

*Registered at G.P.O. for transmission by post as a magazine.*

Vol. 5



No. 4  
November 1949  
February 1950

# The New Zealand NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Proceedings of  
THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

## CONTENTS

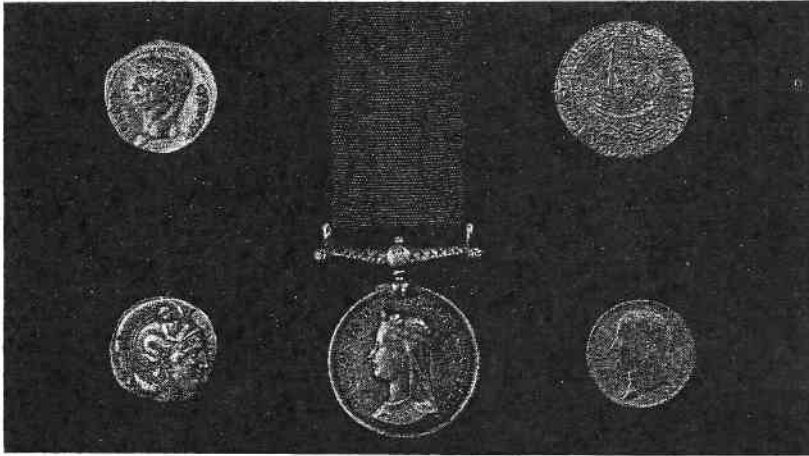
	Page
COIN COLLECTING FOR BEGINNERS. WHY WE COLLECT COINS .....	105
THE ROMAN COIN CATALOGUES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. By Mr. Harold Mattingly .....	106
JEWISH COINS AND MONEY OF THE BIBLE. By Mr. T. W. Attwood .....	119
NOTES ON THE REGAL SILVER COINAGE OF GEORGE III. By Mr. D. C. Price .....	124
ENGLISH PAY CLERKS AVOID SHILLINGS .....	127
CLEANING COINS. By Ted Hammer .....	128
NOTES .....	128
DISCOUNT AND SPECIAL PURPOSE TOKENS. By Allan Sutherland .....	129
NOTES OF MEETINGS .....	131

Issued gratis to Members.

Printed for the Society by Avery Press Limited, New Plymouth, N.Z.



SPINK & SON, LTD.



As the world's leading and oldest established Numismatists we offer our services to all collectors of

COINS  
TOKENS  
DECORATIONS  
COMMEMORATIVE and  
WAR MEDALS

and all items of Numismatic interest. We are also Booksellers and Publishers of Numismatic works, and we send out monthly to subscribers "The Numismatic Circular" (founded 1893), a magazine and catalogue for collectors. Annual subscription 5/-.

**SPINK & SON, LTD.**

5, 6 & 7 King Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1.

# THE NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

VOL. 5

No. 4

---

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND  
NOVEMBER, 1949-FEBRUARY, 1950.

---

## COIN COLLECTING FOR BEGINNERS WHY WE COLLECT COINS

Collecting anything you like is fun, but coin collecting is fun plus, because with even a small collection of coins you can travel to the farthest corners of the world, and picture to yourself different countries, peoples and their customs, sometimes from designs on the coins themselves, but often from the reading you will want to do to find out all about a new coin when it comes into your possession. You can also travel back through history and walk a little way with some hero of the past, or linger a while in some forgotten nation and wonder just what the people were like—and often, with a little reading, you can find out.

Coins have been a valuable help in historic research, and at times have been the only source of information we have about a nation or country. In fact, there are many kings, princes and other rulers whose names were unknown until their portraits were found on coins.

The study of a coin is a valuable branch of archaeology, in that much can be learned from coins concerning customs, architecture, plants and animals, weapons, mythology, and a great many other things pertaining to the lives of the ancients.

There is also the artistic side, showing art from the early Grecian times up to the height of their civilization. Roman art and portraiture represent a complete study in themselves. The Hellenistic influence is often evident in the art of Oriental coins, although many of the latter coin types are strikingly original in design. The decline of art which followed the fall of the Roman Empire, the debased art-forms of the barbaric tribes, the crude workmanship of the Dark Ages and finally the brilliant revival of art during the Renaissance can be clearly traced in the coin series of the times. In fact, with the collection of coins, there are never any dull moments; you will always find good company in your coin collection.—L.J.D.

THE ROMAN COIN CATALOGUES OF THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM

*By* MR. HAROLD MATTINGLY.

WHEN Dido at Carthage asked Aeneas to tell her and her guests the story of the fall of Troy, he expressed some natural reluctance to revive an old sorrow, but complied with her request. The request to tell your own story, or one in which you have had some part, is really irresistible, even if the subject-matter be sad. When Mr. Sutherland suggested to me that the readers of this Journal might like to know something of the Roman Catalogues of the British Museum, past, present and future, I responded with alacrity. The story is one full of interest and promise, and it is, in some small measure, my own.

Perhaps, a few preliminary remarks on the necessity and usefulness of coin catalogues may be helpful. Coins and medals are valuable documents of history and art, as most scholars recognize. But they tend to be small in size, their legends are laconic, they use a second language, the language of picture, which is not generally familiar. A certain expertness is required for the right use of them. You must know where to find your material in books or collections. You must be able to distinguish genuine from false. You must know how to determine dates and mints, so far as possible, and how to describe your pieces accurately, when you have got them sorted and arranged. What this all amounts to is this—before scholars at large can make use of coins, there must be Catalogues of the main series, prepared by experts. Where such Catalogues are missing, where, as for the Roman Empire for a long while, the only source available was Cohen's vast series of alphabetical lists of coins under their Emperors, the visiting student could only grope his way in the dusk or dark. He would pick out a coin here and there for some feature that interested him, but would have to make use of it without knowing much about its context, its relation to other coins—even, its genuineness. Let me give just one example. For some time there was an interesting theory, that the Emperor, Clodius Albinus, when he revolted against Septimius Severus in Gaul, set up his local senate there. The evidence quoted was a denarius, with the reverse, the civic oak, awarded to the Father of the Country by the senate and people for saving the lives of his country-men. This coin turns out to be a modern forgery, and the whole pack of cards collapses.

I think that you will see how right it is that a large part of the energy of numismatists should go in this direction. Along with catalogues, of course, has gone the research required in their production. The result has been that numismatics has grown luxuriantly on these sides, but has lagged sadly behind on the side of teaching. This is not the place to expatiate on this theme; but, without some consideration of it, our modern numismatic studies cannot really be understood. We have suffered from a rare and peculiar trouble—an excess of research. It is one of those more hopeful troubles, due to excess rather than deficiency of vitality; but it indicates a certain lack of proportion in our development. We have opened up any number of tracks across country, but our main highways are not made up as well as they might be. There have not been enough people travelling on them in the course of routine teaching.

It is about eighty years since the British Museum began to publish its catalogues of coins and medals. It was the Greek series, with its little masterpieces of the graver's art, that first drew attention. Volume by volume, the whole of that vast series, covering the whole of the ancient world of the Mediterranean and surrounding lands, so far as it was civilized, has been described and illustrated. The work is now nearly complete; only Spain, Gaul, North Africa and the great issues of the Macedonian conquerors, Philip II and Alexander the Great, remain to be done. It must be observed in passing, that the need for second editions of many volumes is already apparent. It is a work comparable, on its more modest scale, to the splendid *Corpus of Latin Inscriptions*, published by the Berlin Academy, and it has brought just honour to the British Museum. In its course, this great work of cataloguing revealed a number of eminent scholars—Reginald Poole, largely responsible for the first planning, and others who have borne the brunt of the actual cataloguing—Percy Gardner, Barclay Head, Warwick Wroth, Sir George Hill and Stanley Robinson, the present Keeper of Coins.

It was inevitable that this concentration of power on one great object limited efforts in other directions. Yet, the total production in other fields over a long term of years is impressively great. In the English series, we have catalogues of the coins of the Anglo-Saxons and the Norman kings, and of British historical medals, down to 1760. In the Mediaeval and Modern series, we have the catalogue of

the Italian Renaissance Medals. In the Oriental series, we have catalogues of the coins of China and of a large part of the East from Persia to India. Of the Roman series, I shall speak in a minute. In wealth of material the British Museum has several rivals of approximately equal rank; in its publications it may be fairly said to have established its supremacy.

The Roman series comes into very close touch with the Greek at many points, and the Greek cataloguers must often have been aware of it. One volume—that of the Roman Medallions—was actually produced, quite early, by Grueber. It is an attractive work, even though its plates are not of the modern excellence. But the main work of the Roman series was deferred till the Greek series was well on its way. Warwick Wroth then turned, early in the 1900's, from Greek to Roman and produced catalogues of the Coins of the Vandals and Ostrogoths and the Coins of the Byzantine Empire—the latter, a massive work in two volumes, covering a millennium of coinage in one of the great Empires of the world. Grueber, too, set to work on the Roman series proper. In the 1860's the British Museum had enjoyed the services, freely given, of a great collector and scholar, Count De Salis, who not only offered his work, but also a large selection from his valuable collection. When he died towards 1870, he had worked over a large part of the series and had arranged it in a form nearly ready for cataloguing. It may have been his early death that deferred the opening of the publication. Grueber now entered on the inheritance of De Salis and published the *Coins of the Roman Republic* in three stately volumes. Despite all the skill and expertness of De Salis, there were problems, it must be admitted, that had escaped his ken. Grueber himself, though a numismatist of great experience and range, lacked the long special preparation demanded by such a historical series as the Roman. But his work is a monument of skilled and patient research, it meant an immediate advance in knowledge and it still holds its place in all studies of the Republic.

It was at this point that I found the work, when I joined the staff of the Coin Department in 1912. The intention to continue with the Roman series was already fixed, and I could see the whole range of the Imperial Coinage opening before me, from Augustus to Zeno. While I was still serving my apprenticeship, the First World War broke on us.

Coin studies had to wait their turn. But, when we got back from our war-time employments, we were able to set to work in earnest. In the good years of the peace—for good years they were to such as chose to make use of them, despite all the disparaging things so often said about them since then—I was able to produce four volumes of the Imperial Catalogue—Augustus to Vitellius, the Flavians, Nerva to Hadrian, and Antonius Pius to Commodus. The fifth volume, Pertinax to Elagabalus, had to be left in its early stages, when World War II broke out in 1939. By the time that that released us to our proper tasks, my term of service was drawing near its close. But, before I left in September, 1948, the volume was nearly ready; its publication has been proceeding since then and it should be out fairly early in 1950. My successor, Mr. R. A. G. Carson, has something more than a life-work before him—even if, as we trust, we escape further interruptions by war. The third century, from A.D. 222 on, will probably demand four volumes, the fourth century another four. The fifth century might, possibly, go into one volume, but at least one more will be required for sub-Roman coinages of the Visigoths, Merovingians and other barbarian “successor States.” The vast mass of imitations of Roman coins from the third century onwards may require separate treatment in another one or two volumes. Apart from all this, there is the vast mass of coinage of the Empire, provincial and local, issued for the Empire, but not from its centre. So far, this coinage has been dealt with as a part of the Greek series. It looks to the prophetic observer as if this coinage will one day demand separate treatment, by periods as well as by places. If this should turn out to be the case, there will be an indefinitely large extension of the work. Mr. Carson, it will be seen, need have no fear of his work running out on him.

To make it worth while to publish a catalogue of any series, there are two main requirements. First, the Museum must have a sufficiently rich and varied collection to cover the period in question. Completeness is impossible; there can be no production of a final Corpus at a stroke. But all the common issues should be represented and there should be, at least, a fair selection of the rarer pieces. There are, for example, many series of Mediaeval and Modern, where the Museum collections are sadly inadequate. The second requirement is a trained cataloguer. Most of the training is best done in the Museum itself; but some preliminary knowledge of languages is absolutely necessary, some equipment in historical and artistic studies highly desirable.

When these requirements are satisfied—and when the publication can be fitted into the budget—the work can commence.

Suppose these conditions to be satisfied and the cataloguer put to work. How is he to set about it? His first task will be to study and arrange the material. Forgeries must be eliminated—the ancient, often hard to detect, as well as the modern. His next task is to arrange the issues chronologically. He will begin with those pieces that can be exactly dated. From them he will go on to the less closely dated pieces, and will, finally, be in a position to deal with those that bear no close dates at all. Most of this work demands time and patience, but, given them, the progress is sure. There will, however, be cases, where success is only to be attained by close research. In the early Roman Republic, to take an example, we have, in recent years, secured what we regard as a definite advance by a long series of detailed studies of dates, mints and minutiae of type and history. Next comes the study of mints. It was not usual, in the early Empire, or, indeed, in most periods of the ancient world, to mark the place of mintage with any obvious mint-mark. Yet, it is *a priori* probable and, often, definitely to be proved that imperial coins were not all struck in the same place. Rome was always—or, almost always—the chief mint; but it often had auxiliaries in Italy or the provinces. In the determination of these secondary mints, De Salis had already made great advances and, since his time, the work has gone steadily on. But the absence of definite mint-marks is a serious handicap, and, even when it is certain that we have to do with a mint that is not Rome, it is often subject to doubt, where exactly that mint was situated. Determination of mints depends largely on judgment of variations of style, for which a special expertness of the eye is required. Indications given by the types and general historical probabilities have next to be considered. It may fairly be claimed that progress has been satisfactory. Many mints have been determined with absolute, or relatively great, certainty. In many other cases, we have, at least, reasonable guesses to work on. Our mint attributions have, indeed, been severely criticized by a number of fine scholars, who have pointed out the uncertainties surrounding some of them. But those scholars have not always given sufficient study to the special subject in question. When you come up against the work of the



comparatively few, who have gone deep into the subject, you will find that there is a large measure of agreement and that the differences of opinion that undoubtedly exist are not always so very serious after all.

A word should be added about the importance of attribution to mints. When all the coins are included in one chronological series, many pieces will be near neighbours, that were not actually struck in close relation to one another. The whole picture will be subject to a certain distortion, unless the attempt is made to divide up the coins by place as well as by time. I say this to show that mint attribution, whether hard or not, whether certain or unsure, is a necessary part of the cataloguer's work.

When the coins actually in the Museum have been thus classed, by dates, places of mint and series—alphabetical order coming into its own, when you are left with series, that do not admit of any more exact classification—the next step is to take account of the rest of the material, known, but not represented in the Museum collection. There will be the other great public collections to be consulted—Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Rome and the rest—private collections and the stocks of dealers, so far as these are available for study. There will be previous publications of the material—as, for example, Cohen's vast compendium for the Coins of the Roman Empire. There will be the enormous mass of coins, published in Sale Catalogues. Travel, for the purpose of studying collections in other countries, is most desirable, but very seldom possible to the extent that might be desired. Collections of casts and electrotypes will be built up, and masses of photographs of coins will be arranged, for purposes of comparison, in their series. By this time, something not unlike a Corpus, so far as such a Corpus is possible under present conditions, will be to hand.

Now at last the actual work of cataloguing can begin. As in every craft, the novice of today starts at a point above the expert of yesterday. Mr. Carson, in a year or two, will be cataloguing with a degree of skill that it took Head or Hill many years to achieve. Here, as in all skilled human effort, there is an increment of gain, that comes to benefit the succeeding generation. The great principles of cataloguing are clarity, brevity and invariability. Clarity first; the description should be direct and unequivocal; no doubt should be left, as to what is actually being described. Brevity next; there should be no waste of words; when enough has been said to describe the type, you should stop; only, when

complicated types demand elaborate description, should it be employed. Finally, invariability; the same words should always convey the same meaning; even variations, that in themselves are innocent, should be avoided; when you vary the expression, it should mean that there is some real difference in fact. You must not say, now "head laureate right," now "laureate head right" or "head in laurel-wreath right." This may sound pedantic, when followed into all its details. But it will be seen that the principle is so important that it is well to follow it with complete and unquestioning loyalty. In dealing with peculiarly complicated series, a special skill is required, which has been developed to a high pitch in the long experience of the Museum. A typical case of such complication is to be seen, where there is great variety in both obverse and reverse types of the same series. It is often necessary to define the main varieties of type in a list, put in front of the descriptions, reference back to which can be made by letters or numbers. Or, again, a general description of obverse or reverse can be drawn up, and set at the head, to which the necessary additions can be made for each specimen. The degree of skill that has been attained in such description may best be studied in Hill's last Greek Catalogue, the Coins of Arabia, etc., in which he has handled, like a master, a peculiarly recalcitrant material.

Apart from the description of each coin, we have come to append the size, the weight, the condition—where there is anything noticeable about it—and the die-position, the way in which obverse and reverse die are set to one another; it has been found that variations in die-position may have significance for place or date of mintage. Die-identities are noted, as they occur. We also give, where known, the way in which each piece came to the Museum, by gift, bequest or purchase. Where a standard work on the period already exists, it is usual to add a reference in each case to it.

Illustration is so important as almost to precede description. It should be of the highest quality available, and that today means collotype plates of the best kind. It has been found better to make casts of the coins and photograph from them; variations of texture and colour can thus be eliminated and a more uniform picture can be presented; if those variations seem to have any significance, they can be mentioned in notes. As far as possible, all types should be illustrated, the common ones in more than one specimen. A series of plates, thus presented, furnishes an invaluable

check on the descriptions. The student can see with his own eyes what the cataloguer has been trying to tell him. A thoughtful study of the plates of a British Museum Catalogue will often do as much to stimulate interest and awaken ideas as the reading of the Catalogue itself.

The Indexes are a vital, absolutely essential part of the work. They are the keys to the locks; without them, the student would be left half the time groping for his coins. As soon as you get away, as you must, from mechanical, alphabetical arrangement, the Indexes becomes doubly necessary; the student, who does not know from the outset, how you have been led to arrange your coins, by dates and mints, must have some help ready to enable him to find anything that he wants quickly. For the Roman Empire, we use five main Indexes—Emperors, Mints, Types and Legends, and a General Index, which takes into itself such general headings as do not fall into any of the other Indexes. I have myself added a sixth—an Index of Attributes and Adjuncts, the objects held by or associated with the deities and virtues of the types; for some studies, the knowledge of the use of these is of great interest and importance. Our general principle is to list everything, not to venture on arbitrary economies. Many details may seem quite unimportant, as you register them; but you never quite know what your readers may come looking for, and the only fair and safe way is to give them all that you have got. The making of an Index requires no very special skill, but it *does* demand an almost infinite patience and a great deal of time. In the making of an Index there must be a great deal of copying of numbers from sheet to sheet. In proof, too, there are often minor alterations made up to the last minute. There is always the danger, that the Index may fail to take account of these eleventh hour changes. The only sure remedy for these sources of error is to check the Index in its final proof with the final proofs of the Text and Introduction. Even if time will not allow this to be carried through quite literally, the check should be as complete as possible and should cover all places, where error is most to be expected.

A British Museum Catalogue, it has been seen, is based on as full a collection of the whole available material as is possible at the moment of publication. It advances as far as it can in the direction of a Corpus. But we cannot publish material outside our collection, as if it were in it. We, therefore, resort to various expedients. Much of the extra material is worked into the notes on Museum speci-

mens. Major varieties, which are too important to be left to the notes, are placed beside the Museum coins in the text, but always with an indication of where they are. Pieces of cardinal importance are illustrated, as far as we are able, in the plates.

The main task of a cataloguer is clearly to catalogue, to present his material as ready for the student as he can make it. Nothing should be allowed to interfere with this prime duty. But, in presenting a reasoned catalogue, it is necessary to offer some explanation of such principles as are not obvious to the casual observer. Out of this necessity have grown our Introductions. But they have not stopped at this stage. We have been led on gradually, to offer the beginnings of a commentary on the material that we catalogue. It must be understood, of course, that this is a secondary function of the cataloguer, that it can never be completely exercised and that it should be regarded rather as a sort of invitation to research than as fully developed research itself. Our development in this direction might be criticized—though I do not think that it has often been—as unnecessary and unwise. But, on the whole, it seems to be justified. It should be an advantage to the student, who approaches the coins with particular questions to ask about their contribution to history, art or religion, to find that the cataloguer, in doing his own special work, has had them in mind—has, in fact, remembered that he himself is student of history, art and religion, not of coins only. It is vital that a bridge should be built between coins and the various special subjects that they serve, and the cataloguer himself may well make a beginning with the building.

For the writing of an Introduction a great deal of preliminary work is required. You must read up the books and articles on the coins of your period, wherever published. You must then read all the ancient historical authorities and as much of the modern commentary as is possible. In the scantiness of historical records in many periods, it is usually advisable to read through any literature of your period, of whatever kind. Direct help may not often be gained; but, at the least, you learn something about the background of your coins, and that knowledge may come in very useful. Special types that present difficulties will set you hunting for the explanation in encyclopedias and lexicons, in poets or orators, in fact, in almost any kind of book; for there is very little in human life that may not, once in a way, come within the survey of coins.

Religion always played a large part on the ancient coin. So close, in fact, were the connections of the earliest coins with religion that some scholars have maintained that coinage in its origins was essentially a function of religion and originated around the temples. Even if this is abandoned, as a general theory, today, coins always mirror the life of a State and in that life religion always played a great part. The cataloguer, then, will have to make himself acquainted with the main features of the religious life of his period. He will find many features of it reflected on his coins and he will even be able to make some contribution to studies of religion himself. For the coins often show, where our literary authorities are dumb, what exact elements in the State religion were really vital and operative at any given time. In the Roman Empire, for example, the coins supply convincing proof that pagan polytheism was far more vigorously alive than one might guess from reading many writers, both ancient and modern. The fact that the gods and goddesses were regularly represented on the coins down to the reign of Constantine the Great cannot, of course, prove that the masses of Roman citizens had a vital belief of the heart in their power to help; but it does prove conclusively that that was the system of thought that still held sway and passed unquestioned even by the indifferent.

The coin belongs to art and archaeology as much as to history. The cataloguer, then, must be a student of these two subjects, as well as of history. It is desirable that he should have as full an acquaintance as possible with all such other remains of art and archaeology of his period as have any connection with his coins. Coins very often show on their small scale abbreviated versions of such works of major art as painting or groups of sculpture. Some slight knowledge is preserved on coins of masterpieces of the ancient world that have hardly left any other record. The other side of the question—the services that coins can render to the study of archaeology and art—can only be touched on here. The gravers of coins were among the finest of ancient artists. This form of minute art was not despised for its smallness; rather, it was held in esteem, just because, all the way, it demanded personal work and attention. The coins, then, are commonly of very fine workmanship, and, beyond that, they can be assigned with some approach to certainty to their dates and places. It is obvious, then, that a study of coins is very near the centre of the study of ancient art. If, in the past, too much attention has been paid to the larger monuments, statues, altars, etc., while the

coins have been neglected, all that that proves is, that even experts do not always value things at their true worth. I would say, without fear of contradiction, that any one with a good knowledge of the coins could advance with confidence to the study of any other form of contemporary art.

After history and art, political economy. Whatever we may say of our modern times, when paper money has come to dwarf the importance of all other forms, in ancient times the metallic currency played a most important part in the economic life of states. The coinage, therefore, offers problems that vitally concern the economist. What precious metal or metals are used, whether any part of the coinage is token, whether debasement of the coinage is officially practised, whether Government attempts to interfere in the market by edict—in fixing maximum prices, for instance—all these are questions that belong to political economy at least as much as to numismatics. We do our best to cope with these problems, as they confront us. But the trouble is, that for these matters two distinct kinds of expertness are needed side by side, the expertness of the numismatist and that of the economist. If we can ever get a really strong team of this kind working, we may expect exciting results.

I have spoken so far of the tasks that a cataloguer of today sets himself. But the horizon is always receding and new prospects come into view. It is likely enough, that our critics a hundred years hence may blame us for not attending to points that have not struck anybody yet. At any rate, we shall not be there, to be worried. I might just mention one or two lines of research, already known, but not yet fully applied in our catalogues. One of these is the study of dies. When a large series of coins can be linked up by identities of obverse and reverse dies, it sometimes becomes possible to establish a sequence, which must be approximately the original one. Obviously, too, die identities can be very helpful in fixing the mints of coins. This method has been fully tried out by now, and it is, of course, not excluded from our preparations for cataloguing. But such work requires immense collections of material and a long time, in which to study them, and, amid all the other labours of a catalogue, it is not always possible to collect the material or spare the time. Another study, already used, but destined to a far wider use in the future, is the study of hoards. The hoard is one of the basic documents of numismatics, and it is a document of a kind, which may be increased from year to year. We have lately begun to

realize, that large hoards, massed on short periods, give us invaluable insight into the distribution of the coinage over types, showing which were the common, which the less common coins, which, again, were too rare to play a serious part in circulation. As Dr. Pink of Vienna has recently been teaching us, there is often a fairly simple plan behind an apparently complicated coinage. All the real work is done by a few types, distributed over a few "officinae," or shops; the rest are ornamental and supernumerary. The study of large hoards may enable us to recover the simple blue-print of the Master of the Mint. Good results have already been obtained from this method in the third century of the Empire, and much more considerable gains may be expected in the future. A third line of study, which can only be followed now and then in our catalogues, is the study of the history of famous specimens, as they travel from collection to collection. The interest of this study is often human, rather than strictly scientific, but it can have its importance for science, too. For example, when a question arises about the authenticity of some rare and valuable coin, the fact that a specimen can be traced back to an eighteenth century collection may be decisive in favour of its genuineness. One of the chief arguments for the genuineness of the aurei of Uranius Antoninus is the existence of such an eighteenth century specimen.

To assess the value of our Roman Catalogues for scholarship is a task that I should leave to others. Scholars, as a whole, are generous enough in acknowledging the use that can be made of them. I will just stress a few points here. Roman coins are our best evidence for dating. Where we have long and self-consistent series of them, we have in our hands the official reckoning of a State Bureau; what more could we ask? This is, of course, known, being undeniable; but the consequences arising from it are not always drawn. The Roman coins are the only source, available to us, that runs continuously from the third century B.C. right down Roman history. They help us to link up, where the literary tradition chances to fail. Where our other knowledge is slight, they may even restore lost scraps of history. But their main function is to give us a continuous moving picture of a Government, advertising and recommending its policy and achievements to its people, and of a people responding to the appeal. If we had all the Imperial Edicts, the Acts of the Senate and the Acts of the City, we should not need coins so much. But, as those

other sources only survive here and there in quotations, the coins give us invaluable glimpses into a lost world of propaganda and thought.

The days are gone when classical students could rest quietly on the enjoyment of their inheritance and assume that the study of the great literature of Greece and Rome would always hold its place in the forefront of modern education. The twentieth century has shifted its interests. Natural Science claims a much larger part than before and, even in the Humanities, Classics now finds serious rivals. It may be a pity that this should be the case; I myself am firmly convinced that it is. But it is a fact of our day, and must be faced. Yet it would be a worse pity, if lovers of the Classics retired into their tower and continued to hold their old love for themselves, despising the world. I mean that, as far as is possible, we should carry on the great traditions of classical education into the modern age and try to discover how we can commend what we know to be of value to modern taste. One method that is being tried out with great success in England is the provision of versions of great classical works in an English, specially suited to modern ears. But we should neglect no proper method of attaining this purpose, and one of the best methods of all is to present the classical world as a whole, not known only from books, not known only from art and archaeology, but in the sum that presents itself, when we gather together all that we have from any source. When you look through the two glasses of a stereoscope, the picture becomes solid and three-dimensional. Something like this happens, when you look at the ancient world through the two glasses of literature and archaeology. The coins have a peculiar value, in that they are the most convenient medium for bringing the ancient remains of civilization into touch with the books. In all studies, vitality depends on continuous movement. Stagnation means a slow death. The disadvantage of Classics is that it is, in a sense, a closed book. New texts will only come very rarely, as they may be recovered from the scrap-heaps of Egyptian papyri. The coins have the advantage of being to a large degree unexhausted. They are like unedited texts, awaiting their commentator and only half capable of use, until they find him. The new life that can come into classical studies through the cataloguing of the coins should be encouraged to flow into the whole body.



## JEWISH COINS AND MONEY OF THE BIBLE

## (PART 1)

Read before the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand (Inc.),  
Auckland Branch.

*By* MR. T. W. ATTWOOD.

WITHOUT entering deeply into the question of the invention of coined money, it may be as well to state the two generally received opinions. The first is that Pheidon, King of Argos, coined both gold and silver money at Aegina at the same time that he introduced a system of weights and measures; the second, that the Lydians were the first to introduce the use of gold and silver coins. The early coins of Aegina and Lydia have a device on one side only; a turtle on the former, a lion's head on the latter, the reverse consisting of an incuse square. Apart, however, from the history relative to these respective coinages, which is decidedly in favour of a Lydian origin, the Lydian coins seem ruder than those of Aegina, and it is probable that whilst the idea of "impress" may be assigned to Lydia, the perfecting the silver and adding a reverse type, thereby completing the art of coinage, may be assigned to Aegina. The introduction of coinage can thus be carried up to the eighth century (B.C. 800). The use, however, of coined money in Palestine cannot be placed before the taking of Samaria by the Assyrians (B.C. 721).

## COINED MONEY IN THE BIBLE.

In the first year of Cyrus (B.C. 536) a decree was proclaimed that all the people were free to return to Judea and rebuild the Temple at Jerusalem. Fifty thousand enthusiastic men obeyed the summons, at their head Zerubbabel, a descendant of the race of David, and the high-priest Joshua. Shortly after the return an altar was erected and in the second year (B.C. 535) the foundation of the Temple was laid. This Temple was completed in the sixth year of the reign of Darius, son of Hystaspes (B.C. 516). The contributions for the rebuilding are especially mentioned in the Bible—"And some of the fathers, when they came to the house of the Lord which is at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God to set it up in its place. They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work 61,000 drams of gold, 5,000 pounds of silver and 100 priests' garments." About fifty-eight years later (B.C. 458) Ezra led home a second colony of Jews from Babylon, and thirteen

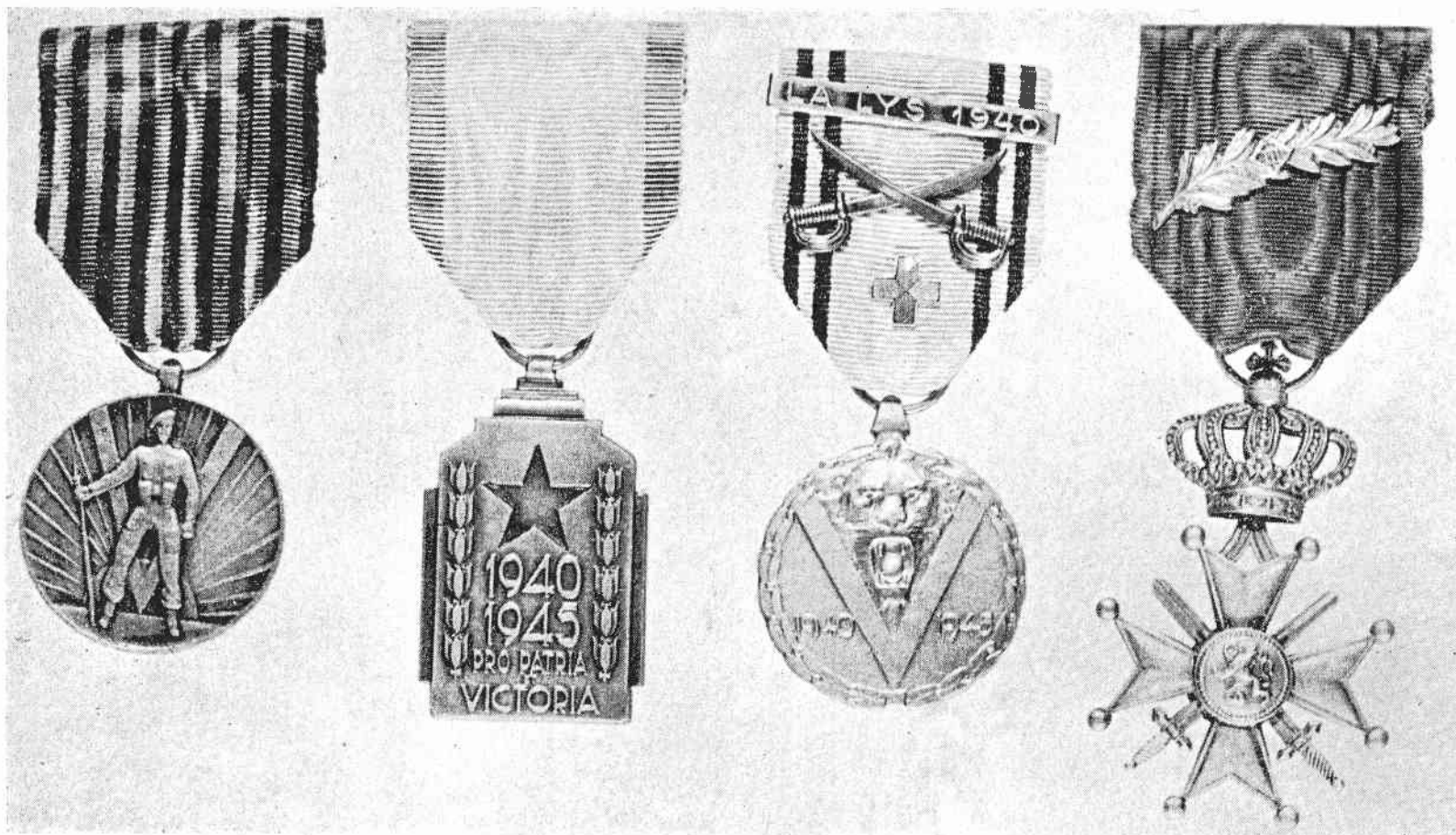
years later (B.C. 445) Nehemiah, cup-bearer to the King Artaxerxes Longimanus, supplied fresh vigour to the work. "And I (Ezra) weighed into the hands of the priests 650 talents of silver and silver vessels 100 talents, and of gold 100 talents; also 20 basons of gold of 1,000 drams, and two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold." Similar donations are also recorded in Nehemiah.

The Hebrew words "Darkemonim" and "Adarkonim," translated in the authorised version as "drams" have caused much dispute among the learned, but all agree that by these words the Persian gold coin named "Daric" is intended. In all probability the word "Daric" is derived from a Persian word Dara, signifying "King," as the figure on these pieces is that of a King of Persia, and not any particular king. These gold coins are of very archaic style. On one side is the figure of a King with bow and javelin, kneeling, and on the other an irregular incuse square. Silver pieces of a similar type were also issued under the Persian kings. It thus appears, on the authority of the Bible, that the Jews, as long as they lived under Persian domination, made use of the Persian coins of the realm, but had no struck coins of their own. No alteration is perceptible in the time immediately subsequent. At last the great Persian monarchy became a prey to the Macedonian conqueror Alexander the Great, and Palestine came under the sway of the Greeks (332 B.C.). The coinage which circulated at this period was a very rich one. It consisted of gold, silver and copper, according to a standard issued by Alexander and was reproduced in many of the towns of his large Empire.

Of the large silver pieces current in Palestine two specimens are still extant struck at Scythopolis and Sycamina. Of Joppa there are also many examples preserved to the present day, and it no doubt supplied Jerusalem with money, being a town of importance and the seaport of that city.

A considerable number of coins seem also to have been struck at Ace. Under Alexander's successors the same system was continued. The coins of the Seleucidae (Syrians) were struck in Tyre, Sidon, Ascalon and other towns, and many exist belonging to the reigns of Antiochus Soter, Antiochus III and IV, and other kings of the Syrian dynasty.

The Ptolemies of Egypt also issued coins which were current in Judea. The great number of Jews who were spread all over the countries of Asia, who came to Jerusalem to worship the God of their fathers, doubtless brought in an influx of money of many countries. At a later period the numerous provinces are enumerated from which many came



Illustrated by courtesy of Dept. Internal Affairs and Director Dominion Museum.

FOUR OF A SERIES OF MODERN MEDALS PRESENTED BY THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TO THE  
NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT.

*Left to right:* War Medal for volunteers, 1940-1945; Colonial War Effort Medal, 1940-1945; Commemorative War  
Medal, 1940-1945; War Cross, 1940, with palms.

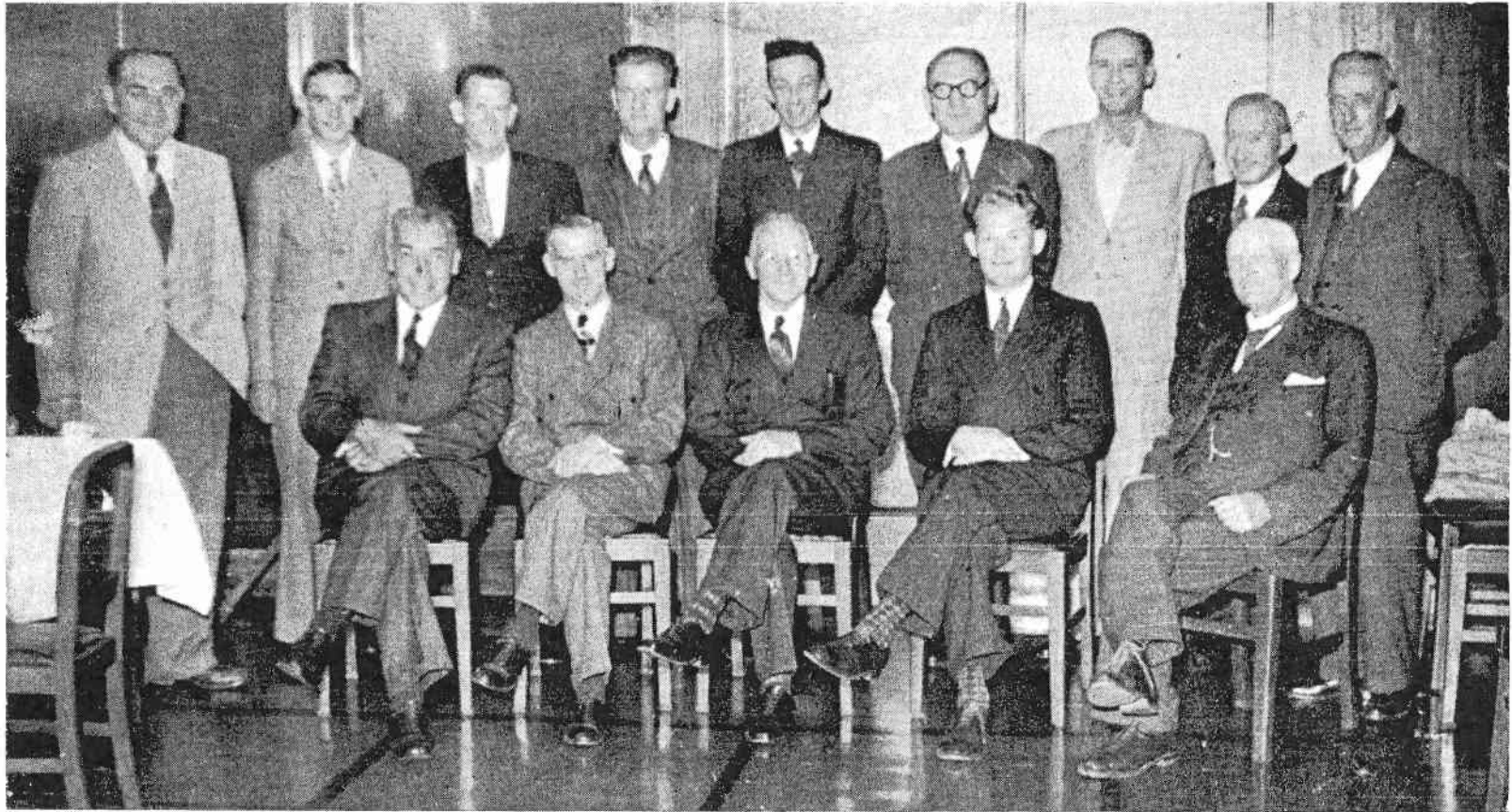


Blocks by courtesy *The Banker*.

DISCOUNT TRANSPORTATION AND GENERAL PURPOSE TOKENS USED IN NEW ZEALAND MANY YEARS AGO.

Obverse (top) and reverse (below) in same order.





MEMBERS OF AUCKLAND BRANCH.

*Back Row:* H. Robinson, R. Reeves, L. D. Nörager, D. O. Atkinson, E. J. Morris, L. Levene, J. P. Roberts, N. Solomon, C. E. Menzies.

*Front Row:* A. Sutherland, A. Robinson, T. Attwood (Chairman), D. C. Price (Sec.-Treas.), J. C. Entrican.

*Absent:* R. Sellars, E. W. Robson, M. A. Lynch, H. E. Ramsay, T. P. Southern, M. A. Jamieson.

to the Holy City to take part at its festivals; and two thousand drachms of silver are mentioned as being sent to Jerusalem for a sin-offering at the time of Judas Maccabaeus.

#### COINAGE OF THE ASMONAEAN DYNASTY.

The constant oppression that the Jewish nation suffered at the hands of the Kings of Egypt and the Kings of Syria culminated in the reign of Antiochus Epiphanes, or "Illustrious" (B.C. 175), called in parody "Epimanes" or "Madman" on account of his wicked deeds. This king issued an edict that in all provinces the Greek worship should be established and all the customs of the Jewish religion discontinued. The sacred books were burnt, religious assemblies prohibited, and in the Temple itself, sacrifices were offered to the Olympian Jupiter. Many fled from Jerusalem, among them Mattathias (in B.C. 167) with his five sons, Joannan, Simon, Judas, Eliazar and Jonathan. The father only survived a year and was immediately succeeded in the government by his son Judas, surnamed Maccabeus, or the "Hammerer," from his brilliant victories, as in later times (A.D. 733) the name of "Martel" was given to Charles for his victories over the Arabs. Supported by the fanaticism of his party, Judas defeated in several battles the generals of Antiochus, but died shortly after his own defeat by Demetrius I, and was succeeded by his brother Jonathan (B.C. 161) who was treacherously put to death in B.C. 143. Simon the third son was unanimously elected leader and high priest and immediately formed a very favourable alliance with Demetrius II, King of Syria, so that it is said that "the yoke of the heathen was taken from Israel, and the people began to write in their instruments and contracts, in the first year of Simon the high priest, the governor and leader of the Jews."

The important privileges conceded by Demetrius were not only confirmed by Antiochus VII Sidetes, but were considerably extended, inasmuch as he conceded to Simon the right of coining money and issued a special document in the year B.C. 139. "I give thee leave also to coin money for thy country with thine own stamp, and as concerning Jerusalem and the sanctuary let them be free." No further details are given, but existing specimens of a national Hebrew coinage furnish us with the facts that Simon was the first Jewish prince who struck coins. Coins were issued for four years during the government of Simon. They are of silver and copper. The silver consists of shekels and

half-shekels. On one side is the legend "Shekel of Israel" around a cup or chalice, over which is the date, either "year 1," "2," "3" or "4." On the other side is a triple lily or hyacinth, around which is the legend "The Holy Jerusalem." It has been a matter of difficulty, as Simon's government lasted for eight years, and the coins were only issued for four, to fix the proper period for their coinage, but the extreme rarity of the shekel of the fourth year, and the introduction of a copper coinage at this time, seem to prove that Simon availed himself of the privilege of coining before he actually received leave from Antiochus, for in the same year that permission was granted (B.C. 139) Antiochus "brake all the covenants which he made with him afore," and consequently the reign of Simon became less prosperous. It seems, then, more than likely that Simon commenced striking coins in B.C. 143, and continued to do so during the four most prosperous years of his reign.

The copper coins consist of half, quarter and sixth of the shekel. The type is either a cup, a bundle of sacred branches between two citrons, or a palm tree with its date fruit, and the legend "Year four-half," "Year four-quarter," "Year four" and "The Redemption of Zion." The word "Zion" alludes to the hill of the Temple at Jerusalem, which was made stronger, and the place of Simon's abode. It is probable that the inscriptions on the shekels of Simon were employed in the same sense as those we find on the coins of many Greek cities, especially the coast cities of the Mediterranean, which had been exempted from taxes, and which adopted the titles of "holy and free" or "inviolable." Fine silver coins of Tyre are extant with these epithets, and having on them the head of Hercules, the tutelary deity of Tyre—the Baal mentioned in the later history of the Old Testament, whose worship was introduced from Tyre after the early Canaanitish idolatry had been put down. Coins of similar style were also issued at Sidon.

The types of the early Jewish coins do not present any effigy or figures of men or animals as is ordinarily found on the coins of other nations. The designs are limited, being either borrowed from the vegetable world or from objects connected with the service of the Temple. The cup or chalice on the silver coins and on some of the copper, has been usually considered to be the pot of manna (Exodus 16-33). The triple flower on the silver coins is usually considered to represent Aaron's rod that budded, but it more resembles



a lily or hyacinth. The selection of the palm tree was peculiarly appropriate, as it was famous as a product of Palestine, and chiefly grew and flourished near Jericho. The Jewish coins just described can lay no claim to great antiquity, nor indeed to beauty of design or careful treatment of execution. Still, though far inferior in artistic excellence to the Greek and Roman coinages, they are quite equal, if not superior to them in historical interest, an interest increased when we remember that they are the only monuments of an early Jewish epoch preserved to us. True, we are furnished with a very complete history of the Jews in the Old Testament, but no excavations have till recently brought to light any monumental remains save the so-called Tombs of the Kings, which are generally considered to belong to the Herodian period.

No more silver coins were struck by the succeeding rulers of the Asmonean family. John, surnamed Hyrcanus, succeeded his father Simon in B.C. 135, and of his thirty years reign there is a considerable number of coins bearing the inscription "Johanan, High Priest, and the Confederation of the Jews." Following John Hyrcanus, came Judas Aristobulus (B.C. 106-105) in which short period there are only a few coins.

Then came Alexander Janneus (B.C. 105-78) and there are a considerable number of coins of this period. On the death of Alexander, his wife reigned for nine years (B.C. 78-69) and there is no doubt that the coinage of her husband sufficed.

Then came Hyrcanus II, then Antigonus who succeeded to the throne in B.C. 40. During this reign of three years, there are some fine large copper coins with the inscription "Mattathias the high priest, and the Confederation of the Jews." Mattathias is, doubtless the Jewish name of Antigonus, as Jonathan was that of Alexander, and it at the same time recalls the name of the ancestor of the Asmonean family.

The coins of Antigonus differ very largely from those of his predecessors, and resemble those of the Parthian and Bactrian Kings, which may be accounted for, as he obtained his throne by the aid of the Parthians. With the coins of Antigonus the series of the Asmonean family concludes; the Hebrew character disappears from the coins, and is not met with again till the period of the First Revolt of the Jews.

NOTES ON THE REGAL SILVER COINAGE OF  
GEORGE III.

Read before the Auckland Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society  
of New Zealand (Inc.).

*By* MR. D. C. PRICE.

GEORGE III came to the throne of England in 1760, and reigned until 1820. During that reign of sixty years, there was an acute shortage of regal coinage—so acute in fact, that tokens were issued both by the King and by private individuals, and coins of a foreign nation were over stamped with an effigy of the King, and used as legal tender.

The first coin issued by George III for currency was a threepence dated 1762. The obverse shows a youngish, laureated, draped bust to the right, GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA around, and on the reverse the crowned figure of value, with legend .MAG.BRI.FR.ET.HIB.REX. 1762. around. Over thirty different dies were used in the minting of these coins, and hence minor varieties are numerous.

In the next year, 1763, threepences were again minted in large numbers for use as currency, together with complete sets of Maundy money, all of a similar type to the threepence of the preceding year. In addition, a one shilling piece was minted. This piece has a similar obverse to the Maundy money, while the reverse consists of four, crowned shields, with the abbreviated legend M.B.F.ET.H.REX.F.D.B.ET. L.D.S.R.I.A.T.ET.E.1763 around. This lengthy inscription tells us that the King was King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Duke of Brunswick and Lüneberg, Arch-Treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire. These are known as Northumberland shillings, as one hundred pounds worth were coined for distribution in Dublin when the Earl of Northumberland made his public entry there as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Then followed a lapse of twenty-four years, during which time Maundy money only was minted. Complete sets were issued in 1765 (rare), 1766, 1772, 1780, 1784 and 1786. Individual minor coins were minted in the intervening years, but not in complete sets or in large numbers.

In 1787 were issued sixpences and shillings, similar to the Northumberland issue, but with more drapery and armour displayed on the bust. The crowns on the reverse are not over the shields, but in the angles between them. These coins were issued in such large numbers that they are

the most common, non-current coins extant in England today. There are two main varieties of these coins. In some the usual *semée*, or group, of hearts is found around the lion in the Hanoverian shield, while in others this *semée* is missing. Both varieties are equally common. Several minor varieties exist in which the pellet over the head, and those at the date, are missing, but these varieties are less common.

Five years later, in 1792, an issue of Maundy money appeared in which the crowned numerals on the reverse are written in very, thin script. This issue, which was only minted in the one year, is known as "Wire Money." The head on these is somewhat smaller than on the previous issues, with older features.

In 1795 and 1800 the third issue of Maundy money was minted, with a similar obverse to the "wire money," but with a reverse similar to the earlier type.

As a consequence of the extreme shortage of silver money, a Mr. M. Dorrien Magens sent a quantity of bullion to the Mint to be coined according to a law which stated that anyone sending bullion to the Mint might have it coined into money on the payment of certain dues. Upwards of £30,000 worth of bullion was coined, but on the day that the bankers were to receive it, an Order-in-Council was received commanding it to be melted down, upon the ground that the procedure had been irregular. These pieces are similar to the 1787 issue, except that the lettering on both sides is larger, and the dot over the head is missing. Less than a dozen of these pieces, known as the Dorrien and Magens shillings, are known today.

Following the 1800 issue of Maundy money, there is a further gap of sixteen years. In 1816 began a large issue of regal silver money, in which the half-crown reappears after an absence of sixty-five years. This issue consists of half-crowns, shillings and sixpences. These were minted at the present Royal Mint, which had been built between 1810 and 1812, and which incorporated the then new steam presses of Boulton and Watt. The half-crown has a large bust, laureate, GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA around, with the date below the head. On the reverse is a garnished shield of arms, crowned, surrounded by the order of the Garter, and the whole enclosed by the Collar of the Garter itself. This coin was the work of Thomas Wyon, and the unlovely portrait on the obverse has earned these pieces the nick-name of "bull-head" half-crowns. The shillings and sixpences have a laureate head, with date below. GEOR:III

D:G:BRITT:REX F:D: around. On the reverse is a crowned, garnished shield of arms within the Garter.

In 1817, half-crowns, shillings and sixpences were again issued, as well as a fourth issue of Maundy money and a new type of half-crown. This new half-crown has a smaller bust, with larger lettering, and there is no Collar of the Garter on the reverse. The Maundy money has a similar reverse to the 1st and 3rd issues, with the old head, laureate, on the obverse, GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA around, date below.

In 1818 the crown was again added to the coinage after an absence of sixty-seven years. On this coin, we find the St. George and Dragon device used for the first time since the reign of Henry VIII. The coin was designed by an Italian, Benedetto Pistrucci, but the requisite number of dies for its production were the work of Thomas Wyon. This crown has the King's head, laureate, date below, GEORGIUS III D:G:BRITANNIARUM REX F:D: around. On the reverse is St. George on horseback, fighting the Dragon, enclosed within the Garter bearing its motto. Pistrucci's name appears below the King's head, and under the device on the reverse. Half-crowns, shillings, sixpences and Maundy money were also issued this year, the first year since 1746 in which all denominations were minted. With the exception of Maundy money in 1819, all coins were again issued in 1819 and 1820.

We may summarise the issues of regal silver for the sixty years of the reign as follows:—

- 1762—threepences issued for currency.
- 1763—threepences and shillings.
- 1787—sixpences and shillings.
- 1816—sixpences, shillings and half-crowns.
- 1817—sixpences, shillings, half-crowns and crowns.
- 1819—     "             "             "             "             "
- 1820—     "             "             "             "             "

Maundy money was issued in sets in 1763, -65, -66, -72, -80, -84, -86, -92, 1795, 1800, -17, -18, -20.

That completes this survey, but in concluding, several interesting points may be noted:—

- (a) The new issues appearing in 1816 were of a reduced size and weight, being now sixty-six shillings instead of sixty-two shillings to the troy pound.

(b) This size and weight has continued up to the present day, and all silver since 1816 is still legally current.

(c) These coins were the first to bear the reeded edge found on modern coins.

The year 1816 may thus be said to have been the beginning of the modern era of silver coinage.

#### REFERENCES

- Coins and How to Know Them.* Rawlings.  
*English Silver Coinage.* Seaby.  
*Coin and Medal Bulletins.* Seaby.

---

#### ENGLISH PAY CLERKS AVOID SHILLINGS.

The Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, Mr. D. J. Wardley has written to *The Times* stating that the shortage of shillings in circulation in England is apparently due to employers not asking banks for a due proportion of shillings in drawing money for wages.

Mr. Wardley states that there are plentiful supplies of shillings in the banks. Cupro-nickel coins are made in the proportion of approximately three half-crowns and three florins to four shillings and four sixpences.

This shortage is also evident in New Zealand. When a 10s or £1 note is changed, usually the change is in half-crowns or florins. While this is easier for the till-operator who uses fewer coins, the confusion between the florin and the half-crown is always present when the recipient studies the change.

When tendering a half-crown, many people place the tail uppermost on the counter to make sure that the receiver sees the reverse design, and even then arguments often follow. Australia succeeds well without a half-crown. If we abolished the half-crown this confusion would disappear, and the shillings would then be more freely used by pay clerks.—A.S.

\* \* \* \*

Faked French golden louis were found among half a million gold coins sent from Bulgaria through the Swiss banks to France. The faked coins were made of real gold, and cast in the form of golden Louis d'Ors, better known as Napoleons. The suspicions of bank officials were aroused when they found the faked coins smaller than the genuine ones.—Seaby's *Bulletin*.

## CLEANING COINS

By TED HAMMER

(Librarian, The American Numismatic Association.)

Many dealers and collectors will not purchase coins that have been cleaned. Some will clean coins in their own collections but only by following careful processes that will not eat away metal or cause scratches.

Some collectors claim that it is impossible to clean a coin so that evidence of the cleaning cannot be detected. A coin that is what collectors call uncirculated—but which may be dull—can be greatly damaged by a cleaning process. For one thing, even the most careful cleaning probably will remove the remaining mint lustre.

Even many collectors of ancient coins will not buy or possess a specimen that has been cleaned. They prefer the markings of the age to brilliance.

Those who clean their coins have devised processes that eliminate the risk of damaging coins. Some use brushes soaked in vinegar, lemon juice or a soda water solution to clean silver. The most popular method of cleaning silver is dipping a coin in a solution of warm water in which soda has been dissolved in an aluminium container. The aluminium and soda provide a chemical process that removes some dirt and oxidation. An elaborate system of cleaning nickel embraces use of electricity and a piece of platinum.

Except for an acid which is highly dangerous—a good whiff could be fatal—no one has devised a good cleanser for bronze coins.

---

NOTES.

*The South Australian Numismatic Journal*, No. 1, dated January, 1950, is to hand. The Editor is S. V. Hagley, ably assisted, no doubt, by James Hunt Deacon, both of whom are to be congratulated on the excellence of the production. Well printed and illustrated, the Journal sets a standard in keeping with the importance of the subject. The contents include "Specialization in Numismatics and its Corrective" by Harold Mattingly; "The God of Beginnings" by S. V. H.; "Motifs on the Australian Copper Tokens and their Incidence" by Raymond Marcollo. "Token Commemorative Medals," and most important of all from a New Zealand standpoint is the illustration, for the first time, of all three New Zealand crown pieces, the rare pattern crown of 1935, which the writer handled in the Royal Mint, London, in 1935, and the two general issues. We wish *The South Australian Numismatic Journal* a long and successful life in bringing knowledge and good-fellowship to succeeding generations of numismatists.—A.S.

It is with pleasure that we note that our valued friend Sir John Hanham, Bt., Wimborne, Dorset, has been elected President of the Wessex Numismatic Society. Not only did Sir John help to found our Society and write its first rules, but ever since he returned to the Homeland he has taken a keen interest in our activities, and we are indebted to him for many illustrated and priced catalogues of London sales, and numismatic publications donated for our Library. Sir John is a member of the Council of the British Numismatic Society. It is a coincidence that in the meeting room of the Auckland Branch, and behind the seat of the Chairman (Mr. Attwood) there hangs a photograph of Lord Bledisloe and Sir John Hanham, two of the Society's most valued friends

#### BOIL IT DOWN.

Condensing papers to be read before meetings of the Society is no easy task, and the frank confession of the popular Auckland Secretary, Mr. Des. Price, at the March meeting struck a responsive chord. He admitted that he had set out to give a five-minute talk on the coinage of George III; after preparing 16 pages, which when read quickly, took half an hour; he then cut it down to the Copper Coinage of George III, and it still took too long to read, and he added "Now I have streamlined my notes to five minutes on 'The Regal Silver Coinage of George III'."

#### DISCOUNT AND SPECIAL PURPOSE TOKENS

*By* ALLAN SUTHERLAND

Apart from the hundreds of copper penny and half-penny tokens circulated by New Zealand traders between 1857 and 1882, there were also issued some discount and special-purpose tokens of copper brass and white metal which resembled money, and which had money values stamped thereon. Presumably these tokens were redeemable by the issuers in the same way as discount stamps are sometimes redeemed today.

The Manawatu Farmers' Co-operative Association Limited issued an attractive series of tokens for 40/-, 20/- and 10/- in white metal, and for 5/-, 2/6, 2/- and 1/- in brass.

The New Plymouth Co-op. Society Limited issued a copper £1 token, and a "Half Sov." in brass, also 5/- and 2/- tokens in tin.

The Oamaru Co-operative Store and Bakery Company issued tokens in brass for £1, 10/-, 5/-, 2/6, 1/- and 6d, and apparently most of the specimens were later dumped into the sea off Oamaru. Few specimens are now extant.

The Otago Co-operative Stores issued a 10/- token. The Port Chalmers Working Men's Co-operative Society

issued a brass oval token about 1876, with initials on one side, and "£1" in incuse on other. The Society issued shares at £5 each, one man one share, and each shareholder received a brass discount token for £1 for which he could receive up to £1 worth of goods from the Society's store, with change if necessary. Profits were divided among shareholders monthly. The Society lasted for a year or two only.

The Wairarapa Farmers' Co-operative Association issued white metal tokens for 20/- and 10/-, and brass tokens for 5/-, 2/6, 2/- and 1/-.

The United Farmers' Co-operative Association Limited issued white metal tokens for 40/-, 20/-, 10/-, and brass tokens for 5/-, 2/6, 2/- and 1/-.

The Post Office Hotel, Wellington, issued a brass token, purpose unknown. The Timaru Post Newspaper Company issued an aluminium token inscribed "This will buy you a Timaru Post." The Pure Bread Co., Timaru, issued a brass token for a 2lb. loaf. Mr. T. Oliver of the Sussex Hotel, George Street, Dunedin, issued a 6d token for his "American Bowling and Rifle Saloon". The Shamrock Hotel, Dunedin, issued a token inscribed "Shamrock Hotel Lunch", the City Coffee Palace, Dunedin, issued a brass check for 9d—probably the cost of a good meal in those days. Messrs. J. G. Ward and Co. issued a brass token, purpose unknown. There are several brass tokens in some collections bearing various numbers, and the letters "N.Z.F.W.L.U.", presumably the "New Zealand Federated Wharf Lumpers Union." Other tokens were issued by Nghauranga Tea Rooms, "Marine Laborers Union", Port Chalmers, and the Port Chalmers Lumpers Union, 1888.

Perhaps the most attractive of the series used about that time were four tokens issued in four metals by the Wanganui Cosmopolitan Club. The values were one shilling, six pence, four pence, and three pence, in white metal, light bronze, dark bronze, and brass, and the obverse of each bears the bust of a Maori chief to left with taiaha over left shoulder.

More recently we have seen the milk tokens issued by the Wellington City Corporation, Southern and Co., Whangarei, C. H. Cockrell, Levin, Carlton Hygienic Dairy, Nelson, and by probably other milk vendors.

The issuers of most of the early tokens have passed on, but they have achieved immortality in museums and collections. Long after even more important trading concerns



have risen and fallen, these mute pieces of metal will remain as lasting evidence of people and concerns that thrived in the days beyond recall.

---

## NOTES OF MEETINGS

---

### AUCKLAND BRANCH

The 8th meeting was held on 5th October, 1949. Mr. T. W. Attwood occupied the Chair.

A welcome was extended to Messrs. Levene, Jamieson, Eason and Finn, who were attending for the first time.

Mr. D. Atkinson read a short paper on Medals, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Mr. Jamieson exhibited an album of banknotes printed by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson and Co. for use in various countries.

Mr. Solomon exhibited a large silver coin, dated 1757, minted for the Knights of St. John to commemorate the victory over Suliman the Magnificent at the Siege of Malta.

Mr. Morris exhibited miscellaneous extremely fine English coins.

The 9th meeting was held on 2nd November. Mr. T. W. Attwood presided.

Mr. Morris read the first part of a paper on the coinage of George II, and dealt with the interesting historical events of the times. A cordial vote of thanks was passed.

It was decided to hold a dinner to wind up the year's activities.

The 10th meeting was held at the Waverley Hotel on 7th December. The meeting followed a very enjoyable dinner. Members expressed the hope that the dinner would be an annual event.

Mr. N. Solomon announced that the coin which he had exhibited at the 8th meeting was being affixed to a gavel to be donated to the Priory of the St. John movement on behalf of the Branch, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Solomon for his generosity.

The 11th meeting was held on 1st March, 1950. Mr. T. W. Attwood presided over a very good attendance.

Decided that a short resume of business at meetings and items of interest be sent to members when possible.

Mr. D. P. Price gave a short paper on the "The Regal Silver Coinage of George III", and Mr. T. Attwood gave the first section

of a paper on "Jewish Coins, and Money of the Bible", and both members were accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

**The 12th meeting was held on 5th April. Mr. T. W. Attwood presided.**

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. H. Robinson for a gift of numismatic works for Library, and to Mr. A. Robinson for the gift of a large magnifying glass for the use of members when viewing specimens.

Resolved to hold an auction of duplicate specimens following next meeting. Mr. Morris agreed to read final section of his paper on coins of George II.

Other matters discussed:—proposed display of coins in a Queen Street window, and the advisability of representations being made to secure the minting of a full range of 1949 coins.

Mr. Attwood read concluding portion of his paper on "Jewish Coins and Money of the Bible".

---

#### CANTERBURY BRANCH

**The 12th Meeting was held on 13th October, 1949. Mr. L. J. Dale occupied the Chair.**

**Future Papers.**—"Malayan Currency"—Mr. W. Salter; "Isle of Man"—Miss E. R. Thomas.

**Canterbury Tokens.**—The form, size, and title of proposed publication was discussed, and the Committee, augmented by Mr. Robb, was asked to consider applying for a subsidy from the State Literary Fund, the Canterbury Centennial Association, Friends of the Museum, and existing firms. The proposal to issue the publication as a separate Journal of the Society is also to be considered.

"Viking Coinage of London" was the subject of a short talk by Mr. H. T. Allen. "King Edward the 8th" was the subject of a paper by Miss Thomas. Both speakers were accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

*Silver Coins of England* by Hawkins was presented by Mr. Allen who was thanked for his generosity.

**The second annual meeting of the Canterbury Branch was held on 24th November, 1949. Mr. L. J. Dale, F.R.N.S., occupied the Chair.**

The following report of the Secretary-Treasurer was adopted—

Since the last annual meeting, five meetings have been conducted at the Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Ave., Christchurch, and we wish to thank Mr. Roger Duff for making facilities available to us. Our membership now stands at 36, but although active attendance has only been 10.3, I think we can confidently say we have assimilated quite a wealth of knowledge. Early in the year we were grieved at the passing away of Mr. E. H. Harvey who was also an honorary member of the Museum staff.

During the year the subscription was raised from 5/- to 10/- and a small rebate from the main body is expected to help defray local expenses.

We were fortunate this year in having a visit from Mr. Harold Mattingly, expert on Roman coins. His lectures to Christchurch folk proved fruitful, and inspired the "Friends of the Museum" to donate £50 for the purchase of coins to help the Museum collection, and a further £50 for new show cases. Congratulations to Mr. Dale on his appointment of Honorary Numismatist to the Canterbury Museum. Coins have arrived from England, and show cases and displays are in the process of being installed. It is with great pleasure that we note that one of the rare New Zealand pennies is now in the Museum collection. These facts in themselves show results of co-operation between our branch of the Society and the Museum.

The Canterbury Centennial Association has decided to issue four types of medals for the forthcoming centenary, and minting and designing are at present under consideration.

Several good original papers have been prepared by members as well as considerable information mustered about token-issuing firms of Canterbury. It is hoped that a booklet, or even a Journal supplement, may be issued next year if details are complete enough to warrant it.

Some books have been donated to the Library, and a small sum of money is in hand to purchase more. It is hoped to build a comprehensive selection of books for the use of members. Donors are thanked for their generosity, as are all members who have helped make another year of worthwhile progress in our numismatic field.

The Financial Statement was also adopted. There was a small credit balance of £3 9s 0d of which £1 4s 0d was held in trust for the purchase of books for the library.

Officers elected were as follows:—

Chairman: Mr. L. J. Dale.

Vice-Chairman: Miss E. R. Thomas.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss S. A. Lange.

Committee: Chairman, Secretary, Messrs. C. M. Robb and W. Salter.

Auditor: Mr. J. Sutherland.

Librarian: Mr. J. Caffin.

An address was given by Mr. James Berry, Wellington, who, by means of an epidiascope, illustrated the changes in coin designs from Greek and Roman types to the present. He also displayed several medals, including the incomplete Tasman Medal, and several stamp designs. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded, on the motion of Miss Thomas. The meeting concluded with a social hour and supper.

The 14th meeting of the Canterbury Branch was held on 14th February, 1950. Mr. L. J. Dale occupied the Chair.

Mr. K. J. Wyness Mitchell was congratulated on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society, London.

Subjects discussed included a public coin exhibition, a coin "bring and buy" in aid of funds of Branch; crown pieces; notices of meetings; library purchases; printing in *Journal* of selected papers from cyclo-styled reports of former years; lecture by Professor Syme; Canterbury Token Booklet. Mr. J. Sutherland was thanked for presenting a complete set of Proceedings of Society prior to printing of *Journal*.

Mr. W. Salter read a paper on "Malayan Currencies" giving a brief history of Malaya. Paper currency was issued by the Straits Settlement Government in May, 1899, and prior to that the Mexican dollar was the standard coinage. The Straits Settlement dollar was issued in 1903 and in January 1906 a gold value was given to it of £7 for 60 dollars. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of Mr. Caffin.

Mr. L. J. Dale read an extract from a paper by D. F. Allen in the British Numismatic Journal entitled "On the Street-sellers of card counters, medals, etc."

---

### WELLINGTON

#### Minutes of the 130th Meeting, 31st October, 1949.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson, F.R.N.S., in the Chair.

**Donations.**—Copies of the *Lanzania Hoard of Byzantine Coins*, by Mr. H. Mattingly, was received as a gift to the Library and to other Branches. Resolved to write expressing appreciation to Mr. Mattingly.

**Correspondence.**—The President read a letter from the University of Sydney concerning the sale of tokens to commemorate the centenary of the First Australian Tradesman's Token. One hundred bronze specimens were available. Decided to accept this generous offer.

**Business.**—It was decided that Gaunts be released from their contract re the Tasman Medal, they to supply the die to the Society as soon as possible. Mr. Berry was authorised to approach, and proceed with arrangements with another firm.

**Exhibits.**—A very interesting display of the N.G. 1949 Crown Piece was given by Mr. Berry and also a display of the British Empire Games Medals, 1950, which he had designed himself. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Berry.

**Talk.**—Mr. Quinnell read an article, "From Pieces of Eight to Tickeys," by Elizabeth Beamish, who was invited to join the Society.

**General.**—It was requested that reminder notices be sent to all local members prior to each meeting.

**Next Meeting.**—Decided that the November meeting be a Ladies' Night and that a display of coins be made.

#### Minutes of the 131st Meeting, 28th November, 1949.

Mr. W. D. Ferguson, F.R.N.S., in the Chair.

**Welcome.**—Mr. Ferguson welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Taylor to the Meeting.

**Accident.**—The Chairman and members were distressed to hear of Mr. Freeman's motor accident and asked the Secretary to write to him conveying their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

**Tasman Medal.**—Mr. Berry was authorised to make arrangements for prices and terms with either Amor's (Sydney) or Stokes (Melbourne) and call a Council meeting when all arrangements have been materialised, and to submit expenses for approval.

**Exhibit.**—An interesting display of crown and dollar sign coins was given by Mr. Ferguson, who was suitably thanked by Mr. Berry and all present.

**Minutes of the 132nd Meeting, 27th February, 1950.**

Mr. W. D. Ferguson, F.R.N.S., in the Chair.

**New Members.**—New members were elected as follows: Messrs. Trubshoe, Morel, Yarwood, Miller, Stevens, Cross, and Misses Turnbull and Berry. (Adresses to be published next issue.)

It was suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Ferguson of Rock Island asking if he would be willing to act as Honorary Correspondent in North America.

**Correspondence arising from Minutes.**—Mr. Ferguson read a letter from Messrs. Stokes in reference to the Tasman Medal. This was deferred until Mr. Berry's return.

Decided that the Branches, also the National Library Service, be put on the free mailing list.

As Mr. Mattingly was to be in Wellington during March it was decided that Professor Murray and Mr. Ferguson arrange for a suitable date for Mr. Mattingly's lecture to the Society, and that the Classical Society be invited.

On the motion of Mr. Quinnell it was decided that Dr. Falla be approached about the possibility of the Society developing a Numismatic Display at the Museum. All members were interested. The proposed issue of a Commemorative Medal in honour of Dr. Buck was left over. A motion regarding show cases was passed over, as arrangements are already in hand for these.

An interesting paper by Mr. Robertson was read by Mr. Freeman, also a paper in the form of a letter written about 1744.

Best wishes were accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Quinnell for a pleasant voyage to England and a safe return, and tributes were paid to Mr. Quinnell on the good work he has done for the Society.

A Council Meeting was arranged for the 10th March, at 7.30, subject to approval of the Turnbull Library arrangements.

**WANTED TO BUY, SELL, OR EXCHANGE.**

Advertisements 2/6 for 20 words, 1d a word extra, prepaid.

WANTED—N.Z. Tokens. State Sutherland numbers, condition and price.—D. Price, 7 Cowan St., Ponsonby, Auckland.

WANTED TO BUY—English farthings, 1948, 47, 46, 45, 38, 34, 31, 1889, 88, 77, 71, 70, 63, 59, 58, 57, 52.—Les. D. Nörager, 152 Great South Road, Auckland.

\* \* \* \* \*

The New Zealand Government has over 1,000,000 Stars and War Medals to distribute and states that to engrave them would take over six years. The medals will be issued without names being engraved thereon. Only one medal shows "New Zealand" in the design; the Memorial Cross shows fern-leaves on limbs of the cross.

Annual Meeting, Wellington, 7.30 p.m., Monday, 26th June, 1950.  
Nominations will be received by the Secretary, Box 23, Wellington.

Annual Meeting, Auckland, 7.30 p.m., Wednesday, 7th June, 1950.  
Nominations will be received by Mr. D. C. Price, 7 Cowan Street,  
Ponsonby, Auckland.



MR. D. C. PRICE, Secretary, reading  
Minutes at a branch meeting at  
Auckland.

#### NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have been elected:—

- Mr. Jack Brougham, Spring Creek, Marlborough.
- Mr. C. H. Collingwood, 234 Queen's Drive, Lyall Bay, Wgtn.
- Miss K. McKay, 20 Ngaio Road, Wellington, W.1.
- Professor G. R. Manton, University of Otago, Dunedin.
- Mr. J. B. Roberts, 168 Gillies Avenue, Epsom, Auckland.
- Mr. E. O. Smith, 3 Kiwi Street, Kaikoura.
- Mr. Samuel Bennett, 11 Culwick Road, Mission Bay, Auckland.
- Mr. S. Ebbett, 151 Estuary Rd., New Brighton, Christchurch.
- Mr. N. L. Walker, 152 Kelburn Parade, Wellington.
- Mr. M. L. G. Leask, 212 Barnard Street, Wellington.
- Mr. H. A. Robinson, 203 Gillies Avenue, Epsom, Auckland.
- Mr. Ron Reeves, Weymouth, Manurewa, Auckland.
- Mrs. L. A. Zaunders, 42 Park Road, Te Awamutu.
- Mr. Norman Kemp, 42 Park Road, Te Awamutu.



## Christchurch Coin Company

L. J. DALE (Manager)

487 Papanui Road, Christchurch

(Correspondence to P.O. Box 3, Papanui, New Zealand.)

- 
- ★ We deal in all kinds of Coins, Tokens, Medals, Numismatic Books, etc.
  - ★ Send for free monthly Numismatic Notes and list of coins for sale.
  - ★ Send us a list of your special wants, and we will advise you if we can supply.
  - ★ New Zealand Numismatic Journals. Back numbers available—No. 1, 4/1, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 3/1 each, posted.
  - ★ Buying: We will be pleased to quote for small lots of good coins, or whole collections.

# NEW ZEALAND COIN EXCHANGE

H. G. WILLIAMS, Manager

893 Cumberland Street  
DUNEDIN, OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND



## OTAGO CENTENNIAL MEDAL

(As illustrated on Plate 12 of Journal No. 3.)

Silver, extra high relief, 52 mm. x 4 mm. ....	63/-
Antique bronze, 52 mm. x 4 mm. ....	10/6
Brilliant gold colour, bronze, 32 mm. x 2 mm. ....	2/6

## OTAGO DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL, 1848-1908

White metal, 27 mm. ....	1/6
--------------------------	-----

A. Catalogue of Roman Coins by Gilbert Askew, F.S.A. 3,340 coins described. 128 pages, 295 illustrations. 5/6, postage paid.

Another edition by the same author which will include Roman Gold will be available in about six months. 10/6, postage paid.

*We have for Disposal*

COINS  
MEDALS  
TOKENS  
COMMUNION TOKENS  
NUMISMATIC BOOKS,  
Etc.