and is better dealt with by experts.

I am using the following method which, I believe, should cheapen illustrations, particularly in the case of small and worn coins; it also involves a very detailed examination and, so far, has proved helpful for identification purposes. Greater interest to a keen collector than detective yarns is the search and study necessary to identify some coins such as ancient or worn ones.

The method referred to consists of using a pantograph removed from an ex-Air Force optical drift recorder. This is attached to a board, and the tracing needle under a fixed strong magnifying glass is made to follow details of the coin by moving the pencil arm which also draws the detail with the dimensions multiplied by two; on completion of this, the pencil work is inked in with Indian ink whilst having the coin still under the magnifying glass for comparison and checking.

The example referred to is one of my most treasured copper coins and was issued by Count Roger 1st of Sicily who conquered the Moors in Sicily and governed them from 1072 to 1101. The denomination is a doppio follaro.

The obverse, which might have stepped out of the Bayeaux tapestry, shows the Count on horseback to left holding a lance with pennon trailing. Wear has obliterated any signs of chain mail; the shield is not distinct from the body, but the nose-guard is just discernible. The pennon carries a design reminiscent of modern regimental identification marks, and is confirmatory that

the art of heraldry was not current at that date. Only the outline of the horses' head can be seen, and its forelegs appear muddled.

The inscription ROGERIVS COMES is quaint, with severe unadorned letters and irregular spacing. The E appears at the end of the pennon and the final S is astray, opposite the helmet. Roger was the son of Tancred, and belonged to an impecunious Norman family of Hauteville. He was a contemporary of William the Conqueror, and had similar racial characteristics.

The reverse is reminiscent of Christmas time; the nimbate Virgin seated on a throne to right is holding in her arms the nimbate Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. The inscription is better executed on this side, and reads MARIA MATER DNI. There is some object between the two faces which may be an ornament on the Virgin's further shoulder.

NOTABLE CENTENNIALS

This year is the centennial of the meeting of the first Parliament in New Zealand; it is also the centennial of the outbreak of war in the Crimea when Britain joined France in defending Turkey against Russia. The charge of the Light Brigade, immortalized by Tennyson, took place there 100 years ago, and there, too, Florence Nightingale achieved fame for a British nursing service which in turn inspired the formation of a Red Cross service to alleviate suffering. On 4 December, 1854, the Distinguished Conduct Medal was instituted specifically for the Crimean campaign, but was later extended indefinitely.

In 1855 at Parliament House, Auckland—sometimes called the Assembly House—"The Commons of New Zealand, in their House of Representatives assembled," marked the fall of Sebastopol by passing a congratulatory address to the Queen. Ten years later the seat of Government was transferred to Wellington, and Parliament House, Auckland, was then used for Government offices, and for University purposes, until it was sold for removal. It was re-erected at Parnell and used as a lunch room for a confectionary firm until destroyed by fire. It is proposed in this centennial year of parliamentary government in New Zealand to mark the site of the first Parliament House.

CRIMEAN WAR MEDAL

The flow of history is reflected in a Crimean War medal of silver found a few years ago near the jetty at Invercargill. Around the edge of the medal is inscribed "2448 Private Martin Stagpool 57th Regiment." A press report of the find eventually came to the notice of Mr. V. B. Stagpoole, of Waimana, Bay of Plenty, who stated that the medal belonged to a great uncle of his, one of three brothers who enlisted in the 57th Middlesex Regi-





Some scarce pieces from the collection of Mr. M. A. Jamieson, Auckland.
James VIII of Scotland. Crown. 1716.
Charles I. Silver half-pound piece. 1642. Oxford Mint.
William IV. Crown piece. 1831.

ment. He said that three brothers served in the Crimean War, and in the Indian Campaign, and were later stationed in Tasmania whence they were sent to New Zealand for the Maori War. After that war two brothers took their discharges in New Zealand and the third (Drummer Dudley Stagpoole who won the V.C. in Taranaki)* returned to England. The owner of the medal was last heard of in Southland, and it was thought that he had gone to America. The correct name is stated to be "de Stacpoole," but the English recruiting sergeant wrote the name "Stagpool" when attesting the brothers.

Now in the Southland Museum, this mute medal, blackened by time, brings echoes from the past and links places half the globe apart with a pioneering family that did more than its share to expand the "British Dominions Beyond the Seas."

* Captain G. T. Staggs advises that this award is recorded in *Britain's Roll of Glory or the Victoria Cross and its Roll of Heroes and their Valour*, by D. H. Parry, 1898: "V.C. No. 316 Drummer Dudley Stagpoole, 57th Regiment (now the 1st Bn. The Middlesex Regt.) Date of Act—2nd October, 1863. For rescuing a wounded comrade under heavy fire at Poutoko. Published in the *London Gazette* of 23rd September, 1864. He has a medal in addition for Distinguished Conduct in the Field (D.C.M.) for similar actions."

"BEAGLE" AND "ADVENTURE" MEDAL

(Read at Auckland by Allan Sutherland)

This modest brass medal, less than the size of a florin, gives us a fascinating link with Robert FitzRoy, 1805-65, who visited New Zealand in 1835, and who later became Governor here, and also with Charles Darwin whose *Origin of Species* and other writings on the theory of evolution created a sensation and changed scientific thought of the time. Indeed Darwin's theory seemed to create a greater sensation among our forefathers than did the advent of the hydrogen bomb in our generation.

The medal is inscribed on obverse GEORGE IV across centre and H.B.M.S. ADVENTURE AND BEAGLE around, and on the reverse there is a representation of Britannia holding a laurel wreath under a large crown, all encircled by a wreath, resembling a large button.

In 1828 FitzRoy commanded the brig *Beagle* in a survey of the coasts of South America, under Commander P. P. King of *Adventure*. In 1831 the brig *Beagle* sailed from England with FitzRoy in command and with Charles Darwin on board as a naturalist. In December, 1835, the *Beagle* was anchored at the Bay of Islands, and for ten days Darwin engaged in botanical work while FitzRoy visited Mission Stations. The work of the missionaries impressed FitzRoy so much that he gave them special praise in his evidence before a Select Committee of the House of Lords in 1838 on the state of New Zealand.

The first visit of FitzRoy apparently influenced his sym-

pathetic treatment of the Maoris when later, as Governor, he had to deal with the aftermath of the Wairau Affray inherited from Lt. "Taihoa" Shortland, the Acting Governor. FitzRoy's first visit had the imprint of a later one by another naval officer, Hobson, that of a preliminary examination of a potential Colony. Both men afterwards became Governor.

Darwin spent five years voyaging around the world in the *Beagle*, and FitzRoy spent ten years in the *Beagle* and the *Adventure*. FitzRoy published a narrative of his voyages, and the third volume was edited by Darwin. FitzRoy was M.P. for Durham in the House of Commons in 1841, and Conservator of the River Mersey when appointed Governor of New Zealand, in 1843. He was descended from a natural son of King Charles II, later made Duke of Grafton. Auckland perpetuates the name in Grafton Bridge, Grafton Road, and in a leading football team.

FitzRoy and Darwin lived in a period of great writers and thinkers who influenced British thought and action—men such as Tennyson, 1809-92, who wrote prophetically of airy navies grappling in the central blue, and the federation of the world. It was also the time of Macaulay, Thackeray, Dickens, Disraeli and Gladstone and others who graced and inspired this great period in British history.

PACIFIC ISLANDERS AND THE MONEY ECONOMY

Among the South Pacific Islanders "there is a lack of understanding of the use of modern money and the advantages of savings and investment" states Mr. V. D. Stace, Assistant Economist to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand in Technical Paper No. 54 of the South Pacific Commission. In sharing wealth drones benefit at the expense of the industrious.

Frequently expressed opinions such as "the Pacific Islands people have no understanding of money," or "a few of the more sophisticated islanders are now becoming aware of the value of money" are inaccurate unless the speaker qualifies his remarks with an explanation that he refers to "modern money." It is common knowledge that primitive forms of money have been in use in the Pacific Islands for centuries. It is necessary to mention only a few examples: the fine mats of Samoa, the whales' teeth of Fiji, the various shell monies of New Guinea, the stone disc currency of Yap, and the use of pigs in New Hebrides, to emphasize the wide geographical spread, the variety of form and the antiquity of the primitive monies of the Pacific.

The immense gap between the position on the scale of monetary evolution applicable to the Pacific Islands people in general and that measuring the monetary development of European and Asian peoples today presents a problem of very real significance in furthering the economic development of the indigent people of the region.

There is no question that primitive forms of money have

stimulated much economic activity among the Pacific Islands people. By facilitating a certain amount of division of labour and the exchange of goods and services between peoples and localities, the use of these local forms of money has resulted in a more productive use of resources than would have been possible in a non-monetary economy. In relation to the needs of this century, however, knowledge and attitudes associated with primitive money are as limited in worth and often as unhelpful as knowledge and attitudes associated with primitive techniques in other fields.

A monetary system provides opportunities for making, enjoying and preserving profit from increased productive efforts. In primitive societies, particularly those in naturally-favoured areas such as the Pacific where basic needs can be secured relatively easily and with unusual certainty, wealth in the form of money is accumulated not for personal security or as a means of obtaining additional income for a higher standard of living, but for prestige reasons, for ceremonial use or developing goodwill and influence by the distribution of gifts. This primitive attitude towards money which results in ostentatious display and open-handed distribution among kinsfolk is frequently regarded by Europeans as evidence of inherent irresponsibility on the part of the Pacific Island people concerned. Like some of the primitive medical techniques of our own grandfathers which are still favoured by the few to their disadvantage, the islanders' primitive money practices should be revealed to them as restraints to their progress, and knowledge of better ways and facilities for sound monetary practice should be made available to the indigenous people in the same spirit that motivates agricultural extension service work among them and other forms of technical education.

Administrators and businessmen of European or Asian origin and background without special knowledge of the evolution of money are inclined to form adversely critical judgments on the attitude and capacity of Pacific Island people in financial matters. It is usual for such critics to take modern money concepts for granted, because, even in the absence of special training of any sort, the whole of their cultural environment provides a conscious and subconscious training-ground for them from the time they receive their first money-box or make their first purchase in a nearby store.

Taking money concepts and practices for granted ignores two very important things. First, such people overlook the recent origin of developments which have made revolutionary changes in the character, purpose and effectiveness of sophisticated money systems, and second, they make no allowance for the fact that the need to look ahead and to take advantage of material opportunities which provide the basis of modern saving and capital formation habits is the product of rigorous environments where failure to do such things often involved unfortunate consequences or competitive disadvantages for neglectful individuals and communities. European or Asian people developing their cultures in a circumscribed Pacific environment could not have evolved efficient money

systems of the types now operating in economically-developed countries. The easy living conditions and restricted scope for the exchange of goods and ideas previously obtaining in the Pacific would preclude rapid evolution of monetary techniques.

The only constructive way to approach problems associated with the lack of understanding of money and finance that is so general among Pacific Island people is through the use of techniques of fundamental education, supported by special facilities and incentives. Success or failure in this approach will to a very great extent determine the rate of economic development in the region.

THE SERINGAPATAM MEDAL

By J. ROBERTS (ex-Chairman, Auckland Branch).

In the year 1799-1801 there was much fighting in the extreme south of India during the pacification which followed upon the storm of Seringapatam and the death of Tippoo Sultan. The work for the most part was blind and difficult, being carried on by small columns in dense jungle against a treacherous enemy, whose favourite weapon was a broad, keen blade fixed vertically at the end of a long shaft. Working with a small flanking party of Sepoys through the forest, Lieutenant Parminter of the Madras Native Infantry, came upon a cleared space, when he was suddenly assailed on all sides by greatly superior numbers. His Sepoys, smitten with panic, took to their heels, and Parminter stood up to the enemy alone with his regimental sword. For a time he defended himself successfully till he tripped and fell over a stump of a tree. He was instantly pierced in five places by five blades, one of which was driven clean through his shoulder and pinned him to the earth. While he lay helpless, one of the enemy ran up with musket and bayonet to despatch him, whereupon Parminter by a desperate effort wrenched the blade out of the ground and, rising to his feet with the weapon still fast in his shoulder, turned upon his opponent with his sword and despatched him. Meanwhile the Sepoys had rallied, and seeing him renew the fight, ran forward to his rescue, whereupon the whole body of the enemy, who had been hesitating in utter amazement, turned and fled in dismay. His subsequent history is not known, but his bravery has not been forgotten.

There are four types of medals struck by the Honourable East India Company for Seringapatam (one of which is reproduced). This was a privately owned company, which to protect its interests maintained a standing army of both British and Indian.

The Seringapatam Medal has an attractive design and no collection should be without one. It was issued in gold to the Commander-in-Chief and Generals, in silver to other officers and in bronze to British troops, and in tin to Native soldiers. The

obverse has a fine picture of a fight between the British lion and Tippoo Sultan's tiger. The reverse shows the attack on the fortress.



To those of us who served in both the world wars of 1914 and 1939, I think the most interesting fact about Seringapatam is the value of the prize money which came to over £1,140,000 and was distributed roughly as follows: Commander-in-Chief, £100,000; Generals, £10,000; Colonels, £4,300; Majors, £1,700; Captains, £860; Lieutenants, £430; Warrant Officers, £105; Sergeants, £14; Privates, £7.

RARE COINS

Included in the exhibits at the November meeting in Wellington were the following coins of Mr. M. A. Jamieson:—

Elizabeth I "Portcullis Dollar," 1600.—When the English East India Company was incorporated by Queen Elizabeth, in 1600, the merchants found that the Spanish and Portugese silver coins were readily accepted in the Oriental markets, and sought leave to export such coins for their own use. Elizabeth objected to her merchants handling any coin which did not bear her portrait, and wished to be known and respected by the Asiatics no less than any other monarch whose coinage circulated in the East. She, therefore, authorised a small sum to be set aside for coinage, which was struck at the Tower, for use in the Oriental markets. The design eventually approved did not include her portrait, but depicted a Tudor Portcullis, crowned, while on the other side the crowned arms of England divided the

crowned letters E.R. The Mint mark 0 signifying 1600, appears on both sides of the coin. The legends were the same as on the English crown piece, the value being that of a crown or eight-real piece, with which it was in competition. The "Portcullis Dollar" was not well received and was soon withdrawn from circulation. It is now of considerable rarity. It was the first English coin to be struck specially for colonial use, and is consequently more correctly classified among British colonial coins, though it is sometimes included in the range of English silver crowns.

Charles I Half Pound Piece, 1642.—When Charles I occupied Oxford in 1642—the year New Zealand was discovered by the Dutch navigator, Abel Janszoon Tasman—he was hard put to find money with which to pay his troops. Mints were established at various cities where Charles had his headquarters. In order to obtain the silver to mint coins in Oxford, the churches and colleges were forced to surrender their silver plate. The Oxford Mint produced the rare and interesting silver pound, half-pound, and crown pieces, on which appeared the three Oxford plumes, in contradistinction to the three Shrewsbury plumes which were shown on the Shrewsbury mint coins.

Charles II Crown, 1681.—In 1681, the year William Penn received the grant of Pennsylvania, one of the thirteen original States, which, in 1776, formed the United States of America, Charles II issued a crown piece, with the elephant and castle under the bust, one of the rarities among English crowns, as only around a dozen are known in present day collections or museums. The elephant, or more rarely the elephant and castle, under the bust, denote that the metal from which the coin was struck was supplied by the Africa Company. The harp on the reverse has six strings, though these coins are also found with eight strings in the harp. The bust is the fourth and last shown on the crowns of the reign of Charles II.

RARE NEW ZEALAND PENNY

Our census of owners, referred to on page 29 of our Journal No. 17, has resulted in the following additional specimens being reported:—

Royal Mint Collection, Melbourne.

Mr. J. L. Griffin, Wellington (Specimen ex London).

Mr. J. Verner Scaife, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pa. (Specimen ex London).
(Now deceased.)

Mr. Wm. D. Koonce, 4269 Fair Ave., North Hollywood, Cal.
(Specimen ex Melbourne.)

Mrs. D. Dee De Nise, 139 E. 116th St., Seattle 55, Washington,
and Librarian of the A.N.A. (Specimen ex the Eklund
Collection.)

All these pennies dated 1879 are in mint red uncirculated condition. There is no specimen in the South Australian State Collection, as reported earlier.

DIGEST OF PAPERS FOR PRINTING.

Condensed reports of lengthy papers for publication would be appreciated, where possible, and preferably not more than 1,800 words, or equal to about seven quarto pages typewritten, double-spaced.

FORESTRY MEDAL

Mr. L. G. Morel of Christchurch has described a brass medal 30 mm. diameter inscribed in fourteen lines, "Perpetual Endowment Association. This one growing tree bonus discount or super-annuation medal evidence the receipt of one shilling for services rendered by the ——— cash customers confederation, cccc, P.O. Box 134 Christchurch, N.Z." On the other side is "The collector of 300 cccc medals will receive in exchange a fully-paid forestry bond entitling the holder to the perpetual profits arising from one full acre of land planted periodically with soft woods suitable for making wood pulp, paper, art silk, fibre, etc. Nature works night and day whether we work or whether we play. A. 1027 Reed branch number."

Information is wanted as to this issue. One suggestion is that it was issued by the Christchurch City Corporation which is stated to control the Burwood Plantation.

MINT TOWNS OF THE MUGHAL EMPERORS OF INDIA

Compiled by Dr. C. R. Singhal, this has been issued as Memoir No. 4 of the Numismatic Society of India. This 51 pp. memoir in English gives short notes on new mints of each Emperor, a list for each reign showing the active mints and the metals used in coining, and a comparative table of the years of Hegira and of the Christian Era.

This publication is further evidence of the scholarship and industry of Dr. Singhal whose work should prove of great value to all students in this varied and complex field.—A.S.

GOLD MARKET

When the London gold market was closed in 1939 the price of sovereigns was pegged to the actual weight in gold, and the price of gold was fixed by the Bank of England.

Before the gold market in London was reopened early in 1954 the price of a sovereign was 58s., but under the free market the price rose to 63s. 6d. The reason for the premium of 5s. 6d. has mystified bullion merchants.

NEW ZEALAND COINS.

No half-crowns or florins were issued dated 1952. The 1952 issues were:—

	Value	Pieces
1s	£30,000	600,000
6d	£80,000	3,200,000
3d	£100,000	8,000,000
1d	£45,000	10,800,000
$\frac{1}{2}$ d	£5,000	2,400,000

NEW ZEALAND COIN CHART.

The Auckland Branch has some reprints of a one-page chart showing all New Zealand coins issued from first issue in 1933 to 1953. Send 1s. for each chart and enclose addressed stamped envelope to E. Morris, Hon. Secretary, 31 Spring Street, Onehunga, S.E.5. Proceeds to Branch funds.

BIRD OF PARADISE

By MR. C. J. WEAVER (now deceased).

The year 1894 ushered in a scintillating numismatic achievement, the bird of paradise coins of the German New Guinea Company, of the following denominations: gold—twenty and ten marks; silver—five, two, one and half marks; bronze—ten pfennigs, 1894. The obverse of the five mark coin is completely filled by a bird of paradise. The magnificent plumage appears in all its wondrous beauty. This splendid bird appears with raised wings, standing upon a long branch with its head turned looking upwards and backwards.

The reverse follows conventional lines and bears a handsome wreath of New Guinea palm. Above the wreath and between it and the rim of the coin in small lettering is the inscription NEW-GUINEA COMPAGNIE, and in the field within the wreath in four lines 5/NEU-GUINEA/MARK/1894. Below the wreath, underneath the bow of ribbon by which it is tied, is the letter A, the Berlin mint-mark. Specimens of the fauna and flora of New Guinea are thus fittingly expressed.

The artist who produced this superlatively beautiful work was Emil Wiegand, 1837-1906, the great German medallist and coin engraver who became chief medallist at the Berlin mint in 1887. His bird of paradise on the New Guinea coins is perhaps the greatest of the many monuments of his genius that are sought for and prized by art lovers, numismatists and collectors in all parts of the world. During Great War I the new Australian Administrator seized the bulk of these beautiful coins and melted them down to be converted into British currency.

MARTINIQUE.

About this period a handsome token was issued by the French Government for Martinique. Of aluminium bronze, a yellow metal having the appearance of brass, the token represents one franc, which, in the ordinary currency, is issued in silver. Upon the obverse is the bust of a beautiful native lady of Martinique, fashionably attired in the European dress of the period with the Martinique head-dress.

Within and around the inner circle is COLONIE DE LA MARTINIQUE. The reverse is conventional; within a wreath in three lines BON POUR/1 FRANC/1897 (Good for 1 Franc). Around between wreath and rim CONTRE VALEUR DEPOSEE AU TRESOR (against value deposited in the Treasury). In the field underneath the date in minute letters is A. BORREL, the artist.

BARE-FOOTED GOLD MINER

An interesting medal in the Southland Museum recalls the 50th Jubilee of the gold rush in Otago Central. It is a bronze medal inscribed GABRIELS GULLY JUBILEE around 1861-1911, and the reverse shows a bearded barefooted miner, hatted, and holding a shovel in one hand and rocking a mining cradle with the other, with tent and mountains in background. A monument marks the spot where Gabriel Reid first discovered gold in Otago and where, with a butcher's knife, in ten hours he collected 25 lb. of gold. In the following year 11,500 people lived in tents on their mining claims in this valley.



468. Hutt District Agricultural, Horticultural and Pastoral Society. Silver medal, reduced to about half size, awarded in 1879. The medal survives the Society of that name.



488. Silver medal 2½ ins. diameter by A. Teutenberg, Auckland. Son of a gunsmith to King Frederick William IV of Prussia, he had a small shop in 1905 on the site of the former post office at Wellesley Street where he engraved medals and practised sculpture. He made the gargoyles and figures which adorn the walls of the Supreme Court, Auckland. He also struck a special medal to commemorate the visit to Auckland of a German man-of-war in 1875. (S. 411, p. 235.)

OTAGO A. & P. MEDALS

S. 489. Obv.: AGRICULTURAL & PASTORAL ASSOCIATION. around above and in small letters below, Harrop & Neill Dunedin (name of die sinker). These are in raised letters from the die.

Across the field are punch-sunk letters (after the medal was struck) 1ST PRIZE THOROUGH BRED COLT followed by P. & J. AYSON engraved, then 1875 CLUTHA, both punch-sunk. This medal is notable for the three forms of lettering.

Rev.: Horse and cow standing to r. sheep lying to l. Flax and mountain. Raised letters in exergue, Harrop & Neill, Dunedin, N.Z. Silver. 43 mm. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.

489a. Obv.: AWARDED TO (William Wylie) FOR (2nd Best Rolled Bacon 1876). The inscription in brackets is engraved. All inside wreath of wheat. NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL & PASTORAL ASSOCIATION, OTAGO. INSTITUTED 1863 around.

Rev.: Horse, cow, bull standing to r. sheep lying to r. with pig to r. standing in front and sheep standing to l. in front. Flax and mountain in background. J. MOORE F on exergue line. Copper. 50 mm. 2 ins.

489b. Silver medal 38 mm. (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) with no die lettering other than G & T Y sunk on edge (G. and T. Young, makers).

Obv.: Wreath, heavily beaded rim. The edge is 5 mm. wide. Engraved North Otago Agricultural and Pastoral Association. in centre.

Rev.: Beaded rim. Engraved in centre For Best Home Made Loaves Show 1900 Miss Lottie Wylie.

These medals are in the Southland Museum, and have not previously been recorded.

CROWN PIECES

Crown pieces sold at a fantastic pace at the Chief Post Office, Wellington, on the 9th April. Just under 300 were bought in ten minutes by eager buyers who had formed a long queue well before the Savings Bank office opened.

ST. HELENA HALFPENNIES.

St. Helena halfpennies have been found in Maori graves and in collections of early settlers. Before the Panama Canal was opened sailing vessels from the Homeland came round Cape Horn or the Cape of Good Hope, and sighted or called at Canary Islands, Madiera Island, Cape Verde Island, Ascension and St. Helena.

The halfpennies may have been brought by British soldiers transferred here after a period at St. Helena. In addition there was an association through Col. Sir Thomas Gore Brown who was promoted from Governor of St. Helena to Governor of New Zealand where he served from 1855 to 1861 until Sir George Grey was recalled to New Zealand for a second term as Governor to deal with the Maori War, which had been caused in some measure, by Gore Brown's new land sales policy.

NEW ZEALAND PENNY.

The Deputy Master of the Royal Mint at Melbourne, Mr. Reynolds, has advised that a specimen of the rare New Zealand penny is in the Royal Mint collection in Melbourne.

Mr. James Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., has advised that there is no New Zealand penny in the South Australian State Collection in Adelaide, as reported in last issue.

CAPTAIN COOK "RESOLUTION" AND "ADVENTURE" MEDAL.

Mr. M. A. Jamieson, of Auckland, advises that he has a copper specimen.

NEW ZEALAND CROSS.

The dies of the rare New Zealand Cross came to light recently in an official spring cleaning at the High Commissioner's Office, London, and have now been placed in the Dominion Museum, Wellington. Only 30 crosses were struck from the dies, 23 being awarded between the years 1869 and 1910 and the remaining 7 engraved 'Specimen' on the reverse, have found their way into museums and private collections.

HOLEY DOLLARS.

Mr. James Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., c/o National Gallery, North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia, asks all numismatists possessing specimens to advise him the date, mint, assayer's initials (and if F.M. whether reversed), title of monarch, IV or IIII for Charles IV; bust, Charles III or IV, or if Ferd VII, whether Lima, Santiago, or laureated, condition, diameter, centred or not, width of countermark ring; also information regarding the variations in the stamping of NEW SOUTH WALES 1813 and FIVE SHILLINGS and the spray, clock position in N in NEW, etc. Perhaps clear rubbings would give the required information. Also he wants to know the pedigree of the coins, if known, and details about cut holey dollars.

MEDAL OF EARLIER HILLARY ENDEAVOUR.

Following the climbing of Mt. Everest by the New Zealander, Sir Edmund Hillary, and the Sherpa Tensing, a photo of a medal was published in the *Auckland Star* of 10 June, depicting the portrait to left of King George the Fourth, Patron of the Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck, and on the reverse three men in a boat rescuing another, and above around, LET NOT THE DEEP SWALLOW ME UP. This institution was founded by the great-great-grand-uncle of Sir Edmund, and was saved from the melting-pot by Mr. Walter Denison because it was a classic example of the engraver's art. The medal was awarded to Mr. I. Roberts in 1856.

BOOK REVIEWS

Coronation and Commemorative Medals, 1887-1953. Lieut-Colonel Howard N. Cole, O.B.E., T.D., F.R.Hist.S. Published by Gale & Polden Ltd., Aldershot. English price: Cloth 7/6; Paper Covers 5/-.

The use of the all-embracing term "Commemorative Medal" in the absence of any other suitable brief collective heading is misleading, as the booklet is restricted to official coronation, jubilee, Royal visit and Durbar medals awarded during the periods stated, all of which are authorised to be worn by the recipients. The medal struck to commemorate the visit of the Prince of Wales to India is not included, and this omission is to be regretted.

This is a publication which will appeal to all who are interested in the historical occasions which gave rise to this new and beautiful group of medals, and at the same time will meet the requirements of all except the most expert and inquisitive medal collectors. The author gives the background and development of present-day medals, and then introduces each one chronologically by means of a description of the

particular Royal occasion with full details of the medals struck in commemoration.

A coloured frontispiece illustrates the distinctive medal-ribbons, while full scale reproductions in black and white of obverse and reverse of each medal appear opposite each description. In addition, scattered throughout the booklet are full-page illustrations, each of which captures a scene from one or other of the more important occasions, so chosen that over the period covered, the reader is given a glimpse of the main points of interest on the Royal progress from Buckingham Palace to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and the splendour of a Delhi Durbar.

In the fifty-two pages of his booklet Colonel Cole has brought together in a pleasing manner a miniature cavalcade of British majesty and splendour, side by side with its record as perpetuated in official medallic art.

—G.T.S.

THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

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Auckland Branch.

Chairman: Mr. R. Sellars; **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. A. Robinson; **Executive:** Mr. N. Solomon, Mr. J. Roberts; **Auditor:** Mr. T. Southern; **Hon. Secretary-Treasurer:** Mr. E. Morris, 31 Spring Street, Onehunga, S.E. 5. (Elected June, 1953.)

Canterbury Branch.

Chairman: Mr. L. J. Dale, F.R.N.S., N.Z.; **Vice-Chairmen:** Miss S. Lange and Mr. J. Sutherland, F.R.N.S., N.Z.; **Hon. Secretary-Treasurer:** Mr. D. Hasler, 7 Grants Road, Christchurch; **Hon. Librarian:** Miss M. K. Steven, M.B., Ch.B., M.A.; **Hon. Auditor:** Mr. J. Logie; **Council Representative:** Mr. J. Sutherland, F.R.N.S., N.Z.; **Committee:** The Chairman, the two Vice-Chairmen, Hon. Secretary, Miss Steven, Mr. Morel and Mr. Bruce Middleton.

NOTES OF MEETINGS

AUCKLAND

The 50th General Meeting was held on 2 December, 1953. Mr. R. Sellars presided over a good attendance of members. Mr. Dan Atkinson was congratulated on being elected a Fellow of the Society. It was decided to advise Principals of secondary schools that interested students would be welcomed at monthly meetings. Mr. Stork, a visitor from America, gave a talk on experiences in acquiring and exchanging coins in America and Australia.

The 51st Meeting was held on 3 March. Mr. R. Sellars presided. Reference was made to the coin and medal display at the Museum. The Chairman thanked all those who had helped with the loan and display of specimens. Special thanks were accorded to Mr. A. Robinson and Mr. J. Roberts, and to Mr. J. Nicholls of the Nicholls Signwriting Co. for donating an attractive interior sign to direct the public to the exhibition. The thanks of the Branch were also extended to Dr. G. Archey, Director, for his courtesy and co-operation. Decided to ask the Council to secure a more attractive Fellowship certificate, worthy of framing; also that the Reserve Bank be asked to facilitate the issue of permits for members wishing to remit money overseas for the purchase of specimens. Mr. A. Robinson read the first part of his paper on English Hall and Mint Marks. With 18 members and 4 visitors present the room was crowded, and reference was made to the need for securing a larger room. Members extended good wishes to Miss Roberts who was shortly to leave for an extended trip to England.

The 52nd Meeting was held on 7 April. Mr. R. Sellars presided over a good attendance. Decided to ask the Council for a subsidy towards the rent of a larger meeting room. Mr. A. Robinson was thanked for a donation to Branch funds. Decided to make enquiries as to the claim in an overseas advertisement that twenty 1949 New Zealand crown pieces were issued in proof condition. The Hon. Editor undertook to make enquiries as to the advertised exchange of crown pieces between South Africa and New Zealand. Mr. A. Robinson read the concluding part of his paper on English Hall and Mint Marks. Exhibits included a 10 mark piece of German New Guinea (Bird of Paradise), and Russian three rouble in platinum, also double thalers and double gulden of Prussia, Frankfurt and Bavaria. Mr. Atkinson asked members to bring to the attention of the Hon. Editor any exhibition or commemoration medals of New Zealand design not previously recorded.

WELLINGTON

The 169th General Meeting was held on 22 February, 1954. Professor H. A. Murray presided over a good attendance. Regret was expressed at the passing of Professor T. D. Adams, Dunedin, and Mr. J. Verner Scaife, Pittsburgh, U.S.A. New members elected were: Mr. R. Hewetson, P.O. Box 131, Palmerston North, and Mr. Kemper L. Kellogg, Junr., 1144 16th Street, Newport News, Virginia, U.S.A. The Secretary reported that Journals addressed to Messrs. W. H. Anderson (Ministry of Works, S. Westland), M. Kirby and S. Ebbett (New Brighton) had been returned "Address not known". Account for printing, £70 13s 9d passed for payment. Several publications were tabled, mainly from overseas. Correspondence from collectors in America asking for New Zealand coins in sets was tabled. Captain G. T. Stagg exhibited a miniature New Zealand Cross, believed to be the only one extant. Mr. C. J. Freeman read a further instalment of

the late Mr. Weaver's paper "Beautiful Modern Coins" and some of the coins described were shown.

The 170th General Meeting was held on 29 March. Professor H. A. Murray presided. New members elected were Mr. Vincent F. Torhan, P.O. Box 711, Springfield, New Jersey, U.S.A., and Mr. Sinclair J. Hoffman, 915 Forest Ave., Oak Park, Illinois, U.S.A. Journal addressed to Capt. Russell O'Day, 1031 Marion St., Denver, Col., U.S.A. returned "Address not known". Will members knowing new address please advise? Mr. Freeman read a paper by Mr. Edwin W. Tomlinson, of the Wisconsin State Historical Society Library, entitled "Collecting Historical Tokens." Captain G. T. Stagg gave an interesting résumé of "Volunteer Service Medals" and exhibited the Long and Efficient Service, Long Service and Good Conduct, and Meritorious Service medals, as issued in New Zealand.

The 171th General Meeting was held on 26 April. Professor H. A. Murray presided. New member elected, Mr. B. A. Norman, 71 Wallace Place, New Plymouth. Correspondence and publications were discussed and tabled for inspection by members. Mr. Tether reported that he was moving out of the city, and, as it was doubtful whether he could attend future meetings, he may have to relinquish the position of Hon. Secretary. Mr. Freeman gave a short address on the use of scales by Chinese, and commented on some of their commercial customs. He also exhibited two Timaru agricultural medals. Mr. W. D. Ferguson exhibited and described some fine Greek coins, and Captain Stagg exhibited the British and United Nations medals for Korea.

COUNCIL MEETING—WELLINGTON

A Meeting of the Council was held on 12 April. Professor H. A. Murray presided.

The programme for the period April to November was discussed and a tentative list of papers drawn up.

Journal: The Secretary read a report dated 25th March from the Hon. Editor concerning the increased cost of the Journal which, on the present basis, amounted to £70 to £80 per issue. The position was discussed at some length in view of the Society's limited resources (i.e., the Government grant, subscriptions and advertising in the Journal). It was the unanimous opinion that everything should be done to maintain the present good standard of the Journal, but that at this juncture no increase should be made in the rates of subscription. It was therefore decided to complete the issue for the year 1953-54, and thereafter have three 28-page issues each year. So as to maintain the body of the Journal intact the following recommendations were approved:—

- (a) Reports and notes of meetings to be reduced to essentials, and as far as possible the 4-6 pages at present covered under this heading be reduced to one page.
- (b) Publications received and changes in membership (including new members) to be listed once in each year.
- (c) Consideration to be given to type and spacing so as to give the maximum text without impairing the appearance of the Journal.

It was also considered that the attention of Life Members should be drawn to the fact that the Life Membership subscription was now £8 8s 0d, and that any contributions from Life Members who had paid the earlier subscription of £3 3s 0d only would be deeply appreciated.

The Council expressed the deep appreciation of the Society for

the work being done by the Hon. Editor and the hope that he would be agreeable to continuing in his present capacity.

Turnbull Library: The Council notes with thanks that the Turnbull Library was still available for the use of the Society during alterations, provided the numbers at meetings did not exceed a dozen or so. It was decided to defer the question of alternative accommodation until the necessity arose.

Branch Remits: The following remits from the Auckland Branch were considered:—

- (a) The issue of certificates to Fellows of a design and style worthy of the honour they denoted. Decided that although such certificates were desirable the present state of the funds did not justify the expenditure that would be involved and the matter was deferred accordingly.
- (b) The facilitating of permits from the Reserve Bank for members wishing to purchase coins and medals from overseas reserves. Decided that while the Society could not request special exemptions an approach be made through the Reserve Bank's representative to the Society for further information.
- (c) The grant of £5 0s 0d to meet the cost of premises for Auckland Branch Meetings. Decided the request be declined with regret in view of the necessity to cut down expenditure in order to maintain the Journal which is considered essential to justify the annual grant from the Government.

Publication Received: It was decided to circularise publications received by the Society to the Branches on a return basis. As the scheme was a departure from the rule that nothing leave the Turnbull Library it was decided to give the scheme a six months' trial, but that if difficulties arise or Branches do not co-operate, the scheme be discontinued.

General: The despatch of a set of Journals to the Congres Internationale de Numismatique, Paris, was approved.

CANTERBURY BRANCH

The 34th General Meeting was held on 22 February. Mr. L. J. Dale presided. Decided to write to Mr. H. Mattingly welcoming him back to New Zealand, also that a list of the library books of the Branch be distributed to members, that meetings be held every two months, and that Glendinning catalogues be bound for permanent reference.

Miss M. K. Steven gave a talk on "The Goddess Athene" in relation to coins. This was a subject in which Miss Steven excelled, and members were treated to an informative and interesting address well illustrated by photographs and actual specimens of coins. Mr. Johnson cordially thanked Miss Steven for her interesting address.

The 35th General Meeting was held on 3 May. Mr. L. J. Dale presided. Decided that members be invited to give short papers at the next meeting on subjects of their own choosing. It was announced that Mr. Harold Mattingly would address the Canterbury Branch members and the members of the Classical Association on Thursday, September 2, the subject being "Virgil and Horace in the light of Coins."

Relationship of Philately with Numismatics: Mr. S. R. Dacre gave a most interesting talk on the relation which philately has with numismatics. Rowland Hill held a competition before 1840 to consider designs for the proposed new stamps for which approval had been given in principle. It was necessary to have a design that was official,

universal, and difficult of forgery. Naturally coins and medals were looked to for inspiration, and the head of Queen Victoria, as depicted on a fine medal of Wyon, was selected. This beautiful medal was struck in silver and bronze to commemorate the visit of the Queen to the City of London in her new capacity as reigning Monarch in 1837. Mr. Dacre secured one of these very scarce medals from England, and through a friend obtained copies of the original records in the Guildhall minutes where all details of the commissioning and procuring of the medals from Wyon were preserved. The design also shows the Guildhall with the Royal Standard flying on it. Guildhall Museum at present has a specimen each of the gold and bronze issues, but not the silver one as held by the speaker. It is surmised that the gold medal at the Guildhall is unique and probably the actual one presented to the Queen on her visit. The medal surfaces are of a special matt finish, and the specimens are carefully encased in watch glasses and so preserved in immaculate condition. This formal portrait of the Queen, then, was taken as a model for an engraving by Heath, and was used to print the famous world's first issues of postage stamps, and the dies were used for nearly twenty years. Perkins Bacon & Co. were entrusted with the printing, and their faithful work, in conjunction with a very suitable design, ensured the establishment and bona-fides of the postage stamp.

So a medal design was the definite inspiration of the first stamp design.

The speaker stressed many sides of the two studies of philately and numismatics being complementary, and mentioned many later examples where coin designs had inspired postage stamps, notably the Sower on the French stamps, and the Gothic coin type on the New South Wales 5/- stamp. He drew on fascinating background-stories to illustrate what proved a most interesting address, and he was thanked by Mr. Salter for his address.

NEW ZEALAND COINS

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

Further to the writer's conversation with you re a complete dated set of New Zealand coins, and the 1940 "regular" half-crown, I am now happy to advise that I have completed this set, with the exception of the 1940 half-crown of "regular" design.

I appeal to our members through the Journal for help in procuring this elusive half-crown. How many members could supply me with one? How many possess, or have even seen one?

It would be interesting to know how many members have collected a complete set of our New Zealand coinage. I am a little sorry that my set is now complete, except the 1940 "regular" half-crown mentioned, as it was quite interesting hunting for same.

In conclusion I wish to congratulate you on our Journal. The only fault I can find is that it is not published often enough. However, I realise the difficulties involved, and trust that in the not too distant future these difficulties will be overcome.

Harry G. Hughan,
P.O. Box 48, Carterton.

We understood that the 1940 "regular" design half-crown was not issued. Further enquiries are being made. The 1952 half-crown is rare. How many members have specimens of these and the complete sets?—Ed.



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